



LIFE NEWS

Vol. 4, Issue 12 - December 2008

Proud to be Wisconsin's LGBT Newspaper

QLIFEMILWAUKEE.COM

A Nationwide Assault on State Constitutions is Wisconsin Next?

Is the state about to undergo the kind of assault on its constitution that is being waged in other states? We ask the authors of Wisconsin's constitution what they think.

Gay Bar Raid
Milwaukee Police Department Actions Raise Questions

Police raid on a bar in Milwaukee has raised questions about the department's actions and the treatment of the LGBT community.

Citizen Lobbyists Swarm Madison

ARCW Launches Major HIV Awareness Campaign

Flag Flap
City of Milwaukee Says No to Year Round Display

Interview with Sam Harris

Red Hot and Revolutionary

Official Pride Guide Inside

Flagging Tenants

PrideFest 2005: Pride Old and New

Aging Out

Discharged

Why Are We So Late?

Shame on You

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'The Sum of Us' Adds Power to MGAC Lineup

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Godly Union?

PRIDE GUIDE ON INSIDE

What's the Deal?

WHAT?

Godly Union?

PRIDE GUIDE ON INSIDE

What's the Deal?

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What's the Deal?

WHAT?

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After the Amendment

Transgender History for Milwaukee

FAMILIES-2007!

Learning from Herstory

CREAM CITY FOUNDATION
The Pride of Milwaukee

IF YOU PLAN IT, THEY WILL COME...

PRIDE over Labels

Serving Openly and Honestly It's Time

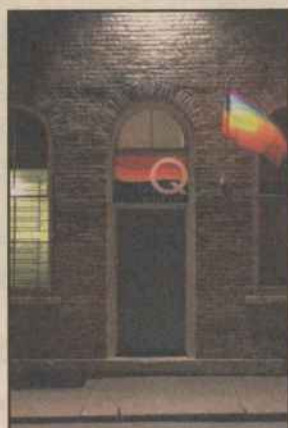
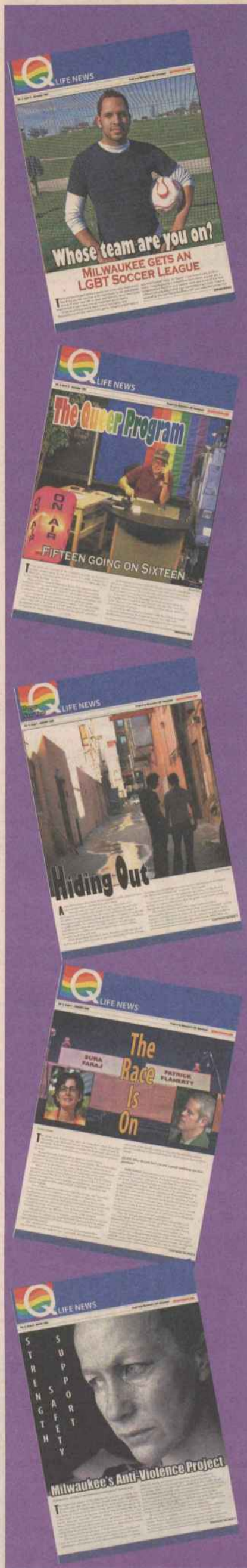
Direction, Focus, and a Mission: Diverse & Resilient

Domestic Submission, and Charity

INCREASING VISIBILITY

INCREASING VISIBILITY

HAPPY HOLIDAYS • HAPPY NEW YEAR • GOOD NITE IRENE



By Kate Sherry

DEC 15, 2004



The first issue of Queer Life News is released. On the cover – a story that continues across the country written today.

• "A Nationwide Assault on State Constitutions – is Wisconsin Next?" The proposed amendment to Wisconsin's constitution, which would ban marriage between same sex partners, and most likely outlaw civil unions and domestic partnerships is on the horizon. Two years later, that amendment sadly passed.

Several columns featured in QLife have changed throughout the years, and some have drifted away. But thankfully, many of the writers who helped QLife get off it's feet are still with us today.

Our look has changed. The size and type of newsprint changed. Cover Images and stories went from several, to just one main article. The offices moved uptown and "Queer Life News" was shortened to simply "QLIFE."

The tone of the paper shifted, and more 'human interest' pieces, and celebration of the history of the community were featured.

This month being our 4th anniversary of publishing, we thought we would take a brief look back on the last four years.

JAN 2005



"GAY BAR RAID" was the title splashed across the cover. The images,



It's a Queer Life - Looking Back on Four Years

Mayor Tom Barrett offered his congratulations to the paper, and expressed his support of the LGBT community as an "important part of the diversity of Milwaukee." Dec, 2004

MAY 2005

Homophobic zealots target the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center. Carrying signs that read, "Homosexuality is a Sin", four men stood on the sidewalk in front of MGAC trying to persuade Gallery Night attendees to take fliers on "what the bible says about homosexuality."

• MPD launches expanded "cultural competency" training – something many of the LGBT leaders pushed for expanded program. At the time, Captain Mary Hoerig said that the training "is going to be continuous and infinite."

• Then LGBT Center Director, James Pennington was at a three-month standoff with Alderman Michael McGee. All attempts to contact him for a one-on-one conversation with the Center were fruitless.

• Best D Clinic began running the "He's Hot. But what's he got?" ads.



captured from a security camera in Woody's bar on 2nd St, showed three officers from the Milwaukee Police Department dragging a bar patron outside. While the bar owners were happy to discuss the raids, the MPD pretty much remained mum.

• James Pennington became the newly appointed Executive Director of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. Today, Dr. Maggi Cage holds the position.

• Plans were underway to start the new gay-friendly MPS school, The Alliance School of Milwaukee. Organizers say the school will be a safe haven for students who are routinely harassed based on looks, dress, beliefs, or sexuality.

• "Far too often, the voices and actions of LGBT individuals are unrecorded, suppressed or erased." Michael Doyle, The Milwaukee LGBT Archives, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Doyle, who wrote the History column in the early days of QLife, became part of the story in June 2008, when the LGBT Archives at UWM were the feature story.

FEB 2005

Citizen Lobbyists Swarm Madison – Jan 27, 2005. More than 400 people jammed the Capital lobby in Madison in protest over the constitutional ban on civil unions and gay marriage.



The event was sponsored by Action Wisconsin, as well as 30 additional organizations across the state – including Milwaukee's own LGBT Center.

• PrideFest goes for Non-Profit Status, now allowing tax-deductible contributions to be made to PrideFest by foundations and individuals.

• A decade-long fight pays off, and Illinois passes a Gay Rights bill Jan 12.

• PBS got a tongue lashing from Education Secretary Margaret Spellings, for featuring lesbian characters in a cartoon, and Focus on the Family founder James Dobson claimed cartoon Sponge Bob Squarepants "brainwashes" children because it is "pro-homosexual."



JUNE 2005

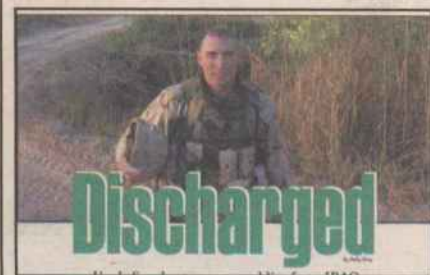


• LGBT Community Mourns the Loss of Lew Broyles, pastor of Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church.

• Broad Vocabulary - A new Feminist Bookstore opens on KK Ave, hoping to show people that "feminism can be smart and fun." As of press time, plans to close the store were in place.



• Congresswoman Gwen Moore (D) writes, "It has been very easy for me to embrace the LGBT community because I understand how my fate is linked to my neighbor's."



NOV 2005

"DISCHARGED". Marquette university student and Army artilleryman Jeff Howe was honorably

LOOKING continued from page 2

discharged under the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. The Army had uncovered Howe's online profile on Connexion.org, an LGBT Community site. The irony, said Howe, was that they extended his original 2-year stay in Iraq by another 2 years. "But once they found out I was gay, they say 'get your stuff and get out of Iraq. There's no place for you in this Army.'"

• CNN reports that American casualties in the war in Iraq have reached 2,000. Estimates are that more than 25 of those killed were gay or lesbian.

• PrideFest pays off \$150,000.00 debt three years ahead of schedule. President Scott Gunkel attributes the successful turnaround to "The tremendous outpouring of community support."

DEC 2005

QLife receives threats for publishing the issue. The mug shot of Milwaukee Alderman Michael McGee graces the cover, along with accusations of bigotry. QLife receives a bomb threat



for publishing the issue.

• A call was put out for women to join a newly formed SSBL for women teams only. It never materialized.

• HRC launches Transgender Equality Education Campaign

• Congress Passes Common-Sense HIV Treatment Bill



MAY 2006

"WHAT?" Screams the cover title - plastered over a photo of a badly beaten Frank Jude Jr., the young Milwaukee man beaten by MPD officers at a house party in Bay View. All four officers involved are found not guilty on 4 out of 5 charges, prompting protests.

• The end of an era - after 30 years in business, M & M's closes its doors.

• The Greater Milwaukee Visioning Project has been meeting to start building stronger LGBT communities. Scott Schmoller, a participant, said, "all of us can be better through collaboration and a stronger sense of community."

AUG 2006

Then Editor, and 1/3 owner of Queer Life News, Don Hoffman abruptly resigns, leaving the future of QLife in question. The remaining 2/3 owners take the month of September to regroup, and begin publishing again in Oct. 2006.

OCT 2006

"Fighting For Love". Patrick Flaherty's QPolitics column was moved to the cover

feature, and focused on the upcoming Wisconsin Marriage Amendment vote. Ray Vahey, and Richard



Taylor - two community members who had been together 50 years were profiled. They had "endured the brutal homophobia of a benighted era only to face this assault in their final years." Vahey and Taylor had become strong voices in the fight against the gay marriage ban.

• Gay marriage debate sparked a restaurant brawl in a Wauwatosa George Webb.

• Project Q won a \$100,000 three-year grant.

• QHistory, now written by Don Schwamb, looked at the importance of Print Media in the LGBT Community. (No wonder we've always liked Don!)

In the long run, this cover article helped to set the tone of the next two years of QLife. Several issues to follow focused more on the LGBT community, it's organizations, and it's people. Topics became lighter, and more celebratory of who we are as a community in the hopes to put back together what many labeled a "disjointed community." The "history"



of who we are, where we've come from, and what we are doing as we move forward towards equality became a steady theme.

DEC 2006

The results on WI Marriage Amendment are on the cover and the sad reality still stings. Fifty-nine percent of Wisconsin citizens favored discrimination and inequality.

• Under Iran's Islamic Penal Code, homosexuality between consenting adults is a capital crime. They hang a gay in public...ironically in an area called "Freedom Square."

APRIL 2007

Cream City Foundation's 25th anniversary is the hot topic. Founded in 1982 with a \$500 gift from Ed Jaworski, Cream City Foundation grew to become "the first and many times the only source of funding for emerging LGBT needs and organizations."

• One month prior to this issue, sadly a "true pioneer" in the gay civil rights movement, Eldon Murray, passes away March 5, 2007. In 1994, Murray had founded SAGE Milwaukee - Wisconsin's first organization devoted to issues surrounding aging in the community.

• The Milwaukee LGBT Film Festival and the Milwaukee Art Museum team up to present the 1969 "dykesploitation" classic, "That Tender Touch."

• Marine Gen Peter Pace, The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, calls homosexuality "immoral"

JUNE 2007

Local artist and designer, Maureen Kane designs the cover image for our Pride issue, asking the community what "Pride" means to them.



• History! The US House of Rep. Voted to pass the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act, H.R. 1592 in a vote of 237 to 180.

• The Transgender Aging Network (TAN) of FORGE announced the release of a new teaching tool, "Living memory LGBT History Timeline." Loree Cook Daniels, TAN Executive Director, said, "even those of us who do know our history can forget just how much change can take place."

AUGUST 2007

Direction, Focus, and a Mission: Diverse and Resilient is the latest organization to be featured. Their intent is to "aid the inception and continues success of various LGBT groups."



The 2008 Community Center Survey Report

Washington, D.C. – CenterLink, the Community of LGBT Centers, has released the results of the 2008 community center survey conducted jointly with the LGBT Movement Advancement Project (MAP). The in-depth overview of local LGBT community centers analyzes data on 71 LGBT community centers, covering approximately 97% of all LGBT community center revenue.

This analysis looks at community centers' age and infrastructure, financial, fundraising, staff and board capacities, current programs and services, demographic overview of clients and patrons, technical assistance needs, and recommendations for strengthening the community center field's overall capacity.

Some of the findings show that the average center is 18 yrs old, with most being founded after 1990. The 71 centers are located in 29 different states and the District of Columbia. Most (53 percent) serve multiple counties and cities, 10 percent entire states and the remaining 37 percent focus on a single county or city. Nearly all (92 percent) are independent organizations while the remaining 8 percent are affiliates or programs of other organizations.

In 2006, LGBT community centers had combined budgets of \$83.5 million, which grew 11 percent to \$92.6 million in 2007. Growth between 2007 and 2008 is projected to be slightly slower (7 percent), with budgets increasing to \$99.3 million. This growth represents an increase of 19

percent from 2006 to 2008.

Most community center revenue (41 percent in 2008) comes from government sources, with 17 percent from state government, 15 percent from federal, and 9 percent from local public agencies. Individual donations are the next largest source of revenue, at 22 percent. Foundations and corporations make up just 10 and 5 percent of center revenue, respectively.

Centers spent most of their program budgets on information and education services and community outreach programs (29 and 22 percent, respectively), followed by mental/physical health at 20 percent.

In combination, LGBT community centers serve nearly 40,000 individuals in a typical week, and refer 17,300 people to other organizations or agencies. The average center serves 608 people in a typical week, while the median serves 150. Almost all centers (59 centers, 85 percent) offer services for LGBT youth, (with 39 % of program service dollars directed to youth programs) while 54 centers offer services for people who are transgender. Programs for LGBT seniors are the third most offered.

CenterLink exists to support the development of strong, sustainable LGBT community centers and to build a unified center movement. For more information, or to read the report in its entirety, please visit www.lgbtcenters.org.

LOOKING *continued from page 3*

- The Greater Milwaukee Foundation approves \$25,000 for 6 non-profit LGBT organizations.
- Black Pride is set to go, with Jennifer Holiday as the headliner. Eloise MCPike, Executive Director, says the main purpose of Black Pride "is to promote unity, and self esteem among LGBT people of color."
- Dairyland Classic celebrates it's 30th year.

FEB 2008



Local well known LGBT activists, Patrick Flaherty and Sura Furaj are interviewed by QLife regarding



their run for Alderman of district 3. Both, at one point, contributed to QLife. Nick Kovack ultimately won the seat.

- Charles "D" productions celebrates 15th year anniversary

- LGBT Center hosts a community breakfast, covering the sensitive topic of "Intergenerational relationships: Coercive sexual activity within the LGBT Community."

MARCH 2008

The Anti-Violence Project at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center is featured, putting same sex domestic abuse in the spotlight.

- The G/L Community Center and the Community Trust Fund begin 2008 membership drive. Over the years, this fund has distributed over \$78,000 to the GLBT community.

OCTOBER 2007



"Increasing Visibility" – This issue features the African American LGBT Program called Connexus, and the "Visible, Viable and Influential African American LGBT Community in Milwaukee."

- The UWM Libraries acquires the personal papers and library of Eldon Murray, a nationally recognized figure in the gay rights movement.
- The numbers are in! PrideFest attendees donated 15,000 pound of food to the ARCW food pantry.

DECEMBER 2007

Celebrating 15 years on the air, Milwaukee's The Queer Program, with host Michael Lisowski, is profiled.



- FBI Report shows gay hate crimes increased 15%
- Center Advocated Domestic Partner benefits measure advances at MPS
- ARCW expands access to health care for people with HIV



MAY 2008

One of our most talked about covers, "The Unsinkable Elizabeth Brown" gives us the story of artist, visionary, and Sage woman Elizabeth Brown. It even garners interest nationally, as letters come into QLife from online readers, who appreciated the human-interest piece.

- LGBT Community Center holds a successful "mix-n-mingle" event teaching attendees how to cook tasty Asian food at the Milwaukee Public Market.
- ARCW expands services in Kenosha
- Advocate, activist, and philanthropist Joseph Pabst creates a fund to support the acquisition, processing and preservation of materials for the UWM Libraries LGBT Collection. The UWM Libraries have the largest LGBT collection in Wisconsin.

JUNE 2008

On the heels of last month's announcement of acquiring materials for the UWM LGBT archives, QLife interviews UWM Library head archivist Michael Doylen, and gets a sneak peak at the archives.

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**Happy
New Year
from the Staff
of QLife**

**CLUB
ICON**

www.club-icon.com

**New Year's Eve
Black and White Party**

2009 New Year's Package includes:

- ❖ Open Bar from 9:00pm until 1:00am
- ❖ Delicious Food Buffet
- ❖ DJ all Night
- ❖ Giveaways all Night Long
- ❖ Champagne Toast at Midnight
- ❖ Party Favors

Tickets: \$50.00

A limited number of tickets will be sold for this event. Tickets are available for purchase during regular club hours. Purchase your tickets early!

Club ICON will be open New Year's Eve from 9:00pm until 4:00am

LOOKING *continued from page 4*

AUGUST 2008

Cream City Foundation launches a billboard campaign promoting visibility of LGBT families, with their gayneighbor.org campaign. Several local families step up to participate, and billboards begin popping up all over town.

• Center Advocates breaks away from the LGBT Community Center and becomes an independent advocacy organization.

• Local musician Yolanda Roth releases her solo CD, and gets out of Dodge for brighter pastures in Minneapolis.

• Women's Voices Milwaukee and M's loses an owner, as Melissa Beastrom moves home to Iowa.

DECEMBER 2008

Happy Birthday to Queer Life News. Thank you, Milwaukee, readers, advertisers, community leaders, and you as well, critics. You've all been an integral part of the shaping of QLife. We wish you all a happy, safe holiday, and a bright, fulfilling New Year.



Children need ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

[Become a foster or adoptive parent.]

(414) 264-KIDS or CSSW.org

Children's Service Society of Wisconsin
A member of Children's Hospital and Health System

Partners with the Community
Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare
STATE OF WISCONSIN

To learn more about becoming a foster parent or an adoptive parent for a child in foster care, contact Children's Service Society of Wisconsin at (414) 264-KIDS today.

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.

ARCW MEDICAL CENTER
Wisconsin's Largest Provider of HIV Health Care



'ologies, 'osophies and 'isms... *oh my!* beginning Sunday, January 4

What do you believe?
6-part sermon series

- January 4
- January 11
- January 18
- January 25
- February 1
- February 8

Join us for **SUNDAY SERVICES** and Children's Religious Education at **8:45 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.** All are welcome to attend the sermon discussion at 6:15 p.m., following the evening service.

- "Theism: Western Views of God"
- "Theism: Eastern Views of God"
- "Transcendentalism: Part or Parcel of God"
- "Atheism and Existentialism"
- "Religious Environmentalism: The Wider Web"
- "Agnosticism and Humanism"

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uumilwaukee.org

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2008
THE ROTUNDA OF
THE MILWAUKEE CENTER



JOLLY
HOLLY
FOLLY

— AN EVENING TO REMEMBER —

Jolly Holly Folly is sure to be one of the highlights of your 2008 holiday season. Enjoy an evening of cocktails, a spectacular array of tantalizing food from a selection of Milwaukee's finest restaurants and a private performance of The Milwaukee Repertory Theater's *The Blonde, the Brunette and the Vengeful Redhead*, all to benefit the services and programs of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin.

— FEATURED RESTAURANTS —

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| BELLA CAFFE | MAXIE'S |
| CEMPAZUCHI | SOUTHERN COMFORT |
| COMIDA BRAVA | MIA FAMIGLIA |
| COQUETTE CAFE | ITALIAN RISTORANTE |
| CRAWDADDY'S CAJUN | MITCHELL'S FISH MARKET |
| CREOLE RESTAURANT | OSTERIA DEL MONDO |
| CUBANITAS | POTAWATOMI CATERING |
| EAT CAKE | RIP TIDE SEAFOOD |
| EDGAR'S CALYPSO | BAR & GRILL |
| GOOD LIFE | RIVERFRONT PIZZERIA |
| INDULGE | SIMMA'S BAKERY |
| KIL@WAT | SOUP MARKET |
| LA PERLA | TENUTA'S |
| MAGGIANO'S | ITALIAN RESTAURANT |

— SPONSORS —



— TO PURCHASE ADVANCE TICKETS —
 please call 1-800-359-9272 ext. 1615

or visit www.arcw.org and click on the Jolly Holly Folly link

DO GOOD FOR THE CAUSE WHILE YOU DECK THE HALLS!

On a small budget, you can give more than you had hoped this holiday season at the **Boelter Superstore Red Ribbon Sale**. From Dec. 8 to 21, Boelter will donate 15% of each purchase to ARCW. Visit the Boelter Superstore for *wholesale pricing* on all the entertaining, dining and kitchen items on your list.

Send the receipt from your purchase to:
 AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin / ATTN: Red Ribbon Sale
 820 N. Plankinton Ave. / Milwaukee, WI 53203

BOELTER SUPERSTORE RED RIBBON SALE • DEC. 8-21
 4200 N. Port Washington Rd., Glendale • Store Hours: Monday thru Friday 8:30 to 5

Wisconsin



Happenings

"ReCreate Your Space" at NARI

Milwaukee - The 47th annual Milwaukee/NARI Home Improvement Show will be held Feb 5-8, 2009 at the Wisconsin Exposition Center at State Fair Park in West Allis.

Co-sponsored by the Milwaukee/NARI Home Improvement Council, Inc., and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, the 2009 Show will provide Milwaukee/NARI, the area's leading home improvement and remodeling industry resource for more than 47 years, the opportunity to provide consumers with ideas on how to "ReCreate Your Space," the theme for the Show.

Nearly 700 booth spaces covering the entire exposition center will feature providers of thousands of home improvement products and services, including kitchens, decks, bathrooms, lighting, landscaping, fireplaces, and more. During the Show, demonstrations by home improvement experts like Shari Hiller & Matt Fox of HGTV and Dean Johnson from "HomeTime" on PBS will be held. The American TV Kennedy Hahn Appliance Cooking Demonstration Stage will feature area chefs and national cooking celebrities, including Chef Rock Harper, "Hell's Kitchen" Season 3 Winner, and Scott Leysath, The Sporting Chef. For more information, hours, and ticket prices, please visit www.milwaukee-nari.org or call 414-771-4071.

First a Statue, now a Musical

Milwaukee - The hit television show comes to life in Milwaukee this January with the celebration of "Happy Days - The Musical!" Journey back in time to the good old days with varsity sweaters, hula hoops, jukebox sock-hoppin', and characters you love. "Happy Days" reintroduces one of America's best-loved families, the Cunninghams and the days of 1959 Milwaukee. This time capsule is complete with familiar friends, Richie, Potsie, Ralph Malph, Joanie and Chachi, Pinky Tuscadero and of course, the king of cool: Arthur "The Fonz" Fonzarelli. Tickets on sale now at the Marcus Center Box Office at 414-273-7206 or through Ticketmaster by logging onto www.ticketmaster.com. Performances: Jan 6-11 at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 North Water Street, Milwaukee.

Gay Youth Health Risks

Excerpts from an article by the Wisconsin LGBT Youth Health Coalition. For full article: <http://www.diverseandresilient.org/youth/articles.asp?aid=45>

Recent findings from the 2007 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) indicate that among sexually active youth in Wisconsin, seriously significant health disparities were found for lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth.

The 2007 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) was administered by the State of Wisconsin's Department of Public Instruction (DPI) in partnership with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to 2,094 students in 56 public schools in Wisconsin. It is part of a national effort by the CDC to monitor health-risk behaviors of the nation's high school students.

Behaviors monitored include traffic safety, weapons and violence, suicide, tobacco use, alcohol and other drug use, sexual behavior, and diet, nutrition and exercise.

These health disparities identify LGBT youth as more vulnerable to violence at school, mental health problems, suicide attempts, alcohol, drug and tobacco use, and most alarming - having significantly fewer adult supports than their heterosexual peers.

The State of Wisconsin has long understood both the personal and public cost of youth risk behaviors in health care and the loss of years of productivity across the lifespan. With nearly 1 in 10 Wisconsin youth reporting same-sex sexual activity, these findings indicate a critical public health situation.

Findings include:

- For the first time, since 1993, the 2007 YRBS included a question about same-sex sexual activity in its sexual behavior questions.
- 9% of the sexually active youth reported engaging in same-sex sexual activity.
- 36% of LGBT youth reported having been harassed, picked on, or bullied compared to 20% of their heterosexual peers.
- 31.8% of LGBT youth reported making a plan to die by suicide in the past 12 months vs. 10.8% of their heterosexual peers.
- Wisconsin LGBT youth report significantly higher rates of use of alcohol, marijuana, and street drugs than their heterosexual peers.
- Lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth have fewer adults they feel comfortable with seeking help from than their heterosexual peers.

There are also lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth that are thriving - with good family and community mentors, academic success, positive peer support, and good models of public health.

LGBTQ youth programs in Appleton, Eau Claire, La Crosse, Madison, Milwaukee, and Wausau belong to the Rainbow Alliance for Youth, a network coordinated by Diverse and Resilient, Inc. which is a statewide capacity-building organization. In addition, many schools in the state of Wisconsin have Gay Straight Alliances (GSAs).

GSA for Safe Schools coordinates leadership activities for GSAs in south central Wisconsin. Programming for parents of LGBTQ youth is also offered throughout the state by various chapters of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). Financial support for these organizations includes private funds, foundations, the Department of Health Services (DHS) AIDS/HIV Program and The Wisconsin Partnership Program of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.

The Wisconsin LGBT Youth Health Coalition is a membership group that is coordinated by Diverse and Resilient, Inc. which also serves as its fiscal agent.

Milwaukee Gay Soccer Association

Milwaukee - In autumn 2007, the Milwaukee Gay Soccer Association (MGSA) was formed as the city's first recreational soccer league for the LGBT community and its straight allies. One year later, MGSA has grown to over 100 members in a year-round league now entering its third season.

Based on this runaway success, MGSA is now looking to take the show on the road! Inspired by similar traveling teams in New York, Seattle, and other cities, MGSA is now planning a traveling soccer team that will bring Milwaukee's star players to LGBT tournaments around the world.

The new organization, named the Brew City Rockets, hosted Open Call sessions in September and October to build an all-star team. After incorporation, the Brew City Rockets will pursue entries in International Gay and Lesbian Football Association (IGLFA) tournaments and similar soccer competitions.

Founded in 1992, the IGLFA now consists of over 50 LGBT teams that compete at worldwide tournaments, pride events, World Cups and Gay Games. The organization works to improve the self-respect of gay women and men throughout the world, and to gain respect and understanding from the non-gay world, by maintaining an international network of LGBT soccer teams. The next IGLFA World Championship will be held in Washington, D.C. in June 2009. Previous championships were hosted by Copenhagen, Buenos Aires, London and San Francisco.

Want to take advantage of this excellent opportunity to promote Milwaukee's LGBT community on a regional, national and possibly international scale? Do you want to play for Milwaukee's first traveling LGBT soccer team? Are you interested in supporting the team with sponsorships, donations, or by hosting special events? Please contact Kurt Dyer at 414.405.5878 to become part of this exciting new venture.

Can't travel? MGSA is also looking for teams and individual players to play in the local winter league. Our goal is to have fun each and every week while making new friends. All teams are comprised of players with all different skill levels, from never played to expert.

If you are interested in joining the MGSA winter league, please send an e-mail to info@milwaukee gaysoccer.com or visit the Milwaukee Gay Soccer Association on Myspace, Facebook or the group website at www.milwaukee gaysoccer.com.

Our COMMUNITY

ACLU Seeks Damages for Milwaukee Gay Arts Center

Milwaukee - The ACLU of Wisconsin filed a lawsuit November 10th 2008 in federal court in Milwaukee charging that the Milwaukee Police Department violated the First Amendment by shutting down "Naked Boys Singing," a musical play with gay themes that has been produced around the country. The case seeks damages to compensate the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, which staged the production in Milwaukee, for losses it suffered when the police shut down the play in 2005. City officials told the Center it needed a theater license and police officers threatened that people would be ticketed or arrested if the production went on. The ACLU charges that the theater licensing ordinance is unconstitutional, because it allows authorities to suppress free speech by withholding a license indefinitely, and that the police were illegally acting to suppress the play because they disapproved of its content.

Paul Masterson, the Executive Director of the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, said the group was suing to vindicate the rights of gay and lesbian artists to present theatrical works that express and celebrate gay identity. "Naked Boys Singing is mostly a light-hearted look at a part of the gay experience in America," he said. "It may not be for everyone, but good theater sometimes challenges convention. And all kinds of audiences have enjoyed the humor and the poignancy of the songs and the situations in the play."

ACLU cooperating counsel Steve Porter and Jeff Scott Olson of Madison, Wisconsin filed the lawsuit on behalf of MGAC. Porter said the case shows why licensing of plays and other art is dangerous. "When a theater director or other performer has to get a license before expressing herself, it's too easy for the authorities to just delay giving the permit to performances they don't like. In this case, the cast and crew were gearing up for a show when the police first brought up the need for a license, even though MGAC - and other nonprofit theaters - had done other shows without licenses for years. The only difference is those shows didn't have such provocative titles, so you have to suspect that disapproval of the content is what made the police act in this case."



2009 Pride Weekend is Off and Running!

Milwaukee - Pride weekend will be here before we know it! And isn't that great? This year, PrideFest will be held on the Summerfest grounds June 12-14, 2009. Rounding up the weekend with a huge bang is the 2009 Pride Parade on June 14. The Pride Parade kicks off, as usual, at 2PM, and travels north along 2nd St. from Greenfield to Seeboth Ave.

The parade board has also announced a search for the 2009 Grand Marshal, and asks you, dear readers, for assistance. This year the public will be able to go on the Milwaukee Pride Parade's website, located at <http://www.prideparademke.org>, and cast nomination for the 2009 Grand Marshal. The winner will be selected April of 2009.

While PrideFest has branched out into sponsoring events throughout the year, the Milwaukee Pride Parade Board is pushing for more Pride colors - as in flags! With any luck, you could possibly be seeing more Pride flags up and down the parade route (one week prior and for one week after the parade.)

The Milwaukee Pride Parade Board of Directors is encouraging individuals and businesses along the route to contact their respective alderpersons and express support for pride flags along the street. For more info: contact Brent at ParadeCoordinator@prideparademke.org or by phone at 414-607-3793 between 11am and 9pm Mon-Fri.

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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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Harvey Graphics

WEBMASTER Datum

CIRCULATION

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

Have you been wanting to get QLife delivered right to your home? Well, you are in LUCK! Subscriptions to QLife News are now available for \$24/Year. Send check to: QLife News, 2266 N. Prospect Ave, Suite 200, Milwaukee, WI 53202. Or, give us a call at 414-383-8200, and we will take your CC info over the phone. Visa/MasterCard only, please.

CONTACT QLIFE:

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

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Studies prove that LGBT consumers have deeper trust for brands and products that target gay consumers. Reach this powerful segment of the population in the pages of Queer Life and gain loyal customers, a significant percentage of the general population. As Wisconsin's premier LGBT News Leader, QLife serves an important buying audience ready to embrace companies friendly to the gay community. QLife retains the right to reject any advertising material submitted, as well as the right to print the word "advertisement" on any ad. Advertisers will be billed according to the current rate card, at the frequency level earned. Advertiser and/or ad agency will hold Queer Life harmless from any loss or expenses arising from any disputes or legal claims related to advertising in this publication.

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Editorial, December 2008

*I did my best, it wasn't much
I couldn't feel, so I tried to touch
I've told the truth, I didn't come to fool you
And even thought all went wrong
I'll stand before the Lord of Song
With nothing on my tongue but Hallelujah*

- Leonard Cohen, Hallelujah

No News is NOT Good News - QLife Says Goodbye

By Kate Sherry

Every month, I dreaded writing an editorial; I'm not going to lie. And every month, like pulling teeth, I would patiently wait for me to send it over to him, then humor me as I proceeded to send him edit after edit. Never satisfied, and always worried, I was never "okay" until the issue was in my hand, and there was nothing to do but put it on the racks and be done with it.

I have always been so much more comfortable behind a lens, script, or brush, where I can rely on a photograph or character or painting to tell the story. So for me to write, and actually just be me, in my own words, has been terrifying at times, and downright liberating at others.

These last two years as the Editor of Queer Life News have been exciting, eye-opening, stressful, confusing, encouraging, touching, and trying in more ways than one to say the least. I've had to wear many hats - most of us have. But looking back, I have to say it was okay. In fact, it was downright great fun, and was never as bad as I imagined it would be.

Until now.

After four years, and 48 issues, it is with heavy hearts that we here at Queer Life News bid you, dear readers, advertisers, and friends a painfully

sad farewell. Word came down from on high just prior to press time that this would be our final issue.

How bittersweet it is for us to celebrate our 4th year anniversary and at the same time, sadly, announce our closing in the same issue.

Since December, of 2004, we have hoped to interest you, inform you, and celebrate you. We've had some great support along the way, and have been incredibly lucky to have thoughtful and invested writers from several of the very organizations in town doing the moving and shaking. The LGBT Community here in Milwaukee is capable of great things. We've seen it. Heck, we've even told you about it. To all of you, we thank you for letting us observe all the action these last 4 years.

I cannot express to you, the readers, staff, writers, advertisers, and friends, just how painful this is. We have a tiny spark of hope that perhaps it's just a bump in the road. Take a month or two off, figure some things out and come back. But, the reality is....well....that's probably not going to happen. Printing costs are sky-high, and with too many open invoices not being paid, well... it's only common sense that it would eventually effect us. The sad reality is this; had people paid their invoices, we would still be with you. The economy is attacking everyone's pocketbooks, and we understand that. It's been a hard year on us, as well as many of our advertisers, and to those of you who did support us, I mean really truly supported us - we thank you with all our heart.

While we will no longer be on the stands, the media is still out there for you. Please support LGBT Media - especially our long time friends at Quest. Don't let another source of LGBT info disappear. A community without a voice, is a silent community. And our community is certainly not one to be silent.

So.

There you have it.

Much love, and thanks to you all.

Be good to one another.

XO The Staff of Queer Life News

Consider the Clarion

There are numerous hotels in the city of Milwaukee.

Yet only a few reach out to the LGBT community.

One typically is a sponsor of PrideFest, offering room specials, but really only one hotel has consistently advertised to the community and opened its doors to events, parties, and commitment ceremonies held by LGBT community members.

It's the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center on Howell and Grange, near General Mitchell International Airport on the city's southside.

Jerry Spillner, Manager of the Clarion's Cork-n-Cleaver (Clarion's in house restaurant) sat down with QLife one afternoon to talk about what the Clarion offers the LGBT Community.

Spillner, who has spent the last 10 years on the job, praised the Rupena family - owners of the Clarion for the last twenty-five years. "They are great people to work for," says Spillner. "They are very open, and inviting, and sensitive to the communities needs."

Eight years ago, while Spillner worked in food & beverage for PrideFest, he realized the hotel needed to start supporting the community on a more permanent basis.

One little known fact, (and one Spillner is particularly proud of), is that the Clarion hosted the National Gay and Lesbian task Force during the 2006 fight against the marriage amendment in Wisconsin.

"We've done a lot of stuff, I don't think people know about," says Spillner. Such as hosting Miss Diva Latina, and offering up space to conduct commitment ceremonies.

The ceremony, as well as the reception can be hosted at the hotel, but it does not stop there. "Once

you've chosen the date, a food and beverage manager is assigned to look after your party from start to finish."

The Clarion can also provide a priest or minister. "We can be a one-stop stop," says Spillner. "We have DJ's we can recommend, places where you can go for cakes, a room to put guests up for the night, transportation to and from the airport and the ability to cater the entire event."

At the Clarion, they mean business; and your business is definitely welcome and appreciated.

The upscale Clarion Hotel Airport is conveniently located less than one mile from General Mitchell International Airport. Meeting and banquet space range anywhere from 624 to 8000 sq. feet and they have hosted parties from 10 to a thousand people for meetings, lunches and social events. Food is catered in-house by the Cork N Cleaver.

"There's no judgement here. We have several same-sex couples who visit for our Sunday Brunch and Friday Fish fry. They come because, one, it's good, and two, they don't get studied, or looked at and talked about."

During PrideFest, the hotel welcomes repeat guests in town specifically for Pride weekend. "Our location typically isn't one that PrideFest would look at to use us as a sponsor," says Spillner. "But, even though our location might be farther away, it's just as easy to get to the PrideFest grounds, in a shuttle on 794."

The next time you have family coming into town, or need to throw a party for all of your wonderful employees, why not consider the Clarion?

Clarion Hotel, 5311 South Howell Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53207. 414-481-6663. For more information contact Jerry Spillner at jspillner@clarionmilwaukee.com.

QLife Quickie

Cadenas Appointed To National Board

Milwaukee - Cream City Foundation's Executive Director, Maria Cadenas, was recently appointed to the Board for Funders for Lesbian and Gay Issues - a national organization that provides LGBT philanthropic research for grant makers, convenes LGBT funders, and promotes resources to increase LGBT giving.

Congratulations, Maria!

Judge Rules Against Florida Gay Adoption Ban

Miami - Frank Gill and his partner have been caring for two foster sons for the last four years. Last month, a Miami area judge ruled that state lawmakers overreached their authority when they banned child adoptions by Gay and Lesbian couples, thereby allowing the Gill family to make their family permanent.

Presiding child welfare Judge Cindy Lederman labeled Florida's 31-year-old ban as "not rational" and that from all the arguments presented in this case proves the Gill kids are doing fine in their present home environment. Florida allows gays to serve as foster parents; however the state's has the most restrictive adoption laws in the US when it comes to gay and lesbian parenting. The Florida Attorney General's offices say they will appeal.

Marrow Transplant cured AIDS?

Berlin - Last month, it was announced that twenty months after receiving a targeted bone marrow transplant normally used to fight leukemia, a 42-year-old American man who suffered from AIDS seems to no longer have the disease.

The researchers and the doctors, are cautious however, and suggest the man's case could be no more than a fluke.

Dr. Gero Huettler said his patient had been infected with the AIDS virus for more than a decade. But 20 months after undergoing a transplant of genetically selected bone marrow, he no longer shows signs of carrying the virus and tests on his bone marrow, blood and other organ tissues have all been clean.

This isn't the first time marrow transplants have been attempted for treating AIDS or HIV infection. In 1999, an article in the journal Medical Hypotheses reviewed the results of 32 attempts reported between 1982 and 1996. In two cases, HIV was apparently eradicated, the review reported.

Help Celebrate 20th Anniversary for Lesbian Alliance

MILWAUKEE - For 20 years the Lesbian Alliance has been an important part of Milwaukee's Lesbian Community, and they are currently seeking volunteers for their 20th Anniversary celebration taking place next year.

Have great organization skills? Enjoy history? Help them out by being a behind-the-scenes worker; gather historical information, collect names and help plan and organize this great event. They've come a long way; help them celebrate our community's past and future. Please contact Holly at 414-760-2480 or hslcom@sbcglobal.net.

Coming up next month is the deadline for submissions to the "FAMILY" Art Show at the LGBT Community Center. The Lesbian Alliance, SAGE Milwaukee, FORGE, Connexus, Diverse and Resilient, The Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival, and The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center will cosponsor an art exhibition for people of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and ally community/ies. The juried show is focused on answering the question "Who, what, or where is your 'family' as a member of the LGBT Community?" Deadline for submissions is Sat, Jan. 10. Exhibit and online auction will run during the month of March. Details for submitting digital images of artwork or explanation of planned performance art are available at www.milwaukeeelgbt.com. For more info call 414-272-9442 or e-mail MilwaukeeLGBTArt@gmail.com.

Lesbian Alliance is a proud member of Community Shares of Greater Milwaukee.

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Religion

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

Between Hope and Change

The election of Barack Obama was a historic moment, one I will long savor. It will be an even more momentous time in January when we move from the observance of Martin Luther King Day – “I have a dream” to the inaugural the next day – “I, Barack Hussein Obama.”

Still, there are bitter notes mixed in with this sweet moment. My own sense of the sweet and bitter of this election comes in the news of anti-gay propositions that passed in several states. It was hard to watch Californian voters turn out overwhelmingly for Obama and then also vote to end same-sex marriage at the same moment. Or in Arkansas, where the bitter news came that the state outlawed adoptions by gay and lesbian people; I fear this sort of state referendum will be coming to more and more places in the future.

I find that I am living between hope for tomorrow and the need for profound change today. Hope in what our country can do; concerned about the anti-gay prejudice that demands change today.

It is my faith which allows me to stand in the midst of hope and the need for change. Spirituality nurtures hope within my heart, particularly in this season. The Jewish holiday of Hanukkah celebrates the national liberation of the Jews from foreign occupation. It is based on the time when the Jews needed oil for their temple but they only had enough for one day; mysteriously the lamps burned for eight days, enough time to gather more oil.

I do not know how it is that we are going to reverse the damage of the latest round of anti-gay amendments that passed in four states, let alone how we are going to overturn the one in our state. Yet I hope that it can be done, a hope that is nourished when I remember other people who overcame tremendous odds, as at Hanukkah, when darkness of oppression was overcome by the light of hope.

As the miracle of Hanukkah would suggest, oil can be powerful symbol of God's grace. When I think of the oil in this story, my understanding of it is shaped by Paul's comment in Romans. There Paul said, “We have not received

a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but we have received a spirit of adoption that cries out with our spirit that we are children of God.” To me the oil represents the grace of God that fills our hearts with holy pride.

The stories of this season also point me towards the need for change, especially stories like the Virgin Mary, pregnant and uncertain about her future, trudging towards Bethlehem, even singing on the way, “for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is God's name. God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly.” Mary sang not just because she had hope but because she was willing and ready to get to work to create change.

I find that I am motivated in new ways to find a way to create change. My priorities are universal healthcare, support for those affected by the downturn in our economy, and efforts to deal with the racism in our community. In the coming year these are the goals I will find ways to work for. They may seem like impossible changes. My spirituality reminds me that it was an impossible dream for Mary to think she could be part of changing the world; but she did.

And Martin Luther King's dream seemed impossible until suddenly on Nov. 4 it became real.

Winter Tales
with
John McGivern

McGivern to Serve Comedy this Holiday Season

A very personal and humorous recollection for the holidays, **WINTER TALES** by John McGivern plays December 16, 2008 through January 4, 2009, at Next Act's

Off-Broadway Theatre, 342 N. Water St., 2nd floor, in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward.

Milwaukee's own John McGivern returns to brighten the holidays with a retelling of his family

stories collection. John's unique take on this most festive time of year is guaranteed to generate loads of laughs and a warm glow inside.

According to Director Edward Morgan, “Well, if there's anyone in Milwaukee who doesn't know it yet - John McGivern is funny, funny, funny. He's also a masterful

and moving storyteller, and these tales of his childhood holidays are enchantingly delightful. From snow days to family feuds, from shopping mall Santas to naughty grown-up parties in the basement, these are heartwarming and hilarious tales, and a lovely way to spend an evening.”

Single ticket prices are \$25-\$35. Group ticket prices of 10 or more \$20-\$30. Tickets can be purchased at Next Act's Off-Broadway Theatre Box Office at 342 N. Water St.,

2nd floor, or by telephone at 414-278-0765. The box office hours are Mon-Sun, 12-5PM or until curtain time on show days. Reservations can be made over the phone using VISA, MasterCard or Discover. Additional info available online at www.nextact.org.

Serving up laughs this holiday season!



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OPERA AT THE ROOM...OH MY!

By Bill Serpe

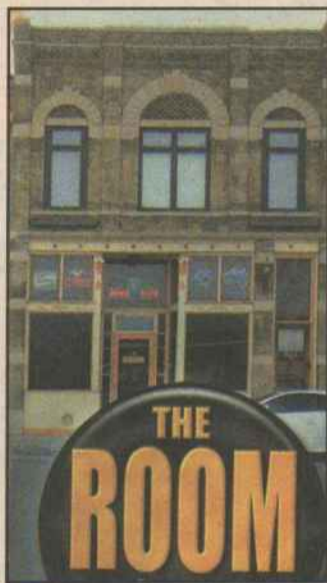
There are lots of things in life that we don't expect. Things like: when will we catch a cold, when will we need Viagra, and when will we listen to opera - in a bar.

Now, when I was in San Francisco in 1964 a friend took me to a bar that had nothing but opera on the juke box, all of the walls were covered with photographs of opera stars and other opera memorabilia, and to my delight, customers regularly sang along with the arias from the juke box. It was a rare treat, but I couldn't tell you where that bar was or its name. I just know that I wasn't just high or dreaming.

However, the idea of going to a gay bar in Milwaukee on a Sunday evening to listen to opera seems highly improbable, definitely improbable and totally unbelievable. But on November 16th that is exactly what happened. Boom on South 2nd street welcomed members of the Florentine Opera Camerata for a Sunday Artist Social, presenting songs by two members of the company and a dialogue with Robin Follman who will be appearing in the upcoming production of *Madama Butterfly*. It was one of the most wonderful evenings I have had in a long time.

Soprano Greer Davis-Brown and tenor Rafael Luquis sang a total of 6 songs. They are participants in the 2008-09 Florentine Opera Studio, a program, which offers a full season of artist-in-residence employment for talented singers. They sang in Italian - which, although I don't speak it, (although I should since I am Italian, but that's another story) it didn't matter - because the acoustics of the Room are so amazing. It was simply wonderful to hear such good voices singing well and not be sitting in a theatre.

They were followed by a dialogue with Robin Follman, an internationally known opera Diva (by her own admission.) She took questions from the audience while she sat on the bar (a lifelong dream of hers.) The questions were varied and she answered each of them with wit and intelligence,



making opera something that is for everyone, sharing professional terms and explaining those that we probably wouldn't have known. She told us that she truly enjoyed the evening and we believed her because she was clearly having as much fun as we were.

The Camerata, an LGBT friendly affinity group that presents a variety of opera-related social events with a focus on providing audience education generating enthusiasm for opera within the community also served a wonderful buffet of food that could easily have been a meal. "Camerata" comes from an old Italian word meaning fellowship society. Today it has come to mean an informal gathering, usually for the purposes of literary, philosophical, or artistic discussion.

The evening was put together by Mark Trevor Ranum, Michael Johnston and Scott Stewart and it could not have been better. They have scheduled two more 'Sunday Artist Socials' for February 22, 2009 and April 5, 2009, at the Room, 623 S. 2nd Street. This was a great event and just proves that there is a lot more to do in the Milwaukee LGBT community than you can even imagine.

GOT MILK?

Share it during this month's International Human Rights Day while celebrating with the LGBT Film Festival and their partner, Center Advocates, on Wednesday, December 10, 2008. Meet up with other supporters at Twisted Fork, 2238 N. Farwell Ave., from 5:30-6:30 PM for hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

A limited number of tickets—just 100—are available for this event, which will be followed by a free preview screening of Gus Van Sant's new film starring Sean Penn, "MILK" next door at the Oriental Theatre (7 PM).

Thanks to the generosity of the Greater Milwaukee Foundation's Johnson & Pabst LGBT Humanity Fund, the first \$10,000 in donations

will be matched. Tickets to the event are \$50 or \$250 (this includes a pass to the 2009 Festival). A major portion of each ticket price is tax-deductible.

To purchase tickets, please contact the Peck School of the Arts box office at (414) 229-4308. Box office hours are Tuesday-Friday, 10 am-5 PM (they will be closed November 27 & November 28 for Thanksgiving). You may purchase via credit card over the phone, or with cash, credit card or check at the window, located at the south entrance to the Zelazo Center, 2419 E. Kenwood Blvd. For more information, please visit: <http://arts.uwm.edu/lgbtfilm>.

The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center presents the Spiritual Wellness series

The focus of the Spiritual Wellness program is to provide opportunities for our LGBT community to engage with their spiritual connections:

- * Within, among, and around them,
- * In a safe and supportive environment,
- * Through workshop discussions and activities
- * Accessing available resources.

December 4, 2008 topic:
The Chaos of Change
facilitated by **Wendy Woodruff**
(pastor of Milwaukee MCC)

The Spiritual Wellness series is held at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center at 315 W. Court Street in Milwaukee.

To register for the Spiritual Wellness program, please contact Patrick Price, Director of Philanthropy for the Center, at (414) 292-3065 or pprice@mkelgbt.org.

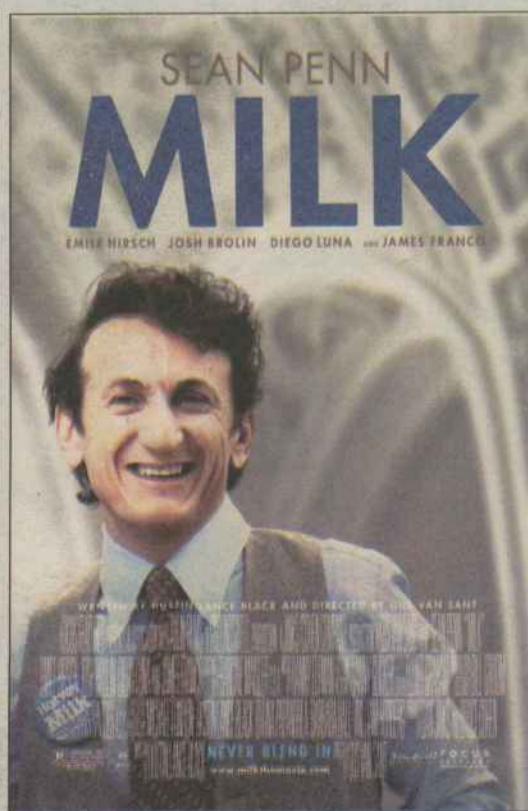
Program capacity is 20 people, so registration is required. Each session is free and runs from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

The Spiritual Wellness series has been generously funded by the Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation.

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Breaking Barriers: Vets Do Ask Do Tell

By Ellen Kozel

Little did we know when the Vets Do Ask Do Tell website came on line June 17th, 2008 the impact it would have on the LGBT community. From a little website we are now moving in the direction of a national organization. We incorporated under an LLC in the state of Wisconsin on August 17th, and are

just a little way from getting our 501(c)3 status.

Our main mission was to make known to LGBT veterans the resources available to them at the Veterans Administration. We called out to veterans asking them to relay to us programs available at their local VAs. The response was over-whelming. In return, we gave out information on how to start LGBT

support groups at their local VA facilities.

After VA Security gave us a clean bill of health, they were

curious as to who we were, we started receiving inquiries from VA staff. Our biggest accomplishment was signs for the doors at the VA Milwaukee stating that the office was LGBT vet friendly. To date, over 100 signs line the corridors of VA facilities here in Wisconsin.

Next month, on January 24th, we will be having an open house to invite in veterans and supporters to visit and learn more

of our organization.

Also planned for

next year is a display at PrideFest and a weekend retreat program at the end of July open to all combat veterans called Vet's Journey Home.

This program will be in collaboration

with the Center of

Creative Learning and the LGBT Center Milwaukee.

We are currently looking for donors and sponsors for this program. If you are interested you can get more information on our website at <http://www.vetsdoaskdotell.org/>.



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Happy 2009

from the Staff of QLife

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Season of Giving

In this time of economic recession, it's difficult for many of us to figure out how we will afford housing, gas, and food, let alone any costs associated with the holidays. Gifts, special celebrations and traditions, or special events may seem completely out of reach.

Many of us are running on empty. Our reserves (both financial and emotional) are tapped out.

The great news for all of us is that we can – with some very simple actions and minimal effort – actively create healthier bodies, relationships, and environment(s). In the spirit of giving here are 10 things you can do:

1. Try out that new pronoun your friend has been asking you to use. Notice how good it feels to give the gift of acknowledgement, seeing hir eyes light up when ze hears your validation of hir gender.

2. Offer to give someone a ride to an event you both want to attend. It saves gas – good for the environment and your wallet – and creates a stronger human connection.

3. Invite a genderqueer youth over for a holiday meal – or better yet, set up a regular time to have that hir over for food and conversation. It doesn't cost much more to feed one additional person, but the value for the youth is not only a hot, healthy meal, but also your friendship.

4. Make a cup of coffee for a co-worker – especially for someone who may not appreciate you for who you are. Showing hir you care and value hir as a person may model the behavior you hope to see in return.

5. Greet your friends with hello and goodbye hugs (and/or kisses). None of us get enough physical contact.

6. Go for a walk – even in the cold. Being in the sun, as well as just the pure exercise in the movement, helps reduce depression and stress. For an added bonus, say hello to the "strangers" who walk past you. A simple "hi" can perk up anyone's day and make the world far more personable.

7. Cut your parents (or anyone else) some slack if they address you



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.

by your old name. Recognize that change can take a long time. Try to see the love beneath their words, rather than judging their love by their words.

8. Tell your partner (or best friend, or family member) you love hir. Just like touch, most of us don't hear the "L" word often enough. If saying the word is hard, try leaving a post-it note on hir computer, or planting a chocolate kiss on hir pillow.

9. Invite a trans elder to your home to watch a movie. Add some popcorn and any kind of beverage – even ice water or hot tea! It doesn't matter what movie or what kind of snacks, but the companionship may alleviate loneliness and isolation (for both of you).

10. Listen. Truly listen. Give the people in your life some quality time, some of your undivided attention. Spend time being with the people you care about. Those moments of quiet conversation or raucous laughter are far more valuable than any expensive gift.

If you do have something extra available (funds, services or time) and want to make a difference in the lives of more than just one person, consider making a financial, in-kind, or volunteer contribution to a local non-profit organization that supports and serves transgender individuals and SOFFAs, such as FORGE, SAGE, The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center's Project Q, 16th Street Clinic's La Fuerza, Diverse and Resilient's SHEBA -- just to name a few Milwaukee-based organizations who would put your donation to excellent use.



Saturday, Dec. 13, 2008
7:30 p.m.
 Under the musical direction of
Kristen L. Weber

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READY TO QUIT?

Every year in Wisconsin, nearly 7,000 years of life are lost to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people because of their tobacco use.

Every year in Wisconsin, over \$297 Million in medical expenses and lost earnings are associated with tobacco use of LGBT people.

Tobacco use represents a private crisis for LGBT people in Wisconsin; it comes at a huge public cost to us all.

WHY DO WE SMOKE MORE?

One of the leading factors associated with LGBT people smoking is minority stress—the stress related to the stigma and discrimination we feel in our daily lives as LGBT people. Even those who have successfully quit for a period of time are more likely to state they returned to smoking because of the stressors of our lives.

WHAT WORKS?

- Cold turkey rarely works. You can double or triple your chances of a successful quit by combining strategies.
- Build a social support network among your friends and family that cheers you on.
- Work on changing the habits of smoking. Think about where and when you smoke. What triggers your smoking behaviors? Be aware of the feelings that increase your desire to smoke and work on those.

GET HELP.

Check out www.rm2breathe.org
 Call 1-800-QUIT-NOW for loads of resources, including nicotine replacement products.



This program is funded by the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health's Wisconsin Partnership Program

Time Flies! Reflections on 9 Months of Pregnancy and 4 years of QLife

It isn't news to anyone that our economy is in a sad, sorry state. Government bailouts of big banks and 8 years of tax cuts for the very wealthy haven't seemed to "trickle down" as I write this I am amazed that it is already so close to December. As you read this it IS December. Way back when it used to be March and my partner and I were taking the first steps towards parenthood - the making of a baby. And now, as I write this, I am waiting for this baby to arrive (it could happen any second now!), and as you read this, she could very well already be here. The point is that time flies. The other point is that so much can happen and change in 9 months.

It is amazing to think about all of the things I thought I would do, or how I would behave or react to being pregnant (before I got pregnant) and compare them to all of the things that I did do, and all of the ways that I actually did behave and react to having a baby.

Prior to pregnancy I envisioned myself as some health-conscious earth-mother goddess type; into all things natural and homeopathic and constantly reading books about how to make the best baby and so on. But I quickly discovered that the more I read, the less I wanted to know, and in reality, I found it best not to put any expectations or pressure on myself to be any one kind of type of pregnant woman. I do wish that I had done certain things differently - like work out more often, and eat a bit healthier now and again, but overall, I am amazed at how quickly each unique stage of the pregnancy flew by before I had the chance to really figure out what was going on!

Once our baby is officially out and my partner and I being the next phase of parenthood - raising a child, I am sure that more of these expectations and ideals will have to go out the window. We both know how we would like to be, we both have hopes and goals about being moms, but we also both know that we are open to changing paths and to exploring what works best for us as a family.

And as I write this I cannot believe that Queer Life News has been around for 4 years. I cannot imagine our community without it, and without our fearless editor, Kate Sherry, who works not only to provide the community with news



WOMEN

Jennifer Cadenas 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. Jenny and her partner are expecting their first child in December and in case you were wondering, they are registered at "Babies R Us".

and a voice, but to focus on that which unites people over that which can divide us.

In my time with QLife I have been through a lot of changes and I have shared them openly and honestly with QLife readers. From focusing on issues of women's space and lesbian visibility, to writing about the joys of doing less and leaving groups that stress you out, to articles of a more personal nature such as my experience dealing with 'mean girls' in our community and my journey through pregnancy and into motherhood, I am thankful that QLife is here for me and for our community. It truly is a gift and a necessity to have a local LGBT paper and I hope our community continues to support the efforts of QLife news for years to come.

Have a Fabulous Holiday Season, and a Happy New Year!

Corrections to last month's QWOMEN article:

In my article about buying local and giving practical gifts this holiday season, I mentioned the joys of the chiropractic care of Foti Chiropractic. I apologize for misspelling the name of one of the great chiropractors at Foti Chiropractic, Dr. Hans Halaska. Sorry Hans!

DECEMBER CALENDAR

• CATCH IT IF YOU CAN •

NOW-DEC 14

Milwaukee Chamber Theatre presents, The Daly News, a musical based on a true Milwaukee story. Tonight thru Dec 14. Broadway Theatre Center's Studio Theatre, 158 N. Broadway. Box Office 414-291-7800. www.milwaukeechambertheatre.com

MPM's European Village, will be alive with activity as costumed docents revive old-world traditions and celebrate through music, artifacts, and crafts. 10AM-2PM. Milwaukee Public Museum, 800 W. Wells St. in downtown Milwaukee. info, (414) 278-2728 or www.mpm.edu

Shoreline: Country dancing every Friday, 8PM-1AM. Hot Water, 818 S. Water St. Free 2-step lessons at 8:30 and 9:30pm. 2-step, swing, waltz and line dance. Info: 414-747-0388 or www.shoreline-milw.org

DEC 2

Break in the Chain of Light, UWM Union Theatre, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. FREE, 7pm. Information: (414) 229-4070.

Karsilama Belly Dance workshop. 6-8:30PM. Learn to dance to the lively 9/8 Turkish rhythm with Shireen Malik. \$35. http://milwaukeebellydance.com. MGAC 703 S. 2nd St. 414-383-3727.

DEC 3

Marcus Center presents the return of A Cudahy Caroler Christmas, Tonight 7:30PM-January 4. Tickets \$30 - \$36. (414) 273-7206 or www.MarcusCenter.org. Vogel Hall in the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 123 East State Street.

Saint Nick's Turn Up the Heat Haffa Holiday Belly Dance Party 9pm-midnite. Shaia Fahrid Egyptian Belly Dance presents a holiday-themed belly dance party to turn up the heat for the season. Refreshments. Donation at the door \$5. MGAC 703 S. 2nd St. Milwaukee. 414-383-3727

On-going Classes: Milwaukee Gay Arts Center - Wednesdays, 5:30-6:45pm Yoga with Dean Farrell. MGAC 703 S. 2nd St. Milwaukee. 414-383-3727

DEC 6

Holiday Fair . 9AM-5PM. Enjoy a warm holiday atmosphere with unique vendors, entertainment, natural crafts, and children's activities. Admission \$3. Tamarack Waldorf School, 1150 E. Brady St. 414-277-0009. www.tamarackwaldorf.org.

DEC 4

Milwaukee's longest-running showcase of emerging choreographers celebrates its 15th season of presenting new works by UWM Dance majors. Studio 254, Mitchell Hall, 3203 N. Downer Ave., 2nd Floor. Tix: \$7-10.

Spend the afternoon at Discovery World with the UWM Wind Ensemble! 3pm concert of American music for chamber winds. Discovery World's Digital Theatre, 500 North Harbor Drive. FREE. More information at arts.uwm.edu/americansounds.

DEC 5



ReCreate Your Space FEBRUARY 5-8

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Q

POLITICS

By Renee Crawford

History along with Setbacks

What an election we had! It truly was historic and stunning in so many ways, and yet, it was laced with a profound sadness for the families facing the prejudice of living in today's America as a loving same sex couple. I have never in 25 years seen an election like this one. Let's review the good and the bad; celebrate the victories and the regroup after the disheartening setbacks.

First and Foremost:

The state Government Accountability Board and the Milwaukee Election Commission were more determined than ever to have every eligible and willing voter cast a ballot. For two years, they studied issues such as access for people with disabilities, and revamped the rules to counteract those who would interfere with citizens casting votes. They worked closely with groups like ACORN, the Milwaukee LGBT Center, Disability Rights Wisconsin, Center Advocates, the AFL-CIO, Fair Wisconsin, the ACLU of Wisconsin, League of Women Voters, and in fact, any groups who wished to help to make sure registration was followed to

the letter of the law.

It was truly citizens, government officials and the non-profit community coming together to ensure our sacred right to vote was protected. They even beat back a ridiculous lawsuit by the Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen that could have disfranchised hundreds of thousands of voters in Wisconsin!

Stunning Results

I have never seen an election run this smoothly in Milwaukee. Many bilingual poll workers were available to assist voters with primary languages other than English. Hundreds of young people came out with encouragement from the Milwaukee Public School Board to work the polls. The results nationwide were similar. No nationwide well-coordinated effort to disfranchise voters ever materialized. As a result, more people than ever in history exercised their right to vote and we now have the first African American first family, the Obamas.

This is historic. As woman of color, I can only say thank you to the millions who put aside their prejudices, their fears of people who are different than them and on November 4, 2008, judged a man on the "content of his character".

Setbacks Sidenote
At the same time Barack Obama was on the stage in Chicago accepting his election as the 44th President of the United States and specifically calling for equality for our LGBT friends, millions who had voted for him had also voted for bigotry, hatred and inequality.

Millions of Americans woke up and found their joy quashed by the realization that they were left behind. In California, married loving couples found their marriages denied by their neighbors. In Arizona, the voters passed yet another ban on same sex marriage, and in a particularly upsetting move, Arkansas voters overwhelmingly voted to ban adoption rights for same sex couples.

The media immediately jumped on a story that African Americans

voted somewhere around 70% against marriage rights in California in a lame attempt to blame them for the loss of the legislation. Frankly, I believe it was designed to incite a divide and conquer battle between the African American community and the LGBT community nationwide.

It did not - and will not work. Bigotry knows no skin color, and millions more whites voted for the amendment than blacks in California. However, much more work does need to be done not only in the African American community, but in all of our communities to combat the negative myths of same sex families that have been propagated around this country for too long.

Ah, but all is not lost!

This is just one step backward in decades of forward progress. Remember this case: Strauss, et al, v. Horton, et al. Google it! The ACLU, NCLR and Lambda Legal have filed suit in California, and the CA Supreme Court has agreed to fast track the law suit, so this battle is not over yet...

Obama is not taking the setbacks for granted. He immediately appointed seven openly gay transition team members and we expect great things from our new president on the rights of all people in this country.

Saturday, November 15, 2008, Center Advocates was at the center of a rally where hundreds of fair minded people both straight and gay showed up at City Hall in downtown Milwaukee and at locations all over this country to say enough is enough! To declare their humanity and the respect, as one more group of Americans who have been marginalized for too long. It was a great day and more chances to stand for equality are coming.

Finally, we for the first time in decades have a state legislature and a governor in Wisconsin whom we expect to first do no harm, second, repair harm that has already been done and third, support positive legislation to better the lives of same sex families in Wisconsin.

All of this relies on accountability though and that's where you come in... Stay tuned folks the work is just getting started!



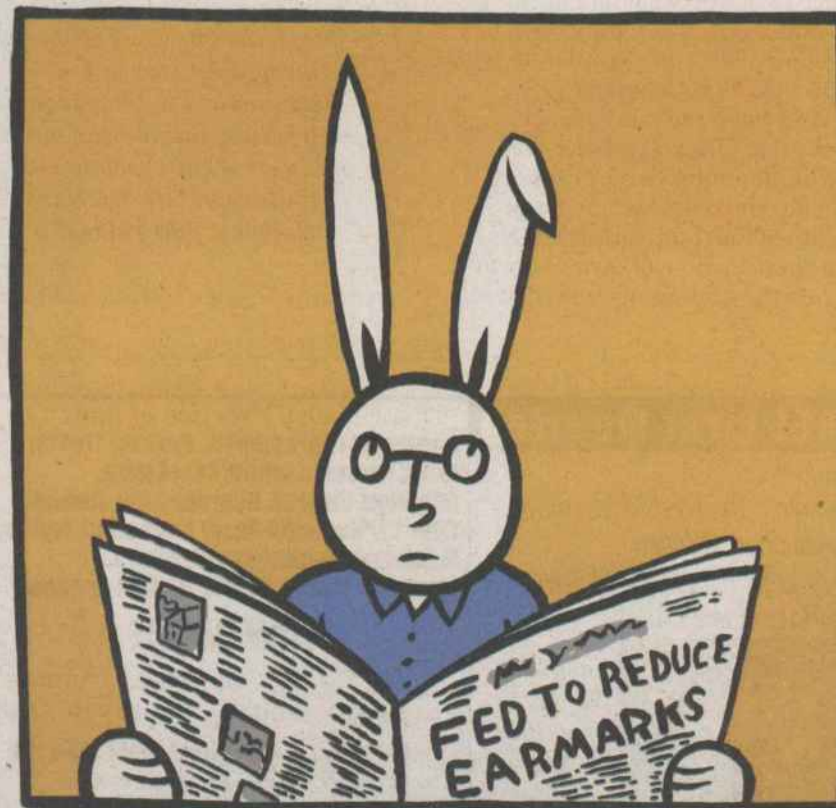
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My Life as a Bunny

by Max Estes



Keynotes From Underneath

With sniffing parties being the rage in major cities - creating obsession and a breeding ground for future fanatics - the art of scents has once again broke ground!

If fragrance has been around for centuries, why such a mass-hysterical rush for it now? Is it because a million new unique hobbyists suddenly belong to "scent" fan clubs? Or have those previously isolated fragrance freaks found acceptance (and a new buzzing community) to engage their indulgence?

Well the sniffers have and will always be around. With current fragrances like Calvin Klein's "Seductive Comfort" for women and Tom of Finland's recent scent "Tom of Finland" for men, a new generation of people have found a venue for expressing their current development for olfactory senses.

Best Scents for Fall Shopping: Men and Women.

"Magnifique" for women by Lancome. This is a loose blend of rose, bergamot, musk and citrus. The fragrance retails for 85.00 US\$ for 2.5 fl.oz but it's worth it. Also for men, the current scents from the Gap "Visionary, Artist, Lover, Original and Natural" retail for 35.00 US\$ for 2.5 fl.oz. You



fragrance indulgers will enjoy these subtle devices to attract someone on a cool winter evening.

Joy - How Sweet it is

What is the First Lady Michelle Obama wearing as a signature look in the new political arena to inspire us all?

November 04, 2008 was one of the most historical recorded moments in American history. Barack Obama is the first African American president elect - along with his wife Michelle our first lady - this is truly momentous. Recently this shining, accomplished woman has been compared to a few political and "fashionable" icons of our time - namely, Jacqueline lee Bouvier Kennedy. Her 'dress by Cuban-American Narcisco Rodriguez' was not only elegant but also tasteful as is this incredible lady. I wonder what she will be wearing in years to come to keep up with the imagery that her Idol Miss. "O" started years ago.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

DEC 6

8th Annual Holiday Sculpture Walk, 12-4PM. Sunday, 1-4PM. Come take a walk through the sculpture garden, dress warm, bring a friend. info: 262-857-3456. No fee. Niemi Sculpture Gallery, 13300 116th Street Kenosha, WI 53142. T: 262.857.3456. www.bruceeniemi.com.

Come to the UWM Studio Arts & Craft Centre for a great introduction to the stained glass process! 12:30-4:30pm. All supplies included. Call 414.229.5535 to register or stop in! ground floor of the Union in room EG30. craftcentre.uwm.edu or uwm-craftcentre.blogspot.com

Artists' Opening Reception: Mike Kasun & Max Estes - New Art. 6-9PM. Show runs through January 16. Gallery Hours: 10am-4pm Tues, Wed, Fri and by appointment. MGAC 703 S. 2nd St. Milwaukee. 414-383-3727

FORGE (For Ourselves: Reworking Gender Expression): A social support group open to all people interested in Female to Male+ (FTM+) and Significant Others, Family, Friends, and Allies (SOFFAs) issues. Meets first Saturday of the month at 7pm. Info: www.forge-forward.org/socialsupport/ or info@forge-forward.org. 414-278-6031.

DEC 7

Cream City Squares: Square dance Sundays. Casual attire. Singles, couples, and families are all invited. Lake Park Lutheran Church, 2647 N. Stowell Street. Lessons 1-3PM, info: http://iagsdc.org/creamcity or e-mail djiliges@execpc.com

Lessons and Carols with the choir of All Saints' Cathedral, 4PM. Festive reception to follow. All Saints Cathedral, 818 E Juneau Ave, Milwaukee. 271-7719 or www.ascathedral.org.

13th annual Jolly Holly Folly - an evening of great entertainment and food. AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin invites you to the Rotunda of the Milwaukee Center to enjoy food from various restaurants in the Milwaukee area. 7PM show of "The Blonde, the Brunette and the Vengeful Redhead" in the Quadracci Powerhouse Theater. Preferred seating, \$85, and standard seating, \$60. www.arcw.org for more information.

DEC 8

Outwards Book Club, monthly LGBT book club- 7PM with a discussion of acclaimed novelist Bart Yates' latest book, The Distance Between Us. Outwards Bookstore, 2710 N. Murray Ave. 414-963-9089.

The Queer Program: Live weekly call-in show by, for, and about the Queer community. Live! Mondays at 6:30pm on Cable Channel 96, Milwaukee Community Media. Hosted by Michael Lisowski. Replays on Saturdays 10PM, and Midnight.

UWM Student Jewelry Sale 9AM-8PM. UWM Union Concourse, Street Level, 2200 East Kenwood Boulevard. Over 500 pieces of unique student jewelry.

DEC 9

Lesbian Reading Group at Outwards: 7pm. Helen Macpherson's "Love's Redemption" has been chosen for December. Outwards Bookstore, 2710 N. Murray Ave. 414-963-9089

LOCAL WATERING HOLES

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

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

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

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

City Lights Chill: 111 W. Howard Ave. Mil, WI 414-481-1441

Club 200 East: 200 E. Washington St. Milwaukee, WI 414-389-3596

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

Kruz: 354 E. National Ave. Milwaukee, WI 414-272-5789

LaCage: 801 S 2nd St. Milwaukee, WI 414-383-8330

M's: 1101 S. 2nd St. Milwaukee, WI 414-383-8900

Mona's Out 'N About: 1407 S. 1st St. Milwaukee, WI 414-643-0377

PumpHouse: 2011 S. 1st St. Milwaukee, WI 414-744-7008

This Is It: 418 E Wells St. Milwaukee, WI 414-278-9192

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

Triangle: 135 E. National Ave. Mil, WI 414-383-9412

Walker's Pint: 818 S. 2nd St. Mil, WI 414-643-7468

Woody's: 1579 S. 2nd St. Milwaukee, WI 414-672-0806

Just a sampling of watering holes in Milwaukee. We regret any omission at time of print.

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Next Year We'll All Get Healthier at SAGE/Milwaukee

It's the end of the year and the Hollandaise season is upon us. SAGE/Milwaukee recommends that you eat yourself into oblivion and have a lot of fun. Cause next year we will be embarking on a whole new kind of programming to get us all on track to being healthier.

Our Holiday Luncheon has always been very successful and lots of fun. Santa delivers gifts for everyone, Jeannie plays carols on the piano and we all sing along and the desserts are all homemade and delicious. The event is on December 14th at the Astor Hotel with registration reception at noon and lunch at 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$25 per person and everyone is welcome. Call the SAGE office at 414-224-0517 for more information or to register.

On December 30th we will be holding our 2nd Annual Rootin' Tootin' High Falutin Talent Parade and Spaghetti feed. Tickets are \$15 and the fun is unlimited. It is our night before the night before New Year's Day providing an opportunity to celebrate without the hassles on New Year's Eve. Again, call the SAGE office for more information.

In 2009 we will be revamping most of our programming and adding new things to reduce the risks that may develop into dementia. Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia are one of the major problems affecting the elder community and research has proven that certain forms of activity and life style choices can reduce the onset of these diseases. As part of our mission to advance the quality of life for seniors who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender we will be offering opportunities to change your life in ways that will only make you healthier.

We will be partnering with the Milwaukee County Department on Aging and St. John's on the Lake to offer professionally monitored exercise programs as well as walking groups when the weather permits. One of the main ways to reduce the risk of Alzheimer's is to exercise which helps to keep your weight down as well as exercising your heart.

Nutrition and cooking classes will be added to our programming so that we can all eat better. The idea is that if you can make it yourself you are stimulating your brain while controlling your cholesterol. Anything is better than TV-Dinners and other frozen or packaged meals. We will bring in nutrition experts to talk about healthy eating and provide recipes that are easy to make, designed for one or two people, and guaranteed to help you get healthier. Obesity is a major risk factor when it comes to Alzheimer's so we will also be working on some weight loss menus.

Of course socialization is also very important in the fight against dementia so we will certainly be continuing our famous social events. These provide people with an opportunity to meet new friends, get to know each other better and keep your brain active with stimulating (and not so stimulating) conversation.

We don't like to talk about Alzheimer's prevention because we all believe that we are doing what we need to do already, and that it won't happen to me. The truth is that the day is coming when 1 in every 4 people over the age of 60 will fall victim to Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia. So it makes perfect sense for us to be thinking about how to stave this off in any way we can.

SAGE/Milwaukee events and programming are open to everyone regardless of age, sexual orientation, race, creed, height or weight. (That was a stab at a little humor) To find



SENIOR

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

out more about what we are doing you should call the SAGE office at 414-224-0517 and ask to be put onto our mailing list. Of course the next step is to get involved. As we say to our newsletter readers, DISTURB YOUR ROUTINE! It's good for what ails you.

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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.



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DECEMBER CALENDAR

QPICK

EVERYTHING YOU LOVE IS GOING AWAY. Fifth Annual NOHL Fellowship Exhibition. Discovery World, 500 N. Harbor Dr. FREE. 7PM Info: (414) 229-5070 or arts.uwm.edu/inova. Dan Ollman's collaboration with Paul Finger, documents a disappearing Milwaukee.

Experimental Tuesdays & Documentary Frontiers: Profit motive and the whispering wind. Milwaukee premiere! UWM Union Theatre, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. FREE. 7pm

Info: (414) 229-4070. An epic, visual meditation on the progressive history of the United States.

DEC 10

Positive Direction Milwaukee: Wed's 7-8:30pm. A social support group for HIV-Positive gay men from Milw and surrounding areas. Confidential, welcoming environment. For info: John at 414-461-5894.

DEC 12

Lesbian Alliance Game Night & Potluck: 6PM. LGBT Center, 315 W Court St. Bring favorite game and a dish to pass. Info: www.lesbianalliance.org or call 414-272-9442.

Student Film & Video Festival, 7PM. Union Theatre, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. FREE. Info: (414) 229-4070.

DEC 13

An evening with Scott Malcom. 8pm at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. 2nd St. Milwaukee. <http://scottmalcom.com/>

2008 Men's Voices Milwaukee Holiday Celebration December 13TH, 8PM Helene Zelazo Center, UW-Milwaukee 2419 East Kenwood Boulevard \$15.00 at the Door.

DEC 14

UWM JAZZ COMBOS, 3PM. Recital Hall, 2400 E. Kenwood Blvd. Tickets: \$10 general/\$7 students, seniors & UWM alumni, faculty & staff.

SAGE Holiday Luncheon at the Astor Hotel. Registration reception at noon followed by lunch. \$25 per person, everyone welcome. SAGE 414-224-0517 for more info, or to register.

DEC 16

WINTER TALES by John McGivern tonight-thru-Jan 4. Next Act's Off-Broadway Theatre, 342 N. Water St., 2nd floor. \$25 and \$35. info: www.nextact.org. 414-278-0765

DEC 18

MCT: 3rd annual Young Playwrights Festival, December 18-21. Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Broadway Theatre Center, 158 North Broadway. BO (414) 291-7800. www.milwaukeechambertheatre.com.

DEC 20

Black and White Men Together 7-8:30pm, (open to all) a social group, with monthly group dinner outings and more. 414-342-0705 or www.bwmtrimilwaukee.org or bwmtrimilwaukee@aol.com

DEC 27


The Mad Kings: 9PM at Milwaukee Gay Arts Center. Madison's sexiest and most beloved Drag King Troupe visits Milwaukee for an evening of hot songs and laughter. \$6. MGAC 703 S. 2nd St. 414-383-3727

DEC 30

SAGE will be holding their 2nd Annual Rootin'Tootin'High Falutin Talent Parade and Spaghetti feed. Tickets are \$15 and the fun is unlimited. an opportunity to celebrate without the hassles on New Year's Eve! Call SAGE at 414-224-0517.

DEC 31

From the staff of Queer Life News to you, have a wonderfully happy and save New Years Eve, everyone. Thank you for all of your support and encouragement over the last 4 years. It has been an honor to serve you. Happy New Year, and here's to a healthy, strong LGBT Community!



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Well It's Our Birthday Too, Yeah!

All it took was one little e-mail to start the ball rolling four years ago. The premiere issue of Queer Life News had just hit the stands, and editor Sura Faraj wrote to ask if QZAP, at that time celebrating its one year anniversary, wanted to have a monthly presence in future issues. I know Sura as a friend, neighbor, and tenacious activist who always connects good ideas with great people. I credit her initial editorial guidance in helping me craft a readable column each month, namely that I would cover classic and current queer zines as a way to highlight the on-line archive. QZAP has been proud to contribute to every edition of Queer Life News from issue two up to the issue you now hold in your hands.

Our association with Queer Life News has helped us achieve amazing things, not only in the greater Milwaukee area through grants from UWM and the Lesbian and Bisexual Women's 25/25 Venture, but also in the broader world as well. This column has evolved from a small, local voice into serving as references in academic dissertations here and internationally, as well as appearing as source citations for Wikipedia entries. We believe in the power of self-publishing and in creating media that breaks down barriers and builds community. Both Sura Faraj and current editor Kate Sherry have deftly

wielded the strength of this medium to provide space for diverse voices to be heard. All too often, LGBT newspapers serve little purpose other than to advertise bars and provide fluffy, vacuous trivia. While a few people in town may grouse about Queer Life News, there are far more readers who look forward to learning more about politics, history, sports, health, religion and queer culture from authoritative local writers.

A community newspaper is not necessarily a panacea. Frankly, there were many times during that gray period between Sura's and Kate's editorships where the cover stories served only to create capricious controversy. However profound my disagreements were back then, I persevered in submitting my writing contribution each month. I felt I could at least infuse my corner of the paper with minority and radical voices seldom heard in the mainstream. When Kate Sherry announced she would tackle the editor position I

sensed positive change was coming to the paper. Each new issue serves to reaffirm that feeling.

In four years the Milwaukee LGBT community has weathered many storms both internally and externally. I feel Queer Life News has been here to provide an open sounding board and Kate specifically strives to represent as many views as possible. As she can attest to, I drop her an e-mail when there is content in the paper that I find troubling or has me quizzically scratching my head. She responds in a timely fashion and addresses my concerns. She has been willing to take risks to cover unconventional stories and expressed a bold desire to take on controversial issues in ways that rise above sensationalism. She has also granted me the freedom of self-determination, in that I, in conjunction with QZAP collective members, decide the content for each month's article. Unlike other outlets where my writing has appeared, I have never once been censored or unfairly edited.



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

Queer Life News needs your input not only to simply exist, but to thrive in a way that helps inform, entertain, and energize the Milwaukee LGBT community. The pages of this newspaper are open to one and all, especially if you represent a unique aspect of queer life. Invite folks who complain about the paper to instead write a letter, an article, or perhaps a monthly column. Create an ad for your business or a service you provide and commit to six months or a year of advertising. Clip out articles or copy and paste them from the website into e-mails. Send them to queer and non-queer friends around the state, the country, and the world to let them know that here in Milwaukee, we have a vibrant LGBT community and amazing writers. Most importantly of all, don't let this important anniversary go by without a commitment to help perpetuate this vital voice of the community. On behalf of The Queer Zine Archive Project, whose mission includes fostering independent queer media and which recently celebrated its fifth birthday, thank you for reading this column and Queer Life News every month.

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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The focus of the Environmental Awareness workshops is to learn how to leave less of a "carbon footprint" on our planet by exploring and discussing a variety of "green" topics and by discovering and using tools that allow each participant to live more gently on the land.

December 10, 2008 topic:
Re-Gifting: Celebration of Abundance
facilitated by **Patrick Price**
(teacher of earth-based spiritual traditions)

The December 2008 session of the Environmental Awareness program will be held at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center at 315 W. Court Street in Milwaukee.

To register for the Environmental Awareness program, please contact Patrick Price, Director of Philanthropy for the Center, at (414) 292-3065 or pprice@mkelgbt.org.

Program capacity is 20 people, so registration *is* required. Each session is free and runs from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

The Environmental Awareness program has been funded by the Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation.

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Fine Arts Gallery & Performance Theatre

Year in Review - Preview of 2009

By Paul Masterson

As we celebrate the holidays and prepare for the New Year, the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center (MGAC) would like to take the opportunity to recognize and thank its supporters. Without the generosity of individuals, foundations and businesses, continuing our mission to promote and present LGBT relevant arts would not be possible.

In 2008, the MGAC hosted internationally acclaimed performance artists Tim Miller, Jade Esteban Estrada and Alistair McCartney. It presented national, regional and local talent in concerts from baroque to jazz and indie queer rock to indie queer folk. Yolanda Roth, Eric Himan, Jerrad Fenske, Coyote Grace, Scott Malcom, Keith Hampton, Jerry Grillo, Ryan Mintz and Women's Voices Milwaukee performed among with many, many others.

MGAC's stage was graced by dozens of belly dancers in Hafla dance extravaganzas and intimate monthly drop-in events. Alphabet Troupe produced a wonderful cabaret; the Tranny Roadshow made its second appearance; and LIVEWIRE, a youth open mic, introduced new poets and musicians.

Addressing LGBT health, MGAC offered low cost yoga and dance classes throughout the year. MGAC Scream, Saturday Softball League's only team not affiliated with a bar, fielded a comradely mix of LGBT and non-LGBT players: women and men, university professors, health care professionals, a barista, a bus driver, musicians and artists.

Seven art exhibitions, opening every six weeks, showcased artists of all ages, genders, hues and orientations. Themes addressed feminism, gender identity, urban youth experience, eroticism and gay aesthetics.

MGAC collaborated with LGBT and non-LGBT entities including Alverno College, MPS Alliance School, Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theatre, Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, the Milwaukee Art Museum, PrideFest, SAGE, Saturday Softball League (SSBL), Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival, Woodland Pattern Book Store, the Art Bar and many others.

An NPR-WUWM Lake Effect interview and a mention in the Shepherd Express "Boris & Doris" column expanded MGAC's public horizon.

The Challenge Party, the Greater Milwaukee Foundation's Johnson and Pabst LGBT Humanity Fund, Cream City Foundation, the G/L Community Trust Fund, Riviera Maya and the Washington Heights Rainbow Association provided much needed funding. Many individuals generously made cash or in-kind donations. Others became supporting members. All helped maintain the MGAC venue and produce events.

COMING UP: A 2009 Preview

• Programming for 2009 is equally diverse and ambitious. Music, theater and art will celebrate the Saint Joan of Arc Project in its multifold contexts of feminism, gays in the military, gender identity, idealism and social repression.

• It will open with The Vagina Monologues - a percentage of funds raised will benefit local women's shelters.

• A Milwaukee Gay Arts Center - UWM theater department collaboration will address underserved LGBT populations with specific outreach to the African-American community.

• Its established PrideFest tradition continues with representation at the Health & Wellness area as well as belly dance, art and music on various stages and in the Arts and Culture Building.

• MGAC will house the SSBL Hall of Fame display during NAGAAA-Fest 2009, the Gay Softball World Series in late summer. MGAC Scream looks forward to playing in the series as well.

Next March, the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center celebrates four years of serving its patrons and audience. It continues to expand the horizons of both our own community and create a bridge to further understanding through dialogue with non-LGBT communities.

To see photos of past events, and to join MGAC's Myspace site, visit www.myspace.com/milwaukeegayartscenter.

What's Happening Dec: GALLERY:

Mike Kasun & Max Estes present hu-man or (hu)man or hu(man). Both artists created works for this show using the human as subject. Opening Reception: Sat, Dec 6, 6-9pm. Show runs through Jan 16. Hours: 10am-4pm Tues, Wed, Fri and by appointment.

DANCE:

MGAC has become a belly dance hub for many of Milwaukee's shimmyers and shakers. The KARSILAMA Belly Dance Workshop takes place Fri, Dec 5, 6-8:30pm. <http://milwaukeebellydance.com>.

The workshop is followed by Saint Nick's Turn up the Heat Hafla Holiday Belly Dance Party from 9pm-midnight. Shaia Fahrid Egyptian Belly Dance presents a special holiday belly dance party to turn up the heat for the season. Donation at the door is \$5. Refreshments available.

MUSIC:

Singer-songwriter, balladeer Scott Malcom returns for an evening of new and old songs Saturday, December 13, 8pm. Cover \$5

THE MAD KINGS!

Madison's sexiest and most beloved Drag King Troupe returns for an evening of hot songs and laughter, Sat, Dec 27, 9PM. Doors open at 8. The MADKINGS fabulous stage presence and hot style will leave you panting for more. \$6 cover at the door

YOGA:

As always, enlightenment is just a pose away every Wednesday from 5:30-6:45pm. Certified instructor Dean Farrell teaches yoga for all levels. \$10 per class.

The smoke free Milwaukee Gay Arts Center is located at 703 South 2nd Street, a block north of National Avenue in Walker's Point. For more information, call 414-383-3727 or email milwgac@yahoo.com.

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Snow Falls On Local Arts Groups

With our new President moving into the White House in January, perhaps our current economy issues will improve. Lets all hope for the best as we go into our Holiday season and the New Year. Being with close family and friends and just loving each other will make the end of 2008 something we will always remember. Look to the future!

It is no secret that Milwaukee Shakespeare closed their doors this year. Several additional groups are struggling as well - lets support the Arts and also our newspapers to make us all grow in 2009. I do not want to read about any more closings. I want to read positive reviews, and see lines people waiting at the door for tickets.

ARTS are The First to Suffer!

In our local school systems, the Arts budgets are getting cut. Many young people today don't even know what live theater is. I have taught young children theater; and many have a hard time reading. When I ask if they ever read the newspaper... they say NO! Parents should ask their children to read to them. Yes, we all love computers; but there is a real World out there...and lots of top newspapers from around the world. Turn off those computers; and be an example to your family and friends. Live in the real world. Arts groups (entertainment in general) are suffering. DVDs, cable TV, and

computer equipment are the new entertainment source. Who today under the age of 50 goes to live theater? Maybe to a rock concert, but not a professional theater company. Our REP is now giving discounts to those "under 40." This just has to change or we will all be living in a fantasy computer world.

Past Groups

In addition to Milwaukee Shakespeare, several other popular groups have said "goodbye" in the not so distant past. Bialystock and Bloom after just 10 wonderful years. Theatre X. The Dramatists. Allegro productions. Brumder Mansion had spectacular shows in their intimate space. Many of the remaining groups have moved around often. Spiral theatre, RSVP Productions, In Tandem for example have had several homes. Bucketworks has moved its location trying to find the right venue to support the arts.

Our Holiday Standards

Hopefully the Holiday standards in town CHRISTMAS CAROL, CUDAHY CHRISTMAS CAROLS, HOLIDAY PUNCH and all the MSO concerts will have their regular holiday crowds. We already know the economy will affect traveling and the holiday shopping. In closing, with all of the things going on in our current world; lets take the time to remember the past. OK, the Holidays can be difficult for some people.

Memories may contain some hurt. But at some point everyone has experienced the magic of Christmas and the Holiday season. Remember the good times; and surely they will return....at least in our heart.

Producers is Perfect!

PRODUCERS IS PERFECT!
You must catch the remaining performances of THE PRODUCERS at the Skylight. I mentioned it in my last column and I again want to push this show. This is the first Milwaukee area production of the show. Pam Kriger the choreographer has again done an outstanding job. The sets are amazing and the orchestra brilliant. Watch for Bill Theisen, Ray Jivoff, and Elaine Parsons Herro to steal all of their scenes.

Also check out Molly Rhode and Jonathan West. I was most impressed with Brian Vaughn, as he stole the entire show. Who is Johan Townsend, he looks and sounds alot like Johnny Townsend was once was a top choreographer. Bill Theisen had some fine comic moments, but his soliloquy was not anywhere near as brilliant as Nathan Lane on Broadway. The actor playing Carmen Ghia missed so many comic moments.

This wonderful, comic romp will run till New years. I sat next to NY director Susan Stroman when I saw the Broadway production. I wish she would come to Milwaukee and



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.

see this production. In many ways only the comedy and dance numbers shine! Forget the movie version...see it at the Skylight.

Also Bay Players bring you the farce RUN FOR YOUR WIFE coming soon, with Paul Phannestiel, Sandy Lewis, Roger Uscila (does his name sound familiar?) and Allison Roth plus Harvey Altshull. These are all Bay regulars. This theater company is almost repertory; as so many regular talents show up again and again...to make you laugh and cry!

Last Months Trivia: Mel Brooks produced and directed the original PRODUCERS film and stage versions.

New Triva: "SISTERS" sounds like a popular Gay song. But what holiday movie is this Irving Berlin song from?

Aunt Sally did not get picked for DANCING WITH THE STARS..... But plans to go on tour with Hannah Montana! Happy Holiday! R.B.

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Home for the Holidays

Mix N' Mingle

Cityside Plaza
239 E. Chicago Street
in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward

Friday, December 12, 2008
5:30 to 8:00 P.M.

Join the Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, members, and other guests of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center as we come "home for the holidays" as a community to greet old friends and meet new ones, exchange the blessings and challenges of 2008, listen to seasonal music, share in good cheer, and wish each other well for the coming year. Hors d'œuvres, wine and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided; no cash bar.

LGBT Center Member rate:	\$10.00
Non-Member rate:	\$15.00

A special raffle of artwork will also be conducted throughout the evening. Raffle fee is \$5 plus three business cards. The artwork of three local artists will be raffled, which are:

Moon Ladies, a print by Patrick Farrell

Three-Fourths — New York, NY (2007),
a photograph by Jay P. Langhurst

Les Dieux Amies Deux, a painting by Paul Zidonowitz

RSVP (with payment) by December 10 to Patrick Price, Director of Philanthropy, at (414) 292-3065 or pprice@mkelgbt.org.

Please note that parking is available at the Historic Third Ward Parking Garage next door to Cityside Plaza.

Answer me one question. Are these the shadows of the things that WILL be, or are they the shadows of things that MAY be, only?

Outwords Books

Top Picks for December

The Very Best DVD Releases from the Past 12 Months!

Exclusive to Q Life For the Guys:

1. **"Shelter"** Forced to give up his dreams of art school, Zach (Trevor Wright) spends his days working a dead end job and helping his needy sister care for her son. In his free time he surfs, draws and hangs out with his best friend, Gabe, who lives on the wealthy side of town. When Gabe's older brother, Enter Shaun (Brad Rowe), Gabe's older brother who is drawn to Zach's selflessness and talent. Zach falls in love with Shaun while struggling to reconcile his own desires with the needs of his family.
2. **"Kiss Me Deadly"** Ex-Spy Jacob Keane (Robert Gant) is pulled away from his boyfriend and daughter and back into the high-stakes world of international espionage when his former partner Marta (Shannen Doherty) reappears after 17 years. With her memory erased, they now must elude a pair of ruthless assassins and a mysterious villain looking to gain classified information at any cost.
3. **"Saturn in Opposition"** A writer, Davide, and his partner, have a very loving relationship, a beautiful home and a devoted group of friends. One day, while hosting a dinner party, Lorenzo faints, is rushed to the hospital with a brain hemorrhage and passes away. While Davide copes with the loss of Lorenzo, his friends' lives begin to fall apart. Together they overcome insurmountable odds and learn essential life lessons. "Saturn in Opposition" is truly a story of the significance that caring friendships have when life is turned upside down.
4. **"Curiosity Of Chance"** Openly gay teen Chance (Tad Hilgenbrink) confronts the horrors of high school in this wonderful queer throwback to such John Hughes classics as "The Breakfast Club." Also starring gorgeous Brett Chukerman ("Eating Out 2: Sloppy Seconds"), it's your homo high school wish-fulfillment fantasy featuring a great cast and a fun pop soundtrack.
5. **"Surveillance 24/7"** This murky British thriller stars Tom Harper as Adam, a gay teacher swept up in a national scandal that starts when his mysterious one-night stand shows up dead - and leads all the way to the British Royal family. In his race to discover the killer, Adam's every move is tracked through the streets of London by hundreds of closed circuit cameras.

For the Gals:

1. **"Butch Jamie"** "Butch Jamie" is a quirky, gender-bending comedy about an out-of-work butch lesbian actress willing to try almost anything for a role. Spurred on by her roommate Lola's successful cat actor, Jamie decides to take a different approach and audition as herself - aka "Butch Jamie." She immediately lands a role—as a man! Her misadventures on the set include unintentionally attracting the attentions of her sexy female co-star.
2. **"Affinity"** In this sensual, atmospheric drama, Margaret Prior is a socialite who finds escape and purpose as a mentor who brings hope and comfort to the female inmates at the Millbank prison. There she becomes infatuated with Selina Dawes, a medium who was incarcerated after a séance went horribly awry. As the story unfolds, Margaret, soon discovers a world of secrets and shadows, heightened passions, and the allure of the supernatural.
3. **"When Night is Falling"** Finally released on DVD in 2008! Successful in her teaching job at a conservative religious college, Camille (Pascale Bussi eres) looked forward to marrying her adoring, minister boyfriend and settling down to the conventions of family and career. But a chance encounter with a beautiful, irresistibly sensuous young female circus performer named Petra (Rachael Crawford) is about to transform Camille's predictable life into an electrifyingly erotic adventure.
4. **"Tick Tock Lullaby"** A playful cartoon artist and her sassy partner have settled into a comfortable domesticity in their London flat, though something has begun to alarm them -- their biological clocks! If only they could get pregnant by mistake like everyone else does, laments Sasha. Bursting with smart, tender observations on prospective parenthood, Tick Tock Lullaby is a clever exploration of sexuality and the search for sperm in hip thirty-something London as Sasha and Maya struggle with whether (and how) to have a baby.
5. **"Itty Bitty Titty Committee,"** From the director of "But I'm A Cheerleader," is a dynamic, romantic, frequently funny and politically astute movie with a fabulous soundtrack and terrific ensemble cast that includes sexy young Melonie Diaz as the new dyke on the block who falls in with a great gang of Feminist troublemakers called Clits in Action (CIA), and then falls in love with leader of the pack, Nicole Vicius. Unfortunately, Nicole has a girlfriend -- Melanie Mayron -- and, as they say, drama ensues.

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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 AFPBA has Kohler fixtures & ped sinks. \$234,900-\$246,900 MLS #1028267 & 1028266



925 PEARSON, MILW. Fabulous Pearson Bourn town home w/3 FP's, Brazilian cherry HWF & crown molding throughout. KIT outfitted w/Viking Professional SS appls & huge granite island. Spa like MBA w/marble flr, whirlpool tub & dual sinks. \$539,800 MLS #990578



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



2080 N. COMMERCE #511, MILW. Stunning loft condo with soaring 24' ceilings. Foyer has natural slate floor. KIT w/SS appls, Corian counter tops & under cab lights. LR/DR have bamboo floors, exposed trusses & duct work. Lofted MBR overlooks LR/DR. Community room & exercise room complete the package. \$274,900 MLS #1029075



2080 N. Commerce #418, MILW. Bright and cheery 4th floor unit at Union Point is flooded with sunlight. Open concept living space features a KIT w/stainless appliances, breakfast bar, maple cabs, Corian c-tops and HWF. LR has sliding glass drs to balcony. Exposed duct work throughout. 2BR 2BA. Other amenities include clubhouse, fitness center, security and underground pkg. \$219,900 MLS #1042629



4908 N. WOODBURN ST., WHITE-FISH BAY. It's special! Well maintained Brick tudor w/rich architecture on fabulous street minutes from lake. Gorgeous woodwork, hardwood floors, leaded glass, moldings. Great floor plan. 4-5 BR's. Den, office, sun porch. \$619,900 MLS# 1042714



311 E. Erie #216, MILW. Beautiful spacious condo at Marine Terminal overlooking the river. 2BR 2BA loft-like unit features exceptional finishes including granite, maple cabinets, HWF, exposed columns with capitals, Kohler fixtures and ceramic tile. LR/DR wall of windows lets in loads of natural light. In-unit W/D. Balcony has gas hook-up. \$484,900 MLS #1044790



HI-FI LOFTS
3059 N. WEIL ST., MILW. So Ho chic! Enjoy a true loft feeling with ultra-modern stainless steel cabinets, butcher block countertops, exposed brick, hardwood floor and tons of windows. In-unit laundry and parking included. Prices range from \$134,900-\$189,900.. www.hifilofts.com



1809 N. COMMERCE #202, MILW. 1872 Historic Fabulous condo in the heart of the Beerline neighborhood. HWFs flow throughout the open concept living space. Superb KIT, spacious and functional w/solid surface c-tops, maple cabs & stainless appls. Large BRs w/walk-in California closets. \$260,000 MLS #1034134



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.



545 E. WELLS #702 MILW. Unique Cathedral Square condo. Open concept LR w/HWF, flr to ceiling windows & door to balcony. KIT has granite, BB, GE Profile SS appls, & maple cabs. BR has WIC, flr to ceiling windows. BA w/marble flr & whirlpool tub. 1 pkg space, community & exercise rm in this sought after building. \$289,900 MLS #1035368



1610 N. PROSPECT #204, MILW. Spacious condo at The Newport w/2BR 2BA. LR features huge windows, BI storage & nook with storage. KIT has BB, CT flrs, Corian and newer appls. MBR has BIBS & storage, amazing WIC, MBA w/marble c-tops, dual sinks & vanity. \$199,999 MLS #1032098



1329 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. \$209,900 MLS #973010



GREENWICH ROW - MILW.
1828 E. GREENWICH AVE. Only One Unit Left!!!!!! New town homes in Whole Foods neighborhood. 2BR/2.5BA condo has 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. \$289,400 MLS# 988043



7861 N. FAIRCHILD RD., FOX POINT Fabulous mid-century modern with loads of outstanding updates. Contemporary KIT w/attached laundry room. Family room has exposed lannon stone walls & natural fireplace. Formal LR & DR. Master suite has 2WIC & spa BA. \$459,900 MLS #989260



1530 N. JACKSON ST., MILW. 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



12393 W. CROSSING BLVD., GREENFIELD Impeccably maintained 3BR 2BA home in Foxwood Crossing has open concept floor plan. HWF thru-out the foyer, hall, KIT & dinette. MBR has WIC, MBA w/whirlpool tub, dual sinks & comfort height c-tops. KIT has granite, breakfast bar, 42" cabs and open to LR. HUGE lower. 3C GA. Main flr laundry. \$357,400 MLS #1041548



311 E. Erie #429, MILWAUKEE Fantastic 1BR condo at Marine Terminal has a fabulous view of Downtown. LR has HWF, GFP w/granite surround, drs to balcony & BI-surround sound. KIT has granite, breakfast bar, maple cabs and stainless appliances. Lofted MBR has wall of windows, BI-bookcase, 2 WIC & attached laundry rm. MBA has whirlpool, SS w/marble surround, marble flr, dual sinks w/granite c-tops. Don't wait!!! \$384,900