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Nestled inside a small brick building on Brady Street, in partnership and collaboration with Diverse and Resilient, is an African American (AA) LGBT Program called Connexus. Formed to foster and support AALGBT Leadership in Milwaukee, Connexus is the by-product of one African American leadership Meeting, and one African American Leadership Summit (along with Allies). The result was an 18-month planning process to determine a sustainable infrastructure plan for the healthy development of AALGBT

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



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National LGBT Equality Campaign to Host Event in Madison

Madison - Soulforce (the creators of the Equality Ride) and Atticus Circle (The creators of the "Gay? Fine by Me" T-shirt campaign) two nationally recognized LGBT Rights organizations have teamed up to host a new campaign to be held in state capitol cities around the country, including Madison, WI. The campaign, entitled "Seven Straight Nights for Equal Rights" will aim at giving a new voice and empowerment to LGBTQ Allies everywhere.

By launching an international internet campaign at www.sevenstraightnights.org and hosting local candle light vigils and rallies at state capitols from October 7th-13th, Seven Straight Nights (7SN) hopes to transform the LGBT rights issue into a human rights issue. They also hope to attract local and national media attention surrounding the oppression of LGBT

individuals and the Allies that work so hard to support them.

More information including statements of support from Wisconsin's First Lady Jessica Doyle and Judy Shepard, the mother of murdered Wyoming student Matthew Shepard can be found at www.sevenstraightnights.org, www.soulforce.org, or www.atticuscircle.org

If you'd like to call upon Wisconsin political leaders to work harder for LGBT Equality and honor those who have made that call in the past but have been oppressed and silenced, please attend Seven Straight Nights for Equal Rights, Wednesday, Oct. 10th, 6PM-7AM, at the WI State Capitol building, State Street Entrance, Madison, WI.

Transgender Aging Network seeks Survey Participants

As part of its ongoing training and technical assistance work, the Transgender Aging Network (TAN) of FORGE is conducting a survey to document the extent of violence and abuse against trans elders, and the level of fear of abuse trans and SOFFA elders feel.

Transgender individuals aged fifty and over (and those who love or work with them) are encouraged to participate. The online survey, available at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=I9T85nQICQPzN92d5isx8g_3d_3d, can be answered both by those reporting their own experiences, or by those reporting the experiences of someone they know.

Stories of neglect, sexual or emotional abuse, financial exploitation, abandonment, health care discrimination, and elder housing discrimination of transgender people age 50 and older can be documented there.

SOFFAs (Significant Others, Friends, Family, or Allies) of trans people who were targeted because of their ties to one or more transgender elders can also be reported.

We use the broadest possible definition of "trans," and especially encourage responses from butch women and feminine men.

TAN, an international, 9-year-old organization providing education and

training on transgender aging issues supports trans elders through a free, online peer support email list (ElderTG); and networks professionals and researchers through its Transgender Aging Network email listserve.

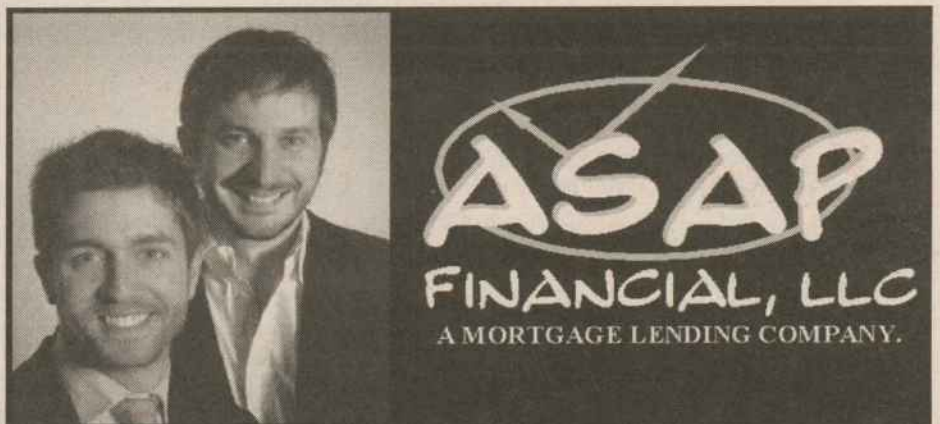
Many articles written by TAN are available for free download at www.forge-forward.org/tan.

Survey responses will be taken until October 15, 2007.

For more information or to subscribe to either listserve, email TAN Executive Director Loree Cook-Daniels at LoreeCD@aol.com. Paper copies of the survey form can also be sent upon request; please email the request or call it into 414-540-6456, leaving your name, address, and survey amounts requested.

About FORGE / TAN

The Transgender Aging Network (TAN) is a project of FORGE. FORGE was founded in 1994 to support, educate and advocate for the rights and lives of female-to-male (FTM) transgender individuals and SOFFAs (Significant Others, Friends, Family, and Allies). FORGE is dedicated to helping move our fragmented communities beyond identity politics and forge a movement that embraces and empowers our diverse complexities.



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QProfile: Activist Kim Sharp "If you want something to happen - you make it happen"

An activist in the Milwaukee community for well over 20 years, self proclaimed "little noisemaker" Kim Sharp was thrust into AIDS activism after the 1985 passing of a friend with the virus - and a promise to him to "do something."

"I had no idea what to do at that time. But I became a 'buddy' and befriended someone with AIDS, going to movies, dinner, just hanging out being a friend."

When that friend died, Sharp began volunteering with the Milwaukee AIDS project, (now ARCW) working on education and fundraising, even working on a consortium to oversee new AIDS medicine trials.

As his activist work progressed, he soon began traveling the country, speaking about safer sex techniques, and bringing back knowledge to teach his own community here in Milwaukee.

"It's just something natural" Sharp says about being an activist. "To stand up and fight for my people. Gay people."

Sharp, also involved with Connexus, says "We're looking forward to bringing the African American community together to build something. I have friends from out of town who ask me 'well what do you do in Milwaukee?' I always tell them, 'you gotta make your own party.'"

Part of Connexus is expanding visibility, and Sharp feels that LGBT people should go into all sorts of groups to participate. Along with monthly dining out parties with groups of gay men in "straight" establishments, to show "we're just like everybody else," he feels infiltrating organizations like the NAACP, or church boards and being openly gay will help squash stereotypes.

"They want our skills, but they don't want our open-ness" he says. "We're no different from them, except for what happens in bed. And they might even be doing the same things!" he laughs.

As the conversation turns to the topic of coming out, Sharp mentions how difficult the added pressure can be to African Americans.

"You've already got issues that society puts on you, and to add being gay on top of that, it's a lot to deal with. A lot of people like to keep it quiet, but, what good is that doing to yourself? I believe in coming out."

These days, along with talks, and lectures in homes, churches, and schools, Sharp is working with ARCW on a project to promote safer sex in the African American community, by distributing literature, condoms, and informational videos to barbershops throughout the city. "It's based on a program started years ago, discussing colon and prostate cancer in the barbershops." He says.

"Start conversations with your partner. Go back to dating again. Going to these bath clubs, or sex parties, what is that? Russian roulette?" he asks. "People are out there, still being risky. Protection is important, but get to know your partner."

His work is serious and extremely important. It doesn't mean he doesn't have a sense of humor, however. When asked for any final comments, he laughs, "I'm single and looking for a good baby daddy." I laugh, and he continues, "put that down."

I told him, its on record now.

VISIBILITY *continued from page 1*

people in Milwaukee. The organization officially formed in March of 2007 and made a huge splash at Pridefest earlier this year.

Due to the confusion and outrage created by Milwaukee Alderman Michael McGee Jr's homophobic remarks surrounding the Oct. 2004 beating of Frank Jude Jr. by off-duty Milwaukee police officers, a group of People of Color who identified as LGBT gathered to bring clarity and help craft the approach of the LGBT Community regarding those remarks. The group felt it was important to voice the concerns of people who experienced life through the intersections of race, gender and a sexual orientation.

"We were unhappy with the black community for ignoring McGee's homophobic comments" Says Brenda Coley, Director of Adult Services with Diverse & Resilient. McGee had refused to apologize for using the word "faggot" when describing the off-duty cops charged with beating Jude.

"We were also upset with the way the larger LGBT community reacted with racism." Coley takes particular aim at a Queer Life News cover image

a year later (Dec. 2005) featuring the mug shot of Michael McGee Jr.- claiming that McGee's image was "blackened."

"He is not public enemy number one, nor is he the cause of Homophobia in our lives," states Coley. "His comments do, however, affect the climate and the safety of LGBT people and particularly those of African descent." Coley then goes on to say that McGee is responsible

true." Says Coley. "Black folks, we are overwhelmingly against discrimination."

Janice Warren, Connexus co-chair, agrees. "I've been out in this community all my life, and I've never been attacked, or any other negatives you hear on any other levels."

"So where does that come from? Its racism. Connexus interrupts these myths." Coley states.

Connexus co-chairs Jamin Mahon, and Warren alone are a testament to the absurdity of the myth of inactivity by the AALGBT Community.

"This is just one of many organizations I've been a part of AND in a leadership position." Mahon points out. "I've been volunteering for different causes since college. I was on the LGBT Center board, Men's Voices Milwaukee, Fair Wisconsin... I mean, don't participate? Sometimes, I even go line dancing!" says Mahon with a laugh.

Warren adds, "I was a representative of Action WI back in the mid eighties, worked with Tammy Baldwin, I was with the Lesbians of Color...many, many things."

At the African American LGBT Leadership Meeting held at UWM in June of 2005, one wall (Coley calls it "The Wall of Wonder") was filled with images of AA LGBT people and organizations that have contributed to

continued on page 5



Connexus members: Janice Warren, Brenda Coley, Jamin Mahon

for "creating an unsafe or hostile atmosphere to people coming out."

The group also wanted to interrupt the myths that people of color and in particular African American people are more homophobic than whites, are not visible, nor sufficiently active and involved in the LGBT Community.

"There is no evidence or reliable research present that says this is

QProfile: SHEBA girl, Nicole Taylor "We're all we have"

Formed in 2000, Milwaukee based SHEBA girls, is a group of transgendered MTF individuals who are speaking out against AIDS, promoting safe sex, and discussing "Harm Reduction" in the community. Nicole Taylor, one of the "Sisters Helping Each other Battle AIDS" (SHEBA), says "We are out there in the world with people who may not see us as "people" so we are learning how to reduce harm, or how to avoid certain situations."

Situations like gay bashing.

Taylor, herself, is not immune to such things, and points to her lip where stitches had just been removed earlier in the day.

"Little ol' me," she says, about her experience with three male attackers." It was unavoidable," she adds, feeling her lip, before quickly changing the subject, still clearly upset.

"I think talk shows like Jerry Springer's really portray transgender people in the wrong way, because everybody's not like those people that are on TV. You have to really get to know transgender people. You can't just stereotype."

Part of her work with SHEBA includes seminars, meetings, and community outreach.

"SHEBA really brings the transgender girls together. We meet every two weeks down at the Diverse and Resilient offices. Brenda (Coley) has really helped us out a lot" Taylor grins.

"There was a lot of bickering between the transgender community and the community as a whole. A lot of people don't accept transgender people. And for Brenda to work with us to help us all further our education and really do something with ourselves is really lovely."

Taylor hopes that SHEBA's outreach will soon include school seminars, where they can discuss coming out and accepting yourself. She speaks highly of her own high school experience, where several teachers and students were openly gay, and who were able to be her mentors.

"I wouldn't be sitting here healthy, alive and just vibrant if it wasn't for those people. Today, there are a lot of kids that are coming out more and more now, at 11, 12, and 13, and when they don't know how to deal with coming out, it can lead to suicide, and just risky behavior, because there is nobody there to tell them that its okay to be you."

I noticed the tattoo on her right wrist. "Yes, it says 'Honey'" she says giggling. Then laughing harder, she points to the tattoo on her other wrist "this one says, 'Number one bitch.'" To which, we both break out in a fit of laughter.

"SHEBA has helped us all grow to appreciate each other, and to love one another and to look out for one another, more so than anything else, because we're all we have. We get to know each other for who we are, not who we appear to be." Taylor explains.

"We are all the same people. Some of us look like girls, some look like boys, but we're all the same." She then points out the window at the Gay Pride flag flying in the breeze outside the D&R Window. "That flag represents us all"

VISIBILITY *continued from page 4*

improving black LGBT life in the city of Milwaukee. Connexus is building upon the successes of that history.

Chosen because of their work with capacity building, and leadership development, Diverse and Resilient "gave us the space, and gave us the capacity to be able to look at things in a new way, and build upon our history." Says Coley.

Director of Diverse and Resilient, Gary Hollander's initial suggestion was to discuss issues present in the African American community, and survey the community's needs, wants, and desires in regards to the infrastructure of an AALGBT organization.

Connexus knew they wanted to create a place where one doesn't have to choose between any identity.

"We don't experience any of our identities as separate, and when one is stigmatized or forced or expected to choose one identity over another is when they might cope with the stress in maladaptive and unhealthy behaviors," says Coley.

Noting that LGBT people alone already cope with the stress of being discriminated against, Connexus recognizes that People of Color, and African American people who also identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender are coping with multiple stressors- all of which can lower self-esteem and the ability to engage in consistently healthy behaviors.

By fall of that year, and with D&R's assistance, Connexus went to the community for the answers. They conducted surveys, both online, and in paper handouts; participated in numerous focus groups; had group meetings in one another's homes, and attended events held by other AA LGBT focused organizations such as Charles D. Productions. This gave members of the infrastructure planning committee the opportunity to speak directly with community members and discover what type of infrastructure they would want in an organization.

"Would want AND support" stresses Mahon.

The response was overwhelming. Over 500 participants (a small percentage according to Coley, who puts the actual number of African American LGBT in Milwaukee County around 2600-3000) told of the need for help with prevention isolation, family issues, HIV prevention, disclosure issues, health issues and avenues outside of drinking establishments where they would feel comfortable socializing.

"Everyone I had talked to in particular were anxious to get started, and anticipating something to happen in the African American LGBT community," says Warren.

"We also assumed that they would insist on programs being part of an AALGBT organization." Says Coley.

Turns out, it didn't matter.

"They didn't care who did it, basically. They wanted it culturally competent, and absent of racism.

Whoever could do that the best is where they wanted to go." Coley stated.

Recently, Connexus held a forum at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, regarding "coming out" and found that "quite a number of people were interested in joining us," says Warren. "The more that we do, and present ourselves, the more we get quite a following. We have a pretty good network."

Mahon agrees, "We want to become so visible that people don't have any thing but to recognize us and challenge their own stereotypes. And we're finding that people want to be part of it in different ways. Some want to volunteer, in putting an event together. Some just want to show up and support, and some just want to give money, or moral support. We'll take it all!"

Funding for Connexus first came in the form of a minority health grant from the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, in recognition that infrastructure deficits result in ongoing health disparities.

They've since pooled funds from amongst themselves, and were also awarded a grant as part of the Joseph Pabst/ Cream City Foundation's 25/25 Venture. However, Connexus is not a membership organization, nor do they collect dues from participants.

"You need the capacity and the infrastructure to apply for grants and solicit donations," explains Coley. "We do need financial support, and resources, and our ability to raise funds, tells us how much the community supports our leadership and activities by both our allies and the AALGBT Community."

First, however, they ask for support within the AALGBT Community and from the infrastructure planning group.

"That's how committed we all are," Coley, Mahon, and Warren state in agreement.

Committed, indeed. Several events are slotted for Connexus's near future, including a December 4th 2007 Holiday party where AA LGBT folk's invite their families and loved ones to share in the culture of the Gay community, as well as events for February's "Black History" month.

Their hope is that it will also be in collaboration and partnership with the larger LGBT Community - their natural allies. To the members and leaders of Connexus, it is important that they not only become influential in the LGBT community, or African American LGBT community, but also in the city of Milwaukee, the state of Wisconsin, and the country as a whole.

"People like us belong, everywhere we go. The world needs our perspective." Coley say with a big smile.

QLIFE Thanks: All of the wonderful people who took the time to pose for our cover image, the photographers, the members of Connexus, and of course, the extraordinary Maureen Kane for her cover design.

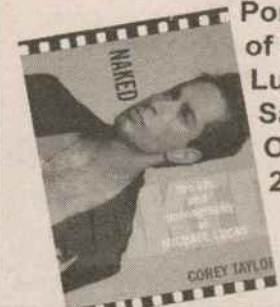


OUTWORDS
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**Corey Taylor,
Sat., October 13
at 2:00 pm**

Corey Taylor will discuss Michael Lucas, the world of Gay Adult Entertainment and sign copies of his book, "Naked: The Life and

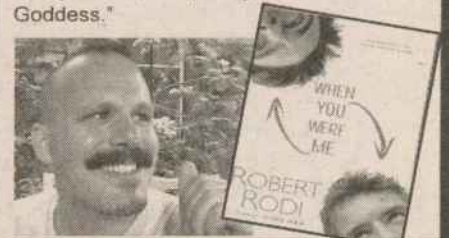
Pornography of Michael Lucas on Saturday, Oct. 13th at 2:00pm.



**Author
Events at
Outwords**

**Robert Rodi,
Tues., October 16
at 7:00 pm**

Robert Rodi will read from and sign copies of "When You Were Me" on Tuesday, October 16th at 7:00pm. He is also the author of six other novels, "Fag Hag," "Closet Case," "What They Did to Princess Paragon," "Drag Queen," "Kept Boy," and "Bitch Goddess."



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Wisconsin



Happenings

UWM Libraries Acquires Collection of Eldon Murray

By Michael Doylen, Head of Archives, UWM Libraries

The UWM Libraries is pleased to announce its acquisition of the personal papers and library of Eldon Murray, a nationally recognized figure in the gay rights movement. Murray was active in virtually all of the major issues involving gays and lesbians from the 1970s to the present day.

In the 1970s, he became involved with the Gay Peoples Union (GPU), the first gay rights organization in Milwaukee and arguably the most important one in Wisconsin during this decade. Murray edited the organization's newsletter, GPU News, from 1971 to 1981; participated in the production of Gay Perspective, a half-hour radio program broadcast locally from 1971 to 1972; and spoke eloquently on the topic of gay rights at countless public events.

Following the first reported cases of AIDS in Wisconsin in the early 1980s, Murray worked to raise funds for the Milwaukee AIDS Project, which was later reorganized as the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin. In 1993, he founded SAGE/Milwaukee, the first organization in Wisconsin dedicated to serving the needs of older gays, lesbians, and bisexuals. He served on the board chair 1993 to 2003 and represented SAGE on an advisory board to the Commissioners of the Milwaukee County Department on Aging.

Murray's commitment to gay and lesbian equality was recognized by many local and national organizations. In 1998, ONE Institute and the International Gay and Lesbian Archives recognized him as one of 31 pioneers of the gay rights movement.

Murray passed away on March 5, 2007, at the age of 77.

Murray's personal papers document his activity in the early gay rights movement in Milwaukee, the effort to support HIV+ individuals and eliminate discrimination and prejudice based on HIV-status, and to support senior gays and lesbians. The collection includes correspondence, photographs, records of the organizations in which Murray participated, and ephemera.

With the personal papers, the UWM Libraries acquired Murray's own library. Of particular interest in this collection are scores of "beefcake" magazines from the 1950s and 1960s. Published in the oppressive pre-Stonewall era, the magazines (barely) disguised their homoerotic intention behind a posing strap of masculine athleticism. The library also includes examples of pulp fiction from the same period.

As a related collection, the Gay Peoples Union generously donated its library of LGBT books and serial publications, which had been stored in Murray's home since the early 1980s. GPU developed the library from items purchased with organization funds, donations by private individuals, and review and exchange copies. According to a GPU annual report, the collection amounted to approximately 1,500 volumes in 1974 and was "probably the largest library collection about homosexuality in the state."

Murray's personal papers are housed in the Archives Department, and his library and the GPU library are available for research in Special Collections. For more information, please contact Michael Doylen, Archives Dept. Head, at 229-6980 or Max Yela, Special Collections Head, at 229-4345.

Challenge Grant Offered for Preserving Murray Audio Tapes

Joseph Pabst, Milwaukee philanthropist and supporter of the LGBT community, has generously offered a challenge grant of \$1,500 to preserve the Eldon Murray radio broadcast tapes. The grant, which requires a match, is from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation's Johnson and Pabst LGBT Humanity Fund. We encourage those who would like to contribute towards matching the grant to contact Susan Modder, Development Director, at semodder@uwm.edu or 414-229-2811. All donations are welcome.

Center Advocates PAC Annual Garden Party a Huge Success

Milwaukee - The 2007 Annual Center Advocates PAC Garden Party with Brunch and Cocktails proved to be an extraordinary success. The August 26th event, sponsored by Center Advocates PAC and held in Joseph Pabst's gracious eastside home, was a delight for guests and a fantastic achievement for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) community.

Guest speaker was Matt Foreman, the Executive Director of the National

Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

Foreman's inspiring words and his challenge to dig deep for the cause moved guests to donate an additional \$4,500 during the event, bringing the total amount raised to an unprecedented \$21,000.



Tina Owen, Jennifer Morales, Reynolds Honold, Rep[1], Sheldon Wasserman, and PAC Director Patrick Flaherty at the annual Garden Party fundraiser, which raised more than \$20,000.

The generosity of the Milwaukee community made the Garden Party a remarkable achievement in the effort to create LGBT equality. "Now more than ever it is important for people who believe in fairness for all Wisconsin citizens to become involved in the political process by electing public officials who share their values," stated Laurie Guilbault, Co-president of Center Advocates PAC.

The Garden Party's success demonstrates the desire of community members to realize equal treatment for all people under the law. All proceeds from the event help to educate voters about LGBT issues and elect candidates who publicly commit to protecting and advancing LGBT equality in Wisconsin.

When Daddy yells at Papa it makes me cry.

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For more information, contact the Anti-Violence Project
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The Anti-Violence Project is available to provide advocacy, crisis intervention, safety planning, and resource information for members of the LGBT community who are affected by domestic violence, sexual violence, and hate crimes.



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National



Happenings

MD Denies Same-Sex Marriage

Washington - The Maryland Court of Appeals, the state's highest court, recently ruled that same-sex couples do not have a constitutional right to marriage equality. The decision actually reversed a lower-court ruling that Maryland's ban on marriage for same-sex couples violated the states Equal Rights Amendment.

"This is a setback in the fight for equality, but we remain confident that, ultimately, same-sex couples in Maryland who form committed relationships and build loving families will receive the same protections that the state provides to married opposite-sex couples," said Human Rights Campaign Joe Solmonese.

On July 7, 2004, the ACLU, working with Equality Maryland, filed the *Conaway v. Deane and Polyak* case in Maryland State court on behalf of nine same-sex couples and one gay man seeking the equal right to marry in Maryland. The plaintiffs argued that denying same-sex couples the right to marry violates the state constitution's guarantee of equality.

On January 20, 2006, the Baltimore City Circuit Court ruled in favor of the plaintiffs, agreeing that Maryland's bar on marriage by same-sex couples violated the Equal Rights Amendment to the state constitution. That court's decision was appealed to the Maryland Court of Appeals, Maryland's high court, which has now reversed the Circuit Court's decision and ruled against marriage equality for same-sex couples and their families.

Massachusetts remains the only state to recognize civil marriage for same-sex couples.

Same-sex couples do not receive federal rights and benefits in any state.

It's now in Arnold's hands - AGAIN

California - Lawmakers have once again approved legislation that would legalize marriage for same-sex couples in the state. For the second time in two years, the measure heads to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's desk, where despite being urged the sign the bill by gay rights groups such as the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the Human Rights Watch, it is expected to be vetoed like the previous measure in 2005.

The California Assembly approved the measure, authored by openly gay Assemblyman Mark Leno, on a 42-34 vote on June 5. The state Senate passed the measure, 22-15, on Sept. 7.

Schwarzenegger said he vetoed the 2005 measure to uphold the will of the voters who had passed Proposition 22 in 2000 to restrict marriage rights to opposite-sex couples. He has until Oct. 14th to act on the current bill.

Teena Killer Claims Full Responsibility

Lincoln, NE - John Lotter, convicted in the 1993 shooting death of Teena Brandon, and serving time on death row, has long maintained that he is innocent. Now, because the other man convicted in the murder claims full responsibility - Lotter is asking for a new trial.

Marvin Nissen's new account that he was the lone killer in a murder that spawned the movie "Boys Don't Cry" could re-ignite a case that drew national attention to the issues of transgendered people.

Brandon, 21, born a female but living for a time as a man in rural southeast Nebraska, was killed in a farmhouse near Humboldt after reporting being raped by Lotter and Nissen.

During the trial, Nissen said he had stabbed Brandon but that Lotter fired all the shots that killed Brandon.

"He has finally admitted that the testimony that secured John Lotter's conviction was all a lie," said Paula Hutchinson, attorney to Lotter.

Nissen, who is serving a life sentence, says he initially testified that Lotter pulled the trigger to avoid the death penalty.

Lotter is seeking complete exoneration, saying he had no role in the crime.

The double-jeopardy rule against trying people for the same crime twice will presumably keep Nissen from being tried again and conceivably receiving a death sentence.

Nissen has claimed that the idea for the murder was initially Lotter's, but because his gun jammed, Nissen proceeded to shoot Brandon, and two others.

Mayor Wants to Overturn State Ban

San Diego - Love trumps injustice, when a Mayor changes his ideas on same sex marriages, because he cannot fathom denying his own daughter, who is a lesbian, the right to marry.

San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders made a tearful explanation as to why he can no longer oppose same sex marriages, and will now back a City Council decision to support them before the state Supreme Court where California's ban on it awaits review.

"I decided to lead with my heart," said Sanders, before he revealed his daughter's sexual orientation.

Previously, Sanders vowed to use his veto power to block the council's move. At the time, he repeated his preference for civil unions, partnerships between same-sex couples that offer some but not all of the legal protections given to those who marry.

He said his thoughts on same-sex marriage began to change when he received word of the resolution.

Sanders, who had never discussed his daughters personal life publicly, began choking back tears just seconds into his five-minute statement.

When mentioning his daughter, and several friends who are part of the LGBT Community, Sanders explained, "In the end, I couldn't look any of them in the face and tell them that their relationships, their very lives, were any less meaningful than the marriage I share with my wife, Rana."

Nearly 62,000 San Diegans are part of households led by a same-sex couple, according to a U.S. Census Bureau survey conducted two years ago.

International



Happenings

Justice Ministry urges crackdown on hate crimes

Norway - Police have begun registering all episodes of so-called "hate crimes," involving violence against certain groups of people.

According to a recent survey conducted by the Justice Ministry for the police directorate. Crimes against certain races, homosexuals, the elderly or other specific groups have been on the rise in Norway. Gay men especially have been targets of violence; Justice Minister Knut Storberget wants the punishments for such crimes to be stiffer.

The survey was a result of concern over an apparent rise in violence against homosexuals.

Police are encouraging victims to press charges when suspects are apprehended.

Storberget said the government would propose tougher punishment for suspects convicted of hate crimes, especially if the crime was linked to the victim being gay.

Costumes, Pumpkins and Condoms

By Gen Longoria

Who needs candy when we've got condoms? This upcoming Halloween, the Alliance High School Juniors are heading out to Brady Street to distribute information promoting safer sex.

The Alliance School, lead by Tina Owen, is a small, warm school where we are able to receive the attention and education that we need without the hassles of trying to find our place at a large hectic school.

For October, our mission is to inform people about the dangers of having unprotected sex. We want to let people



know that we're just not a bunch of teenagers talking about sex. We're a bunch of teenagers who care about what's happening with one another. We care that more and more people are dying from

contracting deadly viruses from just having sex. And we want to help put an end to that.

Also today, young girls are having children, and not thinking clearly about their future - as far as an education or career. We're not saying that we're going to be able to put an end to it, but we're going to try.

So what makes us think that others are going to listen to us? Most young adults today, don't necessarily want to hear what the adult mouth as to say. They want to be able to do things on their own, so as young people ourselves, they won't think of it as a lecture from an adult, they'll think of it as friendly advice from their fellow peers.

"I'm always amazed at what the students

are able to accomplish when given the proper tools," says Owen. English and Art teacher Jill Engel seconds that. "I think it's great that the students are able to handle what could be considered a sensitive topic in such a mature and professional manner."

The Alliance Juniors will be in Halloween costumes along with painted pumpkins, and handing out safe sex materials and info packets to let people know how to protect themselves from deadly viruses and teenage pregnancy. Thanks to Planned Parenthood, we have all the material that we need.

So come help us, join us, or just root for us in our mission to notify everybody about keeping his or her sex lives clean and healthy. Look for us on Brady St, between 1-10PM, right by Farwell Point. For more information, please contact Tina Owen at 414-227-2550.

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How to Put Zest in Your Queer Zine Fest!

Let's take this opportunity to review the evolution of zine fests that were specifically about queer zines. Several years have gone by since the last one, but with larger regional zine fests happening on a regular basis, some of which devote workshop time for queer zinesters and their fans, it's hard to have noticed that an all queer zine fest hasn't happened in a few years.

New Spew Review

Despite queer zines, in the form we know them today, evolving in the mid

1980s, it took over five years for the first queer zine fest to take place. The event was billed as **Spew** and was held at the Randolph Street Gallery in Chicago. Featuring luminaries like Vaginal Davis, Joan Jett Blakk, Elvis Herselvis, and writer Dennis Cooper, the event melded together the scene that **J.D.s** had created by the words, images, and films produced by the Toronto gang. In fact, G.B. Jones' band **Fifth Column** played. **Spew** kick started the **Homocore Chicago** community and also helped to cement the notion that queer zines didn't exist in a vacuum, that they could be tied to real world events and bring together radical queers in social, political, musical and cultural settings.

Spew II in 1992 happened on Dennis Cooper's home turf, the cultural wasteland

Part queer zine fest, punk show, and Radical Faerie gathering in nature, there were good intentions behind this event

we know as Los Angeles. Coming quickly on the heels of the first **Spew** event, this zine fest drew a larger audience than the first one, and again featured Joan Jett Blakk and Elvis Herselvis entertaining the throngs. According to a contemporary report in **QFM** [Issue 4, 1992, 34 pages],

the promised band, **Hole**, were no-shows and which ever band replaced them on the bill was so lackluster that the editors couldn't remember their name!

The final part in the trilogy, **Spew III**, happened in one of the ground zero cities for queer zines, Toronto, in 1993. Organized mainly through the tireless efforts of Alan O'Connor, editor of **Homocore Toronto**, this **Spew** event was designed to give more emphasis to the workshops, discussion groups, as well as the band performances. Gone were all of the folks associated with past **Spew** events and in came **Match**, the awesome music project of long-time zinesters Charlie Nash and Carol Schneck, and Toronto based **Ignatz** and **Chicken Milk**. People such as queer British filmmaker **Isaac Julien** popped in to the after parties. Ironically, this event marked Bruce La Bruce's final offering to the queer punk zine world, the brilliant **Monstar**.

Beginning of The End

The success of **Spew III** inspired a group of radical anarcho queers in Minneapolis to take a stab at hosting a similar event, generically named **The Queer Zine Gathering**. Part queer zine fest, punk show, and Radical Faerie gathering in nature, there were good intentions behind this event but it never quite got off the ground in its projected scope. Yet despite the scathing critique of **Bundle of Sticks** editor **TEG**, participants such as long-time zinesters **Anonymous**



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.

Boy, Reb of Fanorama, and others pitched in and made up for the gaps when plans fell apart. San Francisco folks stepped up to the plate in 1996 and offered up a week long music festival called **Dirtybird** that managed to be global in scope and take full advantage of the queer punk groundswell to get bands like **Tribe 8**, **Sta-Prest**, **Sleater-Kinney**, and **Dyke Van Dick**. **Dirtybird** also saw the triumphant return of **Ms Vaginal Davis** as **Saint Salicia Tate**. This set the stage for the final mash-up of queer zines and punk rock in the legendary **Scutterfest** series in L.A. in the early 2000s through the efforts of **Rudy Scutter**, who brought together perhaps the largest lineup of queercore bands ever and set the bar high for anyone brave enough to attempt to rock out with their zines out!

The Queer Zine Archive Project documents past and present queer zines online at www.qzap.org.

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QLife Quickies

LGBT Rights in Bloom

Chicago - Equality Illinois, a statewide advocacy organization working for equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals, has appointed Amy Bloom executive director. With 10 years of experience in non-profits, Bloom has spent the last three years working as a senior manager of special events at Howard Brown Health Center, an LGBT health-care facility.

As part of her new position, Bloom will head up fundraising and oversee organizational operations. In conjunction with board members and volunteers, she will coordinate the "Justice for All" gala, an annual fundraiser that attracts about 1,000 supporters, the group said.

Equality Illinois, founded in 1982, promotes state, county and municipal legislation to eliminate prejudice and discrimination against lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender individuals.

Corporate Equality on Rise

Washington - The Human Rights Campaign Foundation has released its sixth annual Corporate Equality Index showing an unprecedented 195 major U.S. businesses earned the top rating of 100 percent, up from 138 last year - a 41 percent increase. The Index rates employers on a scale from 0 to 100 percent on their treatment of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender employees, consumers and investors.

Today, at least 282 cities and towns, and 19 states, across the country have added workplace protections that protected against discrimination based on sexual orientation. More than 93 local jurisdictions, and 11 states, have laws that include protections based on gender identity.

Among the 57 companies that have newly achieved a perfect score of 100 percent are: J.C. Penney Co. Inc., Macy's Inc., Marriott International Inc. and Yahoo! Inc.

More info at: www.hrc.org/cei.

Drag Queens in the Skys with Diamonds

San Francisco - One airline has hit upon a great idea of mile high entertainment. Air New Zealand will have a special themed flight featuring drag queens, pink cocktails and a cabaret performed by the flight crew.

The destination for the Feb. 26 "Pink Flight," departing from San Francisco International Airport is the Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in Sydney, Australia, one of the world's most well-attended gay events.

American, Air Canada and other airline companies have become visible sponsors of gay pride events, but so far only Air New Zealand has gone so far as to use campy programming to appeal to gay and lesbian travelers. Get your tickets now! It takes 14 hours to get from San Francisco to Sydney, so why not have some fun mixed in with your beauty sleep?

Come out, come out, wherever you are!

October 11th, 2007 will mark the 19th anniversary of National Coming Out Day since its birth in 1988 to celebrate the Second National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights that had taken place one year prior.

National Coming Out Day is not only a day on which closeted gays are encouraged to come out of the closet, but also to raise awareness about equality. In terms of making a positive statement and betting the LGBT community, it is perhaps only second to the Day of Silence.

But given that October 11th is just around the corner, it seems appropriate to discuss a very important question that every LGBT person must face: When is the right time to come out?

Let's make the assumption that most of the individuals faced with this question are adolescents, and rightly so, because the longer one hides his/her sexuality from the rest of the world (and perhaps him/herself), the more complicated matters become.

For me, the entire process was a piece of cake. In fact, I was the *last* person to know I was gay- all I really had to do was tell myself. I suppose there was some definitive point where I sat down and told my mother and my father, though their reactions are probably the best any kid could ask for. My dad said something along the lines of, "Oh, that's cool." And my mother told me that "as long as [I was] using condoms," she couldn't care less about my sexuality. Then she asked me if I wanted to go shoe shopping with her (I did, of course).

Admittedly, there were probably a few things that tipped them off- my extensive *Barbie* collection, my insistence on wearing skirts to kindergarten, the continual theft of my mother's lipstick and pleading for my own make-up kit...not exactly your typical All-American Male behavior.

Unfortunately, most kids probably aren't so lucky. Coming out to your parents is a really big deal, more so than your friends and peers. Not only do adolescents tend to be generally more accepting of alternative sexualities, but realistically, if one isn't- you can always find new friends. It's true. And if someone you *thought* you were close to is so deeply traumatized by your sexuality that they no longer wish to be your friend, good riddance. Nobody should have to deal with that sort of callowness.

Parents, however, are an entirely different story- they're the only ones you've got. They are your protectors, your nurturers, and the only two people who have watched every single step of your life. And even just



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.

the thought of possible rejection makes one's stomach turn over- not to mention facing the situation head-on. So what's the best way to go about it?

First of all, you have to be comfortable with yourself and your sexuality before anyone else will be able to. When I was experiencing confusion about my sexuality I found it very helpful to go online or go to the library and read about others' experiences; see what they have to say, and how they coped with things.

It's also good to have some sort of support system, however minimal, before telling your parents. Whether this is your best friend, sibling, or school guidance counselor, having someone to fall back on is extremely comforting.

And lastly, go easy on your parents. Especially if you think they're completely oblivious to the situation (though you may be surprised- most aren't) or if they happen to be particularly socially or politically conservative. Reassure them that you love them; that they haven't done anything wrong, and neither have you- that you are still you. A very bad way to go about it would be by introducing them to your new boyfriend or girlfriend. That's a lot to process all at once, and the results could be disastrous. And don't feel like you have to do it all by yourself- having a confidante with you can be very helpful, especially if either party begins to get emotional.

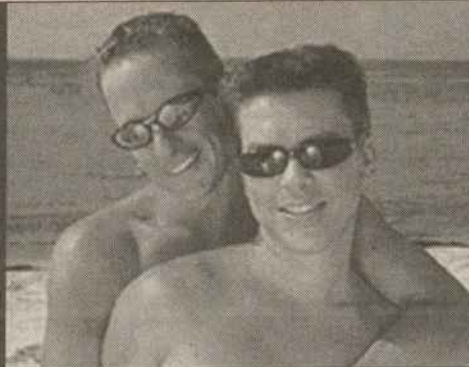
Coming out can be rough; it can be emotional and it can be stressful, but it is also absolutely necessary for your own inner peace and happiness. In a rather dramatic example, you can think about it this way- which is scarier? Facing your parents now, as an adolescent, or waking up one day, 30 years from now, with a wife/husband and two kids and being forced to reveal a secret that will tear that family apart?

So come out of the closet, it's dark in there. You owe it to yourself.

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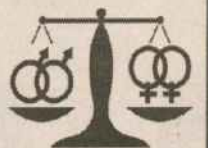
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QLife Quickies

Gay Games VII Photo Book Published

Chicago - The excitement and joy of the 2006 Gay Games in Chicago are captured in a new 208-page 4-color glossy photo soft-cover book available online from the Web site www.lulu.com. The book features more than 1,000 images of the sports, culture and ceremonies of Gay Games VII, which were held July 15-22, 2006.

Several dozen professional photographers donated their services to cover the Gay Games, contributing more than 60,000 images to the Gay Games photo archives. These images were then culled to 11,000 and were made available in 2006 as downloads on the Gay Games Web site.

Now, the best of those images are included in the book "Gay Games VII: Where the World Meets," written by Gay Games VII Co Vice-Chair Tracy Baim, publisher of Windy City Media Group in Chicago. WCMG and its weekly newspaper, Windy City Times, coordinated the Gay Games photo project, and WCMG Art Director Kirk Williamson designed the book.

The book is available for \$49 plus shipping or as a PDF download for \$19. ORDERING INFO: See <http://www.lulu.com/content/1179609> or go to www.lulu.com and search for "Gay Games" under books.

Authors to Visit Outwords Books

Outwords Books is pleased to welcome two authors during the month of October. First up is Corey Taylor, author of "Naked: The Life and Pornography of Michael Lucas" followed by popular novelist Robert Rodi who will read and sign copies of his latest book, "When you were Me."

Rarely has the American Dream and the world of Gay Adult Video collided, but that is absolutely the case with porn entrepreneur Michael Lucas. Born and raised in Soviet Russia as Andrei Trevas to a close-knit family of outspoken, intellectual Russian Jews, this sky, skinny kid grew up to be a handsome man determined to make his mark on the world.

In "Naked", Corey Taylor explored Michael Lucas's start as an escort in Europe, to his hustling days in America, making the money he would invest in his own company, Lucas Entertainment.

Taylor's portrait of Lucas is provocative, controversial, and one hundred percent candid - no filter. Ruthless. A hot top with a killer body. Sexy. Razor-tongues and iron-fisted. Michael Lucas has been called everything on his climb from rent boy to running the most successful gay porn business in the entire world - but he's never been called boring. Now, in this no-holds-barred biography, Corey Taylor delivers a delicious portrait of gay porn's hottest maverick.

In his long awaited new novel, "When You were Me," master satirist Robert Rodi asks the question, "What would you do if you could trade lives with someone else?" All work and no play have made Jack Ackerly a dull boy. It's also made him very rich. Now, at age 53, he regrets devoting his youth to capitalism over hedonism. Alas, he can't turn back time; but according to a self-styled "fusion witch" named Francesca, he can trade places with a willing participant. He just has to find a hot young stud ready to make the switch.

Enter Corey Szaslo, 26, a jaded party boy whose life of sex, drugs, and bar hopping has left him with no education, no career, no assets, and no prospects. Jumping into the skin of a retired millionaire seems a fair way out of this predicament, even if it means doubling his age and adding five inches to his waistline.

Faster than you can say, "Be careful what you wish for," Jack and Corey are living each other's lives to the fullest. As Corey, Jack prowls the gay meat market night after night,

racking up a string of sizzling conquests, while Corey, as Jack, is busy socializing, globe-trotting, and pushing his new middle aged pecs at the gym. But their successfully swapped lives soon begin to come apart at the seams.

Corey Taylor will discuss Michael Lucas, the world of gay adult entertainment, and sign copies of his book, "Naked" on Saturday, October 13th at 2PM. Mr. Taylor has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of Memphis. He had written for U.S. publications (Unzipped, Men) as well as for publications in the UK (reFRESH) and Australian (DNA) covering celebrity features, art, fashion and politics.

Robert Rodi will read from and sign copies of "When You Were Me" on Tuesday, October 16th at 7PM. He is also the author of six other novels, "Fag Hag," "Closet Case," "What They Did to Princess Paragon," "Drag Queen," "Kept Boy," and "Bitch Goddess." His short fiction has appeared in numerous collections and he's the creator of three comic book series. Robert lives in Chicago with his partner, Jeffrey Smith and is a founding member of Chicago's seminal gay performance troupe, The Pansy Kings.

Both author appearances will take place at Outwords Books, 2710 N. Murray Ave, in Milwaukee. These events are free and everyone is welcome. For further information, please call (414) 963-9089, or visit at www.outwordsbooks.com.



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Queer Life is the information voice of the LGBT community. As a monthly publication and the only state-wide gay newspaper headquartered in Milwaukee, each issue celebrates Wisconsin's diverse population with boldness and class. From what's happening locally and nationally to features on everyday life, QLife has got it all.

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QLife prints a free, monthly newspaper, distributed throughout Milwaukee, and the state. You can find it at coffee shops, bars, libraries, stores, and a variety of gay friendly locales.

CONTACT QLife:

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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I Want the World to Know, Got to Let it Show.

Kate Sherry

Coming out is such an important day in the life of an LGBT person, and often in the lives of those they love. It's not the easiest thing to do, but once you get over the initial shock (and relief) of going through it, you may wonder what took you so long.

One thing I've noticed in my life, however, is how many MORE times I've ended up "coming out."

The time in Target, when I got a phone call from a man I'd recently met, asking me out on a date. Oh boy. There I was in the hardware section (go figure) telling him the reason why I didn't want to date him.

The time I came out to a co-worker at a previous job, after she gleefully told a joke about a gay male - I honestly stopped listening when I heard the word "fag."

The time I told a neighbor what I do for a living, after she saw a stack of Queer Life papers in the trunk of my car, and said, "Oh my God! Does that really say QUEER?"

Sometimes, I just don't want to tell people I'm gay. Why should I have to? That doesn't mean I'm ashamed, or that I HATE myself, it's

just that I find my sexuality to be a private and personal thing. I don't need to share it with every stranger on the street.

What's funny to me is that it's even an issue. I could care less who you sleep with. Unless, of course, it's who I am sleeping with. Then, we have a problem.

Now, on a much lighter note, ...is the fact that some think I have never "come out" as Editor of QLife. "No one knows anything about you." I've been told. Well, whoop-de-do! It's not all that exciting, people, but settle in, and prepare to be enthralled!!



I was born June 16, 1967 and given two blood transfusions in the 2nd hour of my life. It did the trick in keeping me alive, and so far I've made it to the ripe old age of 40. Grew up in Racine, WI, graduated from Washington Park High, Gormanston College in Ireland and the University of WI-Green Bay with a BA in Theatre/Communications and wait for it ...wait for it...a minor in Aesthetic Awareness! Isn't that hilarious? What does one do with

that?

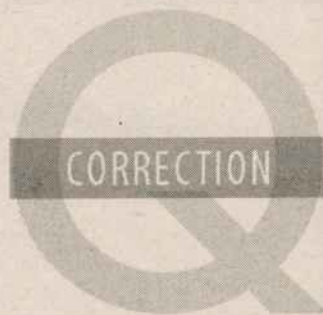
I also flunked "Fertility, Reproduction, and Family Planning" and had to re-take to get the "F" off of my transcripts. My mother has always found that to be funny. I just thought the professor was boring. And, I was too busy skipping class to be with my then girlfriend.

Attended the National Shakespeare Conservatory in NYC, performed for several years, mainly with the Jean Cocteau Rep. Fell crazy in love, and finally came out to my mom, who said, "Do you think you're telling me something I don't already know?" Apparently, she already knew about the UWBG girl who helped me flunk my "Fertility" class.

Moved to Chicago, and performed with various theatres, until NYC called me back. Lived in Brooklyn, performed on and off in numerous shows, went through 9/11, countless bomb scares, and other freaky events, until finally - after being stuck in the

subway for the big blackout on the east coast, decided to leave my beloved NY for a while.

Once back in Milwaukee, my plans to move to Chicago (I love big cities, I do) were thwarted when I was offered a position in Sales for Queer Life News. Things happened, people moved on, and QLife needed a new editor. And there you have it. Thank you, thank you. I'll be here all week. - Kate



RETRACTION:

Last month we were supplied with a press release, which unfortunately had a typo.

Cream City Foundation, a community foundation serving LGBT people in southeastern Wisconsin, received a gift of \$3,200.00 (and not \$32,000 as previously reported) in memory of Hal Kerr towards the endowment of the John Cowles Youth Fund.

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.

QLife Quickies

31 Icons Selected for GLBT History Month

Philadelphia - The Equality Forum, an international GLBT civil rights organization, has announced its 31 Icons to be featured during GLBT History Month (October). The 31 Icons achieved success within their respective fields of endeavor, were national heroes or advanced GLBT civil rights.

"The GLBT community has been uniquely disadvantaged by not being taught its history at home, in public schools or in religious institutions," said Malcolm Lazin, Executive Director of Equality Forum. "GLBT History Month helps teach our unacknowledged history, provides role models and celebrates contributions made by GLBT individuals to our country and internationally."

Equality Forum's Board of Directors approved the final slate of 31 Icons and produced 30-second biographical videos on each Icon, which will be broadcast daily on here! and Logo television networks throughout October, and will be streamed on major GLBT Web sites.

Among this years icons are: Leonard Bernstein (Composer), Annie Leibovitz (Photographer), Angela Davis (Civil Rights Activist), Renée Richards (Transgender Pioneer), Florence Nightingale (Health Care Advocate), Bessie Smith (Singer), Lily Tomlin (Actor), Peter Gomes (Theologian), Frederick II (Monarch), and Frank Kameny (Gay Pioneer). For more information about GLBT History Month, visit www.glbthistorymonth.com.

Bodies of the Patriarch or Embodied Feminism?



TRANSGENDER

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.

Catherine Crouch's controversial, pro-lesbian, anti-body-altering film, *Genderator*, has received a great deal of attention – connecting how the religious right, the patriarchy, and the medical community are coercing “lesbians” to hormonally and surgically alter their bodies to become men. Although she notes that transsexuality exists (albeit in small numbers), she asserts that “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.”

Discussions stemming from her controversial views have resulted in strong stances about who is aligned with the people who oppress those in the LGB and T community, intimating that gender non-conforming people are or might be (sub)consciously collaborating with the right-wing to force a binary heterosexual norm upon everyone. Yet, ironically, Crouch, won't allow trans+ individuals to align with feminism if we choose to change our bodies. She forces us to be either oppressors (aligned with the right wing) or traitors (no longer feminists, if we alter our bodies).

Gender theorists recognize that millions of people in the United States – not just “transsexuals,” but a wide variety of people who may overtly identify as gender non-conforming, and those who subconsciously break the “rules” of gender – need to *simultaneously* be able to have the right to make individual choices about our bodies AND need to live in a culture that is accepting of an expanding (or erased) boundary of gender identity and expression.

The LGBT community prides itself on promoting free speech and opposing oppression. However, when freedom of speech is persuasively hateful in intent, there is a fine line between the expression

of personal opinions and outright bigotry (especially when rooted in blatant and oversimplified untruths). How can we support everyone's right to express their personal opinions and *also* minimize the promotion of oppressive and prejudicial attitudes and behaviors?

There are ways to value female masculinity without belittling or demonizing transgender people. There are ways to embrace and honor lesbians, butches, and masculine women without blaming the patriarchy or female-born individuals who use hormones and/or surgery. Gender-questioning individuals often spend years agonizing over the paradox of not wanting to reinforce the gender binary, but also feeling unnervingly uncomfortable in their own skin.

I would far rather work *with* Catherine Crouch to dismantle gender-based stereotypes and support the limitless ways gender can be expressed – honoring butches and masculine women (and also holding space for those who wish to transition and/or alter their bodies) – than battle with her to protect the rights of my tribe to exist and not be maligned with inaccuracies and fear-based hostility.

The feminism many of us grew up with fought hard for the rights of all individuals to not have our bodies controlled by others. (Let's not forget *Roe v. Wade*.) Isn't it anti-feminist to ostracize people of any gender

for altering their body and/or living in the body they feel most comfortable in?

– For Crouch, though, the right to chose one's gender (and expression) is less important than deconstructing the patriarchal political movement. She stresses that individual choice should *not* be celebrated as the highest good, but rather can and should be criticized.

In my version of feminism, personal choice is always at the center. Choice is the heart that leads the way to self-actualized, empowered individuals. Choice results in a stronger community of non-conforming, self-defining people who know what they believe and can boldly take the steps to get there – changing themselves and changing the world along the way.

DID YOU KNOW?

DID YOU KNOW?

At least one in 10 gay, lesbian, and bisexual people surveyed report suffering employment discrimination.

At least 10 percent of straight coworkers report witnessing discrimination against gay, lesbian, and bisexual colleagues.

The number of sexual orientation discrimination complaints filed is similar to the number of complaints filed for sex or racial discrimination in states that have laws ensuring gays and lesbians are treated equally at work.

Source: 2007 study by the Williams Institute on Sexual Orientation Law and Public Policy at UCLA

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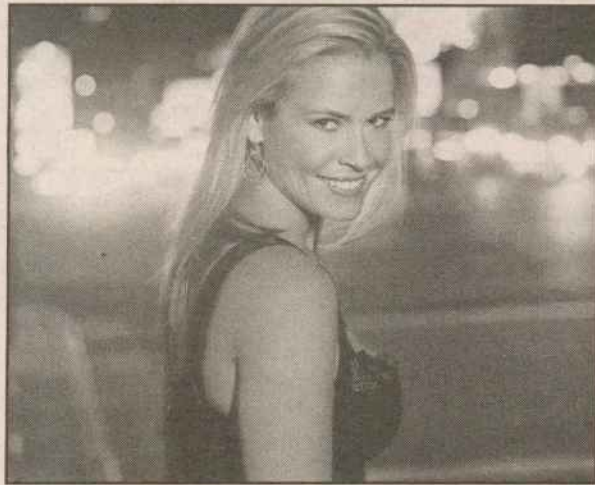
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Comedian Chelsea Handler Loves Us

By Kate Sherry

"If I lose you, call me back, because I'm driving through the canyon right now" she says as we begin our conversation. Comedian Chelsea Handler (appearing at the Pabst the



27th of this month) is not only hilarious; she's also quite down to earth. I ask her, since she is driving, if she carries a donor card.

"It's only on my license just so that when I get pulled over I'm more likely to get out of the ticket."

Born in Livingston, New Jersey, Chelsea is the youngest of six children, and according to her, the only one who ended up in comedy.

"All my brothers and sisters have real jobs, and are professionals." She says. As if SHE isn't?

When we spoke, she had just finished shooting a piece for her newest show, "Chelsea Lately," which goes up against the big boys of late night TV. Her stand up has been seen on Comedy Central's *Premium Blend*, HBO's broadcast of the *Aspen Comedy Festival*, and Vh1's *Love Lounge*. She was also a regular on the Oxygen Network series *Girls Behaving Badly*, *The Tonight Show*, her own show, *The Chelsea Handler Show*, before moving to late night. And don't forget the movies, numerous television appearances, or books, either. And she is now set to tour the US with the Hour Stand-Up Comedy Tour.

QL: You're coming to Milwaukee!

CH: Yeah! I've never been to Milwaukee before! My father even went to the University of Wisconsin too, so I'm excited.

QL: Well, you'll have to have bunch of cheese curds, and bratwursts and beer when you're here.

CH: Oh my god, I just came back from Spain, talk about eating and as fattening as you can possibly eat. How do these people not curl over and die in their twenties?

I mention her best seller, *My Horizontal Life: A Collection of One-Night Stands* which was just adapted into a screenplay, and begins shooting as soon as "Chelsea Lately" wraps for the season.

QL: What possessed you to write about one-night stands?

CH: Well, my friends and I, we'd be out at Sizzler and I'd be telling these ridiculous stories of my one-night stands, and they'd say "Listen, Chelsea, these things aren't happening to other people. Like, nobody's hooking up with a midget, you need to write a book about it." I'm like, I can't write a book about it, I need to graduate from college! So,

I literally just wrote ten short stories - but to think that it would lead to another book, (*Are You There Vodka? It's Me, Chelsea*) and they sold that book in twenty countries and my whole family is saying, 'WHAT - JUST - HAPPENED?'

QL: Are they all your stories?

CH: Most of them. Some of the stories, I would just kind of interchange friends because it was more interesting, and also to lay the blame so people couldn't get mad! I'd be like, "no that's you AND Jodie that's not just you." (She laughs)

QL: Were you shooting more of "Chelsea Lately" earlier today?

CH: Yes, we just got picked up for 15 more episodes! We are on hiatus for

two weeks, and in that time, we're shooting field pieces, which are the segments we put at the end of the show.

QL: I love those segments! My favorites are the bits with the older folks.

CH: Oh we just did one of those today! You know Marian? - It was her 100th birthday today, so we brought her a cake, and flowers, she loved it.

QL: Is it true you'd rather talk to your guests about anything other than some movie they are plugging?

CH: Well, I just don't want to hear about Nicole Kidman's drama. But if it's a really funny movie like "Superbad", or I just saw a really great movie at the Toronto Film Festival called "Juno" and if you're in that kind of movie, yeah, I want to talk about it, because it's so funny. But I don't want to talk about the stupid stuff. It's irritating.

QL: What else irritates you?

CH: Celebrities who are everywhere! Go Everywhere! People who go on the red carpet when they are not even in the movie. People who go and do press for something when they are not promoting anything!

QL: Do you have a pretty big gay following?

CH: I think so! The gays seem to be very supportive of me! Are you full total lesbian?

QL: I am, actually laughing...

CH: Bravo! I love it! (laughs) Yeah, I love the lesbians and gays! A lot of people think I'm a lesbian, actually. I'm not, but I used to get approached by lesbian women all the time.

QL: Do you think you'll ever stop doing stand up?

CH: I'll always love standup. I've been doing it for so long (12 years, almost) I'll be doing it as long as people have any desire to see me.

QL: So, what will you do on your next day off?

CH: Go to a sleep clinic! (Laughs) You can catch "Chelsea Lately" on the E! Entertainment channel, weeknights at 10:30 PM. Tickets are on sale now for her Oct. 27th show at the Pabst. Don't miss it!



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PrideFest Attendees Donate 15,000 Pounds of Food

Milwaukee, WI - PrideFest attendees donated 15,000 pounds of canned and non-perishable food to the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin and its network of statewide food pantries this summer during the four-day-long event. The record amount of food collected is 50% more than the previous record set last year of around 10,000 pounds.

"The food collected at Pridefest will help stock all four ARCW food pantries across the state as well as the shelves at Wisconsin House - the ARCW transitional housing facility for people living with HIV," said Randy Bash, ARCW Director of Food Services. "ARCW is truly grateful to the hundreds of people who attended Pridefest and made a donation to our food pantries."

PrideFest attendees can receive vouchers for tickets by donating canned and non-perishable food to ARCW during the festival. This year, the food donated is enough to feed three hundred families with a family member living with HIV for a month.

"ARCW food pantries support more than 1,000 people across Wisconsin by providing nutritious and appropriate food for HIV-positive people who have unique dietary concerns," said Bash. "In addition to providing food, ARCW food pantries also provide nutritional education."

People living with HIV face chronic wasting and the loss of lean body mass (muscle) as a result of HIV infection. Often people living with HIV also face high cholesterol and heart disease as side effects

of their HIV medications. Moreover, many single adults without families have difficulty receiving food from traditional food pantries that place greater emphasis on addressing the needs of families, especially those with children.

"Members of the gay community were truly the first responders to the fight against AIDS," said Bash. "We are so grateful for their ongoing support more than 25 years later."

To ensure that people with HIV are not forced to choose between buying food or purchasing their medications, ARCW operates four food pantries across Wisconsin in Eau Claire, Green Bay, Kenosha and Milwaukee providing more than one ton of food each day to people living with HIV. By the end of 2007, ARCW will also open food pantries at its locations in Wausau and La Crosse.

ARCW is Wisconsin's largest AIDS service organization and has offices in Eau Claire, Appleton, Green Bay, Kenosha, La Crosse, Madison, Milwaukee, Superior and Wausau. With the support of the Mike Johnson life care and early intervention services grant and other funding sources, ARCW provides medical care, dental care, mental health therapy, legal representation, housing services, a food pantry and social work case management to 3,000 Wisconsin residents living with HIV/AIDS. Additionally, ARCW also reaches 150,000 people annually at risk of contracting HIV with life-saving prevention information and resources.

This I Believe

In the 1950s the great radioman Edward R. Murrow recorded such notable people as Helen Keller talking about their deepest beliefs. In recent years National Public Radio has revived the tradition of capturing people's philosophies in short audio essays.

I have always been a zealous collector of quotations, as if one pithy statement could transform my life. It sounds corny, but some of these sayings have catapulted me to new understandings that in a way nothing else does.

In my 30s I discovered the quote, "Resentment is like taking poison and expecting the other person to die." This started me on a path of forgiveness toward my parents, who had not always been as kind or as emotionally attentive as I would have liked. As an angry teenager who managed to stretch her rebellion out an extra decade or so, this insight thrust me into a period of personal growth. As Josh Billings puts it, "It's not only the most difficult thing to know one's self, but the most inconvenient."

After getting stuck again a few years later, a health newsletter in a doctor's waiting room jolted me into action. My excuses all melted away as I read Abraham Lincoln's words: "Most folks are about as happy as they decide to be." I mean, time stopped. I can still remember the lightning bolt in my head screaming out, "What?!?!? I have choices on how to view my circumstances?" That notion, along

with the anti-depressants I was discussing with my doctor on that visit, empowered me to overcome a lingering sense of rage, emotional deprivation and alienation from myself.

Then I started noticing how much of life is consumed in fear-based reactions and people-pleasing. I questioned my reactions that smacked of "If I act this way, will you like me?" or "If I never challenge myself, I won't risk looking like a fool." I guess about that time is when I discovered the nugget by William Shedd, "A ship is safe in harbor, but that's not what ships are for." I started believing in myself, finally drowning out those ingrained voices of defeat and discouragement. I changed jobs and got into a relationship after many years of being alone.

I learned to see challenges as opportunities. (Let's hear it for growing pains! Ouch!) The old me used to wonder what the right thing to do was. I was like an actor without a script in a bad movie that never turned out my way. No matter how old you are, if you still feel like an abandoned child inside, you will not be able to find satisfaction in anything.

Nowadays I just seem to tap into a humming inside that launches me into the next right thing. I cannot be rattled or put off easily when I know I'm doing what I was meant to. Even a recent diagnosis of Type-2 diabetes has turned into a second chance to develop healthy habits and to go back to belly dance class.



LESBIAN VIEW

Lesley Salas is a lesbian Cuban American mother of two who writes for a living. She is interested in Scrabble, belly dance, social justice issues and laughing every day

I have always been ill at ease with other people, not allowing anyone in too close. That is why I'm really excited by my newest quote, "Home is not where you live but where they understand you." Thanks, Christian Morgenstern. I'm going to take the risk of finding kindred spirits and opening up to them. At heart, I really buy into Eleanor Roosevelt's admonition that "You must do the thing which you think you cannot do." Every day I get a little closer to home.

The new "This I Believe" encourages famous and not-so-famous people to share their innermost feelings. Read some or share your own inspirations at www.npr.com.

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The People's Campaign

Nearly thirty years ago the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the organization behind the work of Martin Luther King, launched "The Poor People's Campaign" in an effort to advance the cause of economic justice, especially for America's poorest communities. The justice so clearly imagined then is still sorely missed today.

That is why MICAHA (Milwaukee Inner-City Congregations Allied for Hope) is launching "The People's Campaign" aimed at addressing the issue of quality jobs and meaningful opportunities for Milwaukee's poorest citizens.

For me there is a spiritual imperative to join in a campaign to help poor people

One of the cornerstones of the campaign is a list of Ten Commandments of Economic Justice, which echo the needs of our city's poorest residents for jobs, job training, transportation, and development that is not only profitable to the developer but also beneficial to all our residents.

At this phase of the campaign MICAHA leaders are focused on achievable goals such as requiring construction projects that receive public funds to have 30% of work hours performed by unemployed or underemployed city residents in hiring. To achieve its goals MICAHA is working to mobilize its grassroots constituency, train new leaders, and engage politicians and

developers around its issues.

Dr. Floyd Prude, President of the WI General Baptist State Convention, spoke at the rally launching the campaign. He identified a key motivation, "We believe that what affects one directly affects all indirectly." To that he added, "We believe we will not look down on anyone unless we are lifting them up."

The People's Campaign will be the major focus of MICAHA, and because many congregations that welcome queer people are part of MICAHA, it is a campaign whose work we ought to consider. Is it a gay campaign? Certainly not in the way the marriage amendment was, but it ought to be a queer concern.

Simply at a personal level, the issue of quality economic opportunities for the unemployed and the underemployed directly affects queer people. The poorest members of our community are certainly not the most visible, but our people live in every part of the city at every income level. There are gay and lesbian people who will be positively helped by this campaign. As Joe Jackson, Pastor of Evergreen Missionary Baptist, succinctly says, "For our city to be vital, everyone needs the opportunity to work and have a family sustaining job whether they are gay or straight."

Thinking pragmatically, there is a close connection between the expansion of civil rights and economic vitality. Places of increasing job stagnation and rising disparity in wages are not communities



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.

that expand rights. One could say that a vibrant community for gays and lesbians rests on a vibrant economy for all.

Most importantly, the People's Campaign makes a moral claim: our neighbors need economic opportunities. Too many are unemployed or underemployed in too many neighborhoods of our city and this reality places a claim on my heart. For me, I can't read the Bible without running into Jesus helping poor people. I can't go through Milwaukee without running into poor people who need help. So for me there is a spiritual imperative to join in a campaign to help poor people get the jobs and the opportunities they need.

To learn more or to get involved in MICAHA call 414-264-0805 or visit www.micahempowers.org. Plymouth UCC is a member of MICAHA.

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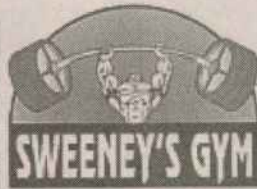
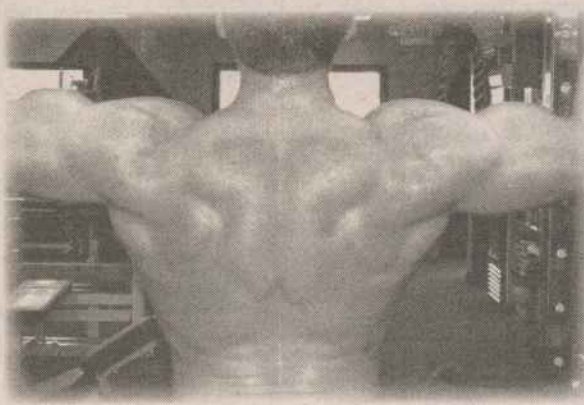
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It's time to learn about your body. So let's start with the three different body types.

- Ectomorph- Trouble gaining muscle size. So if you are looking to put size on, this body type needs to keep reps low as well as your cardio.

- Endomorph- Trouble keeping the fat off. Fat storage is high with this body type so you want to keep reps and cardio high. Calorie intake should be low and when weight training your rest period should be shortened.

- Mesomorph- Best body type of all three. Capacity for developing big lean muscle.

Three genetic factors

- Bone Size
- Muscle Cells
- Hormone Levels

So you are asking yourself, what does all this mean? Your body is one big science project. So to know how your body works is very important. Bone size is one big factor in muscle size and how big you could become. Wrist size can determine upper arm size on an average individual. Don't think the wrist matters? The wrist is used for more than just late night surfing on line. Measure your wrist and then add 10 inches. That is your genetic potential of your upper arm size. If your wrist measures 6 inches, you could have a 16 inch arm. FYI men, this is the only measurement you can add 10 inches to (sorry.) At this time I



FITNESS

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would like to state that men think that the largest organ of the body is something they think with most of the time! Once again, this couldn't be farther from the truth. The body's largest organ is the skin. Next, I will take you back to school with re-learning the blood vessels.

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- Arteries
- Veins
- Capillaries

The three blood vessels all carry blood but have different tasks. Plasma is 90% water, liquid of the blood. Red blood cells (RBC'S) make up half the volume of blood in the human body. White blood cells (WBC'S) help get infection then destroys them. Platelets are disk shaped blood cells whose main function is to start the intricate process of blood clotting. More information you have on the body, the better you can take care of it. The information given in this month's column was based on a question from a Q-life reader. You're now thinking how does this column help to get me thin? If you don't know the answer you should get a trainer from Sweeney's Gym to help you make sense of it all. For information on a personal trainer at Sweeney's Gym, please call to set up an appointment.

The Wisconsin Cream City Chorus and Unitarian Universalist Church West present

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Saturday, October 13
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For more information about these organizations, please visit: campheartland.org • creamcitychorus.org • uucw.org



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Interview With Bitch

Talented and outspoken, Bitch is a Radical Feminist role model for this generation. The first time I saw her play, as part of the duo Bitch and Animal, I could feel how well she connected with the audience of thousands of womyn, and I knew that I was witnessing the next phase of the not-yet-over Feminist Revolution. Bitch, who took the name to reclaim it from its stereotypes against women, was gracious enough to take some time off from her tour and production schedule to answer a few questions.



JC: When did you get started in music?

B: When I was four, I saw an episode of Sesame Street that featured a man who played the fiddle. I was hooked. I begged and begged my parents, and finally they got me a violin and lessons to go with it. That was a little unusual in our house, because my mom is very musical, but not with instruments. She is a tap dancer and ran a tap-dancing school out of our basement. Also, my parents and sisters were always singing. My dad listened to jazz all the time. I stuck with my violin lessons (although they were far from what I had seen that man on Sesame

Street doing, because my lessons were classical music!) until I graduated from high school. Then I went off to acting school, which shocked everyone around me, because they just assumed I would go to music school. In hindsight, though, this was the last detail in helping me towards a career in music. In acting school, I learned how to inhabit my body in a really deep way. I started to expand my ideas of theater. I started to think in the context of 'shows,' and I met my first band-mate, Animal. We developed our own kind of theater, which we later realized was what other people would label a 'band.'

JC: Describe your introduction to Feminism.

B: I didn't really even hear the word until I got to college. It was like figuring out what a tattoo that had been on my body all my life, one that I had no idea where it came from—what it meant and how it got there. Is that a good metaphor? Finding feminism was like somebody took a mask off of me. I was no longer having to live in a false world, where a huge social dynamic that I had been living with was finally being acknowledged and named.

JC: What do you make of the 'generation gap' within the Feminist and Lesbian communities and what are some of the ways you work to jump it on both sides?

B: The generation gap in our community is intense and real. So many women my age are completely unaware of the movements and work of the women who came before us. I attribute this to misogyny through and through. The way that we are not taught to learn from our elders, the way our herstory does not get passed down, and the way that our society is so ageist.

I happened to learn about the Women's Music Movement, for example, from this film, *Radical Harmonies*, I got such an education about where this whole culture of Women's Festivals come from! And I realized that I had grown up with an image of a woman wearing purple beating a drum, calling someone sister, as the ultimate nerdiness. In my evolution as a feminist, I realized how many voices in my life had supported that. Then I had to go deeper and realize and empathize with WHY those voices exist. Of course those women are a huge threat to our misogynist society, and so of course we are going to be trained from early on, in very subtle ways, that they are freaks or man-haters or nerds or unfixable or uncool, and so on and so on.

Seeing *Radical Harmonies* also made me realize how rebellious these gatherings and festivals were in nature. I started to see how Punk and DIY it all was, done from dreams and common visions and sweat and righteousness of young rebellious women. These women are now my elders, and ones that I want to learn from. I think acknowledging that is the beginning of me 'jumping the gap.'

I got to start taking my elders in as humans, artists, sexy radical activists, organizers, etc. Meeting Ferron, hearing her songs, and working with her has been a mind and heart-expanding experience. I think it is doubly rewarding, because I see her as my peer. One that I respect and can poke fun and play with.

JC: Will you be making another trip to Milwaukee any time soon?

B: Yes, I will come through there in the spring, with my band, Bitch and The Exciting Conclusion. I'm currently working on this Ferron record. I want my friends to be able to hear her songs like they're sitting next to her, and I just happened to pick up my fiddle. I want to make a record of her that is not as 'produced' as a lot of her past stuff. I want to hear her...naked!

I'm also hoping to get into the studio this winter and make a record with my band. I've been writing a movie for two years and want to finish that this winter too!



WOMEN

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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This That and the Other -

We just wanted to give notice to a few things here and there, that may or may not have been mentioned elsewhere in this issue. Of course, always remember, if you want to tell the LGBT community about something going on, send an advertisement over to us! It not only gets your news out there, it helps to support the local LGBT news publication, which would be us. So we all win!

Okay, here we go:

- Congratulations and a mighty big THANK YOU to the LBGT

Film Festival. What an impressive show you put on! Great films, and great turnout. Already can't wait for next year!

- AIDS WALK - as always, a great, great cause. Nice to see so many out and about in support.

- Welcome back to Outwords Books! Thanks for joining us as an advertiser again, Carl!

- Cream City Foundation-congrats again on your 25 years. You do so much for so many, it was time to celebrate!

- Congratulations to M's on their one-year anniversary! Oct 13th is the night to celebrate, so stop on in and say hello! Entertainment, goodies, and amazing martinis! Can't beat that!

- Lots of Halloween parties going on - make sure you stop at Bosley's on Brady for their Oct.27th party benefiting ARCW. Michelle's even giving away a stay at a Key West condo as part of the raffle. Get me a ticket!

- Want free tickets to Suzanne Vega, or Tori Amos? Well, ya gotta write us and tell us! We have a giveaway going on, so get in on it!

- Cream City Foundation will be moving to the Colby Abbot Building in Downtown Milwaukee (Northwest corner of Mason and Milwaukee Streets) this month!

- Please go show your appreciation to the advertisers who pick Qlife over, or in addition to other media outlets. They want to reach out to us, and show their support of the LGBT community. Return the favor, and go check them out. The holidays are coming up, and hey, it's always somebody's birthday! Go shop, dine, and socialize with the QLIFE advertisers! Tell them you saw them in QLIFE - it really does help!

• TO ONE AND ALL - Have a safe and creepy Halloween!

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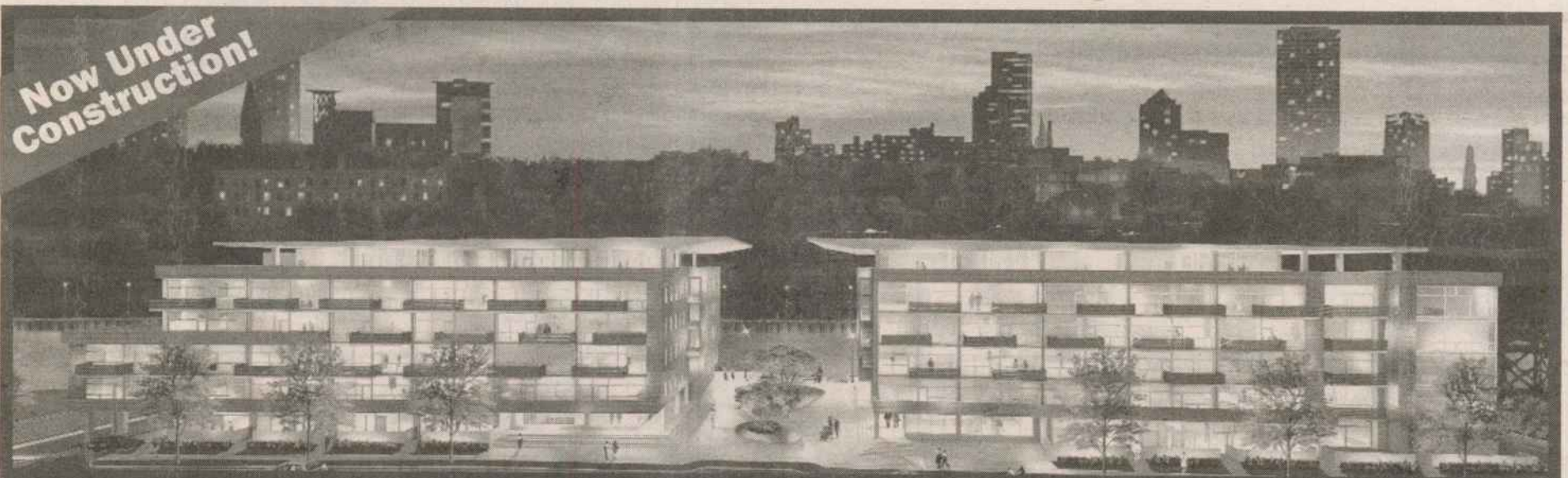


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A Real Restaurant Health Inspection

"Hi, Paul!" It's the young host at a local chain restaurant. She had spotted us at a table where we were seated while she was on break.

Friendly, courteous, enthusiastic – everything you'd want in a person with her job. After returning the greeting, my partner of 24 years, using the host's first name, said, "I'd like you to meet my partner Gary." Not missing a beat, she replied, "What kind of business are you in?"

Ah, there it was.

There was the reason she had never noticed me with him. I had witnessed their warm greetings many times, but I

I was pretty clear she was not generally some jerk, and was more likely misinformed and sheltered from reality by rigidly enforced filters of bias

was invisible to her. But I won't be again. Paul corrected her. Her smile froze. She swung slowly, stiffly to her right and picked up speed as she sought the shelter of her station near the door.

Soon Paul and I were hypothesizing about her sudden loss of charm and poise.

We quietly joked about the business we'd been up to for over two decades. Keep in mind that we're the same guys who are so clearly a couple that even agents at airports ask us how long we've been together.

Lately I've taken to selecting some clothes that make even casual passers-by take note of my sexual identity. Still something small clicked in my brain at this incident over our salads at a local eatery. I was reminded and resolved to make my sexual orientation even more apparent. My current plans are to try out some of these methods:

- "Would you mind shifting over one seat? My partner and I want to sit together."
- "I'm unsure about how to fill out this part of the form. I'm neither married nor single."
- Oh, I see. Well, these days while we still can't marry in Wisconsin, 'partner' is the best way we've figured out how to let you know we're committed to one another."
- "Hi, this is my spouse Paul."

Close friends and family might be surprised that I continue to find more contexts in which to be out. Neighbors, grocery store checkers, contractors, government workers, health care providers, pool attendants, admirers of our garden, readers of area press – they all know I'm gay. But if this young restaurant host missed this fact around which so much of my life is organized, an important bridge

to others – my sexual identity – remains linked to societal oppression rather than to human acceptance and appreciation.

I was pretty clear she was not generally some jerk, and was more likely misinformed and sheltered from reality by rigidly enforced filters of bias. Two public health issues were at play here as well. The host, as an employee of a company that is highly regulated by health departments, failed at the cultural competence expected in legitimate accommodation. Paul and I, pretty tough old birds in these misunderstandings, still likely experienced some subtle assault to self-esteem, a critical factor associated with making a number of health decisions.

No, we weren't victimized by this woman young enough to be our daughter. But that is because we refuse to be. Still, the minor incident was a little death. I'm glad to say that fifteen minutes later we got the traditional "Are your meals to your liking?" from her. A bit later still, we heard her say, "See you later, guys – thanks for stopping."

I think all three of us will be working on this incident in the next couple of weeks before we go back to the restaurant again. She'll be trying to get a hand with her homophobia. We'll be doing the same with the places we internalize it. And Paul and I will be coming out more.

Please join us in doing the same. It is important to our health as a community and as individual transgender, bisexual, lesbian, and gay people.



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.



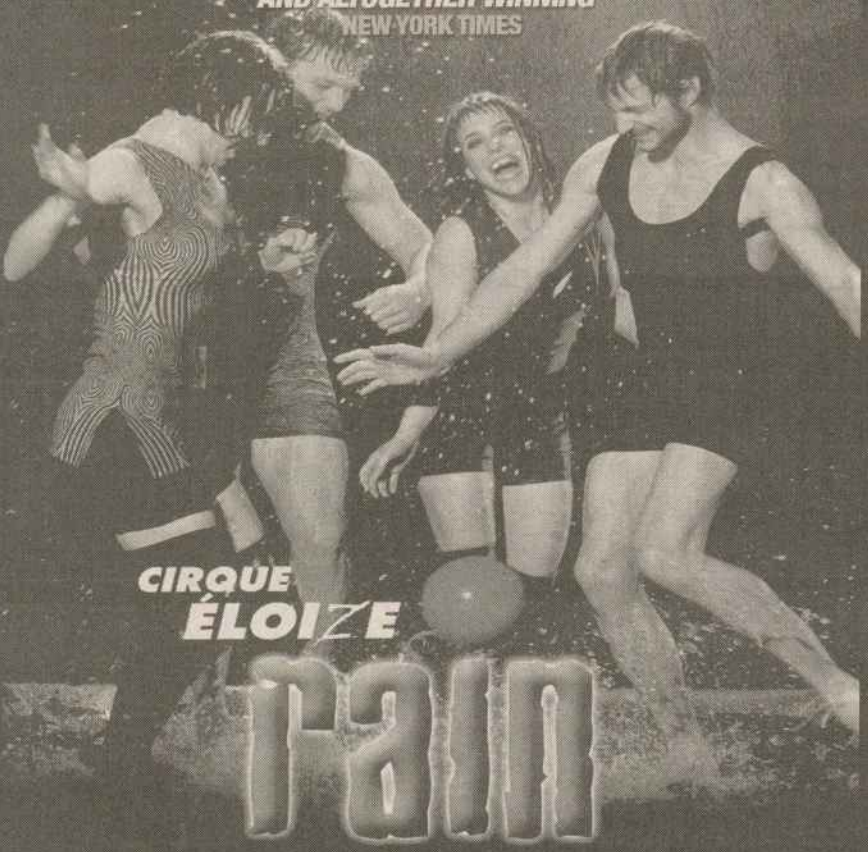
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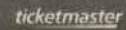



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THE ARTIST'S WAY CREATIVE CLUSTER
A 12 week peer-driven group for creative beings to raise, celebrate, and actualize the creative power which runs through us all \$60 for series*
12 week series starts: September 26, 2007, 10:00am
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All programming takes place at the LGBT Community Center
* No one turned away for lack of funds

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

OCT 2

Back to Broadway Karaoke Contest at MONA'S, 1407 S. 1st St. Milwaukee. Sing all your favorites from any Broadway Musical. Winner(s) will get 2 Tickets to see My Fair Lady Opening Night at the Marcus Center!

Pull annuals, empty pots and store in garage. Light raking, perennial care and cultivate flowerbeds for next year. Information: 414-271-3656

OCT 3

FORGE presents the ongoing Artist's Way Creative Cluster. Artists, writers, and everyone who is doing self-exploration and/or trying to improve their creativity are welcome to join. The 12-week creative cluster, based on Julia Cameron's Artist Way book # 3, Finding Water: The Art of Perseverance began Sept. 26th, but any are welcome to join in this month. Wed. mornings from 10AM. until 11:30AM at the Milw.LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. We'll discuss our daily and weekly creative practices, set and support each other in reaching creative personal goals, and provide a supportive place to share creative work and self development. Fee for the 12-week series is \$60. RSVPs required(414-559-2123 or tgwarrior@forge-forward.org. repeats every wed. of the month.

OCT 10

Registration Deadline for the 1st Annual TYWIGS Golf Outing taking place Oct.20th at 12PM at Meadow Springs Golf Course, 424 S. Sanborn Avenue, Jefferson, WI. Proceeds to benefit The Young Women's Institute for Global Studies - a new, independent high school opening in downtown Milwaukee, Fall of 2008. www.tywigs.org. Registration includes:9 holes of golf; Golf cart; Dinner following; among other things. There is also a Silent Auction and Cash Raffle. To register, please visit our Golf Outing website and register online: <http://www.golfdigestplanner.com/1616-TYWIGSGolf/>

OCT 11

If you're thinking of coming out, this is the day to do it! It's NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY.

OCT 4

Get your finances in order! The Milwaukee LGBT Center presents "Financial Choices That Matter Most" with Kyle G. Clements/Prudential Insurance Company of America. 315 W. Court St. To Register for this FREE series call: 414-271-2656

"Not Queer Enough" @ UWM, Thursday, October 11, 2007@6:30 p.m. UWM Union, Room 280 In April, queer author Peggy Munson was excluded from a Lambda Literary Foundation event for being "straight" and "too sexual." Come watch a video of her censored performance, and talk about: -Who decides what's "queer" and what's "straight"? -How do our race, gender, size, (dis)ability, gender expression, class, choice of partner and other factors influence whether we are included or excluded from the queer community? Sponsored by Femme Mafia Milwaukee www.femmefamiamke.org

OCT 6

Volunteer Garden Work Day, 8:30AM-Noon at the Gardens of Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum, 2220 N Terrace Ave Milwaukee. Open to all gardeners. Bring your own tools if you wish, but remember to dress for rain or shine. Fall clean up.

Get your finances in order!The Milwaukee LGBT Center presents "Estate & Wealth Planning for You and Your Partner" with Peter Larson/Wells Fargo. 315 W. Court St. To Register for this FREE series call: 414-271-2656

continued on next page

CHEAP AND CHIC

By Keith Johnson


You may have noticed that the new trend for the past couple of years are jeans. You find them paired up with anything from skimpy bandeau tops, open-toed high heeled sandals, decorative belts, and of course a smokin' hot silhouette. For those who have given in to this laid back but easy and sexy trend, I have discovered a store so that you won't have to put a big strain on the wallet. The place to shop for those denim luxuries is called "The Jean House" located at 904 E. Center St. in the Riverwest part of the city. The owner, Tina Lathon, sells jeans of all sizes, shapes and colors which retail from \$5-\$35 and they do come in both men and women's sizes. This vintage jean store carries brands from Levi to other high end wear such as lucky, A&F, Banana Republic, and many others. So check this great find out for Fall and enjoy a sexy cheap fit for your fall wardrobe!



Send us your AIDS Walk photos or other community events of interest.

Do you have a great eye and want to see your art in print? Submit photos of events that impact the community and you may see your images in print.

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Sunday Night Retreat
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tippechurch.org/lwclc.org

"Meditative Yoga"
 Presented by Living Waters Staffer, Kathy Schutz

This is an introduction to yogic thought and practice through a spiritual lens. We will relearn how to breathe as we did as children and notice how the joining of breath and physical movement opens us to new awareness. This gentle practice is compassionate and honors all bodies as the "art" of the Creator. Offering \$10-\$60 on self-sliding scale.

A Four-Week Meditative Yoga Class will be offered on Thursday evenings in October from 7 to 8pm.
 Cost for this four-week class is \$40.
 Some scholarships are available.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

continued from page 20

"Who am I?" Writing to Heal: Transformation Through Words, a monthly drop-in program from FORGE designed to help survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, hate crimes, and other traumas use writing to regain control over their lives. This group meets on Thursday nights from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court Street. Suggested donation is \$10, although no one is turned away due to lack of funds. 414-559-2123

OCT 12

Get the Scrabble board out, its that time again! Lesbian Alliance game Night & potluck! A whole bunch of fun with games and grub. As you are able, please bring a dish to pass. LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. 6PM.

OCT 13

Save the Date!! The 2007 Big Night Out benefit for the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. Potawatomi Bingo Casino Northern Lights Theater. 5:30pm Cash bar and Silent Auction, followed by 7:30pm Dinner. Entertainment provided by Gayco! Productions.

OCT 14

Going away luncheon for Rev Elaine Thomas. At noon (following worship). Green Bay church Angels of Hope Metropolitan Community Church at: 3607 Libal Street, Green Bay. If you would like to bring a dish, please do so.

Drag Queen Bingo Benefit at FLUID! 819 South 2nd Street, Milwaukee. A special fund raising afternoon of fun, prizes with bountiful buffet. 4-7:30pm. Proceeds to benefit The Milwaukee Gay Arts Center.

OCT 18

Get your finances in order! The Milwaukee LGBT Center presents "Lifetime & Estate Planning for LGBT Individuals & Couples" w/ Ruth J. Irvings/ Nelson, Irvings & Waeffler S.C. 315 W. Court St. To Register for this FREE series call: 414-271-2656

OCT 19

Please join us on October 19th & 20th for the 4th Annual LGBTQ Empowerment Summit at University of Wisconsin -Parkside in Kenosha. This year's theme is Honoring Our Complexities. The summit is primarily geared towards LGBTQ identified undergraduate students. We will be discussing some interesting topics including: sexism as the root of homophobia, building strong Queer People of Color organizations and Fat Oppression in the Queer community. We will be having spaces that are for women identified people only, trans and genderqueer identified only, and for Queer People of Color. The fee for people who are not from a United Council member campus is \$20 and will include the cost of your food on Saturday. Please contact Erich Pitcher at 608.263.3422 X 20 for more information. To obtain a registration form or workshop proposal form please email Erich at lgbtq@unitedcouncil.net. Registration and workshop proposal forms will be available via the website soon www.unitedcouncil.net.

A special fund raising event at Boom-Room 625 S. 2nd St, Milwaukee. Featuring raffles and prizes 9-12pm Proceeds to benefit The Milwaukee Gay Arts Center.

Save the Date! 2007 Midwest TransYouth Conference Takes place October 19-21, 2007.

Affirmations (Michigan) is partnering with Project Q (Milwaukee) on the first Midwest Transgender Youth Conference. Through workshops, skill-building, caucuses, and distinguished keynote speakers, the conference aims to empower youth around issues of organizing for equal access and health, all keeping with the theme "Revolutionary Voices, Transforming Choices."

Contact Laura Sorensen (lsorensen@goaffirmations.org) to find out how to get more involved!

OCT 20

The Milwaukee Gay Arts Center presents Hafala-Ween Belly Dance Party with Shaia Fahrid. A special Hafala Belly Dance Party with a Halloween theme Dress appropriately and bring your favorite CD and dance with professional and amateur dancers to the music of the Middle East.

A henna tattoo artist will be on site to ink you! 8pm - midnight, 703 S.2nd St. Admission \$5. INFO:414-383-2727

Speed Dating at MONA'S, 1407 S. 1st St. Milwaukee. Give it a shot - you never know!

OCT 25

FORGE presents: Art, Body and Soul: Learning to Love our Bodies - a monthly drop-in using art to address issues associated with body size, race, shape, gender, dis/ability, and more to reach a place of deeper acceptance and self-love. 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court Street. Suggested donation (which includes all supplies) is \$10, although arrangements can be made for those who cannot afford the donation. 414-559-2123

OCT 27

Bosley's on Brady will be hosting a Halloween costume party to help benefit the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin. From 8PM-Close, revelers are invited to participate (in costume of course!) in activities, as well as buying \$20 raffle tickets for the chance to win a 3 night stay in a Key West condo! Drink specials, fortune telling, and prizes for best costume will all take place. Don't miss it! Fun, at a fabulous restaurant, and for a good cause? Who can pass that up? Bosleys on Brady, 815 E Brady St, Milwaukee. (414) 727-7975

OCT 26

Project Q's Halloween Dance at the Miramar Theatre, 2844 N Oakland Ave. Milwaukee. 9PM. Come out for a fun night of dancing - costumes are optional, but definitely more fun! Costume contest will also take place! Tickets are being sold at the door - minimal price. For more info, contact Project Q -(414) 223-3220

OCT 27

Visoning Project community breakfast at the LGBT Community Center. From 9AM-11AM.

Freakfest is returning to State Street in Madison, WI -today! Building on last year's Halloween party success, the entire State Street area will once again be fenced off for "Freakfest 2007-brought to you by Mountain Dew". There will be three stages of entertainment where a wide variety of music will be presented, including Lifehouse, The Mighty Short Bus, and The Gabe Dixon Band - so don't miss it!

OCT 31

BOOOO!!! Head to that beautiful, bustling Brady St between 1-10PM and scare up some treats from The Alliance School Juniors as they help to promote safer sex. Students have teamed up with Planned Parenthood to distribute condoms, and safer sex literature. Be on the lookout for the costumed, painted pumpkin carrying Juniors as they pass out treats to keep you safer this Halloween night and beyond.

Did you know, that there are on-going classes at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center? How about Pilates & Yoga - for times and class info call MGAC at 414-383-3727. On Tuesdays, check out Ballroom Dance 7- 8:30pm. 703 S. 2nd St, Milwaukee.

Deadline for the November Issue is October 20th.

Please send events to editor@queerlifeneews.com



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QLife's organizations that serve the LGBT Community are on our website. We are also looking for an individual, business or organization to sponsor this page so it can appear monthly in print call 414-383-8200 for information. If we've missed you or it's time to update your organization's information, please email editor@queerlifeneews.com.

From the Editors of E/The Environmental Magazine

Dear EarthTalk:

I want to give my baby fresh, organic food but I don't have the time to make her special meals. What options are out there?

- Marie L., via e-mail

Babies deserve the best possible start in life, so giving them nutritious food is a must, not only for good health but also to establish positive eating habits as early as possible.

According to Consumers Union (CU), publisher of *Consumer Reports* magazine, commercial baby foods, many of which are made up of condensed fruits and vegetables, can

contain high concentrations of pesticide residues. "A lot of these pesticides are toxic to the brain," says Philip Landrigan, a professor of pediatrics and preventative medicine at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City. Citing studies that have linked smaller head circumference and reduced intelligence in babies to in utero exposure to pesticides consumed by their mothers, Landrigan says it is best not to gamble when it comes to baby food.

If you're not already serving organic baby food, CU urges making the switch as soon as possible. A 2005 study ordered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency measured pesticide levels in the urine of 23 children in Washington State before and after a switch to an organic diet. After five straight days on the diet, pesticide measures fell to undetectable levels and remained so until the conventional diets resumed. The study concluded: "An organic diet provides a dramatic and immediate protective effect" against pesticide exposure.

Fortunately for concerned parents the organic food industry is growing rapidly, and one result is the availability of a wide selection of organic baby foods in both natural food stores and mainstream supermarkets. Some leading jar- and box-based choices come from Gerber, Earth's Best, Homemade Baby and others. And frozen meals from the likes of Happy Baby, Plum Organics, Bobo Baby and other relative upstarts mix good flavor and fresh healthy ingredients with convenience. Using the power of cold temperatures to keep their foods fresh allows these companies to avoid the use of traditional preservatives.

Happy Baby's frozen meals come in individual cubes in flavors like "Baby Dahl and Mama Grain," an organic mixture of bananas, black beans and quinoa (pronounced KEEN-wah). Quinoa is a high-protein whole grain that is considered a complete protein because it contains all eight essential amino acids.

Plum Organics offers flash-frozen, nutrient-rich organic meals that come in reusable four-ounce cups in varieties like "Super Greens" (peas, spinach and green beans) and "Red Lentil Veggie" (potatoes, carrots, corn and red lentils). Bobo Baby specializes in organic, kosher and allergen-free flash-frozen baby meals.

For parents inclined toward cooking instead of opening jars or microwaving, making baby food out of fresh organic ingredients does not have to be complicated or time-consuming. Fresh Baby sells cooking kits, cookbooks and food trays to help parents concoct and serve the freshest and healthiest baby food possible right from their own kitchens.

CONTACTS: Earth's Best, www.earthsbest.com; Homemade Baby, www.homemadebaby.com; Happy Baby, www.happybaby.com; Bobo Baby, www.bobobaby.com; Plum Organics, www.plumorganics.com; Fresh Baby, www.freshbaby.com.

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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In 1990, the Lesbian Alliance received start up funds from the Cream City Foundation. Soon after, the Lesbian Alliance, along with the financial assistance of the Cream City Foundation, organized locally and nationally to erase media coverage that would be damaging to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities following the 1991 Dahmer murders. Cream City Foundation funded the Lesbian Alliance for four consecutive years, to allow for the growth of the organization and the creation and implementation of a training program for the Milwaukee Police Department about equal rights. Thanks to funding from Cream City Foundation the Lesbian Alliance also developed two videos about the local lesbian culture

in the city of Milwaukee and attended the 1991 LGBT March in Washington D.C. Today, Cream City Foundation is proud to continue its support of the Lesbian Alliance and other programs focusing



25 YRS

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on LGBT women's issues including Women's Voices Milwaukee and SAGE Sisterhood.

PFLAG Allies Support ENDA

Washington, DC - On Monday, September 24, the National Staff of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) National delivered more than 12,000 pro-equality postcards from constituents across the country to both the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate. The individually written cards were collected from 40 states across the country as part of PFLAG's campaign, "People Don't Get Fired for Being Straight" to support the passage of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA).

"Lawmakers can not ignore the thousands of constituent demands for workplace equality," said John Cepek, PFLAG President. "From Georgia to Ohio and Indiana, from New York to California, the time has come to pass this bill and protect all American workers."

ENDA, if passed, would extend federal employment discrimination

protections that are currently provided on race, religion, gender, national origin, age, and disability to also cover sexual orientation and gender identity.

The Employment Non-Discrimination Act was introduced in the House by a bipartisan group of legislators including Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA), Rep. Deborah Pryce (R-OH), Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Rep. Chris Shays (R-CT). As of press time, the bill was in committee.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) is the nation's premier grassroots organization committed to the civil rights of gays, lesbians, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) persons. Founded in 1973 by heterosexual mothers and fathers, PFLAG has 500 chapters and over 250,000 members and supporters throughout the United States.

Handy Matters:

Nature's Fury: How to Protect Your Home

By Todd Schuster and ARA.content.com

Hurricanes are the storms that make headlines, but homeowners in almost every region of the country need to focus on storm preparedness this year. From east to west, experts say homeowners are facing threats from heavy rain, wind and extreme temperature changes. These hazards take their toll on home exteriors, and in the case of severe storms, can pose serious safety and structural threats. High winds, heavy moisture and variable temperatures also affect other factors, such as energy loss and high utility bills.

According to the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), weather-related disasters, including everything from heat waves to floods and severe thunderstorms, account for nearly \$14 billion in damage throughout the country each year. It's important for homeowners to understand how storms can damage the structural integrity of a house. Preparing a home for serious weather can decrease the risk for major damage and also alleviate the hassle of making last-minute arrangements for when a storm arrives.

To help protect a home, choosing the right storm protection features for windows and doors is essential. Experts suggest evaluating regional weather conditions to determine how to best begin protecting a home from storms.

1. Heading Off High Winds
Windows and doors are vulnerable to high winds that cause breakage, and worst-case scenario, pressure that can literally lift the roof and push the walls

outward. For regions that experience severe weather with high winds, laminated glass windows and impact-rated doors offer extra protection when compared to standard windows and doors. Laminated glass uses a plastic interlayer between two panels of glass designed to resist breakage from wind-borne debris.

2. Repelling Heavy Moisture
Homes all across the country take a pounding from rain, hail, snow, and even high humidity. Lengthy periods of exposure to moisture can easily deteriorate windows and doors, causing decay and inviting insect infestation. Finding products that help defend against water absorption is key for moisture protection. Shop for treated wood that's guaranteed to resist decay and products that offer low-maintenance and high-performance benefits, such as vinyl windows and fiberglass doors.

3. Controlling Seasonal Temperatures
In areas that experience seasonal temperature fluctuations, energy efficient windows help keep homes comfortable during heat waves and cold snaps. Energy efficient windows add an extra benefit for nearly all homeowners, because they provide year-round savings on energy costs. When shopping for energy efficient windows, look for products that have Low-E glass and the ENERGY STAR label. Homeowners should also be aware that this is the last year for qualifying to receive up to \$500 in federal tax credits for energy efficient upgrades at home.

Some content courtesy of ARA Content, <http://www.aracontent.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

This Month in Wisconsin LGBT History OCTOBER

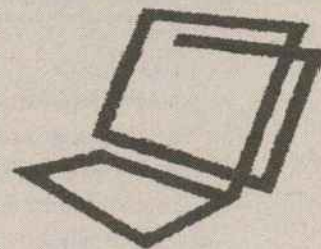
By Don Schwamb

35 years ago: 1972— GPU to be broadcast over WOKY radio; Lesbians hold seminar in Waukesha; Back Room bar in Madison opens; new Miss Gay Milw, Billie Shepard, is crowned.

30 years ago: 1977 - ECOM holds Halloween show, and contests for Miss Gay WI and Mr. Groovy Guy; Jamie Gay and Paul Zinthefer win respectively.

20 years ago: 1987 - Madison sends 2 buses of people to October 11 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights (Milwaukee cancels their bus due to "lack of interest"); Beer Town Badgers holds a Club Night with a telephone answering machine as prize; Lavendar Hill IV announces results of August event: over \$3,600 raised for Milwaukee AIDS Project; Milwaukee Mayoral candidate Martin Schreiber said that he did "not understand how two people of the same sex could live together in such a relationship. I don't agree with it and I don't accept it". Schreiber made his remarks at a September 30 forum sponsored by CCBA, Lambda Rights Network, BWMT, and In Step. On October 28, cable TV show "Tri-Cable Tonight", sponsored by the Cream City Foundation, debuts; the program goes on to run for 26 episodes over as many months, and wins several major national and local cable programming awards. At the first Miss Your Place contest, Mr. Gay Wisconsin David Rogers, and Dorris DeLago, crowned Venessa winner. Joe won as Mr. Y.P.; Legendary drag performer Holly Brown holds her Bon Voyage party; and Wayne Bernhagen, owner of both Wreck Room and Your Place bars, and a founder of SSBL/ Saturday Softball League, and founder of the Milwaukee Classic (which started as the Wreck Room Classic), passes away, a victim of AIDS

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



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ARTS CALENDAR

OCTOBER 3

Suzanne Vega at the Pabst! Suzanne Vega is an American singer/songwriter of rare poetic genius. Her profound insight into the basics of human existence has earned her followers of all ages and walks of life. Her voice has a gentle, haunting quality that sounds like it comes from another time. The Pabst Theater, 144 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee. 800-511-1552/414-286-3663 ALSO WINTICKETS from US! Send email, with "Vega Tix" in the subject line to editor@queerlifeneews.com, or call 414-383-8200

OCT 4

QPICK

"Shall Not Be Recognized" The battle surrounding legal recognition of same-sex marriages and civil unions has grabbed headlines in recent years. Often lost in the debate have been the voices of same-sex couples themselves. Here are photographic and verbal portraits by Will Fellows and Jeff Percy - couples whose committed relationships are considered by many to be unworthy of recognition. VP Gallery of Fine Photography, 320 E. Buffalo Street, Milwaukee. www.vpphotogallery.com. Premier reception at VP Gallery: Saturday, October 6 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. View the Shall Not Be Recognized website at: <http://www.shallnotberecognized.org/>

Spiral Theatre announces the second show of its inaugural season, *The Shape Of Things* by Neil LaBute running weekends at the beautiful Brumder Mansion at 3046 W. Wisconsin Avenue. 7:30pm, (Fri/Sat 8PM, Sun 2:30.) For info and tickets call 414-248-6481. Or purchase online at www.spiraltheatre.com. Tickets are \$15 for Adults and \$10 for Students and Seniors. Runs through Oct. 13th. *The Shape of Things* is a modern retelling of the fall of man.

Clint Black Brings His "Up Close and Personal" Tour To Milwaukee's Riverside Theater at 8 p.m. Tickets On Sale NOW. Country Music Superstar Clint Black became a sensation as soon as his first single, "A Better Man," hit the airwaves. His debut album, "Killin' Time," was released in 1989 and went gold within six months. A new album is to be released this fall. Visit www.clintblack.com for additional artist info. Tickets: www.riversidetheater.org and www.tickets.com, or by calling (414) 286-3663 or (800) 511-1552.

OCT 5

StageQ, Inc. announces its production of the fast-paced comedy *VALHALLA* by Paul Rudnick, directed by Tara Ayres, of the Bartell Theater (Evjue Stage) at 113 E Mifflin Street in Madison. Runs through October 20. Visit www.stageq.com for tickets or reservations, show times. Or call 608-661-9696, ext 3 for reservations. . 8:00 pm

Lesbian Alliance presents Martine Locke in concert. Woodland Pattern Book Center, 720 E. Locust St. 8pm. Martine plays a mixture of rock/pop/folk tunes all armed with an acoustic guitar, a powerhouse voice and a decidedly wicked Australian send of humor. Tix \$10 in advance, available at Broad Vocabulary and Outwards Bookstore. \$12 at door.

OCT 6

Since August, local art model Pegi Taylor has been posing in galleries around Milwaukee once a month as a way to highlight the relationship between art and the body. Artists need to bring their own supplies; seating is available in the performance space at Walker's Point Center for the Arts,

911 W. National Ave. 1-3 PM as part of the Paper Politics show. Although Taylor would like to allow photographers to participate, it is too disruptive. .

There will be a \$5.00 charge.

TOCT 7

The Skylight continues with its production of *The Midnight Angel* at the Cabot Theatre of the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward. Tickets are available noon - 6 p.m. Monday - Saturday at the Broadway Theatre Center box office, by phone at 414.291.7800 and online at www.skylightopera.com. Tickets from \$10 - \$54.

OCT 8

Come and join the Outwards Book Club for a discussion of Jeffrey Round's new murder mystery, *The P-Town Murders*. 7:30pm. Outwards Books, 2710 N. Murray Ave, Milwaukee. 414-963-9089. New members are always welcome. outwardsbooks@msn.com

OCT 9

The Lesbian Reading Group meets at Outwards Books, 2710 N. Murray Ave, Milwaukee. 414-963-9089. The book to be discussed in October is *Download*, the new novel by J.Y. Morgan.

Come and join in on the discussion! 7PM.

OCT 13

QPICK

Author! Author!! Come and join pom insider Corey Taylor for a discussion and signing of *Naked: The Life and Pornography of Michael Lucas*. 2PM Outwards Books, 2710 N. Murray Ave, Milwaukee. 414-963-9089. This is a free event and everyone is welcome.

The Wisconsin Cream City Chorus & Unitarian Universalist Church West present "Diamonds in the Heartland: with proceeds from the concert to benefit Camp Heartland. Unitarian Universalist Church West, 13001 W. North Ave, Brookfield. 7PM. Adults \$15, Family Pack \$25. Info: 414-276-8787.

Eric Blowtorch and the Welders will trade sets with Longacre and DJ Kid Millions at the Bremen Café, 901 E. Clarke St, Milwaukee. Admission will cost \$3. Attendees must be at least 21. Home taping is mandatory. 10:30PM to close.

THRU OCT 13

QPICK

Don't miss the Art of Edge-Fantasy and Fetish" at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center 703 s.2nd St, Milwaukee. Info 414-383-3727. This is a very cool exhibit, with historic artifacts from the Chicago Leather Archives and Museum, and photographs/art from several artists including Chicago photographer (and QLife's cover guy from Sept.) Adam Kozik. And it's not just for MEN! Ladies, check it out, you'll be amazed at the amount of info/images on display regarding women in the leather scene. Toys, articles, images, it's a wonderful collection, and not going to be around for much longer.

OCT 16

Author! Author!! Come and join popular gay novelist Robert Rodi for a reading and signing of his hilarious new novel, *When You Were Me*. 7PM Outwards Books, 2710 N. Murray Ave, Milwaukee. 414-963-9089. This is a free event and everyone is welcome.

OCT 18

Milwaukee Chamber Theatre presents *TALKING HEADS* by Alan Bennett

2007 Presented as the "Alan Bennett Festival" with two separate performances (Series A and Series B) performed on alternating evenings in repertory format. - November 4,

OCT 19

ITS GALLERY NIGHT! (20th -GALLERY DAY) GO OUT AND SUPPORT THE ARTS BY VISITING GALLERIES ACROSS MILWAUKEE

River Rat Gallery Presents "Cowboys & Indians" Opening on "Gallery Night" Friday Oct.19th- from 3:00pm to bar time Open on "Gallery Day" Saturday Oct.20th- from 10:00am to bar time Where: The Palomino 2491 S. Superior Corner of Superior & Russell Bay View Milwaukee, 53207 thru Jan. 3rd, 2008

The Milwaukee Gay Arts Center presents the 2nd Annual Gay Youth Art Show Opening Reception. A collaboration with the Alliance School (MPS) and Project Q, the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center is proud to present artwork in various media created by LGBT youth. 6-8pm

Exhibition runs through November 31. 703 S. 2nd St, info: 414-383-3727

OCT 21

Catch the "Shall Not be Recognized" photo exhibit one more time, at the Leenhouts Gallery, First Unitarian Society, 1342 N. Astor Street, Milwaukee. www.uumilwaukee.org Thru Dec 1. View the Shall Not Be Recognized website at: <http://www.shallnotberecognized.org/>

Next Act Theatre's AN INTERVIEW WITH PAUL ROBESON by Paul A. Mabon Sr. and John Kishline is at the Off-Broadway Theatre at 342 N. Water St. in Milwaukee, 2007. Tickets can be purchased at Next Act's Off-Broadway Theatre Box Office at 342 N. Water St. by telephone at 414-278-0765, or online at www.nextact.org.

OCT 25

Unlimited Constructions - Canadian pianist Roger Admiral will perform a solo concert featuring classic modern works from the twentieth century: György Ligeti's Piano Etudes (Book 1), Elliott Carter's Night Fantasies and Iannis Xenakis' *Evryali*. The program will also include recent works

by Chris Burns and Aaron Cassidy, and new commissions by Canadian composers Paul Steenhuisen and Gordon Fitzell. Peck School of the Arts Recital Hall, 2400 East Kenwood Boulevard on the UWM campus. For tickets, please call the Box Office: (414) 229-4308. All ticketed events are \$10 general/\$7 students, seniors & alumni; a six-concert subscription is \$48.

OCT 26

The Political Comedy and Commentary of Capitol Steps Returns to Milwaukee's Pabst Theater, 8 p.m. Since they began, the Capitol Steps have recorded 27 albums, been featured on NBC, CBS, ABC, and PBS, and can be heard four times a year on NPR stations nationwide during their Politics Takes a Holiday radio specials. Visit www.capsteps.com for additional info. Tickets: \$29.50 - \$45.50 at the Pabst Theater box office, on the web at www.pabsttheater.org and www.tickets.com, or by calling 414-286-3663 or 800-511-1552.

Milwaukee Dance Theatre production *SPALDING GRAY: STORIES LEFT TO TELL* will run October 26 - November 10. 8pm Tickets are \$15-\$40, discount for seniors & students. For tickets call the Off-Broadway Theater Box Office: 414-278-0765. Campaign reception on Oct. 26th, talkback with cast Oct.27

OCT 27

Chelsea Handler at The Pabst Theater 144 E. Wells Street Milwaukee. 800-511-1552 /414-286-3663. With her sweet smile, pretty, blonde comedienne Chelsea Handler looks the picture of innocence - that is, until she opens her mouth. "The Chelsea Handler Show" became one of E!'s most highly rated programs in 2006, she now hosts the late night talk show, "Chelsea Lately." It's also her first visit to Milwaukee!

COMING IN NOVEMBER:

November 3, Saturday, 7:30PM at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center. *Stabat Mater* by Giovanni Battista Pergolesi (1710 - 1736) performed by women of the Saint Paul's Choir and instrumentalists under the direction of Jerrad Fenske, Music Ministry Director, in collaboration with Saint Paul's Episcopal Cathedral. Admission \$10

Deadline for the November Issue is October 20th.

Please send art listing to editor@queerlifeneews.com

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"OUR MISS BROOKS". Remember her?

The baby-boomer generation will certainly remember "OUR MISS BROOKS"-the 1950's television high-school teacher. Actress Eve Arden played the title role. Those of you who aren't boomers, may remember Eve Arden as the HS principle in the hit movie "GREASE". She reprised her role in "GREASE II".

It's been said that new Disney "HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL" and "HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL II" are the "GREASE" of our new young generation. And, speaking of "GREASE"; if you haven't seen John Travolta in "HAIRSPRAY", the musical, you are missing out. This new hit movie is a must see! They even do all those crazy 60's dances.

I had the pleasure of working with Eve Arden in the early 1980's. It was at the Drury Lane Theater in Chicago. I was a young performer, and she really made a lasting impression on me. Many young people today can take a lesson from her. She has since passed; but she was kind, supportive and so professional. It made me feel so important to have her take an interest in my young work and talent. Most importantly, she said "hello" and

"goodbye"--plus she said "thank you."

This comes from a person with confidence. Much of our generation today think that they have more talent than they actually have. Many never take the time to say "thank you". In this age of computers and cell phones, we could all learn a lesson from simpler times. The truly important things in life are family, friends, and human feelings. Lets take the time to say "hello", "goodbye" and most importantly, "thank you."

Eve Arden, I just want to give you my own personal "thank you."

***Our Busy 2007 Season Continues**

- Acacia Theatre-
- THE WOMEN OF LOCKERBIE
- Boulevard Ensemble-
- THE INTERNATIONALIST
- Florentine Opera Company-
- THE MERRY WIDOW
- In Tandem Theatre-
- HA!
- M&I Bank Broadway Series-
- MY FAIR LADY
- Milwaukee Chamber Theatre
- TALKING HEADS
- Off The Wall Theater-



THEATER

Ray lives on the Lake on the East Side. He is artistic director of RSVP Productions at the Astor Theatre. He also directs theater in Whitefish Bay, and works as a free-lance director, and theater teacher. Highlights include working with Lana Turner, and Mickey Rooney.

- HAMLET
- Quadracci Theater-
- DOUBT
- Renaissance Theaterworks-
- THE WOMEN IN BLACK
- Sunset Playhouse-
- MISERY

I want to congratulate In Tandem on their new venue at 628 North 10th Street.

DOG SEES GOD

I started RSVP rehearsals on my Milwaukee premiere DOG SEES GOD. This award-winning show is a parody on the PEANUTS gang. They are now all grown up. Come see this exciting show at the Astor Theater on Brady Street. Call for details 272-4384.

My Aunt Blanche plans to Treat and Trick this Halloween-so if a 91 year old kid rings your bell....it's Blanche!!

Last MONTH's Trivia Answer

Bernadette Peters and Vanessa Williams both played the Witch in Broadway productions of INTO THE WOODS.

This Month's Trivia Question

Did DOUBT win a Tony award for Best Play?

Q-Classifieds are only \$30 for up to 30 WORDS!

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Q LIFE will grant credit only for any ad cancellation prior to deadline or errors in ad copy by Q LIFE. There is a \$35 charge for checks returned NSF.

Fax: 414-383-5066 or Mail to: 2266 N. Prospect Ave, Suite 200 Milwaukee, WI 53202 Deadline for Classifieds are the 20th of each month

CIRCLE ONE CATEGORY:

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- Automotive
- Bed & Breakfast
- Bulletin Board
- Buy/Sell
- Counseling
- Employment
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- Housing
- Jobs
- Massage
- Model/Entertainer
- Moving
- Pets
- Psychic
- Real Estate
- Resorts
- Roommates
- Services
- Storage
- Travel
- Other



Q OCTOBER CLASSIFIEDS

JOBS

Delivery drivers and Sales Rep welcome for Milwaukee's gay lifestyles leader. Call 414-383-8200. Send resume to editor@queerlifeneews.com

FOR RENT

Milwaukee. Deluxe, Ultra Clean, Large 2 bedroom, South 29th St./Lincoln. Heat Included. Appliances, dishwasher, C/A, Laundry hook Ups, Off-Street Parking, Remodeled Bath. Garden. No-Smoking. Gay Friendly. \$575. Paul or John. (414) 643-5946.

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

East side Apartments:

2033 N. Prospect 1 bedroom with hardwood floors. Heat included, laundry on site. Only 4 units In building. \$635 Sept 1st Call Carole at 414-704-7103

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

CONDO FOR SALE

Gracious two-bedroom unit in gay-friendly building on Milwaukee's east side. Hardwood floors, crown molding, formal dining room with wainscoting and built-in china cabinet. Balcony overlooks leafy courtyard. Bath has original tile floor and marble tub surround. Refrigerator, dishwasher, new stove, assigned outdoor parking space, cats allowed. Priced below assessment a \$175,900. Ken Kurek, Coldwell Banker: 414-688-2770.

OFFICE SPACE

Office for rent in the popular Clock Tower located on the corner of Prospect & North. Rates starting at \$10/per sq. foot. 414-704-7103

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

Local

Watering Holes

Art Bar: 722 E. Burleigh St. Milwaukee, WI 414-372-7880

Ballgame: 196 S 2nd St. Milwaukee, WI 414-273-7474

Boom: 625 South 2nd St. Milwaukee, WI 414-277-5040

Boot Camp: 209 E National Ave. Mil, WI 414-643-6900

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

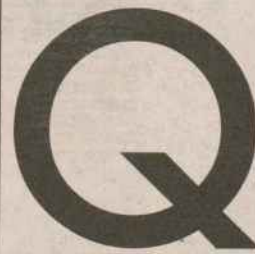
Tracks: 1534 W. Grant Ave. Milwaukee, WI 414-562-2020

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.



Confessions from the Corner Office

BOOK REVIEW

Review by Roger Uscila

The authors, Scott Aylward and Patteye Moore, have a combined fifty years of experience and each is highly successful in their own right. Patteye Moore is the former president of SONIC Corp. the largest drive-in restaurant chain in the U.S. and Scott Aylward is the former Chairman and CEO of Barkley, Evergreen, and Partners, the largest employee owned advertising corporation in the U.S. They achieved their success by relying on their instincts.

Confessions from the Corner Office is primarily directed at those aspiring to corporate success but easily transfers to those involved with civic, church, and volunteer organizations or to simply managing a family.

Confessions from the Corner Office is not your standard business leadership book. Much of what is discussed likely runs counter to the actual practices in existence in many corporations. The authors talk about what they call instincts, the "soft skills." The bulk of the "instincts" are the lessons and courtesies that Mom, Dad, and your kindergarten or first grade teacher taught you, or should have. It Calls to mind Robert Fulghum's *Everything I Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*.

Confessions... isn't about warm fuzzies, *Confessions* is about developing the so-called soft skills which are undervalued or overlooked in the business world but when combined with business practices make a very dynamic and effective executive.

What are the some of the instincts presented? Many of these will sound familiar. Treating people with courtesy and respect, building and managing healthy relationships with honesty and integrity. Developing

attitudes of responsibility, confidence, being open and passionate about your career as well as being open to the world around you, observing and taking inspiration from your observations, and motivating those around you with your passion.

Practical career guidance is offered also which ties into attitudes, *listening* to subordinates and customers, making yourself *available* and *approachable*, no cocooning behind a closed door in your ivory tower or in this case corner office. Taking ownership

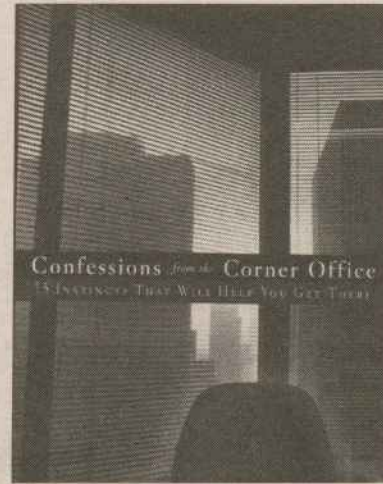
for mistakes, asking for help when it is needed, evaluating talent, recharging and reenergizing and, refreshingly, making your personal life a priority.

The authors, a gay man and a (presumably) straight woman, advocate finding a corporate soul mate, forming a partnership of shared values with a like minded spirit for mutual growth and development. Certainly

sexual orientation has nothing to do with it but your soul mate needs to be someone that you can be honest with. The corporate soul mate is more than just simply a mentor. It would be someone who will inspire, challenge, debate and encourage you, consult with you, and hold you to honesty and accountability. Someone in whom you have complete trust and has the same for you.

Scott Aylward and Patteye Moore continue to be corporate soul mates as cofounders of INSTINCTS. LLC, a company dedicated to helping up and coming executives develop their leadership instincts and skills.

Confessions from the Corner Office is available from John Wiley & Sons Inc. and numerous online locations.



FIND YOUR BIG LIFE!

Discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people tells us we are small, insignificant pawns of forces in society. But our humanity demands we find our joy, stretch our limits, and live large. The time we've been waiting for is now. Find your big life!

Diverse&Resilient is a statewide organization committed to the healthy development of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in Wisconsin. We accomplish our mission by helping grow the organizations and youth and adult leaders who aid us as a community. www.diverseandresilient.org

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- Q Clubbing • Q Sports
- Q???? suggestions

Send your writing samples to Editor@Queerlifeneews.com.

Q LIFE NEWS

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2007
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A holiday showcase of more than 25 of Milwaukee's best restaurants, complementary bar, and private performance of The Milwaukee Rep's *A Christmas Carol* to benefit the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin Medical Center and its medical, dental, and mental health services that will be provided to more than 1,500 patients in 2007.

To purchase advanced tickets, please call 1-800-359-9272 ext. 1598.

ARCW

AIDS RESOURCE CENTER OF WISCONSIN