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LGBT HISTORY - TEACHING KIDS ABOUT OUR PAST

A review by Paul Masterson

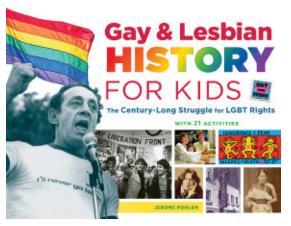
LGBT History Month was established over two decades ago. The idea was to keep the LGBT community educated and aware of its struggle, heroes, heroines, and accomplishments throughout the centuries. Enshrining our historical past has taken the form of institutions like our UWM Library LGBT Archive, documentaries, books or other resources. The Milwaukee History Project maintains a website and erects an annual display at PrideFest.

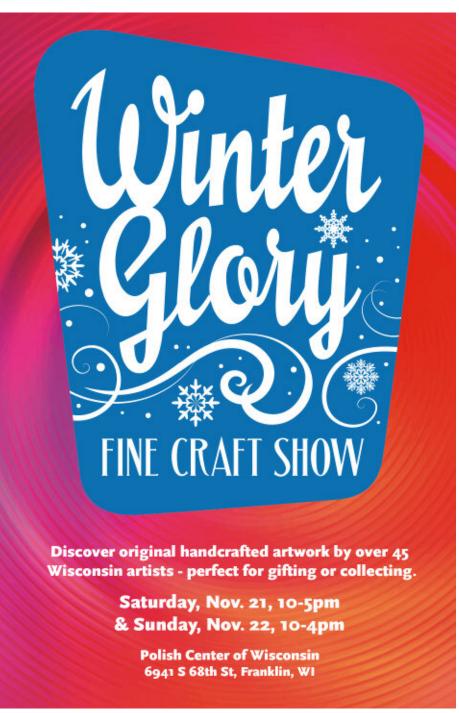
But, with marriage equality and the ever growing number of LGBT families, there's even more reason to create not only relevant history books, but ones that are specifically geared to younger readers. Now author Jerome Pohlen offers a new book, *Gay and Lesbian History for Kids – The Century Long Struggle for LGBT Rights*, to fill a much needed gap.

Geared for teenagers, the 160+ page work uses biographic studies to propel the young reader through the course of gay human events. The volume is richly illustrated with both portraits of the various personalities as well as photo documentation of more recent events. For lack of a true historical record, Pohlen speculates on the sexual orientation of many of the earliest historical figures considered to be LGBT. These include artists like Michelangelo, military figures like Baron von Steuben of Revolutionary War fame, and literary greats like William Shakespeare. Pohlen clearly states his rationale for their inclusion. Based on evidence and modern interpretation, we can establish an LGBT behavioral pattern for many, if not most of them. Their stories set the stage for more contemporary and better documented LGBT historical figures of the 19th and 20th centuries and into the present.

Other topics include the origins of the Rainbow Flag, of the word gay itself, as well as positive cultural considerations like the Native American Two-Spirit people and the negative ones like homophobia and persecution. Various salient political and social movements are presented, often in the context of the personalities that lead them. Whether Doctor Magnus Hirshfeld's sex studies of the early 20th Century, the founding of the Metropolitan Community Church, or the Stonewall riots and the struggle for marriage equality, each receives its due coverage. In addition, there are suggested activities that go beyond the actual subject matter of LGBT history and connect these lessons with related disciplines like science. This allows the student to understand the integration of LGBT personalities into the greater human family. It also allows the reader to appreciate the accomplishments and contributions made by gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender politicians, scientists, artists and other leaders to the broader historical narrative.

In all, this work succeeds in presenting a concise yet comprehensive primer on LGBT history. It may be written for younger readers but it certainly would be useful as a basic learning tool for older readers as well.





30th Annual Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival oct. 15-25, 2015 By Glenn Bishop

Thursday, October 15, Opening Night Oriental Theater

(7:30pm) From This Day Forward (Sharon Shattuck, US, 79min., 2015) Filmmaker Sharon Shattuck & her father Trisha to be in attendance.



When Sharon was 13 years old her dad told her that whenever she would get married, "I hope that you'll let me wear a dress when I walk you down the aisle.' Sharon, at the time, "remembers feeling this sinking feeling in the pit of my stomach because I didn't ever want that day to come."

With her nuptials fast approaching, Sharon Shattuck decided that it was time to go home, "When I was younger, I pretty much rejected my dad. For me, a lot of the past is unresolved. As hard as it might be for my family, I want to ask questions I couldn't ask back then."

While Sharon remains determined to have questions answered, as a filmmaker she is savvy enough to weave the story of Trisha's personal journey along with that of her own journey, her mom's as well as her sister, Laura's.

Some of the documentary's most candid moments come when Sharon interviews her sister. Even younger than Sharon, she admits to being mortified as her dad became Trisha and as the stay-at-home dad, had often volunteered to act in the role of parent/chaperone at every school activity. What an extraordinary challenge for two little girls, who would watch **Full House** or **Family Matters** and wish for the sort of normal families television sitcoms had long promised.

Sharon's mother Marcia is candid if rather more reticent. Growing up in the 1950s did little to prepare Marcia for a transgender boyfriend, later husband. She and Trisha spoke to Sharon and her sister about having a divorce but ultimately decided to stay together despite the challenges that would lie ahead. She and Trisha clearly share great affection, despite the years and the many changes. Only when the subject of reconstructive surgery comes up does Marcia balk.

In the end, Trisha takes center stage, an ingratiating individual, exceedingly frank in charting her struggles in transitioning, the toll this had on the other family members and particularly how often she finds herself blurring the line between feminine and masculine.

All in all an excellent documentary exploring the challenges (and rewards) for non-traditional families (Highly Recommended)

Friday, October 16 - Union Cinema (7:00pm) Liz in September (Fina Torres, Venezuela, in Spanish with English subtitles, 92 min., 2014)



Based upon Jane Chambers' award-winning play, Last Summer at Bluefish Cove, Fina Torres's fine romantic drama, Liz in September is the strongest of several fine Lesbian feature films at the 30th Annual Milwaukee LGBT Film Festival.

Eva (Eloisa Maturen) and her husband are meant to set off on a holiday. Called into work at the last minute, he tells her to go on ahead, that he's not sure when but will catch her up. Eva doesn't appear to be all that bothered, in fact actually seemed quite relieved, thought Glenn. Then an errant pot-hole brings her auto to a shuttering stop. The village mechanic seems clueless, insisting the engine is "blown" and sends Eva to stay with Margot (Elba Escobar), who runs a seaside resort of sorts, one which just happens to be hosting a party of women, lesbians from first to last.

Initially Margot is reluctant to accommodate the stranger but eventually relents, allowing Eva to stay just for the one night. Once in her guest room, Eva brings out a small framed photo of a little boy; the same picture that graced Eva's nightstand at home. Then, from her window, Eva takes in the view and spies two women running a foot race along the beach. Liz (Patricia Velasquez) proves to be the winner, running with a determination far outstripping the simple desire for bragging rights. "You beat me but you're dead," Any (Arlette Torres) observes. The medicine chest chock full of prescriptions suggests all not be well with Liz.

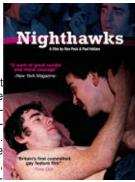
Eva soon catches up with Liz, dares even to throw back to the sea a freshly caught fish. Liz's anger flares but soon she is inviting the newcomer to dinner. Eva is quickly made to feel welcome within the group; Liz invites Eva on an outing on her boat next morning. The enemies-turned-friends-turned-"lovers" being a familiar and popular trope in lesbian romance.

And a romance is sure to blossom. Well, of course it will. Yet Torres in her thoughtful screenplay and Chambers in the original play have more than simply romance on their minds, crafting a lovely, thoughtful drama about friendship and the sense of community, of healing and closure and about what and who we leave behind.

Celiana Cardenas' shimmering cinematography effectively crafts the seaside idyll these women have come back to year after year and excellent performances abound, with Patricia Velasquez mesmerizing as Liz and Elba Escobar's Margot standing out from the delightful supporting cast. (Highly Recommended)

(9:00pm) Nighthawks

(Rod Peck & Paul Hallam, UK 35mm, 113min., 1978) The first significant out film in the UK, the 1978 Nighthawks remains a singular depiction of gay life. Jim teaches grade school children, hangs with his col-



leagues, from whom he makes no efforts to hide his sexuality. At night, he cruises the gay pubs, sometime connecting with another man, sometimes not. There is more conversation shared than sex. Often likened to a documentary, Peck and Hallam's film is compelling in its very ordinariness, the film's politics residing in its details of daily routine. That is until the astounding penultimate scene when a student confronts Jim about his sexuality, and Jim, in a gesture of what has to be understood as radical politics — or maybe just good teaching — works to answer all the questions (rude and innocent) that the schoolchildren have for him about what it means to be a gay man. (Not available for screening)

Saturday, October 17 Union Cinema (1:00pm) Add the Words

(Cammie Pavesic and Michael D. Gough's 79min., 2014)



It is still lawful in 18 states to fire someone or refuse services or housing because of how they identify. A powerful documentary about the unfinished battle for LGBT+ rights in one such state **Add the Words** chronicles the necessarily ongoing efforts to get lawmakers to add the words "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" to the Idaho Human Rights Act. The genuinely stirring film documents the valiant, persistent and emotionally powerful acts of civil disobedience a coalition of Idahoans have now unleashed – and their frontlines actions are among the powerful images of the Festival.

(Not available for screening)

(3:00pm) Game Face (Michiel Thomas, 95min, 2015)

Routinely cast out to the barren playground wasteland that is right field, Glenn nevertheless long dreamt of playing in the big leagues. Back in the day Glenn fancied himself as possessing a wicked curve ball, something not readily apparent whilst playing in the outfield. Sadly there were few gay sports role models back then until 1975 when onetime NFL running back Dave Kopay, briefly a Green Bay Packer, came out.

Now more and more courageous athletes are taking the plunge, not always waiting until their ca-

reers are over to do so. NBA journeyman Jason Collins came out while he languished as a free agent following the 2012-13 season, playing briefly again in 2014. Surely loyal Quest readers will be familiar with Michael Sam's name, coming out as he did just prior to the 2014 NFL draft. LGBT Brewer fans might even recognize the name of Milwaukee Brewer minor-leaguer, 1st baseman David Denson who recently announced that he's announced he's gay — the first Major League Baseball affiliated player to do so.

In his timely documentary Game Face, director Michiel Thomas puts the spotlight on two athletes: Fallon Fox, MMA's first transgender pro fighter, and Terrence Clemens, a college basketball player negotiating a way out of the closet. Their stories told in alternating segments.

Early in the documentary we learn that Fallon Fox is a transwoman attempting to breaking into the world of professional Mixed Martial Arts. In the process, Fallon must fact prejudice at every step of the way: from finding an accepting trainer and gym to accu-



fectively Michiel Thomas' camera goes behind the headlines in bringing to life the compelling stories of both Terrance Clemens and Fallon Fox, both on and off their respective field of play. (Recommended)

(5:00pm) Naz & Maalik (Jav Dockendorf, 85min., 2014)



Glenn often dreads reading the latest headlines, particularly with the battle for President continuing to begin earlier and earlier. Still, today one headline managed to make Glenn smile: that of a precocious 12-year-old Yusuf Dayur from Eden Prairie, Minnesota who sent a Facebook message to Presidential hopeful Ben Carson, "I will become the first Muslim president! And you will see that when I become president, I will respect people of all faiths, all colors and all religions."

Now, looking at the situation realistically, Mr. Carson would at best be in his dotage, if even still alive by the time young Yusuf would be old enough to run for President.

Meanwhile, let's head out to the streets of post-9/11 Brooklyn where writer/director Jay Dockendorf introduces his two engaging, youthful protagonists: quiet, thoughtful Naz (Kerwin Johnson J r.) and his more outgoing friend Maalik (Curtiss Cook Jr.). They are on their way to school yet their day feels like a something of a lark, bringing to mind the spirit if not actually the narrative of Matthew Broderick's iconic Ferris Bueller's Day Off.

As they wander the streets Brooklyn, the depth of their relationship is revealed, the opening scene where Naz's younger (not to mention more devout) sister confronts her older brother with the used condom she's discovered in the bathroom bin proving superfluous.

As they goof along, they stop at a small shop where they buy lottery tickets, fragrant oils and even a deck of Saint Cards which they mean to sell out on the street. Indeed, they prove to be far more successful in selling these trinkets than Glenn would have expected. Saint Cards, indeed!

Then an exceedingly disreputable individual stops Naz and Maalik, offering to sell them a small handgun. It is difficult for Glenn to imagine any two less likely youths wishing to buy a gun, on their way to school, in broad daylight and given their decidedly preppy look, dressed as they are in colorful button-down shirts and khakis. Naz flat out says no but ever the jokester, Maalik plays along. Big mistake! Clearly targeted because of the taqiyah Naz is wear-

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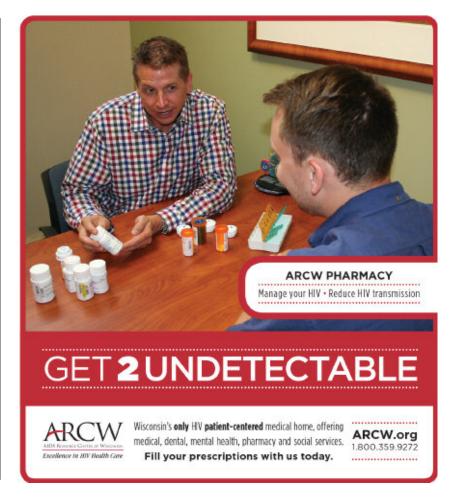
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ing, the two become hounded by a women FBI agent.

Here Jay Dockendorf's screenplay takes a decided turn as the two lads, becoming increasingly paranoid due to FBI harassment, begin to face doubts about their relationship, question about being gay and Muslim and finally, the unhappy consequences to be faced when you bring home a live chicken.

(Recommended)

(7:00pm) Tab Hunter Confidential (Jeffrey Schwarz, 90min., 2015)



Although Glenn is far too young to remember Hollywood heartthrob Tab Hunter's 1950s heyday, that is not a claim that all of the gentlemen of a certain age which form Glenn's usual monthly cinema circle can make. Indeed, when Glenn announced to the group that the always fabulous Milwaukee LGBT Film Festival had scheduled a screening of Tab Hunter Confidential, plans for an outing found unanimous consent. So excited was the group, a special Tab Hunter cinema night was hastily planned, boasting a triple feature beginning with Damn Yankees (a musical), Ride the Wild Surf (surely no explanation needed) and finally, last perhaps but definitely not least: Polyester which costars Divine and which will also receive a screening at this year's Film Festival.

One lovely gentleman even brought out some Tab Hunter 45s. Every gathering needs a few musical interludes, right? Well, thank heavens that Glenn had at the ready his trusty Close 'n Play.

Gay celebrity documentaries have surely become old hat for Jeffrey Schwarz who has already under his belt documentaries on film writer and Aids activist Vito Russo, 1970s porn star Jack Wrangler as well as the fabulous I Am Divine, the Festival's opening night a few years back.

With Tab Hunter, Schwarz's has really hit the jackpot as his subject a true Hollywood superstar.

Glenn would warn potential moviegoers to take the film's title with a grain of salt. The documentary is nominally based on **Tab Hunter Confidential**, the bestselling 2005 memoir that Hunter penned with film historian Eddie Muller and is clearly accomplished with Hunter's full cooperation. Despite the opening sequence during which Hunter recalls the gay party he attended in 1950, with near disastrous consequences, there is precious little scandal otherwise to be found.

Instead, audiences are going to find a surprisingly fit and ruggedly handsome octogenarian reflecting on his youth, especially his abusive father. Later Hunter chronicles his first forays into acting, with a wonderful quality of self-depreciation. Indeed, this stunningly handsome, clean cut, All-American boy soon found himself playing love scenes with the likes

of Sophia Loren and Dorothy Malone on his way to becoming #1 at the box office.

Director Jeffrey Schwarz is equally effective in chronicling Hunter's fall from grace, not due to any gay sex scandal but from the wish to buy his contract from movie mogul Jack Warner, accomplished only by paying Warner a King's ransom. Once away from Warner's protection, Hunter became easy prey for publications like *Confidential*.

The descent from box office hunk to the infamy of Dinner Theatre was cruelly swift. Ever resilient, Hunter would make a comeback thanks to John Waters and Divine.

The treasure trove of film & television clips, hundreds of impossibly beautiful photographs and a soundtrack including many of many of Hunter's pophits make **Tab Hunter Confidential** absolutely unmissible. (Highly Recommended)

(9:00pm) WHATEVER WE WANT TO BE: An Evening of Women's Shorts

From the free-spirited adventures of a twenty-something to the wisdom of an "awesome old dyke", you won't want to miss the hijinks in store! Bring a date (or find a date!) at this sugary collection of women's shorts. To screen: Female Masculinity Appreciation Society (Jackie Nunns & Angie West, UK, 12 min., 2014); The First Session (Ryan Logan, 6 min., 2015); 11 Life Lessons From an Awesome Old Dyke (Allison Khoury, 9 min., 2015); Whatever We Want To Be (Stephanie Williams, 14min., 2014); Vagina is the Warmest Color (Anna Margarita Abelo, 12min., 2015); & Click (Chris Chew, Canada, 18min., 2013)

Sunday, October 18 - Union Cinema (1 pm) Reel in the Closet – FREE! 4th Floor Conference Room, Golda Meir Library

(Stu Maddox, 82min., 2015)

A valentine to film archivists everywhere, the documentary **Reel in the Closet** unspools home movies and the rediscovered filmed records of LGBT+ lives otherwise consigned to a forgotten past. Entrancing in its imagery of an overlooked queer mundane and energizing in its sharing of records of actions, marches, and other news events, Stu Maddox's compilation recirculates a broader LGBT+ history while enacting a manifesto for paying attention to the stories of our elders and to the recordings and artifacts they left behind. (**Not avail for screening**)

(3:00pm) El Canto Del Colibri (Marco Castro–Bojorquez, US, in Spanish with English subtitles, 55min., 2015)

This lovely, heart-tugging documentary profiles a group of Latino fathers as they discuss the experience of their gay, lesbian, and trans children's coming out. Remarkably frank and tender, these men raise and explore issues around machismo, immigration, faith, and marriage equality. A necessary corrective to rote imaginings of Latino culture, the film is, per Jack Feria, enthusiastic programming intern, a "song of love and acceptance that should not be missed."

with: **MAMIS: A FAMILY PORTRAIT** (Virginia Fuentes, Cuba, in Spanish with English subtitles, 19 min., 2013)

The hardships and triumphs of four Cuban lesbians

who, without the options of adoption or IVF techniques, defiantly confront the homophobia of their native land to forge their own paths to motherhood. (Not available for screening)

(5 pm) She Must Be Seeing Things (Sheila McLaughlin, 94min., 1987 Looking back....

Celebrated as a lesbian and feminist classic in its representations of desire, **She Must Be Seeing Things** unfurls a romance in turmoil to suggest a politicized eroticism that mirrored the burgeoning butch/femme scene at its time. Sheila Dabney and Lois Weaver play lovers, Agatha, an international lawyer, and Jo, a filmmaker. While Jo is on the road showing her films, Agatha discovers Jo's diaries — and reads them, learning of relationships, previous and possibly still ongoing, some (really?) with men. Sparks of jealousy take flame and a spiraling cycle of sexual obsession ensues. (**Not available for screening**)

(7:00pm)_Those People (Joey Kuhn, 89min., 2014)

Loyal **Quest** readers will surely remember Glenn's infatuation with all things **Brideshead Revisited**, from Evelyn Waugh's essential novel to the landmark 11-hour mini-series which made household names of Jeremy Irons and the delicious Anthony Andrews as the teddy bear-toting Sebastian. Oh dear, how lovely to remember how everyone suddenly started drinking Brandy Alexanders, much to the annoyance of many of the **219** bartenders.

On Manhattan's posh Upper East Side we are immediately introduced to Sebastian (Jason Ralph) and Charlie (Jonathan Gordon). This Charlie is a sweet, naive young man, due perhaps to the fact that the coldly eccentric father, perfectly embodied in John Gielgud performance has here been replaced with a warm, carrying mother. Much like his predecessor, this Charlie is an artist, painting canvas after canvas of the object of his unrequited affection. After submitting (yet) another portrait of Sebastian, Charlie's instructor's disappointment is clear, "I thought you were going to try a self-portrait this time, Charlie."

Joey Kuhn's screenplay takes something of a departure with Sebastian, here the son of a disgraced financier. Sebastian remains the sun around whom the small, elite group of friends revolve with dogged devotion. Yet this Sebastian bears an extraordinary sense of entitlement. Increasingly badgered by paparazzi following his father arrest on fraud-related charges and with his mother out of the picture, Sebastian asks Charlie to move in. Only London (Meghann Fahy) warns Charlie off, "Don't do it, you'll only be torturing yourself. Nothing has ever happened between you two before, why would it now?"

When Charlie's birthday party heads out to a local piano bar, Charlie meets Tim (Haaz Sleiman), the pianist who commits the egregious sin of not know the little Gilbert & Sullivan ditty, 'I Am The Very Model of A Modern Major General.' Sebastian's behavior here is nothing short of appalling, although Charlie barely notices, so captivated he is by the flirtatious piano player.

Providence brings Charlie and Tim together again and the two begin a torrid affair. Yet Charlie's unrequited infatuation for Sebastian remains unresolved. When Tim begins to pressure Charlie for a commitment, particularly when he's offered a dream job with the San Francisco Symphony, poor Charlie is left in a quandary.

Tim, his first real boyfriend or Sebastian, the object of a life-long (admittedly unrequited) infatuation; who will Charlie choose?

Well, Joey Kuhn's stunning, romantic **Those People** had Glenn early on, at 'I Am The Very Model of A Modern Major General.' (Highly Recommended)

Monday, October 19 - Union Cinema (7:00pm) Feelings are Facts: The Life of Yvonne Rainer

(Jack Walsh, 86min., 2015)

This enthralling, rich-with-dance documentary about Yvonne Rainer, the great dancer, choreographer, filmmaker, and intellectual, opens with an unfurling of her game-changing dancework *Trio A* and annotates the considerable career that followed. Yes, the film does discuss Rainer's childhood among San Franciscan anarchists and her coming out as lesbian in her 50s, but mostly **Feelings Are Facts** holds close to Rainer's still evolving C.V., elaborating on her ground-breaking choreography and experimental films. Colleagues share testimony but, best of all, the film converses with Rainer herself – today an unstoppable 80 years old – about her artistry, projects past and ongoing. (Not available for Screening)

(8:30pm) Film About a Woman Who – FREE!

(Yvonne Rainer, 16mm, 105min., 1974) A landmark representation of feminist film aesthetics and an exploration after any radical possibilities available within narrative, Yvonne Rainer's second feature stages the story of a woman whose sexual dissatisfaction masks an enormous anger. (Not available for Screening)

Tuesday, October 20 - Union Cinema (7:00pm) OFF BASE: 2 queering works that depart from military protocol

Presented in collaboration with the Experimental Tuesdays at the Union Cinema series, these screenings are FREE.

(7pm) Field Visits for Chelsea Manning (Lance Wakeling, 49 min, 2014)

When the Brady Bunch went to Hawaii, it occurred to Glenn his family never set off during the hot summer holidays like so many of his friends to See America First. There was just the one jaunt, one drizzly cold long weekend to the Wisconsin Dells where young Glenn quickly learned that the water rides are not all that much fun during a torrential downpour. Still, Glenn remained envious, especially after having received for an otherwise long forgotten birthday the delightful book, Roadside America. After all, who wouldn't want to see The World's Biggest Tire located in Allen Park, Michigan? With motorcycle and sidecar at the ready, Glenn was set to explore the quirky bits of the panoramic American landscape.

Filmmaker Lance Wakeling has evidently taken a page out of the same book although for a decidedly different purpose in **Field Visits for Chelsea Manning.** With the loftier aspirations of the modern day pilgrim, Wakeling decided to follow the journey taken by former Army intelligence analyst Chelsea Manning whilst imprisoned awaiting her trial for releasing classified documents to Wikileaks.

Manning's first stop was Kuwait, enabling Wakeling a moment to reflect upon this small country, particularly when in 1991 Iraqi troops torched Kuwait's oil fields and

ashen petroleum rained down, forever scarring the desert landscape. Next up for Manning was Quantico, Virginia where Wakeling mashes up Martin Luther King's I Have a Dreams speech with the barren landscape of the largest Marine base and a handy Confederate reenactment weekend. And so the journey continued, on to Leavenworth and an Independence Day celebration, then on to Fort Meade, Maryland. Chelsea Manning's voice is evoked from trial transcripts and the text of an evocative letter Manning sent to President Obama, eventually bringing Wakeling as well as we moviegoers to the precipice of the battle between The Cold War and The Cloud War.

(8:00pm) Fort Buchanan

(Benjamin Crotty, France/Tunisia, In French w/ English subtitles, 16mm on HD, 65min., 2014) A military tragicomedy. Or maybe a queer soap opera. From the woods of Eastern France to the Djiboutian desert, Fort Buchanan follows a group of army husbands and wives over one year. With dialogue inspired from American TV, protagonists change with the seasons as the group evolves romantically, sexually, and (a little bit) intellectually. (Not available for Screening)

Wednesday, October 21 - Oriental Theater (7:30pm) The Summer of Sangailé (Alanté Kavaïté. Lithuania, in Lithuanian with English subtitles, 88min., 2015)

A movie that literally soars, **The Summer of Sangailé** shares a wondrous tale of a 17 year-old girl's overcoming her crippling doubts to realize her dreams of being a pilot, and the relationship with a more instinctively daring girlfriend that gives her the necessary wings.

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Sangailé is fascinated by stunt planes. Afraid of heights, she has never dared to even enter a grounded plane's cockpit. Luckily, one crucial summer, she meets Auste, a girl her own age but upfront, sly, openly curious. If Sangailé only sees impossibilities and dead ends, Auste only sees opportunity. She designs her own clothes, for example, and, like her feathery creations, she is buoyant with possibility. The relationship of Sangailé and Auste is a delight to encounter, and film, graced with whimsy, visual rhapsodies, and the pleasures of summertime light and fantasy, is a lustrous experience. A resplendent tale of transformative love, and, as winningly, a portrait of dreams risked and realized. (Not available for Screening)

Thursday, October 22 - Union Cinema (5:00pm) Tongues Untied - FREE! (Marlon Riggs, 16mm, 55min., 1989)

Marlon Riggs' still powerful and moving, artful and personal collection of voices and performance around what it means to be African American and gay remains the model of a poetic manifesto. A chorus of poetry, recollection, and song testify to the experiences of marginalization enforced on African American gay men. But, in this collective celebration, the film finds activist resistance, defiance, and joy. "Black men loving black men is THE revolutionary act." (Not available for Screening)

(7:00pm) Stories of Our Lives (Jim Chuchu and The NEST Collective, Kenya, in Swahili with English subtitles, 61min., 2014) International Spotlight!

Director Jim Chuchu and members of the NEST Collective went to Kenya, a nation where homosexuality remains criminalized, to talk to LGBT individuals about their lives, to tell their stories. The five segments that comprise **Stories of Our Lives**, Ask Me Nicely, Run, Athman, Duet and Each Night I Dream, are each based on these interviews.

The first segment, two lesbian students have been caught being at best, indiscreet and are brought up before a school administrator for disciplinary action. It is startling to hear, during the meeting, the school administrator asking these two young women, "Who's the man?"

In Run, Pato experiences the most fleeting moments of joy on his first visit to a gay club only to have that joy replaced by fear when he's spotted by his homophobic and extremely violent friend Kama. In the third and the most poignant, Athman, Raymond has reached a crossroads. He has long, unrequitedly loved his best friend Athman who has been really quite indulgent, at least until Raymond, in a moment of abandon, asks his friend for a kiss.

All five segments of comprise **Stories of Our Lives** are evocative, well crafted, beautifully played and filmed in luminous black & white.

(Recommended)

(9:00pm) Will You Dance with Me? (Derek Jarman, 78 min., 198)

In 1984, queer filmmaking pioneering Derek Jarman went to Benjy's, an East London gay disco, to shoot some video, testing locations for a new feature from his friend Ron Peck, the co-director of *Nighthawks*. This unedited compilation, the eventually entitled *Will You*

Dance With Me? had its first public screening just last year, is a document of Jarman's exploration of the medium and also a mesmerizing artifact from more explicitly oppressive times. With AIDS already casting a lethal shadow and Thatcher's regime growing more homophobic, a gay bar was a hiding place and a necessary outlet. With Jarman's camera at play and dancers, garlanded with vapour trails, floating in and out of shadows, this mood piece wields a transfixing, lovely, and haunting choreography, identities asserted and defiance dared against the times. (Not available for Screening)

Friday, October 23 - Union Cinema (7:00pm) S&M Sally

(Michelle Ehlen, 80min., 2015)

Michaelle Ehlen's **Butch Jamie** debut, a madcap lesbian take on the classic gender-bending **Tootsie**, had no bigger supporter than Glenn. Wearing its heart on its thrift-store sleeve, **Butch Jamie** followed would-be actress Jamie from one unsuccessful audition after another until her BFF David finally advised Jamie to ditch the femme drag and be herself. Success! Not only did Jamie get the job but rode off into the setting sun (metaphorically speaking) with the gal, gorgeous Jill (Tiffany Anne Carrin).

In 2013's **Heterosexual Jill**, Jill (now played by Jen McPherson) is still struggling with her ex-lesbian conversion path. To prove, once and for all, that she is no longer attracted to her loveable ex, she decides to seek out Jamie. Such folly!

Now in its third installment, Jamie and Jill find their relationship at cross purposes. Jill suggests an evening of cuddling on the sofa watching "The Real Lesbians of Northampton." Jamie decides that the best way to put some spice into their relationship would be for Jill to take Jamie to a BDSM Club, once Jill's told her what the acronym BDSM stands for, of course.

Off they go to their local BDSM Club, Jamie now going by the decidedly curiously ill-chosen moniker, Master Sally and quickly finding herself in the troubling predicament of facing her inner butch.

Meanwhile, Jaime's friend Lola (Shaela Cook) has found that she too is at cross purposes in her relationship with her dazzling boyfriend Sebastian (Charlie David lookalike Adrian Gonzalez). Lola and Sebastian are opening up their relationship so that Sebastian can have a boyfriend. Lola thinks her friend David (Scott Keiji Takeda) might be just the answer. And indeed, Sebastian and David do hit it off and soon the three are off on an adventure exploring the wonderfully wacky world of polyamory.

Once certain that she was the butch in the family, will Jamie be able to face her new role as toe-worshipper? How will up-tight and proud David manage his close encounter with both Sebastian and Lola?

(9:00pm) Fourth Man Out

(Andrew Nackman, 95min., 2015)

A winning, often rudely funny, and genuinely warm comedy about one man's falling out of the closet and the efforts of his straight guy friends to get him a date. Adam is a mechanic in a small town, passing the time mostly with his buds, a cadre of dudes who, drink beer, play cards, talk about girls. Adam is of course going to come out to these guys, if not readily and only clumsily. And they in turn are going to do their best to be supportive, if not readily and only clumsily. One attempt at a double date, for instance, ends in a chaos of misun-

derstanding that threatens to derail everything. The comedy here comes from the uncertainties of friends trying to be nice to each other, and the pleasures of engaging with this ensemble – is that *Glee*'s Chord Overstreet? – is to meet the accumulative good feeling of stumbling twenty-somethings landing on more adult feet. (Not available for Screening)

(11:00pm) Polyester

(John Waters, 35mm, 86min., 1981)

Francine Fishpaw (Divine!) is at her wits end trying to keep her household together. Her husband Elmer, the proprietor of a porn theater, is sleeping with his secretary, her son Dexter is a glue-sniffing juvenile delinquent, and her pregnant daughter Lulu keeps is all trouble. But then she meets the dashing Todd Tomorrow (Tab Hunter, no less!). He runs, for instance, an art house cinema, and he falls hard for Francine. Can things really be getting rosier for our bedraggled heroine?

(Not available for Screening)

Presented in 35mm and in ODORAMA. Accompanying Scratch N' Sniff cards for the first 100 patrons!

Saturday, October 24 - Union Cinema (1:00pm) TREASURE: FROM TRAGEDY TO TRANS JUSTICE: MAPPING A DETROIT STORY

(dream Hampton, 63min., 2015)

Shelly "Treasure" Hilliard was brutally murdered in the fall of 2011. A trans teen who sometimes did sex work, Treasure was vulnerable to a number of threats: principally, she was being coerced by police into serving as an informant on the drug dealers who would eventually kill her. dream hampton's documentary rightly honors this young person and her grieving family but, **Treasure**, a film about forms of action and modes of justice, documents, with an alert sense of activism, the systems of community that Treasure belonged to, a diverse and affirming Detroit community, anchored by The Ruth Ellis Center, that understands that supporting and empowering young people can generate social justice. (Not available for Screening)

(3 pm) The Year We Thought About Love (Ellen Brodsky 68min., 2015)

A fabulously exuberant documentary, Ellen Brodsky's **The Year We Thought About Love** explores **True Colors**, an LGBTQ+ youth theatre troupe sponsored by Boston's The Theater Offensive, a 25-year-old organization whose mission is "to present the diversity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender lives in art so bold it breaks through personal isolation, challenges the status quo, and builds thriving communities."

In **The Year We Thought About Love**, the troupe is in the midst of creating an entertainment which explores about all kinds of love—the members' diverse sexuality is captured during a series of scenes which are often drawn directly from the lives of the youthful members. Occasionally these sketches prove difficult, too painful and raw to then be turned into a theatre performance piece. Eventually, **True Colors** leader, Nick Bazo selects the scenes and sketches for the program that will be brought to area schools to teach equality through diversity for audiences of

students, teachers, social workers, family and friends.

One such performance opens the film. Glenn was simply awash with admiration for the two courageous teens that, in front of an absolutely packed auditorium, play a romantic scene, one boy first holding hands with another boy, and then kissing him.

Nor does the youthful audience disappoint, right on cue with a series of gasps of shock and shrieks of embarrassment.

How wonderful and absolutely extraordinary! (Highly Recommended)

With a performance from Wisconsin's own Proud Theater to follow the screening!

(5:00pm) STEALTH: An Evening of Trans* Shorts

An animated tale about an old flame. A live-action story about the first day in a new middle school. The trials and joys of gender expression are showcased and celebrated in this diverse offering of trans* and genderqueer shorts. To screen: *Stella Walsh* (Rob Lucas, 15 mins, 2014); *The Dancer and the Crow* (Iris Moore, Canada, 5 min., 2014); *100 Crushes Chapter 6: They* (Elisha Lim, Canada, 2 min., 2014); *Stealth* (Bennett Lasseter, 22 min., 2015); & more! (Not available for Screening)

(7:00pm) THE GIRL KING

(Mika Kaurismäki, Germany, Canada, Finland, Sweden, 102 min., 2015)

A champion of literacy and of peace, an aesthete who valorizes the philosopher Descartes, the instinctively iconoclastic Queen Kristina is set on making Sweden the most sophisticated country in 17th Century Europe – all while pursuing her love for her lady-in-waiting. The court only understands her sense, and sense of self, as unschooled defiance or certifiable craziness, and her ultimate response remains one of the boldest acts of passion (romantic and intellectual) in history. True, we do have Garbo's Queen Christina: how do we merit another? Consider: actress Malin Buska's singular smolder and the posh proceedings of this costume drama — the kerfuffles of the court, the battlefield, and the bedroom – are effortlessly seductive, the most readily delicious sort of movie glamor. And the politics? Mostly impeccable. In fact: Kristina 2016! (Not available for Screening)

(9pm) "I HEAR IT'S A THYROID ISSUE": An Evening of Men's Shorts

Fatherhood, sexy barbers, penis pumps, Barbara Streisand, awkward marriage proposals, and church ladies live in harmony in a collection of wild and fun men's shorts. This year's troupe of eclectic characters teach us that some urges are truly impossible to resist. To screen: *Acieto* (I Do) (Felipe Cabral, Brazil, in Portuguese with English subtitles, 20 min., 2014); *Followers* (Tim Marshall, UK/Australia, 12 min., 2015); *Heavenly Peace* (Andreas Wessel-Therhorn, 6 min., 2015); *Mini Supreme* (Michael Phillis, 10 min., 2015); *Pipe Dream* (Yudho Aditya, 14 min., 2015); *Tremulo* (Robert Fiesco, Mexico, in Spanish with English subtitles, 20 min., 2015); and possibly more! (Not available for Screening)

(11:00pm) NOVA DUBAI + SALIVATION ARMY (2002)

Nova Dubai (New Dubai) (Gustavo Vinagre, Brazil, in Portuguese with English subtitles, 50min., 2014)

A manifesto both lively and insolent, **Nova Dubai** is often wildly funny, and, please note, aggressively upfront — or political — in its use of sex. A group of young men react to the extreme condominiums that are rising over their gentrifying São Paolo neighborhood by subverting the towers' construction sites into arenas for public sex acts.

plus: The Salvation Army

(Scott Trevelean, Canada, 22min., 2002)

A tale of blood, sex, spit, punk & cult recruitment. For three years the Salivation Army operated a counterculture zine aimed at restless queer punk youth. What began as a small, local gang transformed into an increasingly dangerous cult network. Lush, vicious, erotic and instructional; a cut-and-paste portrait of the underground itself. (Not available for Screening)

Sunday, October 25 | Union Cinema (1:00pm) Desert Migration (Daniel Cardone, 81min., 2015)

More than half the people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States are over 50 years of age. Their lives saved by antiretroviral therapies, these men still deal with problems medical and psychological, many struggling with post-traumatic stress, having lived through a un-

precedented period of loss. Cardone's film introduces us to a group of such men who have sought out an oasis in Palm Springs, California, where both their homosexuality and health condition is not just tolerated, but understood. **Desert Migration** is productively reflective as these men's recollections expand our history of the devastation of AIDS, and this film — a work about healing, aging, and remembering — is helpfully, generously meditative as it follows the daily patterns of living these men sustain. (Not available for Screening)

(5:00pm) Deep Run (Hillevi Loven, 75min., 2015)

Exiled by her family and rejected by a girlfriend, 17-year-old Spazz has no one to lean on for support. But when Spazz falls in love again and summons up the courage to become Cole, a strong-willed trans man, his candid humor and steadfast, all-inclusive Christian beliefs counter the bigotry he experiences daily in a most conservative land. An exquisitely photographed film that showcases the physical beauty of the land-scape, *Deep Run* also maps its economic and spiritual fissures. And Cole is remarkable: impressively restless and doggedly confident, loyal to himself and his loved ones, as he works to forge ahead best he can.

(Not available for screening)

(7:00pm) Henry Gamble's Birthday Party

(Stephen Cone, 87 min, 2015)

Henry Gamble's birthday party is peopled with a curious hodgepodge of Henry's teen friends and assorted oldsters including Henry's parents plus church staff resulting in an intoxicating Christian microcosm for director Stephen Cone, who here doubles as screenwriter.

Nominally the title character, Henry's narrative is just one of many, even within the Gamble family. Henry's mother Kat (Elizabeth Laidlaw) is clearly quite unhappy, giving her son's party scant attention while his sister Autumn (Nina Ganet) finds her brother's party the perfect time to have a meltdown with her once and then onceagain boyfriend.

Indeed a myriad of other, supporting characters vie for attention over the course of the afternoon, some more effectively drawn than others. Glenn was particularly smitten with Christine (Melanie Neilan), openly lesbian and delightfully mischievous when quizzing Henry's sister Autumn about having biology as a major at a Christian College. Less successful is shrewish Bonnie (Hanna Dworkin), a self-righteous old prude, obsessed with the evils of sex trafficking and who reminded Glenn of the Dementors from the Harry Potter films, creatures who drain all of the joy, hope, and happiness out of all around them. A perfect example of one of Bonnie's victims is her deeply forlorn daughter Grace, wistfully played by newcomer Darci Nalepa.

Neither invited, nor made to feel welcome is Ricky (Patrick Andrews), an emotional train wreck of a character who might be gay and more disturbingly, may have tried to commit suicide. Director Stephen Cone makes no more effective an indictment of the hypocrisy of these Christians who are content to allow unsubstantiated rumors about Ricky to be spread. Even Pastor Bob, outwardly a warm and genial family man, tragically fails Ricky.

As Cone did with his acclaimed, **The Wise Kids**, the focus in **Henry Gamble's Birthday Party** is how characters seek to align their religious beliefs within the daily challenges of a world dominated with rampant exposure to social media and changing notions of sexual freedom.

Often quite entertaining and despite boasting plenty of cute, shirtless lads, still Glenn was prepared to flee **Henry Gamble's Birthday Party** well before the credits began to roll.







Garrett Zima goofs around for photographer Douglas Rolain. Garrett has been involved in the Haunted House industry for 9 years and continues this year at Green Bay Fear. For 2015 he's been specializing in animatronics to add many new and startling scares to the attraction. For dates when you can visit Green Bay Fear, use the calender to the upper right.





TOSCA AT THE SKYLIGHT

Milwaukee's Skylight Music Theatre opened its 2015-2016 season with an innovative production of Giacomo Puccini's *Tosca* on September 25. With it, artistic director Vishwa Subbaraman launched his specialized series of musical works based on famous heroines, divas, and femmes fatales.

One of the production's innovations is in the singing. Although mostly sung in English, as is the Skylight's tradition, the major arias are sung in the original Italian. There's logic to that. The composer's intent is to match the language's nuances to the sounds of the music. So, although an English rendition of an Italian aria might be easier for the local audience to understand, the full beauty of musical experience may be compromised.

Noteworthy, too, is Lisa Schlenker's sparse but versatile set design. It integrated a single central decorated area with the bare brick of the back stage. One could then imagine the action within the structures of the opera's three settings of church, a castle, and a palace. But, perhaps with an intent to enhance the Italian sung arias, words and phrases are projected on elements of the main set. This was an unnecessary device. For such emotional moments, audience members really don't need a prompt.

But it was the music, of course, that made this evening memorable. Cassandra Aaron Black as Tosca was brilliant in both her nuanced expression and her dramatic characterization of a sometimes jealous, sometimes plotting, and always desperately loving woman in dire conflict. Tenor Chaz'men Williams-Ali sang the role of the artist Cavaradossi.

His resonating first notes of the aria *Recondita Armonia* created a moving and dramatic tone for the rest of the evening. The chief of police, Baron Scarpio was aptly rendered by David Kravitz with sovereign arrogance and evil.

The 20 piece orchestra, large by Skylight standards, under the direction of Subbaraman himself, underpinned the intimacy of the performance.

I first saw Tosca in Rome decades ago. It was a matinee and, despite the brevity of the work, went all afternoon, punctuated by several intermissions. It was a memorable experience, not so much for the production, but for the audience. It was the first opera I attended in Italy and I was unfamiliar with the level of local audience participation. Throughout the work, there were frequent emotional sighs and spontaneous bravos, bravas and bravis shouted in response to the music. Some even forced the orchestra and singers to stop until the reactions subsided. At the end, one

woman sitting several rows in front of us, leaned over the balcony railing and sobbed "e vero, e vero!" (it's true, it's true!) This performance had me wishing for that same Italianate ease in expression for there were many moments I simply wanted to sigh or audibly react and perhaps even sob "e vero!"

Tosca runs through October 11.
For ticket information go to
www.skylightmusictheatre.org

A review by Paul Masterson







sauna, hiking trails, and more!

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MAGAZZINIE -

Volume 14 #10 October 2015

Paul Masterson shares his LGBT Sports related photos with us this month. Right: Monday Night Irregulars Bowling. Below: IrishFest Tig-O-War. Also pictures GAMMA at Bristol Renaissance Faire.













Hello again and welcome to the month of Halloween! While I hate to see the summer winds blow away – I do enjoy the social scene kicking up!

What better way to start the merry month than taking a long walk for a good cause? AIDS Walk Wisconsin 2015 is taking place Saturday, October 3 at the Lake Front at 12 noon. This year you can keep NSYNC with Lance Bass and his husband, Michael Turchin – serving as Honorary Chairs. The Walk is always a great time – and an enjoyable feeling, the unity of the community – all gathering for a positive purpose – all they need is You!

After the Walk head to Bay View and take part in: "Ruthie's Zombie Apocalypse" 4 pm at Hamburger Mary's 2130 Kinnickinnic Avenue and keep the party alive, tickets are available – what a way to enjoy your Saturday! The Monster Ball will follow!

Sunday, October 4 1-4 pm First Unitarian Society 1342 North Astor Street will host Gay Men and The New Way Forward – Reading, Discussion and Workshop. Now that Gay Marriage Equality is the law of the land, what's next for the LGBT Movement? For the answers to this

question and more, make a point to take part in this original, unique opportunity. \$55 in advance, \$65 at the door - - includes a copy of the book! www.gaymenofwisdom.com/calendar.html.

"Dirty Dancing" takes to our ballroom known as The Marcus Center for the Performing Arts Tuesday, October 6 – Sunday, October 11. You loved the movie - - it was part of our youth, now come see the stage version and be taken away by the steps...

The Pabst Theater will host Melissa Etheridge on Wednesday, October 14. Come by her window and listen to her rich, mellow sound. Three Dog Night – a definite blast from the past return to croon tunes of the 1970's for us on Saturday, October 17 at The Pabst Theater.

The Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival celebrates a sensational season ahead as well as their 30 Anniversary! Opening Night is Thursday, October 15 The Oriental Theatre showing: "From This Day Forward". My favorite bet is, Saturday, October 17 – Sweetest Day, "Tab Hunter – Confidential" at UWM Union Cinema.

Jeffrey Schwartz's lively documentary/conversation about the 1950's heart throb and the realities of the Hollywood closet, come see how Tab coped, survived and made his mark, a true unsung hero that charted with "Young Love" who knew at that time it was meant for Tony "Psycho" Perkins? I'm beyond thrilled to be asked to introduce this movie and share a bit about Tab! Ironic which came first the hunk or the diet cola? Carl Bogner never ceases to amaze with the best picks to enrich and enlighten our lives!

The Florentine Opera Company is bringing the breath-taking "Madama Butterfly" by Puccini to the stage this fall on Friday, October 16 and Sunday, October 18. The Marcus Center for the Performing Arts 929 North Water Street. For tickets 1-800-32-OPERA or 414-291-5700 or visit Florentine opera.org

Seeing as Saturday, October 17 is Sweetest Day Why not Fall into the Domes for Both Young and Old? Cupcake Fest is 9 am – 4 pm – The Sweetest Festival yet - Sponsored by Classy Girl Cupcakes. Interactive Cupcake Factory, Cake Decorating, Scavenger Hunt, Vendor Fair, DJ Dance Party and a Live Photo Booth!

5:30 – 10 pm The Domes will "romant-a-size" the night by staying open until 10! Zilli Hospitality Group will have incredible, edible appetizers and cocktails for purchase, a flawless Light Show,

"Clueless" Fall Floral Show and of course adult Cupcakes \$10 per person 524 South Layton Boulevard.

"Luminous" Wild Space Dance is performing their Autumn Dance Recital at The Domes – Annex Thursday, October 22 – Saturday, October 24 7:30 pm. Come see them shine - - visit their web page wildspacedance.org or call 414-271-0307. I will have the pleasure to open for them at 6:45 pm – with a brief history of the illustrious Domes and the phenomenal gift these three orbs are to our community!

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center's Big Night Out – Hollywood – in Celebration of National Coming Out Day is Saturday, October 10 5:30 – 9:30 pm Potawatomi Hotel & Casino Event Center 1721 West Canal Street. Please visit: mkelgbt.org/bno for more information. I was there last year and was totally overwhelmed with their Cabaret – can't wait to see their Hollywood – I'm sure Oscar worthy!

But if Cabaret is what you are looking for, look no further - - "A Night Out at The Cabaret – A Party/Fundraiser for the Cream City Foundation (CCF)" is slated for Wednesday, October 21 5:30 – 8:30 pm at Casablanca 728 East Brady

October, 2015 Bucket List

Saturday, October 3 AIDS Walk Wisconsin with Lance Bass & Michael Turchin The Lake Front 12 Noon

Saturday, October 3 "Ruthie's Zombie Apocalypse" Hamburger Mary's 2130 Kinnickinnic Avenue 4:00 pm

Sunday, October 4 Gay Men and The New Way Forward – Reading, Discussion and Workshop
First Unitarian Society 1342 North Astor Street 1:00 pm

Now – November 8 "Back Home Again: On the Road with John Denver" The Milwaukee Rep – Stackner Cabaret 108 East Wells

Tuesday, October 6 – Sunday, October 11
"Dirty Dancing" The Marcus Center for the Performing Arts
929 North Water Street

Saturday, October 10 "Milwaukee LGBT Community Center's Big Night Out! – Hollywood" Potawatomi Hotel & Casino Event Center 1721 West Canal Street 5:30 pm

Monday, October 12 - Columbus Day

Wednesday, October 14 Melissa Etheridge in Concert The Pabst Theater 144 East Wells Street

Thursday, October 15 – 25 The LGBT Film/Video Festival 30th Anniversary Various Locations

Friday, October 16 and Sunday, October 18 Puccini's "Madama Butterfly" Florentine Opera Company Marcus Center for the Performing Arts 929 North Water Saturday, October 17 Sweetest Day

Saturday October 17 CupcakeFest at The Domes and An Evening of Romance Mitchell Park Domes 524 South Layton Boulevard

Saturday, October 17 Three Dog Night The Pabst Theater 144 East Wells Street

Saturday, October 17 The LGBT Film/Video Festival "Tab Hunter – Confidential" UWM Union Cinema 2200 East Kenwood Boulevard 7:00 pm

Wednesday, October 21
"A Night Out At The Cabaret – A Party/Fundraiser for the Cream City Foundation"
Casablanca
728 East Brady Street 5:30 pm

Thursday, October 22 – Saturday, October 24
"Luminous – Wild Space Dance Company"
Mitchell Park Domes 524 South Layton Boulevard
7:00 pm

Friday, October 30
"Oktoberfest Meets OperaFest"
Florentine Opera Company Fundraiser
Mader's Restaurant 1041 Old World Third Street 6:00 pm

Saturday, October 31 Halloween

Saturday, October 31 Daylight Saving Time ENDS, Fall Back – we gain one hour!

Wednesday, Nov. 4 – Sunday, Nov. 15 "Wicked"

Marcus Center for the Performing Arts 929 North Water

Street. Food, Guest "Celebrity" Bartenders, Raffle Prizes and much more! So put down the knitting, the book and the broom and have fun!

"Back Home Again: On The Road with John Denver" now through Sun., Nov. 8 Stackner Cabaret of The Milwaukee Rep -- www.milwaukeerep.com 414-224-9490 – this is a Tribute to the man who shaped so much more than Country music – come and hear his songs, words and story.

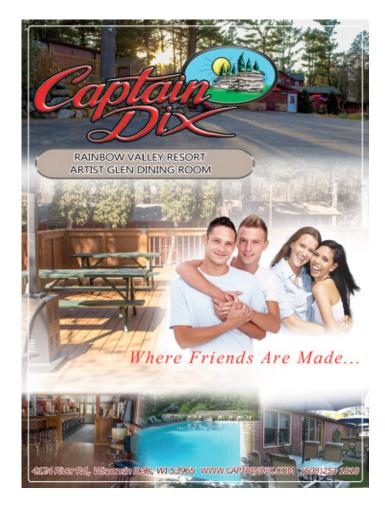
A little Oktoberfest meets Opera-fest? Friday, October 30 gather at Mader's Restaurant 1041 Old World Third Street 6 pm for cocktails and delectable, 7:30 pm the Dinner, 9:00 pm return to the beer garden for desserts and music, 10:00 pm After Party – late-night cocktails, Usinger treats and a Crowd-pleasing Cabaret. Please contact the Florentine Opera Company 414-291-5700 to have a little German extravaganza!

Broadway at The Marcus Center extends the excitement of Halloween this year with "Wicked" returning Wednesday, November 4 – Sunday, November 15. A generation has crowned this musical their favorite – perfect for anyone in the home – multi-generational –friendly Broadway show! Sets, costumes, music, dancing, and lighting – this one has it all! And has lasted the test of time! Go ahead and defy gravity and see this perennial! The Marcus Center for the Performing Arts 929 North Water Street 414-273-7286.

Food time - - Have a yen for something new? Here is something tasteful in food and décor – the Buddha Lounge – Asian/American Cuisine 1504 East North Avenue Milwaukee 53202 414-283-8400 buddhaloungemke.com offering Vietnamese, Chinese, Thai, Sushi and good old American selections.

Kain Nett, our host and manager, was most welcoming and informative as he shared they offer lunch, dinner, catering, full bar, daily specials and free delivery Noon – Midnight! Give a try!

And so ends another column, you better start on those bewitching Halloween costumes for trick or treat is almost here, as I remain Still Cordially yours,.







Are you into tricking or treating? Or, maybe, a little of both! October is truly a wondrous time of year. (Yes! I said "wondrous," damn it!) The leaves are changing colors, the weather turns crisp, and hot Gay guys shed their clothes to dress as sexy construction workers, naughty doctors and half-clothed policemen. You betcha! When it comes to Halloween, you name the costume and Gay men will find a way to whore it up. And that's a good thing!

No one does Halloween like the LGBT community, and I mean no one! Whether you're into spooky or sweet, fiendish or fall-ish, Halloween offers the perfect party solution for everyone. From cozy dinners with friends to outlandish raves you're sure to find the ideal holiday haunt this month. Get out there, support you favorite watering holes and take in the sights, sounds and flavors of this fun-tastical time of year. And it is a busy time of year, ain't it?

Between costume contests, Packer parties and all-things Pumpkin Spice related...October is a helluva month. That said, the Bitchin' Kitchen is serving up no-fuss meal ideas that come together in a snap. Join me on Facebook at Ruthie's Bitchin' Kitchen for No-Fuss Fridays. There, you'll get an easy-as-pumpkin-pie menu idea every single Friday. To celebrate, I'm offering up a sampling of these simply speedy dishes here in "Quest" magazine.

The following foods are so easy, in fact, I'm not even going to list out the ingredients. Just read the recipes below and you'll see for yourself. These quick ideas truly come together in just minutes so you can get out of the kitchen, enjoy some stick-to-your-ribs favorites and have plenty of time to take in the October fun. Try a few of the following bites, enjoy autumn, and eat good and shut up!

FETTUCINNE FLORENTINE

Creamy, rich, tasty and damn quick this recipe will instantly climb to the top of your list of favorite dishes. It's so fast, and the ingredients can be easily cut in half for smaller homes.

Prepare fettuccine as directed on the box. Meanwhile, use the microwave to heat two packages of frozen creamed spinach (secret ingredient!) as the packages suggest. Drain the pasta and toss with the creamed spinach and 2 cups cooked, cubed ham. Top with jarred Alfredo sauce to taste. Done!

Ruthie's Culinary Clues

Buy cubed ham at your grocery's salad bar or near the packaged lunchmeat section. You can replace it with cooked chicken or shrimp...or leave it out altogether for a quick meatless meal!

COMFORTING HARVEST CORN

Okay...so there's nothing "harvest-y" about this dish...but it's gosh-dam comforting, and it's just perfect alongside any entree.

Prepare a small package of frozen corn as directed. (I like to use those "steamer" varieties that cook up in the package in the microwave.) Pour the corn into a serving bowl. Gently stir in 2 tablespoons of garden-flavored cream cheese or garden-flavored cream cheese spread

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Mon. Wed. Thurs. 8-4, Tues. 8:30-3, & every other Fri 8:30-12:30 & Alternating Sat. clinic from 9-12 for gay/bisexual men *Call for schedule*

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Kruz, Fri. 2nd 7-9 • Fluid, Mon. 5th, 9:30-11:30 LGBT Community Center, Wed. 7th, 5:30-8 Woodys, Thurs. 15th, 9-11 • LaCage, Wed. 21st, 10-1ish Club Icon, 30th, 9:30-12:30 (Kenosha) (secret ingredient!) until cream cheese is melted and well combined. (Add more cream cheese to texture and taste desired.) Add salt to taste. Done!

Ruthie's Culinary Clues

Feel free to toss in a little shredded cheese if you'd like. For this dish, use basic corn. If you want to get all fancy with seasoned varieties or those with sauces, you're on your own, sugar!

GNOCCHI WITH PESTO

If you've never had gnocchi before, buy some! Buy some now! These little potato-dumplings-pasta-thingys are fantastic and boil up in moments. Find packages in the pasta aisle, then try this super-fast dinner. No kidding! This comes together in about 7 minutes...start to finish.

Prepare gnocchi according to package directions. Drain. Stir in a package of Italian-flavored, sliced, cooked chicken breast (secret ingredient!) Add jarred pesto sauce by the tablespoon to desired taste. Done!

Ruthie's Culinary Clues

Look for the chicken strips near the packaged lunchmeat or see the salad bar at your grocery store. Top this dish with shredded Parmesan cheese for extra flair and serve with bread to soak up the oil from the pesto sauce.

PUMPKIN SLOPPY JOES

Yes, yes...The Bitchin' Kitchen offered a recipe for Sloppy Joes last month, but it's October, damn it, so shut the hell up and try this idea.

Use a can of sloppy joe sauce and 1 pound of ground beef and prepare sloppy joes according to the can's directions. When mixture is simmering, stir in 1-half can of pumpkin (secret ingredient!); continue simmering as directed on sloppy joe can. Add additional pumpkin to taste if desired. Done!

Ruthie's Culinary Clues

Serve Pumpkin Sloppy Joes on sweet Hawaiian buns for a tasty change of pace. You can also top individual sandwiches with a slice of cheese to jazz things up a bit.

Follow Ruthie on Facebook at Ruthie's Bitchin' Kitchen, and share your recipes with her DearMsRuthie@Yahoo.com! If she publishes



NEW EVENT HAS THE COURAGE TO HELP MILWAUKEE'S LGBTQ HOMELESS



COURAGE an event for homeless lighting youts

"The idea of Courage: an event for homeless LGBTQ youth was inspired by an incredible young lady my husband and I fostered, whom was kicked out of her family's home after she came out, explained Brad Schlaikowski. "Her story painted a picture too close to home and we knew that we needed to do more."

Studies have shown that 40% of homeless youth are LGBTQ and the number one reason these children become homeless is because their families cannot accept them for who they are. At any given moment, it is estimated that there are at least 400 homeless youth in a city that currently only has 16 emergency shelter beds for young homeless and runaways.

On November 6, 2015, the great city of Milwaukee will host Courage: an event for homeless LGBTQ youth at The Point, our Premier Sponsor with 100% of event proceeds benefitting Pathfinders to support these children in need. Led by our Honorary host Gregory Patterson of Season



Gregory Patterson Season 14 Project Runway

14 Project Runway, and thanks to their sponsors incuding Tito's Handmade Vodka and community partners like Cream City Foundation and Milwaukee Pride we have a night full of performances by some of Wisconsin's legendary female impersonators with some new faces making their performing debuts, music by DJ HMe, winter gear and coat drive, silent auction, raffles, an envelope appeal and delicious food catered by multiple Milwaukee restaurants, like Bel Air Cantina and North Star Catering.



Tickets are on sale now for \$15.00 in advance or \$20.00 at the door. To purchase tickets, visit shepherdtickets.com

If you're interested in donating a silent auction item, raffle item, helping us fill our gift bags or would like to volunteer, please contact Olivia Schaber via email at couragemke@gmail.com
Let's do it for the kids!

KRUZ



CASTAWAYS BEER BUST (3 - 7 PM)

SUNDAY OCTOBER 11, 2015 HORROR STORY: LEATHER MASQUERADE

M.A.U.L BEAR NIGHT (10 - CLOSE)

SATURDAY OCTOBER 17, 2015 OKTOBEAR BEER FEST

MASQUERADE BALL SATURDAY OCTOBER 31, 2015 7 TO MIDNIGHT

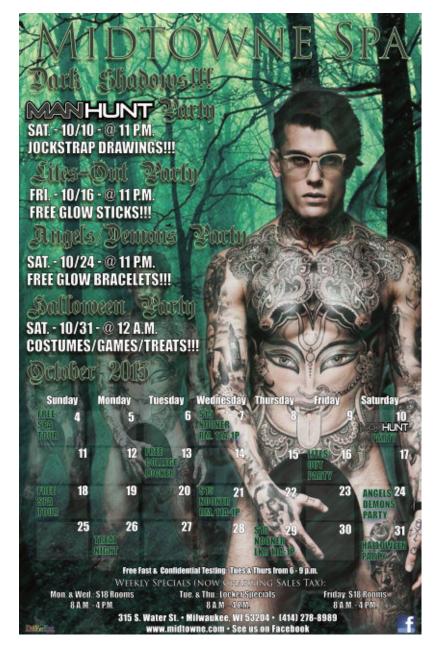
354 E National Ave (414) 272-KRUZ OPEN DAILY 3:00 PM – CLOSE



Well here we are again as the wonderful month of October is upon us. I hope you all have your costumes picked out, well with the exception of all you pervs out their, who will try to go in your birthday suit. Let's get on to the topic of the month, Tattoos!

Tattoos have become increasingly popular over the years and in some respects and stayed more popular than piercings during its mainstream days. And on a side note this is the best time of the year to think and talk about tattoos. The reason is that during the winter the healing skin is less likely to get sunburned, or sand and other debris in it. All of which damage a healing tattoo up to the first 6 months to a year! So if you're thinking about getting on now is the time to start looking. But let's talk about tattoos a little more in detail.

First off a little definition of tattooing. The State of Wisconsin Health code defines tattooing as "A process by which pigment or ink is placed beneath the skin." So that should clear up any misconceptions by those of my readers who are little on the special side. Tattooing



has been around for literally thousands of years, and has changed very little in that time. About the only real change is the invention of the tattoo machine in the early 1920's (correct me if I am wrong through your hate mail!) But other than that no real changes have been made, with the exception of better materials being used in the inks and pigments. Of course though it can't be too hard to improve on such ingredients as mercury, vodka, and copper.

Next I would like to talk about how to pick out a tattoo and not getting all bent out of shape once you find out how much it will cost. When you first start looking into getting a tattoo it is generally a very good idea to have some sort of idea into what the bloody hell you want to get. I mean there is not a better way to piss off a tattooist than walking in and saying," Well I'd like to get a butterfly thing that looks like a dragon with swords sticking out of it's eyes with flowers mixed in somehow, and oh by the way this is a memorial tat for my dog that I ran over last year." Trust me you never want to do that!!! EVER! So basically the moral of the story is to have a pretty good idea of what you want, but also don't be apprehensive if the tattoo artist changes your design for the better, remember that not all art you see in magazines and on walls makes for great tattoos. A simple thing to remember is that the smaller the tattoo the less detail can go into it, after all haven't you always wondered why the really detailed pieces are always huge! Also please keep in mind that tattoo artists don't like changing something over and over again because your dumbass can't make up your mind. So I guess all I am trying to say is think good and long and hard (GET YOUR MINDS OUT THE GUTTER YOU PERVS! It's okay my mind went there tooJ) before you walk in the shop.

So now the part of tattoo's that I know you all Hate and truly care about, the price. Tattoos are obviously priced by size and time invested by the tattoo artist, most shops charge \$100 to \$150 per hour. Now I know you are thinking that we should go to the cheapest but this is not always the way to do things. Always check out your shop and ask questions about training and the like before you sit your ass in that chair! Also almost every shop in the city has some sort of shop minimum, this is the minimum amount they will charge for a tattoo, it is usually around \$50 to \$70. And I will be very honest with you 9 times out of 10 it is a rip off getting just one tattoo at shop minimum, because in reality the piece is typically worth \$15 to \$25, but hey that is the way of the world and their ain't jack squat I can do about it. But there is a way around the shop minimum, instead of just getting the one tattoo and getting ripped of for \$50 try waiting and getting 2 or 3 tattoos at a time. All of the sudden instead of paying \$150 for 3 tattoos you are only paying \$75 to \$95. Now remember I don't tattoo so don't try to hold me to these prices or any other shop for that matter. Remember every shop has their own Pricing. One other thing about pricing, beware of any shop that does NOT have their prices on the pictures you see on the wall. Usually shops that don't show pricing up front will try to rip off the people they don't like and give deals to the people they do like.

Well it seems I have run out of room once again, but we still had fun together right kiddies. Don't forget to send me all your hate mail at Avantgarde@voyager.net. Until next month have a great October. And please remember that if you going shirtless on Halloween at least have the decency to wait for the rest of us to get hammered before you come into the bars. At least when we are hammered you will look pretty!?

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)

Hideout Bar (Gay friendly) 2828 N Ballard Rd, Appleton 920-830-2137 Rascals Bar & Grill 702 E. Wisconsin, Appleton (920)954-9262 Round A Bout 1264 Main St Green Bay, WI 54302 920-544-9544 Napalese 1351 Cedar Green Bay (920)432-9646 No Limits 500 N. Baird St Green Bay (920)-544-4963 THE SHELTER 730 N. Quincy St. Green Bay 920-432-2662 XS Niteclub 1106 Main Street, Green Bay The Remixx 8386 State Rd 76 Neenah 54956 (920)725-6483

Debs Spare Time 1303 Harrison St Oshkosh (920)235-6577 Blue Lite 1029 N 8th, Sheboygan (920)457-1636

Club Nautilus 434 Pennsylvania Ave. Sheyboygan (920)451-0355

NORTHERN WISCONSIN (715)

The Lounge 2823 London Rd., Eau Claire, (715) 952-3456 Scooters 411 Galloway Eau Claire (715)835-9959 JT's Bar and Grill 1506 N. 3rd Superior (715)-394-2580 The Flame 1612 Tower Ave Superior, WI (715)395-0101 The Main 1217 Tower Ave Superior, WI (715)392-1756 OZ 320 Washington St, Wausau www.totheoz.com (715)842-3225

MILWAUKEE (414)

Art Bar 722 Burleigh, (414)372-7880 DIX 739 S 1st Street

Fluid 819 South 2nd (414)643-5843

Harbor Room 117 E Greenfield (414)672-7988

Hybrid 707 E Brady St (414)810-1809

KRUZ 354 E.National (414)272-KRUZ

LaCage (lower & main floor) Montage (Upper) 801S 2nd, (414)383-8330 Riverwest Public House (LGBTQ friendly) 815 E Locust St. 53212

Studio 200 200 E Washington St

This Is It 418 E Wells (414)278-9192

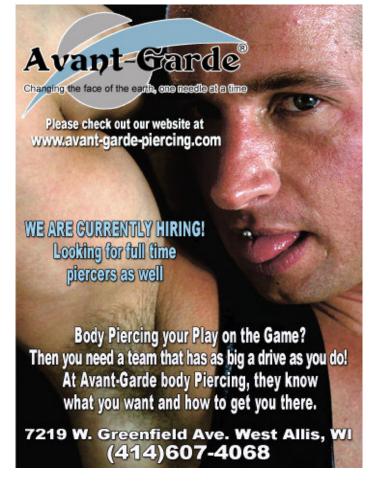
Two 718 E. Burleigh St.

Walker's Pint 818 S 2nd St (414)643-7468

SOUTHEASTERN WI (262)

ICON 6305 120th (Off I-94) Kenosha (262)857-3240 www.club-icon.com

JoDee's 2139 Racine St Racine (262)634-9804









OUR 30TH ANNUAL YEAR OF CELEBRATING LGBT+ COMMUNITY & FILM

MILWAUKEE LGBT FILM/VIDEO FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 15-25, 2015



FROM THIS DAY FORWARD

Sharon Shattuck's lovely portrait of a family – her own – as it embraces their father's transition. **Director and her father in attendance.**



THE SUMMER OF SANGAILÉ

"Aflanté Kavaïté's beautiful film about one young woman's dreams of flying and the love that gives her wings. Winner! Best Director – World Cinema, Sundance 2015



TAB HUNTER CONFIDENTIAL

Jeffrey Schwarz's lively documentary/conversation about the 1950's heartthrob and the realities of living in the Hollywood closet.



HENRY GAMBLE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

Stephen Cone's exquisite drama around the birthday party for one closeted teen, growing up in a Christian household.

Over 25 films across 11 days! Complete schedule info:

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