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earthy shades of brown.

catching luminosity every time I peer outside my window-and see my neighbor's rancid underwear hanging on the friggin' clothesline across the way.

a site! Sitting here with my morning scotch, those my brother out since he has been outta the hospigruesome, size-48 underpants usher in this glorious tal, like a CARING brother. season like nothing else. You see, I'm usually repulsed by the site of my neighbor Chester, let alone his skidmarked BVDs. Yet on this chilly morning, those underpants tug at my heartstrings. Their disgusting have no idea what those green and red marks life alone? (Signed) Lost and Alone are...remind me that Autumn has arrived.

It's time to find the beauty in everything before Mother Nature carpets the land with her white blanket of snow (that friggin' bitch!). So I salute you, Chester's filthy underwear! I salute you as a grotesque flag flying high above the Rusty Nail Trailer Park, and I salute you as the welcome Wagon for Fall...even though you're totally disgusting and if Chester doesn't take you down soon, I'm calling immigration about that mail-order bride of his. Anyway, welcome Fall!

Looking for something fun to do this Autumn? It's a great time to hang out with friends and enjoy a beverage at one of Milwaukee's watering holes. Why not go someplace new this month? Try a spot you've never been to before. On November 17th, for instance, you can have a barrel of fun at the RIC Fest Karaoke finale. Drop by Frank's Power Plant in Bayview for the fun that night! I've been to this event in the past and it's always a good time. Best of all, the proceeds go toward a scholarship for a deserving LGBT youth.

That said, I hope you all had a helluva Halloween and that your Thanksgiving is the best holiday ever. Now, let's get cozy, grab a hot toddy and read a letter that I recently received.

Dear Ruthie

I have been in a relationship with this guy for almost a year, but the thing is we both live in different states. I love him to death and wanna be with him. But lately there isn't anything there.

He came up to the Madison area to visit me and caring guy like you! Don't give up on it, sugar!

Oh, the brilliant col- got a room at a hotel. Well, the time he was here ors of Autumn! Radiant was nice but it WASN'T all that....there was no hues of auburn, com- UMPH. Last night I was talkin' to him and I told forting tones of olive, him I couldn't do the long distance thing anymore locust and hunter green and that I was starting to get depressed because and, of course, deep, he is not in my life 100%.

Now I know people would say, "Why don't you I take in all of Fall's eye- move down there or have him move here?" Well the thing is...l am a family man....my older brother was hospitalized for 2 months and got out last October. But my brother hasn't worked since. Now As frail as Britney Spear's sanity, Chester's stained my ex...is on Probation...LONG STORY there.....but Calvin Kline knock-offs blow in the wind like the I did not want to let him go but I can't leave my hopes and dreams of the Republican Party. Ah, what brother to move down there. I have been helping

With us being so far apart, other guys want to be with me...but all they want is the one night stand...except this one guy. Ruthie, it seems that my life is jinxed and that I will not find the one peryellow spots, brown arrows and green...actually, I son that will light my fire. Am I doomed to live my

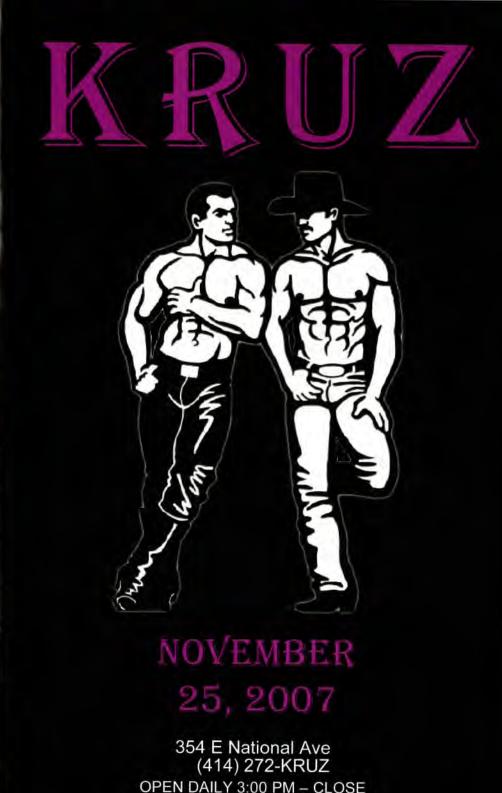
Dear L&A.

The first thing I'd do is get you hooked on phonics. Jesus H. Christ! I've received better-written letters from prisoners for God's sake! Hopefully, your guy isn't hung up on grammar! But you're asking me for relationship advice and not to increase your communication skills, so here I go ...

I think that you sound like a helluva guy. I mean, you're willing to put your own needs and desires to the side in order to help your brother and your ex, er...a...your friend. It takes a strong and moral kind of person to stand by others and put his own desires aside. Good for you, sweetie! (I also noticed that you never mentioned the possibility of him moving to you. Not sure what that's about. Is he not willing to relocate?)

I think you already know the answer to your own question. You said yourself that there just wasn't much "umph" when your guy came to visit. Let's face it, honey, you two should have been tearing that hotel room apart with man-on-man action...after all, it sounds like you rarely get to see one another.

Maybe it was the distance between you, maybe it's just the way things are, but it sounds like this flame is burning out...and that's no one's fault! Maybe you and your guy should take a break. Discuss the idea of seeing other people for a few months. Then agree to meet on a particular date and revisit your feelings for one another. No matter who you ultimately find it with, love is out there for a



rough, and some have spikes! Yea you kinky bastards are all about that one aren't you? Either way there is something for everyone when it comes to tongue piercing.

Next on the hit list is the regular old fashioned ear piercing. Most everyone has one of these and they have kind of lost their novelty over the years. But never the less there are many different styles that people like to go for. Some people prefer to have just a small jeweled stud while others insist on wearing only "jersey girl" earrings. Which ever way you go you can't really go wrong with one of these piercings.

Well now that we have talked about all that lets get to some reader mail.

Dear Brent.

I recently got my nipple pierced and have noticed that every time my nipple hits or brushes up against something I feel it and it feels really intense. Is this normal? --Bob

First off Bob thanks for writing in. And secondly, yes this is completely normal. When you get pierced the area which has been pierced becomes overly active as far as nerve cells are concerned and thus makes you feel more intense sensations. So don't get all worried every time you touch your nipple piercing. If you don't like this sensation, and I don't know why you wouldn't, just place a band-aid or a piece of gauze over the piercing.

Well I hope you all learned something today as you read my column, because there will be a test on Tuesday. So make sure you wear clean underwear!

If you have any questions please let me know! Send your questions to <u>avantgarde@voyager.net</u>. Until next month, have a great turkey day!

OutBound Magazine
P.O. Box 1961 Green Bay, WI 54305
800-578-3785 920-655-0611
email:editor@quest-online.com

Publisher: Mark Mariucci, Za's Publications: OutBound & Quest

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Nothing heats up chilly November nights like a piping hot casserole. Christ - that's good eating. I figure that we'd try a casserole that uses up leftover turkey (or chicken) so we won't all have friggin' birds stinking up our refrigerators for the entire month. Luckily, a few of you sent hot bakes, casseroles and other one-dish wonders that feature the mighty bird. Here's one I had to try. It's incredibly easy and tastes friggin' wonderful.

Friday Night Bird Bake

I tried this casserole a few days after I received it from a reader named Stevie from Milwaukee. Damn, that Stevie can cook. Try this recipe and you'll see what I mean. It's a great way to use up extra Thanksgiving turkey, and is a meal in one that you'll crave for days at a time.

- 3 cups chicken broth
- 4 cups cooked turkey (or chicken), cubed
- I package (16 oz) corn bread stuffing, crushed
- 2 eggs, beaten lightly
- I can (10.5 oz) cream of chicken soup
- I can (6.5 oz) mushroom pieces and stems, well drained
- I small onion
- I teaspoon sage

Heat oven to 325 degrees. Warm the chicken broth in the microwave until heated through. In a large bowl, combine the broth with all of the remaining ingredients. Spoon into a greased 13x9x2-inch baking dish. Cover baking dish, and bake for 25 minutes. Uncover dish and bake an additional 10 to 15 minutes until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean.

Ruthie's Culinary Clues

White meat tends to work best in this dish. Feel free to add a handful of corn kernels, diced celery and/or chopped pecans to this comforting casserole. If you like your stuffing with gravy, pop open a jar of pre-made gravy and spoon a little over the casserole before serving.

E-mail Ruthie your favorite recipe and receive a free "Bitchin' Kitchen T-Shirt!" Drop her a line at dearmsruthie@yahoo.com. And check out her line of Ruthieware at www.dearruthie.com.



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Well, here we are again, in the month of November. The month of Turkey's and people who resemble what they eat. This month I have really no rant or rave as no one really talked to me last month. Maybe it's just because I am anti-social, of course it could be the well documented fact that I am an as*hole. But either way who cares. Let's get on with the piercings this month. This month I figured we would touch on some of the facial piercings. I'll just pick a few and we will see where we are going.

First let's talk about the lip piercing. This piercing goes right on the lip line and is traditionally done with a ring, although in recent years people have begun using study as well. The lip piercing today is usually worn by people who want to stand out but not that much. Usually it is the "poppunk" kids of today and urban teens who get this piercing. Because of its placement on the face most jobs won't allow people to wear these at work but there is a savior to this problem. Many of today's body piercing companies make retainers which will hide the piercing from view while still keeping it open and allowing you to put jewelry back in at a later date and time.

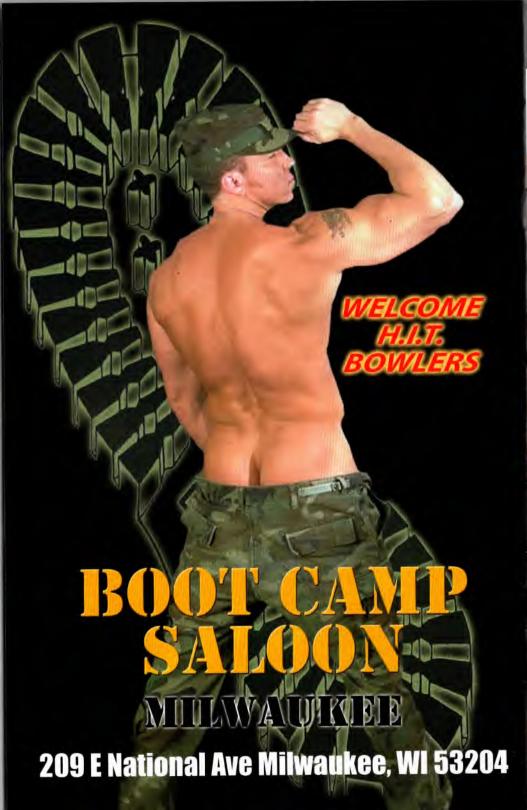
Next let's talk about the tongue piercing. I know you are all thinking with the wrong end of your brain right now but bear with me; we will get to the juicy parts later on in the column. The tongue piercing pretty much started with the punk movement of the 1970's, ever since then it has remained a standard within the body piercing industry. People do like to play with it a little too much and those who do will usually end up with chipped teeth or some sort of dental damage, so the moral of this story is to not play with your piercings! Let other people play with your piercings! j/k. A number of people get their tongue pierced for sexual reasons as they think it will help them pleasure their partner. Take it from me, a barbell in your mouth will not turn a finger painting into a masterpiece. you need some basic skills to accomplish anything! For me the tongue piercing just gets in the way, while many other people have told me that their sex life drastically improved once they got their tongue pierced. Basically, I say get it and make up your own damn mind! Also though they do make covers for the piercing, which are called "Tongue Ticklers", which go over the ball of the piercing and create different sensations through using different shapes of silicone. Some are smooth, others are

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ACTING STRAIGHT

By Max Jimines

Here-TV's David Moretti is Not a Straight Man... But He Plays One on TV

Many straight actors have played gay on film. Heather Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal in Brokeback Mountain, Greg Kinnear in As Good As It Gets, even Michael Douglas in an episode of TV's Will & Grace... so why is it such a big deal that a gay actor play straight?

That is the first question out actor David Moretti asked when I approached him about doing an interview. "Because it's unusual for Hollywood to give openly gay actors a shot at straight roles," I answered. Said Moretti, "OK then, let's do it."

The next thing I knew, I'm sitting with the young star of Here-TV's *The Lair* in his hotel room in the middle of paradise - the Caribbean island of Turks and Caicos - where he is filming his first big budget film, *A Date With Murder*. Moretti stars alongside *Baywatch* hunk David Chokachi and *Teen Witch*'s Robyn Lively as "Roger", a man who helps his *girl*friend track her sister's killer.

First thing first, David. Has there been any off-camera action between you and Baywatch's David Chokachi? (Laughs) No. He's a happily married man and I'm taken as well.

We're in the middle of paradise. The only thing missing is...

A romantic encounter with David? (Laughs) No, I'm fully committed to my boyfriend. However, I can tell you Chokachi is so fun and such a great guy. The dude never stops smiling. He's the absolute best person to have on a stressful film set. There's not much to do on this island so we've bonded over many a drink at the one local bar, Sandbar. Last night we spent a while talking about his *Baywatch* days, because I was curious what it was like to work on one of the most famous shows of all time, with Pamela Anderson - who I really do think is beautiful. He had some fun stories. And ironically, they often shot on Will Rogers Beach, which in Los Angeles is known as the gay beach.

You play straight in this new film. As an openly gay actor, why is it important for you to take on straight roles?

It's important for me to take on diverse roles. Straight, gay, character, lead... that's how you prove you are a well-rounded actor and keep on progressing through the ranks of Hollywood. In the end, I'm just an actor like everyone else vying for roles. I just happen to be open about my sexuality. My goal is to show everyone it's so not a big deal and shouldn't be looked at as a stigma.

When Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal were given the lead roles in Brokeback Mountain, there were some in the gay actor community who felt the roles should have been given to gay actors. What was your feeling?

I completely disagree. Let the best man win. That notion completely perpetuates the idea that actors



roles should be sexually specific. That's exactly what I'm trying to show is not the case. Heath and Jake are two amazing actors. They deserved their roles. The only thing I would be concerned about is that possibly very apt actors weren't permitted to audition for the roles in the first place. That's what needs to change. A lot of casting directors and agents won't even give openly gay actors the time of day because they don't want to take the risk of breaking the norm and hiring gay.

As an openly gay man, are women comfortable in sex scenes with you?

I think they are more comfortable because they know I'm not trying to live some fantasy through the scene. Regardless, I make them feel good (laughs). I did date women for a few years before I figured myself out.

Do you have any sex scenes with Alexandra Paul, Robyn Lively or any other woman from the film?

No. This film is completely about the murder mystery... a who done it. There are some sexual concepts involved but not with my character.

What is the most memorable sex scene you have ever been in?

Well I've only had two really... one with a woman and one with a man. The one with the woman was a lot more memorable. It was in a horror film called Manje. I had to do push ups, check myself out in a mirror and then she runs up in front of me and throws me on the bed, rips my belt off and dominates me. It was crazy. She had the biggest breasts I've ever seen in my life. And the director kept making me grab them in different ways. I really wanted to laugh because it taught me that sex scenes in film are not sexy. Especially when a crew is watching the whole process and analyzing your moves.





Greg for missing the Harbor Room contest, but I had a prior commitment at Pumphouse that night. I hope your head is feeling better I guess if you want to work at Harbor Room you better be able to provide first aid.

Speaking of Pumphouse, the house was packed for Goldi's drag show. Quite the turnout from all her friends that are too many to mention in this column. Special kudos go to Hot Fudge, and the original rehab girl Russell who should own stock in Dr. McGillicuddy's by the way he was drinking. Although there were some glitches in the show, David and Michael got through a very busy night. By the way thankyou for the Cosmo at Etc.

Speaking of La Cage, Kris and Michael are really doing a wonderful job with the upstairs. Cannot wait until it is done. They also have some very sweet staff behind the bar including Patrick, straight boys Nate and Gus, and Jelly and her girlfriend the cute blonde whose name escapes me at the moment.

Over at Kruz they recently celebrated Bobby's b-

day, notables included owners Jerry and Serge, my old cohort CC. The boys are always there to take care of you one way or the other, and in one case I was able to take care of someone from Appleton. I just wanted to see if there was truth to his advertising and it was!!!

Finally, I hope I see everyone at M's for the new shows at 9:00 Sundays with M's Marvelous Mistresses. We have had a very interesting first year and hope we will be past all the travails that it included. My impartial list of the best people to work with and for; Melissa and Brian, my partners in crime Velveeta, Debi, Legs, Opal, and Lizzie. I hope Mark does not edit me too much, because you are all deservedly stars in my book and all the unmentioned praise is well deserved. With Halloween just a recent memory, and Thanksgiving around the corner remember that tipping is not city in China, so take care of your bartenders and they will definitely take good care of you!

Keep the talk Cheap and the Liquor flowing Love, Chi Chi



Actors wear a privacy patch in sex scenes to cover their jewels. Has the privacy patch ever slipped off on you or someone else on set?

Are you nuts?! Those things are like superglue. You basically need four hands just to pry it off. When I was first handed the patch, I couldn't figure it out. It took me about a half hour to get it on.

You're about to begin filming the second season of THE LAIR. Congratulations on being picked up again! Thanks! It's exciting.

What makes THE LAIR such a great show?

It's campy, sexy fun and Vampires are pretty in right now. I think I've seen previews for two new films coming out soon. It's just really good timing I guess. And we have a wonderfully stellar, talented and handsome cast.

What was your favorite episode of season one?

The finale episode for sure. Even though I didn't get to be in it as much as I would have liked, the show was full of action, gunshots, supernatural evaporations... lots of cool stuff. I hope season two follows that trend.

Have you seen the scripts for the second season yet? Any idea of what's in store for season 2? I haven't seen a word. I'm as anxious as everyone else to see what happens next!

How would you like to see your character grow in the second season?

I'd like to see him a little less Clark Kent-y. I hope

he gets involved in a little more fighting and drama, ya know... all the fun action stuff.

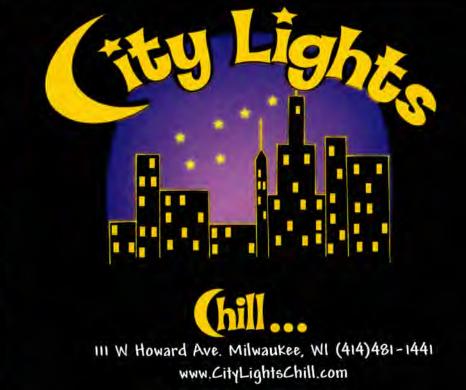
Sir Ian McKellen claimed in a recent interview that lesbian and gay actors no longer had to deal with a "glass ceiling," but Rubert Everett vehemently disagrees with his statement. What side on you on?

Probably more with Everett. It's hard for a lot of Hollywood old schoolers to think outside the box, especially with all the red states being the target demographic. Someone has to try and break the norm or Hollywood will remain on its gay-suppressing path for years to come. And it's a shame because actors are really the only sect discriminated against. Producers, Directors, writers and are all open and proud in Hollywood. But they aren't on screen. I would really love to see the reactions of all the conservative antigays if they knew half their DVD collection was created, exhibited, and portrayed by those they shun.

If being an openly gay actor proves to be a roadblock for your career, will you harbor any regrets?

No, I'll be able to find a creative outlet somewhere, and in the end I'll be able to sleep at night knowing I was honest. That's really not an issue though, because I'm confident that I'm gonna "be in pictures, kid".

A Date With Murder releases to DVD in 2008. The first season of THE LAIR is available now on DVD. To send a note to David Moretti, visit his myspace page at http://myspace.com/davidmoretti.



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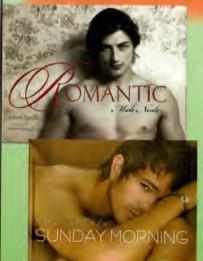
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CheapTalkin'

Well, I know it has been awhile since my last installment for a column, but on the eve of the gay holy day which is Halloween. I knew I had to get a new column out. I thought it would be very appropriate to do a theme about your unsung heroes that are out there which are the bartenders and severs that can make our nights out so memorable!

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To start with a happy belated b-day goes out to my gal-pal Cindy Olsheske on her 50th birthday held at M's, I was alittle bit under the weather that day so I was not able to attend. I heard a fun time was had by all for the celebration. Also speaking of bdays, Miss Baby Jane Hudson had a very quiet one. I guess she is saving all the fireworks for her 50th. The unholy trinity of Legs, Britty, and Velveeta had their combined b-day celebration at M's with a packed house enjoying the show with the cast of M's showgirls Lady Gia, Jackie Roberts, Toi Divine, Gay Bob and Miss Kelly singing their hearts out, K.V. from Boom Room, Miss Ruthie from Outbound. Legs, and Velveeta closing the show with a creamy finish. Now that I got the necessary plugs out of the way, lets get the dirt and happenings of the last couple of months.

The Dairyland Classic was a huge success thanks to Brian Reinkober and everyone else that have toiled at Miller Park to make it such a success that it was. We were able to play despite the pcb laden fields that happened from Jones Island. Special kudos go to my boys at Kruz who took a very respectable second place in their category. The softball boys maybe trying to have the classic on a different weekend other than Labor Day because of Harley's 105th anniversary, however there is talk we might be able to get the Gay World Series in the following year.

Swith I am told have lost their mgr for the bar leffrey, I do not know all the specifics however I guess there was a feeling that a changing of the guard was in order. They still have the delicious duo of Pecs and John manning the tappers on the weekends. Whether you like blonds or brunettes you do not have to choose, they are both sweethearts, I was even able to cajole the wifebeater off of Pecs one Friday in particular. Familiar faces at the bar is always Craig the owner who somehow always finds the most yummy strippers, Tall Tony, Messie Bessie, my new friends Angel from Botanas, and Noah from La-

My other haunt that I make frequent stops at is Fluid, who have added two new faces behind the bar Matt, who broke my heart, now that he is off the market, and Puddy who also has someone but is still quite the flirt. You can not forget the perennial hostess with the mostess Wilma aka Bill Wardlow who turned a very handsome 44 yrs old. He still has the cutest ass of any bar owner in the city. I heard their drag bingo blast was quite a success raising over 2000.00 plus for AIDS Walk Wisconsin.

There is a new face at Ballgame with Anthony gracing the bar. Originally from Michigan, he has joined the very eclectic staff including Craig, Gary, and Juan who seems to own the crowd on Tuesdays with his pull tab specials and other things that he pulls on behind the bar.

Mona's hosted the registration for the ball players over the Labor Day weekend with her excellent staff including a blast from the past Randy formerly known as Nicole Sanders, Thomas, and Pam and Bev. Sorry if I missed some names, I am only working with two brain cells nowadays. Ty is d.j.'ing and they just had the old timer's soirce recently.

Boom/Room has lost their also friendly and very efficient bartender Miss Rona to Potawatomi Bingo. She held a swansong at the bar on Oct. 5th. Thank God we still have Miss K.V. on Friday's cocktail hour to entertain us. She also has double duty of breaking in Clint formerly of Harbor Room and Woody's fame. I guess they made an exchange with Steve at Woody's for Roman. I wish these bartenders would stop switching teams. One guy that is not going anywhere is Lance on the Boom side who is there on Friday's and Saturday's.

The girls at Walker's Pint are always there for a good time, with Betsy, Sheena, Cassidy, T.I. you always feel welcome no matter what.

Word is that a blast from the past maybe opening again, if she has her way. I hope she can make a go of it this time. Another bar that is holding it's own is Harbor Room which is looking more and more like an island with all the development going on at the old Grede's plant across the street. Sorry

-THANKSGIVING SALE!

NOVEMBER SPECIALS

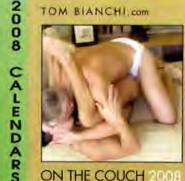
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By Michael Johnston

Thankfully, it's Thanksgiving month – already! Can You believe it? To start off the month RicFest is commemorated this year in song – Karaoke-style that is. The preliminaries have started and it looks like an award winning show.

To be apart – try outs continue: Fri, Nov 2 Timothy York's Bistro – Racine, Tue, Nov 6 Boom/The Room, Wed, Nov 14 Walker's Pint, and Frank's Power Plant for the Finale Sat, Nov 17. Sing out Louise! Funds raised go to the Ricardo Correa Scholarship Fund helping a fortunate student's future. Keeper of the flame, Peter Konrath has made this his life's ambition.

John McGivern had us all laughing and crying and sometimes both at the same time with Pat Hazell's "The Wonder Bread Years". Truly a fresh and funny slice of Americana!

We've been given an early present with an extension of this pot pouri of contemporary culture running thru Sun, Nov 4. See your life flash in front of you via commercial jingles and ad slogans. After all you've come along way baby and you do deserve a break today!

Fluid is offering up another game of DragQueen Bingo — are you game? Sun, Nov 4 it will be Bingo with a Broadway spin! Miss Victoria Liberty must be on a Cinderella Liberty because she will be joining Miss Maple that so sweet, but never sappy Goddess and Cordially Yours — so come out and play with us — maybe you'll win a Tony!

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" is in session, here in Cream City County. Starting Tue, Nov 6 – Sun, Nov 11. This Bee gets an A+. Make a Beeline for this Bee-loved Broadway megahit. The class meets at The Marcus Center – the classiest classroom in the county.

I just adored "My Fair Lady" what a marvelous, traditional – yet updated jewel of the American Theater. My most magical moment at our PAC, since Channing played "Dolly" back in 1995! My deepest gratitude to Paul, Heidi, Connie – of course Ms. Bonnie – the privilege to be introduced to the cast – especially Sally Ann Howes was beyond – beyond.

51 years ago Ms. Howes took over the role of Eliza Doolittle from Dame Julie Andrews and today at an elegant 77 plays Professor Henry Higgins' Mother- and to quote Kander & Ebb the world goes round. The costumes, sets, Eliza — certainly an evening that will live with me hopefully for another 51 years. Bravo!



Chris Danner, the tour coordinator brought several cast/crew members to LaCage. Chris happens to be a good friend of Michael & Kris and partied into the new century BrewTown style. The Tour loved Milwaukee — their audiences and the time spent here. The LaCage Boys even shared my little old column with their esteemed guests and they enjoyed reading me. Isn't that loverly?

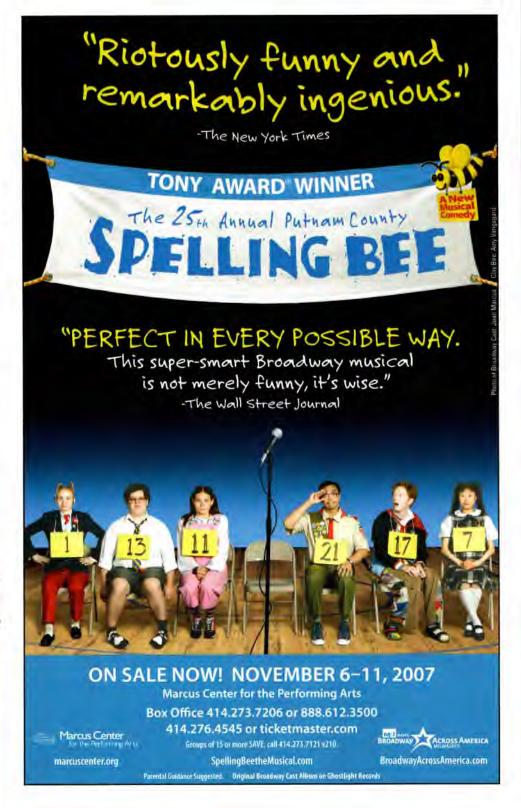
So many Local-ites were at Opening Night – besides the before mentioned – Ms. Rona and Tom G, MONA's Bev & Pam, Tootsie, Tommy Salzsider who recently celebrated B-Day # 70 royally at The Ball Game – to many, many more dear Sir!

Mona, Todd & Mark and Mark's Parents, Jody & Bill and Bill's Parents, Bonnie's Mom — Lorrie, Cynthia Collyer, ChiChi and Baby Jane Hudson, Victor's Gary & Beau, Jeff O'Connell, Raejean Kanter, Tamara Martinsek and so many other theater lovers turning out and that is how we continue to get such great productions here on the street where we live...

LaCage will be the place for The Miss Gay US of A Pageant Sat, Nov 10 and Sun, Nov 11. This is the Badgerland's Major Tournament of Beauty and Talent. Shannon DuPree's reign is up, see who will be tiara-ed and sash-ed and represent us.

Patrick Farrell my most treasured man of the applied arts has his works once again on display in DC at the Marin-Price Galleries thru the 16th of the month. Finally something of true value in our nation's Capitol.

Pump! Sundays celebrates their Fifth Anniversary



lavishly appointed. Delightful piano by Rod Lauren – an excellent selection of contemporary cocktail classics. What fun with: Tod, Jody & Bill, Joe & Tim, James Panka, John Allbanger, Ron, Daniel Klingler & Jay Langhurst, State Senator Tim Carpenter, Bill Serpe, Patrick Prudlow, Pump House's David & Michael, Hot Fudge & Ron, Patrick/Kevin Flaherty, Maria Cadenas and Jenny Curtis, Karl, Cliff Hiese, Brian, Paul Mueller of Romanus Glass, Jeff Goldberg, Sheldon Walker, Paul Williams, and so many more who helped make it SRO for the fourth year in row!

This is where we found Rona and he was in his true element saluting Evita from on high, on the balcony level bar. Next time you're at the Casino keep an eye out for Ro... Rumor has it and by all the construction taking place Potawatomi will be the entertainment capital of Milwaukee in 2008.

Post party, naturally at M's. Melissa and Co. were celebrating their first anniversary. Paper – and lots of it, in the form of cold hard cash! Lizzie, Ruthie, Gia, Jackie, Kelly and Bob entertained as Jacques celebrated his birthday and people from Tommy Salzieder's Birthday party, the Cream City Chorus concert, the LGBT Community Center's Big Night Out or Patrons, Friends, Fans, Family, Neighbors turned out to honor Britty, Velveeta, ChiChi, Legs, Debi Vance, and Dr. Janet on the completion of the first 12 months.

Thanks M's so much for putting me on your "Wall Of Stars," great pic Mz. Suzie.

A Farewell Party to end all farewell parties took place at The Room as Rona hung up his "lavender" shot glass after over 30 years of filling us up. SRO and a fundraiser for MVM (Men's Voices Milwaukee) is what the night entailed. What a night, what a tribute, well-earned as well. By the by – MVM returns to the stage on Sat, Dec 8 "The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year" 8 PM Helene Zelazo Center-UWM (East Kenwood Boulevard). Under the new direction of new director John Schaefer. Celebrate the season, with song, with the Chorus.

My BIGGEST regret this past October- I missed The Absolut Best Party-12. My gig at The Room, which happened to coincide with Rona's Retirement Gay-la prevented me... oh to be cloned!

Dear Ruthie did a bang up job (as always) doing a live auction, the party is back in The Third Ward and everyone was still singing the praises of this one. Next year, Absolut Best Party-13 Friday, Oct 31 Halloween Night a Masked Ball!!

The Wisconsin Cream City Chorus and Unitarian Universalist Church-West performed "Diamonds In The Heartland" — a concert to benefit Camp Heartland. Songs for the child in each of us was presented to much success and enjoyment.

Taylor's "Art Block Party" was the place to be! Breaking all kinds of records – way to go! Hump Nights will be a bit bleaker now that Dan, Owen and Jill are on hiatus until next Summer. You put the wild and wacky in Wednesday.

Marina Dimitrijevic, 4th District Supervisor of County Board Supervisors hostessed a lovely housewarming gathering in her great new Bay View abode. Much happiness.

Even though my schedule didn't allow — understand Ron Hunter's fundraiser for his Alderman-ic Campaign was quite the time in that swanky south-side antique emporium.

Shout out, to:

Greg Garrison who recently took LaCage by storm! Topher you are too cute! George – thanks for leaving the light on and lighting up my night... The Auctioneer's Inn is once again up and running – under new management! Thanks for reading me Bart. Welcome back home Jon & Tom – you've been missed! Boom/The Room's Dr. Slippy says: "Boom/The Room: AKA The White Swallow".

Remember it's the glamour – not the grammar as I once again express my thanks to all of you during this time of thanks for sharing with me, as I remain

-- STILL Cordially yours,..





and a new address on Sun, Nov 18. You can get the party started at the Decibel Nightclub 1905 East North Avenue. Bravo D.J. John Murges, Gregg Hutterer, John Hale, D.J. Kelly and Crew.

Of course this is the month of HIT! The Holiday Invitational Tournament is chalking up their 29th consecutive Bowlathon. I once again will serve as femcee of the annual "Welcome Show" on Thanksgiving night — Thu, Nov 22 at The Room. Beware this year's theme is "It's A Jungle Out There".

Craig from Switch welcomes all the HIT Bowlers over the long Thanksgiving weekend. Tony AKA Messy Bessy will be racking up another birthday, celebrating Thanksgiving Eve Wed, Nov 21. Strippers every Friday and Sunday with Pecs, now if we could get Pecs to strip – or John... Brett sings-out every Thu with Karaoke, while Guppy pours. Saturday is D.J. Dougie "SOS" making your night romantic... Craig II whom you knew and loved at Tazz-Bah, has a new hitch with Switch, so go pay a call on him real soon to welcome him to the fold.

Rounding out this month Tue, Nov 27 is ARCW's "Jolly, Holly, Folly". One of my most favorite fundraisers for the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin. The Milwaukee Center, more than 25 restaurants will be showcased, a complimentary grade A bar with my most favorite bartenders John and Ron, a special performance of The Milwaukee Rep's "A Christmas Carol" in the Pabst Theater. The Benefit is to money – ARCW's Medical Center.

and it's Medical, Dental, and Mental Health Services that provide assistance to over 1,500 Patients this year alone. To enjoy food, good cheer, seasonal theater and help the Community – please call: 800-359-9272 # 1598.

What a great Walk! Joseph Brooks with ARCW. invited me to work the Finishing Line - and what a package loseph had to offer! The new locale on the island, Muzic In Motion with Marc and Joseph providing excellent background tunes, flags, banners and a cordless mic - you all know what that means to me! All that we needed was a marching band and they refused to yield! The University of Wisconsin-Platteville provided the necessary revelry to welcome over 2,000 walkers whose combined efforts brought in over \$378,682.00. Thank you Wisconsin! Joseph, Doug Nelson, Susan, Amanda, Tad, Will my driver, Dan Reidl ARCW Board President, John Hale - the Red Light man, Craig & Bobby, Fr. Mike Hammer, BJ & Rick, Tom & Sandy, Taylor's Owen & David, Bill (Fluid) Wardlow, The Pump House's David, Christina Chase and Co., WCTC's Tim Greene with new hips, Deb & Gary W., Dr. Ted. Camp Heartland's Neil & Family, Woody's team, even people enjoying the last of the Summer boating on the lake heard me and participated - go figure!

Tradition takes us to a tasty repast at The Pasta Tree 1503 North Farewell Ave. Bobby as our fivestar server, Matthew as our crackerjack bartender and Steven as our host, with the most, making for yet another unforgettable feast. My deepest condolences to The Pasta Tree on the loss of their dear Robert. God speed.

Catching our second wind cocktails were in the offing and off to Fluid and sipping with Puddy. Then it was to Boom and a little liquor with Lance.

Continuing with where we left off last time... The Cream City Foundation's Silver Anniversary was commemorated in Grand Style at the City Hall. Maria Cadenas, Executive Director and Tim Clarke, President of the Board made for an evening that will go down in history. Congratz to the team that festooned the rotunda in a Gay, yet elegant way. On the subject of fashion - three snaps-up Wisconsin you did us PROUD! The sumptuous buffet was outstanding Ellen's Catering outdid themselves. I had the thrill of co-hosting with Rona including our version of a monumental Merman melody, perhaps the first "Olde Fashion Gay Wedding" at The City Hall ??? Mrs. Fun set the mood of the event's opening and Aiden Bay closed the program leaving everyone jazzed up. Bubbles, balloons, black-tie these are a few of my favorite things. Making the night as glam as possible were:

Mayor Tom Barrett, Representative Lena Taylor who was wondering aloud about running for County Executive - and now it is common knowledge, Joe Pabst, Dr. Beto & Tim, Dr. Robert Starshak & Ross Draegert, Tony Rhodes - all CCF-Blue Bloods. Patrick Farrell & Jim Schroeder, Princess Debbie, Joe Kender, Dan and Dan, Jenny Curtis, Singsational's Jay Reinke and Sharon M. Janice from WVM, Rev. Andrew, Dr. David Stowe, Delaria, Jerry Johnson, Ray Vahey, Todd & Roger, Paul, Don, Luke, This Is It's Mr. Joe Brehm, Jeff O'Donnell and Raejean Kanter from Potawatomi, Stephanie Hume, Maureen Kane and so many other smiling faces adding to the splendor of our City Hall. A post party continued at This Is It where Paul and Clark kept the momentum going. From their my home bar Boom/The Room, a quick swirl to Switch where Craig was celebrating his day of days with a wild fashion show, then to calm things down a bit a night cap at Fluid.

My eternal gratitude to all who helped me to be stage-ready: Joe Kender, Goldie Adams, Rona, Dan and Dan, Princess Debbie, Gowns by Rita, Gowns by Jan Antoine – you can always catch up with her late nights on Tue at The Pump House – the incredible blonde can make you look and feel like a million too, Velveeta's jewels and Another Man's Treasure's Gary (Blanche) who veiled me like never before!

I was greatly touched by "Shall Not Be Recognized" a photo exhibit of Thirty Same-Sex Couples that have been together at least seven years. The B&W photography of Jeff Pearcy and words, wit and wisdom of the Couples edited by Will Fellows provided visual and text turning perfect strangers into people just like you and me. De-mystafy-ing and disarming all in the name of equality. Leave to my ladies of PFLAG - Brigette, Elna, Georgia and Diane to make it a very welcoming environment. Bill's gallery was a perfect site opening it up to the "mainstream" whatever that is. A grand piano serenading us all enhancing the occasion. Props to the people freeze-framed: Deb & Donna, Gerry & Stewart, Craig & Mark, Ray Vahey, Michael & Tim. Jan & Paul & Papa, Jack & Vance, Craig & Michael, Gary & Paul, Mark & Todd and that's just a third of the couples featured.

Sage's Bill Serpe, It's Always Happy Hour Some where's Andy & Brian, Joe & Tim, CCF's Maria & Jenny, Maureen Kane, Jay, Billy Kirchen, BJ & Rick, Todd & Roger, Bill as well as all the people who were posed, matted and frame. A picture is worth a ... Off to D.C., then back here and then who knows? What a monumental statement!

Way to go Angie Guerra and the hard work of all who made The Big Night Out the success it was! What fun I had joining the Wisconsin AIDS Fund Table my genial hosts Tamara Martinsek, Jeff O'Donnell, Kim, Jeff, and Ken Gabel. The Award Winners: FORGE, Joseph Pabst, Charles D Productions and Janet Goldman all well earned and revered contributors to our dear world.

The LGBT Community Center's night of nights was held at Potawatomi's Northern Lights sooo



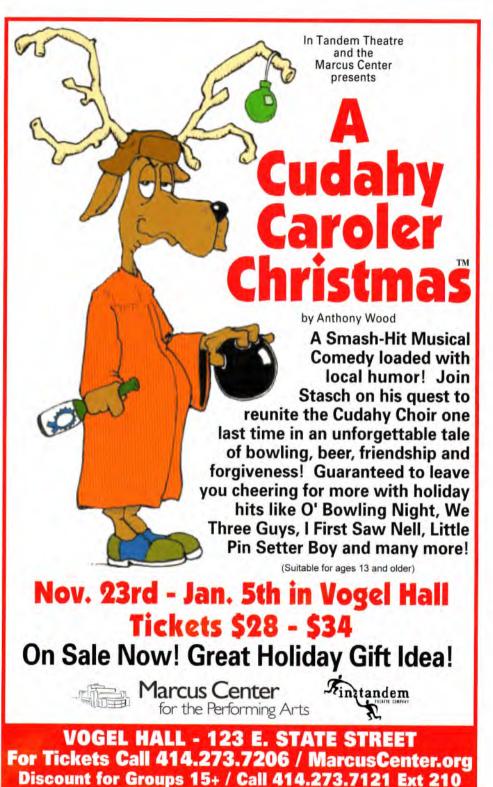
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