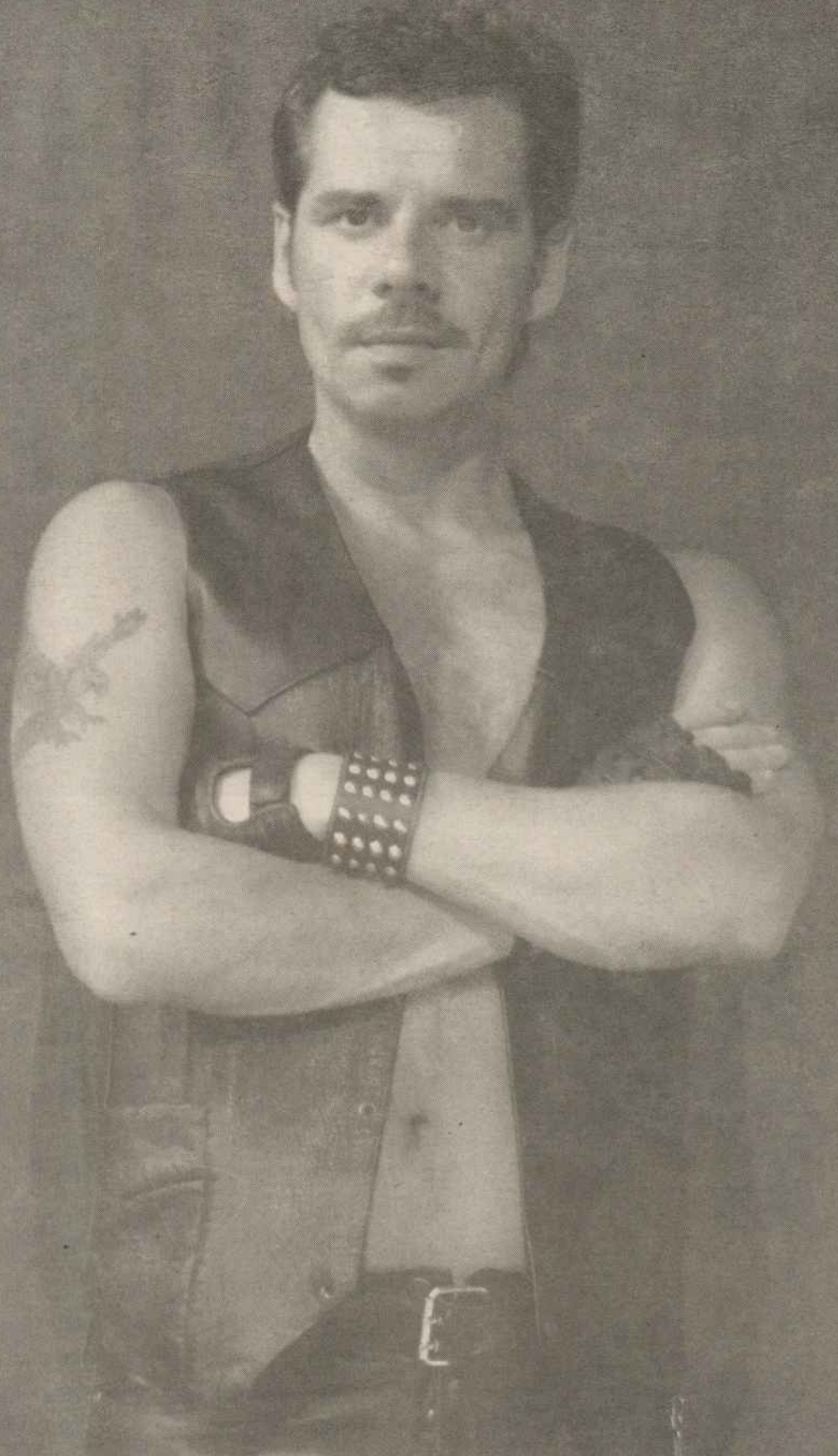




LEATHER

Dominance, Submission, and Charity



By G.R.Martelli w/contributions by Jason Gossek

Confident. Masculine. Thumbs in belt loops. Bottle resting on his thigh. He scans the room slowly, searching for a submissive posture. When he finds what he is looking for, he approaches. He expects respect, and you'd better call him "Sir."

Faded blue jeans and a white T-shirt is a common everyday type of outfit for almost anyone. Add some black leather chaps, a vest, black boots and black leather hat, and you've got yourself a scene.

In a game of word association, the word "leather" would undoubtedly conjure up images of hyper-masculine gay men clad in black leather garb, with chaps and chains, leading their submissive partners around by dog collars. Further affiliation would include dark bars and the seeded underbelly of gluttonous sex that even the gay community itself, often stereotypes it to be. S&M has become synonymous with the leather culture

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Nina's Heavenly Delights
Opening Night - Thursday, September 6, 7:30pm
Oriental Theatre



The Witnesses
Centerpiece Film - Wednesday, September 12, 7:30pm
Oriental Theatre



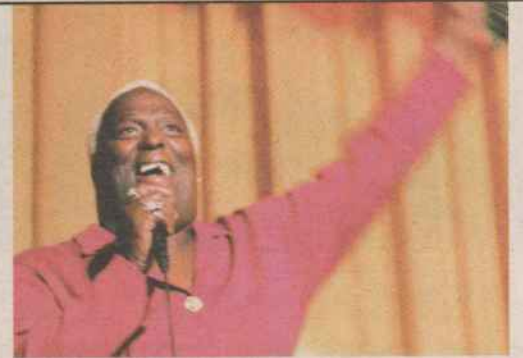
Itty Bitty Titty Committee
Saturday, September 15, 9pm
UWM Union Theatre



The Bubble
Saturday, September 8, 7pm
UWM Union Theatre



For the Bible Tells Me So
Thursday, September 13, 7pm
UWM Union Theatre



The Believers
Sunday, September 9, 3pm
UWM Union Theatre



Shelter
Friday, September 7, 9pm
UWM Union Theatre



The Gymnast
Friday, September 14, 7pm
UWM Union Theatre



Glue
Saturday, September 15, 7pm
UWM Union Theatre



Blueprint
Saturday, September 8, 1pm
UWM Union Theatre

Oriental & UWM Union Theatres

Tickets & passes: 414.229.4308

Complete schedule: arts.uwm.edu/lgbtfilm

One of the community's longest running film festivals celebrates its 20th anniversary with an international array of the finest and newest in films and videos by and about the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities. The screening-packed eleven days of features, documentaries, and shorts opens at the Oriental Theatre with the local premiere of Pratibha Parmar's *Nina's Heavenly Delights*.

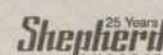
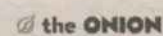
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Environmental Groups Collaborate on Urban Rivers Conference

Milwaukee - With funding from the Coalition to Restore Urban Waters, several environmental groups are planning a one-day conference on water quality issues for the public to be held at Discovery World on October 6, 2007 from 8:30 am to 4 pm. The goals of the Urban Rivers Conference are to enjoy the waterways, learn about water issues and get involved in keeping rivers, lakes, and wetlands healthy. "Milwaukee has abundant water resources which are ours to enjoy and ours to take care of so future generations can also enjoy them," says Conference Coordinator, Demaris Kenwood.

The morning will consist of speakers Dale Olen and John Gurda as well as a panel discussion with various local and state representatives of water quality initiatives. In the afternoon, several environmental groups will provide displays, activities and presentations about water issues. The MMSD Pelagos and Friends of Milwaukee's Rivers Riverkeeper boats will be docked outside where outdoor activities will be provided.

In conjunction with the Conference, Mini Grants will be awarded to groups or individuals wishing to engage in specific

projects to help the rivers, such as installing a rain garden. Awards and training will be provided at the Conference. Also, photos of people engaging in activities along the rivers are being collected to create an Urban River Mural for display at the Conference.

People wishing to register for the Conference, apply for a Mini Grant or submit photos should contact Demaris Kenwood at 414-287-0207 ext. 35 or demaris_kenwood@mkeriverkeeper.org. Information is also available online at www.urbanriversconference.org. There is no cost for the afternoon program but there is a \$20 fee for the morning speakers and lunch. Children's activities are provided in the morning for a \$10 fee. Full and partial scholarships are available.

Groups involved include: Sierra Club, Urban Ecology Center, Friends of Milwaukee's Rivers, Sixteenth Street Community Health Center, River Revitalization Foundation, The Park People, The Law Office of Dennis Grzezinski, University of Wisconsin-Extension, Interfaith Alliance, National Park Service, The City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee Urban Gardens, Discovery World, United Water

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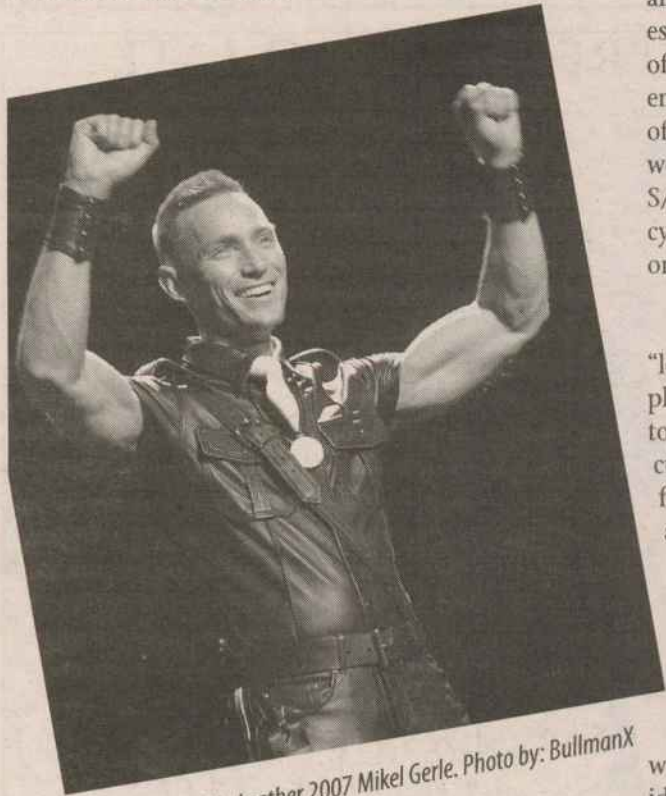
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LEATHER *continued from page 1*

in domination, discipline and role-playing. It's not for everyone, however - and also not just for gay men anymore. Enthusiasts for the "leather scene" are of all genders and orientations.

"People get caught up on a specific look as far as what is perceived as leather or fetish." Says Chicago-based photographer Adam Kozik, whose work is to be featured in "The Art of Edge - Fantasy and Fetish" exhibit this month at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center. "Leather is a second skin; it's organic, part of the natural instinct and desire of man."



International Mr. Leather 2007 Mikel Gerle. Photo by: BullmanX

Although very few lesbian or heterosexual women were visible during the early emergence of the scene, many are involved today. However, the images associated with leather clubs, chat rooms, and organizations, are typically those of men clad in all types of leather gear.



Early gay culture involving the leather scene attributes the rise to the post-WWII era. Many servicemen returning home from war accepted the surplus leather jackets and motorcycles

distributed. For most gay men at that time, the only chance to be close to other men was during their service in the military. With the provided jackets and bikes, the iconic biker rebel was born - as were clubs to gather in, and the chance to rekindle physical affection with other men.

Those influences of the military with its hierarchy and honor codes helped to form the future social institutions of the leather culture, beginning with what is commonly referred to as the "Old Guard."

The Old Guard, steeped in strict formality, is almost militant in its dress codes, behavior, and established customs. With them, there is no switching of dominant/submissive roles. The New Guard, which emerged sometime in the 1990's, is much more relaxed, often switching roles, and although they find the act of wearing leather appealing, most do not believe in the S/M or role playing code of ethics. They rely on the cyber-world for connections more than they do on bars or clubs.

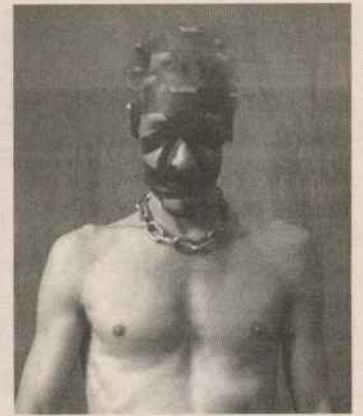
Even though not all who consider themselves "leatherfolk" participate in the "master/slave" role-playing of "dominance" and "submission," the use of toys, gadgets, and infliction of pain is often a part of the culture's sexual expression. Those who do participate, follow a strict code in which such acts are understood as mutually consensual, and are experienced as pleasurable by all involved. Careful attention is focused on the physical, mental, and emotional health of both parties.

The first noted leather bars were actually the clubhouses of early biker gangs. At the time there was a secret mailing list of members, who were only identified by number, and symbols as to preferred sexual practices. The bars where they would meet were also top secret and by invitation only. Of course that has changed over the years, and bars describing themselves as "leather/levi" can be found across the world.

Here in Milwaukee, we have several to choose from, and those that aren't considered leather, often host "leather nights." The Boot Camp Saloon, City Lights Chill, The Harbor Room, and Kruz are all involved in the leather scene, with the Boot Camp now leading the pack in terms of existence.

This scene is somewhat responsible for inspiring and changing not only the gay community, but also

popular culture at large. Noted are the punk rock days of the early 80's, where denim, chains and T-shirts often influenced major rock bands. For some, it's about building a community, forming organizations, and educating others about the aesthetics of leather. But for many, the scene is just that: a scene. It's something to do on nights off, when they aren't working, raising children, paying bills, or generally living their lives in everyday average fashion.



Leather Title events such as the notable International Mr. Leather held in Chicago, take place anywhere and everywhere that has a large enough leather community to be interested. The winners of such events are put to good use, using their status to educate, and help grow the local scene.

Ultimately, the leather culture must be given its due for the incredible amount of fundraising, and charity work performed in the fight against AIDS. It's a culture rich in tradition, openness, and education. In the long run, what happens behind closed doors is between two (or more), consenting adults, and should not be the ultimate definition of an entire movement.

"They are more informed than in years past", says Kozik. "It really is a whole community that embraces itself based on trust."

You can view Kozik's work beginning on the 15th, at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, at 703 s. 2nd St. The Chicago Leather Archives and Museum has teamed up with MGAC to present "The Art of Edge - Fantasy and Fetish," an exhibit focusing on the Aesthetics of Leather, Uniform, Rubber and Lace. Historic artifacts will be on display, along with several of Kozik's pieces. Having been involved in the leather community for years, his work focuses on the detail in the human form, which both fetishizes and sexualizes the human body.

"I am trying to show that people can be enthusiastic about experimenting with themselves. Most of the people in s/m are proud about what they're doing. It's about giving pleasure to one another. It is not about hurting."



On the Cover: Adam Kozik, Chicago based photographer. View his work, info, and bio, at www.adamkozik.com

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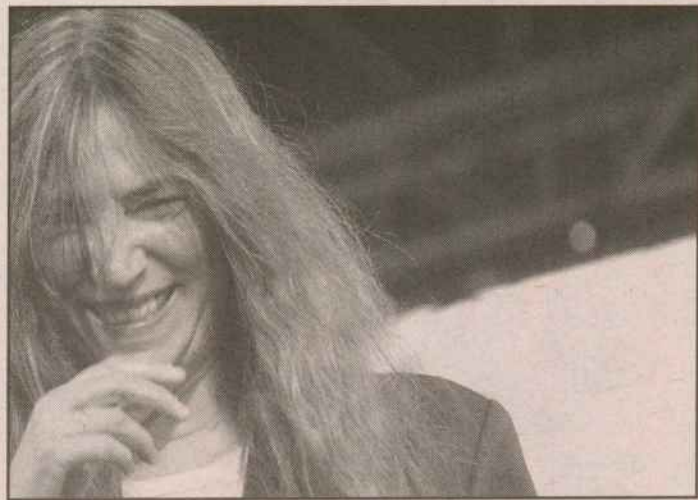
Poetry in Song: The Legend that is Patti Smith

Patti Smith is in between tour dates but has "a little bit of time to talk" on her one day off. Even amid her busy schedule, she is what her legions of fans have known all along:

Intelligent, passionate, articulate and incredibly down to earth.

"I don't really consider myself a musician," she states quite matter of factly. "I didn't have any aspirations to sing. But I liked to perform. And reciting poetry along with some singing was how I started."

This from the person who changed the face of rock and roll with her seminal 1975 debut *Horses*. With barebones minimalist production by Velvet Undergrounder John Cale, Smith sparked a revolution with her speak sing recitations draped on the skeletal guitar playing of longtime friend and



MUSIC

By Harry Cherkinian

for me. But it's 'Smells Like Teen Spirit' that I'm closest to with lyrics like, 'With the lights out it's less dangerous. Here we are now, entertain us.' (That's friend and collaborator, playwright and actor Sam Shepard on banjo, yes banjo, as Smith transforms the tune into a meandering bluegrass-folk song).

QL: Speaking of entertaining "us," how do you keep performing "live" fun and interesting for you and the band?

PL: We don't play shows. We play nights. We rehearse a lot of songs and often we'll change songs in the middle of a set list. I'll be out there and sometimes I'll get hot under the lights or tired or sometimes I'll just forget. So it's

PHOTO BY: TODD KRAVOS

collaborator Lenny Kaye. Even as the two and their emerging band played the bars in lower Manhattan's Bowery, Smith was already developing the sound she called "merging three chords with the power of the word." She reworked Van Morrison's "Gloria" with the opening cryptic salvo, "Jesus died for somebody's sins, but not mine."

Then came the fire and fervor of the '60s activism of "People Have the Power" (co-produced by her late husband, Fred "Sonic" Smith of the Detroit garage band, the MC5).

While covering other musician's songs have been a natural part of her work, it was only this year that she devoted an entire album of covers with the recently released "Twelve," featuring songs from Hendrix and Jefferson Airplane to Tears for Fears and Nirvana.

On March 12, 2007 at the age of 60, Patti Smith was inducted in the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame.

QL: You talk about how you grew up in a family that was very open-minded and knew nothing about prejudice. How did you react to prejudice when you first encountered it?

PS: I knew nothing about the civil rights movement. I went to a school where my friends were black so we never talked about it. I remember when I first heard about separate bathrooms for white and blacks I laughed.

QL: "Twelve" is a collection of covers by other artists. What made you decide to do this at this stage in your career?

PS: They were songs I listened to and related to. I felt a strong feeling for 'Gimme Shelter,' (Rolling Stones anthem of apocalypse and social warfare, all the more timely given the Iraq war and her unabashed opposition.) 'Are you Experienced' [by Jimi Hendrix] and 'Smells Like Teen Spirit' [Nirvana] are deep emotional experiences

new and it's different night after night. (There is a pause and then she adds) I didn't think I'd still be performing at this point in my life. I've gone through a lot of different things. But I think I have ideas I still want to contribute.

On Aug. 5th, when Smith took to the stage at the Barrymore Theatre in Madison, it was as much a personal acknowledgement to the past as well as a raised fist to the present. "Don't forget it. Use your voice," she commanded to the final strains of the anthemic "People Have the Power," her '80s reawakening call to activism. The veteran poet-punk rock 'n' roller has mellowed at age 60. But the fire down below is still there when it comes to her performance as well as her politics.

Touring on her recent album of cover songs *Twelve*, Smith, longtime collaborator guitarist Lenny Kaye, as well as her 25 year old son Jackson on guitars and bass - covered a number of classics within her two hours amid the intimate 750 plus Barrymore crowd. And, in that speak sing clear tone, Smith remade them as her own. Who else would conjure up a strange amalgam of sounds, including Smith herself on clarinet, as a prelude to "Are You Experienced?" Yet the Jimi Hendrix classic worked in its reworking, as did her homage to Jefferson Airplane in her retelling of "White Rabbit." Always pumping at the heart of straight out rock, Smith did the Rolling Stones proud, tearing up the anti-war tune "Gimme Shelter," reinforcing the lyrics about violence and the staying power of love by sporting a hand drawn peace symbol on - white else? - a white t-shirt with the words "Love" scrawled beneath.

Always a fan of the late Kurt Cobain, Smith paid tribute to the martyred rocker with her folk bluegrass adaptation of "Smells Like Teen Spirit," its slow, meandering banjo

continued on page 6

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MUSIC *continued from page 5*

strumming just as jarring as the original with its crashing waves of grunge metal.

But there were also the originals as well. The evening began on a low key note, with Smith slowly building into her 18-song set starting with "Kimberly" from her classic debut, *Horses* about her sister as well as the rarely done "Space Monkey." But her tribute to late Beat writer William Burroughs, "Beneath the Southern Cross" triumphed in its guitar wizardry, with son Jackson expertly flying on the strings, creating a sonic landscape of sounds. And the verve and passion of her one top 10 hit "Because the Night" sounded as urgent as it did back in 1978.

And, true to form, Smith literally returned to her past and its very beginnings on the final encore, simply by uttering the now well-memorized words, "Jesus died for somebody's sins, but not mine." Also off *Horses*, her working of the Van Morrison tune, "Gloria" was a resounding finish to an evening filled with moments recalling the past, celebrating them in the present. And with Smith at the helm, stoking a fire that still burns at the heart of rock 'n' roll, years later.

Wisconsin



Happenings

Transgender People Covered under Milwaukee Nondiscrimination Ordinance

Milwaukee - Milwaukee's Common Council voted July 31st to update Milwaukee's nondiscrimination ordinance. The new ordinance ends the city's exemption from its own nondiscrimination rules, and adds military service members and gender identity and expression to the list of already protected categories, which include race, sex, religion, ancestry and national origin. The ordinance also covers loved ones who suffer discrimination because of their association with a member of a protected class, and prohibits city license holders from discriminating, adding an important new enforcement tool.

"We commend the Milwaukee Common Council's action today to extend nondiscrimination protections to transgender people" said Patrick Flaherty, Director of Center Advocates, an equal rights organization based in Milwaukee. Transgender people are individuals who identify as and express their gender in a way different from the gender assigned to them at birth. The measure, if signed by the Mayor as expected, means that for the first time a majority of the nation's top 25 cities prohibit discrimination against transgender people. More than 12 states, including Wisconsin neighbors Iowa, Minnesota, and Illinois ban discrimination on the basis of gender identity and expression, as do 124 Fortune 500 companies. Wisconsin companies with inclusive nondiscrimination provisions include Miller Brewing, SC Johnson, and Foley and Lardner.

Michael Munson, co-founder and executive director of FORGE, said the new law was a step forward: "Anti-discrimination laws don't prevent discrimination, but they do contribute to our goal of making a world where people are judged by what they do and not by the boxes they appear to fit "or not fit" into." Forge is a national education and advocacy group for transgender people, their loved ones, and others based in Milwaukee. Center Advocates and FORGE conducted a 2007 survey that found that 20% of Milwaukee transgender people had been denied employment and 5% had experienced housing discrimination.

A Coalition of numerous members of community based organizations working for the new law included representatives of Center Advocates, Project Q/Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, Gemini Gender Group, FORGE, Metropolitan Community Church of Milwaukee, Underwood Memorial Baptist Church, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin (Milwaukee), Pathfinders/The Counseling Center of Milwaukee, and several individuals.

Under both the old and updated versions of the nondiscrimination ordinance, people who experience housing or employment discrimination in the City of Milwaukee may file a complaint with the Equal Rights Committee, a body of Mayoral appointees that is in its own process of an overhaul. Persons found guilty of violating the ordinance face a fine of \$500 - \$5,000.

You Say you Want a Homorevolution

Los Angeles -The historical first ever regional tour of Gay, Lesbian and Transgendered hip hop acts that launched last Spring and stopped in ten major cities in the Southwest has announced their next dates. The tour, titled **HOMOREVOLUTION TOUR 2007** will swing through four Midwest cities starting on Thursday October 4, 2007 in Columbus, Ohio, before landing in Milwaukee (Club Icon in Kenosha) on October 6th.

Returning to the tour is controversial gay rapper DEADLEE (website:www.deadlee.com), who made headlines throughout the music industry following his announcement of the tour (and subsequent comments) earlier this year and went on to appear on CNN, NPR, The Tyra Banks Show, and Howard Stern. He was the subject of numerous articles and blogs from Rolling Stone to Wired to The Advocate and the local newspapers of almost every tour stop city.

Joining Deadlee are fellow first leg HomoRevolution Tour artists Tori Fixx, Bigg Nugg, JFP, Foxxjazell, and NYC's Shorty Roc. Shorty Roc was on the first two dates of the original tour but made a lasting impression, earning a full page photo in the nationwide magazine

The Advocate. Atlanta's DaLyrical joins the tour for the first time officially. She made a big impression when she performed with several of the artists when the tour hit Atlanta in June.

The tour's name was taken from a scene in the definitive documentary on the LGBT hip hop phenomenon loosely referred to as Homohop, "Pick Up the Mic" (website: www.pickupthemic.com). The edited version of the Alex Hinton directed film is presently on the MTV owned LOGO network and an "uncut" version is due out on DVD.

The tour is not yet funded by corporate sponsors and is looking for sponsors. For more info please go to www.homorevolution.com

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT <http://www.gaymusicusa.com>

Club Icon, 6305 120th Ave Kenosha, WI 53142. (262)

857-3240, requires all of its shows to make a donation to a charity. The Homo Revolution Artists have chosen to donate \$50 for every 100 people that attend the concert. Club Icon will match their donation. The show starts at 930pm and will end by 1230am



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National



Happenings

Florida Mayor Strikes Again

Fort Lauderdale - In Broward County, black, heterosexual women make up a significant number of new HIV cases. One third of the 6,913 HIV cases diagnosed in the past 10 years have been women. This does not, however, stop Mayor Jim Naugle and his merry band of religious leaders from putting the blame of the HIV crisis in their county on "unhappy" men having sex in public bathrooms.

A news conference was called last month by the much-protested Mayor, with the idea to draw attention to the moral and health risks of gay sex. Earlier this year, Naugle announced that his city's public bathrooms are plagued with gay men cruising for sex hook-ups.

During the news conference in front of the City Hall, Naugle and other speakers expressed concern over Broward County's HIV/AIDS crisis, and asked gays to end promiscuous sex.

"I think Broward County is forever changed from this exercise," he said. "We are going to have less of this activity and I think we're going to save some lives in this county." Naugle says his motivation to speak out has more to do with "public health" than religious beliefs.

Though the health department has no statistics concerning how many cases of HIV are contracted via sex in public bathrooms or parks, Naugle has tied the two issues together.

AIDS surveillance manager Pat Callahan Taylor said Broward County does have an HIV/AIDS crisis, and has had one for years - but it's not isolated to gay men.

"I think it's really important when you're looking at the numbers to not just look at parts of it," said Taylor. "One of our favorite quotes is if you torture a statistic long enough, it will confess to anything. And I think that's what we've seen."

The news conference veered from the topic of public health to discuss the morality of homosexuality, and only served to inflame gay activists more.

Fort Lauderdale has long been considered one of the most gay friendly tourist destinations in the country, and has now become embroiled in a bitter fight about the morality of homosexuality itself.

Naugle said he doesn't advocate cutting off marketing to gay tourists, despite his comments that the county is in a "dilemma" inviting gay tourists here while at the same time battling a high number of HIV and AIDS cases from male sex.

"We are going to continue to invite people to our community as long as they behave lawfully," Naugle said.

Tourism officials have found themselves cringing at some of the mayor's statements.

Check out What's going on At FORGE:

Writing To Heal: Transformation through Words. A monthly trauma-informed writing group for survivors of violence and their loved ones. 7:00 - 8:30pm at the LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. Cost: \$10 (no one turned away for lack of funds). Next meeting Oct. 11th. info@forge-forward.org. 414-559-2123

Art, Body and Soul: A monthly-facilitated art group addressing body image, size, race, gender, dis/ability and more. 7:00 - 9:00pm, LGBT Community Center. Cost: \$10 (no one turned away for lack of funds) Next meeting October 25, 2007 info@forge-forward.org. 414-559-2123

Artist's Way Creative Cluster: A 12 week peer-driven group for creative beings to raise, celebrate, and actualize the creative power, which runs through us all. 10:00 - 11:30am, LGBT Community Center. Cost: \$60 for 12 week series (no one turned away for lack of funds) Starts Sept. 26th thru Dec. 5th. info@forge-forward.org. 414-559-2123

FORGE Social Support meetings: Facilitated support group, networking and information sharing for transmasculine individuals (e.g. FTMs, genderqueers, butches) and SOFFAs (Significant Others, Friends, Family and Allies) 6:00 - 10:00pm, LGBT Community Center. FREE. Sept. 1st, Oct. 6th. info@forge-forward.org. 414-559-2123

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 Happy Hour 5-8PM
 Saturday-Sunday 3PM-Close

International



Happenings

Uganda rejects equal rights for Gays

Uganda - Ethics Minister James Nsaba Buturo has announced that Uganda will not give equal rights to gays and lesbians nor has it plans to legalize homosexuality.

This was in response to a demand of recognition by the Sexual Minorities Groups in Uganda (Smug). During a first ever press conference, SMUG also made accusations of police brutality and harassment. Many of those present, wore masks out of fear of retaliation and discrimination, while saying they have had enough of the "abuse, neglect and violence".

Buturo, however denies any harassment or brutality takes place.

"If they were being harassed, they would be in jail. We know them, we have details of who they are," he said.

The gay community in Uganda is estimated to number 500,000.

Free Sex-Reassignment Surgery in Brazil

Brazil - Although discrimination still exists, tolerance of homosexuality in Brazil has gone one step further - free sex re-assignment surgeries. In the last seven years, around 250 such surgeries have been performed at three university hospitals.

Now, in compliance with an Aug. 15th ruling, Brazil's public health system will begin providing free gender-reassignment operations. Health ministry spokesman Edmilson Oliveira da Silva said the government would not appeal the ruling, although it will be up to local health officials to decide who qualifies for the surgery and what priority it will be given compared with other operations within the public health system.

Patients diagnosed as transsexuals must be at least 21 years old and undergo psychological evaluation for at least two years. Gay activists applauded the decision.

"Transsexuals represent about 0.001 percent of the Brazilian population, but for this minority, sexual reassignment surgery is a question of life and death," said Luiz Mott, founder of the Bahia Gay Group. "It is unjust and cruel to argue that the health system should concern itself with other priorities."

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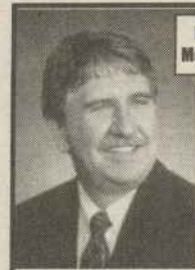
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Shaking up the Status Quo

QZAP is proud once again to shake up the status quo and bring radical film to the Milwaukee LGBT Film Festival. In the past we've introduced screenings of **Rise Up**, the amazing gut level documentary look at legendary queer punk band Tribe 8; Devon Devine's **Junk** film festival – an amorphous compilation of queer underground films and videos; Gregg Araki's first foray into the queerly bent angst-ridden underbelly of LA titled **Three Bewildered People In the Night**; and the devastatingly fabulous story of SF's Trannyshack club night, **Filthy Gorgeous**. This year, we're teaming up with our sisters at **Broad Vocabulary** to rock the

Festival with a dystopic retrofuturist look into a feminist response to governmental and societal repression in director Lizzie Borden's **Born In Flames**. QZAP's involvement with cinema and films is no accident. The subset of queer zinesters who are filmmakers or involved in other aspects of the industry is substantial and speaks volumes to the dedication that these artists have to getting radical queer messages and images out to wider audiences by any means necessary. Here is a small sampling of the connections between zinesters and underground cinema.

Start at the Very Beginning

Once upon a time in the early 1980s,

a freckle-faced farm boy named Justin from rural Ontario moved to the big city of Toronto to attend film school. He navigated through a world filled with disco clones, racists, and classists but fortunately was guided by his love of hardcore and punk. He transformed himself from a concave-chested sissy into the hard assed boozier and user, hooked up with other queer freaks and outcasts – real Juvenile Delinquents. Now known as Bruce La Bruce, he and fellow queer filmmaker G.B. Jones not only helped kickstart the queer zine scene with **J.D.s**, they also made hot, raw, in your face and up your ass Super 8 movies that picked up queer underground cinematic traditions from artists such as New York's famed squatter/dumpster diver Jack Smith and occultist Kenneth Anger. **J.D.s** also served as de facto film catalogs for the editors' work and also provided the contact information necessary to find these films long before they would have been available through distributors. One of **J.D.s** contributors, Anonymous Boy, eventually produced a rough-and-tumble video animation of his sexy queer punk characters called **Green Pubes**. Reb, of **Fanorama** fame was sometimes more well known as "that film guy" from Rhode Island for all the work he did in creating and screening films in and around Providence.

And The Beat Goes On

As the technology of filmmaking became accessible to folks who in previous decades wouldn't have had such connections, underground cinema flourished and so did the number of zinesters who found themselves as part of filmmaking. Also hailing from Toronto,



ZINES

Christopher Wilde (cwilde@qzap.org) is a co-founder of QZAP, artist, DJ and Mac tech support specialist building community in Milwaukee's Riverwest.

Scott Treleven turned the story of his zine into **The Salvation Army** and helped usher in an era where wider audiences could easily be found for experimental films. Rebel Fux editor Kate Huh, with folks like Stephen Kent Jusick, grew **The MIX Festival** into a long-standing tradition and a launching point for all sorts of radical film yumyness. Greta Snider of Mudflap made the now lost indie classic **Shred of Sex** starring Deke Nihilson of **Homocore** as well as **Our Gay Brothers** in which three gay men chart what most gay men typically find unchartable – women's bodies. Currently the hottest melding of queers, zine culture, artists, and films is happening at events like Atlanta's **Pink Eye indie queer movie salon** as hosted by Kiki Carr. Keep an eye out for events like this, or better yet, get a projector, set up a screen, spread the word and roll your own film fest in your living room, backyard, or reclaimed urban space!

QZAP sends a special thanks to Carl Bogner of the Milwaukee LGBT Film Festival for his continued support and encouragement. Be sure to catch the free screening of "Born in Flames" Saturday September 8 UWM Union Cinema 11pm!

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media celebrities will be held.

Special guests this year will include the Duct Tape Guys and Jim Parks, host from HGTV's "New Spaces."

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Hours on Fri., Sept. 28, are 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.; 10a.m. - 9 p.m. on Sat., Sept. 29, and Sun., Sept. 30, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission is \$5 in advance, and \$7 at the door. Tickets for seniors, 55 and older are \$5.00, with a special price of \$4.00 for seniors

at the door on Friday, Sept. 28 for "Callen Construction Senior Day". Children 12 and younger are admitted at no charge with free childcare courtesy of Bryant Heating & Cooling Systems (available for ages 3 - 12).

For more information on the Fall Home & Remodeling Show, call the Milwaukee/NARI Home Improvement Council at 414-771-4071 or visit www.milwaukeeenari.com.

For more information, including advance ticket locations:
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QLife Quickies

LOGO buys Online Social Network

LOGO, MTV Network's cable channel for gays and lesbians, has agreed to buy DowneLink.com, a social network for multicultural lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender audiences. The acquisition is part of MTVN's niche programming strategy to better serve up targeted audiences to advertisers, and firm up Logo's role as the "leading online and on-air source of entertainment for the LGBT community" said Lisa Sherman, senior vice president and general manager of the network. With a community of some 400,000 members, DowneLink is a solid addition to Logo's growing assembly of affiliated Web sites for the gay and lesbian community. Existing sites include Happiestgaycouple.com, the recently launched visiblevote08.com, NewNowNext.com, AfterEllen.com, AfterElton.com and 365gay.com.

Salinas holds first Gay Pride Parade

Salinas, Calif. – Welcome to the world of Pride Parades, Salinas! Hundreds of people attended last month's first ever Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade in Salinas, California, drawing both revelers, and protestors. Organizers said the event was a peaceful one, with just a handful of Bible quotes being tossed about by one local pastor. Other area churches, however, supported, and even took part in the event. Congratulations!

Wisconsin Population Increases

Madison – Wisconsin's population grew again in 2007 – more than many Midwest neighbors. The recent estimates released by the Department of Administration show a 5.3 percent increase in Wisconsin's population since the 2000 U.S. Census. An addition of 283,285 new residents, the report illustrates steady growth throughout Wisconsin and continued in-migration to the state.

"This shows our efforts to grow Wisconsin's economy with high paying jobs, clean environment and a strong education system are really paying off," Governor Doyle said. Data from the 2006 U.S. Census Bureau showed that Wisconsin was the only state in the Upper Midwest to have more people move to the state than leave the state from April 2000 to July 2006.

GLAAD commends Pulling Sales of Pool Cues

Vito Spatafore, was a gay gangster among the uber-violent mobster world of televisions "Sopranos." The character, played by actor Joseph R. Gannascoli, was finally outed, and killed by the mob – beaten to death with pool cues, then sodomised.

So why did Gannascoli come under fire from the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation? He was part of the now defunct ad campaign by Rockwell Billiards, and their new line of pool cues. The slogan: "A Cue to Die For."

GLAAD had issued a release calling on Rockwell Billiards to remove the name "A Cue to Die For" and to apologize for using such a vulgar symbol of violence and anti-gay bigotry to make a profit. A few days later, a spokesperson for Rockwell Billiards confirmed to GLAAD that the product is no longer available for purchase and had been removed from the company's website. The spokesperson was unaware if an apology would be released.

While Gannascoli has not issued an official statement, the actor was described as "apologetic" by The Miami Herald when he told a reporter, "I had no idea [the pool cue] would create this sort of uproar...I'm a great supporter of the gay community."

"While the violence against the character of Vito on The Sopranos was fictional, many members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community have fallen victim to brutal anti-gay attacks," said GLAAD President Neil G. Giuliano. "Rockwell Billiards has done the right thing by no longer selling a product which many deemed offensive and insensitive."

Rockwell Billiards, an Oregon-based company says the cues name plays on Gannascoli's cookbook novel, "A Meal to Die For."

We'll Always Love You, Too

When I think of whom I would consider a personal role model, the first people to come to mind are my parents. After them, some of my friends or my teachers. Public figures and celebrities only occur as a brief afterthought. However, among that last category is one woman for whom I hold the utmost respect and whose attitude I find truly inspirational: Tammy Faye Messner, who just passed away earlier this summer.

I was first thoroughly introduced to Tammy Faye after seeing the cover of the documentary about her life, *The Eyes of Tammy Faye*, on the shelves at Blockbuster. I had a vague idea of who she was, and thought to myself, "Well, I'm a drag queen, and she's essentially a drag queen but doesn't know it, so this should be hilarious!"

An hour and a half after I had brought it home, I held an entirely different view. The documentary—narrated by RuPaul, might I add—practically moved me to tears. It chronicled Tammy's meager beginnings, marriage to Jim Bakker, and then reign and infamous downfall of the Evangelical PTL (Praise the Lord) television network.

Many people will probably remember her as a figure on VHI's *The Surreal Life*, but that is just a snippet of her celebrity. In her lifetime she accomplished outstanding things; she was the creative end and talk show hostess on the largest religious television network in the nation, and a successful singer and author. Throughout her entire career and particularly appearances on television, Tammy was genuine and passionate—about her religion, yes, but more importantly about other human beings.

What shocked me most about the documentary was learning that on her PTL television show in the 1980s, Tammy featured guests who were not only openly gay, but also had AIDS. She did not chastise them, nor ask them to repent their sins. Instead, she cried. With a look of utter remorse and sympathy she said, "How sad that we as Christians... who are supposed to be able to love everyone, are afraid so badly of an AIDS patient that we will not go up and put our arm around them and tell that that we care."

This fact still shocks me. I mean, you don't hear about talk shows with AIDS patients today, much less hosted by one of the most powerful religious leaders in the United States! And this was the 80s, when AIDS was even more of a stigma; and yet there was Tammy, asking her viewers to look into their hearts and accept that these are still beautiful people, and to support medical research.



YOUTH

Harry James Hanson, a senior at Shorewood High School, is Co-President of the school's Gay-Straight Alliance, as well as an active member of both its drama department and school newspaper.

After PTL, she then went on to host a talk show, *The Jim J. and Tammy Faye Show*, with an openly gay co-host, Jim Bullock. Of Bullock, Tammy said in her documentary that though she may not personally approve of his sexuality, that would never stop her from loving him as a person. Unfortunately, the show lasted only one season.

As I sat in my living room on July 19th, watching Tammy Faye on *Larry King Live*, down to a shriveled 65 lbs. and only one day before her death, I was once again moved to tears. Despite her extremely emaciated condition, she said that she was "not afraid," and that she continued to pray and look forward to tomorrow. It was clearly taking every ounce of her strength to speak, and yet she still did it with a smile. When asked why she had such affection for the gay community, she responded, "...[W]hen we lost everything, it was the gay people that came to my rescue, and I will always love them for that."

The morals that Tammy Faye so soundly exemplified—putting the past behind you, learning compassion for others, to not fear the future, and that a little mascara never hurt anybody—are extremely valuable. Tammy Faye can serve as a role model for all of us.



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QLife Quickies

Woman's gender not believed; three lose jobs.

Washington – After repeated attempts claiming herself as a woman, jailed inmate Virginia Grace Soto, was finally believed when she had already showered for two days with male inmates, and finally underwent a medical examination. The screw up will cost three D.C. corrections officials their jobs.

Soto's gender has come into question after several arrests in the past, and had even been classified as a "transgendered" man following an interview by the city's Gay and Lesbian Liaison Unit.

Soto, 47, was arrested July 14 and jailed with male inmates. She repeatedly told police that she was a woman, but was not believed. According to the Washington Post, Soto, described as "androgynous in nature" has not filed a complaint.

Queer Life Advertisers on the Right Track!

According to a recent survey involving tens of thousands of LGBT people, Community Marketing's 2007 Gay Consumer Index and 2007 Lesbian Consumer Index reveal new info about LGBT consumers spending patterns.

The report states that "85% of both gay men and lesbians feel that advertising in gay media favorably influences their decision to purchase products or do business with a company."

The largest of its type ever, the survey includes info based on an America-wide survey of more than 12,000 gay men and more than 10,000 lesbians.

"Our community has risen to the forefront among corporate marketing executives in recent years," said Tom Roth, president of Community Marketing, Inc.

CMI Senior Research Director and survey architect Jerry McHugh notes that marketers who in the past have actively targeted the LGBT community most likely have only been reaching gay men, or half the market, with their campaigns and communications.

"There is no single LGBT community in terms of consumer statistics. It is a diverse melting pot of people who cannot be reached with one type of campaign," said McHugh.

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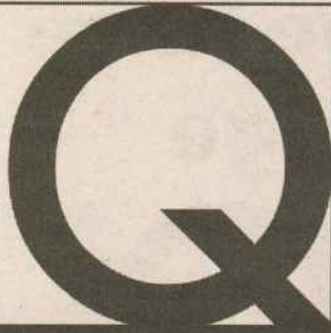
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Queer Life's offices are open to the public. Regular business hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday - Friday except for holidays.

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Don't Hate, Educate

Kate Sherry

"The approximately 200,000 students that are a part of the Philadelphia School District will not be given the false message that homosexuals played a significant role in American or world history," **Diane Gramley, president of the American Family Association of Pennsylvania.**

Oh.
My.
God.

Hans Christian Anderson! What does one say to that? I read the above quote after fishing around for info on the Philly school district's choice to delete next month's Gay and Lesbian History month from their school calendars. Last year, Q Life mentioned the Philly uproar when the district actually looked past bigotry, and discrimination, and included the rich and vibrant and GLOBAL history of LGBT people in their school calendars. Some parents however were in quite a tizzy over their children being subjected to acknowledging gay & lesbian history, and a great brouhaha ensued.

This year, the district has caved to the pressure, and is deleting any references to Gays and Lesbians. And

apparently, Ms. Gramley seems to think there wasn't anything to refer to in the first place. When I thought first about it, (*Gertrude Stein*) I started to have this vision of "subliminal man" from Saturday Night Live going (*Walt Whitman*) through my head. That old skit, where the newscaster (*Aristotle*) would deliver the news (*Edward II*), and at the same time subliminally slip in what he is really (*Cole Porter*) thinking about, and say it out loud. So, as I (*Francis Bacon*) tinkered away at my editorial (*Martina Navratilova*), I would have (*James Baldwin*) all these names (*Gore Vidal*) pop into my head. The fact that Gramley feels that "homosexuals" (*Rudolf Nuryev*) played no (*Georgia O'Keefe*) significant (*Oscar Wilde*) role in American (*Eleanor Roosevelt*) or world history (*Zhou Dan*) is beyond me. Apparently, she's never (*Billie Jean King*) cracked open classic writings, (*Socrates*) or heard a political speech, (*Barney Frank*) or breathtaking (*Tchaikovsky*) piece of classical music. You know she did the crocodile rock in her time too, so...she's had to have jammed out to Elton.

Anyway, the Philly school district has opted to kick everyone off of the calendars, and go with a stripped down version. Of course, now other groups are upset that they aren't being noticed at all, either. Never can please everyone, I say. Especially folks like Gramley. She must live in a boring world all her own, censoring an entire community because to her,

they offer "nothing" to the world. What a crappy message to send to the children of Philadelphia.

Milwaukee isn't exempt from misunderstandings and grumblings within our own LGBT community. However, lack of communication causes more misunderstandings, more hurt feelings, and more assumptions.

This month, we have an interview with filmmaker Catherine Crouch about her 15-minute film, *The Genderator*. You can read the interview to find out what it's about, so I won't go into it here. I have never talked so much about a film I have yet to see. Therefore, I refuse to make any judgement, or take any sides. The only thing I am certain about, is the fact that it should be shown, and discussed.

I've certainly gotten my share of accusations and name-calling while working here. I've heard good things too, but it's always the bad crap that gets to you. Those folks will stick with what they assume is the truth, and there is not much I can do about that. Unless they actually want to talk about it.

Isn't always better in the long run, to at least make the effort?

That being said, we've received several letters regarding *The Genderator*. A few of them are listed below. I'd say that's a start.



Letters to the Editor:

You have the rights? We have the space....

On July 19 a Milwaukee Gay Arts Center (MGAC) board member proposed use of its space for a private fundraiser showing *Genderator* on July 29 to send women to the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival. On July 20 a follow up email contained a synopsis of the film. There was general board consensus to approve the event.

A UWM Women's Studies email blast invitation to the fundraiser reached Michael Munson of FORGE who contacted MGAC on July 26 about the screening. The invitation did not identify the event's sponsors or its fundraising purpose. Munson therefore presumed it was an MGAC event. MGAC explained the event was privately sponsored and pending a board vote based on the actual sponsor's fulfillment of legal criteria - especially regarding the rights to show the film. There must be proof of any required licenses or permits.

MGAC made clear that once the technical aspects were clarified, the board

would likely vote to allow the event. However, in deference to MGAC's history of 1st amendment issues, no consideration would be made based on the film's content.

MGAC expressed its belief the screening would offer an opportunity to discuss pertinent lesbian and trans issues. In one message, it wrote to Munson "MGAC encourages any relevant dialogue as long as it is based on thoughtful and rational discussion".

The vote was on the meeting agenda scheduled for that evening at 7pm, July 26.

By the time of the board meeting, no documented proof of rights to show the film had been provided. Neither the board member who proposed the event, nor anyone associated with it, attended the meeting. Based on this, the board voted unanimously against the proposal. The sponsor made no appeal of that decision.

Paul Masterson, Director, Milwaukee Gay Arts Center

Let's all try to get along, but we don't have to all agree.

Posing under the guise of not offending anyone, the idea of having a different opinion than anyone else in our community is becoming a sin of sorts.

I bring up this topic because of the recent controversy around the 15-minute science fiction film *The Genderator*. Just two people representing the gay film festival for

San Francisco viewed this movie in Chicago, and decided the film may be construed as offensive to some transgender people and eliminated it from that film festival. Other venues have followed suit, canceling showings of the film even without seeing the movie, including in our hometown of Milwaukee.

Recently one lesbian woman from Milwaukee: Virginia Cassel wanted to show the film, to raise money to send womyn to the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival. Virginia had been given a copy of the film from the director of the film for this express purpose. Virginia is a lesbian woman that wanted to show a movie made by a lesbian about lesbians. The MGAC did not sponsor, nor endorse the event, but offered its space. Prior to the film's viewing, the MGAC rescinded its offer stating that (according to the letter from the MGAC board,) "adequate assurances were not met to ensure a legal and LGBT balanced experience."

It seems some thought that there should be members of the whole LGBT community at the film, forming a panel to talk about the meaning of the 15-minute film. Why can't I make up my own mind? Isn't this what free speech is all about? Thank goodness we have this first amendment right. Part of the responsibility of free speech is knowing that others will have opinions different than mine and they get to voice those opinions. MGAC was not sponsoring the event, but seems to have decided the film was not going to be shown in a fair and representative way. Fine,

continued on page 12

OPINIONS *continued from page 11*

let's all note this as a new public policy of MGAC.

This is a movie people. Movies are going to represent different ideas. We cannot expect every member of every group to agree. I don't expect to agree with nor like every thing sponsored by MGAC either. So MGAC when are you showing the Genderator? Skip the panel when you do show it. I can make up my mind all by myself.

*Denise M. Cawley
West Milwaukee, WI*

And one more.....

In what context should a controversial film be shown? Would, for instance, showing The Birth of A Nation to a mostly-white audience without a talk-back by African-Americans be seen as, at best, divisive?

That's the type of question being

posed nationwide as LGBT people of goodwill struggle over the showing of The Genderator by Catherine Crouch. Crouch herself originally described this film by noting, "Things are getting very strange for women these days. More and more often we see....lesbian women altering themselves into transmen. Our distorted cultural norms are making women feel compelled to use medical advances to change themselves, instead of the world." Called to account for the transphobia in her statement, Crouch "clarified" by noting that, "This remark is not about transpeople." She then defines transsexuals as "not a woman or a man," and distinguishes them from "the increasing number of young women who are taking testosterone or undergoing voluntary mastectomies to enhance their masculinity. These are women who formerly identified, or would be considered by the lesbian community, as butch lesbians."

As a lesbian of 32 years partnered with two FTMs, I know these statements are overly simplistic and mistaken. The problems within them also cannot be addressed in 200 words, or, for that matter, the Genderator's 15 minutes. For those who would like to learn more about the controversy, I recommend:

- Catherine Crouch's own website, at www.catherinecrouch.com
- Remarks by Susan Stryker about The Genderator, at <http://leftinsf.com/blog/index.php/archives/1935>
- "Femmes, Butches and Lesbian-Feminists Discussing FTMs, at www.forge-forward.org/handouts/feminismFTM.php

*Loree Cook-Daniels,
Milwaukee*

Where we have the edge

A recent study from Canada reported at the 2007 American Psychological Association Convention in San Francisco provided some interesting evidence that older gay folks may have an edge on men and women in the general (non-LGB) population. This project used an eight-session structured discussion group to learn about the places where gay men differ from their heterosexual peers.

The key differences showed that older gay men have done the important work of integrating within themselves much of what is assumed to be masculine (practical, intellectual, assertive) and what is assumed to be feminine (nurturing, emotionally available, and resourceful) in ways that their heterosexual peers have not done. Earlier studies have shown the same for older lesbians, their bringing together the satisfaction of their assertive, practical work lives with their nurturing friendship and relationship networks in ways many heterosexually identified women do not.

Taken together, these studies remind us that we may have an edge in resilience. I don't recommend a school of hard knocks. But for many lesbian and gay seniors, that school has led to some hard won victories that assist them in their daily lives and simultaneously also greatly benefit society. As they have resisted demands to conform, they have enacted ways to perceive, think, and act in the world that are rich and fulfilling.

LGBT youth also show evidence of gaining ground on their peers as they negotiate gender ideologies, balancing those ascribed masculine and feminine gender roles in the context of their daily lives. Another study presented at the psychologists' gathering reflected the movement of many youth away from a somewhat passive resistance to the social pressures for gender compliance.



HEALTH
Gary Hollander, Ph.D., (ghollander@queerlifeneews.com) is president and executive director of Diverse and Resilient, a nonprofit committed to the healthy development of LGBT people in Wisconsin. He is also owner and principal consultant of Gary Hollander Enterprises, which assists organizations with their development, emphasizing change management, team development and cultural competency.

Increasing numbers of young people may be more consciously structuring their resistance to gender rigidity through interpersonal, institutional, or sociopolitical actions. These actions likely benefit us all. But in a critical way they also deeply affect the sense of self-efficacy of the youth involved.

I think it is interesting that on both ends of our age spectrum as LGBT people we are setting the pace for progress with gender expression. We are moving from BEING our gender to DOING our gender. In the process of doing that we understand more about who we are and what there is to like about ourselves. We hold ourselves in higher regard, thus increasing our motives to stay healthy and whole. Our physical and mental health risks whither under these circumstances.

Today would be a great day to step out on the edge, the edge where we are in the lead for positive self regard. It would be a great day to show public displays of affection, to challenge the status quo regarding gender norms.

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"It's so real!" No, it's so rude!

Recently I was at a celebration for the newly passed non-discrimination legislation protecting gender identity, expression and affiliation in the City of Milwaukee. As I walked up to the bar for a diet coke, my reality was abruptly jarred by someone reaching out and tugging – hard – on my beard. I was totally caught off guard by this transwoman whom I had never met before, deciding that an appropriate way to capture my attention – or possibly “greet” me – was by rudely invading my space through harsh physical contact. She did not say a word to me, but cracked a wicked, almost taunting smile before turning back to her drink and cackling in conversation with another person at the bar.

Would it have been too difficult for her to have tapped me on the shoulder and introduced herself, perhaps shaking my hand? Maybe we could be on a first name basis before engaging in highly intimate physical exchanges?

While it would be easy to chalk this experience up as an isolated event, occurring because it was in a bar where her judgment may have been clouded, this type of experience happens all too often to trans people – frequently perpetrated by others in the trans community.

Some people are curious, wanting to gauge “realness,” expecting to literally feel the difference between cisgender and transgender bodies. These people seem to have missed the newsflash that breast and beard growth are identical for trans and non-trans people. Breasts of MTFs emerge with hormones, just like cisgender young women – some may be larger, some smaller. Beards of FTMs grow, just like cisgender young men – some might be coarser, some softer; some curlier, some straighter.

Others feel the uncontrolled urge to cop a feel and make pronouncements about another's gender. A long-term man of transsexual experience noted that someone once gloated after they had touched his beard, “It's soooo soft!! That's because you were a woman, right? That's



TRANSGENDER

Q michael munson (mmunson@queerlifeneews.com) is an emotionally intense, transgressively gendered, passionate social agitator who strives for inclusion and harmony by focusing on our human similarities and strengths. He is lovingly committed to his partner and their 12 year old son.

how I knew you were FTM, before you told me.”

We are inundated with bodily invasions, as well as totally inappropriate (and irrational!) comments about our appearance, body, behavior, and mannerisms. Qualities are attributed to transness rather than personal style or natural embodiment.

How can we learn that it is not appropriate to reach out to touch an MTF's breasts to determine if they are “real,” or ask an FTM who uses injectable testosterone if they will give away their needles, or say a genderqueer looks like a sissy when wearing a pink shirt, or ask a partner how s/he has sex with hir trans spouse?

Within our community, many feel a false sense of intimacy, acting in ways they never would with non-transgender individuals. For some, knowing another's trans status gives them the unearned permission to break boundaries, ask inappropriate questions and physically violate others' personal space.

It seems odd that trans people forget that another trans person's gender – including hir body – is not public property, not free game to be touched or intruded upon. Curiosity is wonderful, but only when accompanied with kindness, respect, and empathy.

This Month in Wisconsin LGBT History SEPTEMBER

By Don Schwamb

Find out more about these and other events and history in Wisconsin's GLBT community at the Milwaukee History Project web site: www.WisconsinGayHistory.org

35 years ago: 1972– Fox Valley gays organize to encourage a gay or semi-gay business to open in the area; Michelle's Club begins regular Revue shows, featuring Winnie Storm, Sandy Alexandra, Brandy Le, Allison Brooks and Misty; three members of GPU appear on a panel to discuss homosexuality on WOKY radio.

30 years ago: 1977– Stephen Walther, an early member of Gay Peoples Union, and better known as founder and publisher of Astronomy magazine, dies of a brain tumor. (30 years later, Astronomy Magazine is still the preeminent magazine for astronomy.) GPU's VD Exam Center expands to 3 days a week (Tues, Wed, Thurs.), open from 8-11pm. (The VD Exam Center still exists as the BESTD Clinic.)

20 years ago: 1987– 2nd annual MAP Fest is held. OUT! Newspaper ceases publication after 5 years, laying the groundwork for the beginnings of the Wisconsin Light newspaper. Wreck Room hosts a MASH party.

15 years ago: 1992– Vandals strike in Milwaukee, tossing bricks through the windows of several gay businesses: M&M Club, Wreck Room, In Step, and Miss M's Cafe; a few straight businesses were also vandalized; Queer Nation meets with United Way; Brewers star Paul Molitor chairs the 3rd annual AIDS Walk; ACT/UP- Madison drops condoms into Waupun prison yard.

Angels of Hope MCC says Goodbye to Pastor

Rev. Elaine Thomas of Angels of Hope Metropolitan Community Church has announced her intention to resign her position as pastor of Angels of Hope MCC, effective October 16th of this year, to devote more time to her work as a hospice Chaplain. Her decision was communicated to the members of the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, August 14th and was announced to the congregation at the Saturday and Sunday services the following weekend.

“This is in no way a result of any dissatisfaction with my job as pastor but, rather, a call to another ministry that I have felt developing for sometime.” said Rev. Thomas.

Rev. Thomas came to Angels of Hope MCC from MCC-Milwaukee in 2002 to take the position as Associate Pastor under Rev. Ken Hull, under whose leadership the church obtained their present building at 3607 Libal Street in Green Bay and established a Parish extension in Appleton

in 1997. Rev. Thomas took over as sole pastor on January 1st, 2003. Among the accomplishments that took place during her tenure were the beginning of a children's education program (Kid's Club), educational issues surrounding the anti-marriage amendment referendum in 2006 and the relocation of the Appleton congregation - first to the Fox Valley UU Center and, presently, to the First Congregational UCC chapel at 724 East South River Street in Appleton.

“Many things have come together to convince me the time was right to follow the new path that God has opened to me” continued Rev. Thomas.

“I have the utmost faith in God's blessing and providence for the future of Angels of Hope, MCC. It has been an honor serving as your pastor, and sharing in our spiritual journey these past five years. You are a wonderful people, and I shall long be grateful for the privilege of serving you.”

Photo exhibit portrays same-sex couples

Milwaukee - Shall Not Be Recognized, an exhibit of portraits of 30 Milwaukee-area same-sex couples in long-term relationships, is the creation of photographer Jeff Percy and author Will Fellows. The premiere showing of *Shall Not Be Recognized* will be at the VP Gallery of Fine Photography, 320 E. Buffalo Street, Milwaukee, from Thursday, Oct. 4, to Tuesday, Oct. 9. VP Gallery hours are 10-5 Tues, Sat, 12-4 Sun. An opening reception at VP Gallery will held Saturday, Oct. 6; 6-8 p.m.

“I became deeply angry when the amendment to Wisconsin's Constitution was approved, banning legal recognition of same-sex unions,” says Jeff Percy. “My wife, Jerilyn, and I had given money to the effort to defeat the amendment, and she was also an active door-to-door canvasser on the issue. We considered getting a divorce as an act of civil disobedience, thinking that rights denied to some should not be enjoyed by any. Instead, I returned to my photojournalist roots. I have long known the power of pictures and words to precipitate change.”

“As a gay man,” says Will Fellows, “I know how it feels to be told that the

committed relationship I've been in for many years is not worthy of legal recognition. When Jeff asked me to create this portrait exhibit with him, I immediately agreed. I was struck by the particular significance of this project being a gay-straight collaboration. Most important to me was the chance to work with a sensitive photographer to create an exhibit that portrays the lives of marginalized families. The couples in this exhibit have been in committed relationships for periods ranging from seven years to 50 years.”

October 21 through December 1, *Shall Not Be Recognized* will be displayed at Leenhouts Gallery, First Unitarian Society, 1342 N. Astor Street, Milwaukee. Leenhouts Gallery hours are 9-4 Mon-Thurs; 9-Noon Fri & Sun. Information on future exhibitions and a video version of the exhibit will be available soon at www.ShallNotBeRecognized.org.

Funding for *Shall Not Be Recognized* has been provided by PFLAG Milwaukee, Cream City Foundation, The J. G. Clark Family Fund, and The Joseph R. Pabst LGBT Infrastructure Fund.



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World According to Benjamins?

OK, I have a few questions.

For instance, why would the Milwaukee County Transit Authority raise the bus fare to \$2 each way, when its main rider-ship consists of people who don't make a lot of money? Why are lots of the second-shift routes being eliminated? I thought it was the people who cannot afford a car who usually work less-than-desirable shifts.

The American Cancer Society recommends that women over the age of 40 get annual mammograms. So why did the Wisconsin Well Women Program, a public program developed to pay for poor women's mammograms, recently raise the eligibility age to 44? It's as if the 40-somethings who fall through the cracks are magically not at risk for breast cancer any more.

OK, so these two situations are related to shrinking budgets. I hate it, but I get it. But then, why is the federal government trying to get rid of the foreign-born workers who eagerly take low-paying service jobs with no benefits? Don't federal employees go to restaurants and hotels? Don't they want a hospitality industry?

Why would Bush's proposed immigration law allow only highly educated people with in-demand careers to come here? Do you really think a physician is going to want to come here to wash dishes? (My apologies to – and sympathy for – political refugees, who often have no

choice but to take these jobs before they learn English.) I can't help but notice that the recent would-be UK airport bombers, a cell of mainly foreign-born medical personnel, would have scored high on Bush's proposed immigrant desirability scale.

Why did the Milwaukee development firm 1890 Commerce LLC receive a state brownfield redevelopment grant of \$150,000 to help construct two six-story condominiums along Milwaukee's riverwalk? That money could pay for a lot of mammograms. And, furthermore, who are these people with the incomes to afford these condos with a view? To my mind, the food pantries and homeless shelters have more customers than ever before.

Regarding the insane levels of violence

Who are these people with the incomes to afford these condos with a view?

and poverty in our city, how did we think the "babies raising babies" situation was going to turn out? Children who are robbed of their childhood are going to struggle to find stability as adults. If it was really hard for somebody from your neighborhood to get a job, how would you cope? Some of Milwaukee's central-city zip codes register as high as 60% unemployment for African American males. I know I might consider risky



LESBIAN VIEW

Lesley Salas is a Cuban-American lesbian mother of two. She currently enjoys life in Riverwest with her blended family: her partner, their lovable dog and disgruntled cat.

alternatives, such as selling small packages of highly-sought-after products, if I got desperate enough.

The Buddhist holy man, Thich Nhat Hanh, has some words of wisdom for Milwaukeeans in 2007. In his book, "The Sun My Heart," he states that, "in a civilization where technology is crucial for success, there is little room for compassion." As our world seems to polarize more and more between the haves and the have nots, he suggests that we meditate deeply on life to understand how we are all inter-related.

I challenge you – and me – to start looking at our current problems this way. "When we deeply penetrate the principle of interdependence," says Thich Nhat Hanh, "we see that this sense of separateness is false." I know our numbness in the face of all this bad news has not helped us at all. Why not try engaged compassion?

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Upcoming Films

How can you be gay and Christian? It is a question asked a lot these days, with the ongoing prominence of the radical right. In countless ways the Biblical interpretations of the religious right are often thrown in our faces. Certainly there are days when I find that the followers of Jesus make it harder to follow Jesus.

This makes two upcoming films at the Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival particularly important to me. The first – the Believers – tells the story of a transgender Christian Gospel Choir. Choir members navigate a challenging landscape of hostility and indifference as they seek to hold an uncommon place in both the LGBT community and the Christian community.

Their journey, well documented in the film, conjures up lines from scripture. "Nothing is impossible with God," the angel Gabriel told the reluctant Mary. The transgendered Choir proves this is still true, as they conceive music that gives glory to God and their own experiences of the holy.

The second film – For the Bible Tells Me So – takes on the question of being queer and spiritual more directly. Director Daniel Karslake brings to this documentary his years of experience producing In the Life for PBS. The film explores how the radical right uses the Bible to support homophobia and the various ways religious leaders counter it. This provides counter-quotes to oft-cited Biblical lines that some may find helpful. It certainly is wonderful to hear leaders like Desmond Tutu, former Anglican Archbishop of South Africa, speak out against homophobic spirituality.

Even more important are the stories of parents who have struggled through the issues of faith and acceptance. This is the real moving heart of the film. The diverse families are ones many can relate to.

Each film suggests that the most powerful answer to the question - Can you be queer

and spiritual? – Are the stories of people who live lives of integrity and vulnerability as they seek to love God.

Note: The Believers will be shown at the festival on Sunday, September 9, at 3pm, at the UWM Union Theatre. For the Bible Tells Me So is featured on Thursday, September 13, at 7pm, also at the Union Theatre. Plymouth Church is a community co-presenter for both films, along with several other organizations and churches.



RELIGION

The Rev. Andrew Warner (awarner@queerlifeneews.com) is a pastor at Plymouth Church UCC on Milwaukee's East Side. He lives with his partner, Jay, and their two children in Whitefish Bay. Your questions about LGBT spirituality are welcome.





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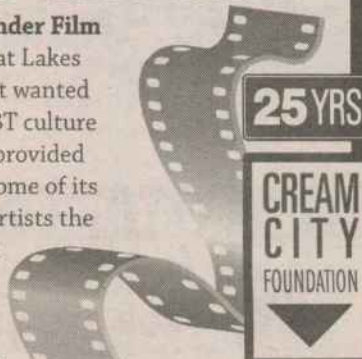
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CREAM CITY FOUNDATION HISTORY: FICTION REVEALS TRUTHS!

Milwaukee Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Film and Video Festival, formerly known as Great Lakes Film and Video Festival, was created by people that wanted to give Milwaukee the opportunity to observe LGBT culture in a positive manner. Cream City Foundation has provided funds to the film festival for ten years, including some of its start up costs. These donations have given LGBT artists the opportunity to explore and illustrate issues within the community. Throughout its history, Cream City Foundation has also funded the creation and development of independent film, documentaries, and short programs relating to LGBT life. Today, Cream City continues its support of LGBT art and visibility through supporting organizations such as Women's Voices and the Gay Arts Center.



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Get Big! Fitness Done Right

If you're training regularly, going the natural route and doing all the right things, exactly how much quality weight should you expect to gain every year? This is obviously a popular question. The easy answer is that there really is no easy answer, but hang with me here and we'll be able to make some assumptions.

Though body type is a good genetic indicator of how much lean mass you can expect to pack on in a year of hard training, countless other factors influence your annual end result. Some days you just go with the flow and take what you can get, if you can make it to the gym at all. A fast-paced life makes you miss meals or eat the not-so-good things. Holidays get in the way. Vacations are fun but usually don't mesh well with iron pumping, since most people just want to rest when they finally get time off. Then there is the illness and injury factor. All it takes is a bad bout with the flu or a spasm in your lower back to case you to lose days or weeks of training.

So, while perfect years of training aren't easy to come by, by correctly identifying your somatotype and going with the seven basic assumptions of your year below, at least you can get some idea of how much quality weight you could expect to gain. The assumptions are as follows:

1. You maintain a level of strict, intense weight training.
2. You don't miss workouts, and you don't over train.
3. You suffer no prolonged illness or injuries, and keep your stress levels low.
4. Your body fat percentage remains relatively unchanged or slightly decreases.
5. Your diet is high in protein and healthy fats and low in carbohydrates, with optimal supplementation.
6. You don't take any performance-enhancing drugs.



FITNESS

Sweeney's Gym is family owned and operated by Michael Sweeney, a personal trainer for the last 8 years. Sweeney's prides itself on caring for people and their health.

7. You're a male of average height, 5'7"-5'11". (Obviously, height isn't a variable you control, but in order to create useful recommendations that apply to most individuals, I restricted my analysis to this range.)

Achieving even half of assumptions 1-6 is a victory in and of itself. But assuming they're satisfied and that you're nailed down your somatotype correctly, you can get at least some idea of what your minimal average annual muscle-mass gains should be by using the following table below:

Finally, keep in mind that these are only general guidelines. Even though you might be strictly following the assumptions, poor genetics and/or environmental influences may result in lesser gains.

My hope is that you can be one of the lucky ones to advance beyond these general assumptions. Paying close attention to your body's signals is a good way to accomplish this. Working with an experienced and successful mentor also can help. Either way, you can condense what would otherwise be years of training into months and shatter these numbers. My former training partner Rob did it, going far above and beyond this chart in his first few years, and you can too.

Estimated Minimal Annual Muscle Gain (Based on body type; figures are listed in pounds)

	Beginner 0 years training	Intermediate 1- 3 years training	Advanced 3-6 years training	Master More than 6 years training
18-25 years old	Ecto- 11 Meso-13 Endo-16	Ecto- 8 Meso- 10 Endo- 12	Ecto- 5 Meso- 7 Endo- 8	Ecto- 3 Meso- 5 Endo- 6
26-35 years old	Ecto-9 Meso-12 Endo-13	Ecto-7 Meso-8 Endo-9	Ecto- 5 Meso- 6 Endo -7	Ecto-2 Meso- 4 Endo- 5
36-45 years old	Ecto- 6 Meso- 7 Endo- 8	Ecto- 5 Meso- 6 Endo- 7	Ecto- 3 Meso- 4 Endo- 5	Ecto- 1 Meso- 2 Endo- 2
Over 45 years old	Ecto- 3 Meso- 4 Endo- 5	Ecto- 2 Meso- 3 Endo- 4	Ecto- 1 Meso- 2 Endo- 2	Ecto- <1 Meso- <2 Endo- <2

Gender, Censorship, and the Power of Film:

AN INTERVIEW WITH LESBIAN FILMMAKER, CATHERINE CROUCH

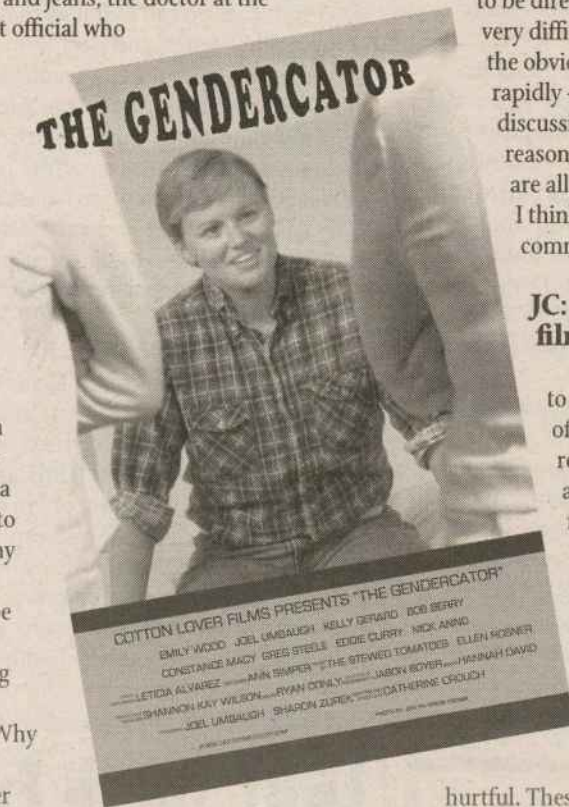
In May of this year, a film by a Lesbian filmmaker was banned from the San Francisco Frameline LGBT Film Festival, making it the first film to be banned from this festival in 31 years. In August of this year a group of women attempted to bring this film to Milwaukee, but their efforts were unsuccessful. What exactly is this film about and what makes it so powerful that so many people don't want anyone else to see it? Briefly, *The Gendercator* is a 15-minute film that focuses on the Rip Van Winkle-esq experience of Sally, a 1970s Butch Lesbian, who falls asleep in 1973 and wakes up in 2048 to find "that feminism has failed utterly and completely. Sex roles and gender expression are rigidly binary and enforced by law and social custom. When Sally chooses to dress in flannel and jeans, the doctor at the emergency room calls in the "Gendercator", a government official who informs Sally that butch women and sissy boys are no longer tolerated - gender variants are allowed to chose their gender, but they must choose one and follow its rigid constraints."

I've recently had the pleasure not only to see the film, but to also meet and speak with filmmaker Catherine Crouch about it and about her experience of being censored by the LGBT community. Here's some of our conversation:

JC: What motivated you to make *The Gendercator*?

CC: While we once believed that transsexuality was a relatively rare medical condition of gender dysphoria that is unbearable for a person, in the last six years I have seen a sudden increase in the number of young women who opt to take testosterone or undergo voluntary mastectomies. Why is this happening now? What has changed? If we situate this in terms of the larger culture's misogyny, it seems to be a rejection of the female part of the masculine female. We should also acknowledge that it has become a trend among some young people who formerly identified, or would be considered by the lesbian community, as butch lesbians. Why can't we talk about this?

For me it is important to work against the rigid gender binaries of the larger culture that enable violence and harassment of the masculine female or effeminate male. It is harmful to everyone that an individual's safety and identity is defined by conformity to normative standards; this is what *The Gendercator* is all about.



JC: What would you tell those in the Lesbian community who have witnessed what is sociologically referred to as 'butch flight'?

CC: I believe that women have been socialized in a way that makes us reluctant

to be direct because of fears about being hurtful; in this case, we are avoiding some very difficult conversations that we desperately need right now. To comment on the obvious - that the number of young lesbians changing their bodies is escalating rapidly - is to be dismissed as a transphobe, as my case proves. Even if this discussion causes us to feel uncomfortable, we must talk about the rift and the reasons for the rift in our community. I believe that we in the alphabet community are all a part of the same family, and we must find a way for constructive dialogue. I think that we can find a way to respect our differences and understand our commonalities.

JC: What do you make of all of the negative reaction to your film?

CC: This reminds us what a powerful medium film is, how it moves us to an excitable space whether the thrill of discovery or the creepy crawl of revulsion. *The Gendercator* seems to have affected people beyond the reasonable expectations of a silly 15-minute "what if" fantasy. For this I am proud. I wanted to talk about female body modification and religious fundamentalism and identity politics and I put it all into a Rip van Winkle social satire and now people certainly are talking about it. What I hear a lot is, that people are saying to their friends, "Did you hear about that film?" and then they will start to talk about the issue. The film becomes a gateway to the conversations.

Every person responds to art subjectively, from the sum of their own life experiences. Of course I think every person should follow their heart when deciding how to respond to *The Gendercator*. I do not accept the verdict of the film and idea and Catherine Crouch as being hateful or hurtful. These charges are not true and will not stick as time passes by and history judges my body of work as a storyteller. I am a proud and forever member of the alphabet community and of course artists will express themselves as they see fit. Banning and censoring never shames an artist who expresses her truth.

• My thanks to Catherine Crouch for this interview, and to my editor for allowing most of it to fit into the pages of our local QLife News. For the full interview, please view my MySpace page at www.myspace.com/qlifewomenmke. From the filmmaker's website, www.catherinecrouch.com



Jennifer Curtis has been an active member of the Milwaukee Lesbian community since 2002. She is also involved in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Visioning Project, a local group that is working to create unified and respectful collaborations between all members of our diverse community. She lives with her wife, cat and dog and is currently pursuing her PhD in Urban Studies at UWM.

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Taking Control

More and more gay and lesbian and transgender people are getting involved in politics, as donors, volunteers, and even candidates for office. Nationally, our organizations and allied foundations are collaborating more than ever, targeting efforts and bringing new resources into the movement. More and more states have professional LGBT lobbies. Most importantly, public opinion continues to evolve in an organic way, as more and more straight people come to know and respect their LGBT neighbors. The results are paying off.

The progress has been exciting. Illinois passed a law banning discrimination on sexual orientation and gender identity, and civil unions granting virtually all the rights of marriage are in play. Iowa passed

trans-inclusive gay rights, as has Colorado. Vermont updated its nondiscrimination statute to cover transgender people (an act overdue in Wisconsin, which leaves transgender people unprotected in its hate crime and equal opportunity laws). Washington and Oregon granted legal protections to same-sex couples this year; both also recently added job and housing protections for LGBT people for good measure. New Mexico came within one vote of passing legal protections for gay couples.

What did all of these states have in common? They all had Democratic controlled legislatures. In fact, except for Vermont, which has a Republican Governor, all have blue Governors as well. In fact, much of the incredible progress in 2007 came in states where Democrats took over. New blue majorities in control of the legislatures in New Hampshire and Oregon passed comprehensive protections for same sex couples; while new Democratic Governors in Colorado and Iowa worked with Democratic bodies to pass gay civil rights.

Does this mean that Republicans are uniformly antigay? Not at all. After all, Wisconsin's gay rights law, initiated by a Democratic state legislature, was signed by a Republican Governor. Republican Governors in New Jersey and Massachusetts (not recently departed Mitt Romney, but his predecessor) used executive power for gay rights in the 1990s. There are national pro-gay Republicans like

US Rep. Christopher Shays of Connecticut who sponsor the federal Employment Nondiscrimination Act (ENDA). There were even two Wisconsin Republicans (out of scores) who voted against our marriage ban in the Legislature. LGBT political organizations should work with Log Cabin Republicans and others to build long-term support in the Republican Party for LGBT equality. But when one looks objectively at the record of Republican-led state legislatures on gay rights – whether it's blocking progress or advancing antigay constitutional amendments, the evidence is pretty damning.

What does this mean in Wisconsin? In the short-term it means that if you care about equality for LGBT people, you will do everything you can to follow the lead of these other states, and elect Democrats to both houses and the Governor's office. Only with all three elective branches in Democratic hands will pro-fairness legislation like a domestic partner registry or trans-inclusive legislation have a chance. Only a Democratic Wisconsin Assembly and Senate can begin the arduous process of repealing our antigay constitutional amendment.

Wisconsin's State Senate and Governor's office are already Democratic. Right now, the Assembly is Republican-led. Assembly Speaker Mike Huebsch, who once called openly gay Sen. Tim Carpenter a "queer" and was a big proponent of the marriage ban, will use his position to kill pro-equality legislation and advance antigay bills. But his hold on power is weak – if Democrats win just three seats next year in the 99-member chamber,



POLITICS

Patrick Flaherty (pflaherty@queerlifeneews.com) is a longtime activist for LGBT equality. He works at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center and lives with his partner in Milwaukee's Riverwest.

they take control. If Democrats maintain their lead in the State Senate and keep Senate Republican Minority leader Scott Fitzgerald, a lead spokesman and architect for Wisconsin's marriage ban, from executing his own takeover, the prospect for pro-equality legislation will be brighter than ever (Democratic governor Jim Doyle is serving his second term and won't face voters until 2010).

LGBT people in Wisconsin get this. That's why they showed unprecedented support for the late August Center Advocates PAC garden party fundraiser, which I am involved with. It's why, with all the worthy LGBT causes, more and more people give directly to candidates at LGBT community fundraisers, because people realize that a progay government means community resources can be spent for community needs, not fighting bad legislation. A government on our side means legal rights for our families, equal opportunity for all regardless of gender expression, and public support eliminating LGBT health disparities.

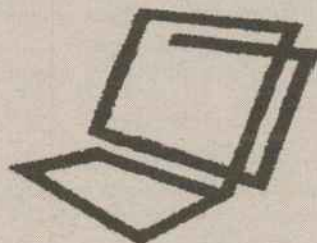
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LGBT Youth Fund Receives \$32,000 Gift

Cream City Foundation, a community foundation serving LGBT people in southeastern Wisconsin, received a gift of \$32,000 in memory of Hal Kerr towards the endowment of the John Cowles Youth Fund. This gift will help complete a national match grant from Funders for Lesbian and Gay Issues, raising a total of over \$50,000 for LGBT youth funding.

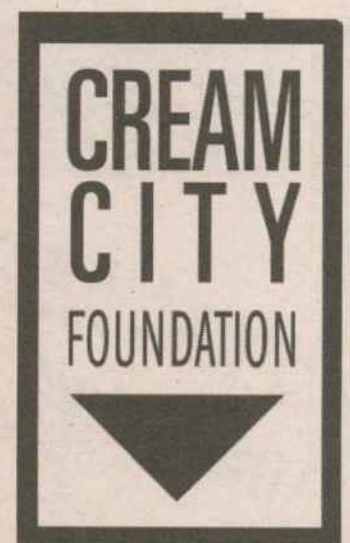
"Gifts like this are an amazing testament to our communities' commitment towards equality, regardless of sexual orientation or gender expression," said Tim Clark, President of the Cream City Foundation.

The gift was made by an anonymous donor who took advantage of the Pension Protection Act, which allowed him to transfer IRA funds directly to the Cream City Foundation without paying any income tax.

"The Pension Protection Act and other similar legislation helps individuals invest in their dreams of a better community for all," said Maria Cadenas, executive director of the Cream City Foundation. "I'm excited to know that people are taking advantage of this unique opportunity."

Cream City Foundation was founded in 1982 and is celebrating over 25 years of giving to LGBT communities with its 25-Year Gayla on September 22 at Milwaukee City Hall.

Cream City Foundation was originally part of the Cream City Business Association, an association of LGBT business owners. Initially begun with \$500 in seed money, Cream City Foundation has grown to provide over \$550,000 in grant dollars to many organizations and projects that are working to improve the quality of life for LGBT people. For more information visit www.creamcityfoundation.org



History in the Making

"History is not events, but people. And it is not just people remembering, it is people acting and living their past in the present."
- Jacob Bronowski, *The Ascent of Man*, 1973

This month, I report on what I consider two separate instances of history in the making.

First, the Brady Street Festival was back this year, on July 28th. In the 1960s and 1970s, the Brady Street Festival was one of Milwaukee's mainstays of summer entertainment, and in the mid-1970s was one of the fledgling gay community's best means of communicating with the general public. In spring 1973 for example, among the social organizations that set up booths was Gay Peoples Union (GPU); their booth featured a display of liberation books on consignment from local bookstores, and a very popular kissing booth where kisses were sold. In addition, according to the GPU News at the time: "GPU's blue Cookie Monster, ala Sesame Street, appeared on the street with a big yellow Queer Duck. Children recognizing the paper-mache Cookie Monster ran over to him and were given cookies with the word "gay" on them. Meanwhile, the Queer Duck gave their parents leaflets."

At the Fall 1974 Festival, the kissing booth was absent; but about a dozen GPU members sold T-shirts with the GPU trademark, handed out issues of the GPU News, and passed out 700 helium-filled balloons printed with the word GAY. A

group of neighborhood gays sponsored a 'Queen of Brady Street Contest'; entries were decorated with electric appliances (the winner was decorated as an old-fashioned Speed Queen washer).

The Festival disappeared when Brady Street fell on hard times in the 1980s. Brought back in 2004 as the Artisan Food Festival, this year it was promoted as "returning to its former rainbow splendor." And "rainbow splendor" it was! Although not quite up to its glory days of the 1970s, and no LGBT organizations had booths or displays this year, the 2007 Festival did feature a 45 minute "Fashion Drag Show." It was obvious that many of the spectators had never seen a drag show before. Watching numerous "straight" couples was especially fun. Invariably the woman was all smiles - cheering, clapping, etc. Meanwhile, the male partner would be in shock- uncertain how to handle the situation, and especially startled by his female partner's reaction to the show. (I overheard more than one young man say to his date "no way that's a man.") It was a great way to bring "gay" back to the Brady Street Festival!

The second event I want to mention, is the founding of the Milwaukee Guerrilla Gay Bar. Taking after similar groups in San Francisco, Los Angeles and other locations over the past 2 or 3 years, Milwaukee Guerrilla Gay Bar will "take over" one of the coolest/ hippest straight bars in the city, for one night only. They don't tell the

bar they're coming- they just show up and make themselves at home.

Despite the group's confrontational-sounding name, the idea is just to make the target venue somewhat "gay" for that one night, by causing a large percentage of the clientele that night to consist of gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgenders, drags, or just lgbt-friendly folks. There's comfort in numbers, and it's not always easy, on a normal night, for a gay couple to mingle in a primarily "straight" bar just to experience it and the crowd. This movement makes that intermingling with other areas of society a little easier for us, while at the same time maybe making "straights" a little more comfortable being around us.

Since the location is only announced a few days before the event, the only way to know where to go for the party is to sign up on the group's web site. The city's first Guerrilla Gay Bar event, held Friday August 3, saw some 90-100 LGBT people descend on the Hi Hat Lounge on Brady Street.

I think this Guerrilla Gay Bar is a fun concept, and worth a look by all of us: watch their web page for their monthly event. And next year, watch for the returning Brady Street Festival. Both of these are fun ways we can be comfortable mingling with the rest of society and show them a side of gays and lesbians they might not otherwise see.

View the full articles of Brady Street



HISTORY

Don Schwamb has been active in the LGBT community since the early 1970s. He has served as president of CCF and GAMMA, vice president of ARCW, and in many other roles in other organizations. The LGBT history Web site, mkelgbthist.org, is Don's passion today, consuming much of his spare time.

Festival's glory days from 1973 and 1974 GPU News, and a page with a link to the Milwaukee Guerrilla Gay Bar group, on the Milwaukee LGBT History Project web site: www.MilwaukeeGayHistory.org



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QUEER LIFE

Handy Matters: Make it easy to makeover

By Todd Schuster

When it comes to time, less is more! Check out these fast fixes to give a great new look to any room in your home. With holidays fast approaching, these tips make it easy to makeover any space you have to work with.

Go from seasoned to chic!

Have an old dresser or end table that could use a new look? Paint it new!

- First remove all of the handles and pulls from the furniture.
- Lightly sand the wood, smoothing out snags or bumps.
- Remove any remaining dust carefully with a damp rag and dry with a clean cloth.
- After you've selected your colors, start by painting the frame and end with the shelves or drawer fronts. Make sure to let the piece dry for 24-48 hours.
- You don't have to paint the entire piece - consider painting just the front for contrast or alternating paint colors on drawers or cabinet fronts.
- If your time and budget allow, you might consider replacing the shelves, drawers and pulls.

Forget the whole house. Forget the whole room... Paint One Wall

If you find yourself in a space that needs a visual pick-me-up, think about

painting a single wall a contrasting color - it helps add style and personality. Remember to keep in mind what you're trying to accomplish with the paint. For example, if you're painting space in your bedroom - you could create a backdrop behind the bed. If it's a bathroom you're working with, consider painting the wall with the shower or tub a soothing color. Keep in mind that wherever you choose to put the color, that's where most folks' eyes will be drawn. But don't be afraid to be daring - it's okay to choose a bright or bold color since you're not coating the entire room with it. Just make sure to pick a color that is complimentary with whatever colors you may already have. Your space is what you make it. Often times a little paint is all that's necessary to transform the space you're just living in to the space you've been dreaming of.

Cool home accouterments via mail Here are some web sites to view that have high design home accents

Very cool graffiti like wall covering from the UK, www.funkylittledarlings.co.uk/
Italian textiles for the home, www.latessitura.com/goToHome.do
High design Persian hotel rooms, www.thefivehotel.com
Krazy bookcase design from da futerland, www.roethlisberger.ch/

Reprinted with permission from the *Handyman Matters Residential Newsletter* <http://www.handymanmatters.com/>



Todd Schuster is the owner of Handyman Matters of West Milwaukee. A lifelong resident of Milwaukee, Todd enjoys helping his community update their residences and business locations. Todd brings 12 years of architectural design experience to his business. You can reach the Handyman Matters office at 262-240-2580. Founded in 1997 by husband and wife Andy and Colette Bell, Handyman Matters began franchising in 2001. Handyman Matters bases its business on preferred pricing, an hourly rate plus materials model benefiting the customer. They pride themselves on their customer relations and are steeped in community stewardship. All craftspeople are background-screened employees of the bonded and insured company, not outside sub-contractors. Handyman Matters has received consistent rankings in Franchise 500 and Entrepreneur magazines.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SEPT 6-16

It's the 20th anniversary of the Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival! Be sure to check out the schedule, and info for tickets/venues at: <http://www4.uwm.edu/psoa/programs/film/lgbtfilm/index.html>



SEPT 7

Indian Summer Festival celebrates this year's theme, "One Drum, Many Voices" on Sept. 7-9 at Milwaukee's lakefront Henry Maier Festival Park (Summerfest grounds). Indian Summer Festival is North America's largest American Indian festival. Regular festival hours are 4 p.m. to midnight Friday, noon to midnight Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday. Ticket prices are \$10 (advance), \$12 (gate) for adults; \$5 (advance), \$7 (gate) for children 7-12; children 6 and under are free. For more information, phone (414) 604-1000 or visit the Web site at www.indiansummer.org

SEPT 8

Head over to Triangle bar for their rummage sale benefiting AIDS Walk WI. from 11 am. to 6 pm. If you're not walking, buy something! Repeats Sept 9th. 135 E. National Ave, Milwaukee. (414) 383-9412

SEPT 14

Lesbian Alliance potluck & game night! 6PM. LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St Bring your favorite game for an evening of fun. As you are able, please bring a dish to pass. For more information call 414-272-9442.

Join the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center for its third annual Edelweiss Cruise Lines Fiesta Mix N' Mingle event! Enjoy unlimited Margarita's & Build your own taco bar. Tickets are only \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. You MUST RSVP before September 10th and send payment to the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center attention Angie Guerra or phone 414-292-3061. E-mail for more information at aguerra@mkelgbt.org. Pre-registration is REQUIRED. So call now

continued on next page

Area Theatres off to Great Start!

By Alison Glendale

It's no wonder Milwaukee's own **Boulevard Theatre** is entering its 22nd season. The energy, enthusiasm, and genuine affection for the art of theatre shown by Artistic Director Mark Bucher is infectious. This season, they opened with the thought provoking "Thom Paine-based on Nothing" by Will Eno.

This one-man play, superbly performed by Tom Dillon, was perfect in the setting of the Boulevard's intimate theatre. Here you have a character (Thom Paine) talking for 90 minutes straight, about life, love, pain, regret, misunderstandings, and growing up and letting go. You couldn't help liking this character, who was funny, heartbreaking, and at times, a total jerk.

Dillon's subtle changes from wonderment to irritation, vulnerability, to psychosis, puppy love to bitter resentment were flawless. I likened it to a really cool poetry reading. So many lines that just were novels in themselves, the ideas were so big.

Dillon got a standing ovation the end of his 90-minute run. By press time, they will be on to their next production, which I definitely won't miss. "The Book of Liz" by the hilarious Sedaris brother/sister duo. It opens Wed, Sept. 12. Visit their website for more info. <http://www.boulevardtheatre.com/index.php>.

Spiral Theatre, housed at the Brumder Mansion's Little Theatre (3062 W. Wisconsin Ave) kicked off its season last month with their production of William Mastrosimone's "Extremities." The show continues this month through the 23rd.

Spiral Theatre is comprised of local actors and directors whose goal is to produce provocative and entertaining theater for the local community.

"Extremities" is the story of Marjorie, a woman home alone when a man comes into her house and tries to rape her. Marjorie is successful in fighting him off but then finds herself faced with the decision of what to do with the scared, battered man once her roommates come home.

Elizabeth M. Keefe, Edwin Klosowski, Jamielyn Gray, and Meaghan Sullivan make up the talented cast. "Extremities" is directed by Jim Bloomingdale, stage-managed by Mark Hooker, and Executive Produced by Dave Berg.

Regular Tickets are \$20.00, while student and senior tickets are \$10.00. Please visit www.spiraltheatre.com for more information.

Of note: every night a representative from the Women's Sexual Abuse Center will be at the performance to counsel anyone who wants to talk.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

continued from page 20

to reserve your spot on the coolest place to be on a hot summer's day! All guests must be 21 to participate—be sure to bring proper ID.

1110 North Old World Third Street, Milwaukee. 5:00 p.m. check-in. 5:30-7:00 p.m. Enjoy the Fiesta!

SEPT 15

Bay View Bash 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. A Festival Of Music, Food, & Art on Kinnickinnic Avenue Between Potter and Clement Avenues NO carry-ins or coolers will be permitted. www.bayviewbash.org for band information.

Musical duo Nervous but Excited opens for Natalia Zukerman in Chicago at Schubas, 3195 N Southport, Chicago. 7pm. Tickets are \$10/12. Info: 773.525.2508. www.schubas.com.

As they take the stage or any living room near you, you won't be able to deny the power of their laughter, combined with their genuinely emotive chords and words. These two women are not afraid to sing loud and sing hard. The sensitive tug of their voices can pull you through worlds of progressive politics, and their harmonies have been described as the kind that build so smoothly until suddenly they start to shake your insides. More info: www.nervousbutexcited.com, and <http://www.themomo.com/>. 608.255.5900

SEPT 19

Its an event, it's a performance. It's a Slumber Party! Don't miss the Miltown Kings at the Mirimar Theater tonight from 9:30 to? Tickets are \$7 at the door, for 18 and older. For more info please visit, visit www.myspace.com/miltownkings

SEPT 22

25-year Gayla - with a sprinkle of Fairy Dust! An event celebrating the philanthropic spirit of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people. Culmination of 25 years of funding their own LGBT Foundation - the Cream City Foundation. City Hall Rotunda, Milwaukee, 7PM. For info, contact Maria Cadenas (414) 225-0244. director@creamcityfoundation.org

Black Party 9:30 - midnight - 10pm Program -fetish gear show-boot black & photographer available-raffle-\$5 admission. Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. 2nd St. 414-383-3727

SEPT 28

WIN TICKETS FROM QLIFE!!

The 17th annual Fall Home & Remodeling Show will be held Friday, September 28 through Sunday, September 30, at the Wisconsin Exposition Center at State Fair Park in West Allis, WI.



Hours on Fri., Sept. 28, are 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.; 10a.m. - 9 p.m. on Sat., Sept. 29, and Sun., Sept. 30, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission is \$5 in advance, and \$7 at the door. Tickets for seniors, 55 and older are \$5.00. For more information on the Fall Home & Remodeling Show, call the Milwaukee/NARI Home Improvement Council at 414-771-4071 or visit www.milwaukeeenari.com.

SEPT 29

AIDS Walk on Lakefront, Join the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center AIDS Walk Wisconsin Team! Be a part of the largest fundraiser for the fight against AIDS in Wisconsin, and I hope you'll join us! We've created a team, "Milwaukee LGBT Community Center," so you can register with the group instead of walking alone. AIDS Walk Wisconsin takes place on Saturday, September 29, 2007. Together we can make great strides in the fight against AIDS. Contact Angie Guerra 271-2656 ext. 121 for more information on joining our team or sign-up on-line, use the password, "LGBT".

The 2nd Annual Fine Furnishings & Fine Craft Show in Milwaukee, Wisconsin will present a marketplace for the finest in handcrafted furniture, decorative accessories, original art and contemporary craft to the public and designer trade professionals located in the Milwaukee, Door County, Madison and Chicago area. It is the only show of its kind in the Midwestern United States. The show occupies 30,000 square feet at the Midwest Airline Center.

400 W. Wisconsin Avenue. Over 150 artisans from across the North America will exhibit and sell their work to the public and trade. For more information visit www.finefurnishingsshows.com or call 401-841-9201.

Lure Party from 8-12pm -swap meet & vendors-photographer & boot black available-raffle-\$5 admission. MGAC, 703 S. 2nd St. 414-383-3727

SEPT 30

Musical duo Nervous but Excited is back in WI and performing at Café Montmartre, 127 E Mifflin St Madison, WI. 9PM show, tickets are only \$5.00. A steal! Do not miss these ladies! These two women are not afraid to sing loud and sing hard. The sensitive tug of their voices can pull you through worlds of progressive politics, and their harmonies have been described as the kind that build so smoothly until suddenly they start to shake your insides. More info: www.nervousbutexcited.com, and <http://www.themomo.com/>. 608.255.5900

Coming in October!

OCTOBER 6

The Urban Rivers Conference at Discovery World from 8:30 am to 4 PM. The goals - to enjoy the waterways, learn about water issues and get involved in keeping rivers, lakes, and wetlands healthy. People wishing to register for the Conference, apply for a Mini Grant or submit photos should contact Demaris Kenwood at 414-287-0207 ext. 35 or demaris_kenwood@mkeriverkeeper.com.

Information is also available online at www.urbanriversconference.org. There is no cost for the afternoon program but there is a \$20 fee for the morning speakers and lunch. Children's activities are provided in the morning for a \$10 fee. Full and partial scholarships are available

Deadline for the October Issue is September 20th. Please send art listing to editor@queerlifeneews.com

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414-225-1568

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POB 510498
Milwaukee, 53203, 414-273-1991
www.arcw.org

BiNet USA
National bisexual political organization
202-882-4384

Children Service Society of Wisconsin
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414-453-1400

Diverse & Resilient
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www.diverseandresilient.org

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FORGE,
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7-10pm
1-866-gay-youth
414-272-TEEN

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year old LGBTQ youth
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600 Williamson St.,
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608-255-8582

Outbound
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800-578-3785
920-655-0611

Pride in Wisconsin
Government
c/o OutReach
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Madison, WI 53701
608-255-8582

Queer Life News
LGBT publication
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414-383-8200
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Wisconsin HIV/STD
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Milwaukee

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Bi Definition
Bisexual community
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414-299-9612

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www.blackpridecdp.com
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Black and White Men
Together
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Milwaukee, 53209
414-540-9437
www.bwmtmilwaukee.org

Brady East STD Clinic
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www.bestd.org

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414-299-0401
www.brewcitybears.org

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Milwaukee, WI 53212
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Running group
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Milwaukee
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Gay/Lesbian Studies
at UWM 414-229-6402

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414-265-8500

Gay People's Union
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Hotline: 414-645-0585

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Life
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Waukesha, WI
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Milwaukee 53214
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Girth & Mirth/Milwaukee
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Milwaukee, WI 53201

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www.hitmilwaukee.org

Lesbian Alliance (LAMB)
315 W. Court St.
Milwaukee, WI 53212
414-272-9442
www.lesbianalliance.org

Log Cabin Republicans
P.O. Box 199
Milwaukee, WI 53201
414-299-9443

MGALA
Marquette University G/L
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P.O. Box 92722
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Marquette Gay/Straight
Alliance
Campus Ministry
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Milwaukee, WI 53233
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Men's Voices Milwaukee
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Milwaukee, WI 53212
414-765-9198
www.mvmchorus.org

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www.milwaukeeetennis.com

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SPECTRUM
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Milwaukee, WI 53201
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Milwaukee, WI 53212
mkerainbowfamilies@
hotmail.com

Riverwest Rainbow Assoc.
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Milwaukee, WI 53212
414-562-2344
riverwestrainbow@
hotmail.com

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www.ssbmilwaukee.com

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Milwaukee, WI 53213

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washtrsrainbow@aol.com
www.shingtonheightsrainbow.org

Wauwatosa Rainbow
Association
(aka Rainbow Fireflies)
(414) 774-9470
tosarainbow@yahoo.com

Wisconsin Cream City
Chorus
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Milwaukee, 53212
414-276-8787
www.creamcitychourus.org

Wisconsin Gay Hockey
414-202-5874
home.wi.rr.com/
wigayhockey

Wisconsin Outdoor
Women
P.O. Box 94
Hales Corners, WI 53130
414-427-2082

WI Rainbow Alliance
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Deaf
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Germantown, 53022
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Milwaukee, WI 53212
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(414) 962-9190
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Milwaukee, WI 53207
414-481-4680
http://tippechurch.org

Milwaukee Metropolitan
Community Church
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Milwaukee, WI 53204
414-383-1100
www.queerchurch.org

Plymouth Church
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Milwaukee, WI 53211
(414) 964-1513
www.plymouth-church.org

Unitarian Universalist
Church
West (UUCW)
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Brookfield.
262-782-3535

Underwood Baptist
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Wauwatosa, WI 53213
(414) 258-4246
www.underwoodchurch.com

From the Editors of E/The Environmental Magazine

Dear EarthTalk:

I read that hybrid cars are actually less green-friendly than even Hummers, because they have two motors and very environmentally damaging batteries. Is this true?

- Renee Sweany, Indianapolis, IN

The claim you read about was from "Dust to Dust: The Energy Cost of New Vehicles from Concept to Disposal," a controversial study by researcher Art Spinella of Oregon-based CNW Marketing. It ranks more than 300 vehicles for their energy use over their entire lifecycles—from raw materials extraction and manufacturing, to driving and burning fuel, to the recycling and disposal of parts. What surprised even Spinella was how the Toyota Prius, the world's most successful gasoline-electric hybrid car, stacked up against General Motors' behemoth Hummer, the modern poster child for unsustainable transportation.

EARTH TALK



Questions & Answers About Our Environment

"The Hummer over the lifetime of the vehicle ends up being less of a drain of energy on society in general than does the Prius," wrote Spinella in his report. A key-determining factor was the hybrid battery's use of nickel extracted from a Sudbury, Ontario mine that has emitted so much sulfur dioxide that acid rain has turned a once healthy nearby forest into a bleak landscape. That mine, however, which supplies nickel for many industrial purposes and not just hybrid batteries, has cut pollution 90 percent since the 1970s.

Another common criticism of hybrids is that their batteries will be a pollution threat once they land in the junkyard. But hybrid advocates insist that the nickel-metal hydride batteries found in the Toyota Prius, Honda Insight and other hybrids contain far fewer pollutants than the lead-acid varieties used in traditional cars. And initial worries that hybrid batteries would need replacement every few years have not borne out; Toyota says the batteries should go for 150,000 miles, which they predict to be the car's life expectancy.

Spinella pegs the life of the typical Prius bought new today at only 100,000 miles, and contrasts that against a predicted 300,000 for Hummers—meaning that, though Hummers burn more gas and emit more pollutants, they will last much longer. Additionally, Spinella factors in the added production costs of including two separate engines in the Prius—one that runs on gas and the other on electricity. Most environmentalists challenge Spinella's conclusions. Jim Kliesch, research analyst with the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE), which publishes a yearly rating of the "Greenest and Meanest" cars, says the CNW study contradicts many other studies, including those conducted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Carnegie Mellon, Argonne National Labs, the Union of Concerned Scientists and others that place the green-friendliness of the Prius and other hybrids head and shoulders above many other vehicles and certainly the Hummer.

Spinella is "way off the mark," says Kliesch, and scolds CNW for not having "Dust to Dust" peer-reviewed for accuracy. "If you do some back-of-the-envelope calculations on their claims," he says, "you'll find that it takes about \$286,500 in energy to produce and assemble a Prius, [which is] absurd."

Toyota itself also disputes CNW's findings. In a short rebuttal published in the *Washington Post*, Toyota vice-president Irv Miller said that the increased energy requirement to build a hybrid with two engines under the hood "is overwhelmingly made up for in the driving stage."

CONTACTS: "Dust to Dust," cnw.com/nss-folder/automotiveenergy/; ACEEE, www.aceee.org.

GOT AN ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTION? Send it to: **EarthTalk**, c/o E/The Environmental Magazine, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; submit it at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/thisweek/, or e-mail: earthtalk@emagazine.com. Read past columns at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php.

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 Saturday: 6:30pm (women's meeting) & 7:30pm

Narcotics Anonymous
 Friday: 7:00pm

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous
 Sunday: 6:30pm
 Tuesday: 7:00pm
 Thursday: 7:00pm

Al-Anon
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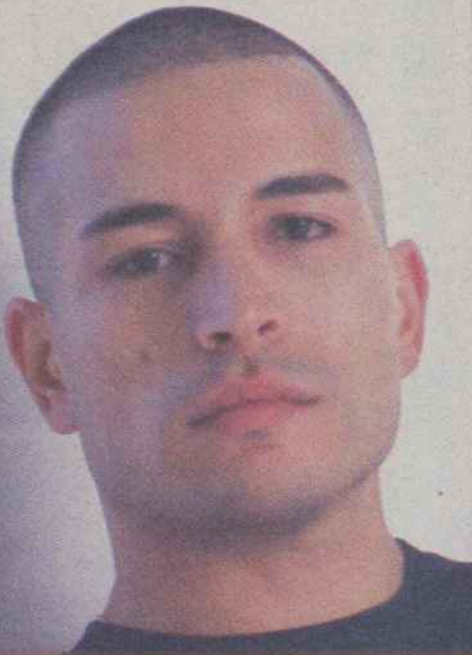
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 7
 Cruz 6-8pm
 Pump House
 9pm-Midnight

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 11
 Boom 6-8pm
 Triangle 9pm-Midnight

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 20
 Fluid 9-11pm


FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 21
 City Lights 6-8pm
 Switch 9pm-Midnight

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 28
 Woody's 6-8pm
 Club Icon (Kenosha)
 9pm-Midnight



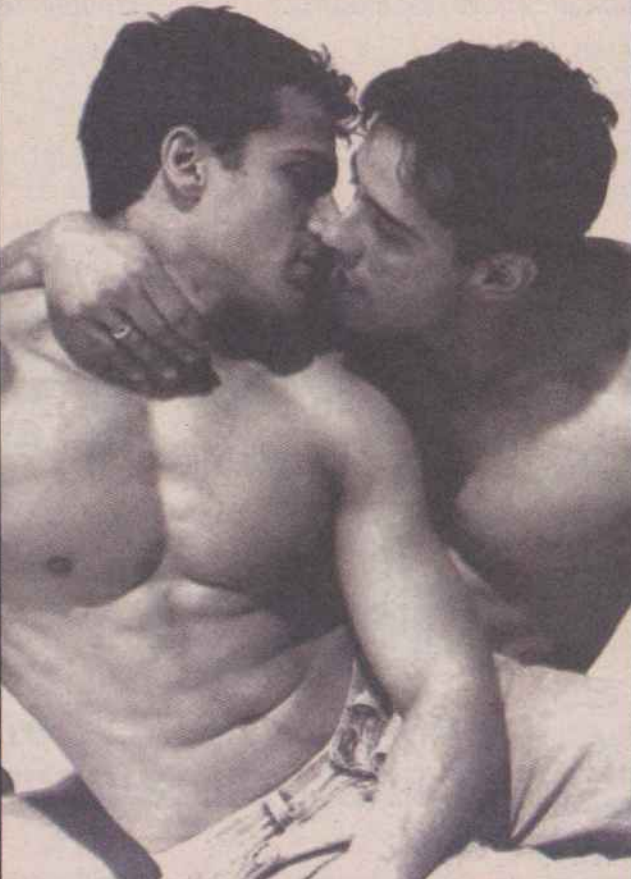

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ARTS CALENDAR

SEPT 4

Derrick Buisch Abstract Oils Exhibit at the Ploch Art Gallery Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts, 19805 W. Capitol Drive, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53045. Opening Reception - Sept 28: 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. To RSVP, email rsvp@wilson-center.com or call 262.781.9520. Thru Oct 26 Exhibit Hours:

M-F: 9-5:00 Sat 10-2:00pm.

SEPT 6

QPICK

LGBT Film Festival. Back for its 20th edition, the 2007 Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival will be at the Oriental and the UWM Union Theatres. A community event and a film festival for all, the Festival will once again uncork an international array of the finest in films and videos by, about and for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities. Please visit <http://www4.uwm.edu/arts/programs/film/lgbtfilm/> to get to the Film Festival website for a complete list of films and showings, and ticket prices. Thru Sept. 16

LGBT FILM FESTIVAL Opening Night! The festival kicks off with Nina's Heavenly Delights 92 min.) An intoxicating and wonderfully funny mix of lesbian romance, family melodrama, and a whole showcase of delicious food. 7:30 PM. Oriental Theatre, 2230 N. Farwell Ave. Post-Screening reception at Beans & Barley 1901 E. North Ave, and after party post-reception with PUMP! And DJ John Murges at Red Light above Trocadero, 1758 N. Water St.

SEPT 7

Head to the Times Cinema for a showing of the classic, "The African Queen". All tix \$6. 5906 W. Vliet St. www.timescinema.com

SEPT 8

Steve Solomon's "My Mother's Italian, My Father's Jewish & I'm in Therapy" at The Milwaukee Theatre, 500 W. Kilbourn Avenue, 8pm. This one-man comedy show is filled with hilarious stories about Steve's wacky family and the crazy characters he meets on the road whose sole purpose is to drive him into therapy.... and they have succeeded. Tickets \$28-\$48. www.italianjewishtherapy.com

SEPT 9

Another treat from the Times Cinema, "SWEET LAND" 7PM. 5906 W. Vliet St. - All seats \$5. www.timescinema.com

SEPT 11

Letters from Somewhere Else: film & video from Chantal Akerman "News from Home" (1978) will open the Fall 2007 Experimental Tuesdays at the Union Theatre series. A visual record of Akerman's sojourn in New York City presented in a series of striking tableaux. Available light and color haunt the imagery, imbuing the film with the melancholy and warm sadness of Edward Hopper paintings. 7PM. FREE and at the UWM Union Theatre, 2nd level, UWM Student Union, 2200 E Kenwood Blvd, (414) 229 4758.

Check out the entire schedule at <http://uniontheatre.uwm.edu>

Stay out of the shower!! Hopefully, the evening will be cool and creepy for this classic "PSYCHO" playing at the Times Cinema, 5906 W. Vliet St. All seats \$6.00

SEPT 14

"THE WIZARD OF OZ" What more can you ask for? See it on the large screen! Runs thru the 20th. All seats \$6 Times Cinema, 5906 W. Vliet St. www.timescinema.com

Girlyman in concert at Shank Hall. Brought to you by the Lesbian Alliance of Milwaukee. 8pm - 10pm

Imagine a modern-day Peter, Paul & Mary - only edgier, and with a quirky sense of humor. Girlyman's harmony-driven style veers from contemporary folk to country rock to pop. Each member switches off songwriting duties, lead vocals, and a range of instruments, including acoustic guitar, djembe, banjo, baritone guitar and mandolin. Shank Hall, 1434 N Farwell Ave, Milwaukee

SEPT 15

QPICK

Black White + Gray: A Portrait of Sam Wagstaff and Robert Mapplethorpe. James Crump's film on the famous pairing of art collector, Sam Wagstaff and photographer, Robert Mapplethorpe. 3pm (at the UWM Union - Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival) This presentation is co-sponsored by the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center in conjunction with "the Art of Edge". Union Theatre, located in the UWM Union 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd., 2nd floor.

AND ANOTHER Q PICK!

The Art of Edge ~ Fantasy and Fetish. The Milwaukee Gay Arts Center celebrates the Art of Fantasy & Fetish: Aesthetics in Leather, Uniform, Rubber and Lace. MGAC and the Chicago Leather Archives and Museum present historic artifacts, photos by Adam Kozik as well as works by other artists - attend in fetish gear - no charge. 8pm - midnight. 703 S. 2nd St. info: 414-383-3727

Monica Mancini - Mancini at the Movies 8:00 p.m. Kuttempoor Auditorium. In her must-see Wilson Center appearance, Ms. Mancini will perform classical movie themes, including many made famous by her Oscar winning father performed to film. Single tickets are \$45; senior/student \$41; children (ages 6-9) \$23 groups of 10 or more \$36. For special needs seating or group sales, please call contact the Wilson Center Box Office at (262) 781-9520. <http://www.wilson-center.com/home.htm>

SEPT 16

Alvemo Presents: Global Union at the Humboldt Park Band Shell. 3000 S Howell Ave (Howell & Oklahoma) FREE. Some of the greatest artists on the international music scene flying

in to Milwaukee for a truly one-of-a-kind concert. For all of you who came last year, you know there's a chance you'll find your new favorite band at this event, and that it might be the only chance you have in your life to catch them live on stage. Haale (Iran), Ismail Lumanovski & The NY Gypsy All-Stars (Macedonia), Roberto Rodriguez & Maurice El Medioni (Cuba/Algeria), and Dobet Gnahore (Ivory Coast), who headlines. Tom Crawford will be your MCBread, will be providing music between

SEPT 18

Letters from Somewhere Else: film & video from Chantal Akerman "Là-bas" (2006) A film both within the world and cut off from the world - in which one can guess the faint outline of a Jewish family's past. It suggests what it means not to belong - and what the illusion of belonging would be. 7PM. FREE and at the UWM Union Theatre, 2nd level, UWM Student Union, 2200 E Kenwood Blvd, (414) 229 4758

Check out the entire schedule at <http://uniontheatre.uwm.edu>.

SEPT 19

Another great show brought to you by our friends at the Riverside! Ani DiFranco w/ Melissa Ferrick will grace the Riverside stage at 7:30PM Ani has been stunning and delighting listeners ever since she was a teenager in Buffalo, New York, playing bars she wasn't old enough to enter. These days, the self-described "Little Folksinger" is packing joints like Carnegie Hall and amphitheatres around the world. Singer/songwriter Melissa Ferrick has many reasons to declare herself free, and all of the talent to express it. 116 W Wisconsin Ave (414) 727-5963 Write to Qlife at editor@queerlifeneews.com for entry to win tickets!

SEPT 21

Body Adorned - a special Belly Dancer Drop-In with a Fetish Twist - Henna tattoo artist. 7pm - 11. \$5 admission. MGAC 703 S. 2nd St. 414-383-3727

Westside ArtWalk Friday from 5-9 pm and again Sat, 22nd from 10 am-4pm. Discover the Westside's thriving art scene. Visit Vliet Street, from 60th to 43rd, the Village, and other Wauwatosa locations. Explore diverse art galleries, restaurants and shops abundant with art and special entertainment during our 2-day event. Over 35 locations will feature art, entertainment and special events. New this fall, Milwaukee High School of the Arts student work will be featured along with local artists. You will be surprised at what the Westside has to offer. Contact Pat Mueller, (414)-933-5589 or visit our website www.geocities.com/westsideartwalk

Hidden River Art Festival Located just south of 198th & Capitol Drive in Brookfield's Mitchell Park. 1-7:00 PM, Sat, 10-5PM, Sun 10-5PM. Tickets are \$5, children 10 and under are free. For Tix - call Wilson Center Box Office at (262) 781-9520. Discover the work of 80 Wisconsin fine artists at this unique three-day festival. The Hidden River Art Festival is the largest of its kind featuring solely Wisconsin artists presenting a variety of media including painting, sculpture, photography, jewelry, ceramics, fiber art, among others. Local food vendors will also be on-site - so come hungry! thru the 23rd.

Deadline for the October Issue is September 20th.

Please send art listing to editor@queerlifeneews.com

COMING OUT DAY 2007 — 'TALK ABOUT IT'

WASHINGTON — The Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender civil rights organization, has announced that the theme for National Coming Out Day 2007 will be "Talk About It," continuing the slogan and branding that the national program has been building since 2005.

This year will also mark an important hallmark, as National Coming Out Day, Oct. 11, 2007, falls on the 20th anniversary of the 1987 Gay and Lesbian March on Washington, and the unfurling of the AIDS Quilt on the National Mall. National Coming Out Day was celebrated a year to the day later as a way of continuing the spirit of openness, honesty and visibility that the march and the AIDS Quilt presentation inspired.

"Twenty years ago, as the AIDS crisis was raging, coming out was literally a matter of life and death," said Mark Shields, director of HRC's Coming Out Project. "In many ways, we have come a very long way in a relatively short time."

Today, nearly three-quarters (72 percent) of Americans say they personally know or work with someone who identifies as gay or lesbian, according to Peter D. Hart Research Associates Inc. In 1987, only 11 percent claimed that they associated with a "male homosexual" on a regular basis, according to ABC News and The Washington Post.

For more information on coming out as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender, please visit www.hrc.org/comingout. Additional plans for a national project celebrating National Coming Out Day this year will be announced in mid-September.

Individuals and organizations interested in ordering free Coming Out Kits, which include resource guides, balloons, posters and other materials, can do so at www.hrc.org/comingoutkits.



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Writers welcome for Milwaukee's gay lifestyles leader. Call 414-383-8200. Send resume to editor@queerlifeneews.com

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Brady Street area flats: 1813 N. Marshall Nice 2 bedroom With enclosed sunporch - \$825 Aug 1st 1735 n. Franklin. Historic building With huge 3 bedroom upper with Large porch overlooking scenic yard. \$1,100 September 1st. Call Carole 414-704-7103

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2039 N Prospect. 2 bedroom LOWER with heat \$900. OCTOBER 1. Call Carole @ 414-704-7103

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FOR SALE

QMusic photograph of Patti Smith provided by Todd Kravos. Check out his website for more incredible photography. www.toddkravos.com "I find beauty and wonder mainly in concrete, functional, earthly and technological things," says Kravos of his work. We especially love the photos of his dog, Fergie



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- Cest La Vie:** 231 S 2nd St. Milwaukee, WI 414-291-9600
- City Lights Chill:** 111 W. Howard Ave. Mil, WI 414-481-1441
- Fluid:** 819 S. 2nd St. Milwaukee, WI 414-645-8330
- Harbor Room:** 117 E. Greenfield Ave. Mil, WI 414-672-7988
- Kathy's Nut Hut:** 1500 W. Scott St. Mil, WI 414-647-2673

- Kruz:** 354 E. National Ave. Milwaukee, WI 414-272-5789
 - LaCage:** 801 S 2nd St. Milwaukee, WI 414-383-8330
 - M's:** 1101 S. 2nd St. Milwaukee, WI 414-383-8900
 - Mona's Out 'N About:** 1407 S. 1st St. Milwaukee, WI 414-643-0377
 - PumpHouse:** 2011 S. 1st St. Milwaukee, WI 414-744-7008
 - Switch:** 124 W National Ave, Milwaukee, WI 414-220-4340
 - This Is It:** 418 E Wells St. Milwaukee, WI 414-278-9192
 - Tracks:** 1534 W. Grant Ave. Milwaukee, WI 414-562-2020
 - Triangle:** 135 E. National Ave. Mil, WI 414-383-9412
 - Walker's Pint:** 818 S. 2nd St. Mil, WI 414-643-7468
 - Woody's:** 1579 S. 2nd St. Milwaukee, WI 414-672-0806
- Just a sampling of watering holes in Milwaukee. We regret any omission at time of print. Please call 414-383-8200 to be added to the listing.*



**Naked:
The Life and
Pornography of
Michael Lucas**

BOOK REVIEW

Review by Roger Uscila

Naked... by Corey Taylor is the authorized biography of Michael Lucas. Michael Lucas is a top producer and star of gay porn and the CEO of Lucas Entertainment, headquartered in New York City, his adopted home.

You might expect to read of a wild life marked by sexual abuse, heavy drug use, and hard drinking. What does emerge is a portrait of a shrewd, hard working, hard-headed businessman. Mr. Lucas, born Andrei Treyvas in the then Soviet Russia doesn't fit that mold. He doesn't drink, smoke or use drugs. He is in a stable relationship, is a staunch advocate of safer sex practices, strongly anti-drug, and had a fairly happy childhood and adolescence in a close knit and loving family. He is also a cultured man and holds a Russian law degree.

The book chronicles his life from childhood and adolescence in Soviet Russia to young adulthood in Germany, (where he began his career in the porn film industry), to Eastern Europe, France, (where he made his first gay porn film), and finally the U.S.

Many details of the beginnings of his career are omitted or not much elaborated. Whether this is for discretionary reasons or the withdrawal of Mr. Lucas from the project (after eight months of working with the author he withdrew, seemingly losing interest) it's regrettable as it would make for a much more interesting and fuller read. Those looking for more detailed information

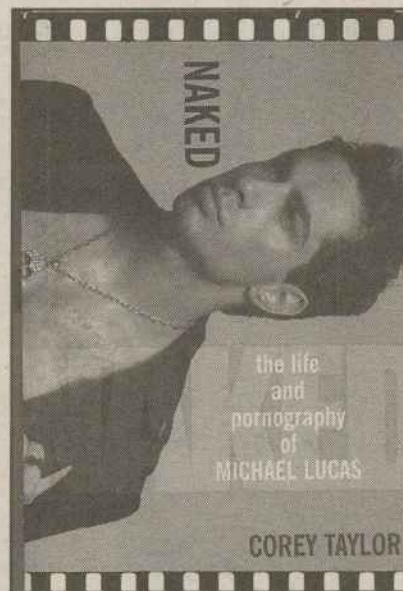
about the porn industry and how Lucas put his company together are likely to be disappointed as that is only briefly touched upon.

The book works best when Michael himself speaks, and he does. In April 2005 he was invited through the GaYalies, one of six student organizations dedicated to GLBT issues to speak at the Masters' Tea at Yale University. It's not often a producer and star of pornography, and gay pornography at that, speaks at Yale. He turned the event into a Q&A session, answering questions forthrightly and honestly, also displaying wit and humor. The session is reproduced in the book and offers good insight to knowing about Michael Lucas, which is presumably the reason for the books being.

Mr. Lucas comes off well, in a flattering light. Any criticism of Lucas is brushed aside. The author is clearly an admirer of his subject and this doubtless colored his ability to be objective, although he does make some effort. In his epilogue Mr. Taylor also launches into a somewhat scholarly defense of pornography, it seems an out of place and unnecessary inclusion.

Corey Taylor has written for U.S. publications, *Unzipped, Men, Artisan Northwest* as well as for publications in the UK, *refresh* and Australia, *DNA*. He lives in Chicago, Ill.

Naked the Life and Pornography of Michael Lucas is available from Kensington Books and Amazon.com




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