

**M** 

Vol. 22, #7 July 2015



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ALSO INSIDE: PHOTOS FROM PRIDEFEST & THE MILWAUKEE PRIDE PARADE

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## YES, IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE!

We all do it. We all take for granted the freedoms we enjoy as citizens of the United States. For the LGBTQ community in this great country, a ruling from the Supreme Court this past week means that at last many of the freedoms and financial perks that heterosexuals have enjoyed for years will at last be granted to same-sex couples across the nation. The long, long struggle to get here is of course far from over, but WOW look where we have come from!

In a facebook post on the day of the ruling I wrote words that in afterthought seemed a little to much me banging my own drum. Today after seeing a post from friend Bill Meunier which frankly caught me off guard I began to have tears in my eyes in a public restaurant as I sat alone waiting for a meal in between producing this issue of Quest Magazine. Bill was giving me praise for my years of service to the LGBTQ community, and I felt quite moved. It made me think however, there are plenty of people we should all be thanking for the progress we are making today. I will not even try to list all the obvious ones, and if I leave anyone out, I hope you will take to facebook and post on the Quest page your thanks to those I have not included here. Instead, I am going to do a short list of people who are not as obvious and have made a huge impact on the quality of life for all of us here in Wisconsin. I will keep the list to just those I know personally and have worked with.

First let me Thank Bill Meunier who wrote today's facebook post that got me thinking about this. Bill was most likely the guy who got PrideFest going.



No he didn't do it alone, and he ruffled quite a few feathers along the way, but Thank you Bill for PrideFest and also for your work running Wisconsin Light, one of the earlier LGBT newspapers that sadly is no longer in production.

Scott Gunkle and Kate Sherry and the hundreds of other volunteers are responsible for the PrideFest you have today. As Kate Sherry steps down to pursue a quieter life for a while, I want to say thank you for all you have done. Scott continues at PrideFest. (Milwaukee Pride)

While on the subject of Milwaukee Pride, lets thank Brent Holmes and his partner Jim Mellotte co-owners of Avant Garde who along with several others including Betzy from Walker's Pint have made the Milwaukee LGBT Pride Parade better and better year after year.

Thank you to Mike Fitzpatrick who has tirelessly worked behind the scenes to help us win our rights. You may not know this but Mike has been involved in so many organizations including Rainbow Over Wisconsin, and currently is still with Fair Wisconsin. Mike wrote for In Step and Wisconsin Light and later for nearly a decade wrote most of the articles for Quest and kept the website up to date. He has done these things for little or no pay and that is not even including his day job which I wont list here. Like Bill and myself, Mike can ruffle a few feathers, but his heart is in the right place and I must give him a huge thank you!

There are so many others, including Kitty and Cricket and Entertainer's Against AIDS. There is the current board of Rainbow Over Wisconsin and the people who produce Pride Alive. Thank you to all of them, especially Jeff Hunter who will again this year make sure Pride Alive is a stellar event.

Finally I want to thank my parents, Ardo and Alma Mariucci who raised me to be the person I am. Thank you to not just them, but to every parent who like my own have been there for their child no matter what - to love and support. You are a shining example I wish all parents would aspire to.

There you have it. Now I look forward to a long discussion thread on the Quest Facebook page. Please let me know who you want to thank and why.

Mark Mariucci, (aka Za) Publisher



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## **ON OUR COVER: DAVID MASON**

Did you pick up a *David Mason* T-shirt at PrideFest? If you did, you may have already met local entrepreneur and clothing designer Jeff Witthuhn. He recently launched his first line of *David Mason* apparel online and at Milwaukee PrideFest.

Originally from Appleton, WI, Witthuhn moved to Milwaukee in 2010. A graduate of UW-Green Bay he holds a degree in Graphic Design. Now, at age 34, he has combined his skills to pursue fashion as his passion,

His inspiration comes in part from his business experience. For over a decade he worked for various fashion retailers. There he developed not only his fashion consciousness, but also a marketing insight. "I was really provoked while working with Express. We had really cool, retro inspired T-shirt designs and fabrics. They sold well but the brand changed. It morphed into a less exciting look. Their earlier t-shirts were original and different. They didn't have a logo or brand name. They were more artistic. That made it clear to me it wasn't necessary to brand. Today too many companies are all about their brand rather than cool art that reflects the way people feel and what they aspire to be. My look is the brand. It's recognizable without having the logo slapped on the back," Witthuhn explains.

David Mason's look is a unique graphic . Currently, there are three different collections: Sunday Funday, Madonna, and Summer. "The look is coast. It's about summer, excitement, parties, and having fun. It's West Coast architecture, pop culture, and East Coast 70-80s NYC club scene and Warhol, The Sunday Funday collection will live year round . It will add new designs throughout the year," Witthuhn explains. Still, he admits, some people like the brand look. "In my collection there's a balance of branded and non-branded. For those like the brand look, I've made shirts for them. But others don't and I make shirts for them. Both rely on the same the artistic integrity. The overall image of *David Mason*, the advertising and photos puts a cohesive picture together as a recognizable brand, "Witthuhn says.

But how does a Wisconsin designer break into the fashion world? "My aesthetic is trendy in the overall fashion arena. The appeal speaks for itself. The launch has been local and relies on local talent. John Grant has been doing photography. My models were referred by John, and friends. We had a booth at PrideFest in a great location. The response was overwhelmingly positive. For example, the *Summer* collection is universal. There's something for the fashion conscious, young or old. Who doesn't love a cool design Tshirt with a palm tree? People were drawn to the *Sunday Funday* and *Madonna* collections. Being PrideFest, they fit the weekend. They are bold, witty, and expressive. Regardless of the geographic, they resonate. And my collections are all unisex. Smart marketing plays a role, of course. Right now it's grass roots using social media We're looking at representation at various festivals, like PrideFest. Partnering with N2N Bodyware for fashion shows. We're also in the process of getting *David Mason* shirts on a Bravo television series."

Beyond the market savvy and artistic concept, the economics and the minutia are the reality of any business venture. "Funding the project was a major undertaking. Kick-starter and my own money helped pay for the initial collection. That's it - no loans!" Witthuhn explains. He also has some advice. "The most challenging is to keep your desire going when you hit a road block. It's a mental battle to push forward to make your reality. As a start-up I was set on certain things, like the shirt fabric. But the real demand was the nitty-gritty. The website, shipping logistics, calculating sales tax for each State can all be a nightmare. It's funny people post inspirational guotes on Instagram and Facebook. They have actually been my motivation.'

What's next? *David Mason* is going to Green Bay's Pride Alive July 11, and, hopefully. Market Days in Chicago as well as other regional pride events.

For more information find David Mason on Facebook and its website david-mason.com







Northeastern Wisconsin's Largest Pride Event

Saturday, July 11 11am to 10 pm Joannes Park, **Green Bay, WI** 



11:00 Karaoke Allstars NOON BRASS DIFFERENTIAL (Full Horn Band) 1:00 Shawn Connelly 2:00 HARVEY BROWN 3:00 Troy Graham/Heather 4:00 TARL KNIGHT (Singer/Songwriter) 5:00 SPARROWTREE (Bluegrass) 6:00 Drag Talent Showcase 7:00 DANIEL & THE LIONS (Indie) 8:00 Karaoke Exhibition/Drag Production 8:30 DJ TECHNOLO-G

MARRIAGE EQUALITY ACHIEVED! IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE! While you enjoy the entertainment, have some great food from our vendors, enjoy a refreshing drink. Browse and shop at the many booths set up in the park. Check out the history exhibit. Get a photo taken at Rainbow Over Wisconsin Photo Booth



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE FIND US ON FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/newpridealive OR CHECK OUT OUT WEBSITE: www.newpridealive.com

## **CLUB ICON IN THE CHICAGO PRIDE PARADE**

Just one week after Club ICON (Kenosha) featured their float in the Milwaukee LGBT Pride Parade the club was contacted by WGN asking if they could rent the float . Although honored to be asked, there was the problem that the float was already going to AT&T in the Chicago Pride Parade as it has the past two years.

"She was desperate for a float. I told her that we maybe able to create another one provided that we could find a trailer," stated Club ICON's manager, Mickey Johnson. "We searched for two weeks and almost gave up but found one in a local farmers field that worked perfectly." he continues.

A team of fifteen volunteers came together and in just two days created the largest and best float that the Club ICON group has ever created in their opinon. Club ICON is blessed to have so many talented and generous people as friends.

"We knew going into it there was a slight chance that the Chicago Blackhawks and the Stanley Cup would on the float, but it wasn't until the week of the Parade that we got the news that it was going to happen for sure!" an excited Mickey revealed.





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#### A TRIO OF LESBIAN NOVELISTS: C.P. ROWLANDS, ELIZABETH RIDLEY AND LISE MACTAGUE TO APPEAR AT OUTWORDS

Outwords Books, Gifts & Coffee's 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary will indeed be very special, highlighted with an author event featuring a fabulous trio of Lesbian novelists: C.P. Rowlands, Elizabeth Ridley and Lise MacTague on Saturday July 11, 2015 at 4:00pm.

Outwords Books is delighted to welcome back C.P. Rowlands, author of the bestsellers, Lake Effect Snow, Collision Course and Jacob's War. Hardwired, Rowland's latest, is a gritty ro-

mance set within the world of homeless shelters, focusing on the plights of small children. In addition, welcomed back is Elizabeth Ridley. *The Advocate* has chosen Ridley's latest, **Searching for Celia**, as one of "the 15 Best LGBT Summer Reads" and called it a "captivating lesbian page-turner" and a "fast-paced, twisted, philosophical mystery."

Joining C.P. Rowlands and Elizabeth Ridley on the program is Lise MacTague who will be reading from her debut sci-fi novel, **Depths of Blue**, Book One of the **On Deception's Edge** series.



C.P. Rowlands, Elizabeth Ridley and Lise MacTague will read and sign copies of their novels beginning at 4:00pm on Saturday July 11, 2015 at Outwords Books, Gifts & Coffee, located at 2710 N. Murray Ave. in Milwaukee.

This is a free event and all are welcome. For further information, please call visit <u>www.outwordsbooks.com</u> or call (414) 963-9089.

## 20th Anniversary For Jerry Grillo Milwaukee WAMI award-winning Jazz Artist

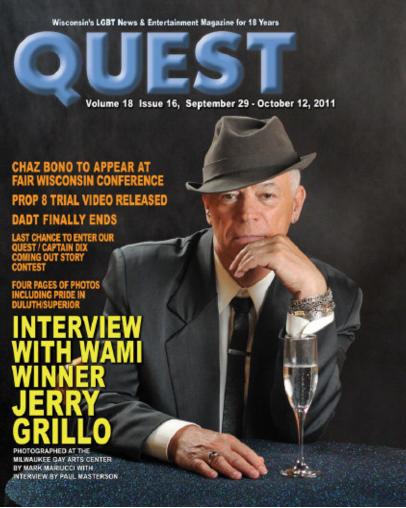
Jerry Grillo is celebrating the 20th anniversary of his jazz career in Milwaukee. He has already played The Uptowner, said to be the oldest club that is still operating in Milwaukee, on May 28. (Jerry played and recorded at The Uptowner in the 1990's.) If you missed the May gig, The Jazz Estate, at 2423 North Murray, will welcome the Jerry Grillo Band on July 31 from

9:30pm to 1:30am. His debut at the Jazz Estate was on April 16, 1992.

Mr. Grillo has been recording for 22 years with an awardwinning record number of ten CD's in that period. He began with "This Funny World" co-produced by Blue Note recording artist Jackie Allen with the Dean Rolando Trio from Chicago. Jerry's recordings include, "Good For You," with the world renowned Lynne Arriale Trio in 1997, and his big band recording, "The Nick Contorno Orchestra with Jerry Grillo," which was released at Jazz In The Park in 1999. He received the Jazz Artist of the Year Award from WAMI in 2011 followed by nominations in 2012 and 2013. Other information about his recordings can be found at www.jerrygrillo.com

Jerry has recorded and performed with most of the finest musicians in Milwaukee. There aren't very many he hasn't played with over the years. His jazz trios have changed with the passing of some, and as Jerry felt he wanted to move on and create new music. In addition to The Uptowner and the Estate, Jerry has received commitments for future dates with Transfer Pizzeria, The Intercontinental Hotel, and Paddy's Pub, a few of the clubs he has played at over the years since 1992. These are the venues he has chosen, and the musicans will vary and include many he has played and recorded with over the years.

More information about Jerry's career can be found at www.jerrygrillo.com, which includes his Current Update and Biography page, his Itinerary page, along with a number of You Tube videos. He is looking forward to the remainder of this year as he celebrates his 20th Anniversary.



Jerry Grillo was featured on the Sept/Oct 2011 issue of Quest Magazine

### **GAMMA UNVEILS NEW LOGO AT PRIDEFEST**

Milwaukee GAMMA, one of the city's oldest social and recreational LGBT organizations, unveiled its new logo at PrideFest. Emblazoned on signage at its Health & Wellness Area booth GAMMA's logo shows a pink triangle, a rainbow arch and its motto "Recreational, Social, Cultural". President Bim Florek explained the logo's development and symbolism. "GAMMA was established in 1978. Our

message has always been one of unity. That's what the motto states. It's about community growth and strength though members participating as a group in recreational, social, and cultural activities. These provide a formative foundation for a positive lifestyle and that leads to physical and mental health. In the beginning, many of our members were closeted. For some, joining GAMMA was really their first step toward self-acceptance. We chose the two most important and recognizable



LGBT symbols, the pink triangle and the rainbow. The new logo incorporates both to show awareness of our historical struggle as well as our diversity. The rainbow is also a reference to Milwaukee's Hoan Bridge. That, in turn, reflects the organization's role in providing a social bridge to connect our members to each other and to the greater community," Florek said.

GAMMA commissioned graphic designer Maureen Kane to realize the concept and turn it into a new logo. Kane, owner of MMK Design, has long served the LGBT community. Over the years, she created many Milwaukee LGBT organizational logos. Her studio walls are covered with dozens of familiar insignia including those of the Gay Arts Center, NAGAAA Fest 2009 (the gay softball world series), Lesbian Alliance to name just a few.

Milwaukee GAMMA boast nearly 150 members. Its monthly calendar features a full range of activities from camping and cribbage to luncheons, and *Out* nights at the theater. Upcoming special events include the annual GAMMA 4<sup>th</sup> of July Party, an excursion to the Bristol Renaissance Faire on July 18, as well as the usual array of monthly cooking, game, and other social gatherings.

Membership info may be obtained through Facebook or by call Bim Florek at 414-418-9198.

#### LANCE BASS & MICHAEL TURCHIN NAMED AIDS WALK WISCONSIN HONORARY CHAIRS

The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) has announced 'NSYNC star Lance Bass and husband Michael Turchin will be the Honorary Chairs of the 26th annual AIDS Walk Wisconsin & 5K Run.

"It is special to find a young couple who wants their marriage to serve a broader purpose right from the beginning," said ARCW President and Chief Executive Officer Mike Gifford. "We are proud to have Lance and Michael serve as our honorary chairs and are excited for their help with our AIDS Walk fund raising campaign. We look forward to celebrating a successful AIDS Walk and 5K Run."

Bass is a singer, actor and a producer for film and television who perhaps is best known as a member of the hit group 'NSYNC. In 2006 Bass revealed that he was gay in a cover story for People Magazine and later that year received the Visibility Award from the Human Rights Campaign. In 2007 he released his autobiography, Out of Sync, which chronicles his youth, his rise to celebrity status, his relationships and his struggle to keep his sexual identity private. He has performed on Broadway and was featured in the 7th season of Dancing with the Stars, finishing in 3rd place.



Turchin is an aspiring actor, pop art portrait artist and model. He and Bass married on December 20, 2014 and they allowed their wedding to be aired on cable television, allowing gay youth to see a gay wedding take place and know that it could be possible for them as well.

"Michael and I are honored to serve as Honorary Chairs of AIDS Walk Wisconsin and 5K Run," said Bass. "It's exciting for us to be involved with the fight against AIDS in a state where fund raising is producing amazing results in HIV health care."

To help raise pledges for AIDS Walk Wisconsin, the Honorary Chairs will participate in a fund raising event the night before the Walk.

"We are eager to meet the people who support

AIDS Walk Wisconsin and we look forward to spending time with people who care about the things we care about. We are going to have a great time" said Turchin.

Over the past 26 years, more than 123,000 registrants have participated in AIDS Walk Wisconsin and raised more than \$11.9 million. One hundred percent of the pledges raised from AIDS Walk Wisconsin have stayed in Wisconsin to benefit people living with HIV in the state.

"Today, people with HIV live longer in Wisconsin than almost anywhere in the United States," said Mr. Gifford. "HIV is a complex and expensive disease and if we want to continue to see these results we have to register, raise pledges and turn out for events like AIDS Walk Wisconsin on October 3."

For the 26th annual event a new website will optimize the user experience, making it easier to register and donate, and is now mobile phone compatible. AIDS Walk Wisconsin will take place on Saturday, October 3rd at the Summerfest Grounds in Milwaukee.

"Don't wait. Register for the Walk and Run today at www.aidswalkwis.org and we will see you in October," said Bass.



#### MADISON'S FIRST LGBTQ COMEDY SHOW CELEBRATES ONE YEAR WITH JONNY MCGOVERN

Madison's first LGBTQ standup comedy show Alphabet Soup is will celebrate its one year anniversary in July with funny man Jonny McGovern.

McGovern is best know for Logo TV's "Big Gay Sketch Show", his talk show "Hey Qween!" and recording provocative and racy pop songs heard in gay bars around the world.

"I'm so excited to be celebrating Alphabet Soup's one year. When it started I wasn't quite sure if Madison was ready for queer comedy, but it keeps getting better each month." Martinez admits.

The show runs every third Friday of the month at Plan B, 924 Williamson St., Madison, WI 53704.

Alphabet Soups' one year celebration will be July 17th at 7:30pm and will also include Chicago comedians Ali Clayton & Adam Guerino.

The show is FREE but table reservations may be made for a \$50 donation to fund the webseries "The Misadventures of Delilah James" which will be filmed in Madison beginning September 2015. Eemail: booking@dinamartinez.com to reserve tables. FMI visit LaughOutComedy.com







#### MASTER SINGERS OF MILWAUKEE HOLDING AUDITIONS FOR 2015-16 SEASON

Master Singers is looking for excellent singers who love to sing the best of choral literature from all eras and genres. Auditions will be held at Wauwatosa Presbyterian Church, 2366 N. 80th Street, on Tuesday, August 18 from 6 to 8 pm and August 22 from 10 to 1 pm.

Please call Eduardo Garcia-Novelli (262)412-9970 or email egarcianovelli@carthage.edu to arrange for an appointment. Singers should prepare a hymn melody in various keys and expect to sight sing. www.mastersingersofmilwaukee.org



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LGBT Center, Wed. 8th, 5:30-8 Kruz, Fri. 10th 7-9 Harbor Room, Fri. 10th 10-12 Fluid, Mon. 13th, 9:30-11:30 Woodys, Thurs. 16th, 9-11 LaCage, Wed. 22nd, 10-1ish Club Icon, 24th, 9:30-12:30 (Kenosha)

Rainbow Community Potluck Committee Organizations: Black & White Men Together, Galano Club, Lesbian Allance, Mikraukee Metropolitan Community Church, Plymouth United Church of Christ, The Queer Program, Monroe Inc., Soulstice Theatre, Waddell & Reed



Glenn felt certain that **Tiger Orange** would appeal to the monthly cinema group. Make no mistake, the group takes these monthly screenings very seriously, very seriously, indeed. Now, that isn't to say a film boasting the odd porn star or two isn't without its unique charms.

Think back, if you will, to **Third Man Out**, first in Chad Allen's popular Donald Strachey murder mystery series. Matthew Rush, then a porn mega-star for Falcon, acquitted himself quite nicely in the small but pivotal role of Dik Steele.

Sadly, any measure of cross-over success appears to have eluded Rush; his most recent film credit, as listed on the ubiquitous IMDB, being the extraordinarily titled, **Pro Wrestlers** vs Zombies.

What with the group similarly familiar with Sean Paul Lockhart and his equally talented porn alter-ego Brent Corrigan, then surely the group would welcome a feature film starring Frankie Valenti, the once and future porn star Johnny Hazzard. Yet beyond such stunt

casting, **Tiger Orange** also explores the relationship of two gay brothers. The only other film about gay brothers which came to mind was **From Beginning to End**, an exceedingly daring film exploring the relationship between two hunky Brazilian half-brothers, their relationship

## NEW ON DVD TIGER ORANGE

turning increasingly incestuous over the course of the film.

Ever the curious soul, Glenn suggested a quick whip-around from which it emerged that nearly all in the group admitted to owning a copy of **From Beginning to End.** Had Glenn only known, it might have paired up nicely for an intriguing double feature with **Tiger Orange**, the debut effort from emerging filmmaker Wade Gasque.

At the start of **Tiger Orange**, both brothers are at something of a crossroads. Younger brother Todd, one assumes, was bound and determined to flee the dreary, closeted existence of the family log cabin as soon as was humanly possible. It should come as no surprise that the bright lights of Los Angeles beckoned as did a possible acting career. Fortunes have turned for Todd; as is often the case in stories such as this. His acting career languishing on the vine, Todd's finds himself homeless after

> being unceremoniously jettisoned from his previously cozy threesome.

> They may have said, "You deserve more, Todd" but what we in the group all heard was, "And don't let the door hit your ass on the way out..."

> Older brother Chet (Mark Strano) is the very opposite of the determinedly out & proud Todd, Indeed, Chet is very possibly the straightest-acting gay character Glenn's experienced in nearly 50 years of movie-

going. And yes, this includes **The Last** (not-so) **Straight Man**.

Other than a couple of years away for school, Chet has contented himself with being the responsible son, familiar to many in the monthly group as yet another "best little boy in the



#### By Glenn Bishop

#### Buy it, Rent it, or forget it...

The struggling relationship between the two very different gay brothers found a ready audience with the gentlemen of the monthly cinema group.

In their often quite savvy screenplay, director Wade Gasque and Mark Strano (Chet) evidently understand that at the heart of the matter, each brother has been jealous of the other. Chet might never have wanted to flee, as did Todd, but wishes he were more comfortable with his sexuality, especially in how his budding romance with the gorgeous Brandon (Gregory Marcel) might develop. Todd would never have been satisfied working at the family hardware business, as Chet has, but nevertheless wishes he'd had something akin to the relationship Chet had with their father.

For the most part, **Tiger Orange** is effective debut for director Wade Gasque. Sure, not everything works. Chet's self-indulgent voice-over does little to establish his relationship to the dearly-departed. In fact, the handful of flash-back sequences offers contradictory impressions of their father who memorably, in one scene tries to instill in the two boys a brotherly bond.

Performances are for the most part solid. Among the well-cast townsfolk, Loanne Bishop and John Gowans standout, as Chet's right-hand gal, Ann and as an initially disapproving neighbor, respectfully.

Still, it is Frankie Valenti as the brash, rebellious Todd who runs away with **Tiger Orange**. How could he not? In comparison, Strano so underplays Chet, it is difficult to understand what exactly Gregory Marcel's Brandon sees in him.

**Tiger Orange** is a must for Frankie Valenti enthusiasts and definitely worth a rental for anyone looking for an infringing family drama.

#### Just the facts...

**Tiger Orange** clocks in at 76 minutes and is English. **Tiger Orange** is available on DVD with a SRP: \$24.95 All about **Tiger Orange** @

www.tigerorangemovie.wordpress.com

**Tiger Orange** offers usual minimal Wolfe Video DVD extras Gregory Marcel (Brandon) starred in 2008's sexy, **Sun Kissed**.

world." Whilst Todd went to find his dream, Chet contented himself with helping dad run the family hardware business, with only occasional forays to the local trysting grounds for some quick anonymous satisfaction.

With the passing of his father, Chet has been set adrift; he no longer possesses someone in his life to which he could make proud. Yes Chet, Glenn mused, that is some existence you've carved out for yourself.

Then Todd arrives, unannounced, ostensibly to spend some time with his older brother but Glenn supposes to lick his wounds and regroup. Chet is determined to remain the responsible one, now the responsible brother, in welcoming Todd home and doing his best to be supportive. Despite their differences, there is undoubtedly still a great deal of affection between the two brothers. Now, if each can set aside the hurt and the jealousy of a lifetime, they might forge common ground.



# SUNDAY AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup> 12NOON

# 2015 OutReach

## PARADE / RALLY

THE "T" ISN'T SILENT RESPECT TRANSGENDER LIVES!



600 BLOCK OF STATE STREET | RALLY: 2:30PM CAPITOL SQUARE WWW.LGBTOUTREACH.ORG





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Photos from the Renaissance Theaterworks Fundraiser

# Milwaukee LGBT Pride Parade Hundreds more online including PrideFest Just aim your phone's Qcode reader here!











STATE A

· ALMERT



### Milwaukee LGBT Pride Parade Photos by Mark Mariucci (Za)





Happy Birthday USA! Its Summer time – finally Summerfest is happening, all the outdoor Festivals – time to soak up the Sun and the fun – and the living is anything but easy!

"Motown – the Musical" spins the biggest hits of the 1960's at Uihlein Hall, The Marcus Center for the Performing Arts 929 North Water Street. The Salute opens Tuesday, July 7 – Sunday, July 12. "There Ain't No Mountain High Enough" to keep me from "My Girl" or celebrating the sound that Berry Gordy, Jr. put on the pop charts, our A.M. radios, and our lips. For a truly "Supreme" evening, feel free to indulge in "The Temptations" of this extraordinary union of Broadway and Pop Music.

It must be summer, time to head to the park – Kadish Park (909 East North Avenue) in particular to view Optimist Theatre's Shakespeare In The Park – "A Midsummer Night's Dream" July 9 – 12 (Thu – Sun) and July 16 – 19 (Thu – Sun). Absolutely Free! Open Seating. A Collection is taken up, so Please tip! Because it is outdoors, the "curtain" raises at dusk.

Speaking of Parks and Fest, Bastille Days 2015 start Thursday, July 9 – Sunday, July 12 - - Viva This Is It! The Northern Lights Theater – Potawatomi Hotel & Casino 1721 West Canal Street has some Red, Hot and Blue entertainment for you this month! "Shout!" – A Tribute to the music of The Blues Brothers movie July 13 – 16. "Boz Skaggs" – Blows into town on July 19 and to close out the month of independence and free speech "Mr. Warmth" – Don Rickles July 21 and 22. To get accommodations: paysbig.com/Shows

The Palace Theater 564 Wisconsin Dells Parkway South in The Dells currently is serving up – "The Little Mermaid" Dinner & Theater Show. Now through Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> – Their Summer Spectacular! For more information, call the Box Office 608-253-4000 or visit <u>www.dellspalace.com</u>. This venue is available for private bookings.

The Traveling Beer Garden – 2015 continues to visit an assortment of Milwaukee County Parks. Be sure to check out the bucket list in this column for the location and dates.

Off The Wall Theatre's summer show is "Spring Awakening – A New Musical" Directed by Dale Gutzman and Musical Direction by: Anne Van Deusen. July 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31, August 1 & 2 414-484-8874 <u>www.offthewalltheatre.com</u> 127 East Wells Street. There is something to be said about a Spring Awakening on a Summer's Evening...

The Harbor Room celebrates a decade and a half, yes 15 years the last weekend of the month -- Friday, July 24 – Sunday, July 26. Saturday, July 25 (Christmas in July) I get to work with the flawless Miss Shannon Dupree of Hamburger Mary's fame and Ross Katzman – a former Mr. Harbor Room - twice over in doing The Mr. Harbor Room Contest! Come on down and throw your "hat" in the ring you could be sashed! If you don't want to vie for this coveted title – you can have the optical treat and watching all whom do... Always a hot time in the old town! Festivities start kicking up about 10 pm.

Brady Street Day Saturday, July 25 11:00 a.m. – Midnight Brady Street from Farwell Avenue to Van Buren Street a free, fun, unconventional, true street festival. The finale a fab Drag Show starring Nova D'Vine, the return of Shawna Love, and in the past Beauties from Key West brought to town compliments of Bosley's on Brady.

Live at Peck Pavilion – Sunday, July 26 – Saturday, August 22 The side lawn of The Marcus Center for the Performing Arts will be offering different programs for free, open and to be enjoyed by the public: Sunday afternoon Band Concerts Performances by Military Service Bands and local community bands and orchestras, performances are included. For the lineup, be sure to check to "Bucket Ilst" in this same column.

The Cream City Foundation (CCF) will be having their annual sensational summer soiree – "My Best Friend is Straight" Tuesday, July 28 5:30 pm this year held on the grounds of The Marcus Center for the Performing Arts on South Water Street. I have the thrill of co-hosting this not to be missed bacchanal with dear friend, the electric Elaine Maly. \$50 open bar, heavy hors de oeuvres, entertainment - - a marvelous way to mix, mingle and network! As the name of this fundraiser hints at – everyone is invited and welcome to take part and show all the colors of the world in

which we live! What better way to unite all people throughout the state? Proceeds raised will help the Cream City Foundation (CCF) continue their good works in all the programs they invest in.

To end the month of July – come celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Cream City's celebrated crooner – Jerry Grillo. Jerry has dedicated the past two decades of his life to music, singing, song-styling – and now he is the Chairman of the board and has the WAMI to prove it! The Jazz Estate 2423 North Murray Street Friday, July 31 9:30 pm – 1:30 am this where the party will be—you won't want to miss it! You can catch Jerry at Angelo's on Van Buren, The Up Towner, Transfer Pizzeria, The InterContinental Hotel, and Paddy's Pub – to mention but a few that come to mind. Please support local entertainment – we are so fortunate to these treasures right here, before us.

Have you had the opportunity to take in the fascinating Libraries of UWM? I know I've written about this gem before - - but the Golda Meir Library – 2311 East Hartford Avenue- has a new display - "An HIV/AIDS History Exhibition". Celebrating the dedicated, hard work of Doug Nelson – former CEO/Executive Director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW), for almost 30 years Doug

was at the helm making the agency what it is today. Doug's archives are now housed here - and anyone that wants to visit back to that troublesome, puzzling period in our recent history has ample data to sift through. Ewa Barczyk, Michael Doyen, and Max Yellin have gathered guite the timeline of this devastating disease that haunted our vouth - - the AIDS plaque, Susan Modder, Director of Development for the UWM Libraries whom I had the pleasure of interviewing at the Pride Parade- has a welcome task to encourage us all to first and foremost visit the exhibition, on now through August 30. After viewing "ARCW at 30" seeing if you can contribute a gift of \$100 to become a "Founding Donor" for this HIV/AIDS history lesson - revisited. There is a \$50,000 goal. UWM needs to raise an additional \$10,000 - whatever you can invest in this worthwhile project is appreciated, if we don't learn from our past, we're destined to relive it... Send donations to this project, to the attention of: Susan Modder, Director of Development UWM Libraries 2311 East Hartford Avenue 53211.

The Milwaukee Gay Sports Network (MGSN) held their 5<sup>th</sup> annual "Big Gay 5 K Run/Walk" on PrideFest Eve. The Thursday before PrideFest opens this great athletic fete takes place with proceeds going to ARCW's AIDS Walk – Wisconsin (this year it will be on Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>). I had the delight once again to be engaged as femcee and work with the almost 80 athletes. It takes place on the picturesque Lakefront, near the Kite Booth, a forgotten parcel of Eden for us all to enjoy. The Top three Males – judged and awarded on time were: Adam Buck – 17:40, Nick Olson – 18:55, and Max Butler - 20:00

The three Females that top as the quickest were: Alice Ambrovialk – 23:16, Phaedra Christou – 24:32 and Stacey Bast – 24:59. Congratulations all who won, all who participated and all who

came down for the cheering! The Cream City Foundation once again contributed generously in being the Major Sponsor. Please consider taking part next year, there are no losers -- walking, running contributing to AIDS Walk Wisconsin and enjoying our natural resources and athletes!

My favorite part of PrideFest on Friday had to be, besides all the people and people watching, The BJ Daniels Revue. Just like Cher, this consummate professional has turned back time and thoroughly entertains! Among the powerhouses that took to the stage to mesmerize us were: Goldie Adams, Dita Von, Shauna Love, Shannon Dupree and Nova D'vine - - we got Las Vegas on the Lakefront! The weather was wacky for June and Wisconsin, huge winds – that when Nova did "Somewhere Over The Rainbow" - I thought the weather effects were part of the production number and we would all end up in OZ!

Saturday brought the "Leather Gear Show", Craig Bodoh made for an outstanding director - the Fellini of Leather? We had over 30 models doing two sets of fashions and including our banter were done within the hour! A record! Of course my favorite foil to banter with – none other than Maple Veneer - - The Empire State Building of talent. Talk about being "versatile" she not only co-directed/co-hostess-ed the Gear Show, the next day she shined on the MAUL float in the Pride Parade and at night was starring in a Tennessee Williams opus at Off The Wall Theater as a man! Look out Chaka Khan – Maple is every woman!

Sunday was a three alarm fire for me - - The Pride Parade! Thank You Cream City Foundation, Mike Sanfelippo & Kyle Clements, Roger Ram Jet, Joe Kender, Mohawk Jeff, Goldie Adams, Brian & Andy (between Goldie and Brian & Andy - I don't know which provided more "blush" to me) Tracey Carson & Bill Zaferos, Brent & Jim and of course Peter Holbrook my co-anchor of the Pride Parade. What fun it was making our rather grand entrance by horse and carriage - my first time in a Hansom cab - - you owe it to yourselves to indulge in this treat! I'm indebted to our wonderful guest for stopping by and sharing their latest with us - - The Florentine Opera Company - Jillian Bruss and Sarah Lewis Martin, ARCW's Kristin Wollenburg, UWM's Susan Modder - representing the Libraries and Carl Bogner promoting the LGBT Film Fest. I adore my Panther by the way, no not a Tony but ... From there I was whisked over to Sunday Fun Day Show Tunes with Brian Reinkober at Club Charlies. And that was the place to be, Kidd O'Shea fresh from appearing in the Pride Parade was offering vodka samples and Nicole, Benjy, Tara, Chris, Dawn & Craig were juggling all of the above as well as "Downtown Dining". Never a dull moment! And then for finale time - - we hosted the first and hopefully annual Tony Awards!

What a wild weekend - - I did get a chance to personally thank Scott Gunkel and Kate Sherry for all their hard work and continued dedication in Pride-Fest. And I did thoroughly enjoy seeing my favorite Aussie since Holly Brown, Betty Who and

#### July, 2015 Bucket List

Wed., July 1 – Sun. 12 "The Traveling Beer Garden" Falk Park 2013 West Rawson Avenue Sheridan Par 4800 South Lake Drive

Saturday, July Independence Day

Tuesday, July 7 – Sunday, July 12 "Motown" Marcus Center for the Performing Arts 929 North Water Street

Now – Sunday, Sept. 6 "The Little Mermaid" The Palace Theater 564 Wisconsin Dells Parkway South Wisconsin Dells

Thurs., July 9 – Sun., July 12 Bastille Days This Is It!

July 9 – 12 (Thu – Sun) Optimist Theatre Shakespeare in the Park "A Midsummer Night's Dream" Kadish Park 909 East North Avenue

Monday, July 13 – Thursday, July 16 "Shout – A Tribute to the Music of The Blues Brothers movie The Northern Lights Theater Potawatomi Hotel & Casino 1721 West Canal Street

Wed., July 15 – Sun., July 26 "The Traveling Beer Garden" Greenfield Park 2028 S 124 St., Picnic Area 3 A Mitchell Park Domes 524 South Layton Boulevard

July 16 – 19 (Thu – Sun) Optimist Theatre Shakespeare in the Park "A Midsummer Night's Dream" Kadish Park 909 East North Avenue

Fri., July 17 – Sun., July 19 "Fiesta Italiana" The Lakefront

Sunday, July 19 "Boz Skaggs" The Northern Lights Theater Potawatomi Hotel & Casino 1721 West Canal Street

Sun., July 19 – Sun., Aug. 9 "The Traveling Beer Garden" Holler Park5151 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street Brown Deer Park 7625 North Range Line Road

Tuesday/Wednesday, July 21 & 22 "Don Rickles" The Northern Lights Potawatomi Hotel & Casino 1721 West Canal Street

Thursday, July 23 – Sunday, August 2 (varied) "Spring Awakening" Off The Wall Theatre 127 East Wells Street

Fri., July 24 – Sun., July 26 "The Harbor Room's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" 117 East National Avenue

Fri., July 24 – Sun., July 26 "Germanfest" The Lakefront

Saturday, July 25 "Brady Street Day"

Saturday, July 25 "Mr. Harbor Room Contest" The Harbor Room 117 East National Avenue

Sunday, July 26 – Saturday, August 22 (varied) "The Navy Band Great Lakes" Live at Peck Pavilion 929 North Water Street

Tue., July 28 "Tuesday Evening Dance Concerts Danceworks" Live at Peck Pavilion 929 N Water

Tuesday, July 28 "My Best Friend is Straight" The Cream City Foundation (CCF)

#### Summer Soiree 929 North Water Street

Friday, July 31 "Friday Lunch Concerts at Noon Broadway Lunch with Niffer Clarke & Paul Helm Live at Peck Pavilion 929 North Water Street

Friday, July 31 "Peck Flicks: The Family-Friendly Movie Series The Mighty Ducks" Live at Peck Pavilion 929 North Water Street

#### Friday, July 31 "Jerry Grillo 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration" The Jazz Estate 2423 North Murray Street

Ani DiFranco headline on our Miller stage and so looking forward to PrideFest 2016!

Todd Mrozinski – the Artist-in-Residence at The Pfister and my favorite designer "Project Runway" Alum Timothy Westbrook – a former Artist-in-Residence himself -combined their considerable talents with art in: paintings and garments, held at The Pfister Pop-Up Gallery. "A biography of a Stitch" –including Timothy actually using an antique loom and weaving discarded plastic bags into a work of art.

In the mix: Sarah Jonas and business partner Cammie Roberts – of Café LuLu and Juniper 61 fame - if you're looking for a tasty treat or need of a sip these two options are always tops on my list, another former Artist-in-Residence – actually the first, and one very near and dear to me – Shelby Keefe and many others. Not only to enjoy the visual, but the music of Violent Femmes Drummer Victor DeLorenzo. I had a grand time of it with Tracey Carson & Bill Zaferos, Deborah Unger, Michael Jonas, Kelley McIntosh, Mary Ellen Hermann, and Mary H. Nelson at The Renaissance Theaterworks – Summer Soiree at The Wisconsin Club. "A Roman Holiday" was the theme. I was beyond thrilled to be presented to the star of the evening Kenosha's very own Concetta Tomei. You all remember her from "China Beach" and "Providence"; she did two chilling, yet riveting readings – that left the room absolutely silent. No one dare use their silverware, when this modern day Bernhardt was emoting. Keep an eye out for the riveting season Renaissance is preparing.

Looking for a little fun on a Friday night? Come to the Cabaret - - otherwise known as Angelo's on Van Buren. The party starts by about 10 pm, Craig "The Swtich-Master" bartends and array of pianists take to the tiny stage to make beautiful music into Saturday. My current favorite is Ginni Smith who travels down from Fond du Lac the mid-weekend of each month. You may remember her from her Sunday nights at The M&M Club. Angelo's has been around for over 30 years and really is a taste of the old Rat Pack. Jerry Grillo, Bob Baker, Marge the Bartender, Maggie from Marie's Crisis – NYC, Jimmy, The Irish Lad - - all raise their voices in song and you just don't know who will be the next "Voice". No cover and lots of interesting, local color.

Two sad farewells – of the relocation variety must be included in this edition. Ever popular bartender at Kruz, Ryan, has put his education in motion and starting off his career in law enforcement. I know happy for him but his services at the bar, especially Saturday ,will cause for a sadder day. I know he will be quite arresting in his uniform and protecting us and the community he will serve.

The other departure - - "Hairdresser to the Stars" and a man that looks like a Hollywood star, Joe Kender. He's going off into the sunset of the Pacific Northwest. A dear friend, a great man - - such creativity - - Karen Valentine, I'm afraid will not shine as brightly....

Food Time - - its summertime and you really don't want to spend your time cooking and baking away in the kitchen do you? I just discovered a new spot, actually it's about a year old - - so all the newness is still appreciated, but they know what they are doing – LOL. Hom – wood fired grill at Bayshore.

Greg Nocun, General Manager runs this SURG restaurant as tight as a ship – offering up traditional American fare, with a special tweak, surprise. Produce for the delicious feast we grazed on was all local, from farms nearby. Megan our server was very fun, casual and informative. They also offer Sunday brunch! It's a huge restaurant, with seating outside – which is so appreciated this time of the year!

You'll be at Hom – with Greg, Megan and the fine, friendly staff at  $\mbox{Hom}$  – wood fired grill

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And it's a wrap, before the fireworks start going off; I want to take a moment to thank you for sharing your summer with me! And please remember, it's the glamor, not the grammar as I remain still cordially yours.

SUNDAY JULY 12, 2015 CASTAWAYS BEER BUST (3 - 7 PM) NORTHWOODS HORROR STORY: BOOTS AND BOXERS!

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What the what?! Summer is half over? Damn you Mother Nature! What do you have against us Cheese Heads? Well, screw you, sister! We're here, we're Queer, and we know how to party.

Personally, I plan to squeeze as much fun out of July as possible, so we're taking The Bitchin' Kitchen on the road! That's right, folks. On July 19, my gal-pal Cynthia and I are hosting Ruthie's Ultimate Backyard BBQ at The Backyard bar (2155 S. Kinnickinnic Ave). Don't miss the fun because a \$20 door charge gets you a barbecue pork meal, drink ticket, a chance to win the Ultimate Backyard BBQ Door Prize, access to the day's yard games, prizes and more. Did I mention the men's wet T-shirt contest and prize for best barbecue outfit? The fun runs noon to 5 pm on July 19. Join me!

If you can't make the barbecue, come party with me July 16 at Hamburger Mary's for HamBingo! We'll be tossing back shots, chowing down grilled burgers and playing 10 wacky games of bingo with the hosting charity—Ruthie's Kennel Club. If you'd like learn more about this animal-related group, www.RuthiesKennelClub.org.

We can also toss back a few brews during my July shows. I'm hosting two "Dining with the Divas" shows on July 25, and I'm donning my Joan Rivers drag for two editions of "Ruthie's Starry Night Review" on July 31. Enjoy both productions at Hamburger Mary's. Come for the 8:00 show, the 9:30 show or stay for both! Just be sure to call for reservations (414-988-9324).

The LGBTQ scene is bursting with excitement this month. Hit the awesome block party by D.I.X., Walker's Pint and La Cage on July 18 (3 pm to 1 am) or swing by Fluid and enjoy their incredible patio. (If you haven't seen it yet, you don't know what you're missing!) Speaking of great patios, the newly expanded beer garden at Kruz is always a hot spot. And did you know that Hybrid Lounge has shows now? Don't miss Nova D'Vine's "Bubbles and Beauties" on July 19.

It just goes to prove that no matter what season and now matter what Mother Nature cooks up, our LGBTQ community manages to put up rainbow and celebrate. So let's all take a bite outta summer. And while we're talking about cooking things and biting other things, it's time to step into the Bitchin' Kitchen!

This month, I've got a great Southwestern casserole ideal for busy weeknights as well as cozy dinners on the weekend. We're also baking up two-ingredient Nutella cookies that can't be beat. So what are you waiting for? Let's eat good and shut up!

#### **BITCHIN' DORITO CASSEROLE**

Who says you can't have Doritos for dinner?! This meal-in-one dish is sure to become a new favorite in your house. See the culinary clues that follow to pare it down for smaller households, and feel free to use ground turkey or lowfat ingredients if you want to trim it down a bit.

#### 1 lb lean ground beef

- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 (1 ounce) envelop taco seasoning
- 1 (10.75 oz) can Creamy Poblano & Queso soup or Cream of Chicken soup 1 (8 ounce) tub sour cream
- 2 cups shredded Mexican cheese blend or cheddar cheese
- 1 (10.25 ounce) bag Nacho Cheese Dorito chips
- 1 (16 ounce) can refried beans
- 1 cup salsa

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large, deep skillet, brown ground beef with the onion. Add taco seasoning, and prepare according to directions on seasoning envelope. Stir soup, sour cream and 1 cup of che ese into prepared taco meat. Remove from heat and set aside.

Spritz a 9x13-inch baking dish with nonstick cooking spray. Sprinkle bottom

of dish with 1.5 cups crushed Dorito chips. Dollop half of the taco meat mixture over chips. (Don't worry about spaces between the dollops.) Dollop half of the refried beans over chips. (Set beans between the taco meat if possible.) Repeat layers. Pour salsa over top.

Top salsa with additional 1.5 cups of crushed Dorito chips and remaining cup of cheese. Cover with foil and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Uncover and bake an additional 20 minutes. Let sit 5 minutes before serving.

#### **Ruthie's Culinary Clues**

Don't need such a big casserole? Simply line up two 8x8-inch pans side by side and assemble the casserole as directed, dividing the ingredients between the pans. Bake as directed. Enjoy one casserole, and cover and freeze the other. To bake the frozen casserole, simply thaw it in the refrigerator overnight, then bake as directed.

Don't like beans? Leave 'em out! If you want to jazz up this savory dish, top individual servings with shredded lettuce and chopped tomatoes. **Quick Quip:** Ruthie tested this recipe with Campbell's Creamy Poblano &

Quick Quip: Ruthle tested this recipe with Campbell's Creamy Poblano & Queso soup and Sargento 4 Cheese Mexican shredded cheese.

#### **MOUSTACHE BITES**

You only need two ingredients for these impressive chocolate cookies that look like little moustaches. How cool is that? The delicate bites couldn't be easier, tastier or any more adorable. The French call these palmiers, but I call them yummy...and nobody really likes the French anyway.

## 1 sheet Puff Pastry from a 17.3-ounce box, thawed 1/2 cup Nutella

Unfold Puff Pastry on a sheet of parchment paper. Use the back of a spoon to carefully spread Nutella over pastry.

Roll one long side of pastry to the center of the pastry sheet. Roll the opposite side of pastry toward center so the two rolls meet in the middle. Wrap roll up in the parchment paper and freeze for 30 minutes.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees, and line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Remove pastry roll from freezer and unwrap. Slice pastry roll into 1/4-inch slices. Set slices on baking sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes or until edges are golden. Let cookies cool on baking sheets before carefully removing.

#### **Ruthie's Culinary Clues:**

You get two sheets of Puff Pastry in a box, so you can easily double this recipe if you'd like. Flavor the Nutella with a drop or two of vanilla extract if you'd like. Add a bit of texture to the Moustache Bites by sprinkling the cookies with a few tablespoons of shredded coconut halfway through the baking time.

#### Have a recipe for Ruthie? Share it with her at

<u>DearMsRuthie@yahoo.com</u>. If she publishes your dish, you'll get a free Bitchin' Kitchen T-shirt!



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## new od release? \$10 Jeff Jennings





#### All profits benefit AIDS Resource Center of Wise!

I am grateful for this opportunity to share my ninth music collection. SEASONS, with you. As the title suggests, I invite you along on a journey through the virtual seasons that influence and inspire our hearts and minds. Thank you for supporting my efforts. But more importantly, thank you for supporting our friends who are living with HIV. ~ Jeff Changing the face of the earth, one needle at a time Please check out our website at www.avant-garde-piercing.com WE ARE GURRENTLY HIRING! Looking for full time piercers as well Body Piercing your Play on the Game? Then you need a team that has as big a drive as you do!

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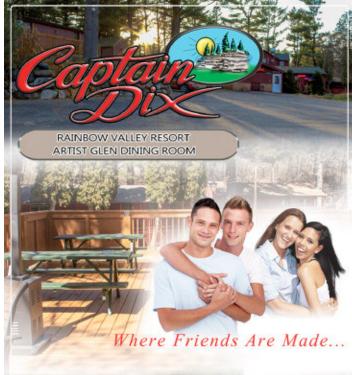
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Well here we are again, in the wonderful month of July. And yes, for those of you who remember this is my birthday month. And no, I won't tell when it is or how old I am, you are going to have to get me pretty drunk to tell you any of it! Well having said that I just want to say that I hope you all had a great time at Pridefest and at the Pride parade last month. Please also keep in mind all the hard work that went in to making those two events such a success. So if you get a chance let the Pride Parade and Pridefest know how much you care by telling them through their websites, <u>www.pridepardemke.com</u> and <u>www.pridefest.com</u> respectively and on their facebook pages @Milwaukee Pride Parade and @PrideFest Milwaukee. Now that we have all of that out of the way let's get on with the purpose of this column.

I figured this month I should talk about some of the extremes of piercing, especially since now we are starting to get into the extreme temperatures of summer. So without any further babble from me let's get on with it.



The most common extreme piercing you will see is the surface to surface piercing. These are the piercings you see on the back of people's necks and on their arms, and pretty much any where else you can think of. These piercing are fairly new to the piercing industry and because of this everyone has their own ideas about the way they should be done. I could get into the reasons for why you should get this and why you shouldn't get that, but that would make for a pretty piss poor and boring column. So I am going to tell you this, check your shop out and be very comfortable with them before you think about getting this type of piercing. Also remember that just because you know the piercer and they are cool this does not make them a great piercer and hell they may have never have done a surface piercing in their life. So ask and be thorough, and also remember that there is no reason not to shop around.

Surface piercing take quite a while to heal, they can take as long as 6 to 9 months before they are healed enough to even change the jewelry. They are irritated very easily, so make sure that you take good care of your piercing and don't monkey with it or play with it! Always remember to keep your piercing clean and don't let it get sunburned!

One of the other more extreme piercings that are beginning to be seen are implants. That's right I said implants, and I don't mean boob jobs or dick jobs! Implants go under the skin and create a design that looks three dimensional once they are healed. As with surface piercings these are not to be taken lightly as major problem can arise if the procedure is not done correctly.

That is about all I really have to babble about this month, so having said that lets get on with some reader mail.

#### Dear Brent,

I have been reading your column for a long time and there is one thing I have to ask. How do you come up with the ideas for your column and why do you have such an attitude about it? — John

Well thanks for writing in John. As far as how I come up wit the idea's that is easy. I just sit down and think of something good to write about. As far as my attitude, I really don't think I have an attitude. I like to think of it as my writing style, and it's not my fault that I do it in my own little crass way. I also have the attitude I do because this is something very important to me, and I will never step down to anyone when it comes to things that are important to me.

Well it seems I have run out of room again, I want to thank you all for reading and don't forget if you have any questions that you want answer email me at <u>avantgarde@voyager.net</u>. Until next month, have a great time in July and enjoy the fireworks! (Whether they are in your pants or in the air!)

#### WISCONSIN LGBT BAR GUIDE LACROSSE/MADISON (608)

Impulse 132 W. Grand Ave Beloit, (608)361-0000 My Place 3201 South Ave LaCrosse (608)788-9073 Players 300 4th St, La Crosse (608)784-4200 Chances R 417 Jay St, La Crosse (608)782-5105 Club 5 Bar/Restaurant 5 Applegate Ct Madison, (608)277-9700 Plan B 924 Williamson Street, Madison Shamrock 117 W Main Madison (608)255-5029 SOTTO 303 N Henry St Madison WOOF'S 114 King Street, Madison (608)204-6222 www.madwoofs.com Captain Dix (*Rainbow Valley Resort*) 4124 River Road WI Dells (866)553-1818

#### **NORTHEASTERN WI (920)**

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#### **NORTHERN WISCONSIN (715)**

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# **15th Anniversary** July 24, 25 & 26

Sign Up NOW for our 15th Annual MR HARBOR ROOM CONTEST. Applications now available at bar.

Friday July 24 - 8 pm to 12 pm Meet N Greet Judges & Contestants

Saturday July 25 - 11 pm MR HARBOR ROOM CONTEST Music by DJ Ty Tyronne King Emceed by Karen Valentine and Shannon Dupree

Sunday July 26 - 3 pm to 7 pm Patio Cookout & Beer Bust ROOM 117 E Greenfield Ave MILWAUKEE

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