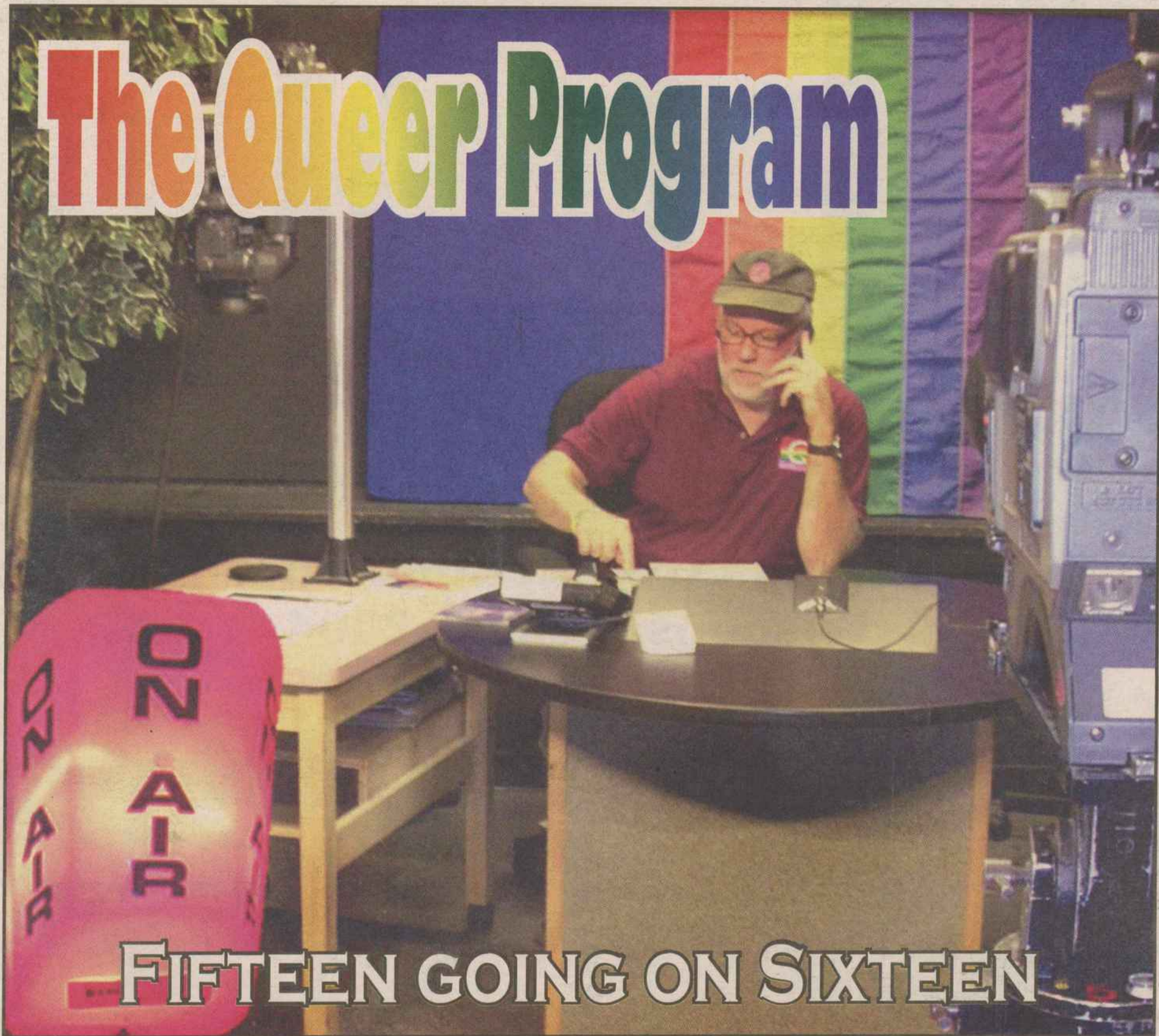




# The Queer Program



## FIFTEEN GOING ON SIXTEEN

By Kate Sherry

**T**wenty years ago, a group of like-minded individuals got together to produce programming by, for, and about the LGBT community in Milwaukee. From their spirited ideas and visions, the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network was born.

With assistance from the Milwaukee Access Telecommunications Authority (MATA), a non-profit corporation providing citizens access to Milwaukee's cable system, the MGLCN had enough support to begin broadcasting. They were supplied with cameras, studios, and training, and were soon hitting the airwaves with a number of special programs.

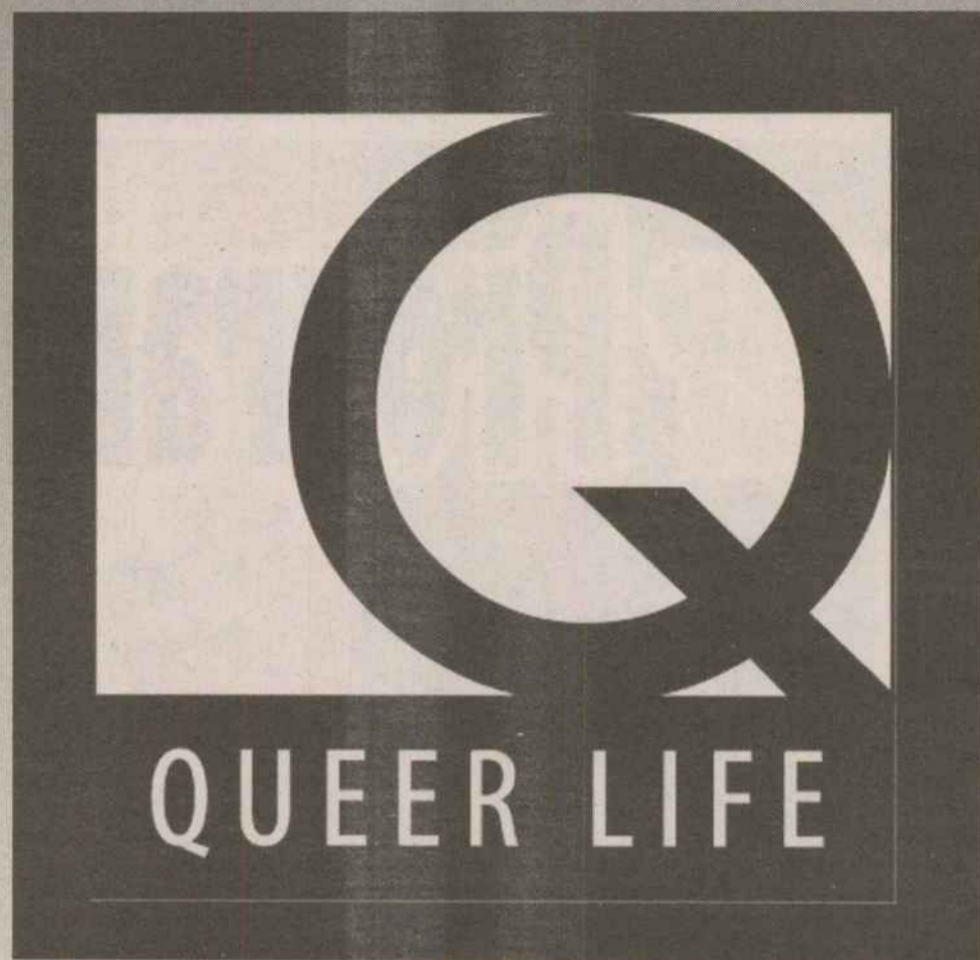
Financing for the first regular program, entitled, "Tri-Cable Tonight," came in May 1987 in the form of a \$3,000 grant from the Cream City Foundation, which would actually fund the first six episodes, and extend their promise for future funding.

In October of that year, Tri-Cable Tonight, founded by Mark Behar and Bryce Clark premiered its first thirty-minute news and entertainment program. Two years and 26 episodes later, after covering both local and national topics, and winning several awards, it aired its last.

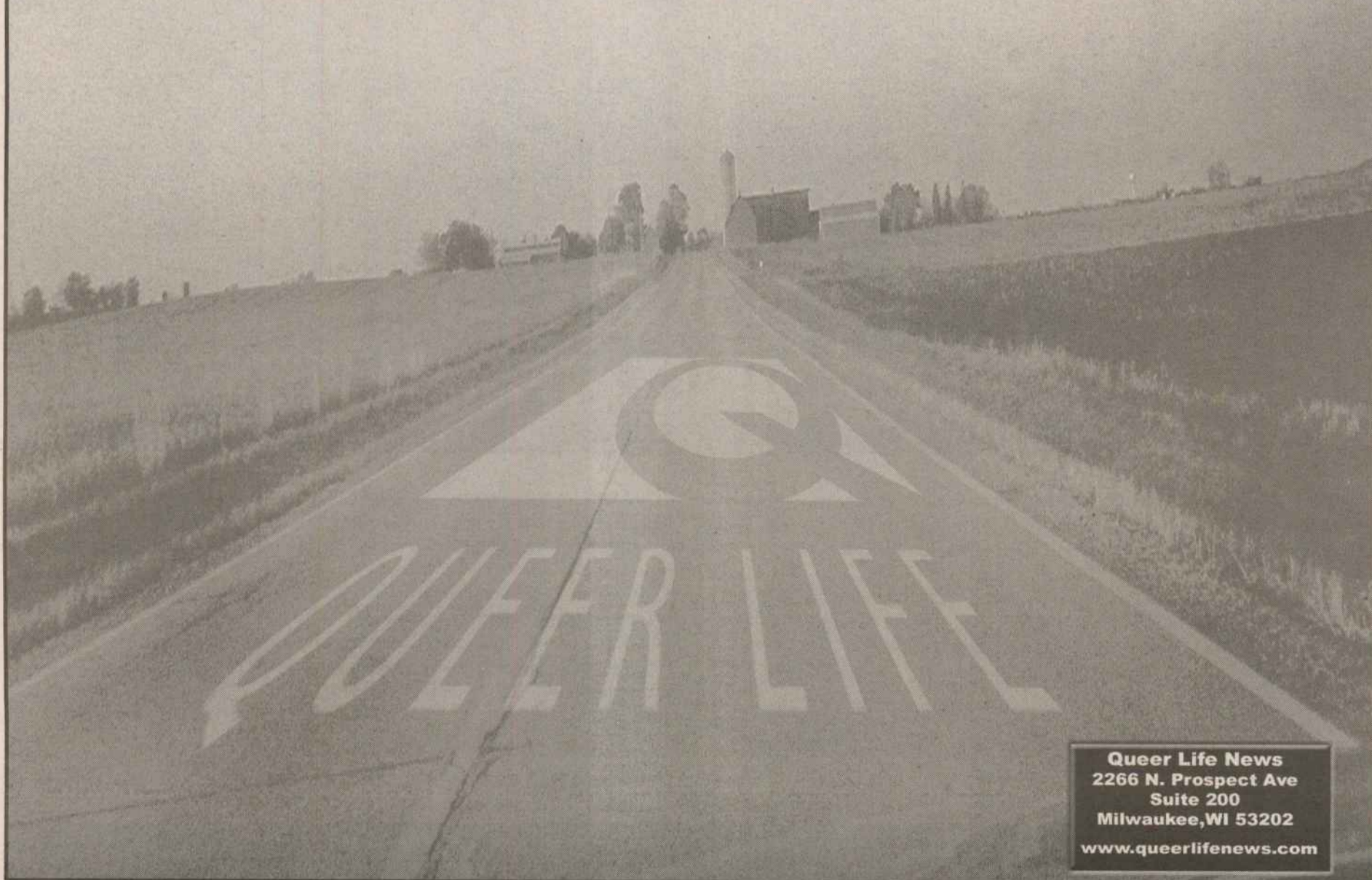
Next came "Yellow on Thursday," a comedy program airing on an irregular basis. It ended in 1991 after five episodes. The "New Tri-Cable" then ran from 1990 to 1992, and focused on specific issues, with a moderated panel discussion.

Although the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network is no longer in existence, and most of the people involved in the LGBT cable programming have moved on, there is one program that has withstood the test of time. The Queer Program.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



## Reaching LGBT Communities in Wisconsin since 2004



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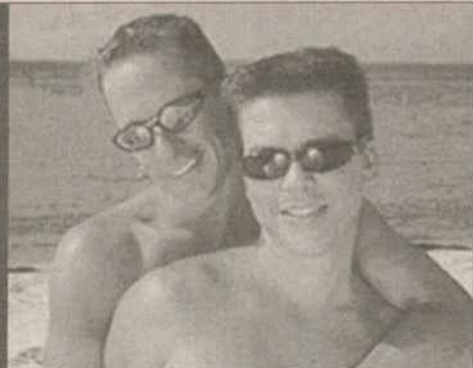
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**QUEER PROGRAM** *continued from page 1*

Michael Lisowski, one of the original commentators from Tri-Cable Tonight, and, an active member of Milwaukee's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community, since the 1970s has been the host of Milwaukee's long running Queer Program since 1992, and is now entering his 16th year behind the desk and in front of the camera.



Mike Lisowski during his days with Tri-Cable Tonight (photo courtesy of MKE LGBT History Project)

We sat down with Lisowski to talk a bit about the history of the show, and where it's headed.

**QL: We noticed that the Queer Program is sandwiched between two separate religious programs.**

**ML:** I know! If you look at the schedule it's amazing, I think three-fourths of the programming are all these individual churches. One group just tapes their service then shows that every week. It's like fundamentalism for shut-ins.

**QL: How did the Queer Program come about, when these other programs were going silent?**

**ML:** When Jeffrey Dahmer hit the news in 1991, there were all these rumors flying around in the community, and at the time, we had been doing the New Tri Cable show with more single topic discussions. I thought what we needed was a TV show with current local gay news. And, a way to get a handle on rumor control. So, when this idea from MATA came up for non-profit organizations or individuals to have weekly shows in their MPACT studio, I thought it was perfect.

Lisowski explains that it would offer an opportunity to do a show on a smaller, more intimate scale. Efforts to work on the Tri-Cable series proved time consuming to most, and the crew of seven or eight eventually dwindled to three people. With the new program through MPACT, all they needed was one individual, and they'd have a show.

At the time, Lisowski was working in prevention at ARCW, where he approached a fellow employee, and local activist Dan Fons to join him on the new show. After pushing for involvement from ARCW, Lisowski and Fons went off on their own to start the Queer Program.

**ML:** Dan was a big 'ol activist with Queer Nation and Act up. We started in 1992, and would do the show every Tuesday for a half an hour. He did a lot of serious activist pieces, while I was more on the funny side. He left after about four years, and then Charles Daniels started coming on, in '93. And we invited Tim Hanson to join us after he had called into the show several times.

"The first time I sat in on the show was in 1993, but I started doing it full time in '94," says Charles Daniels, (Executive Director of HIV Prevention Services-Charles "D" Productions.)

"Mike and I are the only ones certified as producers, so if he needs a break he can ask me to fill in." Daniels expressed ideas for the future of the show, by having more involvement from younger LGBT community members.

"We need to have something new and exciting because our community is going in a different direction." Says Daniels. "We need to start targeting those younger gays and lesbians that are going to be taking over."

Such projects are already in the works. The Queer Program was recently awarded a \$2,228 grant from the Cream City Foundation in support of the creation of a

Q-Youth Cable TV Training Project that will train LGBT youth on the techniques of basic cable access television production. Project Q, and the Alliance School are a part of that plan. The youths would be eligible for free TV production training, and are able to be a producer at MATA once they are eighteen years old.

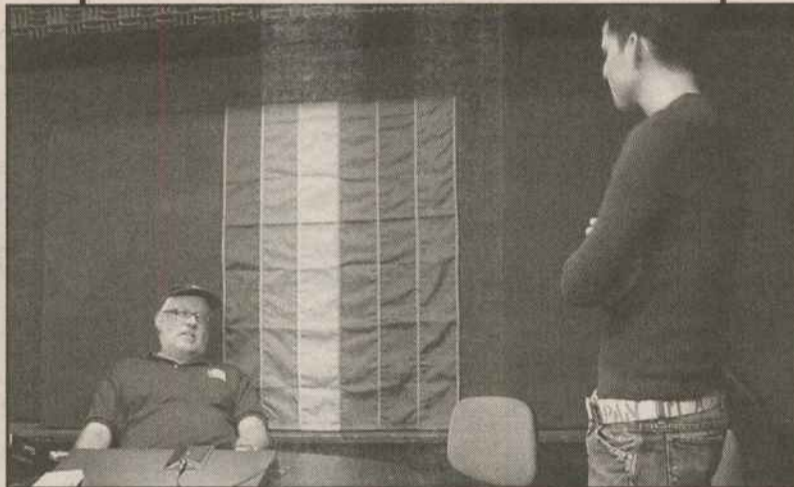
"Cream City Foundation recognizes the value of LGBT visibility, which is why we are proud of the work of the Queer Program," says Cream City Foundation Director, Maria Cadenas. "As the first funder of the former Tri-Cable network, one which Mike Lisowski helped host, we know the value of television coverage. This year were especially proud to fund a pilot youth program in partnership with Project Q and the Alliance School that utilizes the Queer Programs assets, including Mr. Lisowski, in aiming to provide real life skills and television programming experience to LGBTQ youth."

**QL: Is it difficult to get feedback, or involvement from the community?**

**ML:** It is. You want involvement, or feedback, but sometimes you can't win. Its funny, I've had people call me off the show, and say, 'are you still doing Queer Program?' and I said, 'yeah, for fifteen years, now.' So that's frustrating. And that was from people active in the community.

Trying to secure guest appearances is also a bit difficult at times, says Lisowski, who often times feels brushed off.

**ML:** I don't get it. I don't know if people are just naturally shy, or nervous, but it's not like they are making a dentist appointment. I mean, it's a chance for them to get on the show, and talk about what projects they are doing, or any upcoming events. That's why this



Mike speaks with special guest Aiden Bay on the Nov.12th episode of the Queer Program

program with the kids is important.

"The Queer Program is probably one of the most organized gay programs on public access. Probably one of the most organized programs, period," said alternating co-host Tim Hanson. "We want these youths to become producers. It's a great training process."

Daniels agrees, "They should really take advantage of it. Mike has been doing so much for the community for so many years, but for the Queer Program to continue to prosper, we need to include our youth."

According to Lisowski, however, there have been difficulties in getting the program with Project Q and Alliance School off the ground. Two students had initially signed up for the training, and one has since dropped out. He hopes that they will soon become more involved, and eventually take over the show, or start their own show.

**QL: What makes the Queer Program different from Tri-Cable?**

**ML:** I'd say it's a less scripted form of community news. Tri-Cable was more talk show, news and scripts, and they were also once a month, whereas we are on every week.

**QL: What is it like just before you go on air?**

**ML:** The only thing you worry about once and a while is if the volume is up! Someone will come into the studio and say 'your sound isn't on.' Then we will start the show over and say 'oh hi, we just talked for five minutes and no-one could hear us.'

After all these years of doing the show, there is no nervousness on Lisowski's part. His questions come naturally, and although guests at times can be nervous, the atmosphere is pretty relaxed. Normally, any planned questions come only when a guest is on to speak of a specific issue. Other than that, he just follows the flow of conversation.

**QL: Who do you have slotted to appear next?**

**ML:** Well, (as of this interview) On Dec.3rd, we have Mike LaForrest. Dec.10th is Paul Masterson and Craig Bodoh, from Milwaukee Gay Arts Center and then you (Qlife) on the 17th. I'm trying to get my Doctor to come on and speak about blood pressure. I mean, we do talk about things outside of being gay on this show, and blood pressure is very important!

**QL: Have you ever had any mishaps while on the air?**

**ML:** There was the time I spilled Coke all over the controls.

**QL: Were you live?**

**ML:** No, oh my god! Then there would be evidence! And then there are those callers who curse us out, or call us names. But we have to watch how we respond. You can't just come out and say something about a person, or business, because they could sue you, and MATAs position is 'you're the producer, you're responsible.'

**QL: Have people ever stopped you to comment on the show?**

**ML:** The neatest one was this one black guy, who was so cute, and he came up to me at a Walgreens and said, "aren't you that guy that does the TV show?" and I thought, oooh, alright, good, here we go! So I said, "yes I am" and he pauses and says, "have you ever accepted the Lord Jesus Christ into your heart?" And I'm thinking, ugh, what a let down. But my immediate response was "yes I did, many years ago!" He didn't know what to say, he was caught off guard! (laughs)

**QL: Does your future include more of The Queer Program?**

**ML:** As long as there is funding, and interest. The Gay People's Union, GLCommunity Trust Fund and Cream City Foundation have all funded us. I don't get paid, but I enjoy doing it. It's a way to get news out to many who don't get out, or are unable to bring home a gay paper, so we're getting the news out there to those who may not have the access otherwise. Our contract renews every six months, and MATA covers the production costs. Everything is pretty bare budget, and even though there was that cable television bill that would limit public access in Milwaukee, our contract is good until 2016. So, yes.

Congratulations to 'those guys who do that TV show', Mike, Charles, Tim, and all involved with the Queer program for bringing us LGBT news and events for the last fifteen years. To catch the program, tune into Milwaukee public access channel 96 every Monday at 6:30PM. Be sure to call in! For more information on how to become involved at MATA, please visit [www.matamedia.org](http://www.matamedia.org). If you missed Aiden Bay's exclusive guest appearance on The Queer Program, on Nov.12th, check out Aiden's website to watch the show at [www.myspace.com/aidenbay](http://www.myspace.com/aidenbay).

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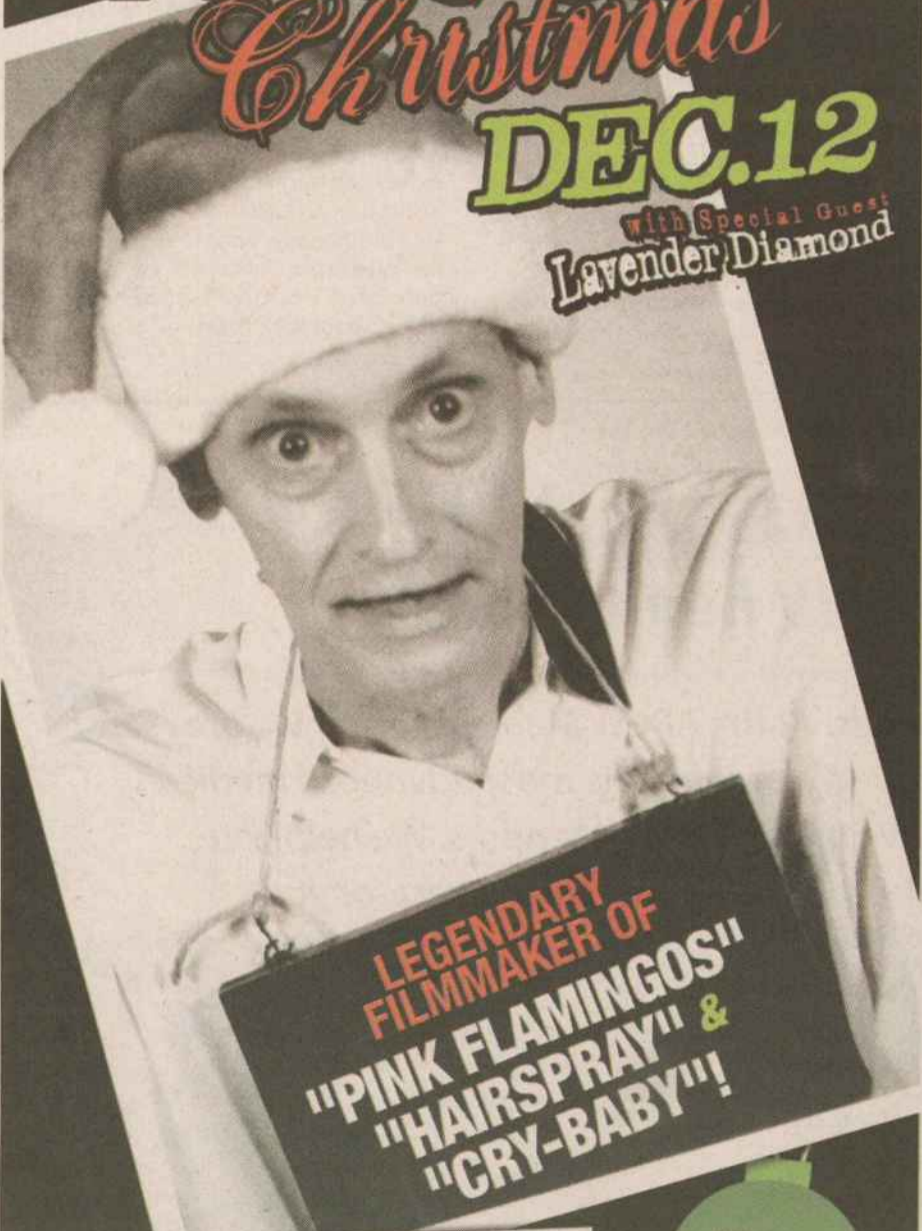
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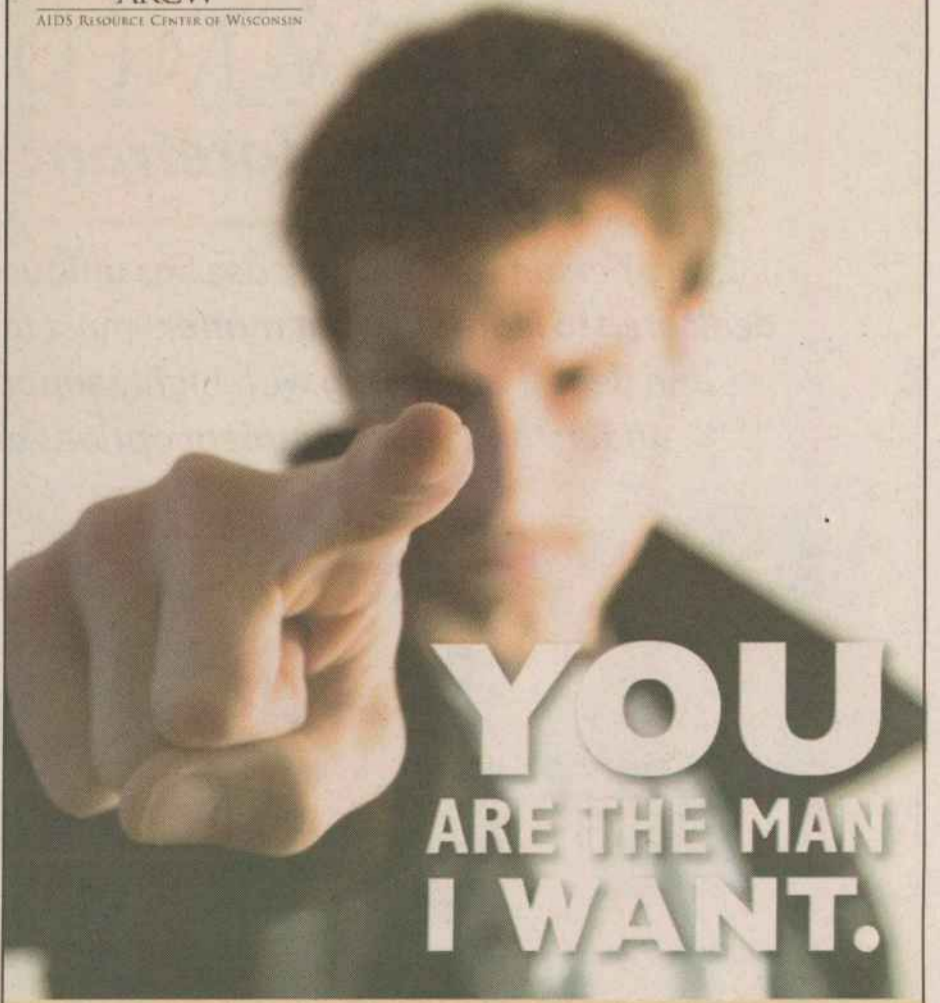
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The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin is looking for a few good men aged 21 and over to join our cutting-edge Bag Boyz HIV prevention program. Bag Boyz provide life-changing information and safer sex materials to gay men in bars and clubs throughout the state. Current trends indicate that HIV rates are rising among gay men under the age of 30. Young men of color make up a disproportionate percentage of new HIV cases. *Today is the perfect time for YOU to make a difference.*

A Bag Boyz training will take place Saturday, Dec. 15 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. If you are interested please contact Mario at (414) 225-1535 or e-mail [mario@arcw.org](mailto:mario@arcw.org).



Wisconsin



Happenings

## ARCW Recruiting New Class of Bag Boyz

**Milwaukee** - The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin is currently recruiting new volunteers to join the cutting edge Bag Boyz HIV prevention program. Bag Boyz provide life saving safer-sex and HIV prevention education and materials to gay and bisexual men in bars and clubs throughout Milwaukee.

"I am excited to be recruiting a new class of young men who are dedicated to leading the fight against HIV/AIDS in local bars and clubs," ARCW Associate Director of Prevention Kurt Dyer said. "With current trends indicating that HIV infection rates are increasing for gay men under the age 30, now is a perfect time to get involved with this great program."

According to Dyer, ARCW is currently looking for young gay and bisexual men ages 21 and over to join the Bag Boyz HIV prevention program. Bag Boyz are trained volunteers who provide education, safer sex materials, and referrals to other gay men in bars and clubs throughout the Milwaukee area.

"There is no mistaking there is a substantial need for HIV and safer sex education in the LGBT community now," Dyer said. "Today is the perfect time for you to make a difference and give back to your community."

A training for Bag Boyz is scheduled for Saturday, December 15th from 12:30-3:30 PM. Individuals that are interested should contact Mario Aguirre-Villa, HIV Outreach Specialist, at (414) 225-1535 or Mario@arcw.org. Registration is required.

## New State Program Expands Access to Health Care for People Living with HIV

**Milwaukee** - The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) is announcing a new state program to begin in January of 2008 that will provide people living with HIV who are currently enrolled in the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) with access to comprehensive health insurance.

ARCW was the architect of the new program that Governor Jim Doyle included in his budget proposal. During the drawn-out budget process, ARCW lobbied the legislature extensively on the program and was ultimately successful in garnering strong bi-partisan support from leaders of both the Wisconsin State Senate and Assembly.

The plan was included in the budget passed by the legislature and signed into law by Doyle in late October.

"With this new plan, Wisconsin will continue to be a national leader in the fight against HIV and AIDS," said ARCW Public Affairs Manager Bill Keeton. "The commitment of Governor Doyle as well as Democratic and Republican legislators to ensure access to health care for people living with HIV in our communities is to be applauded."

About 200 people with HIV and no health insurance enrolled in ADAP will potentially be eligible for the program. The new program will take funds now used to purchase medications for this

group of people and instead purchase health insurance policies for them when it is cost efficient to do so.

"This program is a great way to make sure people with HIV can get health insurance," Keeton said. "A lot of people with HIV may not visit their doctor because they do not have insurance and can not afford the costs of a doctor's appointment. This program will help eliminate this barrier for many people living with HIV."

Additionally, the program will provide insurance coverage for a broader selection of medications than does ADAP and will cover costs for doctor's appointments, check-ups, laboratory tests and necessary hospital visits.

"People with HIV have the opportunity for a long and healthy life if they are able to get medications and regularly visit their doctors. Unfortunately, many lack insurance and therefore do not visit a doctor or clinic until their health is in serious jeopardy," Keeton continued. "The new program will be in place to help make sure people living with HIV without the ability to pay for insurance or medical bills still get the health care and medications they need to live a long and healthy life."

People living with HIV who are currently enrolled in ADAP can contact their social work case managers or ARCW at 1-800-359-9272 to find out if they are eligible for the new health insurance program.

Additionally, people can contact the Wisconsin AIDS/HIV program staff directly at 1-800-991-5532 to learn more about the program.

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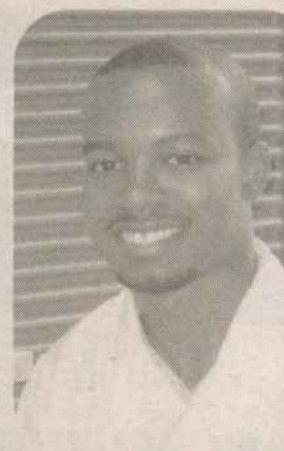
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# ARCW

AIDS RESOURCE CENTER OF WISCONSIN

## Center Advocates' DP benefits measure advances at MPS

**Milwaukee** - Milwaukee Public Schools Finance & Personnel Committee voted 4-1 on November 20 to approve Director Jennifer Morales' resolution to begin domestic partner benefits for non-union employees. The measure, which also recommends equal benefits for the vast majority of MPS employees represented by unions, was headed to a full board vote on November 29, after Q Life's press deadline, with the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel predicting final victory. Morales thanked Center Advocates supporters, saying in a statement, "The work of Center Advocates and

Oulahan, a domestic partner benefits supporter, mentioned in his testimony at the November 20 hearing that the union had in fact received more interest on domestic partner benefits than any other bargaining issue. Activism on this front recently won the appointment of a labor-management committee to study the issue of domestic partner benefits.

The November 20 hearing on the domestic partner resolution was the culmination of another tactic, supporting Board Director Jennifer Morales domestic partner benefits resolution. Advocates volunteers sent postcards, e-mail blasts, and phone

calls to hundreds of equal rights supporters, many gained over the years preparing for the marriage amendment.

"Despite an inflammatory front-page story by the daily paper that attacked the resolution because it was sponsored by a lesbian, as well as opposition from talk radio and conservative blogs, domestic partner benefits supporters

outnumbered opponents one-hundred to one," said Advocates Director Patrick Flaherty. "We are so grateful for all the Milwaukeeans of all walks of life who came to show support for fairness."

Superintendent William Andrekoupoulas, the district's top administrator who serves at the pleasure of the board, had opposed the domestic partner resolution, saying it would limit the ability of his negotiators to get the union trade away wages or benefits for domestic partner coverage. The superintendent's analysts testified at the November 20 hearing that 20% of MPS' workforce would enroll a domestic partner, drawing gasps and guffaws from the audience. By comparison, the City of Milwaukee, which has offered the benefit since 2001 to its 6500 employees, has only 30 families enrolled for domestic partner benefits according to its benefits manager.



Jennifer Morales, center, listens to supporter speak in favor of MPS domestic partnership benefits.

fair-minded community members like yourselves is what won this issue at the committee level. I'm deeply thankful for the courage of your presence at the meeting and the eloquence of your testimony."

Center Advocates has been pursuing multiple strategies this year to win equal benefits at MPS, which currently provides family benefits to spouses but not the domestic partners of its 10,000 employees. One strategy has been to help interested MPS teachers, social workers and other employees win domestic partner benefits through collective bargaining in a labor agreement. The Advocates convened a kick-off organizing meeting in late March that attracted over 50 teachers who then circulated petitions among colleagues, collecting hundreds of individual requests that the Milwaukee Teachers Education Association (MTEA) bargain for the benefit. MTEA President Dennis

National



Happenings

## Federal Suit against Police for Gay-Bashing Incident

Andy Thayer, Gay Liberation Network

**Chicago** - Attorneys for a south suburban gay man filed suit in federal court over an alleged Memorial Day police gay bashing that included breaking into the man's home with shotguns drawn, followed by a prolonged public humiliation mixed with anti-gay epithets in front of his neighbors as he sat handcuffed to a chair at the home's entrance.

Without knocking or announcing that they were police officers, several plain-clothed Markham cops burst into the home of 47-year-old Frankie Brown on May 31st, according to the suit. They pointed assault rifles at Brown and forced him lie face down on the floor of his bathroom. They then cuffed him, dragged him into an adjacent room, and slammed him into a chair.

"I'll sleep better tonight knowing there is one less fag on the street," said one officer allegedly. (Other reported police comments included "We shouldn't be touching him, he takes it in the ass and sucks dick" and "What does a fag like you need with a lawyer.")

Brown says cops searching the residence picked up a photo of him with male relatives, found a gay pornographic video concealed in the home, and then brought both outside of the house along with Brown to show his neighbors and other police participating in the raid. While making comments alleging that Brown had sex with the people in the photo, they shined a police spotlight on him as he sat handcuffed to a chair at the entrance of the residence. The public humiliation in front of his neighbors lasted for more than an hour.

Eventually Mr. Brown's teenage nephew, who lives with him and is his legal ward, arrived at the home. According to the suit, "The Defendant Officers immediately began harassing the young man with extremely offensive and derogatory language insinuating that he was involved in sexual activity with his uncle...The Defendant Officers then informed Mr. Brown's neighbors that Mr. Brown was HIV positive, a fact that Mr. Brown had not previously shared with anyone, and which was only discovered by the Defendant Officers by examining the medications in his medicine cabinet."

After several hours police took Mr. Brown in handcuffs to Markham's police station. The following evening he was released without charges. During the course of the raid and search, police allegedly stole approximately \$150 cash that was in the residence.

Mr. Brown is represented by Jon Loevy and Matt Jenkins of the civil rights law firm, Loevy and Loevy

## The Status of Girls in Wisconsin

**Milwaukee** - The first Status of Girls in Wisconsin Report was released on November 8, 2007 by Alverno College, Girl Scouts of Wisconsin; Wisconsin Women's Council and Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee.

"Women contribute substantially to making Wisconsin a great place to live, work, and raise a family," Governor Doyle said. "While there are many positive notes highlighted in this study, it also points to challenges facing our young people."

The report draws upon a wide range of statistical materials to present an overview of how girls ages 10-19 across the state are faring. "It explores every pressing issue affecting the livelihood of Wisconsin girls, citing areas where girls have made gains as well as places where gaps exist," says Elaine Maly, Executive Director of the Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee. "It's an invaluable resource - and a call to action - for policymakers, educators, youth workers, activists and funders, to think more deeply and strategically about the needs of girls."

### Findings include:

- In the state's high schools, girls score lower than boys on standardized math tests, but higher than boys on reading tests. Girls are more likely to be enrolled in Advanced Placement classes for college credit

- Wisconsin's teen birth rate is well below average, yet there are significant racial and ethnic disparities in birth rates, as well as high birth rates in several

large Wisconsin cities and some rural counties.

- Thirty-two percent of Wisconsin high school girls report being sexually active. Nearly half of girls, 15 or younger, report that their first sexual intercourse was not consensual.

- High reported rates of depression; girls are more likely to participate in self-harm and more likely to attempt suicide. Girls are more likely than boys to be victims of abuse and neglect than boys, with rates rising steeply after the age of 11 for girls.

- Girls are more likely to use computers for social purposes compared to boys.

This report is one of the few studies in the nation to provide a comprehensive examination of the status of girls at the state level, and puts Wisconsin at the forefront of work in this area. It, along with an executive summary and additional background are available at [www.womensfund.com](http://www.womensfund.com).

The Women's Fund is the largest permanent resource in Wisconsin dedicated exclusively to funding and advocacy for the emerging needs of women and girls. Organizations supported by the Women's Fund work to make greater Milwaukee a better place for women and girls to prosper. Its mission is to advance access, equity, and social justice through woman-focused philanthropy, grantmaking, and advocacy. Alverno College is an institution of higher education dedicated to the undergraduate education of women. The Status of Girls Report was produced by the Alverno College Center for Research on Women and Girls.

International



Happenings

## Neighbor sets gay couple's apartment on fire

**Wales** – A man who apparently took offense to a gay couple's relationship, went to their Rhyl apartment with a three-foot long metal pipe intending to crack one of the men over the head. When that didn't work, he returned to their empty apartment and set several fires, causing around \$5,000 in damage, and the evacuation of other residents.

Alan Pollitt, told the court that he went to the couple's apartment in a drunken and angry state, and threatened one of the men with the metal bar. There was a struggle and the defendant was pushed to the floor. The victim was able to ward off the attack, and left to find his partner. The couple went to a local pub to discuss the incident, and while they were out, Pollit broke into their apartment, and set five fires.

He had previously told the caretaker of the apartment building that he was "going to kill them."

The victims, David Daniel, 39, and Stephen Taylor, 51, had been in a relationship for 18 years, had lived at the apartment for 11 years, and had previously had no trouble with Pollitt.

In a victim impact statement one of the men, Stephen Taylor, 51, said the incident had "totally ruined his life", he had since split up with his partner and moved away from Rhyl.

Although Pollitt denies being homophobic, he expressed no remorse for his actions, and received an indeterminate sentence, and will only be released when the parole board considers he is safe.

## Sixth Annual Thanksgiving Pot Luck Dinner

Over one-hundred people gathered at Plymouth Church on the East Side to enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner at the Sixth Annual Thanksgiving Pot Luck Dinner on November 24th. The event was sponsored by SAGE/Milwaukee, MKE LGBT Community Center - Project Q, PFLAG, Lesbian Alliance, Black & White Men Together, MKE Community Church and Brew City Bears.



Volunteers organize the Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner.



Diners mix and mingle at the Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner.

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## Outwords Books

Top 5 Picks for December

### New & Noteworthy Fiction Releases

Exclusive to Q Life.

### FOR THE BOYS:

**1. "Every Frat Boy Wants It,"** Todd Gregory

At 18, Jeff Morgan is the quintessential all-American boy—blond, blue-eyed, and a star jock. Enrolling in college, Jeff hopes to become a writer. He also hopes that fraternity life will help him get over his lifelong attraction to other men. The reality couldn't be more different...

**2. "Murder in the Rue Chartres,"** Greg Herren

Following Hurricane Katrina, Chase MacLeod returns to a different, shattered New Orleans. When he discovers that his last client was murdered the very night she hired him, he is drawn into a web of intrigue and evil.

**3. "The God Box,"** Alex Sanchez

In this unforgettable novel, Lambda Award-winning Sanchez tells the story of Paul, a religious high-school senior whose life is turned upside-down when he meets Manuel, who says he's both Christian and gay -- two things Paul didn't think could coexist.

**4. "Best Gay Love Stories: Summer Flings,"** ed. Brad Nichols

As winter approaches, indulge in some sizzling *Summer Love* stories. From beachfront bunking to cruising the ocean's waves, this year's edition explores the electric connection between men and men and the sultry sun that melts their hearts.

**5. "Right Side of the Wrong Bed,"** Frederick Smith

At 33, Kenny Kane seems to have it all including a hot firefighter for a boyfriend -- until he cheats on Kenny with a woman! Then he meets 21 year-old Jeremy Lopez. Can he really find what he's been looking for with a kid like Jeremy -- or will Kenny wake up feeling like he's on the right side of the wrong bed?

### FOR THE GIRLS:

**1. "In the Name of the Father,"** Gerri Hill

This sequel to "Hunter's Way" is a fast-paced police thriller, moving beyond the grandeur of the Church to the lies and deceptions that unfold when the details of the murder of a well-loved priest with a secret life begin to surface.

**2. "Hard Times,"** Blayne Cooper

Years ago, Lorna Malachi was plunged into the Blue Ridge Women's Correctional Facility where she sold her soul one piece at a time. Lorna has learned not to trust anyone, particularly the likes of Kellie Holloway, her new cellmate. Soon the lines between right and wrong blur, sexual passion explodes, and love proves the biggest risk of all.

**3. "Mine,"** Georgia Beers

Three years after Courtney McAllister loses her partner in a car accident, she's finally trying to move forward. Then she meets aggressive real estate broker Rachel Hart and despite an undeniable attraction, Courtney feels having given her heart once, she doesn't have room for that kind of love in her life again. Or does she?

**4. "Twilight,"** Kim Pritekel

Christine Grey is one of the greatest musical talents of her generation yet has never felt more alone. About to drown in a life of pain, secrets and excess, she is saved by an unlikely hero. Willow Bowman is a nurse, and happily married woman, with a life filled with love and security. The events of one night change both their lives forever.

**5. "Crown of Valencia,"** Catherine Friend

In this sequel to "The Spanish Pearl," Kate follows Anna back to the 11th century to clean up Anna's mess before she and those she loves cease to exist. There she finds herself fighting not only Anna and her hired thugs, but also another woman -- the woman Kate has never stopped loving.



# Is Your Star Sign Ever Wrong?

How did queer folks survive in the days before The Internet Movie Database and Wikipedia put endless trivial information about our favorite celebrities at our fingertips twenty four hours a day? They did it with the help of queer fanzines that uproariously adored the off-beat and interesting people who populated our dense pop culture landscape. By juxtaposing clippings from newspapers and magazines with timely political, social, and sexual content, these editors brought some much needed humor and levity to a queer community struggling with social justice issues and fighting a pandemic. They occasionally also brought us back down to earth when a celeb went supernova and vanished into black hole obscurity.

## Dey Dream Believer

The most recent donation to QZAP is a four-issue run of the adorably quirky **Susan mini mag**, sent in by editor Philip Bahr. Noteworthy for early adaptation of a color copy cover, made possible by the lowered cost and increased access to color copy technology, it's highly appropriate

for an homage to actress Susan Dey. She stepped off the nervous mother piloted psychedelic bus of The Partridge Family and into our hearts. Susan is a plausible queer hero for good reason. After her successful run as Laurie Partridge, that role and associated stereotype plagued her until she shook it off with a vengeance when she was cast as Grace Van Owen on L.A. Law in the mid 1980s. Queers of any stripe can easily identify at the prospect of being unfairly lumped into a singular identity with no basis in fact! **Susan mini mag** comes to the rescue as well, by elevating the campy Partridge Family imagery and iconography of Dey's big smile, beautiful eyes and gorgeous hair to transform it by pairing it with uplifting observation about the state of the queer nation at the time. It's déjà vu all over again, especially the eerily prescient commentary about a Clinton succeeding a Bush, with Al Gore guiding us in taking "responsibility for this fragile, ailing organism we call the United States [...] and the entire planet as well" [Issue 2, 56 pages 1992]. With contributors like the lovely artist Moon Trent, astrologer Alex Miller-Mignone, and erotica writer

Bill Barr, **Susan mini mag** has a positive attitude and never delves into despair despite addressing important issues of sexual health and personal well being. This is destined to be one of the standouts in the Archive's collection!

## River Deep, Mountain High

Some observers were openly and vocally confused by the appearance of two references to the late actor River Phoenix in this summer's QZAP produced Queer Zine Art Show. First, through **Fanorama** and the legendary **River Phoenix Memorial Edition** and second as a bittersweet coda to comics artist Sina Shamsavari's "Sunday 31st October ~ c. 5pm" from **Boy Crazy Boy** [Issue 1, 16 pages, 1993]. Phoenix, in addition to inadvertently becoming a modern day James Dean style icon, became an idol to a generation of queer boys who were clued into Hollywood scuttlebutt at the time that Phoenix stood up to director Gus Van Sant whilst working on a crucial scene in the 1991 movie hit **My Own Private Idaho**. Ironically, a gay Van Sant had portrayed Phoenix's character, Mike, as ambivalent in terms of sexuality.



## 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.

Phoenix insisted Mike was gay, and in the now infamous campfire scene, uttered the magical sentence "I just want to kiss you, man." This helped cement the adoration Phoenix received in queer fanzines where he crossed over into queer iconography. He doesn't exactly carry a camp quality like Susan Dey does, but reminds us that not all star-crossed stories have a happy ending.

The Queer Zine Archive Project is a free digital archive of past and present zines on the Web at [qzap.org](http://qzap.org).

## PrideFest Announces 2008 DATES, Seeks Volunteers

**Milwaukee** - PrideFest will once again kick off Milwaukee's lakefront festival season when it takes over the Henry W. Maier Festival Grounds (Summerfest) June 6, 7 and 8, 2008.

"We hope people will save these dates for what promises to be one of the nation's best LGBT pride events," said PrideFest President Scott Gunkel.

In 2007 PrideFest had a banner year with a 14% increase in attendance and the nation's biggest Pride entertainment lineup featuring Kathy Griffin, Chaka Khan and Joan Jett and the Blackhearts. In the past four years of PrideFest's twenty-year history, the festival's attendance has grown 35%.

To help build the festival's volunteer infrastructure and deliver an even stronger event, PrideFest is seeking volunteers for its production team.

"PrideFest is run completely by

volunteers, and it's their dedication that pulls the festival together year after year. We need the support of people who can use their skills to further develop this great community event," said Festival Producer Pete Minns.

Several volunteer positions are available at various levels of responsibility. Positions include Box Office Director; Web/IT Coordinator; Pride Guide Coordinator; Sponsorship Director; Treasurer-Elect, and Assistant positions in nearly all areas of the festival. A list of current openings and application procedures is available at [www.pridefest.com](http://www.pridefest.com) and more information is available by calling 414-272-3378.

The mission of PrideFest is to celebrate the diversity of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) culture and community.

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# New Year's Money Resolutions

## - Six sound moves for a fiscally fit future

**A**fter the holiday celebrations are over, it's time to refocus on goals for the coming year. And while resolutions to lose weight, exercise more or give up caffeine are all worthwhile, it's the financial resolutions that you make and keep this year that can really make a difference come retirement time. Here are six worth implementing:

**Get organized.** Knowing where your receipts, investment statements and tax returns are is an essential component of your financial plan. Setting up a system now will keep you organized throughout the year. Create separate folders for all of your 2007 tax-deductible expenses, your banking and investment statements, insurance claims and pay stubs/W2s. This one simple step will get your financial year off to a good start.

**Make copies of important documents.** In an emergency, you may need to quickly locate critical records such as insurance policies, bank account and credit card numbers. Compile a comprehensive list with account

information and contact numbers for all important accounts. Also make copies of deeds to property, stock and investment statements and other valuable holdings. Put everything in a safe place in your home and keep a copy in a location away from home, such as in a safety deposit box.

**Start a plan for getting out of debt.** It could be a daunting way to start the year, but there is no better time than now for a financial reality check. Write down your credit card balances, the interest rates being charged and the minimum monthly payments. Figure out which cards (those with the highest rates) to pay off first. There are many good books on the subject, and depending on how much debt you have, you may want to meet with a financial advisor to develop a specific pay down plan. Also, try to resist the temptation to pay off your credit cards with a home equity loan or line of credit. You'll only be trading an unsecured loan for a secured loan, without getting to the root of your tendency to overspend.

**Review your 401(k) plan.** Or sign up, if you haven't already done so and your company offers a retirement plan. Many employers offer matching funds – sometimes as much as 50% of your contributions and up to 6% of your salary. That's free money! If you are already in a plan, now is a good time to review your allocations for the past year to see if you need to make adjustments.

**Check your insurance coverage.** Did you make home improvements this year? Have a baby? Change jobs? You may want to make changes to your insurance policies to make sure you are adequately covered. If you or your spouse have neglected to purchase life, long-term care or disability insurance, now is the time to meet with a qualified professional to discuss the benefits of these important financial safeguards.

**Review your estate plan.** While not something most people look forward to doing, documenting your wishes in the event of your death is essential. If you have not done so already, make plans to draw



### FINANCE

Kurt A. Schummer is a Manager, Financial Services with The Prudential Insurance Company of America, located at 10000 Innovation Dr., Wauwatosa, WI, 53226. 414-456-1770, ext. 7240 The Prudential Insurance Company of America 751 Broad St., Newark, N.J. 07102-3777.

up a durable power of attorney for health care and finances and a living will. These simple steps can help protect your assets and loved ones should the unthinkable happen.

Getting your financial house in order takes more than just writing down a list of resolutions. It takes discipline and planning. But having clearly identified goals and taking consistent steps towards them will help you make great strides toward having a financially happy New Year.



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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.

#### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Kate Sherry

#### SALES DIRECTOR

Bob Harvey

#### STAFF WRITERS

Raymond Bradford, Jennifer Curtis, Patrick Flaherty, Harry Hanson, Gary Hollander, Michael Munson, Cyndie Ody-Weis, Lesley Salas, Bill Serpe, Don Schwamb, Michael Sweeney, Rev. Andrew Warner, Roger Uscila, Christopher Wilde

#### SPECIAL TO QLife

Michael Lisowski

#### PRODUCTION & DESIGN

Harvey Graphics

#### WEBMASTER

Datum

#### CIRCULATION

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.

#### ADVERTISE IN QLife

Studies prove that LGBT consumers have deeper trust for brands and products that target gay consumers. Reach this powerful segment of the population in the pages of Queer Life and gain loyal customers, a significant percentage of the general population. As Wisconsin's premier LGBT News Leader, QLife serves an important buying audience ready to embrace companies friendly to the gay community.

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## Slow and Steady

By Kate Sherry

Did you ever walk into a room, and get the feeling that you were the last person people expected to see? Well, I was fortunate to experience such a thing when I attended one of The Greater Milwaukee Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Visioning Project breakfast meetings. I'm sure someone from QLife showing up was the last thing they expected. If I hadn't heard in advance about their plans from one of our advertisers, the congratulatory email announcing the Visioning Projects collaboration with the Shepherd Express and its new LGBT pages would have come as a bit of a shock.

The Visioning Project is a "unified collaboration among LGBT communities and allies with mutual respect, trust and inclusivity. And to mobilize and empower presence that fosters equality and well being for LGBT people."

Sounds great. And let me be clear here - I have worked with just about everyone sitting around that table that morning, and have the utmost respect for them and for the work that they do. I know

they only have the best intentions in mind when doing what they feel is right for Milwaukee's LGBT community. But if I'm to be honest about this, we did feel a bit "stung" for a while afterwards.

This meeting was held to discuss their "hard work and dedication" with Shepherd Express to start running a monthly "LGBT" section.

Monthly news about Milwaukee's LGBT community? Where have we seen that before?

But, seriously, we too are all for increasing LGBT visibility. We publish for that very same reason. The more visible we are, the better chances at mass acceptance, equal rights, etc. So, they are right on the mark in that respect.

Obviously, we can't stop another publication, and let's face it, the largest free publication in Milwaukee, from covering gay issues; in fact, it's about time they did. They could have very well taken it upon themselves to do such a thing, even without the help/guidance of the Visioning Project.

I agree that in order to progress as a community, we need to branch out, even if it means going 'mainstream.' This is the very reason that we too, include "mainstream" news and topics in QLife, and use the talents of "allied" writers as well - even if it

leads to accusations from our own community of not being "Queer" enough (which it has.) A bit of a double standard, don't you think?

Sure, we are concerned about a loss of ad revenue - but that's a monthly given. All of the free local papers are constantly competing for ads. Nothing new there.

I told them that it feels like they've put QLife on the back burner, to which they responded, "It will only help QLife." Possibly. Perhaps the mass distribution of the Shepherd Express will provide more acceptance from the allied community towards Milwaukee's LGBT community, and, ultimately lead to more notice of QLife. Maybe that is our 'in' to all of the places that have previously denied us access to distribute.

But why were we not informed of this development in the first place? They are certainly under no obligation to tell us anything, and in all fairness, they DID NOT say that they WOULD NO LONGER support QLife anymore - for which we are appreciative. But somehow, it just would have sounded better finding out from them.

And, one more thought: Wouldn't increased LGBT visibility also come from "hard work and dedication" in helping the local LGBT paper increase its distribution?



## Let's Talk

They say that if you wait long enough, the time will come ... again. And so the time for LGBT people to be respectable has come again. That annoys some Queers who resent any limits that society would place in individual freedom of expression. But that is the price that every group must pay for civic order. We want the "right" to serve in the military. We want the "right" to marry and raise children. We want to be recognized for the essentially equal human beings that we are.

Yet these demands for equal civil

rights are denounced by some older LGBT veterans of the sexual revolution who refuse to admit that the revolution is over, the radicals lost, and the country has moved on. Moreover, new cohorts of LGBT young people have grown up with increasing acceptance, visibility and integration into all areas of our national life. A young gay person is more likely today to find his/her life partner in an LGBT-affirming church or synagogue than in a gay bar.

Still, young gays learn how to be gay from those of us who are older and are role models. In the '90s we taught them that they were "at risk" for drug abuse and sexually transmitted disease. We offered condoms and lube, harm reduction workshops and support groups. Only as an after thought did we add, "negotiated safety" to protect those with whom we intended to have relationships.

Meanwhile the times were changing. Cruising public sex environments was giving way to dating, not because the sex police were especially vigilant, but because it had become safer to be

OUT about one's homosexuality. With increased visibility especially of gay cultural icons like Elton John, Melissa Etheridge, Dan Savage and Rosie O'Donnell we became familiar to Middle America. In the process LGBT kids saw themselves as representative of America's diversity not as aliens or outlaws.

The question today isn't so much whether or not we will change the majority culture, we have already changed it, the question is - where do we go from here? Where and on what do people of differing sexual orientations agree and what values are unique to each? What can we learn from each other? When is it for the greater good that the self-serving interests of the individual should yield to the greater good of the community? We need to have these discussions because while conservatives battle radicals our own "silent moral majority" increasingly finds the culture wars either alienating or irrelevant. Either way, by refusing engagement the *community* will be the loser.

Bea Green

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# Goodwill Among People

The First Unitarian Universalist Congregation in downtown Milwaukee is a gem of a sanctuary. The building is stunning – a classic example of Gothic architecture, with stained-glass warmly defusing the light. Even more stunning is the welcome the congregation itself offers.

"Freedom, reason, and diversity are the core values of the Unitarian tradition," assistant minister Craig Schwalenberg explains. These core values led congregations like the First Unitarian Society to become passionate advocates of social justice. The congregation celebrated its first same-sex wedding in the mid 1980's and officially welcomed the LGBT community in the mid 1990's.

The congregation was particularly involved in the marriage amendment fight in 2006. Before the election a very large banner outside proclaimed its opposition to the ban on gay marriage. Interweave, an LGBT group within the congregation, organized the congregation's outreach and fundraising efforts. The ministers spoke out publicly.

The draw of Unitarian Universalism (UUism) is more than its commitment to social justice. Craig captures the essence of the tradition when he describes his first experience of a UU congregation. "It was an amazing feeling of being welcomed and challenged at the same time." For the first time he was in a congregation of people who thought like he did. Yet he was

hearing a sermon that would make him think all week. "And the next Sunday I was right back in church."

It can be hard to say what Unitarians believe. The UU tradition is not concerned with common doctrines or practices in the same way that Christianity or Buddhism is organized. UUs draw on all religious traditions for inspiration. They find meaning from a shared journey shaped by the belief in the importance of doubt, the call to grow and change, and the confidence that people are both the fundamentally the same and uniquely different.

The spirituality of UUism becomes evident at the holidays. The First Unitarian Society will hold Christmas Eve services. Yet, as Craig explains, "For us, Christmas is less about Jesus as the Savior and more about the birth of hope." UUs seek to honor the birth of Jesus but in a way that is not shaped by the faith commitments of Christianity.

In the midst of remembering the birth of Jesus the congregation will also commemorate Hanukkah even as other members gather for a regular Buddhist Meditation Group or a Humanist Discussion Group. Other UU congregations might hold a celebration of the winter solstice.

UUs are able to make a meaningful faith out of this great mixture. As Craig says, "I experience the holy in connections and relationships." The embrace of



## 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.

a profound religious diversity allows Unitarians to cultivate the broadest array of connections.

On Christmas Eve many will read the story of the angels announcing the birth of Jesus to the shepherds outside Bethlehem. They sing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward all!" The First Unitarian Society is a place where people find the glory of the divine in all sorts of ways and, through their life together, certainly find ways to promote peace and goodwill among all.

*The First Unitarian Society is located at 1342 N. Astor in downtown Milwaukee. Sunday services are held at 8:45 am, 11:00 am, and 5:00 pm.*

# SAVE THE DATE!

**PrideFest 2008**  
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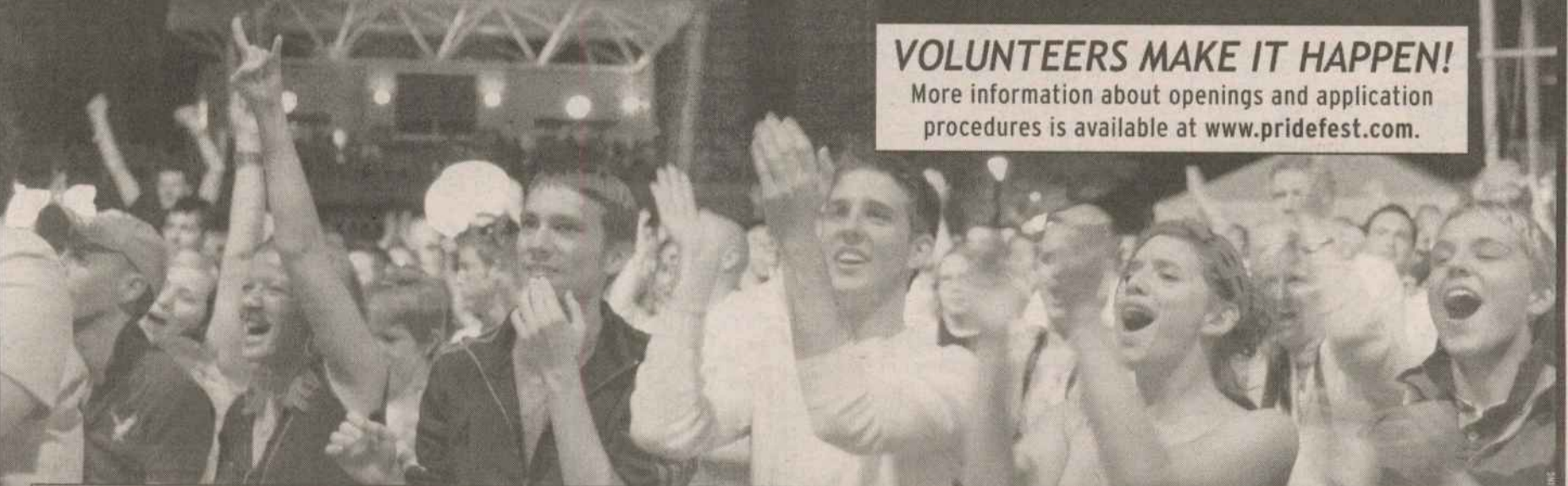
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~ MILWAUKEE ~



# Unlearning Helplessness

Among the few vivid memories I have from school was studying the cruel experiment by psychologists researching "learned helplessness." A researcher shocked a restrained dog while chiming a tone. The dog learned that it was helpless to escape the shock accompanying the tone. Later, when unrestrained and free to escape, the dog would passively await the shock when it heard the tone. It had learned to be helpless.

Decades of oppression have certainly taught lesbian and gay people to be helpless. In 1999 I was working with other volunteers to create a domestic partner registry for the City of Milwaukee as part of the Domestic Partnership Task Force (later folded into Center Advocates). At that point, nothing much positive on LGBT public policy had happened since the 1982 passage of Wisconsin's gay rights law. In fact, in the intervening years, the scope of that law had been eroded with the so-called "Rawhide" amendment undermining protections for youth workers. Also, Milwaukee Public Schools had rejected an initiative to make it more gay-inclusive, Milwaukee police were disastrously late in detecting the Dahmer murders, AIDS had decimated leaders, Mayor Norquist had vetoed a grant to PrideFest, the Milwaukee

County Board had rescinded a simple pride resolution, and the Milwaukee Common Council had overwhelmingly rejected domestic partner benefits for its employees just two years earlier.

LGBT people had learned to accept that the police might not adequately charge a hate crime, that their boss could fire them with apparent impunity, and that their elected officials could ignore them, because it seemed that nothing could be done.

It was in that context that the volunteers working to establish the registry fanned out to garner support in the community. I remember approaching a player at Milwaukee's gay softball league to ask him to sign a postcard in support of the registry. He was acquainted with me, so it was hard for him to refuse, but while he signed the card with a sigh, he told me "this will never go anywhere. They'll never pass this." It is one of my proudest accomplishments to have proved him wrong, when we won the creation of the registry just weeks later by a 10-7 vote. Even today, nearly a decade later, when I'm invited into people's homes, couples often point out their certificate from the domestic partner registry, not because it conveyed any rights, but because it was finally an acknowledgement from their

government that their lives mattered. The years since have seen many victories statewide, perhaps most notably in expanded capacity as our community has grown from virtually all-volunteer kitchen table efforts to growing non-profits with paid staff providing services, advocacy and research.

Last month marked the one-year anniversary of the vote in Wisconsin to ban marriage for gay couples. The very real setback could easily return our community to its state of learned helplessness. That would be a mistake.

When our community has asserted itself in 2007, very real progress for gay, lesbian, and transgender citizens was made. La Crosse County extended health care benefits to the families of its employees with domestic partners, as did Milwaukee Area Technical College. The Milwaukee Common Council, previously the scene for contentious standing room only debates on gay rights, passed new employment and housing protections in August for transgender people unanimously, without a whisper of controversy. Center Advocates secured \$168,000 in the recently concluded state budget to address LGBT health disparities. Domestic partner benefits may soon



## POLITICS

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

be available to the 10,000 employees of Milwaukee Public Schools. An LGBT issues in the workplace seminar was held at Deloitte in Milwaukee that attracted more than 20 senior HR executives from leading corporations, some of which have since added domestic partner benefits or are actively considering it.

Some would have us wait to press our demands for equality until the political environment is just so, and victory is assured. But positive change doesn't happen in tidy two-year election cycles, it happens over decades, with more losses than victories. It happens when people forget that sometimes what they undertake will fail, and remember that sometimes, just sometimes, when they seek to do what is right, they prevail.

## QLife Quickies

### Cambodia PM Severs Ties to Gay Daughter

**PHNOM PENH, Cambodia** - The Prime Minister of Cambodia has announced that he is severing ties with this adopted daughter because she is a lesbian, and married to another woman.

He made the announcement during a public speech, yet urged people not to discriminate against gays.

The Prime Minister and his wife Bun Rany have three sons and two other daughters. They adopted their third daughter in the 1980's and she has carried the family name "Hun" just like the other children. His next planned step is to prevent his adopted daughter from claiming any inheritance, by having her disowned. Although he is cutting ties with her, Hun Sen said he was not discriminating against gays and appealed to society to show respect for them.

### Xbox Lesbian Scene gets Banned

**Singapore** - The Board of Film Censors, one part of Singapore's media watchdog, the Media Development Authority, has banned the sale of an Xbox video game that features an intimate scene involving two female characters.

"Mass Effect" is a futuristic space adventure available for Microsoft's Xbox gaming console, and is not the only game to be banned in Singapore, where strict censorship laws apply. Games containing "exploitative or gratuitous sex and violence" or ones that denigrate any race or religion" are not currently allowed, but could possibly get a second chance if the Media Development Authority (MDA) approves a new video games classification next year.

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Ever worry about keeping your family pet safe and stress free during the holidays? The helpful folks over at one of our favorite places, The Wisconsin Humane Society, sent us some great tips to help keep your pets safe and happy during the hectic planning, and parties this season. We also received some great tips from local dog trainer, and director of Amiable Dog Training, Amy Ammen. Thanks Amy!

You may not be aware that your pet can get just as stressed as you can with a house full of guests, and gifts.

Here are a few helpful tips to keep everyone, including Fido (or Fluffy) on an even keel:

"Keep holiday treats out of reach." Says WHS. "Chocolate, chicken bones and skin, greasy foods, grapes, onions, candies and bread dough can all cause serious health problems for your companion animal."

"Make sure you supervise your pet around gifts and decorations," says Ammen. WHS agrees, "Your cat may see your holiday tree as new territory to explore... and conquer. Avoid glass ornaments, tinsel and low-hanging decorations. Also, keep Fido out of the tree stand's water, which can cause gastrointestinal problems."

### More from the Wisconsin Humane Society:

- Don't allow electrical cords to dangle or run loosely across the floor. Keep all of them safely taped down and unplug them when you are away from home.
- Don't place holiday candles within reach of Fido. The pretty flame can be an enticement and candles can easily be knocked over. And never leave a candle burning while you are away or sleeping.
- Tinsel, string, ribbon and yarn will all be seen as delightful toys, especially to your cat. Keep these things out of reach. They can cause serious internal damage if swallowed.
- Be aware that some popular holiday plants can be toxic if ingested. These include, but are not limited to, holly, mistletoe, azalea, hibiscus, amaryllis and Christmas rose. The jury is still out on poinsettias, but it is advised to keep them out of reach just in case.
- With all the holiday traffic, provide a quiet oasis where your animals can retreat to if they become overwhelmed with all the commotion.



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### Even more tips from Amy Ammen

- Increase her exercise and access to fun toys.
- Ask your guests not to fuss over him.
- Give and enforce commands to regain control.
- Keep her leashed in new surroundings- indoors, too.
- If you're too busy for him, get help!

The Wisconsin Humane Society (WHS) located at 4500 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53208, is a private nonprofit organization whose mission is to build a community where people value animals and treat them with respect and kindness. As the largest and most recognized shelter in the state of Wisconsin, WHS has been saving the lives of animals in need for more than 125 years. WHS receives no government support; we are funded through the generosity of community-minded companies and caring individuals like you. You can reach us by calling 414-ANIMALS (264-6257) or by visiting <http://www.wihumane.org>.

For suggestions on calming techniques, quick energy burners and trouble-shooting tips for any time of the year or if you've made a resolution to improve your dogs behavior in 2008, Ammen recommends consulting her book "Hip Ideas for Hyper Dogs" (Wiley, 2007). Amy Ammen has been training dogs for 30 years and is the director of Amiable Dog Training in Greenfield, Brookfield and West Allis.

## Q

## Sex with The Queen and In The Blood

### BOOK REVIEWS

Review by Roger Uscila

**N**eed a break from the Holiday hubbub? Having a diabetic attack from commercially manufactured saccharine sweetness? Then this book is for you.

Enter the world of power, passion and politics. Sex With the Queen, subtitled 900 years of Vile Kings, Virile Lovers, and Passionate Politics by Eleanor Herman is a fascinating telling of nine hundred years worth of royal marriages - and royal adulteries, well researched and told with wonderful dry wit and insightful understanding as well.

Uprooted from home, family, country, friends, all familiar surroundings, sent to a foreign land to be a brood mare for a complete stranger who married in many instances but grudgingly to carry out his political and dynastical duties, life in a palace usually wasn't a Cinderella fairy tale. Royal mistresses frequently had more power and influence than the queen, and a grander lifestyle, i.e. Madame de Pompadour. Royal "mistresses" to kings as well as to queens are also brought to light.

Royal adultery had political implications and Ms. Herman supplies the social and political milieu in which royal marriages took place.

The tales told are as varied as the royal princes and princesses (cum queens) of whom they tell, saucy, bawdy, bold, humorous, devious, colorful, and often sad. History buffs will be delighted as some little known facts are brought to light. There is the surprise to discover that Marie Antoinette's fate may actually have been kind.

A delightful, engaging, and spicy romp in history, Sex with The Queen is available online and in bookstores.

Eleanor Herman is a historian with a special interest in royal history and writes about history's feminine contributors. Ms. Herman frequently appears in the dress of her historical figures. She has also written Sex With Kings: 500 Years of Adultery, Power, Rivalry and Revenge a complimentary account to Sex With The Queen.

#### In The Blood

Rick Reed's newest release, a vampire love story introduces you to a trio of cultured sophisticated urban vampires and one, tortured and vulnerable human hanging on to life by her fingernails.

What would you give for love? Would you give your soul, your essence? These are themes explored in this tale other worldly.

Meet Terence, fatally charming, as beautifully chiseled as Michelangelo's David and colder than marble, Edward, once an artist, who paid the price for love and immortality and now walks a sad, melancholy "life" and Maria, who thought herself beyond love, centuries old and stunningly beautiful with dark, dark, liquid eyes to draw you into a sensuous pleasure from which you may never emerge.

Elise Groneman lives a beyond bleak, loveless, netherworld existence of her own, drawing and painting grisly scenes of murder and accident victims by day and selling herself by night to society's leavings, a nightmare existence which will pale compared to the waking nightmare she will encounter.

In The Blood was released in the early autumn and this review was scheduled to appear in November while the earth was preparing to take its' winter slumber. Now that early winter has descended on us and it's cold, dark, and chill it still seems an appropriate time to enter into a dark and sensuous world of pleasure, but a world that is punctuated with bloody graphic scenes, not for the squeamish.

Like most works of fiction it does require you to suspend your disbelief, sometimes stretching that requirement with respect to some of the actions of Elise, who finds herself falling under the spell of Maria.

Rick Reed has written several books of the horror genre. In The Blood is a full working of a short story that appears in his Twisted: Tales of Obsession and Terror. You may visit the author at [www.rickreed.com](http://www.rickreed.com). In The Blood is available from Amazon.com



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# We Are What We Eat: The True Costs of Food

In my last article I mentioned the importance of not buying needless junk. In this article my focus is on something that like it or not, most of us have to buy: food. And, most of us buy food without giving much thought to where it came from, how it was grown/produced/created and the social, biological and environmental implications of what we eat. However, this is something that is quickly changing. It seems that no matter no matter who I am talking with, somehow the conversation always turns to food. Not just the "What are you having for dinner?" type of conversation, but something on a much larger scale - full of questions like "Why does this country produce so much genetically modified corn?" and "Do you know of a place where I can find locally grown organic food and grass-fed beef?"

Many of you are probably thinking: "Well, ok. But how is food a political issue or a woman's issue or a Lesbian or Gay issue?" to which I can only reply: we are people and we need to eat. What can be more basic, and more political than that?

What we put into our bodies matters more than how we identify ourselves, more than issues of sexuality or sexual orientation, and yes, more than even our rights to marry. Why? Because we biologically cannot survive without food. And by and large, most of the "food" we are

eating as a country is currently some of the unhealthiest stuff in the world. Sure, food is relatively inexpensive, but its true costs are monumental in terms of our health and the environment. Thanks in part to high fructose corn syrup and processed foods, obesity and diabetes rates in the U.S are higher than ever. Industrial agriculture ignores the needs of biodiversity, sprays chemicals on everything, and keeps cows and pigs on feed lots that produce as much pollution as some cities (not to mention the consequences of feeding corn to cows, who are biologically designed to eat grass).

We have the power to make conscious, environmental, and healthy choices about what we eat. In thinking about who we are as women, as Lesbians, and as Gay people we need to think about how we are connected to the grander scheme of things as citizens of planet earth and as bodies with basic biological needs. I know that sometimes it is hard to put our bodies or our health first when we are struggling to be recognized as equal citizens. But we must. In order to keep our eyes on the prize, we have to take care of our bodies and work to stop all systems of oppression and exploitation - this includes being aware of how we impact the environment via the things we eat, the things we buy. We need to be aware of where the things we purchase come from and how the

# Q



## WOMEN

Jennifer Curtis is a former board member of the Lesbian Alliance and was a founding member of the Greater Milwaukee Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Visioning Project Catalyst Committee. With her Masters in Sociology, she is currently working on her PhD in Urban Studies at UWM where she plans to study the consequences of neoliberalism on urban social movements. Jennifer is an ecofeminist who believes in think globally, act locally, and in reduce, reuse, recycle and loves spending time at home with her partner and their cat and dog.

conditions under which they were made fit with our own beliefs in justice, equality, and sustainability. If we look into it and see that we cannot in good conscience eat pesticide covered tasteless tomatoes or corn-fed beef, we have to look into other options. Below is a short list of some ways to do this.

- Happy Holidays.
- For more info check out: *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals* - by Michael Pollan, or view his most recent articles at: <http://www.michaelpollan.com>.
- Local Harvest* at: <http://www.localharvest.org>.
- Growing Power* at: <http://www.growingpower.org/index.htm>.
- Sustainable Table* at: <http://sustainabletable.org> and *King Corn* at: <http://www.kingcorn.net>

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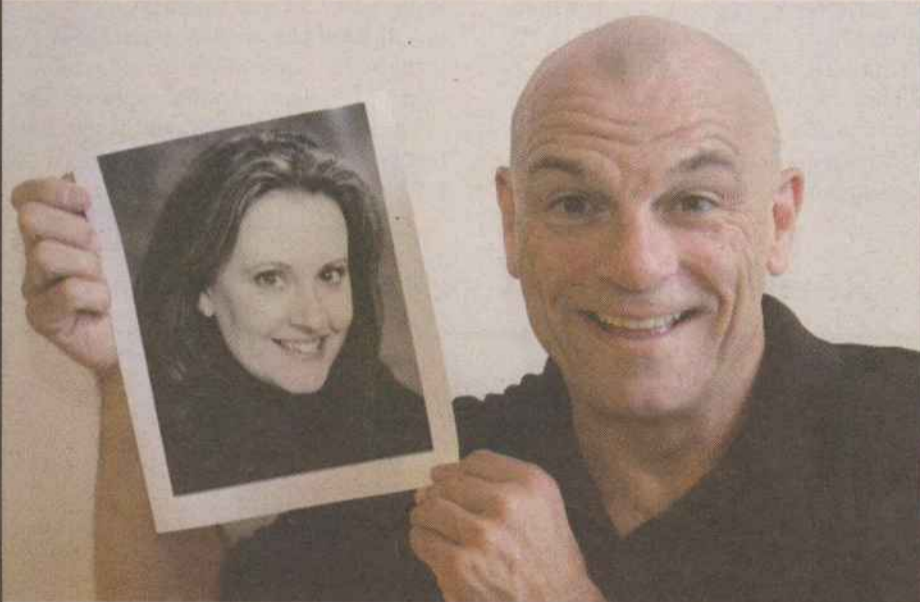
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## LESBIAN VIEW

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

*NOTE: DUE TO ITS GRAPHITE NATURE, THIS ARTICLE MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR YOUNG CHILDREN. READER DISCRETION ADVISED.*

The following is the transcript of a confession by a hopeless addict. To protect her identity, we will only use her initials - L.S. The interrogator is 'C,' her conscience.

**C: When did it start for you?**

**LS:** Well, my first time was about 10 years ago. Before that, I had no idea such a world existed.

**C: How quickly did you become hooked?**

**LS:** Not immediately. At first I thought it was stupid that people would

# Confessions of a Word Warrior

waste perfectly good brain cells on memorizing AA and XU. But soon, I was doing it, too. My sweaty palm prints were all over the two, and three-word lists. I no longer cared about the meaning of QAT or QAID. All I knew was, it allowed you to play a Q without waiting to pick up a U. Better yet, nobody challenges it, because they know they would only lose a turn that way.

**C: Were you successful right away?**

**LS:** No, no, I got absolutely creamed at my first few tournaments. I couldn't keep track of what tiles were played. I didn't know how to keep my game under 25 minutes (or even how to work that goofy two-sided clock, for that matter). When people played a preposterous word, I had no idea if it was real or not. But all too soon I was buying the paraphernalia - you know, the turntable board and the special tiles.

**C: So what made the whole thing so irresistible?**

**LS:** Well, about three years in, I won my first tournament in Peoria, Illinois, of all places. There was a road sign on the way

there marked "Hardscrabble Road." We all laughed at the irony.

Was competitive Scrabble a frustrating waste of gray matter, or was it fun? Frustrating? Fun? None of us could decide, but I took my sister out to lunch with my \$150 Division 4 winnings, so I guess you could say it was fun for her.

After that, I began using all my letters at least once in most games - yes, the coveted bingo. I quickly became as obnoxious as all the other Scrabblots, bragging about how I "bingoed out" by using all my letters and making my opponent eat the Q, V, C, I and R left on their rack. Yes, I took pleasure - no, delight - in the suffering of others.

**C: What happened to that part of you that always wanted world peace?**

**LS:** I know, I know. The only thing I care about any more is protesting when my opponent plays FLOUNTERS, or some other phony junk, and tries to get away with 85 points!

**C: I've heard you are on to the most dangerous phase of your addiction - recruiting...**

**LS:** Can you blame me? I just want to share the joy of competitive Scrabble with others. Maybe it does ward off Alzheimer's, after all. Who has room to lose functionality when their brain is chock-full of obscure currencies like LWEL, African antelopes like ELAND, unlikely compound words like COWFISH or vowel dumps like EUPNOEA?

**C: So where do you get your recruits from?**

**LS:** Well, Broad Vocabulary Bookstore in Bay View is welcoming to our kind. Owners Tina and Jennifer are letting me run a once-a-month Scrabble night on the second Tuesday of each month from 5:30 to 8:00.

And, just for the record, I never recruited anyone. Believe me, everyone there already had Scrabbling tendencies, some from a very young age. Nobody should be scared to come and check it out. We're extra gentle with beginners.

Even more time to Scrabble! Scrabble club meets every first and third Tuesdays at Plymouth UCC, 2717 E. Hampshire, from 6-9PM. There will also be a Scrabble party on New Year's Day from noon to 5:00 pm.

## This That and the Other

### Need a Quick gift?

Why not shop around and support some of the smaller shops around Milwaukee? Besides a great selection of LGBT books, Outwords Books (2710 N Murray Ave) has some great scented candles, why not get your friend that rainbow sticker they've been wanting to put on their car bumper? Shag (2218 N. Farwell Ave) does custom t-shirt designs. For less than \$20 you can have a fun photo, saying, or logo slapped on a Tee. Tip Top Atomic shop (2343 S. KK Ave) has really cool, inexpensive kitschy gifts.

How about getting gift certificates for your friends who eat out, or to let them know about a great place they haven't tried yet? Bayou (2060 N Humboldt Ave) has great Cajun food, and they put the gift card in a super cute box with a bow! Check out Greenfield News and Hobby (6815 W Layton Ave) Not only do they have supplies for the artist in your life, they've got a huge selection of national and international magazines.

For that cook in your life, head over to Bobby Nelson's Cheese Shop off of I-94 (2924 120th Ave, Kenosha) Sausages, and cheeses oh my! Whatever you do, make sure you pick up some of their amazing bacon. For the caffeine fiend, keep it local, and buy coffee from Alterra or Stonecreek. A great local choice for wine is the Waterford Wine Co (1327 E. Brady St), and for spices, you can't beat The Spice House (1031 N Old World 3rd St.) You can smell the spices from the corner!

For last minute gifts, where you have no idea whatsoever, two fun places that have a plethora of goodies are Art Smart's Dart Mart & Emporium (1695 N Humboldt Ave) and American

Science and Surplus (6901 W Oklahoma Ave) - you just have to check that place out. Whatever your shopping style, be sure to not spend all of your time in the malls, or online. There are some really fantastic shops and restaurants in this great city of ours. Go out and support them with a little holiday cheer. And a little holiday cash.

### Dance in your Underwear

Jockey International Inc., the Kenosha-based underwear manufacturer, has launched a new Web site, www.jockeyunderwears.com, where people can compete with videos of themselves dancing in their underwear. Watch them 'bust a move' and vote for your favorite underwear dancer.

### Save a Manatee this Christmas

According to state researchers, fifty percent of the statewide manatee population could be lost in the next 45 years from rising threats to the manatee's long term survival. To help fund education and public awareness endeavors, check out the Save the Manatee Club, a national non-profit advocacy org. working to protect manatees and their habitat for the last 26 years. www.savethemanatee.org.

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## HIV Billboards Violate "decency policy"

**Milwaukee** - Billboards designed by Charles D. Productions, which promote HIV testing, have been stalled by Clear Channel Outdoor after deeming them "too offensive."

This past summer, The Cream City Foundation awarded Charles D. Productions an \$1800 grant for its Media Visibility Project. Geared towards targeting African American LGBTQ and heterosexual youth between the ages of 14-24 in Milwaukee, the project focuses on encouraging HIV testing and outreach.

Two billboards, one with an African American male, and one with an African American female, both with the slogan, "HIV never looked so good" were pulled from running.

"What is offensive about them? They went through four different review panels, and got great comments." Says Daniels. "Right now, the ad is in the Milwaukee Times, and we even took them to our conferences and everybody loved them, and said, 'this is what we need for our entire population.'"

"Testing has increased because of the ad campaign. "By not running them, all they are doing is hurting our African American Communities." Says Daniels.

According to Dan Pomeroy, Real Estate/Public Affairs Manager for Clear Channel Outdoor, the ads were rejected by the County Transit system as well as the management team in light of their company policies.

When Daniels pressed for an exact reason for the rejection, he received a copy of the Clear Channel Outdoor "Decency Policy." According to Daniels, the Clear Channel declined to discuss their "decency policy",



but did finally admit that the ad featuring the woman in a swimsuit was the reason for the censorship.

"Those ads are doing what they need to do. At least five positive people have been found, that maybe we would not have found without these ads"

In an email obtained by QLife, Pomeroy explained that "edgy" ads were not a foreign concept to Clear Channel Outdoor.

## Gyms Stink!

**W**hy is it that when you walk into a gym you always feel as though you will: be stared at, talked about, or even worse... get lost!

The corporate gyms need to compete. Their motto is: bigger is better, and that leads to building 20,000 square foot buildings and installing all the bells and whistles. That sounds great but now what?

Let me tell you; you're just another number to them because they need to sell, sell and sell and hope that you never come back.

Have you ever experienced the unpleasantness of being double booked by an airline? That is the objective of chain gyms. What's that all about!? Aren't gyms supposed to help you lose weight? They forget about hiring a great staff of friendly and educated people whose goal it is to help members from getting lost.

Clearly I am not the only one who has experienced this. Now all of a sudden we are beginning to see a lot of small 24-7 gyms popping up like weeds. Even worse - most of these places don't even have the gym staffed for more than a couple of hours during the day. Big deal! Your gym is small but no one is even there to help you or to even say, "Hi".

I understand that reading this is probably not making you want to step foot inside a gym.

All is not lost!

Sweeney's Gym is all about making fitness fun and giving you, the customer, a level of service that is more than just a pretty face and a name in a ledger. Sweeney's Gym is personable, filled with state of the art workout equipment, a friendly, knowledgeable, personal training staff, swimming pool, free weights, cardio machines and other friendly members who enjoy being there.

Sweeney's Gym is fun and the staff is motivating; keeping you coming back for more. In return you will lose weight and feel great. You should expect a clean place to work out and meet great people just like you. Sweeney's Gym has been voted as one



### FITNESS

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

of the top three gyms in which to workout in the Milwaukee area. The Business Journal places Sweeney's ahead of the rest. So, if you're looking at a gym that doesn't stink, try out Sweeney's Gym where Fitness is Done Right!

Remember that the holidays may be a time to relax and indulge, but one should always keep healthy choices in mind.

- Do not starve yourself when trying to lose weight; this will only slow down your metabolism and cause you to gain weight. Eating smaller, more frequent meals such as 5 times per day (every 3 hours) is better for you to lose weight. This raises your metabolism, allowing you to burn fat as energy more efficiently. Starving yourself and binge eating only slows down one's metabolism.

- Remember to drink plenty of fluids, mainly water (min: 64oz). Other fluids such as coffee, tea, diet soda, skim milk, and juices are okay, but do not overdo these.

- Try to avoid white flour products, if possible; substitute whole wheat for white flour products.

- Min protein per meal (B,L,D) should be 20grams

- Min protein per day is 1gram per your muscle weight not (body weight)

- Goal is 1gram of protein per muscle weight pounds plus 40grams more.

Food should be baked, broiled, blackened, grilled, roasted or steamed.

"One that comes to mind is the "pregnant boy" ad for the teen pregnancy program sponsored by United Way. That ad was vetted by both the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors and the City Common Council before it went to production and display."

He goes on to explain that billboards are easy targets. "We know that the politicians hate getting related complaint calls out of the blue, so it's necessary to get them on board ahead of time."

For Daniels, it makes no sense. "The people who voted for these ads, and went through the review panels, were the target audience," says Daniels. "In our community, between the ages of 24-35, seventy percent of all new HIV cases are African American women. And with men who have sex with men, it's forty-eight percent. And they're (Clear Channel) not seeing this."

Copies of the ads have been sent to several Aldermen for review, and [as of QLife press time] Daniels is awaiting another meeting with Clear Channel Outdoors to address (and hopefully resolve) the issue.



# Holiday Madness

**W**ant an instant end to holiday blues? Trim your excess.

In this spend-as-you-go era in the U.S., many gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people answer the call of the siren that beckons us to immoderation. Some of us overindulge in alcohol or food. Some become Christmas fairies for everyone on their shopping list. Others maintain a frenetic social schedule. A few – and you know who you are – create a holiday festival of decorations from table top to toilet tank.

A drink, a treat, gifts, socializing, and decorating. Not a bad list. Nothing unhealthy, sinful, wrong, disgusting or harmful. But when these generally positive behaviors move to overdrive, we seem to crash and burn, slumping into the aftermath of a sugar buzz or hangover. We feel the regret of our purchases in January, maybe even December 26th. We question the sanity of packing away 900 yards of wire ribbon and plastic garland.

(Lest someone wonder about all of these allusions to Christmas from a writer who doesn't identify as Christian, my experience suggests that many Muslims, Jews and atheists alike succumb to holiday hubbub in the U.S.)

What are the alternatives to the physical and emotional roller coaster of year-end celebrations? For these I personally relate a handful of perspectives Paul and I have adopted at home. These half-dozen behavior changes are not for

the weak of spirit; some friends and family members will not support changes that seem so extreme.

Buy in moderation. A decade ago I read a newspaper article in Jamaica that eschewed the U.S. pull towards wretched excess at Christmas. It suggested simple gifts that were thoughtful and inexpensive: pencils for a student, socks for an athlete. They urged that discretionary funds be spent in an annual large tip to a clerk or a gift to charity. The first time I gave \$20 each to Shannon at Stone Creek, she thought I lost a bean.

## A \$30 nail clipper might seem excessive, but the recipient will remember it and you

Buy to last forever. A small book on 101 ways to simplify life suggested that we buy something with a mind to own it for the rest of our lives. A \$30 nail clipper might seem excessive, but the recipient will remember it and you for decades. We also significantly reduce the detritus of our lives.

Don't buy. Paul and I stopped exchanging gifts long ago. We no longer rush around for that special something that will measure our love, fill a childhood void, or mark status among friends. We work at being thoughtful to each other 365 and – believe it or not – we attribute

improvements in that arena to the cessation of holiday gift buying.

Give. On December 25, we sit at the kitchen table with a checkbook and make decisions about our annual charitable gifts. You'd be surprised how much available cash there is when you don't do holiday spending. We make our list and discuss each organization and their current efforts to improve our community, address needs of women and youth, and assure sexual health. We set an ambitious financial goal and divide the funds among the groups, usually not equally, but in keeping with our discussions.

Take charge of your schedule. Okay, we are quirky. We decide to stay home alone on the 25th and go out for Chinese on the 24th. We never leave the house on the 31st. But we are not hermits. We see family and friends at our place and at theirs. Just not at those dicey times.

Increase attention to healthy diet and exercise. I for one believe (erroneously) that I can no longer lose weight. The best I can do lately is not gain weight in the first place. Loads of green leafy vegetables and regular moderate exercise in the winter can produce wonders as we work to level out the effects of periodic overindulgence.

For many readers, these ideas may seem fanatic or overly rigorous. But, if you



## 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.

have been uncomfortable for days or weeks in past years at this time, consider at least one of these changes. Evaluate your mental, financial, and physical health later and see how the experiment worked for you. If you try any of these and don't succeed in carrying it out, don't beat yourself up. There are hundreds of millions of dollars being spent during this season to confuse us and insist that joy comes at a price – your wallet and your health.

Stop the madness.



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# Happy Holidays from the Staff of Queer Life News!

Thank You to the numerous advertisers who have supported this publication this past year, and beyond. As we move into 2008, we would like to acknowledge these individuals and businesses, and ask you, dear readers, to support them in return.

- |                                 |                          |                             |
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*If we missed you please forgive us and chalk it up to the Human element.*

And when you're out and about, and you happen to pick up a QLife, be sure to tell that business "thank you."

**It really does matter.**

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### DEC 1

#### WORLD AIDS DAY

Head to Brady Street from 1-3PM for World AIDS Day "Open House Events" Sponsored by businesses, industries and individuals dedicated to promoting community, providing access to HIV testing and referral, remembering those affected by HIV and celebrating improved treatments and lifestyles. Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin Infectious Disease Clinic helps a community to remember the past, live in the present, and celebrate the future. We have tremendous support and enthusiasm from Brady Street shop owners ~ many displaying Red Ribbons in their windows. Stop in at Best D Clinic 1240 E Brady Street to talk with local Physicians, Pharmacists, Nurses and Support Staff. Offering Free Rapid Testing at BESTD Clinic.

Enjoy a Holiday Fair and Open House at Tamarack Waldorf School 10am - 5PM. Gifts, music, food, tours, children's activities! Waldorf Education pre-K through Grade 8. 1150 East Brady Street. Info: 277-0009. www.tamarackwaldorf.org

For Parents, Friends, Family, Partners, Allies and Transpeople - The FORGE Family Potluck and discussion flips transgender-focused events on their head. We encourage family members (especially parents); friends, partners and allies to take the lead in inviting their transgender and gender-non-conforming loved ones to this event! After sharing food, we'll join together for conversation that will enhance the loving sense of connection we share with the people in our lives. Please join us even if you come alone. We promise you'll leave feeling more supported and connected to others. Please bring a dish to pass. Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court Street, Milwaukee. 6:00PM

Madison Gay Video Club "Rock Haven" (TLA Rel., dir. David Lewis, 2007) "Ivy League" (Falcon 178, dir. John Bruno, 2007) 8:00 PM, http://www.mgvc.org,

Contact Person: Larry Kneeland. (608) 244-8675 (evenings) mail@mgvc.org. Call for location.

### DEC 4

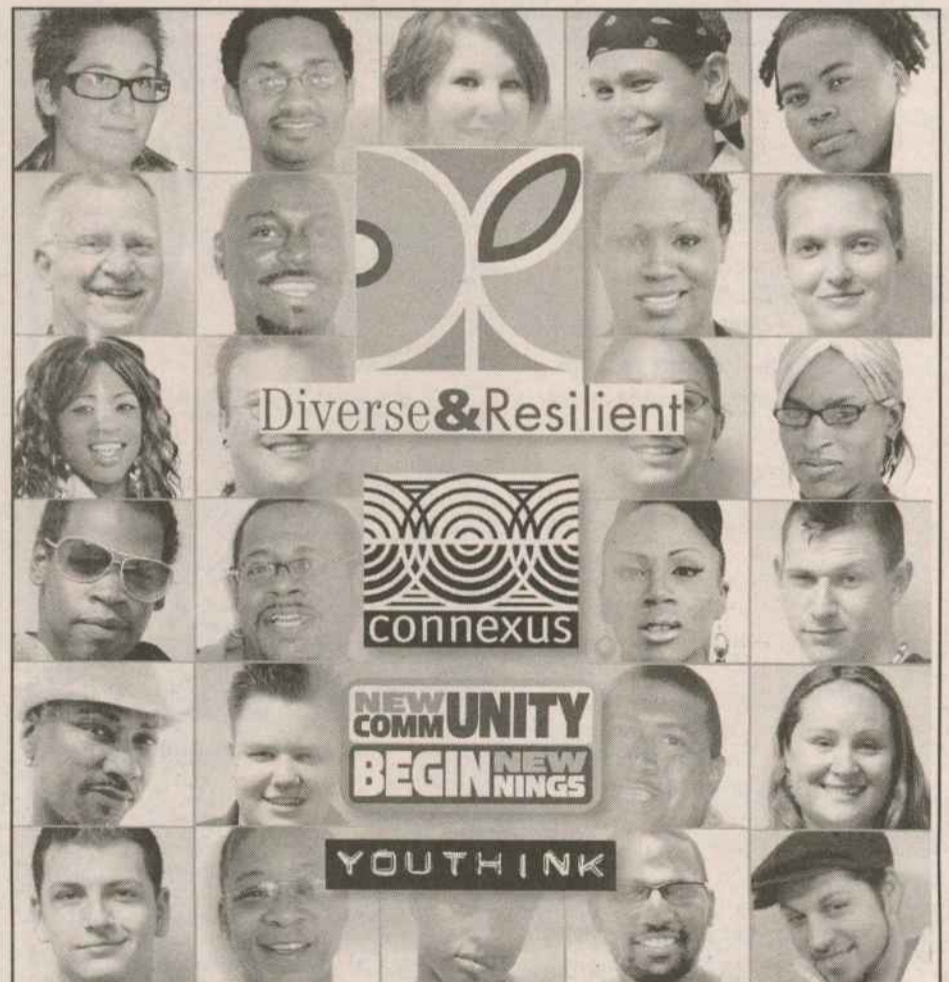
The "It's Bigger than Hip Hop Series" at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee will feature a lecture and extensive question and answer session with filmmaker, and anti-sexist activist Byron Hurt. His documentary "Hip-Hop: Beyond beats and Rhymes," - a "loving critique" of certain disturbing developments in mainstream rap music culture will also be screened. 7:00 p.m. in the Union Theatre. UWM Union, second floor, 2200 East Kenwood Boulevard. FREE event.

On going Classes at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center - Yogalates, yoga-pilates fusion with Marc - 8 weeks \$40. Strengthen your core! New students may join at any time. 5:30-6:30PM, MGAC 703 S. 2nd St, Milwaukee. Repeats every Tuesday.

### DEC 5

The Children's Service Society of Wisconsin will be holding several upcoming recruitment meetings. The New Family Informational Meeting (NFIM) is designed to inform prospective Foster/Adoption parent(s) and families of the process of becoming a foster or adoptive parent. We provide general information about the great need for families and also provide the forms needed to move forward with the process to becoming licensed. We answer questions and provide general suggestions on how to get through the application process. 1:00-3:00pm - Mill Road Library, 6431 N 76th Street. For info: 414-286-3088

Want some holiday gift giving ideas? Check out Kenosha gallery Lemon St's Artistree - Holiday Show & Sale! Reception: Dec 7, 6-9pm. Artistree is a much-anticipated annual sale of original *continued on next page*



LGBT people have been and continue to be valuable community contributors and leaders. From all walks of life, we bring intelligence, skill, warmth, and joy to the fabric of society. Diverse and Resilient develops leaders and organizational capacity to improve our lives and our communities.

Our signature programs - Connexus, YOUTHINK, and New Communities, New Beginnings - aim to make us all stronger. Together.

*The Board, staff, and volunteers of Diverse and Resilient extend best wishes for joy in the New Year.*

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

continued from page 20

artwork perfect for holiday gift giving. You'll find treasures like fine & fun jewelry, textiles, ceramics, mosaics, ornaments, handbags, artisan soaps, candies, and tiny paintings. Thru Dec.23 visit [www.lemonstreetgallery.org](http://www.lemonstreetgallery.org) for more info.

Positive Direction Milwaukee - A social support group for HIV-Positive gay men from Milwaukee and the surrounding areas. We provide a confidential, welcoming environment where we can seek sound social support, freely air our emotions and suggestions, and find new social opportunities with each other. For more info call John at 414.461.5894. Repeats every Wed. at 7-8:30pm. 315 W. Court St, suite 202A in the LGBT Center.

## DEC 7

Join the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center for its next Mix n' Mingle! Appetizers, \$5 Martinis, DJ Brian Small, and don't forget to sit on Santa's lap to find out if you've been naughty or nice! \$20 suggested donation. 21 and over. Art Bar, 722 East Burleigh St, Milwaukee. 7PM to bar close.

Jewelry Night at the Gallery! Jewelry party featuring jewelry made by your favorite local artists. Great gift ideas! 6pm-9pm River's End Gallery, 380 W. Main Street, Waukesha, WI 53186. For more info: 262-896-8875 / [www.riversendgallery.com](http://www.riversendgallery.com).

## DEC 8

Join over 40 participating Milwaukee restaurants for the 2nd Annual Chili Bowl to Benefit Camp Heartland 4-8 pm, at The Wisconsin State Fair in the Wisconsin Products Pavilion. Whether your temptation is spicy, vegetarian, or traditional chili, there is something for everyone! The first 1,000 people through the door will be eligible to win special prizes from Tabasco. A portion of proceeds will go to Camp Heartland. Advance tickets can be purchased for \$10 each at [www.milwaukeefood.com](http://www.milwaukeefood.com), or by calling 414-687-5365. Day of the event \$15 each. To learn more about the event visit the Chili Bowl website at [www.milwaukeefood.com/chilibowl](http://www.milwaukeefood.com/chilibowl). To learn more about Camp Heartland, please visit, [www.campheartland.org](http://www.campheartland.org).

Tai Chi Class at the LGBT Center with Maggi Cage. She's taught Tai Ji Quan since 1983, having studied with American and Chinese teachers in the United States and China. You will learn the basic movements of the first circle of the Yang style form and each class is approximately 1 hour. Please wear comfortable clothes and soft sole shoes or socks. Cost: \$75 for members \$100 non-members \$ 50 for seniors who are members. (4 slots available) Space is limited to 15 students, so sign up early! Register

by calling 271-2656 or email [dmartin@mkelgbt.org](mailto:dmartin@mkelgbt.org). Repeats Dec.15th

Children's Service Society of Wisconsin New Family Informational Meeting. For description, see Dec 5th listing. New location: North Side YMCA 1350 W. North Avenue - 11:00-1:00pm. For info: 414-265-9622

Frontiers Gay/Bi Men's Social Group Annual Holiday Dinner Party Potluck dinner open to all gay/bi men 6:30 PM. INFO: <http://www.frontiersmadison.org>, 244-8675 (evenings)

## DEC 10

Outwards Book Club. Come and join Outwards Book Club for a discussion of Pat Barker's poignant novel of the First World War, *Regeneration*. All interested readers are always welcome. 7:30PM Outwards Books, 2710 N. Murray Ave, Milwaukee. Call 414.963.9089 for more info.

## DEC 11

Children's Service Society of Wisconsin New Family Informational Meeting. For description, see Dec 5th listing. New location: Children's Service Society 620 S. 76th Street, 6:00-8:00pm. For info: 414-453-1400

The Lesbian Reading Group meets at Outwards Books. The book to be discussed in December is "One Promise" by Lynne Norris. Everyone is welcome to join in on the discussion! 7:00pm Outwards Books, 2710 N. Murray Ave, Milwaukee Call 414.963.9089 for more info.

## DEC 12

Children's Service Society of Wisconsin New Family Informational Meeting. For description, see Dec 5th listing. New location: Capitol Library 3969 N. 74th St. 5:30-7:30pm. For info: 414-286-3006

## DEC 13

Celebrate the season! Join the Central Library as they welcome Caroline Kennedy, editor of "A Family Christmas." Attendees will enjoy light refreshments and caroling by the Milwaukee Children's Choir. Kennedy will sign copies of her new book, a compilation of poetry, prose, spiritual writings, and lyrics for and about the holiday. Milwaukee Public Library Central Library 814 W. Wisconsin Ave. 6PM. Tickets for this event are \$32, which includes an autographed copy, and a \$5 tax-deductible donation to the Friends of the

Milwaukee Public Library. Tickets are on sale now at all Harry W. Schwartz Bookshops and online at [www.schwartzbooks.com](http://www.schwartzbooks.com).

The Milwaukee Gay Arts Center is having a wine tasting - just in time to pick out something great for your holiday dinner. Taste a selection of fine wines and learn about their characteristics and flavors to enhance your holiday entertaining. Presented in cooperation with Perpendicular Wine Bar. Suggested Donation \$15. 7:30PM at MGAC 703 A. 2nd St. info: 383-3727

Writing to Heal: Transformation through Words - a monthly trauma-informed writing group for survivors of violence and their loved ones sponsored by FORGE. EVERYONE is welcome. Topic: Anger. LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St, Milwaukee.

## DEC 14

Holidaze Hafza Belly Dance Party, bring your favorite CD and dance with professional and amateur dancers to the music of the Middle East. 8 p.m. - midnight at MGAC, 703 S.2nd St, Milwaukee. Info: 383-3727. Admission \$5

## DEC 15

Consider this your "Invitation to an elegant Christmas" with Billy Kirchen, vocalist and Bernanda Supan, pianist. A special one-time event that will prove to make your holidays special! Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. 2nd St. 7:30pm. Suggested donation \$10. For more info, 383-3727

It's the Miltown King's XXX-Mas Show! Ages 18 and up are welcome to attend at the Miramar Theater, 2844 N Oakland Ave, Milwaukee. 9PM and a \$7 cover charge. Bring 2 non-perishable food items and the cover is only \$5!

Madison Gay Video Club "East Side Story" (Wolf, dir. Carlos Portugal, 2005) "Barnstorm" (Titan Media, dir. Joe Gage, 2007) 8:00 PM, <http://www.mgvc.org>, Contact Person: Larry Kneeland. (608) 244-8675 (evenings) [mail@mgvc.org](mailto:mail@mgvc.org). Call for location.

## DEC 18

Children's Service Society of Wisconsin New Family Informational Meeting. For description, see Dec 5th listing. New location: United Community Center (SPANISH SPEAKING ONLY), 1029 S. 9th Street from 5:30-7:30pm. For info: 414-384-3800

## DEC 22

Volunteer App. Holiday Party, Join the LGBT Center for a night of Holiday cheer, the fun starts at 4pm until 10pm. For more information call Dave Martin at 414-271-2656, Ext. 1021

MGAC is presenting a Holiday Drag Show to remember! Artists Beja, Kya Brooks, Byranna Banxa, Madison Brooks, Jackie Christine will entertain and captivate you. 8-10 p.m. 703 S. 2nd St, Milwaukee. For more info: 383-3727. Admission \$5

## DEC 27

Art, Body, and Soul is a monthly drop-in art exploration program focused on body image issues. We'll be 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. Although an artist leads the group, no art experience or talent is needed to enjoy and grow from the activities. This group meets on Thursday nights from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court Street, Milwaukee. Suggested donation (which includes all supplies) is \$10, although arrangements can be made for those who cannot afford the donation

## DEC 31

Madison Gay Video Club Special New Year's Eve Party. Falcon 35th Anniversary Marathon - 35 best scenes 8:00 PM - 5:00 AM, <http://www.mgvc.org>, 244-8675 (evenings)

## Coming in January

## JAN 5

Tone & Texture opens at River's End Gallery. Exhibition of different tones & textures used in art. Featuring more than 6 unique artists. 12-6pm. Through March 30. River's End Gallery, 380 W. Main Street, Waukesha. For more info: 262-896-8875. [www.riversendgallery.com](http://www.riversendgallery.com)

## Deadline for the January Issue is December 20th.

Please send events to [qlifelistings@yahoo.com](mailto:qlifelistings@yahoo.com).

## BAH HUMBUG is a Choice

When I think back on Christmas I have some wonderful memories. I remember (because I have a photo) the year that my older brother Frank got a new diesel engine for his train set-up and I got a new dress for my doll. That my mother called it the 'activity' scene rather than nativity. Or when I was fifteen I got my first real typewriter (remember typewriters?).

Of course there are memories that are not so fond, like two years after my step-mom died and my sister said that she would be having Christmas at her house. I told her that I would not be there because I felt she should celebrate with her husband and children and my brothers should do the same and I would start my own Holiday tradition. I wanted to avoid a situation 20 years down the road when the grandkids would argue about whose turn it was to pick up the old queer uncle. So I stayed home alone, with no new tradition and was miserable. Since then I have developed my own Holiday traditions and have had

wonderful Christmases.

When it gets to this time of the year I hear so many excuses from people about why they don't like the Holidays. They had bad experiences from their childhoods, or they didn't like that Christmas wasn't as good as when they were a kid, or someone close to them had died at this time of the year leaving bad memories. Of course the one I hear most often is that Christmas has become so commercialized.

We all had bad experiences from our childhoods. Get over it. I have only met one person in 62 years who seems to have had a perfect life. If you have bad memories you don't have to let them color your present. Put them in a box in the back of the closet. Wrap the box if you like and make it a gift to your past. Then create a new memory for the rest of your life. The only reason we remember the season being wonderful when we were kids is we didn't have to do all the 'stuff' to make it wonderful. We just woke up and 'Santa' had done his thing. Now we have to do it all and that should be

our enjoyment, making the season happen.

So what if someone died this time of year. Make that an opportunity to remember that person every year. My uncle Gene died on Christmas Eve and even though I didn't really like him all that much, I think of him every year on that night, and then I think of his wife, my Aunt Lena whom I loved, and that makes it great.

And in one line, Christmas has always been commercial in one way or another. Ignore it. That doesn't have to make you crazy.

If you must 'BAH HUMBUG' at this time of the year, keep it to yourself. That is a choice and your attitude shouldn't affect other people. That's rude. Just plain rude.

So make this Holiday your own, but make it positive. There is a war we can't do anything about, and high gas prices we can't do anything about, and getting old, which we can't do anything about. Put some effort into changing what you can. Hang an ornament, make a special



**SENIOR**  
Mr. Serpe has been Executive Director of SAGE/Milwaukee for three and 1/2 years. He sits on the Board of Governors for the Milwaukee County Department on Aging Care Management Organization by appointment from the County Executive. Bill is single and lives with three cats, Clio, Chloe and Buddy.

meal, send a card or make a phone call to someone who will enjoy hearing from you. The Holiday comes every year, like it or not and it is a whole lot easier to like it.

Happy Chanukah, Merry Christmas, Happy Winter Solstice or Kwanza from me to all of you.



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# Cut me some slack!

A leader in our community has repeatedly asked me "Why do trans people get so angry when other people make mistakes?" Although I have tried to diffuse his question, noting that it is inherently prejudicial - implying that all trans people get upset when someone else doesn't use the right pronoun or language - he is sincere in wanting the answer to his own semi-existential question.

He wants to get it "right."  
 - We have a horde of angry people within the trans community, angry about injustice - on the micro, personal level or on the larger-scale, political level.

My coach Laura's best friend - perhaps her soulmate - is quadriplegic. I've known Laura for over four years and have had the pleasure of seeing her gradual (and sometimes profound) evolution. She is deeply committed to understanding her own internal world, as well as the world around her. She, by no means, takes the easy road. She asks hard questions - of others, and of herself. Her introspective nature has catapulted her into addressing issues around her friend's day-to-day life, the structure of how he lives and survives, the often-unspoken challenges for him in

the choices he makes, and the acuteness of his mind. She really "gets" him - both understanding the complexity of who he is, as well as understanding her emotions and reactions to the fact he may very well die before her.

On some days, though, I think, "Man, some of the disability rights activists I know would eat her alive." It's all very subtle. Her language may come across to someone who doesn't know her (or her friend) as diminutive or discordant. Some may view her comments as ablest - but I'm 100% certain she is not. I'm also 100% certain her friend is not offended by her language or her underlying beliefs about him. (If he were, he'd likely give her an earful, or, as he did not long ago, smash into her with his chair, initiating a rugby-style game of bumper cars, both of them in rolling chairs!)

It is easy to look at situations and interactions from the outside and deem them discriminatory or "old school." But is the issue about the language people use or how we treat each other?

People want to get it "right" but they simply may not know how. People may also find that there is not a one-size-



## 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.

fits-all answer. Some of us who train on transgender issues want to give a consistent set of definitions for commonly used terms, which, in theory is a noble goal to minimize confusion. There is no universal agreement on the vast lexicon, what those words mean, how we piece language together, or the implication of syntax.

Trans language has rapidly emerged and morphed over the past 30 years.

How can we get angry with people when there is so much personal variation? Some prefer disabled. Others physically challenged.

Some prefer Black. Others African-American.

Some prefer lesbian. Others prefer dyke.

Some prefer lover. Others prefer partner.

Some prefer transsexual femme. Others prefer tranny-chaser.

Some prefer bulldagger. Others prefer stud.

Some prefer MTF. Others prefer woman of transsexual experience.

The majority of people who know I'm trans call me a "transman" even though that is not at all how I identify. When I can see that someone is trying to be inclusive and their intent is not to overwrite my identity, I let it slide a lot more than I used to. I used to be a lot more righteous and indignant when people didn't get it "right" - but I have learned that my morphing identity meant that no one but me could keep up with what "getting it right" meant.

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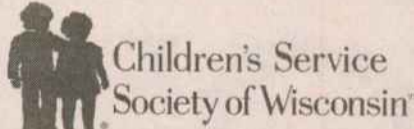


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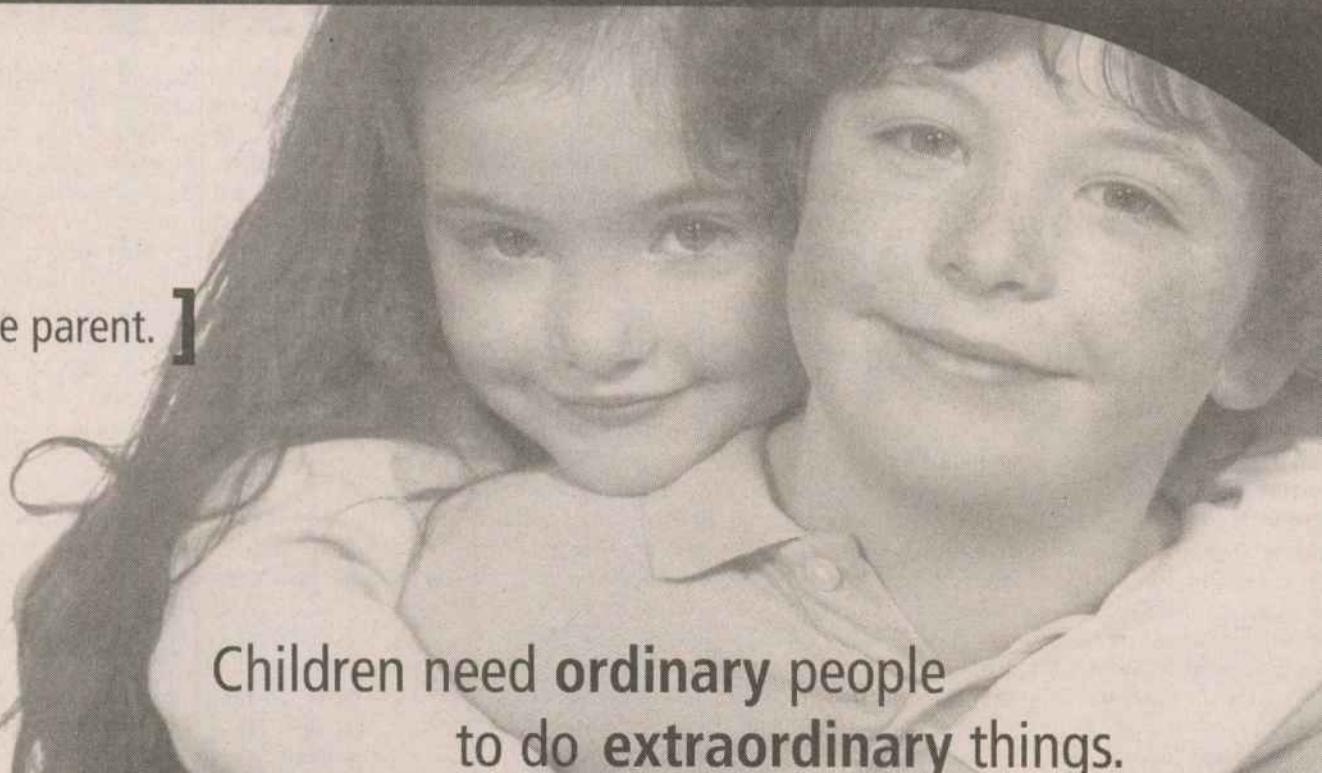
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## FBI Report Shows Gay Hate Crimes Increase 15%

8% Rise in Hate Crimes Overall

by Michael S. Lisowski

**Milwaukee** -1,195 hate crime incidents based on sexual orientation bias were reported for 2006, according to the FBI Hate Crime Statistics Report released on November 19th. These incidents accounted for 15% of the national hate crime incidents overall. Of these, 1,085 were targeted toward individuals. In 2005, 1,017 (14% of the hate crime totals) were reported nationally. For 2006, nearly 32% (380) occurred in or near residences or homes. Incidents happening on highways, roads, alleys or streets followed with 24% (287). 130 (10.9%) were listed as other/unknown, 116 incidents (9.7%) were at a school or college, 87(7.3%) occurred in a parking lot or garage, 51 (4.3%) in a bar/nightclub and 28(2.3%) at a restaurant. In the "Offense Type by Bias Motivation" category for sexual orientation, there were 267 aggravated assaults and 395 simple assaults. Of the 1,415 cases where the offender's race was known, 44% were white, 17% were black. (For the total number of 7,722 hate crime incidents in 2006, this compares to the 7,330 known offenders, of which 58.6% were white and 20.6% were black).

*Bias motivation incidents based on sexual orientation over the years has been reported in the following manner:*

|                           | 2006        | 2005        | 2004        | 2003        | 2002        | 2001        | 2000        | 1999        | 1998        | 1997        |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Sexual Orientation</b> | 1195        | 1017        | 1197        | 1239        | 1244        | 1393        | 1299        | 1317        | 1260        | 1102        |
| Anti-male homosexual      | 747         | 621         | 738         | 783         | 825         | 980         | 896         | 915         | 850         | 760         |
| Anti-female homosexual    | 163         | 155         | 164         | 187         | 172         | 205         | 179         | 187         | 223         | 188         |
| Anti-homosexual           | 238         | 195         | 245         | 247         | 222         | 173         | 182         | 178         | 158         | 133         |
| Anti-heterosexual         | 26          | 21          | 33          | 14          | 10          | 18          | 22          | 14          | 12          | 12          |
| Anti-bisexual             | 21          | 25          | 17          | 8           | 15          | 17          | 20          | 23          | 17          | 9           |
| <b>TOTAL hate crimes</b>  | <b>7722</b> | <b>7163</b> | <b>7649</b> | <b>7489</b> | <b>7462</b> | <b>9730</b> | <b>8063</b> | <b>7876</b> | <b>7755</b> | <b>8049</b> |

Wisconsin saw a 58% increase. Wisconsin reported 12 hate crime incidents by sexual orientation bias in 2006. Milwaukee reported 6 incidents, Fond du Lac-2, and Madison and Wausau -1 each. UW-Green Bay reported 1 incident, as well as Juneau Co. This compares to five incidents reported for Wisconsin in 2005: Milwaukee-2, Wausau-1, UW-Madison-1, and Juneau Co.-1.

Overall, hate crimes incidents rose almost 8% last year. In 2006 police nationwide reported 7,722 criminal incidents targeting victims or property as a result of bias against race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnic or national origin or physical or mental disability. That marked a 7.8% increase from 7,163 incidents reported in 2005. Wisconsin reported 103 incidents, ranking 25th in the nation; California led with 1,604 followed by New Jersey with 802 and Michigan with 739, according to the FBI.

The two most reported hate crimes in 2,006 were property damage or vandalism, totaling 2911 offenses and intimidation, at 2,046 offenses. There were three murders (none related to sexual orientation), six rapes, 860 aggravated assaults, 1,447 simple assaults and 41 arsons. Other offenses include robbery, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft.

The FBI Hate Crimes website: [www.fbi.gov/page2/nov07/hatecrime111907.html](http://www.fbi.gov/page2/nov07/hatecrime111907.html) lists statistics since 1995, although they have published hate crime statistics every year since 1992. Regarding sexual orientation bias incidents in Wisconsin, Madison reported anywhere from 1-12 incidents annually, save 2005 (none) and 1998 when there was no reporting data from Wisconsin.

Until 2006, Milwaukee has had either 1 or 2 reported incidents annually, save 2005 and '0' incidents for the years '96, '97, '00-'02, and '04. Of course, other cities have reported incidents as well. For example, in 2004, Brillion and Pewaukee Village each reported 1 incident.

Lack of full participation by the more than 17,000 police agencies around the country somewhat undermines yearly comparisons. In 2006, Wisconsin had 371 participating agencies, 25 of which submitted incident reports. These included 16 cities, 3 UW colleges, 2 metropolitan counties, and 4 non-metropolitan counties.

According to their website, the FBI collects data regarding criminal offenses that are motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias against the categories listed and are committed against persons, property or society. Because motivation is subjective, it can be difficult to know with certainty whether a crime resulted from the offender's bias. Moreover, the presence of bias alone does not necessarily mean that a crime can be considered a hate crime. If law enforcement investigation reveals sufficient evidence to lead a reasonable and prudent person to conclude that the offender's actions were motivated, in whole or in part, by his or her bias, then the incident should be reported as a hate crime.

Unfortunately, this had not happened in Milwaukee County under former district attorney Michael E. McCann's tenure.

### Congratulations Patrick!

Our very own Q-Politics columnist, and the ever-so-busy Director of Center Advocates, Patrick Flaherty, has decided to run for Alderman.

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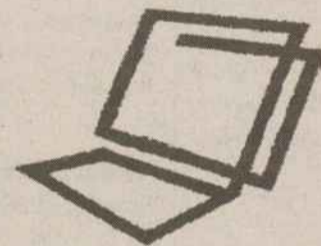
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## ARTS CALENDAR

## NOW SHOWING

Don't miss the most extravagant and delightful holiday production in Milwaukee. The Rep's annual production of "A Christmas Carol" at the Pabst Theater! This timeless holiday classic will touch your soul with its message of hope and redemption. A true holiday tradition. Tickets/info: The Rep Ticket Office, 108 E Wells Street, Milwaukee. 414-224-9490. Open Mon-Fri until 6PM.

Milwaukee Chamber Theatre presents the Milwaukee premiere of "TRYING". A heartwarming story for the holidays! By Joanna McClelland Glass. Directed by C. Michael Wright. Featuring Richard Halverson and Molly Rhode. Thru Dec. 16. Studio Theatre - Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Box office 414-291-7800 www.chamber-theatre.com

The Skylight presents the holiday favorite, Irving Berlin's musical, "White Christmas", now through DEC 31 in the Cabot Theatre of the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Tickets, \$15-\$54, are on sale now and are available noon - 6PM., Mon-Sat at the Broadway Theatre Center Box Office, 158 N. Broadway. Or by calling (414) 291-7800 or online at www.skylightopera.com.

A Cudahy Caroler Christmas by Anthony Wood, is showing at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, Vogel Hall, 929 N. Water Street (Subscribers call 414-271-1371 for tickets; Marcus Center Box Office at 414-273-7206) Through Jan.5th

## DEC 1

## WORLD AIDS DAY.

Wisconsin Cream City Chorus presents: "In the Spirit of Peace" chorus concert. An evening of music inspired in part by a poem by Lau Tzu, as we consider how to create "Peace in our nation... peace in our hearts." Presented in conjunction with UUCW's hosting of panels from the AIDS memorial quilt, on display the same weekend. UUCW, 13001 W. North Avenue, Brookfield. 7:30PM. TICKETS are \$15 each. Call 414-276-8787 for details

"For the Bible Tells Me So" (2007) is back, and showing at the Times Cinema. This award-winning documentary examines the Bible and homosexuality with great insight and compassion.

Dec 1st - 4:00, 7:00 & 9:15, Dec 2nd - 4:00 & 7:00. MON-THUR at 7:00PM.

## DEC 4

Michelle Lopez directs the Christopher Fry adaptation of Jean Anouilh's "Ring Round the Moon," a magical and stylish account of matchmaking gone haywire. Join us for a magical

and stylish evening at Hugo's chateau! Through Dec 9 (all shows at 7:30PM except Sunday, 2 PM) Mainstage Theatre, 2400 E. Kenwood Blvd. Tickets: \$10 general/\$7 students, seniors & alumni.

## DEC 5

Broad Vocabulary showcases women's art and performances at Show and Tell night. 7PM. Contact Jennifer at Broad Vocabulary for more information. 414-744-8384. 2241 S. Kinnickinnic Ave, Milwaukee. www.broadvocabulary.com

## DEC 6

New Dancemakers: Dancing Out Loud. New works by UWM Dance majors, eight young artists dedicated to being heard as they present their timely, edgy and heartfelt stories. (Dec. 6 & 7 at 5:30PM; Dec. 8 - 4PM & 7:30PM; Dec. 9 at 2PM) Studio 254, Mitchell Hall, 3203 N. Downer Ave., 2nd Floor. Tickets: \$10 general/\$7 students, seniors & alumni. Runs thru Dec 9.

## DEC 7

Experimental Film/Video Series at Woodland Pattern presents: Lunchfilms: a program of films commissioned and curated by Mike Plante. "I buy a filmmaker lunch and in trade they give me a short film made for the cost of the lunch.. Since then 28 shorts have been commissioned (or eaten)." For films curated for this occasion, see <http://www.woodlandpattern.org>. Woodland Pattern Book Center, 720 E. Locust St. 7PM. Tickets: \$2 at the door

Racine Theatre Guild presents Scrooge, the Musical, Based on Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. Famous the world over is the ghostly yet gratifying story of skinflint Ebenezer Scrooge who undergoes a change of heart after being visited by three spirits on Christmas Eve. RTG, 2519 Northwestern Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin 53404. 262-633-4218

The UWM Concert Chorale, Men of Song, University Choir and Women's Chorus welcome winter with song! UWM CHOIRS: WINTER CHORAL CONCERT at Helen Bader Concert Hall, 7:30PM. Helene Zelazo Center for the Performing Arts, 2419 E. Kenwood Blvd. Tickets: \$10 general/\$7 students, seniors & alumni.

## DEC 8

The Most Wonderful Time of the Year! Join us for the Holiday Concert of Men's Voices Milwaukee, an all-male chorus performing at Helene Zelazo Center, 2419 E. Kenwood Blvd., tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Info: 229-4308.

Opening reception for Double Exposure - two artists, two media 7:00pm. Bi-curious lesbian trans feminist film maker Ashley Altadonna and gay iconographer, painter, photographer collage artist Greg Jacobson combine for a duet of images in motion and suspension. Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. 2nd St. Milwaukee. Info: 383-8200. Exhibition runs through Jan 11, 2008

## DEC 10

StageQ is holding auditions for its March production of the musical comedy, PULP (an affectionate parody of the lurid lesbian fiction of the 1950s) by Patricia Kane. Auditions 7:00 pm. Dec 10 & 11 with callbacks on Dec 12. 148 E Wilson Street, first floor, Madison. Actors will read from the script, and should also prepare one verse of a show tune (suggested composers: Cole Porter, George Gershwin.) Please bring your

sheet music. Wear clothes to move in. Copies of the script are available via e-mail upon request to [pulp@stageq.com](mailto:pulp@stageq.com). Roles for 5 or 6 women, ages 30 - 55. All roles involve singing. Performance dates for PULP are March 7-29, 2008. Rehearsals will begin in late December. Call 608.661.9696, ext 3 to leave contact information.

## DEC 12

Turner Hall presents legendary filmmaker and raconteur John Waters ("Pink Flamingos," "Hairspray," "A Dirty Shame") in his critically acclaimed one-man-show, "A John Waters Christmas." Like a wayward Santa for the Christmas obsessed, Waters delivers seasonal observations as only he can imagine in a rapid-fire monologue that puts the "X" in XMAS. Tickets: \$35 / 8PM General Seating. All tickets may be purchased in advance at Pabst Theater Box Office and The Riverside Box Office, on the web at [www.turnerhallballroom.org](http://www.turnerhallballroom.org) and [www.tickets.com](http://www.tickets.com), or by calling (414) 286-3663 or (800) 511-1552, or night of show at Turner Hall Ballroom, 1034 N. 4th St., Milwaukee. OR: WIN TICKETS THROUGH QLIFE - write to [editor@queerlifeneews.com](mailto:editor@queerlifeneews.com), with "John Waters XMAS" in the subject line to be entered in raffle.

## DEC 14

What would the holiday season be like without The Nutcracker? The Milwaukee Ballet presents Michael Pink's "The Nutcracker" at The Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N. Water Street. Show times vary; contact 414-643-7677, or <http://www.milwaukeeballet.org> for more info. Show runs through Dec 19

Student Film and Video Festival at Union Theatre, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. 7PM. Tickets: \$5 general/\$4 students & seniors & UWM community. Spend an evening viewing the best short films and videos from the students of the pioneering Film Department. Information: (414) 229-4070

## DEC 15

O Joyful Night, with Women's Voices Milwaukee. Melissa Beastro, Artistic Director. 7:30 PM at UWM Peck School of the Arts Recital Hall 2400 E. Kenwood Blvd., Milwaukee, WI. Tickets only \$15.00 - Available from WVM Members or at M's 1101 S. 2nd (2nd & Washington)

For more info email [womensvoicesmilwaukee@yahoo.com](mailto:womensvoicesmilwaukee@yahoo.com)

Wilson Center Performing Art Series presents New York Voices in the Kuttemperoor Auditorium

It's the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra - Holiday Pops! 6:30 PM Community Party with Desserts and Coffee 8:00 PM Performance. Single tickets are \$45 Senior/student \$41 Children (ages 6-9) \$23. 19805 W. Capitol Drive Brookfield, WI 53045. More INFO: 262) 781-9520

## DEC 17

StageQ is holding auditions for its February "dark nights" production of An Evening With Carol and Lynda, shorts by Lynda Suzuki and Carol Mullen. Auditions -17th and 18th with callbacks on, Dec 19. 7:00 pm. 148 E Wilson Street, first floor, in Madison. Actors will read from the scripts (6 short plays.) Roles for 9 - 18 women, ages 20 - 70. The shorts may be double-cast. Performance dates for the shorts are February 11-27, 2008. Rehearsals begin late Dec. Contact [shorts@stageq.com](mailto:shorts@stageq.com) or call 608.661.9696, ext 3 to leave contact information.

## DEC 18

Next Act Theatre presents John McGivern in an exclusive Milwaukee engagement! "Winter Tales" a brand new collection of family stories. John's unique take on this most festive time of year is guaranteed to generate loads of laughs and a warm glow inside. Next Act's Off-Broadway Theatre, 342 N. Water St. Through Dec 31st.

## DEC 20

MARN has gathered regional experts to lead workshops designed to further the career development of artists in any media. Today's workshop: ARTISTS AND MONEY - TRACKING, DEDUCTIONS AND TAX ISSUES with Mark and Alyssa Fox (IRS-certified Enrolled Agents / Gallery Owners) 6-8pm. Hotcakes Gallery, 3379 North Pierce Street. To pre-register, pay now with PayPal or a credit card below mail a check along with your name, contact information and the workshop(s) you'd like to attend to MARN, P.O. Box 713, Milwaukee, WI 53201, or RSVP to [brenner@mamonline.com](mailto:brenner@mamonline.com). Come and pay at the door. Space will be limited and priority will be given to those who pre-pay. \$15 pay now (non-member) • \$10 (member) • \$5 (student)

Celebrate the holiday season with The Nylons Christmas Show at the Cedarburg Cultural Center tonight at 7pm. Tickets are \$35. Enjoy seasonal favorites such as "Joy to the World", "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" and "Carole of the Bells" in a vibrant concert that includes their classics "The Lion Sleeps Tonight", "Silhouettes" and "Up on the Roof". Known for their great acappella sound, dazzling harmonies and smooth arrangements. Tickets may be purchased by phone or in person at the CCC box office, on our web site [www.cedarburgculturalcenter.org](http://www.cedarburgculturalcenter.org), at Olsen's Piggly Wiggly in Cedarburg, and Ozaukee Bank-Cedarburg Branch. The Cultural Center box office is open Tuesday through Saturday 10am to 5pm and Sunday 12pm to 4pm. For more information, photos and audio/video samples visit: [www.thenylons.com](http://www.thenylons.com)

## DECEMBER 30-31

Jim Gaffigan is doing two shows at The Pabst: "New Year's Eve Eve" Sunday, Dec. 30 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$45.00 and \$55.00 (Reserved Seating) "New Year's Eve" Dec. 31 at 10:30 p.m. Performance features Midnight countdown, balloon drop, and complimentary champagne toast. Tickets are \$55.00 and \$85.00 (Reserved Seating) and are available at The Pabst Theater Box Office, [www.pabsttheater.org](http://www.pabsttheater.org), [www.tickets.com](http://www.tickets.com), or by calling (414) 286-3663 or (800) 511-1552.

## COMING IN JANUARY

Two days only! From the heart of the songs of Johnny Cash comes a unique musical show about love and faith, struggle and success, rowdiness and redemption, home and family. A cast of fourteen multi-talented performers takes you on a journey into the world Johnny Cash! Ring Of Fire features 38 of the music legend's songs such as "Country Boy," "Daddy Sang Bass," "I Walk the Line," "I've Been Everywhere," and his final hit, "Hurt." Tickets: \$38.00-\$58.00 on sale now at The Milwaukee Theatre Box Office and all Ticketmaster Ticket Centers, by phone at 414-276-4545 or online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). For more information visit <http://phoenixent.com/shows.htm#fire>. Show dates: Jan 4-5, 2008. The Milwaukee Theatre, 500 W. Kilbourn Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53203 414.908.6001. More info, see this month's ad in QLIFE!

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# ORGANIZATIONS

*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.*

## Statewide

AIDS Action Wisconsin  
820 Plankinton Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
414-225-1568

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin  
820 Plankinton Ave  
POB 510498  
Milwaukee, 53203,  
414-273-1991 www.arcw.org

BiNet USA  
National bisexual political organization  
202-882-4384

Children Service Society of Wisconsin  
620 South 76th Suite 120  
Milwaukee, WI 53214  
414-453-1400

Diverse & Resilient  
1240 E. Brady St. 2nd floor  
Milwaukee, 53202,  
414-390-0444  
www.diverseandresilient.org

Fair Wisconsin  
122 State St., Suite 500  
Madison, WI 53703  
608-441-0143  
www.fairwisconsin.com

FORGE  
PO Box 1272  
Milwaukee, 53201,  
414-559-2123,  
414-278-6031

Gay Youth Wisconsin Hotline  
Fridays and Saturdays,  
7-10pm  
1-866-gay-youth  
414-272-TEEN

Generation Q  
Social/support group for  
18-24 year old LGBTQ youth  
OutReach,  
600 Williamson St., Madison.  
608-255-8582

Outbound  
LGBT nightlife publication  
P.O. Box 1961  
Green Bay, WI 54305  
800-578-3785  
920-655-0611

Pride in Wisconsin  
Government  
c/o OutReach  
P.O. Box 310  
Madison, WI 53701  
608-255-8582

Queer Life News  
LGBT publication  
2266 N. Prospect Ave

Suite 200  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
414-383-8200  
www.queerlifeneews.com

Quest  
LGBT nightlife publication  
P.O. Box 1961  
Green Bay, WI 54301  
414-433-9821

Rainbow Families Wisconsin  
LGBT family support  
600 Williamson St., #1P  
Madison, WI 53703  
608-270-1024

Wisconsin DHFS HIV/AIDS  
Program  
P.O. Box 2659  
Madison, WI 53701  
800-991-5532

Wisconsin HIV/STD Hepatitis C  
Information and Referral  
Center  
Free, anonymous, available  
24/7 800-334-2437  
www.irc-wisconsin.org

## Milwaukee

Alcoholics Anonymous  
Request gay meetings  
414-771-9119

Bay View GAYS  
(414) 482-3796  
bvgpresident@bvgays.com  
www.bvgays.com

Bi Definition  
Bisexual community events  
315 W. Court St., Suite 101  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
414-299-9612

Black Pride  
www.blackpridecdp.com  
A Charles D. Productions  
Program  
1817 N. Martin Luther King  
Drive #3  
Milwaukee, 53212  
414-263-9999

Black and White Men  
Together  
P.O. Box 091475  
Milwaukee, 53209  
414-540-9437  
www.bwmtmilwaukee.org

Brady East STD Clinic  
1240 E. Brady Street  
Milwaukee, 53202,  
414-272-2144  
www.bestd.org

Brew City Bears  
P.O. Box 1035  
Milwaukee, WI 53201

414-299-0401  
www.brewcitybears.org

Castaways M.C.  
Levi/leather club  
P.O. Box 1697  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Center Advocates PAC  
Political action committee  
315 W Court Street  
Milwaukee WI 53212  
www.centeradvocatespac.org  
(414) 347-1892

Charles D Productions  
315 W. Court St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
414-263-9999  
www.charlesdprodinc.com

Connexus  
LGBT people of color in  
Wisconsin  
A Diverse and Resilient  
Program  
12408 East Brady St.  
Milwaukee, WI, 53202

Counseling Center  
LGBT support & discussion  
groups  
2038 N. Bartlett Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
414-271-2565

Cream City Chorus  
315 W. Court St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
414-276-8787

Cream City Foundation  
759 N. Milwaukee St.  
Suite 212  
Milwaukee, 53202,  
414-225-0244  
www.creamcityfoundation.org

Cream City Squares  
G/L square dancing club  
414-445-8080  
www.iagsdc.org/creamcity

Femme Mafia Milwaukee  
www.myspace.com/  
femmefiamke

FORGE  
FTM+ and SOFFA social  
support  
group  
P.O. Box 1272  
Milwaukee, WI 53201  
414-278-6031  
www.forge-forward.org

Foster Youth Independence  
2672 N. Holton St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
www.fyicenter.org

Front Runners  
Running group  
414-332-1527

Galano Club  
12-step recovery club  
315 W. Court St. Suite 201  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
414-276-6936

Narcotics Anonymous, Al-  
Anon and  
Sexual Compulsive  
Anonymous Meetings  
www.galanoclub.org

GAMMA- Milwaukee  
Sports/outdoors/recreation/  
social  
P.O. Box 1900  
Milwaukee, WI 53201  
414-530-1886  
www.milwaukeegamma.com

Gay Lesbian Education  
Employees of Metro  
Milwaukee  
414-462-8404

Gay/Lesbian Studies  
at UWM 414-229-6402

Gay Youth Milwaukee  
P.O. Box 090441  
Milwaukee, WI 53209  
414-265-8500

Gay People's Union  
P.O. Box 208  
Milwaukee, WI 53201  
Hotline: 414-645-0585

Gay Straight Alliance  
Waukesha County Technical  
College GSA c/o Student Life  
C121, 800 Main St.  
Waukesha, WI  
262-691-5388

Gemini Gender Group  
(TV/TS/TG support/social)  
P.O. Box 44211, Milwaukee  
53214  
414-297-9328

Girth & Mirth/Milwaukee  
P.O. Box 862  
Milwaukee, WI 53201

G/L Community Trust Fund  
P.O. Box 1686  
Milwaukee, WI 53201  
414-643-1652  
www.glcommunitytrustfund.com

GlobalAge.org  
Workplace issues and more!  
www.GlobalAge.org

Great Lakes Harley Riders  
P.O. Box 341611  
Milwaukee, WI 53234  
bootedhog@aol.com

Holiday Invitational Tournament  
G/L bowling event  
P.O. Box 899  
Milwaukee, WI 53201  
414-881-8071  
www.hitmilwaukee.org

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

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

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

Madison Minotaurs United  
Rugby Football Club  
PO Box 14282  
Madison, WI 53708  
info@madisonminotaursrfc.org  
madisonminotaursrfc.org

Marquette Gay/Straight  
Alliance  
Campus Ministry  
617 N. 14th St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53233  
414-288-6873

Men's Voices Milwaukee  
315 W. Court St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
414-765-9198  
www.mvmchorus.org

Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club  
3957 N. 81st St.  
Milw., 53222, 414-616-3716  
www.milwaukeeetennis.com

Miltown Kings  
www.myspace.com/  
miltownkings

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center  
703 S. 2nd St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53204  
414-383-3727  
www.milwaukeegayartscenter.org

Milwaukee LGBT Community  
Center  
315 W. Court St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
414-271-2656  
www.mkelgbt.org

Milwaukee LGBT History  
Project  
P.O. Box 510194  
Milwaukee, WI 53203  
www.mkelgthist.org

Milwaukee Pride Parade  
P. O. Box 070177  
Milwaukee, WI 53207  
414-607-3793  
www.prideparademke.org  
President@prideparademke.org

Milwaukee Symphony Chorus  
Auditions/info  
414-559-9330

Narcotics Anonymous  
Request gay meetings  
800-711-6375  
414-276-8546

OutCare Sexual Health Center  
Walk-in health center  
A service of Planned  
Parenthood  
315 W. Court St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
414-277-9370

Outdoors Cooperative Sports  
Group  
414-963-9833

PFLAG  
315 W. Court St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
414-299-9198

Pathfinders  
Youth counseling, shelter  
1614 E. Kane Place  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
414-271-1560  
www.tccmilw.org

Positive Direction Milwaukee  
315 W. Court St.  
Milwaukee, 53212, 414-  
461-5894

PrideFest, Inc.  
315 W. Court Street  
Milwaukee, 53203, 414-  
272-3378  
www.pridefest.com

Project Q Youth Program  
315 W. Court  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
414-223-3220

SPECTRUM  
P.O. Box 254  
Milwaukee, WI 53201  
414-482-4310

The Queer Program  
Channel 96  
P.O. Box 090441  
Milwaukee, 53209, 414-  
265-8500

Queer Zine Archive Project  
2935 N. Fratney St.  
Milwaukee, 53202

Rainbow Alliance at UWM  
Box 122, 2200 E. Kenwood  
Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53211  
414-229-6555

Rainbow Families Milwaukee  
C/O PFLAG  
315 W. Court  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
mkerainbowfamilies@  
hotmail.com

Riverwest Rainbow Assoc.  
P.O. Box 12888  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
414-562-2344  
riverwestrainbow@hotmail.com

SAGE Milwaukee  
For older LGBTs  
1845 N. Farwell Ave., Suite  
220  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
414-224-0517

Saturday Softball League  
2333 N. 56th St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53210  
414-350-7147  
www.ssbmilwaukee.com

Sexual Compulsives  
Anonymous (SCA)  
414-299-0755

Shoreline Country Dancers  
2809 E. Oklahoma Ave  
Milwaukee, WI 53207  
www.shoreline-milw.org

SWANAQIM  
LGBTI South West Asian and  
North  
African Queers in the Midwest.  
swanaqim-subscribe@  
yahogroups.com

Two Spirit Society  
Indigenous LGBT people of  
America  
1186 W. Glenview Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53213

Washington Heights Rainbow  
Association  
(414) 258-8834  
washtsrainbow@aol.com  
www.shingtonheightsrainbow.org

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

Wisconsin Cream City Chorus  
315 W. Court St.  
Milwaukee, 53212  
414-276-8787  
www.creamcitychorus.org

Wisconsin Gay Hockey  
414-202-5874  
home.wi.rr.com/wigayhockey  
Wisconsin Outdoor Women  
P.O. Box 94  
Hales Corners, WI 53130  
414-427-2082

WI Rainbow Alliance of the  
Deaf  
P.O. Box 432  
Germantown, 53022  
www.wiscrad.org

Women's Voices Milwaukee  
315 W. Court St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
414-534-5645

## Churches

First Unitarian Society of  
Milwaukee  
1342 N Astor  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
(414) 273-5257  
www.uumilwaukee.org

Lake Park Lutheran Church  
2647 N Stowell St  
Milwaukee, WI 53211  
(414) 962-9190  
www.lakeparklutheran.com

Living Waters Contemplative  
Life Center/  
Tippecanoe Presbyterian  
Church  
125 W. Saveland Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53207  
414-481-4680  
http://tippechurch.org

Milwaukee Metropolitan  
Community Church  
1239 W. Mineral Street  
POB 1421  
Milwaukee,  
WI 53201-1421  
414-383-1100  
info@milmmcc.org

Plymouth Church  
2717 E. Hampshire Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53211  
(414) 964-1513  
www.plymouth-church.org

Underwood Baptist  
1916 N Wauwatosa Ave  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213  
(414) 258-4246  
www.underwoodchurch.com

Unitarian Universalist Church  
West (UUCW)  
13001 W. North Ave.,  
Brookfield.  
262-782-3535

**THIS CHRISTMAS, PUT SOME CASH IN THEIR STOCKING!**

**"Ring Of Fire is HOT!"**  
-Variety

**"ONE OF THE DELIGHTFUL SURPRISES OF THE SEASON!"**  
-Jeffrey Lyons - NBC

**3 PERFORMANCES!**  
**JANUARY 4 & 5**  
**THE MILWAUKEE THEATRE**  
500 W. KILBOURN AVENUE

For tickets call **414-276-4545**  
or visit **Ticketmaster.com**

Groups call **414-908-6092**  
or email **mpowell@wcd.org**

**MILWAUKEE THEATRE** | **JOURNAL SENTINEL** | **TICKETMASTER** | **TIME WARNER CABLE** | **USbank**

Also sold at The Milwaukee Theatre Box Office and all Ticketmaster outlets including Boston Stores and select Piggly Wiggly stores. Convenience fees apply. The Milwaukee Theatre Box Office is open 10 am-5 pm Monday-Friday.



**Pizza**  
**Pasta**  
**Sandwiches**  
**Carry outs**  
**Friday**  
**Fish Fry**

**Military Service People:**  
Please bring your I.D. receive  
\$1 OFF a Large Pizza;  
75¢ OFF a Medium Pizza;  
50¢ OFF a Junior Pizza.

**Holiday Gift Certificates Available**  
*Please ask about our daily specials*

**HOURS:**  
Closed Mondays  
Tuesday - Thursday 4pm -10pm  
Friday & Saturday 4pm-12am  
Sunday 3pm-10pm

NO PERSONAL CHECKS PLEASE  
www.foodspot.com/denoonsaloon

**1211 E. Conway**  
**481-2348**  
**481-2367**  
**Fax: 481-2050**

## Count Your Blessings

The Skylight Theater is performing the Irving Berlin Christmas Classic, WHITE CHRISTMAS. I am sure you remember the wonderful movie; which this stage version is based on. There is a beautiful song titled "Count Your Blessings." Good advice.

As I look at our Milwaukee theater holiday scene, I see many shows, which happen to play annually. It is as if we hit instant replay on the VCR, DVD, and Cable every year. The only difference is that once we were children, and now we have (hopefully) grown up. It is a time to count our blessings.

As a person who appreciates the path of my life, I want to take this time to share some blessings and memories. I would not be in my career were it not for my Father being in the movie theater business. I also listened to my talented Mother, who was a great singer. They gave me my theater genes, and supported my career. My Aunt took me to live stage plays as a young boy; and has also continued to support my career. I have another Aunt who collects stagebills for me, from all the shows she attends. My Sisters do not get a chance to see much of my work; but it is a blessing for me that their children, and grandchildren

have some great theatrical talent. (Again the genes!) I thank the loyal patrons and friends, and the people who help with my sets, programs, and perform for stipend pay or as volunteers.

There is also the Milwaukee press; Journal Sentinel, Shepherd-Express, Q-Life, Outbound, and Vital Source...plus the critics who support my life and career in the Arts. I also want to especially thank James Searles (Astor Theater), for all of his heartfelt support. The staff of Q-Life, and especially Kate Sherry.

Try to treat yourself to the special reward of counting your blessings during the Holidays. It does one good. To your health, happiness, and to your Holidays!

### Holiday Happenings in the Arts:

Racine Theatre Guild-SCROOGE, THE MUSICAL

Waukesha Civic Theatre-THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGENT EVER

Milwaukee Ballet-THE NUTCRACKER In Tandem-A CUDAHY CAROLER CHRISTMAS

Acacia Theatre- A GIRL, A MIRROR, AND A MAGICIAN

Pabst Theater (REP) A CHRISTMAS CAROL



## 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.

Off The Wall- Annual HOLIDAY PUNCH

Bay Players-LAUGHING STOCK-opening in January 2008

Also check out the Holiday spooof at Sunset Playhouse.

Having gone to several of the above events over the season; I would make sure you highlight A CUDAHY CAROLER CHRISTMAS, and HOLIDAY PUNCH. This way you can just laugh away all of the stress of this busy season!!

*Speaking of Holiday Punch, my Aunt Blanche really spikes hers every season...which usually puts her out till at least New Years Eve - when she does it all over again!! R.B.*

### Last MONTH's Trivia Answer

The song "Sisters" is from WHITE CHRISTMAS

### This Month's Trivia Question

Judy Garland in MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS performs What Holiday standard?

# HUG COUPON

This Coupon Redeemable For At Least One Hug From Any Cooperating Human  
**Promote Understanding Prevent Violence!**

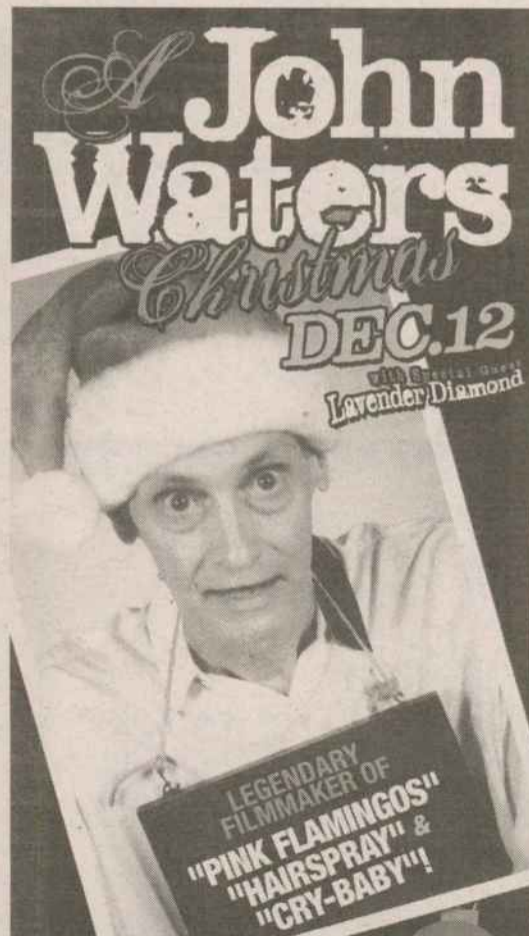
For more information about community events, contact the **Anti-Violence Project** (414)271-2656 EXT. 123

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.



**Anti-Violence Project** of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center  
315 W Court Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212  
(414) 271-2656 | www.mkelgbt.org

## WIN TICKETS! WIN TICKETS!



So, you've seen all the traditional Holiday shows, how about spending some time with John Waters? See the ad on page 5, and write to editor@queerlifeneews.com to be entered in our drawing for a pair of tickets to "A John Waters Christmas"

**Dec. 12th - Turner Hall**

Good Luck! send name, phone number, or call us at 414-383-8200.



We will be picking names on Dec.7th at latest!

**QLife News 414-383-8200**

**Q DEC. CLASSIFIEDS****FOR RENT**

**2 Bedroom Upper** in Creme City Brick 2 family. \$850. Dec 1st. 1813 N. Marshall Call 414-704-7103.

**Store Front for Rent:** 3464 S. 13th Street Former Guido G's Pizza Great location just off of Holt. Perfect for retail, office or food service. Call 414-704-7103.

**Office Space Available:** Only a few spaces left in the Clock Tower at Prospect and North Ave. 200-2000 Sq Ft. Call 414-704-7103.

**FOR SALE**

**Single crypt**, located in the historic and stunning Great Memorial Building, Court of the Prophets, Wisconsin Memorial Park, Milwaukee. A Stately surrounding for your loved one. Crypt is valued at over \$14,000; however, will accept \$8K or best offer. My sisters and I buried our loving Father in LaCrosse, WI, so we do not need this crypt in the family anymore. This is a tremendous opportunity as this area is completely sold out. Telephone 972-393-2727, ask for Debra.

**EMPLOYMENT:**

Manager for Motel and restaurant in a smaller town. If you want a future to be your own boss, become a full partner and owner in a successful business. Live in position. For information: 651-330-2927 Ext.#2. Collect calls okay.

Reporters needed for Milwaukee's own QLife News. Journalism majors - want to build your portfolio? Lets work together! We are seeking enthusiastic writers who are willing to report on events happening in our community. Call 383-8200, or submit resume (or really great letter of intro) and sample to: editor@queerlifeneews.com

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

**VOLUNTEERS**

We here at QLife want to stick around. (And take over the world!) It is possible, but we need a little help from our friends. All we are asking, is that you let us know of any location you think would be a great fit for QLife to distribute the paper. On you way to work, school, or church, perhaps you see a fun store, or coffee shop, or business, or office building, and you think, "HEY! It would be GREAT if I could pick up QLife right here on the corner!" Let us know, where it is, and we'll take it from there. Sometimes, the business says "no" for whatever reasons, and sometimes they say "YES, of COURSE!!" So lets do it! What business should start carrying QLife? 414-383-8200.

**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 414-643-5843

**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.*



Fred "Casey" Reilly died suddenly of a massive heart attack on November 15, 2007. He was 49 years old. Casey was the Director and CEO of STD Specialties Clinic for over 11 years. He graduated with an Associate Degree in Nursing from WCTC in 1994, specializing in STDs and HIV.

Casey would light up a room with his engaging smile and hearty laugh. He will be remembered for his sense of humor, quick wit and mischievous pranks, bringing a smile to many.

A celebration of Casey's life will be held Saturday, December 8, 2007 from 1 to 4 PM at O'Donoghue's Irish Pub, 13225 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to The Fred Reilly Scholarship Fund at WCTC, Waukesha, WI or STD Specialties Clinic, Milwaukee WI.

Men's Voices Milwaukee Presents

# The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

Saturday, December 8, 2007, 8 p.m.  
John Schaefer, Artistic Director

Helene Zelazo Center  
UW-Milwaukee  
2419 East Kenwood Boulevard



Tickets: \$15 advance, \$20 door  
Available from MVM and the Zelazo Center Box Office  
414.229.4308  
Group Rates Available and Major Credit Cards Accepted

Get your HIV results in

# 20 minutes

**FREE Syphilis & HIV  
Outreach Testing**

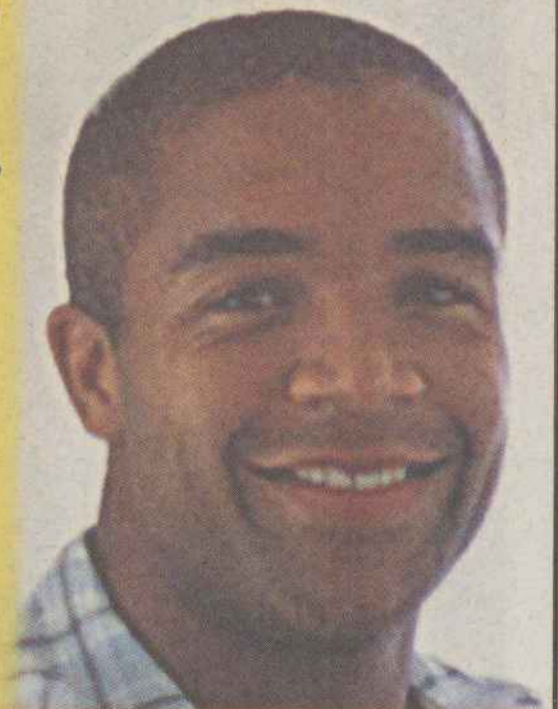
TUESDAY DECEMBER 4  
Triangle  
9pm-Midnight

THURSDAY December 6  
Fluid  
10pm-Midnight

FRIDAY DECEMBER 7  
Club Icon (Kenosha)  
9:30pm-12:30am

FRIDAY DECEMBER 14  
Kruz  
5:30-7:30pm

City Lights  
8:30-10:30pm



3251 N Holton, Milwaukee  
414-264-8800



Remembering Casey...

Also available for men who have sex with men: The Free Morning Clinic  
Saturdays 9am-Noon • Or schedule an appointment (M-F 7am-3pm)



# Nancy Meeks

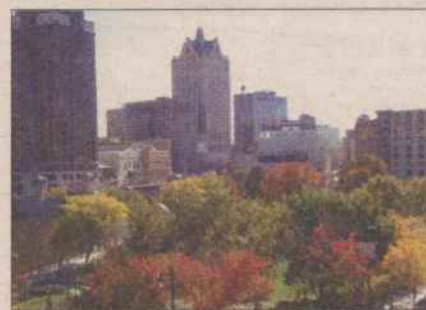
414-659-1126

414-962-3000

www.NancyBMeeks.com



**FIRSTWEBER**  
Group  
REALTORS®



**1001 N. OLD WORLD THIRD ST., MILW.**  
The John Hinkel building is a nationally registered Historic Landmark that has been meticulously restored w/top of the line amenities. Custom finishes, kitchen w/honed granite and top of the line appliances. \$499,000-\$599,000 #940097, #940094



**3217 N Oakland Ave** - East side home recently been updated to the height of sophistication. Open concept floorplan features gourmet KIT w/contemporary cabinets, ss countertops, illuminated bar area. 1st floor bath has soaking tub. Large MBR w vaulted ceilings. LL has finished office/den space. Newer windows & roof. A must see. \$249,900 MLS # 951522



**1329 W Lloyd St** - New construction home located in the Josey Heights subdivision. 2 story Colonial features KIT w/oak cabinets, LR w/GFP & a FDR. Spacious MBR suite w/private balcony & beautiful MBA. Amenities include a 2 car detached GA and a full basement. 2,200 square feet per tax record. \$239,900 MLS #973010



**234 E. RESERVOIR #502, MILW.**  
New Price! Gorgeous 5th floor condo at Cobblers' Lofts offers gourmet KIT w/granite island and counter tops, HWFs & magnificent city views. Open concept living and dining areas w/exposed brick walls and large windows. MBR suite w/huge walk-in closets. In unit laundry and parking spaces. \$299,900 #965665



**906 E. BRADY ST., MILW.**  
Historic Brady Place Townhome w/sunny southern exposure. Kitchen boasts granite counters, maple cabinets, stainless steel appliances. Fantastic master suite w/adjacent sitting area and balcony. Relax in whirlpool tub or enjoy views from the rooftop patio. Expandable 3rd floor. \$339,900 #900019



**2649 N PROSPECT #6, MILW.**  
Beautifully renovated building in a prime location just blocks away from Downer shops. Kitchen boasts cherry cabinets, stainless steel appliances and granite counters. Living room with artificial fireplace and access to your private sun porch. \$259,900 #900221



**HI-FI LOFTS**  
**MODEL OPEN SAT. & SUN. 11-1**  
**3059 N. WEL ST., MILW.**  
Fabulous condo units w/stainless steel cabinets, butcher block countertops, in-unit laundry. 1st floor units feature heated floors. 2nd-4th floor units w/wood floors. Prices range from \$139,000-\$199,000 www.hifilofts.com



**CITYSIDE PLAZA**  
**MODEL OPEN WED.-SUN. 1-5**  
**239 E. CHICAGO, MILW.**  
Live in the heart of the Third Ward's newest and most exciting community. Features 57 lavish loft style units. Hardwood floors, granite countertops, SS appliances, Occupancy 2008. \$199,900-\$449,900 #900566



**904 E. PEARSON #118, MILW.**  
Unique loft features exposed cream city brick, post and beam construction w/open steel staircase. Kitchen w/custom birch cabinets and solid surface counters. 1 parking space included. \$234,000 #900202



**106 E SEEBOTH #411, MILW.**  
Unique 1BR plus den condo on the river. Kitchen boasts granite counters & designer lighting. Bath w/porcelain tile, Kohler plumbing fixtures and granite counters. On site fitness center & concierge services. Enjoy stunning views of the Milwaukee skyline from your private balcony. \$429,900 #956764



**1809 N. COMMERCE #202, MILW.**  
Fabulous condo in the heart of the Beerline neighborhood. HWFs flow throughout the open concept living space. Superb kitchen is spacious and functional w/granite counter tops, maple cabinets and SS appliances. Large bedrooms w/walk-in California closets. \$287,000 #971391



**904 E. PEARSON #109, MILW.**  
Open concept loft offers 1500 sq. ft. of living space w/28ft ceilings & 2-story exposed cream city brick walls. Great room w/western city views. Center island kitchen w/SS appliances and custom cherry cabinetry. Loft area features a fabulous master bedroom suite w/additional living space that could be used as an office or 2nd BR. \$299,900 #900203



**GREENWICH ROW**  
**1822 E GREENWICH AVE., MILW.**  
Eclectic and convenient, spacious yet efficient. 2BR, 2.5BA units feature luxurious appointments and modern conveniences. Overlook the vibrant East Side from your private balcony. Private entrances and 2.5 car attached garage. Prices range from \$294,800-\$304,850 www.greenwichrow.com



**102 N. WATER ST. #212, MILW.**  
Beautiful 1 bedroom plus den condo unit on the river. Stained concrete floors, stainless appliances and Kohler fixtures throughout. Enjoy magnificent views from your private balcony. \$226,900 #951171



**6411 W. WISCONSIN AVE., WAUWATOSA**  
Spacious condo located in the Jacobs Park neighborhood features modernized kitchen w/granite counters. Open living room w/brick fireplace. Hardwood floors throughout. \$238,400 #951153



**1855 E. CAMBRIDGE #306, MILW.**  
Totally updated 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit is priced to sell. Kitchen w/tile floor, Avonite counters, new cabinets and appliances. Fabulous bath w/jacuzzi tub. \$122,000 #900200



**1028 E JUNEAU AVE. #202, MILW.**  
Second floor efficiency at the Knickerbocker! Superb location! Walk right out your door & you are steps away from Lake Michigan, the Calatrava, museums, shopping & restaurants. \$78,899 #968309