



Boulevard Theatre updates a classic Moliere comedy

by Paul Masterson

The Boulevard Studio Ensemble Theatre opens its 23rd season with Moliere's 17th century classic, *The Misanthrope*, with a twist. Set in a modern day Quebec art gallery, director Mark Bucher adds an additional angle – the love interests are all same sex.

Why a gay (read lgbt) *Misanthrope*? Bucher has directed many Moliere works before. But, unlike the city's recent hackneyed and lgbt-hostile theatrical fare like *Doubt*, *The Loser*, *Spamalot* to name a few, Bucher's *Misanthrope* sets gay characters in a very human and real environment of love.

"It gives the audience a unique perspective. Every show should speak to a specific social group. Moliere wrote about humanity and we're part of it. LGBT emotions are valid and worthy of artistic expression. It's important for audiences to see gay and lesbian characters perform roles in which their love is a natural act. That's certainly a rare occasion in Milwaukee. And the plot's not without the darker side of love – ambition, double dealings, manipulation are there as well as sincerity and honest emotion," Bucher said.

Moliere's satire conveys the human personality in all its foibles. The protagonist Alceste, an aristocrat, played by David Flores, is intolerant of his hypocritical and insincere social milieu yet, human, he falls in love with Cesarmene and becomes enmeshed in the questionable values he deprecates.

Bucher's version extorts the non-lgbt audience to accept the reality that those foibles are not just their own. It also holds the mirror up to lgbt viewers to see themselves in the world at large – no more, no less. Gay people have hearts too but are as prone to hypocrisy as the rest of mankind. The universality of humanity is our ability to love, hope to love or to manipulate love for our own devices.

The cast of ten reflects Milwaukee's diverse acting community and feature some of its most talented artists. Typically, Bucher's casting blends the emerging with the experienced. David Flores, Joe Fransee, Cesar Gamino, and Beth Monhollen are Boulevard veterans while others, like Mark Hagen (aka Ms.Ruthie), make their venue debut.

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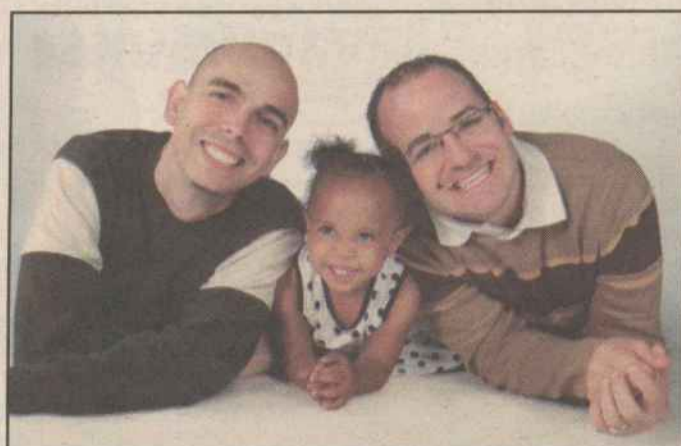


By Kathryn Sherry

Imagine driving down the street and seeing a billboard with smiling, happy families. Then imagine if you saw the word "gay" on the billboard in a positive light. What feeling would that create?

Later this month, that idea transforms from dream to reality - as a new billboard campaign to increase positive visibility of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Communities will be launched in Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties.

Funded by the Cream City Foundation (CCF), the initial donation for the Cream City Foundation Gay Neighbor Billboard Campaign came from a generous gift by the Joseph R. Pabst LGBT Infrastructure Fund. CCF, in partnership with the Pabst fund, formed the 41/26 Venture Committee that spearheaded the billboard campaign.



The 41/26 Venture Committee

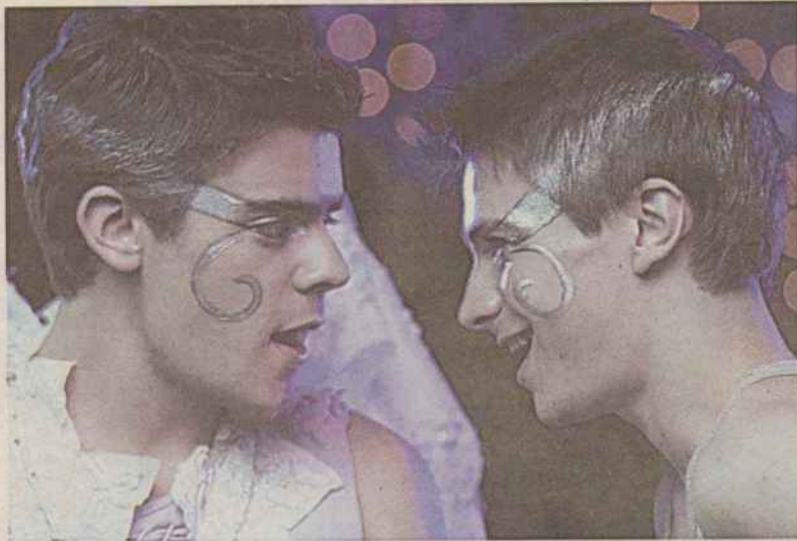
Almost a year ago, the 41/26 Venture Committee began collaborating, discussing, and gathering data on what type of investment would best benefit the community in general - as opposed to funding a handful of organizations, or singular event. They compared data gathered throughout various studies and determined that a visibility campaign, addressed to the straight community was needed to increase awareness of LGBT people and the issues they face. Issues such as lack of domestic partnership healthcare coverage, denial of marriage rights, possible job discrimination, adoption and parenting issues, as well as fear of anti-gay assaults.

The impact from similar projects across the nation were studied for their effectiveness. "We looked at a lot of ideas including the "I'm Gay", the "We Are a Part of You", and the "We're Your Neighbors...and We're Gay," campaigns," says Joseph Brooks, a 41/26 Venture member. The Georgia Equality billboard campaign, Triad Equality in Greensboro, and the Alliance for Full Acceptance projects were just some of those reviewed by the 41/26 Venture.

"I really do believe in the equitable and fair distribution of funds," said Joseph Pabst. "It's quite unfair to dictate all on my own where the funds go, and to have a local committee, as with the 41/26, creates a measure of fairness, that I really don't think any other LGBT funder has done." This says a lot about Pabst's faith in the community. "It empowers people to do good work. They were given pretty much fair range to decide what was best for the community as a whole - and I was very grateful to them all," he said.

41/26 Venture members include Joseph Brooks, formerly with the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin; Maria Cadenas, Executive Director of the Cream City Foundation (non-voting);

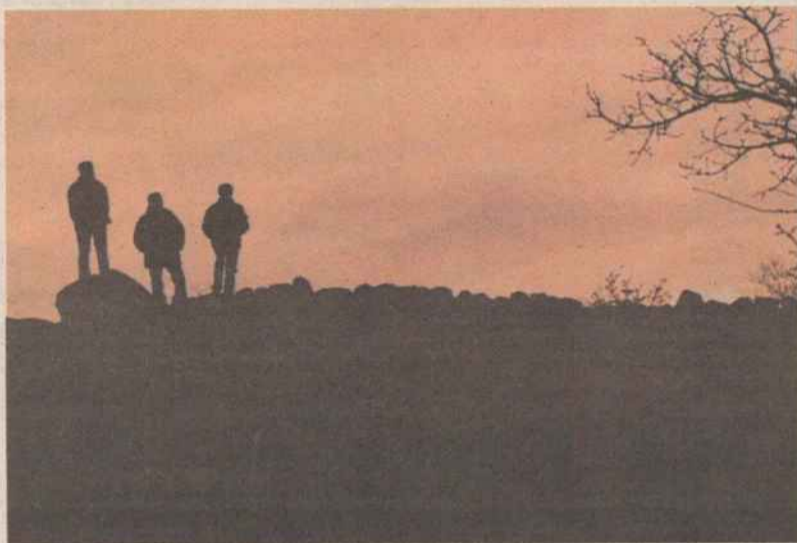
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Were the World Mine Thursday, September 4, 7:30 pm



Water Lilies Wednesday, September 10, 7:30 pm



A Jihad for Love Tuesday, September 9, 7 pm



Chris & Don Saturday, September 13, 7 pm

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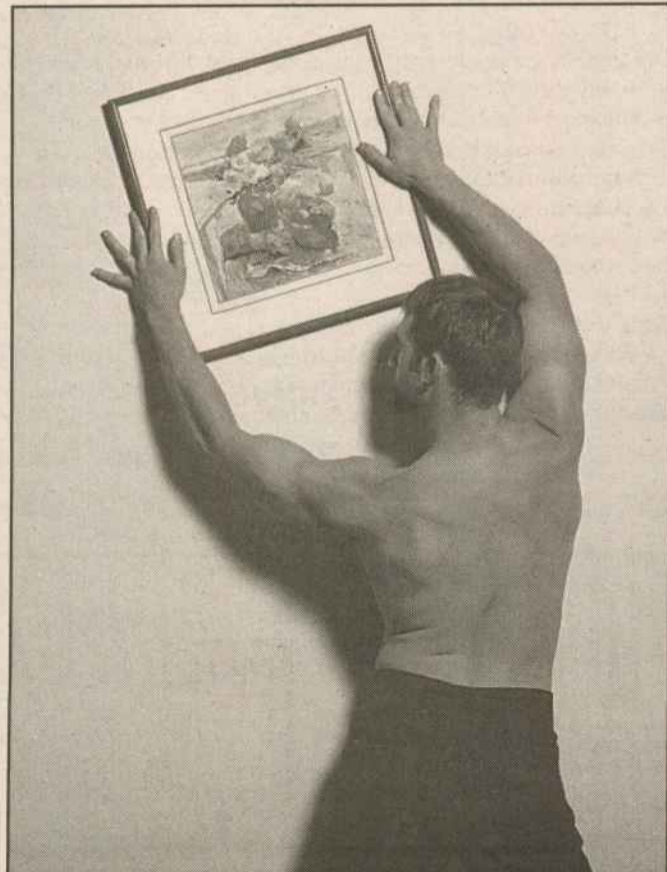
Marion Araujo, Juan Blasquez, Rachel Lewandowski, Kirsten Mulvey and Jason Will round out the cast.

Cesar Gemino plays Cesarmene, Alceste's love interest. Asked about playing a gay role, Gemino shrugged off the idea that it requires some particular insight. "It doesn't feel different. It's more a polysexual process treated with the same emotion. Attractions are subconscious based on sexual or emotional affinity or a more opportunist 'who should I hang with' strategy. My character appreciates attention and that's part of his motivation. The audience

will forget that the relationships are same sex - it's all about love and that's universal," Gemino said.

The casting is not without Bucher's refined sense of presentation. As in any love, physical attraction sets the gears in motion. There's eye candy for all, guaranteeing the audience will be visually engaged as well.

Bucher's mission goes beyond an updated gay Moliere. "It's important that we don't go away. This production allows us the opportunity for some low key activism - rather than a street protest, we can attend a comedy that presents honest gay issues with gay artists in a gay friendly house," Bucher said.

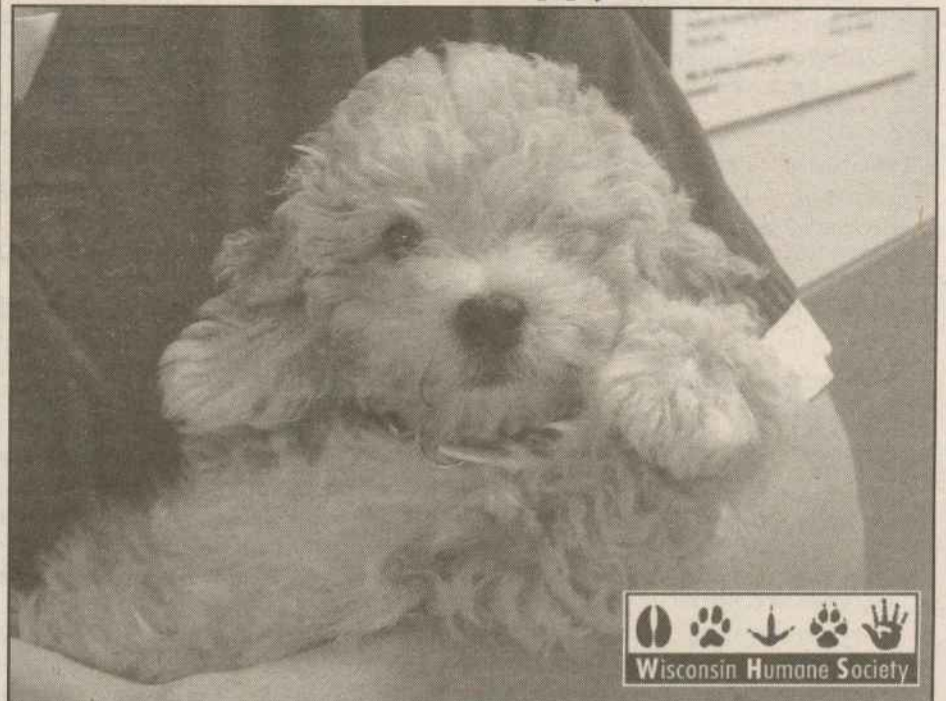


Joe Fransee as "Oronte" in the Boulevard's production of *The Misanthrope*.

Photo credit: Troy Freund

The *Misanthrope* runs August 12 through 24. The Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theatre is located at 2252 South Kinnickinnic in Bay View. Call 414-744-5757 for tickets.

It Feels Like Puppy Love!



Milwaukee - In an unprecedented move locally and nationally, the Wisconsin Humane Society (WHS) bought the assets of Puppy Haven Kennel in Green Lake County, located about 20 miles northwest of Wau-pun, and now need to find homes for more than 1,100 dogs. WHS veterinarians are currently evaluating many of the dogs and are readying them for adoption. Please visit the WI Humane Society today to meet the new puppies in need of a loving, healthy, and happy home. People have already been lining up to take home their newest family member - won't you do the same? Two dogs with special needs could use extra help.

Brigid has a medical condition that causes her kneecaps to pop out of place and WHS veterinarians discovered a deformity in baby Jeffy's legs - his kneecaps are actually fused to his leg bones. Both need specialized surgery, with costs likely to reach \$2,500. WHS depends on donations from individuals; they receive no government funding to care for Brigid, Jeffy and all the Puppy Haven dogs. If you can contribute a donation to help, log on to www.wihumane.org. Or send a donation to WHS, 4500 W. Wisconsin Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53208. Make sure to note, "for Puppy Haven dogs" in any correspondence.

Seers under the Stars

Fourth Annual Mix N' Mingle Cruise
on the Edelweiss I

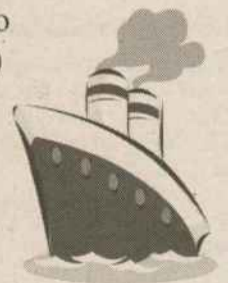
Thursday, August 28, 2008

5:00 P.M. Check-in for Registered Guests
5:30 P.M. Cruise and Psychic Readings Begin

Join other guests of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center for our annual cruise down the Milwaukee River and into Lake Michigan. Enjoy animated conversations with friends, the panorama of the Milwaukee skyline, and observations of the heavens overhead. Then let yourself be guided into a *different* journey with a short reading by one of our featured psychics: Elliott Adams (tarot), Julie Bock (tarot), Bill Godsell (runes), Roberta Hanus (astrology) or Patrick Price (numerology). So experience the wisdom of the seers under the stars! Hors d'œuvres and a cash bar are also provided.

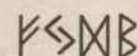
LGBT Center Member rate: \$30.00
Non-Member rate: \$35.00

RSVP (with payment) no later than August 11 to Patrick Price, Director of Philanthropy, at (414) 292-3065 or pprice@mkelgbt.org. Since the *Edelweiss I* can only accommodate 70 guests, please RSVP as early as possible. Also note that guests must be 21 years of age to participate, so bring proper identification.



Docking Location:

205 W. Highland Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53203
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Outwords Books

Top Picks for August

Fabulous Beach Reading! Exclusive to Q Life

For the Girls:

"Tropical Storm," Melissa Good

From best-selling author Melissa Good comes this classic tale of heartache, longing, family strife, lust for love, and redemption. "Tropical Storm" took the lesbian reading world by storm when it was first released, first in best-selling "Kerry & Dar" series.

"Tomahawk'd," Diane Bauden

At a Wisconsin resort, Jackson and Erin meet as children forming a bond that is continued through letters even after the summer ends. Their adolescence is turbulent and it finds them separated from each other until an emergency in Jack's life brings them back together.

"Cherry Grove," SK Meagher

When Hayden rented a house in Cherry Grove on Fire Island for the summer she was looking for nothing more than a quiet place to write. But she hadn't counted on the allure of a striking woman named Gina. Is steaming-hot sex enough to build a relationship on? Find out in "Cherry Grove."

"In Deep Waters: Cruising the Seas," Kallmaker and Radclyffe

Book passage on a deliciously sensual Mediterranean cruise with tour guides Radclyffe and Karin Kallmaker. Poolside, topside, below deck and ship-to-shore—grab a deck chair and feel the temperature climb. It's like no vacation you've ever experienced before when these two adventurous authors lure you into the deep waters where everyone gets wet.

"Whitewater Rendezvous," Kim Baldwin

A wilderness kayak adventure brings together two very different women and as they battle the forces of nature, they discover that true love may be nothing at all like they imagined.

For the Boys:

"Beach Reading," Mark Abramson

Gay tourists are arriving in San Francisco by the plane load for the party of the decade at the Moscone Center. On the same night, an infamous evangelist plans to bring his nationwide crusade against gay rights to the Civic Auditorium. For Tim, the fun and the intrigue are about to begin.

"Summer Cruising," Dave Benbow

The hunky passengers of the RMS Princess Diana, a rollicking all-gay cruise enjoy the expect steamy sex and shipboard romance until a psychopath sets in motion a dastardly plan to send the luxurious liner to the bottom of the sea.

"Candy Everyone Wants," Josh Kilmer-Purcell

Jayson Blocher is tired of worshipping pop culture. So he's off, accompanied by an ever-changing cast of quirky extended family members, on an extremely bumpy journey from rural Wisconsin to a New York escort agency for Broadway chorus boys, to a Hollywood sitcom set. Somewhere out there his destiny awaits—along with the discovery of first love.

"Call Me By Your Name," Andre Aciman

In this erotically charged coming-of-age story, Elio finds himself attracted to this year's visiting resident scholar: Oliver, who is 24, fun, sexy and handsome. A trip to Rome, sanctioned by Elio's prescient father, will usher Elio fully into first love's joy and pain.

"Mahu Fire," Neil S. Plakcy

Evil moves to paradise, as openly gay police detective Kimo Kanapa aka battles an extreme religious group that opposes the idea of same-sex marriage. It begins with a simple shooting, but the danger intensifies as Kimo strives to unmask a killer.

All of the above books and many more are available at Outwords Books, Gifts & Coffee located at 2710 N. Murray Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53211 (414) 963-9089. www.outwordsbooks.com

FAMILIES *continued from page 1*

Patrick Flaherty, former Director for Center Advocates; Angie Guerra formally of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center and Lesbian Fund of the Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee, and Michael Johnston, writer for Outbound magazine.

The topics considered were narrowed down to tie into themes from the existing "Shall Not Be Recognized" photography exhibit by Jeff Percy and Will Fellows (most recently shown at the Arts and History Pavilion at PrideFest this June and featured in the July issue of the Utne Reader) — which features couples, and families that are part of the LGBT Community.

"They wanted to take the broad range of issues raised by the Shall Not be Recognized (SNBR) exhibit and try to include them in the media campaign" says Maria Cadenas. "Among those being family issues, couple issues, children, health, age, and class."

To help guide the project and provide the extensive research needed, the 41/26 Committee hired media consultant Denise Cawley, principal, Circore Creative, who worked extensively in conducting local focus groups (made up of the target audience) and market research studies testing images and messages for the campaign. "Focus group and survey participants were mostly from Milwaukee and Waukesha counties," says Cawley. "They identified as straight and were from a broad range of walks of life. We had feedback from Republican conservatives, to home schooling parents, to Hispanic business owners, to North Shore gardeners." There were more than 250 people from the target audience surveyed and approximately 100 participated in focus groups.

In March, Cawley conducted a national focus group as part of a presentation for the Family Equality Council, with chairpersons from Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), leaders of equality campaigns in Vermont, Minnesota, California, Hawaii and Oregon (as well as many others) in attendance.

"It was a fantastic opportunity for Milwaukee to be put on the radar of so many leaders in the LGBT community," says Pabst. "I was delighted ideas were gathered nationally that helped influence this campaign." Cawley also kept in frequent contact with The Gay and Lesbian Association Against Defamation, (GLAAD), and other media experts, to develop the most persuasive campaign. The hope was to bring awareness of the LGBT Community to the heterosexual/straight audiences, to start positive conversations, to welcome them as allies, and to show that gay (LGBT) people are more alike them than different.

The Billboards – Gayneighbor.org

Some wondered - why the images from the "Shall Not Be Recognized" photo exhibit were not used? Shall Not Be Recognized was created to be viewed intimately on the web and in exhibition galleries. "In focus groups, the photos from that exhibit were set up in the same situation a billboard would be viewed," says Cawley. "Participants were allowed to view the image for mere seconds before recounting what they had just seen. The images were not clearly understood in billboard format."

"As we only have 5-10 words on a billboard and anywhere between two and eight seconds the messages had to be very clear," says Tim Clark, CCF President.

The models shown on the Gay Neighbor billboards, and bus posters are all couples, and families from Milwaukee and Waukesha counties. Each image was brought before target audience focus groups to best determine a course of action. Some images by no fault of the models or design, were found to be too confusing, and didn't create the desired impact.

However, most reactions from focus group participants were generally positive, and responded more to the photos

depicting gay families, feeling that it is much easier to dispel stereotypes when children are pictured as well.

"Many mis-informed straight people are unaware that families are an option for gay couples," said one focus group member, "so they are left with the stereo-type and bias that gay people are free from commitment and what they perceive as 'normal' and therefore feel threatened."

Images of families with their children consistently evoked the response that the LGBT community is "one with the heterosexual community" rather than divided from it. Likewise, the LGBT Community was surveyed, and consistently responded that the messages were better communicated by those with children as it created a bridge for all to identify with one another.

According to the last Wisconsin census, same sex couples are registered in 98 of 100 zip codes in Southeastern Wisconsin. In many of the focus groups who reviewed the images and terminology, there were several individuals who were certain that they knew of no one in their neighborhoods, family, circle of friends, or co-workers who are gay. This campaign hopes to illustrate that LGBT people do exist. They are single, couples, parents, sons, daughters, teachers, business owners, co-workers - and they want to be treated fairly.

Why Gay Neighbor, not "LGBT Neighbor?"

While "LGBT" is the proper terminology, it was found confusing, disorienting, and even offensive by some in focus groups that were made up of the target audience. They were consistently hung up on the terminology — and unfamiliar with the many ways of denoting sexual or gender identity, thereby missing the point of the billboard. Some went so far as to admit feeling agitated by the billboard messages — even finding words like lesbian, bisexual and transgender too "sexual," too "in your face," and "too divided" from themselves.

"'Gay' and 'gay neighbor' were words understood by our target audience to mean the whole LGBT population," says Clark. "It is important to the target audience to understand the terminology used. It is also important that the language used in the campaign is language tested in local focus groups—it is what resonates most with the target audience of straight, moveable middle people in the Milwaukee area." He goes on to say, "LGBT was the desired language. 'Gay neighbor' is a general way to speak about ALL of the many groups within the LGBT community."

Several briefing sessions were held by CCF to inform leaders of Milwaukee's LGBT Community organizations of the details surrounding the campaign, and how it is going to be executed. Information kits were also distributed to help with potential concerns they may have.

While some leaders of Milwaukee's LGBT Organizations were apprehensive over using a word that denotes only one segment of the community, and not "lesbian," "bisexual," and "transgender" as well, most felt comfortable with the reasons behind the choice of specific language.

"The last thing we are trying to do is create animosity," says Cadenas, who described the decision on a name as "an extremely difficult process." She assured those concerned that the billboard organizers put in extensive hours of research to make sure it is not counter-productive to the campaign and the push for positive LGBT visibility. The gayneighbor.org website, however, will include the LGBT terminology. The goal is that the billboards will get people to visit the site to learn more about the LGBT community.

On Push Backs

At a recent Catalyst Committee meeting, where several of Milwaukee's LGBT leaders met, Maggi Cage, Executive Director of the Milwaukee LGBT Center asked "How will push-

continued on page 8



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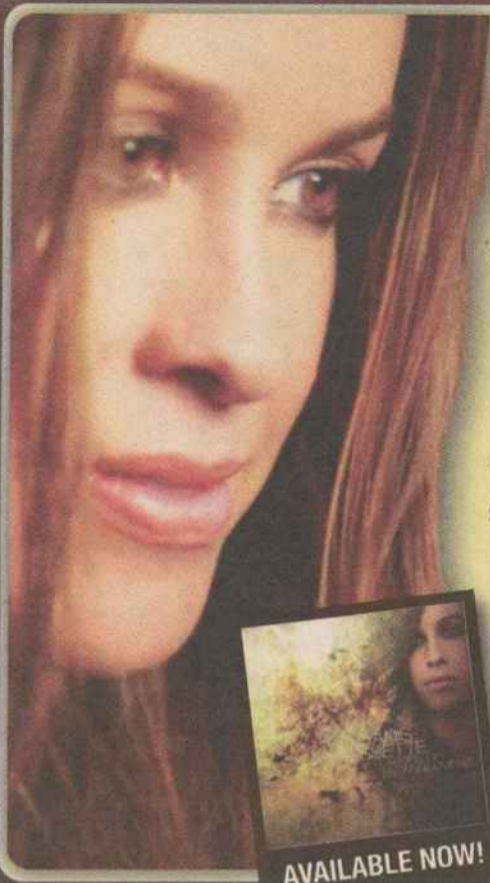
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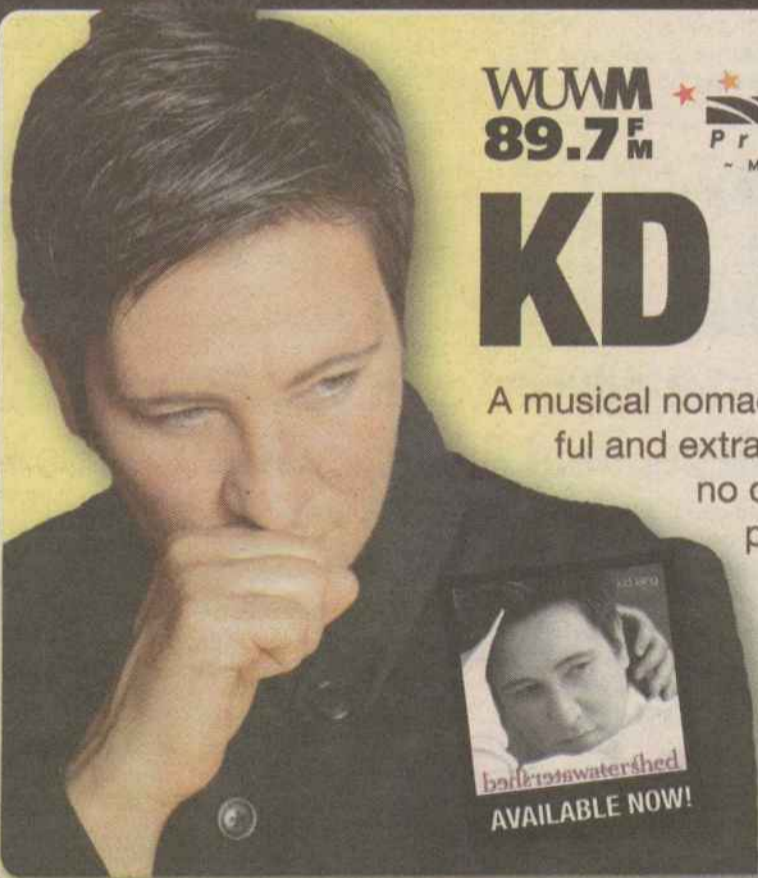
- JOSHUA RADIN • AUG. 10
- BON IVER • AUG. 14
- KT TUNSTALL
MARTHA WAINWRIGHT • AUG. 15
- CAPITOL STEPS • AUG. 16
- DECIBULLY
W/ THE CHAMPIONSHIP
CELEBRATED WORKING MAN • OCT. 26
- GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA
AUG. 23
- ROCK N DOO WOP • SEPT. 12
- LAST COMIC STANDING • SEPT. 13
- DAR WILLIAMS
W/ SHAWN MULLINS • SEPT. 21
- MIKE BIRBIGLIA • OCT. 3
- LINDSEY BUCKINGHAM • OCT. 4
- JUNGLE JACK HANNA
LIVE ANIMAL SHOW! • OCT. 5
- ROBERT RANDOLPH
& THE FAMILY BAND • OCT. 9
- YONDER MOUNTAIN
STRING BAND • OCT. 16
- SOWETO GOSPEL CHOIR • OCT. 25
- OF MONTREAL • OCT. 26

THE RIVERSIDE

- ALICE COOPER • AUG. 8
- EDDIE VEDDER • AUG. 19
SOLD OUT
- GEORGE LOPEZ • SEPT. 19
- MY MORNING JACKET • OCT. 3
- ALANIS MORISSETTE • OCT. 5
- K.D. LANG • OCT. 15
- CARLOS MENCIA • OCT. 18
- MSO PLAYS MUSIC OF THE
EAGLES • OCT. 25
- DAVID CROSBY
& GRAHAM NASH • NOV. 3

TURNER HALL Ballroom

- JOHNNY WINTER • AUG. 15
- DECIBULLY
W/ THE CHAMPIONSHIP
THE CELEBRATED WORKING MAN • AUG. 22
- THE BLACK KEYS • SEPT. 5
- PRESENT MUSIC • SEPT. 6
- GRAHAM COLTON • SEPT. 7
- SPIRITUALIZED • SEPT. 9
- ABIGAIL WASHBURN
& THE SAPROW QUARTET • SEPT. 14
- SECOND CITY • SEPT. 19
- PETER MULVEY • SEPT. 20
- JAMES • SEPT. 26
- THE MONDO LUCHA
VARIETY SHOW • SEPT. 27
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- THE NOTWIST • OCT. 16
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- 10/26 PABST** OF MONTREAL
- 10/25 PABST** SOWETO GOSPEL CHOIR
- 11/04 TURNER** GIRL TALK

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Wisconsin



Happenings

LGBT Center offers Sumi-e Class

Milwaukee – Introduction to Japanese Sumi-e ink painting class (with some watercolor). Local artist/educator PJZ will present a six week class introducing the history, development, philosophy, materials and exercises of sumi-e ink painting. The class will combine a short meditation (Maggi Cage will be leading some meditations around chi and chi gung), lecture and instruction along with studio time. Guest speakers on focusing chi to be announced closer to class date. PJZ (BFA and Art ED from UWM has explored and practiced sumi-e painting for the last 7 years, teaching and learning along the way.

Monday's 7-8:30 pm, Sept 15 thru Oct 20. Class fee \$20.00
Class size limited to 15 so sign up early! To register please contact Dave, Lizzi or Robin at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. 414-271-2656

MONA's
threw a shindig last month to say "so long" to their friend and long-time bartender Thomas - who is putting down the mixer and moving on to the corporate world! Patrons came out to celebrate his service and give him much love. Congrats Thomas!



Thomas tells Bev to knock off the waterworks, or they'll all start crying! pictured: Randy, Thomas, Bev, owner.

Tool Shed Under New Ownership

Milwaukee's first sex-positive toy store changes hands

Milwaukee – After four years of running the business in its Riverwest location, Tool Shed founder and co-owner Eilis O'Herlihy has passed over the keys. O'Herlihy and co-owner Andy Penasa sold the store to Laura Anne Stuart on July 1. O'Herlihy has taken the Tool Shed from "just an idea" to a successful neighborhood enterprise.

The store, which bills itself as a "hip erotic boutique," has become known for its quirky décor, high-quality products, handmade goodies, and passionate, well-trained staff. Now, O'Herlihy is moving on to the next phase of her life: pursuing a graduate degree in Montana. "I only wanted to sell the store if we found the perfect fit," says O'Herlihy. "We found the best person I could have imagined to take over our baby."

Stuart, the Tool Shed's new owner, has worked as a sexuality educator for more than ten years. She is the co-author of a sexuality education curriculum for young adults, which was published this spring, and she has a master's degree in public health. "Owning the Tool Shed is something I've dreamed about, but never thought would happen," says Stuart. "I've taught and written about sexuality at colleges, churches, non-profits and government agencies. Being a small business owner is a wonderful next step. I'm glad that I can continue the important work that Eilis, Andy and Molly [Cassidy, co-founder of the Tool Shed] have started."

Stuart intends to expand the store's product selection and offer a wide range of classes and events, starting with a public celebration of the store's change of ownership. O'Herlihy and Stuart will jointly host a party at the Tool Shed on Sunday, August 10, from noon-3PM. Customers and neighbors will be able to meet Stuart, bid farewell to O'Herlihy, check out new products, and enjoy free vegan cupcakes.

The store is located at 804 E. Center St. in Milwaukee's Riverwest neighborhood.

The Tool Shed was opened in 2004 by O'Herlihy and Molly Cassidy, two Milwaukee residents who felt that the city needed a friendly, welcoming place to shop for toys, books and other items to enhance sexual experiences. In the tradition of other woman-owned sex toy stores across the country, the Tool Shed embraced the philosophy that sexuality is a healthy, natural part of life and that the store was not just a place to buy products, but also a place where knowledgeable staff could help educate customers.

Shortly after opening, O'Herlihy and Cassidy decided that the Tool Shed would only carry non-toxic, phthalate-free products, making the store one of only three adult retail stores in the country to do so. Under Stuart's ownership, these practices will continue, along with the Tool Shed's commitment to carrying locally made and handmade items.

News From Outreach:

With special thanks to Harry –

Madison – A new 10-week men's coming-out support group is forming this Fall, and will begin running on Wednesday nights at OutReach, Madison & south-central Wisconsin's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community center and safe space. The purpose of the group is to offer support to men who are dealing with the realization that they are not heterosexual and how that affects their everyday lives.

The men's coming out support group will identify and discuss the stages of coming out and explore topics such as how to deal with family members, physical and sexual safety, legal rights and discrimination, and spirituality, among others. Two trained volunteers will facilitate each meeting. People who are interested in attending the meetings should leave a message for Mark with contact information at 608-255-8582 or e-mail at harrys@outreachinc.com.

The Family Center offers low-cost counseling services to LGBTQ Communities.

The Family Center was established in May 2000 as an outreach service of Edgewood College. We provide low-cost, high-quality supportive therapy for individuals, couples, and families. We also serve as a training center for students in Edgewood's graduate program in Marriage and Family Therapy. Services are offered by second year graduate students, pre-licensed & licensed professionals. All clinicians work under the supervision of licensed MFT's & approved supervisors.

We have on our staff out LGBTQ therapists working both as clinicians and supervisors. We are located at 404 Glenway Street in Madison. We strongly believe in supporting and respecting diversity in all its forms: physical ability, race, gender, gender presentation, sexual orientation, culture and religious background. We offer a sliding fee scale (\$2.00-\$50.00/session) based on annual

income. If you have any questions or wish to schedule an appointment please 608-663-6154 to give us a call.

The UW-Madison Educational & Psychological Training Clinic offers low-cost counseling services.

The UW Educational & Psychological Training Clinic (Rm 316, Educational Science Bldg, 1025 W. Johnson St.) in co-operation with OutReach, is making counseling services available on a sliding scale to the LGBTQ communities. The services are provided by counseling psychology graduate students and are supervised by licensed psychologists/counselors. They provide services to individuals, couples, and families with a variety of pressing concerns such as anxiety, depression, grief, and general life adjustment problems. Bi-lingual counselors and interpreters (Spanish) are also available. Clinic hours are 5-8pm Mondays and Wednesdays For appointments and an initial screening please call 608-265-6120.

Our COMMUNITY

Center Advocates, Inc. to Become an Independent Advocacy Organization

Milwaukee - Center Advocates will be expanding beyond the Community Center from which they were named as an independent organization with a strengthened position to serve the LGBT community.

"Because the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center was a recipient of government, state-wide and city funding we were somewhat limited in our lobbying and advocacy efforts," said Ryan Cronwell, Center Advocates Secretary and Board of Directors member. "As an independent C4 organization we can expand our lobbying, advocacy efforts and PAC activities without jeopardizing the Center's C3 status, government contracts or funding."

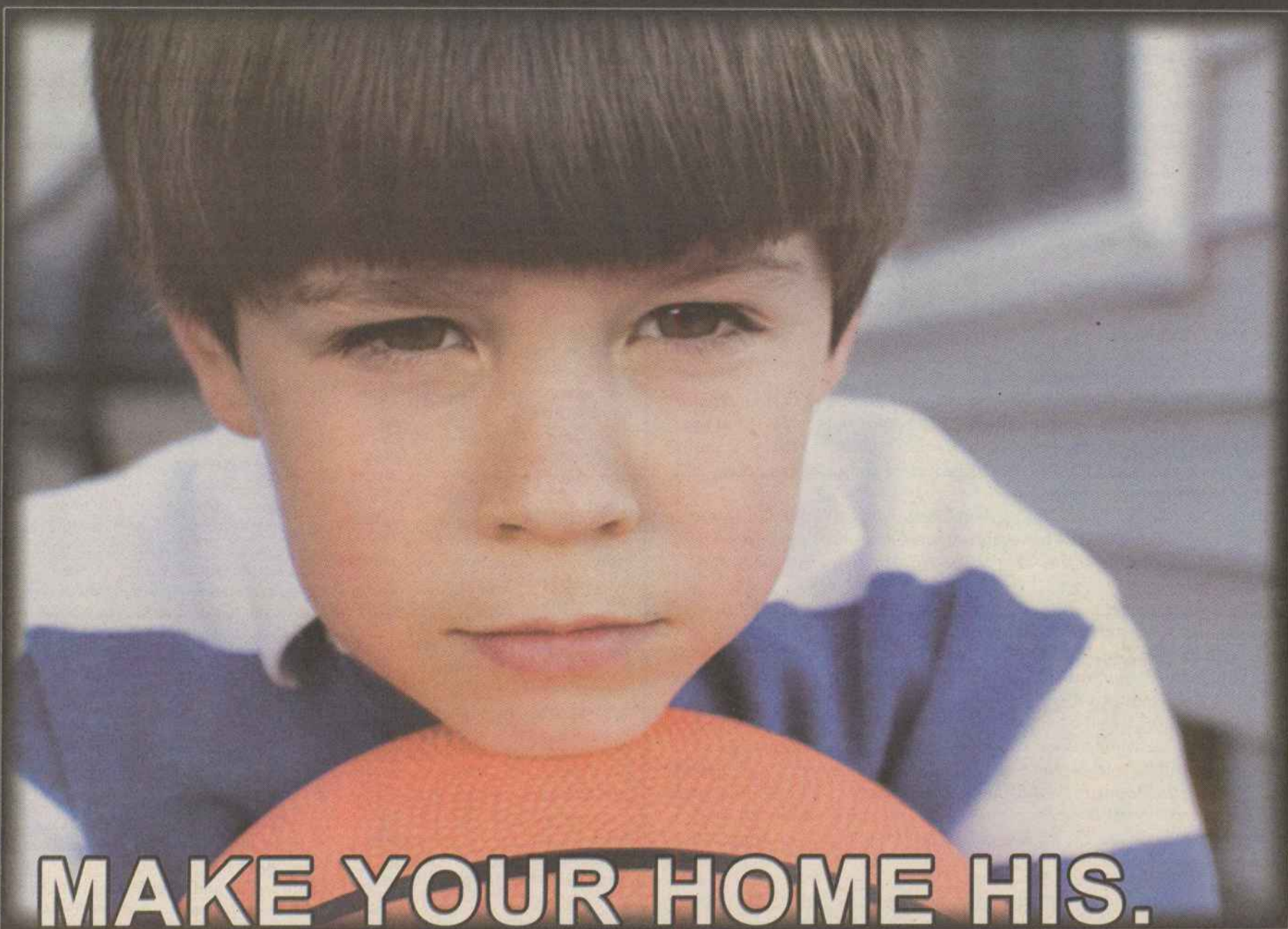
With 2008 an election year, there are plenty of issues being worked on. Among them a new program similar to the successful "Equality Knocks" campaign aimed at electing LGBT friendly candidates.

"This fall we have exciting projects planned including an outreach to the LGBT community and the wider public about the importance of their votes in the primaries and general elections," said Renee Crawford, a Board of Directors member. "We'll also be working on a wide

range of issues including domestic partner benefits for Milwaukee school district employees."

The increased political advocacy also strengthens efforts by allied organizations. Their affiliated statewide political action committee, Center Advocates PAC, has made significant progress over the past year working towards electing officials who support equal treatment of all people in Wisconsin. Plans are currently underway for the Center Advocates PAC's Annual Garden Party for Equality, in which previous years have had Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle, US Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin and NGLTF Executive Director Matt Foreman as guest speakers.

Center Advocates, Inc.'s mission is to improve the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people as well as the general community in the metro Milwaukee area by advocating for the equal treatment of all people. Center Advocates is an advocacy organization that seeks to educate legislators and other decision-makers, and the general public about effective public policy on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and related issues.



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Roth goes Solo, With a Touch of Funk

Milwaukee - After 2 long years in the studio, Yolanda Roth, co-producer of the "Unity In Harmony" CD benefiting the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, is releasing her first solo CD - "Mourning/Morning Side Of Night."

Roth, a native Milwaukeean, has studied voice at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, performed with bands like Climate Control, Big Bad Blues & Rhythm & Torch, and has been song writing for 17 years.

"I'm thrilled!" said Roth when asked how it feels to be releasing her first solo work of art. "I'm so excited I can hardly sit still. And... I'm terrified."

Utilizing several of the artists on the "Unity in Harmony" compilation, she was able to put together a collection of 15 songs that showcase both her lyrical and vocal prowess.

Most of the songs on the new CD are co-written by Roth and various artists, while two are cover songs - one of which ("Place Your Bets") is written by her close friend Scott Malcom. Fans of Roth will be delighted to know that her cover version of "Get Here" is also included - a song she has performed flawlessly at several engagements.

"Scott was wonderful," says Roth, "And Corky Morgan added his amazing vocals and vocal arrangements to several songs. Of course I can't forget Tori Fixx who not only produced this CD but co-wrote many of the songs and added some great vocals as well."

Roth, whose influences are Blues, Opera, Swing, Jazz, Folk and R&B, says "We managed to keep the style mellow while mixing up the genres a little. It's got an R&B, Folk, Gospel kind of feel with just a touch of Funk for flavor." The CD will be available thru iTunes and Cdbaby, and Roth is also currently looking for local distributors.

If you are anything like us, and just can't wait, head to the CD release party being held at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center on Saturday, August 23, from 7-10pm. There will be refreshments as well as an hour set featuring Yolanda and special guests. "Mourning/Morning Side Of Night" will be available for \$10, and a \$5 donation at the door is suggested and will go to the MGAC.

For more info check out Roth's myspace page www.myspace.com/yolandaroth



FAMILIES *continued from page 4*

backs be handled, and what is the role of other community organizations in this campaign?"

Cadenas responded by saying that basic statements regarding the campaign will be available to those who ask, but urges them to not be spokespersons of the campaign. "Questions should be redirected to the media consultant, or to me," she said.

"Nothing in this world can be all things to all people and all organizations," said Bill Serpe, Executive Director of SAGE Milwaukee. "There is going to be backlash from organizations, and from people who do not like LGBT people. That is when we need to be a very strong community, and be unified in our response."

"The community has a big opportunity in getting behind this campaign," says Ray, one of the models featured. "They can also register their own photo and story on gayneighbor.org. I encourage everyone to use these billboards as an opportunity to talk to their neighbors over the fence or in the grocery store. They are great conversation starters."

Hector, another model featured, expressed some worry over negative responses, saying, "I worry because homophobia and heterosexism have led to violence and hate crimes." He counters that thought with enthusiasm and optimism, stating, "I believe change is possible. I believe that 'positive visibility' is not about promoting good deeds we do, but about those who look at us being able to see past their preconceptions. I also believe that not only do I deserve the same rights than everyone else, but heterosexism hurts and places me and others in danger."

"The people who are on the billboards are extraordinary human beings," said Pabst. "Just Amazing. This project is worthy of community awareness and participation."

According to Cadenas, many people asked to participate did not feel comfortable being on a billboard. "For fear of losing their jobs, or fear of their neighbors reactions," she says. "So we should all be grateful to those who did pose. Our models deserve respect and honor and thanks for their courage and willingness to participate."

"I think the teenagers that are involved in this project are very brave," agreed Ray. "I worry less about myself and more about the parents and children. I can't imagine how big of a deal this is for all of them and they have my deepest gratitude for their participation. I think the whole community should be sending them our thanks."

It's about Community

At twenty-six years of age, Cream City Foundation is the second oldest LGBT Community foundation in the country. They have funded nearly every single LGBT organization in the city of Milwaukee at various times throughout those twenty-six years.

"The campaign is not to promote Cream City Foundation, it is to promote the visibility of the LGBT Community to our allies, and to also increase the amount of financial commitment coming to the community from outside allies," says Cadenas. "Part of our mission is to impact the donor pool and address education and outreach to our allies." In addition to the initial donation from Joseph Pabst, Cream City has secured numerous donations and a matching

grant from the Robert H. Andrews Memorial Fund. Others have also contributed to allowing the project to be possible.

"We believe in this 100% or we would not have participated," says Karen, who posed for the billboards with her partner of five years Kristie, and their four children. Nothing worth doing is without risk. If we sit back and do nothing, nothing will ever change."

"It's much harder to hate someone when you see how similar they are to you," she continues. "We talked it over with the kids and made the decision together. As we all know, adolescence can be a horrifying experience even when you totally fit the "norm," and for our kids to do this makes me so proud of them. They are great people. I hope one day, no one's children will have to put themselves on the line just to be considered a 'regular' family."

"This is a fantastic opportunity for the LGBT community to make connections with the moveable middle - the people who haven't thought about supporting us before," says Ray. "The prominence of a billboard campaign gives so much respect to who we are. It is another baby-step in the process of creating fair laws and ensuring fair treatment for everyone. Richard and I met in 1956, when relationships like ours were forbidden by law and punishable in many if not most states. Now look at us, we are on a billboard."

Market research participants shown the final photographs, felt that they "really capture what a family is," and that the photos are "positive" and show "loving, happy people."

"Inside and out, we are all the same, all equal," said one focus group member. "It's only when we give a label, that people are distinguished and divided."

"The Cream City Foundation's Gay Neighbor billboard campaign is a wonderful way to continue the education process to our straight neighbors and allies that was started with the recent Constitutional Amendment," says Georgia Henry. "There were many people identified as supportive, and this campaign will only build on that. As PFLAG Chapter president and the mother of a gay son, I endorse fairness for everyone. As I see it, this will open the closets to further educate people about the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered) community in creating greater awareness. The Gay Neighbor Campaign is going to be a huge step in helping to start conversations and help us create more allies within the straight community, for all LGBT people."

Thor, another billboard model sums it up. "Love, family and commitment are common values we all have, gay or straight. This campaign gives us a way to emphasize our common values, and provides us an opportunity to illustrate healthy, stable, and family-oriented LGBT families. These billboards are an important way for our child to identify and appreciate the diversity that exists within her family structure. Families of choice are as happy and successful as families of origin."

Please take a moment to visit www.gayneighbor.org, and contribute your own story. Upload a photo of yourself, or your family. When you see one of the billboards, take that moment in, and realize that times are changing for the better. Maybe not as quickly as we all hope, but with the courage, dedication and hard work that we are all capable of, we will get there a lot sooner than we think.



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

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

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Editorial, August 2008

Moving On

By Kate Sherry

This past month, I have moved my mother into her new home, several friends have moved in and out of apartments, and I'm still on a quest to find the perfect new apartment to move into with the greatest of ease. It can happen.

Moving on mentally, and spiritually is often more important than moving on physically. We can bicker with one another, challenge each others beliefs, work, life choices, love interests, but we must move on - in whatever capacity - to keep our own peace of mind.

I remember a roommate of mine years ago in NYC, Linda, who for some reason became a lover. We were friends, and she was straight, but, we shared a bedroom, and things happened. Of course, in the beginning, it wasn't too bad - we seemed to get along romantically, just fine. But, over time, things changed, and our relationship exploded into pure hate for one another. I had fallen madly in love with another woman, and my roommate/lover/nemesis proceeded to move her new boyfriend into her

bed (on the other side of OUR bedroom) and lash out at me with the deepest of resentments. One day, she and our third roommate took it upon themselves to pack my belongings, and kick me out of the apartment.

Plans were already set in motion for a move to my new love's home - and not having to pack was simply an added bonus. However, one prized possession - my Collected Works of William Shakespeare given to me by my father - was missing. Tucked inside was another beloved possession - a cherished photo of my mother and myself in Woodstock, NY. I returned to the (empty) apartment to search for the book - only to discover that it was tossed in the garbage can outside.

What happened next can only be described as blind fury on my part.

I stormed back into that apartment and proceeded to trash the place. Perhaps it was the passion of youth, the heat of the moment or just immature rage, but I wanted to make sure she knew I was angry. She had, I felt, attacked me at the core of who I was - I was an actor, and that book was my bible. Throwing it out was her way of hurting me the most. And yet, my retaliation really wasn't all that destructive.

I basically made a mess, really. To my credit, I didn't have it in me to destroy anything that I knew they would miss, or have difficulty replacing. Even in my rage, I was considerate.

And yet, the energy I wasted on hating her was making my life hell. Until one day, I stopped plotting various examples of painful revenge upon her, and made the choice to forgive her and myself and move on. When it happened, the release was immediate and so refreshing; I wanted to kick myself for wasting so much time being an ass. It didn't mean we would ever speak again - sixteen years later, and I really could care less to know what her life is like now. But, it doesn't mean I harbor any resentment.

There are going to be many battles to fight in a lifetime. Some larger than others, and some are certainly more important than the rest. At times, we all have to stop, and check ourselves, and maybe give this battle over to the other guy - not because they are right, (which they are sometimes, you know) but because it's the right thing to do for ourselves and those around us. Wasting time, and sleep by battling energies does no good to anyone.

No fight, no blame. Move on.

August 2008

Let's Put It in Perspective

Maggi Cage, PhD

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center

In the past weeks, the Community Center has taken important steps to secure its financial position. We make these moves more committed than ever to ensuring that LGBT citizens share in the full equality promised by the American Dream - one that is sadly challenged on many fronts. We implemented a hiring freeze after receiving news that three major grants were not awarded. In at least one case, a grant we had every reason to believe we would get was instead directed to electoral work. A worthy cause and we certainly hope that these electoral grants will change the composition of our legislature this fall, greatly benefiting many progressive organizations. As good stewards of the resources we receive from donors, foundations and government sources, we felt it to be our duty to focus on our fiscal responsibility even if it meant a bit of embarrassment in not hiring Paul Williams as our Director of Communications. To Paul's credit, he was the quintessential professional and even helped with the press release announcing our hiring freeze.

As we move forward, we continue to focus our efforts and resources on our primary mission of programs and services that improve the quality of life for LGBT people in the greater Milwaukee area. We have trimmed expenses, developed detailed plans for increasing revenues, and we are reaching out to our friends for help. We are proceeding carefully to ensure

the long-term stability of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center for the people who depend on our programs and services. That said, I also think it important for the LGBT Community to place these events in a larger context.

In the past few weeks, we learned that our hometown airline asked pilots for a 50% pay decrease, along with flight attendants, and the CEO announced his own 40% pay cut. Starbucks announced the closing of 600 stores over the next year in order to stay solvent. Our own Mayor recently interviewed about the rising costs of gasoline for city vehicles and the cost to the city of the record snowfall this past winter, expressed concern about the city's financial status. The housing market is in trouble and the stock market has been on a wild ride for several weeks. People are cautious and scared about the future, including LGBT people.

It is this larger perspective in which we need to place the actions taken by the Board of Directors at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. We are taking to heart the signs of the times and heeding the warnings from the larger community. These actions demonstrate the passion and diligence each board member has for the Community Center and the people we serve. I for one am thankful for the responsive and thoughtful actions taken by our board members. Through its actions the Board of Directors is ensuring that LGBT citizens share in the full equality promised by the American Dream even through tough economic times.

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Better Late than Later

Last month I turned 60. I have been eagerly looking forward to this moment in time for a couple of years now. Sixty is a splendid age for too many reasons to enumerate here.

Sure, the combination of internalized gay oppression and age oppression sucks. Friends and colleagues said appalling things to me when Paul and I sent out photos of us taken 20 years ago as part of my birthday and our 25th anniversary celebration. But that societal distress aside, being 60 isn't only better than the alternative dirt nap (death); it is fun and fulfilling in itself.

This milestone also got me thinking about the physical inertia that has crept up on me in the past 5 years. A couple of minor knee surgeries, the loss of an exercise buddy, the increasing creepiness of the gym I use, a change in medication, increased busy-ness, and changes in my household duties all conspired to slow me down, to "de-motivate" me.

Then there was the old the dynamic duo of excuses: "I am too out of shape to exercise" and "there is nothing that will bring back the old joy of running." I even convinced myself that I would wait until retirement to give myself the luxury of routine physical activity.

Two trusted friends brought all that baloney to an abrupt halt. While these guys are both straight and

different ages than me (one 50 and one 19), their message was the same: they want me around for a long time and in good shape so we can do stuff together. They took no excuses; they even said I could call at 6:30 AM when I was headed out the door to talk about my exercise plans. One recommended I invest in a heart rate monitor.

People at the Diverse and Resilient office have also gotten on board. One staffer had already been biking to work; another walking periodically with colleagues during a break or lunch time. I asked that we halt the sugary treats that popped up too often, and I reinforced our keeping fruit on hand. We have also really stepped up our water consumption.

In the past month I have been biking four to five times (40 to 60 miles) per week, with an average heart rate of 133 beats per minute. For me that translates into over 3000 calories expended. I rode twice this week in the rain; once in a downpour. Diverse and Resilient staff is also walking for an hour before our staff meetings; a great time to catch up and notice we are all physical beings.

For too long I had been contemplating making some changes. I was getting ready to make a plan instead of making one and implementing it. I even fretted about not getting started sooner or better instead of just getting started. I have



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.

found a few tips that have worked for me; they might work for you, too.

- Make time to exercise; schedule it like any other important thing

- Keep a log of successes. In my case, I succeed when I show up and succeed again when I complete the planned activity.

- Tell people and enlist cheerleaders.

- Keep it up, even when the weather is not the best.

So, if you have become a sedentary person for any reason at all, consider changing that right now in some way that works for you. It is better to start that regime now than not at all.

Sing us a Song: Our Piano Gal says "Goodbye"

Milwaukee- After seven years of community service and song, the Milwaukee LGBT community says goodbye to one of it's favorite sisters: Melissa Beastron, Director of Women's Voices, Milwaukee, and the co-owner of M's bar on 2nd St, is closing her piano and moving home to Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Beastron has been heavily involved with the flood clean up in Cedar Rapids



since the June storms flooded the area, and is returning to continue with the recovery mission, as well as to relax into a new life with her partner Julie and stepdaughter Alison.

At one time, Beastron was a co-president of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, and has led the Women's Voices Milwaukee for three seasons. She has generously donated her time and money to several fundraisers over the years, and opened up M's bar on 2nd St in 2006.

"I came here to Milwaukee and got involved right away with the community center because I wanted to be a part of the community" says Beastron. "If you have two hours, you can help volunteer."

To those of us who've grown quite fond of her, it will be hard to see her go.

"It's just time for me to go," said Beastron. "I was born and raised in Iowa and I just feel the pull is taking me in that direction."

Beastron will also continue working and volunteering in the LGBT community there - and plans to focus on LGBT foster care, as well as get involved in music.

"Oh of course, it's a part of me. I can't not be involved! I've already done my homework, and Iowa City, is only 20 minutes away with a thriving LGBT community. And they have an integrated chorus as well."

When QLife spoke with Beastron, she had just had her concert grand piano packed up and shipped off to Iowa.

"That's it! That's the last of it," she said with a laugh.

M's, where Beastron sang every Wednesday night, will remain open, and the place to be for a great dirty martini, or drag show.

Melissa sang for the last time at M's on July 23rd to a packed crowd, including her partner Julie, who told us, "I promise she'll be back! I told her I'd go wherever she wanted to go, and she just really feels it's time to be with her family back home. But I promise, you'll all see her again."

Brian, manager of M's reassured us that the bar would remain open. He will stay on as manager, so be sure to stop on in and say hello and give him and the staff support.

The crowd and staff sang along, and danced - at times tenderly, and at times, just plain crazy to the tunes performed by Melissa, with several moments mixed in for hugs and tears. Melissa praised her staff, and said, "The M may stand for Melissa, but it wouldn't be possible without this great staff, please give them a round of applause." Of course, everyone did.

"It's going to be difficult, but I think we should have a nice transition to the next steps for M's," said Brian. "We've all cried and said our goodbyes, and she didn't want a big goodbye, but she is well known in the community, has done a lot - and has been an advocate of the LGBT community for many years - it's going to be a big loss, and some big shoes for someone to fill. We just want her to be happy."

Kathy Thackam, with Women's Voices Milwaukee, said, "She's onto other things in her life right now - she's done so much for the community and for our group in the short time that she's been here, and she'll be breaking a lot of hearts by leaving."

Including ours. QLife wishes you all the best, Melissa, and hopes Iowa appreciates your spirit, dedication, and song just as much as we do! And we're holding you to the promise of coming back and singing one more time.

Our COMMUNITY

Teaching LGBT History - It Matters

Madison - Gay Straight Alliance for Safe Schools (GSAFE) would like to make a resource for teaching lessons about the history of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people available to high school students across the state. Included in the resource will be a timeline of U.S. LGBT history and selected biographies; a timeline of the homosexual emancipation movement in Germany, the birthplace of gay rights; a timeline and annotated bibliography of LGBT history in Wisconsin; and sample lesson plans. To begin, GSAFE will send resource packets to 80 gay-straight alliances across the state and to interested school professionals. The resource will also be available at the Wisconsin Education Association Council statewide convention in the fall and on the GSAFE website.

so many sexual-minority students face harassment in schools, it's important for the words lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender to enter into conversations and history lessons in schools. Knowing history matters. Being safe in school matters."

Dick Wagner, local historian with an expertise on LGBT history, has generously agreed to take the lead using research he has done on Wisconsin LGBT history to help create a resource for the Wisconsin portion of the project. Wagner received his PhD in American History from UW Madison and has published articles and reviews in Wisconsin historical publications. He has given several illustrated lectures on gay history highlights in Wisconsin. "It's most challenging to gather LGBT history from northern Wisconsin," Wagner points out.

GSAFE welcomes help from anyone who has information on LGBT history in Wisconsin and thanks you in advance for sending what you have to rrdickwagner@gmail.com, cindyc@gsaforsafeschools.org

"How many times have you heard a sexual-minority person say, 'I never learned that in school,' when discovering a valuable piece of LGBT history?" challenges Cindy Crane, GSAFE's executive director. "Because

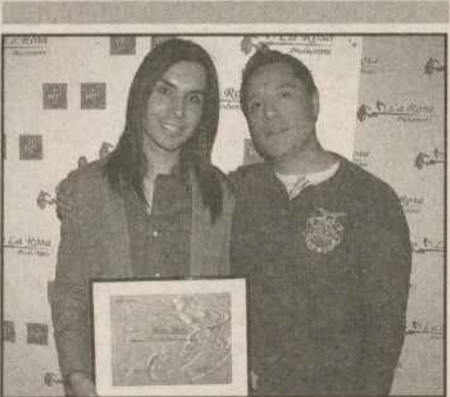
Cirque Du Soleil's "Saltimbanco" heads to Milwaukee

Montreal - After travelling the world and playing in more than 74 cities on five continents since its conception in 1992, Saltimbanco returns to North America where it will celebrate its 10 millionth spectator. It will be performed in Milwaukee for the first time ever this October at the Bradley Center.

October 1-5. Performances will be held on Oct. 1-2 at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 3-4 at 3:30 and 7:30 p.m. and Sun Oct. 5 at 1 and 5 p.m.

Tickets range from \$40-95 for adults and \$32-76 for children and can be purchased by phone at 866-448-7849 or online at www.cirquedusoleil.com.

Saltimbanco - from the Italian "saltare in banco," which literally means "to jump on a bench"—explores the urban experience in all its myriad forms: the people who live there, their idiosyncrasies and likenesses, families and groups, the hustle and bustle of the street and the towering heights of skyscrapers. Between whirlwind and lull, prowess and poetry, Saltimbanco takes spectators on an allegorical and acrobatic journey into the heart of the city.



July 11, 2008, Memo from La Rosa Productions presents Miss Diva Latina 2008 (Violetta Minelly) with a \$500 prize

The production features 47 artists, about 15 of whom were parts of the show's last big top tour. The cast hails from Canada and 19 other countries.

Cirque du Soleil will present Saltimbanco at the Bradley Center, 1001 N. 4th Street,





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This Month in Wisconsin LGBT History August

By Michail Takach and Don Schwamb

1978 – Thirty Years Ago

The Milwaukee Police Department continued its "midnight raids" on the city's gay bathhouses, invading the Club Milwaukee Baths (704A W. Wisconsin Avenue) and the Finlandia Health Spa (707 E. Knapp) at 2:46 A.M. on July 15, 1978. Fourteen men were arrested and charged with lewd and lascivious conduct.

Unlike previous raids, doors were not broken down, property was not damaged, and police did not physically assault any of the patrons. However, the witness testimonies revealed much about the homophobic tactics of the Milwaukee Police Department. As one defendant described, "Everyone was herded into one room and made to stand for 2 hours while the police checked for police records and warrants. Numerous jokes and insults were made about sexuality. It was discovered that I was guilty of an unpaid parking ticket...at which time I was frisked three times, loaded into a wagon and taken to jail. There I waited 3-1/2 hours while officers and attendants repeatedly asked me what I was arrested for ...I was held for 5 hours for what was eventually settled in 2 minutes."

Not only the gay community was outraged by these ongoing events. Editorials from taxpayers, business leaders, lawyers, Aldermen, State Representatives and Congressmen flooded the newspapers, asking for an explanation of why police resources were being wasted on such an unproductive and expensive campaign. "With elderly taxpayers being pushed below the poverty line, how can we support the vice squad playing Cowboys and Indians with legitimate gay businesses?"

1988 – Twenty Years Ago

Gay Milwaukee nightlife was expanded with the arrival of three new gay bars in summer 1998: The Alternative (1st and Washington), Short Circuit (22nd and National) and Triangle (135 E. National.) Of these three newcomers, only Triangle would last a year.

Al Thomas opened Triangle Bar in a location that had previously housed other LGBT institutions, including Sugar Shack and DK's. But Triangle wasn't like anything Milwaukee had ever seen before. With a "hunky staff" and a new décor that included artwork, mirrors, track lighting and an all-new sound system, Triangle received rave reviews and quickly became the new hot spot. Now entering its third decade of business, Triangle remains one of the city's most popular neighborhood bars.

1993 – Fifteen Years Ago

After several years of debate, the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) introduced an innovative needle exchange program designed to eliminate the health risk posed by shared needles. MAP intended not only to reduce the growth of HIV infection among intravenous drug users, but also provide increased access to drug treatment programs.

Despite these good intentions, MAP ran into several obstacles, including a lack of public funding, participating providers, and available drug treatment centers. "Addicts who have finally decided to kick their drug habit have to wait six more months until they can get into treatment," said Tammy Stark of the HIV Services Consortium.

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



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Diverse and Resilient is committed to the development and celebration of healthy lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people who thrive and find satisfying lives in Wisconsin. While our work is often behind the scenes, our programs stretch from Eau Claire to Milwaukee and Madison to Green Bay.

We believe that LGBT people are good. LGBT youth and adults are beautiful, creative, flexible, and smart. They are deeply connected to one another, to their families, and to their communities. They are born leaders and cooperative. Without LGBT people, Wisconsin communities would be at a loss in education, science, public service, health care, religion, business, industry, and the arts.

At Diverse and Resilient, we are proud of our accomplishments. In the past year, we have worked with the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center/Project Q, OutReach (Madison), Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee, SAGE Milwaukee, Positive Voice (Green Bay), Harmony Café (Appleton), the GLBT Partnership (Appleton), Seven Rivers LGBT Community Center (La Crosse), GALAXY/YWCA (La Crosse), Teens Like Us (Madison), GSA for Safe Schools (Madison), Cream City Foundation (Milwaukee), and the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin.

We have worked on health promotion and disease prevention, including our higher risks for violence, alcohol and drug use, tobacco use, and mental health disorders. Diverse and Resilient recognizes that our community problems are within our power, even though their source traces to the stressors which oppressive systems put on us.

To do our work, we distribute nearly \$5,000 per month to organizations and community leaders who do the daily hard and exciting work of promoting health and building community.

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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.

"There is a story about the Greek gods: they were bored so they invented human beings. But they were still bored so they invented love. Then they weren't bored any longer. So they decided to try love for themselves. That's when they invented laughter... so they could stand it."
 - Charles Baxter, Feast of Love

The trans community is filled with both myths and marvels. I repeatedly hear transfolks adamantly assert that they have to chose between the expression of their transness and being loved. That is the myth. The reality is that love is all around us - all of us - if we only open our eyes and hearts to see and experience it. That is the marvel. Maybe we can't all experience it in the ways we idyllically imagine - full of passion and bliss, with rarely an argument, and never a hardship that

Love Is

a night's rest can't cure. Love isn't an imaginary concept. It is real. It's messy. It's painful. It's also unavoidable.

Every day we are blinded by the bustle of our busy days, focused on our long to-do-lists, consumed with obsessions over upsetting thoughts, or struggling to survive in this world full of political, economic and moral stress. Love is still there -- waiting for us to notice, waiting to be soaked up, transformed, and returned back to others.

My grandmother used to cut strawberries at her kitchen sink, watching the cardinals feed outside her window. She'd always comment that the sweetest berries were the ones that were a little bruised. Every time I cut fresh strawberries, I remember those words.

Many trans people feel like no one will want or love us, because we are bruised fruit. But that is simply part of the myth.

I think about a transwoman I've grown to know from a small town 30 miles away. I'm certain she has no

clue about how much love I hold for her. I find her remarkable for the exact reasons I suspect she feels unlovable - for the tears she has shed, the stories she has told, the history she owns. I know, too, that even though she may not be consciously aware of my love for her -- platonic, yet core deep -- her life has changed because of it, because of love's mysterious, but not mythical, power.

To believe that anyone can live in this world without being a little bruised and broken is merely a myth.

On days when I can't feel the love around me -- from my partner or my kid, from my cats, parents, family or friends -- I remember my grandmother's wisdom. When I feel bruised and battered, I hold onto the truth that some of us know the "secret" and prefer the ones that are a little bruised over the ones that looked unblemished. I can feel her love, even though she has been dead for 8 years.

Our fears and projections that constantly rebuff love and reinforce the belief that we are not worthy of kindness and connection are fulfilled when their voices fill our heads, leaving no room for possibility, potential, or passion.

The world is overflowing with love. It is there for us when we are ready to embrace its wonder and absorb its revolutionary essence. Love is always around every corner (and right in front of our face) - that's the marvel.

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Q

PARENTING

Fuchsia Woods lives with her partner of more than a decade. Their science experiment resulted in a beautiful baby boy.

"We have a question to ask you. We just want you to know you can feel free to say no, and we will not be hurt and it will not change our relationship or our love for you."

"OK"

"Well as you know, we have been thinking about having children. We have thought about this a lot."

"Great."

"We were wondering if you would be interested in being our donor. Not a parent, but a known donor?"

"Yes, Definitely."

"WHAT DID HE JUST SAY?"

This conversation was the beginning of what turned our best friend into our family.

When embarking on our own biological child creation we read many warnings about not using known donor sperm because of the legal concerns. Yet, we struggled what our future child would think of not knowing their biological father. Legally a known donor could always try to get custody or visitation of the child. Likewise, a biological mother could try to get a biological father to pay child support.

We fearfully read all the legal warnings. What if our donor tried to take our child away from us? That wasn't the arrangement we wanted to create. Instead we hoped to have our child know who their biological father was, without ever losing any parental rights to raise the child as we desired. Likewise a child can only have two legal parents. So if your biological

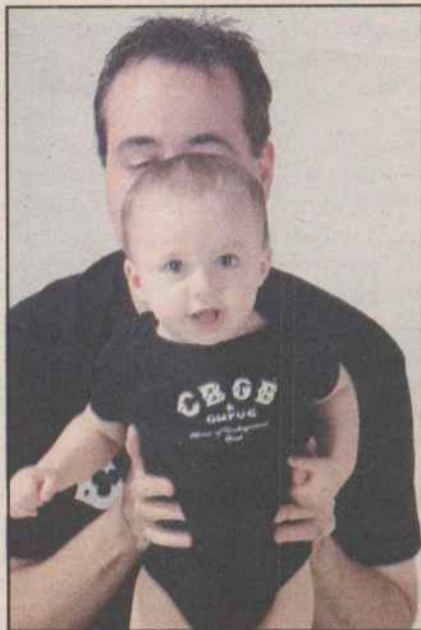
donor has rights, then the partner, or non-biological parent cannot obtain any guardianship rights.

We weighed the pros and cons and decided

there was one person in our life that we could consider as our child's biological father. We figured he would say no, and then we would buy sperm. We rehearsed how to ask him over and over. We were not asking him to be a father or a parent, but to be a known donor. We never expected him to say yes. He did. In fact, he said yes so quickly that we had to slow him down and tell him to think it over for a few weeks. We went on to describe the process he would have to follow:

Steps to Becoming a Known Donor:

1. Decide if the parents are on the same page. (For purposes of this article parents will mean the people raising the child. We do not consider our donor a parent. We consider him to be a biological father.)
2. Do you agree about what the child will know about the biological non-parent?
3. Do you agree on visitation if any? (If the child isn't going to visit the biological parent, why use known donors?)
4. How they will be addressed (by name or other reference like mom, dad etc.)?



Known Donor, To Be or Not to Be

5. Donors, are you ready to relinquish control to these parents and let them raise your biological child as they choose – unless you arrange for something different?

6. Do you agree on how the birth certificate will read? (Ours only has the birth mother's name because in Wisconsin same-sex couples cannot be named as joint parents. Our donor is never named in print.)

7. Get tested – everyone who is biologically involved should be free of every sort of sexually transmitted disease. Talk this over with your health care professional. Our donor also refrained from sex with

partners during the whole testing process and the entire insemination process. He shared copies of his test results with us.

8. Next, we urge you to get the semen tested for morphology and motility. This test helps you determine whether or not your sperm

concentration is above the minimum standard of 20 million/ml established by the World Health Organization (WHO). Most men with fertility problems have a sperm concentration below 20 million/mL. We have known of folks who inseminated for a year without success who did not do this test. How sad to invest a year of your life counting days, tracking ovulation only to have sperm that wasn't able to impregnate. Our doctor wrote our donor a prescription for this test.

9. Draw up legal paperwork. Talk to a lawyer who specializes in family law for the LGBT community. Our lawyer had us pay the donor for his sperm through her office. Then she had him sign an agreement that he was John Doe. John Doe then signed another agreement saying he would not sue for any visitation or parental rights. We signed saying we would never demand any financial payment or support. These documents are kept private—never seen by anyone. I urge you to do them because the documents invoke important conversations. They let us all get on the same page. Your child is worth that effort.

Today our donor sees our son once a week. They have a great relationship and we all have richer lives because of the great science experiment.



As domestic partners, Al and Tim have taken control of their financial future.

If you could do the same, would you? Working with a financial professional who understands the financial needs and concerns of gay and lesbian couples, Al and Tim were able to review their present situation and explore their future goals. I understand that every couple is unique. I can provide you with the appropriate products and services to help you create a financial strategy that addresses what's important to both you and your partner. To find out how working with a financial professional may help you achieve your dreams while financially protecting your relationship, give me a call for more information. Isn't now the best time to take control?

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Female Relational Aggression

A girl tells a group of friends about a fear, a dream, or a future plan. The next day it is all over school and no one in the group is talking to her anymore and she doesn't know why. A girl expresses an opinion in class that differs from those in the popular crowd and is praised by the teacher. After class she is laughed at in the hall by a group of girls and one of them knocks her books out of her hands.

These are basic examples of something most of us who grew up as girls recognize by experience but might not have known its technical name: female relational aggression. Female relational aggression (FRA) can best be defined as acts of bullying undertaken by girls against girls. FRA usually involves rumor spreading, ostracizing/isolating, teasing and name-calling, deception – for example, in the movie *Odd Girl Out*, a girl is told she is invited to a party but there isn't really a party – and other acts that involve emotional violence more so than physical aggression.

Perhaps one of the saddest problems with FRA is the fact that it doesn't end when high school does. Women learn it and some become masters at it if only because it is easier to ostracize another woman than it is to actually communicate a concern or problem.

Speaking from personal experience, shortly after moving to Milwaukee I tried to get out and do things, meet people, join groups and see what the big city had to offer. I ran into a few women that I thought I could trust, but that I now know take pleasure in talking about me behind my back, spreading rumors about my life and beliefs, and in all other ways choosing to act like middle school girls rather than adult women who are supposed to know how to communicate, listen, and accept that people will have different opinions and that is ok. For many women and girls who are taught to play nice and keep the peace, a difference in opinion on an issue is a call to arms: enemies are created because people cannot agree to disagree. Much like the friends/not-friends merry-go-round of middle school girls, not one of my adult aggressors has ever informed me of just what I did, or what made them so upset, no one even bothered to declare war. It was a simple and typical of FRA transition from one day we were talking and the next day we weren't and strangers were calling me names!

I have since learned that many women have experienced FRA as adults. What kind of role models can we expect to be for young girls if we still haven't learned how to communicate?! I can only say that it is fortunate for adult women that we do not have to spend hours each day with those who seek to bully us in this way, - teen girls are stuck in a building with their aggressors, and now FRA has even worked its way onto the web, with girls bullying each other via instant message, MySpace, and Facebook.

For high school girls who are victim to FRA the problems don't



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.

end with other girls not talking to them, laughing behind their back, spreading rumors, and so on. Female relational aggression can spiral into girls not going to school, developing an eating disorder, going to dangerous lengths to please or fit in with the crowd that is excluding her, and other serious problems. Efforts at open communication and acceptance of difference are ways parents and others can work to better equip girls to deal with the realities of female relational aggression.

Resources for more detailed information on Female Relational Aggression:

- *Odd Girl Out: The Hidden Culture of Aggression in Girls*, by Rachel Simmons
- *School Girls: Young Women, Self-Esteem and the Confidence Gap*, by Peggy Orenstein in association with the American Association of University Women
- *Girlfighting: Betrayal and Rejection Among Girls*, by Lyn Mikel Brown
- *Reviving Ophelia: Saving the Selves of Adolescent Girls*, by Mary Pipher, Ph.D
- *CitiGal Magazine*, a women's empowerment magazine devoted to educating, uniting and empowering our community. CitiGal is distributed in many locations in the Milwaukee area and can be found at all Milwaukee Public Libraries, most grocery stores, doctors' offices and specialty stores. Online at: <http://www.citigalmagazine.com>.
- *The Ophelia Project*, leading resource on Relational Aggression, <http://www.opheliaproject.org/main/index.htm>

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AUGUST CALENDAR

AUG 2

FORGE Social support meeting on Living Long Term. We don't have much scientific data about what it means to live long term in trans bodies (or in the culture as trans and SOFFA (Significant Others,

Friends, Family and Allies) individuals). Explore medical, legal, psychological, social, employment, stealth/out, and relationship issues associated with living long term. 6-9:30PM Free. INFO: www.forge-forward.org/socialsupport/ or info@forge-forward.org. LGBT Center, 315 Court St. MKE.

AUG 3

OutThere (18-24 social group) Movie Night at OutReach. Free films, pizza, video games and snacks at OutReach, 600 William St. Contact Jasmine or Leslie for more info at 608-255-8582.

AUG 4

Auditions for the Bay Players Musical, "You're A Good Man Charlie Brown" August 4th and 5th. Whitefish Bay High School Auditorium, 1200 E. Fairmount Avenue, Whitefish Bay. Call backs Aug 7th. Men and women, ages 16 - 40. 7:00 p.m. for auditions and call back.

Broad Vocabulary hosts a transpectacular show: singer Nicole Reynolds (nicolereynoldsmusic.com), multimedia artists Actor Slash Model (actorslashmodel.com), and Athens Boys 7PM, 2241 S. KK, Milwaukee. 414-744-8384.

AUG 6

The Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival and the UWM Union Theatre will honor the occasion of what would have been Andy Warhol's 80th birthday with Four Score and Andy Warhol, a free presentation of two of his films tonight at 7PM. To screen: Warhol's *Sunset* (1967) & his *Mrs. Warhol* (1966). UWM Union Theatre, on the 2nd level of the UWM Student Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. (414.229.4070). Free. Donations will be accepted for LGBT Community Leader Jerry Johnson who recently suffered significant losses in a house fire

AUG 8

The Institute of Visual Arts in the UWM Peck School of the Arts presents a solo exhibition of work by Venezuelan artist Eugenio Espinoza. He has wrapped himself in his paintings, strewn them on lawns, hung loose canvases from ceilings, and cut them into ribbons to question and undermine assumptions about what painting is and isn't. Inova/Kenilworth Gallery 2155 N. Prospect Ave, with a reception from 6-9PM. The exhibition remains on view through September 28. Gallery hours are Wed & Fri-Sun, noon-5PM & noon-8PM on Thurs.

AUG 10

Program on End of Life Choices offered by Unitarian Church North. Rev. Matthew Nelson, an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ and member of the Nat. Board of Compassion & Choices, will speak on "The Personal and the Political: End of Life Choices". Unitarian Church North, 13800 N. Port Washington Road, Mequon. A panel discussion, free and open to the public, will follow in the afternoon of the same day from 2:00-3:30 PM.

T4T (Tea for Trans): A Garden Party Fundraiser for FORGE. 2:00 - 5PM at 2140 N. Palmer St. Milwaukee Hosted by SAGE Director Bill Serpe and LGBT Center Executive Director Maggi Cage. For more info, and to RSVP, please call SAGE-Milwaukee offices at 414-224-0517.

Meet the new owners of The Tool Shed, and bid farewell to the previous owners at today's meet-n-greet shindig from noon-3PM, 804 E. Center St. in Milwaukee's Riverwest neighborhood.

AUG 11

Outwords Book Club -Come and Join the Outwords Book Club for a discussion of Alain Claude Sulzer's haunting new novel, *The Perfect Waiter*. 7PM. Outwords Books, Gifts & Coffee 2710 N Murray Ave Milwaukee, WI 53211 414-963-9089 outwordsbooks@msn.com.

Auditions for the season plays, "Run For Your Wife" and "Senior Ladies" at the Whitefish Bay High School Auditorium, 7PM. Men and Women, ages 21-70. www.thebayplayers.com. 414-299-9040. More info: Sandy Lewis 414-961-2135. Also on 12th.

AUG 12

The Lesbian Reading Group at Outwords. The book to be discussed is Gill McKnight's debut romance, *Falling Star*. All interested readers are always welcome to join in 7PM.

The Color Purple Makes Its Wisconsin Premiere at the Marcus Center for 8 performances August 12-17. Tickets on sale now. \$27 - \$76. Tickets may be purchased at the Marcus Center Box Office, online at MarcusCenter.org or by calling 414-273-7206. Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 North Water Street, Milwaukee.

AUG 16

Belly Dance Drop-in Night with Shaia Fahrid at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center. Join Shaia and friends, bring your favorite CD and dance to the music of the Middle East! Refreshments available 8-11PM, MGAC, 703 S. 2nd St, Milwaukee.

AUG 22-24

Milwaukee Black Gay Pride kicks off on Friday at Hot Water/Warehouse 818 S. Water St./National. 9PM-close. Chicago's heavy Diva Comedian Otis MacK, St. Louis Rapper Wee Boi, and St. Louis Female Impersonator Diva Alexis Principal and many more! Music by DJ Rock, Saturday, tentative Edelweiss Boat tour 6-8PM. King Masonic Temple Dance Party- 9PM, (12th & North Ave) Sunday, Annual HIV Awareness cookout LGBT Center, from 12-7PM. Male/Female dancers & Entertainers at Hot Water/Warehouse, 9PM- close. INFO call 414-263-9999

AUG 23

Yolanda Roth CD Release Party at MGAC. If you haven't heard Ms.Roth sing, NOW is the time! Come listen to one of our best, and support local artists by picking up her new Solo CD "Mourning/Morning Side of Night". Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. 2nd St, Milwaukee. 414-383-3727.

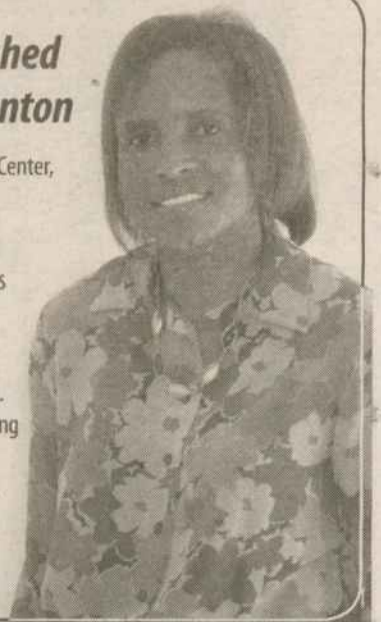
ARCW Congratulates Distinguished Nurse Practitioner Winsome Panton

Winsome Panton, a Nurse Practitioner at the ARCW Medical Center, has received Marquette University's College of Nursing Distinguished Alumni Service Award.

"I have dedicated my career to ensure that African-Americans and all people diagnosed with HIV disease receive the quality health care they deserve," she says.

ARCW is proud to have Winsome as part of our medical team. To make an appointment with Winsome or any of our outstanding health care professionals at the ARCW Medical Center please call (414) 223-6800 or 1-800-359-9272 extension 6800.

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From the Editors of E/The Environmental Magazine

Dear EarthTalk:

What green-friendly lawn and garden pesticides are available today? I'm particularly interested in options that won't harm my cats Nancy Blanchard, via e-mail

Pesticides have greatly boosted agricultural yields over the last half century, so it is no wonder, given the commercial availability of many of these synthetic chemicals, that American homeowners apply 100 million pounds of the stuff each year to make their own gardens grow bigger and faster, too.

But the downside of using such chemicals is that they can poison people and pets as well as backyard wildlife: "Common insecticide ingredients such as 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D), atrazine and dicamba have been shown to harm mouse embryos at times equivalent to the first week after conception in humans," says Erica Glasener of The Green Guide. Due to such revelations, home gardeners are fast discovering the benefits of avoiding chemicals in favor of natural, less toxic alternatives.

But before thinking about applying pesticides, gardeners can design (or re-design) their gardens to make the most of native plants that have evolved over eons to thrive in local conditions without synthetic aid or lots of water. Choosing native plants appropriate to your elevation, soil type, drainage and sun exposure will naturally repel many common pests and also reduce the propagation of invasive exotic species.

Similarly, embedding your plants in healthy soil replete with beneficial insects and worms can also help reduce the need for pesticides. Laura Moran of MainStreet.com suggests that home gardeners compost their vegetable food waste—which is chock full of nutrients that plants love—and mix it into existing soil to give the garden a healthy boost. "Aside from stimulating healthy root development," she writes, "the addition of rich compost also improves soil texture, aeration and water retention." It also provides a nice home, she says, for the beneficial bugs that are destroyed along with the bad ones by chemical pesticides.

If pesticides are necessary, there are a handful of organic varieties available. *Bacillus thuringiensis* ("Bt") is a naturally occurring bacterium that is lethal to most leaf-eating caterpillars on trees, shrubs, flowers and vegetables. According to gardening writer Jeff Ball, it is harmless to all other insects, animals and humans. It comes in a powder form for use as a dust, or, when diluted with water, as a spray. Organic chemists have formulated varieties of Bt to kill mosquitoes or

potato beetles as well.

To control slugs in an environmentally friendly manner, The Green Guide's Glasener suggests recycling the black cell packs that vegetables and annuals are sold in, and placing them (empty) upside down near the base of plants.

"Each morning, check the containers for pests, and if you find any, simply throw the container away with the pests inside," she says. Another easy slug control method is to use hollowed out grapefruit rinds in a similar manner around the base of plants, disposing of them if they turn up any slugs.

Pet owners may already be familiar with insecticidal soaps used to control fleas. Some of these soaps can also be used in the garden to repel insects. For more information, consult a local nursery specializing in organic methods and native plants. Find one near you via the free online Native Plants Nursery Directory.

CONTACTS: *The Green Guide*, www.thegreenguide.com; *MainStreet.com*, www.mainstreet.com; *Native Plants Nursery Directory*, www.plantnative.org/national_nursery_dir_main.htm.

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

EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

AUGUST CALENDAR CONTINUED

AUG 28

Join other guests of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center for the annual cruise down the Milwaukee River and into Lake Michigan on the Edelweiss I for the Fourth Annual Mix N' Mingle Cruise. SPM Check-in for Registered Guests, Cruise and Psychic Readings at 5:30PM! Hors d'œuvres and a cash bar provided. LGBT Center Member rate: \$30.00 Non-Member rate: \$35.00. RSVP (with payment) no later than AUG 11 to Patrick Price, Director of Philanthropy, at (414) 292-3065 or pprice@mkelgibt.org.

SEP 6

FORGE Social support meeting. Topic: Isms (Racism, ablist, sexism, sizism, and more!) 6:00 - 9:30pm, LGBT Community Center, 315 Court Street, Milwaukee. Free. INFO: visit www.forge-forward.org/socialsupport/ or email info@forge-forward.org.

Deadline for the September publication is Aug 20th for consideration. Please send to qlifelistings@yahoo.com.

SAVE THE DATE

SEP 4

FORGE's Writing to Heal, 7-8:30PM LGBT Center, 315 Court Street. FORGE's monthly facilitated writing group focuses on healing for LGBTQIA survivors of sexual (and other) trauma. All survivors and supporters welcome. No experience necessary, all materials provided. \$10 donation requested, sliding fee scale available. INFO: at www.forge-forward.org or by emailing info@forge-forward.org.

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- City Lights Chill:** 111 W. Howard Ave. Mil, WI 414-481-1441
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- Cuvee:** 181 N. Broadway, Mil, WI 414-225-9800
- 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
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- 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
- This Is It:** 418 E Wells St. Milwaukee, WI 414-278-9192
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- Walker's Pint:** 818 S. 2nd St. Mil, WI 414-643-7468
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Just a sampling of watering holes in Milwaukee. We regret any omission at time of print. Please call 414-383-8200 to be added.

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CALL for Wisconsin LGBT History

Gay Straight Alliance for Safe Schools is searching for information on Wisconsin LGBT history to create a timeline for high school students. Perhaps you can help!

Dick Wagner, local historian, is leading the project. Please e-mail Dick and Cindy Crane with any information.
rrdickwagner@gmail.com
cindyc@gsaforsafeschools.org

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The Best Cuts for United Style

Well guys and gals it's time to focus in on the Fall even though Summer is still flowing thru us - especially with all these great festivities!

One of our greatest assets for the upcoming season is "HAIR" - with women asking for a scissor-happy stylist and men wanting that very masculine barbered grooming. Frankly, I think this is one of the most exciting parts of reinventing yourself for a new Fall "sense of style" - even if your budget is kicking you in the pants (so to speak.)

I've been currently watching some of the shows by design teams national and international and I've seen anything from "Ms. Beckham's" spicily-angled bob (reminiscent of the old Mary quaint angled bob which inspired Vidal Sassoon and brought his career to great success) to a very edgy, cropped-look (which was what made Jean Seaberg (in the French film "Breathless") a fashion icon.

For the guys of our time, clean up

those lengths from your summer haircut and go for it! Or go for a crisp fall look with a shorter classic length with edgy long bangs. This works perfect for the urban inspired metro-male.

BOBS:

Rather lengthy or short, it's basically a hair-friendly way to wash and go (and it's unisex). It's been around since the 1920's, either wavy or bone straight but always giving the wearer a sense of style and sophistication. An article written about well-known Nevada stylist Michael Boychuck in "Elle" stated, "people in dry climates like Vegas love it because it's wash and go." I think this is a wonderful way to go from a warm Summer to a very comforting Fall.

CROP'S w BANGS

Owners in salons across America are looking at this wonderful, tapered, and texturized look, which is very simple and allows a lot of sexy movement and has many a request from quite

a lot of celebrities. It's head-tight, simple, shapely, and tapered and can be manipulated with the fingers. Use texturizing balm's to piece out this wonderful pixie look. I would suggest "Redken body full weightlifter" for volume and a very sleek look. Also try Stephan Coals' Fhi Heat hot sauce." it really puts the hot in the root to seal those cuticles.

WAVEY LOCKS?

Lot's of guys and gals have long hair, which of course they absolutely love! It's effortless but when infused with a wonderful loose tousled curl it has a fantastic look. I would suggest your local stylist use a lightweight definer. Who makes the best and at great prices? Robert Ramos - which can be found at most of the local salons in the area. It doesn't cause tangles and gives you a wonderful loose tousle especially after a great blow dry - and you can curl out gently and sexy.



FASHION

By Keith Johnson

On a high-note don't forget the wonderful salons in the area for these fantastic looks and suggestions. Enjoy yourself people and let's get ready for an exciting fall!

On KK check out Hairy's Hair Bar and Salon, Tease, and Lovely. On the West Side, check out Victoria's Hair Works, and tell Olga we said 'hey girl!' And don't forget Brady Street's Halo salon! So many to choose from, once you find the right one, hang on to them!

SAGE Milwaukee Plays Host

Special thanks to SAGE's Director of Advocacy & Training, Karen Taylor

Milwaukee - For the first time, SAGE and the majority of its affiliates got together for a weekend designed just for them. Representatives from SAGE New York City, CenterSAGE (Kingston, New York), SAGE Long-Island, SAGE at the Center on Halsted (Chicago), SAGE/Milwaukee, SAGE/Queens and SAGE South Florida met to share their thoughts, successes, and challenges.

Milwaukee, home to the second oldest SAGE program in the country, hosted, and SAGE Milwaukee board members offered rides to and from the airport. The Milwaukee LGBT Center hosted a reception for SAGENet, and local philanthropist Joe Pabst, a long-time supporter of Milwaukee-based

LGBT causes, sponsored the SAGENet Sunday brunch. SAGE Milwaukee board member Roger Uscila said simply: "we were really happy to have you here. It was an honor."

Despite the differences in sizes of SAGE affiliates, the groups all concurred on a shared mission: to improve the overall quality of life for GLBT seniors, to foster a greater understanding of aging in all communities, and to promote positive images of GLBT life in later years.

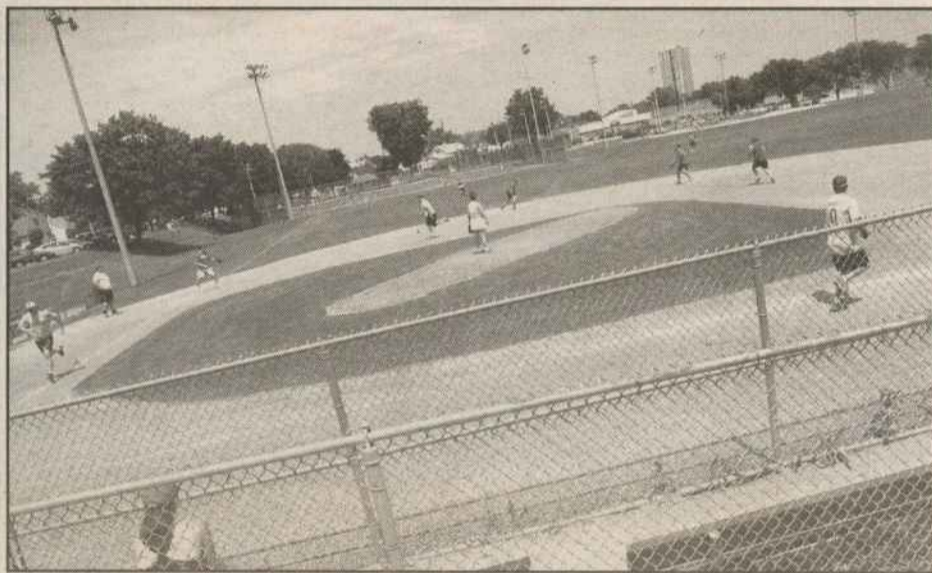
SAGE's Director of Advocacy & Training, Karen Taylor, led the group through a series of sessions addressing commonalities between the groups. Members shared information on how to build programs and services, and conducted breakout sessions to develop job descriptions for volunteers.

As the weekend developed, several ideas came forward that the SAGENet affiliates thought should be developed further as joint opportunities and even national initiatives. For example, SAGE of NYC Executive Director Michael Adams noted that there are several foundations interested in strengthening civic engagement that would be more inclined to consider a SAGENet-wide initiative than a single local group.

Another point of discussion was the desire to have a SAGE "membership" that received benefits at all SAGE programs, as a reflection of the Network's collaboration. The weekend was concluded with a special presentation on Transgender Aging, conducted by Loree Cooke-Daniels and Michael Musnon, co-founders of the Transgender Aging Network. Loree skillfully facilitated a discussion on "including the 'T' in LGBT Aging programs."

Most important to the SAGENet attendees was to continue the communication and hold weekends like this one on a regular basis. "This is the first conference I've ever attended where it felt like everyone in the room was on the same page," said Bill Serpe, Executive Director of SAGE Milwaukee. "We have the same challenges, the same concerns, and the work we did together is immediately relevant to the work I do every day."

The SAGENet affiliates plan to meet up next at SAGE's Fourth National Conference on LGBT Aging, taking place October 12-14, 2008 in New York City, where their work will be highlighted, and for a Preconference Institute on How to Create A SAGE Program.



SSBL teams the Milwaukee Gay Art Center's "Scream" and the Fluid "Aardvark's" battle it out July 26 at Sijan Field in Bay View.

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Diverse and Resilient seeks Health Promotion Manager

Milwaukee - Diverse and Resilient, Wisconsin's statewide LGBT capacity-building organization, has been addressing health disparities among LGBT people in Wisconsin for several years.

They are seeking to fill the position of Health Promotion Manager - to facilitate the LGBT Tobacco Prevention and Control Disparities Team consisting of community and government partners, both at the local and state level. This position coordinates the implementation of strategies for the elimination of disparities and the efforts to revise, market, and implement various health promotion activities. It also provides a high level of independent consultation on a statewide basis to agencies, organizations, and individuals for the promotion of optimal health of diverse LGBT populations who are disproportionately burdened by the impact of social and economic determinants of health. This position is responsible for identifying, preparing, and presenting training and technical assistance to a wide array of individuals and organizations on specific health promotion and disease prevention topics; provision of independent assessment, analysis, and development of recommendations for statewide policies for a comprehensive prevention and control program; and coordination with national, state, and local leaders of prevention and control organizations. This position monitors cooperating agencies' progress on work plans and budgets to ensure outcomes are achieved; coordinates and monitors the evaluation of the various programs; and leads the initiative to address tobacco-related disparities across all program areas and contracts.

For full position requirements, and how to apply, please contact Diverse and Resilient, 414-390-0444, Diverse and Resilient, 1240B E. Brady St, Milwaukee, WI, 53202.

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'The Queer Program' is Milwaukee's weekly public access call-in cable television program by, for and about Milwaukee's queer communities, providing greater visibility since October, 1992. 'The Queer Program' broadcasts live on Mondays from 6:30PM - 7:30PM and replays Friday midnight and Saturday 10 PM. To promote any announcements or upcoming events, or to schedule an appearance, call 414-265-8500, write The Queer Program, PO Box 090441, Milwaukee, WI 53209 or email queerprgrm@aol.com.

MILWAUKEE LGBT FILM/VIDEO FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 4-14, 2008

One of the community's longest running film festivals celebrates its 21st anniversary with an international array of the finest and newest in films and videos by and about the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities. The screening-packed eleven days of features, documentaries, and shorts opens at the Oriental Theatre with the local premiere of Tom Gustafson's *Were the World Mine*. The Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival is sponsored by the Cream City Foundation's Joseph R. Pabst LGBT Infrastructure Fund and the Greater Milwaukee Foundation's Johnson & Pabst LGBT Humanity Fund.

Listed below is a sampling of this year's exciting festival. For complete details, please visit: www.arts.uwm.edu/lgbtfilm

Thursday, September 4

Opening Night - Oriental Theatre

7:30PM *Were the World Mine* (Tom Gustafson, USA, video, 95min., 2008)

A boys' high school production of *A Midsummer's Night Dream* turns a whole town gay in this comic, musically adorned fantasia! Timothy can barely endure the hetero-drudgery of high school life—put upon by the jocks, an unrequited crush on rugby team star Jonathon, and generally isolated as the private school's resident fairy. But suddenly he is beset, as if spellbound, by intrusive fantasies, all (quite lovely) musical numbers wherein taunting dudes become beefcake chorus boys.

When the drama teacher (played by Wendy Robie, *Twin Peaks*'s eye-patched Nadine in a *Glinda the Good Witch* turn) casts him as Puck in the school's musical version of *A Midsummer's Night Dream*, Timothy discovers that he has the power to make the world his. It goes like this: as Puck, he conjures a love potion, directions courtesy of Shakespeare, and finds that—WTF!—it actually works! Like a charm! Dispensed with an ejaculatory squirt, this potion allows Timothy to, uh, re-orient the world. How far will he go, and can a spell so sweet be sustained?

Were the World Mine is a similarly fantastical conjuring—a concoction mixing gay longing, antic comedic complications, romantic fantasy, and a certain John Waters naughtiness. Director Tom Gustafson bedecks the film with witty and stylish musical sequences, one part Busby Berkeley, one part homespun let's-put-on-a-show resourcefulness, and one part pop dreaminess. Casting a genuine spell, *Were the World Mine* proves that fairies can rule the world!

Winner: Audience Award, Best LGBT Narrative Feature, Turin LGBT Film Festival

Audience Award, Best Feature, InsideOut, Toronto's LGBT Film/Video Festival



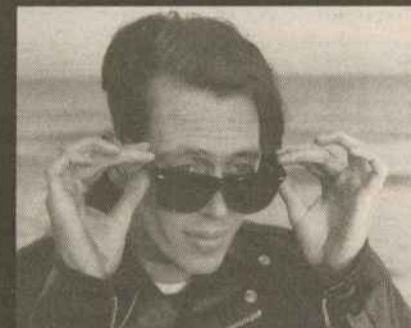
Sunday, September 14

2PM *Tru Loved*

4PM **ON OUR TEAM:** An afternoon of comedic and fun short films for the LGBT community

6PM *Parting Glances* (Bill Sherwood, USA, newly restored 35mm, 90min., 1986)

Actor Richard Ganoung in person! A closing night celebratory screening of this landmark gay film in its newly restored glory! In 2005, **OUTFEST—the Los Angeles Lesbian and Gay Film**



Festival—began a collaboration with the UCLA Film & Television Archive to create the **OUTFEST Legacy Project**. The Project's goal was to preserve and restore landmark LGBT films otherwise at the risk of disappearance owing to neglect or lack of funds. The first film they selected to save was the 1986 *Parting Glances*, from writer/director Bill Sherwood, who died of AIDS in 1990. In 1986, independent film was more ruggedly independent, freshly "out," and *Parting Glances's* presentation of AIDS and, as significantly, of gay men who were actually recognizable, heralded the arrival of uncommon subject matter on American art house screens. The story of Michael and Robert's final 24 hours before an extended sojourn that challenges their relationship allows the film to cast amused and analytical glances at their New York gay milieu, an extended network that is a precursor to the created families in films like *Saturn in Opposition*. And in the character of Steve Buscemi's Nick, the HIV positive ex-boyfriend, this Reagan-era film uncorked a character—and an actor!—never seen on screen before. So join us to welcome Richard Ganoung back to Milwaukee and celebrate this lovingly restored film, print courtesy, we are proud and grateful to say, of the **OUTFEST Legacy Project**.

Friday, September 5

5PM *It Is Not the Homosexual Who Is Perverse, But the Society in Which He Lives* (Nicht der Homosexuelle ist pervers, sondern die Situation, in der er lebt) - with Mansfield 1962

7PM *The New World* (La Nouveau monde)

9PM *YOU and HIM: An Evening of Men's Shorts*

Saturday, September 6

1PM *She's a Boy I Knew*

3PM *An Island Calling*

5PM *La Leon*

7PM *Butch Jamie*

9PM *Save Me*

11PM *The Lollipop Generation*

Sunday, September 7

1PM *Call Me Troy*

3PM *Affinity*

5PM *A Horse Is Not a Metaphor with Vital Signs & Sanctus*

7PM *XXY*

Monday, September 8

A Derek Jarman Evening!

7PM *Derek*

8:30PM *Angelic Conversation*

Tuesday, September 9

7PM *A Jihad for Love*

Wednesday, September 10

3:30PM *Equality U*

Festival Centerpiece - Oriental Theatre

7:30PM *Water Lilies* (Naissance des pieuvres)

(Céline Sciamma, France; in French with English subtitles,



35mm, 85min, 2007) A special presentation of one of the year's best films—and one of the best films ever about teenage girls. First time filmmaker Céline Sciamma has made a film about synchronized swimmers that has a remarkable gravity. Her three heroines are 15 year olds of differing social standing in the strict hierarchy of the high school, each a secret agent or resident alien working alone on special assignments of desire. Ruthlessly opportunistic, and trying to avoid detection, they juggle loyalties as needed. But, please note, this isn't *Mean Girls*—these young women wear the recognizable ache of reality. Presenting: the aloof, single-minded Marie; her object-of-desire, Floriane, the inaccessible beauty (absurdly so) who wears her glamour like a sanctuary, at least until she ascends to heaven; and the shrugged-aside

Anne, buffoonish in spite of herself, but possessing many stealth weapons, confidence among them. As Sciamma surveys their assignations and intersecting paths in the tiled corridors of the local swimming pool, she coolly essays the vulnerability and strengths of young women as they negotiate their longing. Or, as the lesbian director of this intense, daring, at times shockingly funny, most empathetic, and ultimately quite sweet film says, "For me, the film is about what a tough job it is to be a girl."

Thursday, September 11

7PM *Jerusalem Is Proud to Present*

9PM *Wild Combination: A Portrait of Arthur Russell*

Friday, September 12

5PM *Before I Forget*

7PM *The World Unseen*

9PM *Saturn In Opposition* (Saturno Contro)

Saturday, September 13

12:30PM *Hail the New Puritan*

3PM *In Alliance with Alliance*

5PM *Be Like Others with 7 Years*

7PM *Chris & Don: A Love Story*

9PM **IN ALL THE RIGHT PLACES:** An Evening of Women's Shorts

11PM *Japan Japan with Jerovi*

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What's It Worth To You?

The Milwaukee Zine Fest in July 2008 was a smashing success for an inaugural event. One of the workshops on the final day addressed the topic of "zinester economics." Does giving a zine away make a statement about how valuable it is? How can zinesters keep producing issues when seemingly the cost of everything these days keeps going up and up? The zines we'll examine this month are excellent examples of the infinite worth to be found within their pages regardless of the cover price.

I Love Livin' In The City

So you want to buy a house and not blow your punk rock cred? Pick up a copy of **Fort Mortgage!** [Issue 1, 2008,

44 pages, split zine] and have Kisha and Dave skool you on home buying. Written in down-to-earth language while not oversimplifying, **Fort Mortgage!** should be required reading for every first time home buyer. They share the ups and downs of getting their finances in order, tales of chasing after a few houses that weren't meant to be theirs, and their story has a happy ending when one of their offers is accepted on the first round! **Fort Mortgage!** is a good example of skill share, especially for a topic that is not common for punx and working class folks to discuss.

The split zine format is helpful and allows each of them to detail their own path. Each of them worked hard, sometimes lived in not-so-great situations, did so-so with credit ratings, but in the end, they formed a network of good people they could trust to help guide them through the process. That's the key, really, to be aware enough that sometimes we all need the guidance of those who've gone before. By creating this zine they, in turn, share their wisdom with readers who may think they can never possibly buy a house. In reality, it can be done with the right amount of persistence, patience, and attention to detail.

Kisha and Dave are queercore bandmates in Bromance (even the New York Times recently used the word "bromance" - a non-sexual deep

relationship between two heterosexual males) with John, creator of **Gone To The Moon** [Issue 1, 2008, 22 pages]. At the core of this cute, hand cut page zine, John poignantly writes about how he reconciles his biological heritage within the context of mixed race identities and cultural assimilation. While drawing no absolute conclusions about how he chooses to identify, he does keep an open heart and a questioning mind. This spirit also comes through in a road trip tale of winding up in Laramie, Wyoming, to discover more about a (now long gone) memorial to Matthew Shepard. He cautiously asks people around town, but no one seems willing to talk to him until he encounters an older man at a coffee shop with an HRC logo on his cap. While most radical queers blanch at the site of that logo, John set aside his qualms and let the spirit of the place be his guide and it paid off. There is an inherent value in taking risks and setting aside preconceived notions and **Gone To The Moon** proves their worth.

Happiness Is An Uncensored Library

With one of the longest zine titles I've seen in a while, **Cereal Boxes and Milk Crates - Zine Libraries and Infoshops Are NOW** [one-off, 2007, 64 pages] is one of the best examinations of the rise of independent alternatives to public libraries. In an age where you can't be sure if your reading habits



ZINES

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

won't be fodder for misguided use of the PATRIOT Act, now more than ever we need free and unfettered access to information. Editor Lacey Prpic Hedtke has lovingly crafted a tome with multi-colored paper pages that is academic in nature but accessible to those who may not have a depth of experience with zine libraries and infoshops. The References section features articles by or about a veritable who's who of amazing radical librarian folks like Sandy Berman, Jim Danky, Jenna Friedman, and Alycia Sellie. Lacey closes out this awesome resource by including a list of libraries and infoshops from around the world. It harkens back to the zine tradition of building a network of contacts by giving a nod to those whose work you respect and enjoy.

The Queer Zine Archive Project is a free digital archive of past and present zines on the Web at qzap.org.



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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,
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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
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920-655-0611

Pride in Wisconsin
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P.O. Box 310
Madison, WI 53701
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Queer Life News
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2266 N. Prospect Ave Suite 200
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414-383-8200
www.queerlifeneews.com

Quest
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414-433-9821

Rainbow Families Wisconsin
LGBT family support
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608-270-1024

Wisconsin DHFS HIV/AIDS
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Madison, WI 53701
800-991-5532

Wisconsin HIV/STD Hepatitis C
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24/7 800-334-2437
www.irc-wisconsin.org

Milwaukee

Alcoholics Anonymous
Request gay meetings
414-771-9119

Bay View GAYS
(414) 482-3796
bvgsresident@bvgs.com
www.bvgs.com

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

Black Pride
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Black and White Men
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Milwaukee, 53209
414-540-9437
www.bwmtmilwaukee.org

Brady East STD Clinic
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414-272-2144
www.bestd.org

Brew City Bears
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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
1240B 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
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Waukesha, WI
262-691-5388

Gemini Gender Group
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53214
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Girth & Mirth/Milwaukee
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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 Gay Soccer
Association
info@milwaukeegayssoccer.org
(414) 405-5878
www.MilwaukeeGaySoccer.org
Games on Friday nights at
Uihlein Soccer Park until
mid-April.

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.mkelgbthist.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
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Parenthood
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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-
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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.ssbilmilwaukee.com

Sexual Compulsives
Anonymous (SCA)
414-299-0755

Shoreline Country Dancers
2809 E. Oklahoma Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53207
www.shorline-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
washhtsrainbow@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

All Saints' Cathedral
(Episcopal)
818 E Juneau Ave
Milwaukee, Wis 53202
414-271-7719
www.ascathedral.org

Bradford Community Church
Unitarian Universalist
5810 8th Ave
Kenosha, WI 53140
262-656-0544
www.bradforduu.org

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@milmcc.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

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.

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The King of Brady Street Theater

Many of you know Brady Street as an area that welcomes all kinds of lifestyles and events. The KING of the Brady Street area theater scene is James Searles. James is the owner of the Astor Theater on the corner of Astor/Brady streets.

This location was the home of the original Astor Theater built in 1915. It featured 800 seats and hosted vaudeville shows, newsreels and feature films. Owner James Searles rescued it in 1983. This space has served as a pharmacy, diner and a small theater for local arts groups.

Some of the arts groups which have use this location are the dance company RIVER EAST DANCE, RSVP Productions, Charles Summers RADIO SPACE shows, and many local rock groups. The space has also hosted INSURGENT THEATRE and PINK BANANA in the past. James has built a strong following in the local area arts community.

James has an extremely friendly and outgoing personality. Many of the guests in the restaurant and theater return because of his charm. He also provides quality service and wonderful food in his diner. If you stop in for breakfast the place is packed. And after 3pm James offers food SPECIALS. This is a fun place to visit, and the ice cream and soda fountain are great for all ages...a family treat!

Recently because of the competitors in the pharmacy field, James made the choice to focus on the store and diner. When you step inside the front door you will see all of the colorful stuffed animals he now sells. There are also a wide variety of candy bars and snacks. There is something for everyone. If you haven't been to this exciting Astor Theater/ Diner; please make an effort to bring family and friends. This location is a landmark of the Brady Street area...and a wonderful vacation, or holiday spot for all! Thank you James Searles for all you do for the arts and friends along Brady Street.

Auditions and the Local Theater Scene:

As we approach the Fall all of the Arts groups will start their new seasons. I will tell you about the new REP shows and many other fine productions in the Milwaukee arts scene. Also in the Fall, many local groups announce open auditions. Please check out all the hotlines for many of the theater companies.

Bay Players of Whitefish Bay will hold auditions August 4-5th at 7pm for the musical YOU'RE A GOOD MAN CHARLIE BROWN. Then the next week

August 11-12th will be auditions for the two comedies the group will perform later in the season. After Labor Day the Shorewood Players will announces their auditions for the musical BIG.

This past month some brilliant performances occurred in our local theater scene. Brian Richards won rave reviews for his role in WAIT UNTIL DARK for Spiral Staircase Theater. Bill Jackson stole the show to standing ovation every night as the Devil in DAMN YANKEES at Sunset Playhouse. At Off The Wall Theatre David Flores and Karl Miller were praised in their reviews for FROGS. I told you Dale Gutzman could make a show that was a flop on Broadway, a success in Milwaukee!

Next month I will talk about an interview I did with Director Dale Gutzman. Both of us discussed the many Midwest area actors we worked with; some who have made it on Broadway. In one case a Tony Award!

Traffic has been bad with all the area festivals...but it sure has been a fun Summer so far!



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.

Trivia answer: Actor Ray Walston played the original Devil in Damn Yankees and also was TV's MY FAVORITE MARTIAN.

New Trivia: Who was the female lead in the movie of WAIT UNTIL DARK?

*My Aunt Sally went to see FROGS and almost croaked!
(just kidding!)
R.B.*

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Carole Wehner has been specializing in Milwaukee duplexes and executive style homes on the east side of Milwaukee and north shore for over 17 years. Since she began her real estate career in Milwaukee area, she has represented many buyers and sellers for both residential and investment properties.

Chris Haines specializes in condos and executive style homes in Milwaukee area like Whitefish Bay, Mequon, Cedarburg, River Hills, Brookfield, Elm Grove and Franklin. He also works with many condo buyers throughout metro Milwaukee including downtown, north shore, lake country and south shore.

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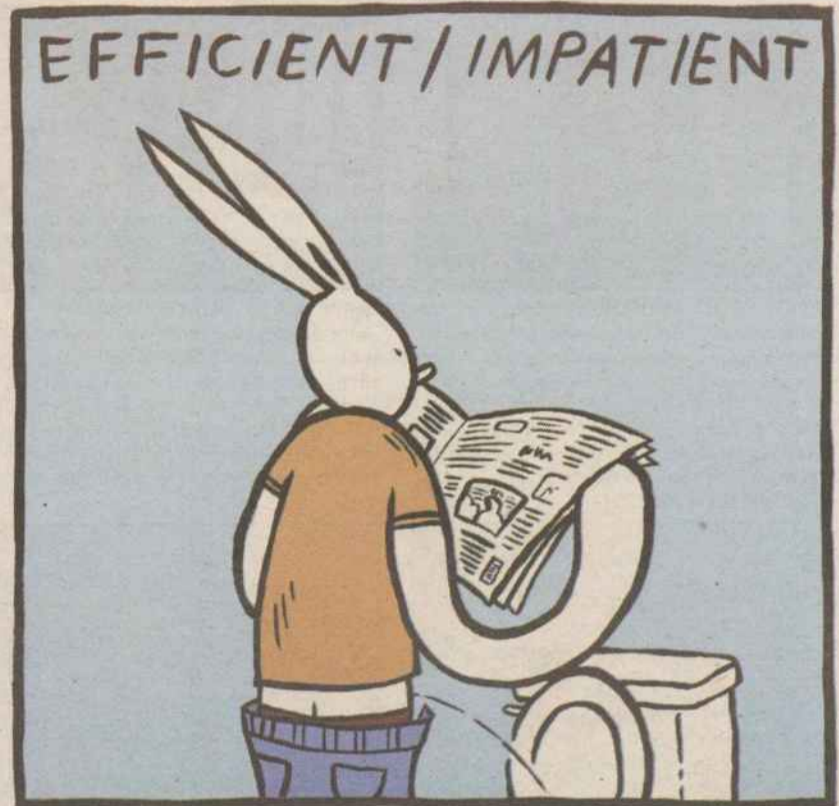
QLife News Welcomes Max and his Bunny!

We are thrilled to have "My Life as a Bunny" by Max Estes join the QLife family, after poor Bunny was left without a newspaper home last month. We are sure you'll enjoy them as much as we do. Thanks Max!



Max Estes is a Milwaukee-based cartoonist and full-time artist. His books include 'Hello, Again' (2005) and 'Coffee and Donuts' (2006). See a new My Life as a Bunny comic daily at www.mylifeasabunny.blogspot.com.

"My Life as a Bunny by Max Estes"



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FIRSTWEBER Group REALTORS*



3217 N. OAKLAND AVE., MILW. East Side home recently updated to the height of sophistication. Open concept floor plan features gourmet kitchen with contemporary cabinets, SS countertops, illuminated bar area. 1st floor bath with Japanese soaking tub. Large master bedroom with vaulted ceilings. LL has finished office space. Newer windows & roof. \$239,900. MLS #951522



1830 E. KANE PLACE #4, MILW. Fantastic condo at Hathaway Towers. Located in a historic district of Milwaukee, this unit features hardwood floors, crown moldings & tons of charm. Entertain in the open concept living & dining rooms or relax in your very own hot tub while enjoying beautiful lake views. Close to all the city has to offer. \$269,900. #992563



2649 N. Prospect #3 & #4, Milw. Beautifully renovated building in a prime location just a few blocks away from Downer shops. KIT w/ cherry cabs, SS appls, granite C-tops & breakfast bar. LR has AFP. BA has Kohler fixtures & ped sinks. \$234,900-\$246,900 MLS #1028267 & 1028266



215 W. MAPLE, #403, MILW. PartsHouse Condo in Fifth Ward. Large 1 bedroom unit has open concept kitchen/living. SS appliances and solid surface countertops in kitchen. Bathroom has euro-designer porcelain sink and handcrafted tiles from France. One indoor parking place included. Large private balcony. \$159,900. MLS #1017883



2110 N. COMMERCE ST, MIL. Bright and cheery condo unit with southern & western exposures. This lovely unit features updated kitchen with mosaic glass tile backsplash, great room with doors to private balcony, private entrance and 2 car attached garage. \$269,900. MLS #984959



HI-FI LOFTS
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3059 N. WEIL ST., MILW.
So Ho chic condo units with stainless steel cabinets, butcher block countertops, in-unit laundry. 1st floor units feature heated concrete floors. 2nd - 4th floor units feature wood floors. Prices range from \$138,900-\$199,900. www.hifilofts.com



215 W. MAPLE ST., #611, MILW. Hip & trendy Parts House condo unit features all of the amenities you are looking for. KIT boasts granite counters & stainless appliances. Marvelous bath w/ceramic tile & pedestal sink. Enjoy fantastic city views from your oversized wrap around balcony. Hardwood floor, natural fireplace, extra large windows. \$212,900. MLS #981745



906 E. BRADY ST., MILW. Historic Brady Place Townhome with sunny southern exposure. Kitchen boasts granite counters, maple cabinets, stainless steel appliances. Fantastic master suite with adjacent sitting area and balcony. Relax in the whirlpool tub or enjoy views from the rooftop patio. Expandable 3rd floor and tons of storage space. \$324,900 #900019



1835-1839 N. MARTIN LUTHER KING DR., MILW. Fantastic loft unit features many updates. Kitchen with Avonite solid surface counters, breakfast bar, honey washed maple cabinets & stainless appliances. 2 bedrooms with maple HWFs, large windows & crown molding. Generous bath w/20' deep soaking tub, vessel sink & ceramic tile. Large LL storage locker. \$135,900-\$139,900 MLS #981198 & MLS #981201



1809 N. COMMERCE #202, MILW. Fabulous condo in the heart of the Beerline neighborhood. Hardwood floors flow throughout the open concept living space. Superb kitchen is spacious and functional with granite counter tops, maple cabinets and stainless steel appliances. Large bedrooms with walk-in California closets. 2 car garage. \$272,000. MLS #971391



1750 N. PALMER., MILW. 1872 Historic Cream City Brick beauty in Brewer's Hill. Updated for modern sensibilities. This 3BR is true to it's historic roots. Enter through the tumbled marble foyer and make your way up the original stair way newly appointed w/designer wool carpeting. You will be impressed by the pride of ownership. \$299,900. MLS #1002270.



6411 W. WISCONSIN AVE., WAUWATOSA Spacious condo located in the Jacobs Park neighborhood features modernized kitchen with granite counters and newer cabinets. Open living room with brick fireplace. Hardwood floors throughout. 2 car garage. \$238,400. MLS # 1014329.



1506 16th AVE., Grafton Wonderfully maintained and spacious home in move-in ready condition! Master BR with 1/2 walk-thru bath into KIT. Beautiful picture window in living room makes home bright and sunny. HWFs thruout, private deck in backyard, and all new Pella windows in 2007. Finished lower level with 2 bonus rooms and HUGE rec room adds another level of living space! Total sq footage with lower level= 1,750. \$214,900 #997518



1530 N. JACKSON ST., Designed by national award-winning architect. Attached heated GAS; elevator; private terraces avg. over 180sf; contemporary materials including cedar, burnished block, expansive glass; standard unit finishes include granite, stainless appliances, custom modern cabinetry, tiled baths, hardwood floors & more. \$529,000. MLS #982150 www.urban-address.com



1329 & 1335 W. Lloyd St., Milw. New construction in Josey Heights. 2 story Colonial features KIT w/oak cabs, LR w/GFP & FDR. Spacious MBR suite w/private balcony & beautiful MBA. 2 car detached GA & full LL. MLS #973010 & 973035



GREENWICH ROW - MILWAUKEE
1822 - 1828 E. GREENWICH AVE. New town homes in Whole Foods neighborhood. 2BR/2.5 BA condos have it all. Renewable resource bamboo floors in LR, KIT, dining room and both BDs. Espresso stained cabinetry & doors, granite counters and stainless steel appliances standard. 2.5 attached car garage. \$279,900 - \$299,900



234 E. RESERVOIR #207, MILWAUKEE Rare 3BR, 2 bath loft condo in Brewer's Hill. Large open KIT w/granite counters & stainless appliances opens to a huge great room perfect for entertaining. Oversized windows, exposed brick, HWFs & sophisticated color scheme add warmth & comfort. Faux finishes create depth & interest. Large master suite. In-unit laundry & 1 indoor GA space. \$279,900 #1005158



1846 N. 4th ST., #301, MILWAUKEE Fantastic Reservoir Loft condo features heated concrete floors, oversized windows & exposed Cream City brick throughout. Open concept living space is perfect for entertaining. Beautiful KIT w/granite counters & SS appliances overlooks extra large living & dining area. Master bedroom boasts a huge walk-in customized closet & an incredible master bath. 2 indoor parking spaces. \$329,900 #1006728