

Freddie redux

Gary Mullen brings his uncanny Freddie Mercury impersonation to the Milwaukee Theatre for "One Night of Queen." Story on page 15.



THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY

March 11, 2010 | Vol. 1, No. 9

CDC confirms resurgent HIV epidemic among black Milwaukee youth

By Louis Weisberg
Staff writer

Federal health officials presented findings March 2 from an investigation into Milwaukee's rising HIV-infection rate among young African-American men who have sex with other men.

Representatives of local HIV/AIDS service organizations who attended the presentation at the Wisconsin African American Women's Center said they will use the information to try heading off a potential new wave of the epidemic in the city.

That task will be challenging, they said.

Investigators from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention first looked into whether the rising rate of reported infections repre-

sented an actual increase in new cases or was the result of an aggressive HIV-testing program that brought to light previously undiagnosed cases. They concluded that the increase was real, said the CDC's William Jeffries.

The CDC found evidence suggesting the increase was fueled by a preceding rise in syphilis cases. The presence of syphilis makes it easier to spread and acquire HIV, due to abrasions on the genitals.

The investigation also yielded data surrounding possible social and environmental factors behind the increase in transmission. The CDC offered a glimpse of these factors, which will be detailed in a report published later this month.

CDC page 14



Gilding the Lily

Out comedian and actress Lily Tomlin brings her internal cast of characters to Madison's Overture Center for the Arts on March 24. Tomlin speaks with WiG's Gregg Shapiro about her legendary career, from "Laugh In" to "Damages," on page 16.



COURTESY PHOTOS

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D.C. couples say 'I do'

By Lisa Neff
Staff writer

Angelisa Young and Sinjola Townsend stood first in line, having arrived before dawn March 3.

Young said she felt like a child waking up on Christmas morning as she and her partner of 13 years stood outside the courthouse for a marriage license – the first to be issued to a same-sex couple in the District of Columbia.

With a required wait of three business days after

receipt of marriage licenses, the first legal D.C. marriage ceremonies took place March 9. Three couples – including Young and Townsend – married at the headquarters of the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest LGBT organization.

"Today represents a hard-fought victory for D.C. residents and a poignant reminder – here in the home of our federal government and most cherished national monuments – of the his-

toric progress being made toward ensuring equality for all across the nation," HRC president Joe Solmonese said March 3.

On March 9, Solmonese said he and many others gathered at HRC were grinning ear to ear.

LICENSE TO WED

Couples seeking licenses lined up early on the chilly, wet Wednesday outside the H. Carl Moultrie Courthouse, which is located

blocks from the Capitol and houses the district's marriage license bureau. Each pair carried their driver's licenses, the name of the officiant who would later marry them and \$45 in cash – \$35 for the license and \$10 for the marriage certificate – as they waited for the bureau to open at 8:30 a.m.

"Everyone who wants a marriage license is going to get one," said courthouse spokeswoman Leah Gurowitz. On average, the

bureau issues about 10 licenses a day. But March 3 was not an average day for the bureau and the number exceeded 150.

The license applications the couples completed had been revised to accommodate the names of each "spouse" rather than a "bride" and a "groom," and the instructions for the officiant had been revised to read, "I now pronounce you legally married," not "I now pro-

DC page 14

LGBT news with a twist


WIGWAG

By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg

UGANDAN PORN SHOW

Evangelical Ugandan pastor Martin Ssempe screened gay pornography for an audience of 300 people at his church in Kampala. His goal? To enrage viewers into supporting a bill that would ramp up legal penalties against homosexuality to include the death penalty in some cases. "Do you know what they do in their bedrooms?" Ssempe asked the crowd before the show. He went on to tell followers that it was not good enough for homosexuals to argue that what they did in the privacy of their own bedrooms was their business.

THE ROYAL GOV?

Prince Frederic von Anhalt, a flamboyant Los Angeles socialite and eighth husband of the much-older Zsa Zsa Gabor, officially joined the California governor's race in late February.

Von Anhalt's political platform includes repealing the state's ban on same-sex marriage, legalizing marijuana and prostitution and lifting the import ban on Cuban cigars. In 2007, von Anhalt made news for claiming to be the father of Anna Nicole Smith's daughter. That same year, when police found him naked behind the wheel of his Rolls Royce, Von Anhalt claimed that three women had mugged him. Von Anhalt, who's often seen hanging around West Hollywood and has long been rumored to be gay, is running as an independent.

HERE WE GO AGAIN

Another anti-gay beauty contestant from the Miss Universe pageant is sparking controversy. Lauren Ashley, who's running for the Miss California title as Miss Beverly Hills – even though she lives in Pasadena – told

Pop Tarts that she opposes same-sex marriage because the Bible orders death for a man who "lies with mankind as he would lie with a woman." Her statement prompted such sensational headlines as "Miss Beverly Hills Wants Gays Put to Death" and "God Wants Gays Dead, Says Beauty Queen." Beverly Hills' mayor and city council denounced Ashley's comments. They also took exception to the Miss Universe selection process, which awarded Ashley their city's title without its involvement or permission.

LADY SCARECROW

A seven-foot scarecrow modeled after Lady Gaga appears to be keeping the

pigeons away from a wheat farm in Surrey, England. "We'd used traditional scarecrows, but the old ways just don't seem to work any more, so we have had to become more and more inventive," Nigel Britten, the assistant manager at Whelan Farm, told Britain's Daily Mail. The scarecrow is based on the outfit worn by Lady Gaga to the Brits Awards. It features a gigantic white wig and a multi-tiered white dress.

FOULED OUT

Focus on the Family, Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow and mom scored some prime airtime during the Super Bowl for their anti-choice pitch, but the National Collegiate Athletic Association has bumped a Focus banner ad from its Web sites. The ad, part of Focus' "Celebrate Family, Celebrate Life" campaign, featured a dad holding his

son and the words "All I want for my son is for him to grow up knowing how to do the right thing." Given Focus' anti-gay reputation, the NCAA raised concerns that the ad conflicted with its anti-discrimination policy.

SAVAGE SONG

Dan Savage will see his book "The Kid: What Happened After My Boyfriend and I Decided to Go Get Pregnant" adapted into a stage musical. Savage is the man behind the Savage Love column and the editorial director of The Stranger newsweekly in Seattle. Now his true-life story about "the kid" he and his partner adopted is headed for the New York stage in May.

TEACHABLE MOMENT

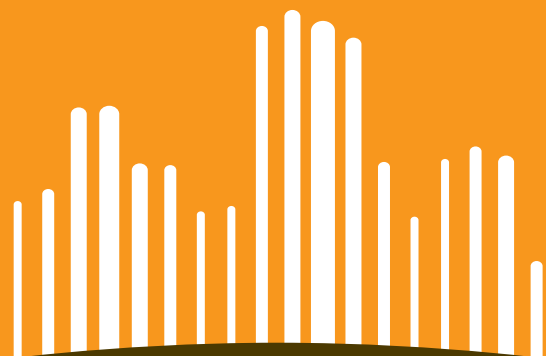
David Anasley stepped down from the Missouri Southern State University board of governors before

LGBT civil rights advocates had time to roar from coast to coast for his dismissal. During a board meeting in late February, Anasley praised a new logo of the school's mascot, a lion, for its ferocity. Much better, he said, than the school's old "fag lion." In resigning, Anasley said his comment was "unacceptable."

FROM HIS, TO HIS AND HIS

A gay couple is settling down to domestic life in a flat formerly owned by Pope John Paul II. The pope had inherited the property in Madrid from a Catholic devotee. A diplomat of the Holy See presided over the sale of the property to Alberto and Miguel Ángel, a married couple that told the Spanish press they're found of showing off the deed – bearing the pope's name – during dinner parties.

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> Heroes & Villains


HERO

Daniel Radcliffe, the 20-year-old star of the "Harry Potter" film franchise, recently filmed a public service announcement for The Trevor Project, the leading organization focusing on suicide prevention efforts among LGBT youth.

"I think it's important for somebody from a big, commercial movie series like 'Harry Potter' and par-

ticularly because I am not gay or bisexual or transgendered. ... The fact that I am straight makes not a difference, but it shows that straight people are incredibly interested and care a lot about this as well."

Potter said his parents, who are both actors, imbued him with a tolerant attitude. "I grew up knowing a lot of gay men and it was never something that I even thought twice about. ... And then I went to school and (for) the first time ... I came across homophobia. ... It shocked me."

VILLAIN

Here's one for the Larry Craig Hall of Shame.

California State Sen. Roy Ashburn, a virulent foe of LGBT rights, was arrested March 3 for drunk driving after leaving Faces, a gay bar in Sacramento, with an unidentified male companion. The right-wing



Christian and father of four was driving a state-issued vehicle.

During his six years in the senate, Ashburn has voted against every gay rights measure that has come up for a vote.

"I am deeply sorry for my actions and offer no excuse for my poor judgment," Ashburn said in a statement. "I accept complete responsibility for my conduct and am prepared to accept the consequences for what I did."

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 FT. MAYNARD JAMES KEENAN OF TOOL

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Hot Tuna

THURSDAY, APRIL 1 • TURNER
Booker T

FRIDAY, APRIL 2 • PABST
Joanna Newsom

FRIDAY, APRIL 2 • TURNER
Bassnectar

SATURDAY, APRIL 3 • RIVERSIDE
Passion Pit

SATURDAY, APRIL 3 • PABST
Beach House

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Homeless LGBT youth fare worse than straights

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

Homeless LGBT youth remain homeless longer than their straight counterparts and are far more likely to live on the streets, in a vacant building, in a public facility (such as a bus station or a library) or with a stranger. They also are less likely to secure a living arrangement with a relative or legal guardian.

These are among the many findings of "State of Youth Homelessness," a study prepared by researchers at the Center for Urban Initiatives and Research at UW-Milwaukee.

Details of the report – and the research behind it – were presented at a public meeting Feb. 24 at Renaissance Place, 1451 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee. The meeting brought together representatives from social service agencies and concerned citizens to begin the process of addressing a problem that appears to be growing as more LGBT people come out at younger ages.

Since the homeless LGBT

youth report was released several weeks ago, it has gained attention across a broad spectrum of media. The Cream City Foundation, which launched the project, has also disseminated the report to elected officials.

Advocates of LGBT rights hope the report will put the issue on the radar screen of officials creating a 10-year plan to eliminate homelessness in Milwaukee. They also hope it will encourage agencies dealing with youth homelessness to ask questions about their clients' sexual orientation and to implement sensitivity training for their front-line workers.

"There's a huge crowd of homophobia in the child welfare system," said Jane Ottow, coordinator of the LGBTQ Youth Program at Children's Service Society of Wisconsin, at the Feb. 24 meeting.

UW-M researcher Scott Davis stressed that the report is not statistically definitive, due to a low response rate and other factors. "Homeless counts are enormously difficult to do," he said, adding that counting

homeless LGBT youth was probably "three times more difficult."

The data, which was collected from Oct. 1 to Dec. 1, 2009, focused on youth ages 18 to 24. Researchers asked agencies providing services to homeless youth to ask about their clients' sexual orientation during all in-take interviews in that period.

Researchers approached 16 agencies, but only seven agreed to participate. Some agencies felt that asking about sexual orientation would alienate clients, while others insisted they treat all of their clients – gay or straight – with sensitivity.

Davis cautioned that "results can't be generalized beyond this small group of agencies." But the report's conclusion that 23 percent of the homeless youth on the streets of Milwaukee on any given night are LGBT is within the 20-40 percent range reported in a more comprehensive national study.

Cream City Foundation plans to continue working with UW-M researchers over the next two years to expand

the study.

Researchers discovered that homeless LGBT youth fare worse than homeless straight youth. Participants in the Feb. 24 meeting blamed disparities on societal homophobia.

Disparities include:

- 25 percent of LGBT youth said they were asked to leave home, compared with 15 percent of non-LGBT youth.

- 51 percent of LGBT youth reported living either on the street or in a public facility, compared with 6 percent of non-LGBT youth.

- 11 percent of LGBT youth suffered from mental illness, compared with 1 percent of non-LGBT youth.

- 8 percent of LGBT youth reported substance abuse problems, compared with 1 percent of non-LGBT youth.

- 39 percent of LGBT youth had lived with a relative or legal guardian, compared with 64 percent of non-LGBT youth.

- 21 percent of LGBT youth had lived with someone they did "not know well," compared with 3 percent of



PHOTO: DAN ZAITZ

A recent report found that 25 percent of homeless LGBT youth had been asked to leave home, compared with 15 percent of non-LGBT homeless youth.

non-LGBT youth

- 15 percent of LGBT youth reported being homeless for more than six months but less than one year, compared with 3 percent of non-

LGBT youth.

- 19 percent of LGBT youth said they'd lost their jobs or could not find work compared with 9 percent of non-LGBT youth.

Sold-out UW-M drag show raises money for non-profits

By Todd Wellman

Contributing Writer

Mistress of Ceremonies Isis Jamacia set the tone for the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Drag Show: "Hello ladies, gentlemen, and gender-variant friends!" she

greeted the crowd.

Jamacia, aka Warren Scherer, is program coordinator at the UW-M Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Resource Center. Jamacia has seen the show grow during her five-year

reign to become the center's largest annual event.

This year all 640 seats were taken, and at least 100 more people clamored around the edges of the ballroom and spilled out into the hallways.

The Feb. 27 event embodied

fun – and all for a good cause.

Last year's performance brought in \$1,700 for the for-youth, by-youth Project Q program of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center.

This year Jamacia tried to increase donations from the crowd by inviting audience members to deposit bills into the hands of performers – or into two large buckets anchored at the end of the catwalk.

Jamacia and Joe Mama, drag king persona of Rachel Coles, bantered with the audience between the performers' sets. Jamacia's quips and endless costume changes brought appreciative laughs.

When Tempest Heat took the stage, drag show novices learned that it's one thing to lip sync, and it's another to truly entertain. The crowd fell hard for Heat, with her

high kicks and teasing antics. Clad in shimmering gold, Heat ignited a party atmosphere as she landed a cartwheel and dropped into the splits.

"This is important to me, because I was a youth who found Project Q," Heat said backstage after enjoying a standing ovation. "I came out of the closet at a young age – and before Project Q, I thought I was only one like that."

The show's content was not for the modest-of-ear. In addition to sexually suggestive content, there was more than a little profanity among the lyrics. The musical repertoire included Lilly Allen's "F*** You Very Much."

A cadre of volunteers kept the show running. Staff from the center helped out on stage and backstage, running the lights, cuing the music

and providing sign interpretation for the hearing impaired. Twenty drag kings, queens, high femmes and burlesque performers donated their time as well.

Backstage, performers reflected on the importance of the event. Madam Sparkkl, an intern at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, was in her third year with the show. She said that she hoped attendees would become "more open-minded and more inquisitive to find out about people not like them."

"This show is important because you are who you are and you can be that without restrictions here regarding gender or sexuality," said volunteer Mervyn Rutley.

Performer Libra, a youth leader at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, said the event was impor-

The show's content was not for the modest-of-ear.

tant for the mere fact that the community gets to see a mass of supporters gathered together.

Show organizer Jamacia said the location was the icing on the cake for her – or the wig on the head, in this case. "It shows that even though UW-M's an institution of higher education, that it can provide a cultural and social outlet for the greater community, too," she said.



Lutheran backlash against gay acceptance grows

By Patrick Condon

AP writer

Until a few weeks ago, the Rev. Gail Sowell was pastor at two Lutheran churches in Edgar, Wis. That was before members of both congregations jumped headfirst into the simmering debate over homosexual clergy members in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

"It was pretty gruesome," Sowell said, recalling shouting matches inside the sanctuary; the mass resignation of one church's council, save one member; even whispers around town that she was a lesbian.

"For the record, I'm not," she said.

When the smoke cleared, the congregation at St. John Lutheran Church narrowly voted not to leave the ELCA. Across town at Peace Lutheran, they voted to leave and fired Sowell.

"Fortunately, I'm thick-skinned," she said.

So far few ELCA congregations have seen that level of turbulence over the ELCA national assembly's decision last August to change the policy on gay clergy with the support of 68 percent of about 1,000 assembly delegates. The change allowed pastors in committed same-sex relationships to serve openly; previously they had to remain celibate.

The change makes the ELCA, with about 4.7 million members in the United States, one of the largest U.S. Christian denominations to take a more gay-friendly stance.

By most accounts, the intervening months have been a confusing and murky time for the United States' largest Lutheran denomination.

Several hundred congregations are moving toward

a permanent split with the ELCA and more probably will come, but the number remains a small portion of the 10,000-church denomination.

Recently a conservative Lutheran group announced its plans to establish the North American Lutheran Church, a new denomination that will recruit dissident congregations. Rather than setting up a clear-cut choice, though, even some critics of the ELCA's new policy say the move could further confuse already splintered Lutherans at a time when Protestantism in general seems to be moving away from a denominational model.

"It just feels like we're stepping off a sinking ship, and I'm not inclined to get on another boat," said the Rev. Bill Bohline, lead pastor at

Hosanna! in Lakeville, Minn., which had been the state's second-largest ELCA church until its members voted overwhelmingly in January to sever ties with the denomination. "That's not where the spirit is moving."

Pushing plans for the new Lutheran denomination is Lutheran CORE, an activist group that led opposition to the gay clergy policy. Critics say liberalizing policies toward homosexuality directly contradicts scripture.

Lutheran CORE leaders hope to have the North American Lutheran Church up and running by August. They hope for a denomination that is less bureaucratic than the ELCA, but one that still makes it easy for congregations across the country to collaborate on shared goals.

"We heard from many congregations who came to us, who said we'd like to leave

the ELCA, but for us the other options aren't quite right," said Ryan Schwarz, a private equity manager in Washington who is leading the effort to organize the new denomination.

Since August, congregations have not left the ELCA in huge numbers. The denomination has about 10,000 congregations, and in all 220 have taken at least one of two required votes to leave. So far, only 28 congregations actually have approved leaving, which requires two separate votes that each attain a two-thirds super majority.

"Even if that number doubles or triples, it would still be less than 5 percent of the ELCA," said Bishop Peter Rogness of the St. Paul, Minn., synod. "So it's not as though a schism has happened, where we're a denomination split in half. Nothing on that magnitude is in the offing."

Lutheran CORE leaders say the process for leaving is laborious and time-consuming, and those that already left were on the leading edge of opposition.

"I think they should be alarmed by these numbers," said the Rev. Mark Chavez, Lutheran CORE's director. Many churches, he said, just started the discussion.

"I don't think the wave has hit them yet," Chavez said.

Some of the breakaway churches already have found alternative denominations to take them in.

The Lutheran CORE effort is not coming together quickly enough to be viable, said the Rev. Kurt Rau, whose Calvary Lutheran Church in Kalispell, Mont., instead opted to affiliate with Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ.

"They're a little slow to the party," Rau said.

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GREAT TASTE OF PRIDE FEST



Report finds health disparities for LGBT youth

By Gary Hollander

Special to WiG

Wisconsin's sexual minority youth remain vulnerable to many negative health outcomes according to the results of the 2009 Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

The YRBS is part of a national effort by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to monitor health risks of high school students in the United States. These risks result in the most significant causes of disease and death during youth and adulthood, according to the CDC.

In a report just released by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, significant differences in health risks are apparent for Wisconsin's sexual minority youth in physical safety, emotional support, mental health and suicide, tobacco use, substance abuse and sexual behavior.

Together, these health disparities present personal crises for many LGBT youth and their families in Wisconsin. They also represent a potentially staggering public cost in terms of lost contributions, loss of life and health care costs.

As in 2007, the 2009 YRBS shows significant disparities in physical safety between

sexual minority youth and their heterosexual peers. Youth who report same-sex experiences reported five times the rates of missing school one or more times in the preceding 30 days because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school. They were also more than five times as likely to report they were in a physical fight that resulted in injury that had to be treated by a medical provider in the past year.

Emotional supports for sexual minority youth are also significantly different. On the YRBS, they were less likely to endorse statements that their families loved and supported them when they needed help and that their teachers really cared about them and encouraged them.

On the other hand, their heterosexual peers were significantly more likely to endorse statements that they felt like they belonged at their schools and they would be comfortable talking with at least one teacher in their schools if they had a problem.

These differences in safety and support take a toll on LGBT youth. Too often they feel isolated and vulnerable, cut off from honest, candid

communications with peers, family members and educators. At times they experience daily challenges in environments that are hostile and devoid of help. For some, this situation is buffered by self-esteem that sees them through hardship. For others, it may result in depression and the risk of suicide.

The 2009 Wisconsin YRBS found significant differences between sexual minority youth and their heterosexual peers in depression. Sexual minority youth were twice as likely to report that they felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities. They were also nearly three times as likely to consider suicide in the past year and actually plan how they would attempt suicide.

Sexual minority youth in Wisconsin were four and one half times more likely to report that they had attempted suicide in the past year and more than six times as likely to have attempted suicide resulting in injuries

that had to be treated by a medical professional.

Depression and self-injury are serious health disparities for sexual minority youth.

But the potentially catastrophic health differences do not end there. The 2009 YRBS also shows significant differences with substance use. Sexual minority youth are significantly more likely to report having had their first drink of alcohol before the age of 13 and to be regular cigarette smokers of more than one-half pack per day.

While the Wisconsin YRBS affords policy makers sufficient information to evidence the need for resource allocations for prevention interventions, it does not go far enough. In 2007, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction agreed to add one question to the YRBS regarding the sex of a teen's sex partner(s), male, female or both. Analysis of the responses allows researchers to identify sexual minority youth (any youth reporting same sex experiences) in contrast their sexually active

heterosexual peers.

However, we have no clear idea about how the sexually active youth – either heterosexual or sexual minority – actually identify. In other words, youth who are heterosexually active are assumed to be heterosexually (or straight) identified, and youth who are same-sex or bisexually active are assumed to identify as gay, lesbian, or bisexual. Neither assumption is likely correct.

Further, youth who are not sexually active are excluded from the analysis, yet some may identify as lesbian, gay, or bisexual. They may or may not experience the same disparities as other sexual minority youth.

Also of great concern is the invisibility in YRBS results of youth who do not identify as male or female. Despite a decade of advocacy, the Wisconsin YRBS does not include an option for youth to identify as transgender. Wisconsin public health administrator Seth Foldy joined Diverse and Resilient in 2009 to propose an expanded question set to the CDC in hopes that more questions on gender identity and sexual identity might be added to the YRBS nationally.

Sexual minority youth were four and one half times more likely to report that they had attempted suicide in the past year.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services has also advocated for these in Wisconsin, but the Department of Public Instruction remains unmoved at this time.

In 2009, sexual minority youth constituted 10 percent of the YRBS respondents who were sexually active.

Gary Hollander is executive director of Diverse and Resilient.

Outreach aims to raise awareness of LGBT people of color

By Marcelle Richards

Contributing writer

With the help of a \$2,500 grant from New Harvest Foundation, awarded in early 2010, Outreach in Madison is increasing its support and services for queer people of color.

Program director Harry Straitz is working with community centers and media outlets and launching its own initiatives to increase the visibility and awareness about people of color in the LGBTQ community.

Outreach board vice president and volunteer Nilhan Gunasekera, who has Sri Lankan roots, said queer people of color face a double

minority status. "One of the goals is to help us explore what are some of the barriers of our places being welcome to (queer) people of color," Gunasekera said.

Straitz said the barriers include the geographic location of the center on the near East Side of Madison as well as perceptions about the center itself.

"I think a lot of people, if they know anything about Outreach, it's a distant white place (to them)," he said.

Straitz described Outreach's diversification game plan as a "two-prong approach," incorporating executive and grassroots outreach to increase servic-

es and programming geared toward an audience of queer people of color.

A Black History Month reading night is one example of the types of programming that Outreach has hosted to promote diversification. Posters celebrating the history and contributions of many different ethnic groups are also being posted for educational purposes, and Web materials will soon be translated into Hmong and Spanish.

Those seeking face-time with others who experience a double minority status can now meet as a group called "Queer Shades of Color" at Outreach on the first

and third Mondays of every month. Gunasekera is facilitating, and he encourages interested people to join and share in discussions about how their race and sexuality interplay.

Caissa Casarez, a UW-Madison communication arts student, is excited about the prospect of having a space to connect with others who feel both apart from and a part of the queer community and ethnic communities. Casarez, whose ethnic background is African American, Mexican and white, said that queer people of color – herself included – feel double-stereotyped.

Casarez said she is inter-

ested in "meeting different kinds of people, sharing their stories, sharing my story and see(ing) how we can outreach to other people to show there are queer people of color."

On a large scale, Outreach will work with media to increase visibility about its services. Since queer resources and materials are rare at most community centers, Straitz said Outreach also will work on partnerships with other centers to make materials on queer resources more widely available.

Outreach will continue hosting tables at ethnic festivals, such as the Triangle ethnic fest, Fiesta Hispana,

and Juneteenth celebrations, to further strengthen ties to the ethnic communities many queer people embrace as a part of their identities.

"We'll know we've arrived when the people in front of the table look like the people behind the table," Straitz said.

Both Gunasekera and Straitz see the grant as a way to kick start these efforts, and will continue to apply for more funding.

"We are under no illusion that it is an easy task. It's going to take many years. We see this as just the initial start up," Gunasekera said, adding, "the idea of diversification has to be a paradigm shift."

More men filing sexual harassment claims

By Sam Hananel

AP writer

John Pilkington's boss wouldn't take no for an answer.

During more than two years as a food runner at an upscale steakhouse in Scottsdale, Ariz., Pilkington said his male supervisor groped, fondled and otherwise sexually harassed him more than a dozen times.

"It was very embarrassing," Pilkington said. "I felt like I had to do something because the situation was just so bad."

Now Pilkington, a married father of two, is the star witness in a U.S. federal lawsuit against Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar and one of a growing number of American men claiming they are victims of sexual harassment in the workplace.

From 1990 to 2009, the percentage of sexual harassment claims filed by men has doubled from 8 percent to 16 percent, according to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Lawyers at the commission say they've noticed the

increase in complaints by men — more than 2,000 were filed in 2009 out of about 12,700 cases.

"It's certainly possible that there's more sexual harassment of men going on, but it could just be that more men are coming forward and complaining about it," said Ernest Haffner, an attorney in the commission's Office of Legal Counsel.

While some cases allege harassment by female supervisors or co-workers, most charges involve men harassing other men.

In the past, some employers might have shrugged off such antics as "boys will be boys" horseplay. But the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has been filing more lawsuits involving male victims, saying it wants to send a message that such behavior is unlawful.

In November, for example, the Cheesecake Factory restaurant chain agreed to pay \$345,000 to six male employees who claimed they were sexually assaulted by a group of male kitchen staffers at a Phoenix-area res-

taurant.

The commission said the abusers would drag some victims kicking and screaming into a walk-in refrigerator, touching and grinding against the victims' genitals and take turns simulating rape. The company denied the allegations but agreed to make a financial settlement.

Susan Strauss, a consultant who advises companies about how to avoid sexual harassment in the workplace, said she's seeing more cases in which men are subject to a sexualized form of hazing.

"If you don't fit the masculine stereotype or are viewed as effeminate, you get picked on in a sexual way to demean you," Strauss said.

Cases involving women making unwanted advances toward men may also be rising as women make up a growing part of the workforce. Last year, the Regal Entertainment Group, which operates a national chain of movie theaters, agreed to pay \$175,000 to settle a lawsuit by a male employee who claimed a female co-worker repeatedly grabbed

his crotch at work.

When the employee complained to his supervisor and the theater's then-general manager, he claims, she failed to stop the harassment and instead retaliated with unfair discipline and lower performance evaluations.

The number of cases filed by men has grown steadily since a landmark Supreme Court ruling in 1998 held that same-sex harassment is a valid claim under federal anti-discrimination laws. That ruling involved an offshore oil rig worker who said he was subject to humiliating sex-related treatment by other workers, including being sodomized in the shower with a bar of soap.

In Pilkington's case, he claims the restaurant's chef would grope and pinch his genitals or grab his backside when Pilkington walked to the kitchen or stock room.

Most charges involve men harassing other men.

Despite his complaints to the restaurant's operating partner, he says the conduct didn't stop.

After one incident, Pilkington lost his composure and yelled at the chef. Days later, he was fired — an action he claims was retaliation for his complaints. An Equal Employment Opportunity Commission lawsuit on behalf of Pilkington and three other current and former employees is pending.

"I think maybe it's just harder for males to come out and file a complaint because

of how embarrassing it is," Pilkington said. "When I talk about it I get this nauseous feeling in my stomach."

The restaurant has denied the charges. In a statement, the company that owns Fleming's said the restaurant "has always been committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace free of harassment for all of its associates."

Many victims are hesitant to come forward because they are afraid of being considered unmanly or being derided by co-workers, said Mary Jo O'Neill, a regional attorney in the EEOC's Phoenix District office.

"All sexual harassment victims feel humiliated, lacking control and power," O'Neill said. "This has a different twist because everyone expects that they would be able to handle it and take care of it themselves."

Three face hate crime charges in Chicago

Three men face felony hate crime and aggravated battery charges in connection with an assault on a Chicago El train.

Initially the Evanston men — Kevin McAndrew, Benjamin Eder and Sean Little — faced misdemeanor charges for simple battery in connection with the Jan. 10 incident.

Chicagoan Daniel Hauff suffered a bloody nose, cuts and bruises when he allegedly tried to stop Little from taunting another CTA passenger on a northbound Red Line El train.

Hauff has said Little pushed a passenger and called him "faggot" and that when he intervened, Little, Eder and McAndrew attacked him.

A police report indicated

that the attack began on the train, but continued on a platform at a North Side Chicago stop. The attack ended when Hauff falsely claimed to be HIV-positive.

Hauff, in late February, told the Chicago Tribune that he applauded the more serious charges sought by Cook County assistant State's Attorney Erin Antonietti in the case.

LGBT civil rights advocates also applauded the state's attorney's office.

"If not for the tenacity of the assistant state's attorney, these thugs would have just gotten a slap on the wrist," said Rick Garcia, public policy director of Equality Illinois, a statewide LGBT group.

Equality Illinois also called for action at

Chicago's Loyola University, where one of the defendants attends school.

"I trust that your office will punish Mr. Little according to his crime, nothing short of expulsion," El board president Jeremy Gottschalk recently wrote Loyola president Michael J. Garanzini.

Attorneys for the defendants maintain that the El train confrontation had nothing to do with Hauff's sexual orientation.

The defendants were released on personal recognize bond and are scheduled to return to Cook County Circuit Court March 17.

— LN.

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{ Editorial }

HIV testing fails

While new HIV-infection rates stabilized or fell in Wisconsin among other demographic groups between 2001 and 2008, they tripled among young black men who have sex with men in Milwaukee. This increase came despite an aggressive HIV-testing program targeting the city's African-Americans.

Epidemiologists from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention came to Milwaukee to investigate the problem. Their first order of business was to determine whether the high numbers truly reflected a rising infection rate or were instead the result of increased testing efforts finding cases that had previously gone undiagnosed.

The CDC found that the infection rate is indeed rising at an alarming rate, offering evidence that a new wave of the epidemic could be forming. Investigators also found that young African-American men were tested a median of three times before becoming HIV-positive.

Both of these findings show that HIV testing failed to prevent a resurgent epidemic in a target community. That's a matter of great concern, because Wisconsin, following guidelines set by the CDC, puts the lion's share of its scanty HIV-prevention dollars into testing and treatment.

It appears that treatment is also failing as a prevention strategy, since access to HIV care in the African-American community expanded at the same time that infection rates were climbing. Conventional wisdom is that reducing a patient's viral load decreases his or her likelihood of spreading the infection to sexual partners. But this has never been proven conclusively, and the CDC findings in Milwaukee argue to the contrary.

In the wake of the findings, federal, state and local health officials must rethink prevention. They can begin by exercising leadership that brings together HIV/AIDS service providers to share information, expertise and resources. Stakeholders who attended the CDC's presentation of its findings in Milwaukee on March 2 commented that it's rare to see so many of them together in one room. They should be working together on a regular basis.

Increasing HIV-prevention will also require more money, and stakeholders must seize this opportunity to lobby for it. Wisconsin's HIV-prevention budget is about \$4 million, and it costs approximately \$2 million to care for a single person infected with HIV. Advocates should use these numbers to argue that prevention dollars save not only lives but also taxpayer money.

> TAKE ACTION!

SAVE THE ALLIANCE SCHOOL

The Milwaukee Public School board is considering whether to renew the charter of The Alliance School, a haven for students who have been harassed, bullied and isolated at their previous schools. Many of them are LGBT youth.

WHAT CAN I DO?

Write a letter of support to Board of Directors, MPS, 5225 W. Vliet St., Milwaukee, WI 53208. You can also fax your letter to 414-475-8071. For more information, contact Tina Owen, Lead Teacher, 414-267-5405, and see the Alliance Web site at www.allianceschool.net.

{ Letters }

DEAR EDITOR:

FORGE is delighted that the Wisconsin Gazette chose to highlight two very important recent national developments related to LGBT aging: the creation of a federally-funded national LGBT Aging Resource Center and the publication of the second Outing Age. However, we are mystified by why you neglected to mention the critical role Wisconsinites played in both developments. FORGE's Transgender Aging Network is the only one of the LGBT Aging Resource Center's 11 national partners headquartered outside of the two coasts and our staff member Loree Cook-Daniels played

a critical role in helping SAGE write the winning proposal. Loree Cook-Daniels also played key roles in the revision of Outing Age, and Milwaukee's own Genevieve Trusouix is one of the elders highlighted in its pages.

These aren't the only places where Wisconsin's LGBT community has recently gotten national attention. FORGE represented the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs at a groundbreaking Feb. 22 White House meeting to talk about a slate of LGBT federal policy ideas put forth by the New Beginnings Initiative.

Wisconsin also continues to garner national attention

for being the home of the first transgender organization to be awarded two significant federal grants from the U.S. Department of Justice offices to work on behalf of transgender sexual assault survivors.

It's great that the Gazette keeps us informed of important national LGBT policy developments, but LGBT readers in Wisconsin should also know and take pride in the fact that we're part of making those developments happen in the first place!

*Michael Munson
FORGE executive director*

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SOCIAL NETWORKING

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Correction

In the Feb. 25 issue, Wisconsin Gazette incorrectly identified one of U.S. Sen. Russ Feingold's Republican opponents. The opponent is Terrence Wall. In addition, several lines of the story were dropped. The two paragraphs that were affected should have

read as follows:

"Wall's Web site indicates he's building his campaign on a combination of current Tea Party themes and the 'guns, God and gays' mantra that was popular in right-wing campaigns during the Bush era.

In contrast, Feingold has

a liberal voting record on social policies and earned a 90 percent rating from Human Rights Campaign's Congressional Scorecard for his votes on LGBT issues during the 110th Congress."

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Our mission

To inform, engage and empower Wisconsin's LGBT community by providing a professional, independent print and online source for news and commentary, as well as coverage of political and cultural issues.

Rethinking race

This semester I'm taking a service-learning course that focuses on race, racism and community. There are lots of parallels between racism and homophobia, mainly rooted in fear of the unknown. So I've been wondering what we might be able to do as a country to break down these barriers of discrimination.

For one thing, we need to stop segregating ourselves into groups: the black community, the gay community, the Hispanic community, etc. When we focus on ourselves that way, we become the ones who are drawing distinctions between ourselves and other people. How can we expect to be treated like everyone else when we're pretty much saying that we aren't like everyone else?

We need to start thinking of our country as our community. Hopefully that might lead to the possibility of someday seeing the entire world as a single community. That, though, is farther down the road.

In my service-learning class, we watched a video about finding traces of a person's race in their DNA. The experiment conducted was designed so that any similarities or differences would be distinguished and differences would be highlighted.

They made predictions and the white kids thought they'd have more similarities with each other, and the black kids also with each other, and so on. As it turned out, though, the white kid's DNA had the most differences with another white person in the group, but was nearly the same as the DNA of a person from central Africa. What does this mean? That race is not traceable in our DNA and therefore is not an actual thing at all. Race is an idea.

The only thing that dictates our skin tone is the amount of sunlight that was getting to our ancestors. In parts of the world where there is less sunlight, the skin of the native

Opinion

BY ANGEL SEVILLA

people will lose melanin in order to absorb what little sunlight is available. This loss of melanin makes your skin whiter. You aren't white because you're Irish; you're white because Ireland isn't sunny enough. And if Ireland were sunny enough, you'd be black.

The thing about this experience that surprised me was a couple of the comments made afterward. Some people said that they felt like their racial identity had been ripped away from them in learning that race isn't real. There was no longer anything for them to connect themselves to. My question to those people is: Why can't you feel connected to yourself? And why do you need to use race or title or sexual orientation to identify yourself? Why can't you just be you?

I understand that this concept might be hard for some people to accept and adopt, but I'm sure it was hard for white people at first when black people wanted to be seen as equals. I'm sure it made them uncomfortable. Anything that's out of the ordinary or out of what's comfortable is going to be hard, but if it's necessary then people are just going to have to live with it.

If everyone had this knowledge of race being a social concept rather than an actual biological fact, I bet there would be a lot more acceptance in the world, beginning with people accepting themselves, which is the most important part of this entire equation. If you accept who you are and you're comfortable with yourself, then there's no reason for you to fear anyone else for being who they are. An equal amount of respect would be distributed and then maybe some equal rights would follow.

The gay community in 2025

I've been thinking lately about where the gay community is going, how it is changing, and what it will look like in, say, 15 years. I offer 10 predictions of how things will be for us then.

Gay enclaves will still exist, but they will be a little more diffuse than they are now. Young people will continue to move in because of the sexual opportunities, but older people, often couples, will move to other areas.

The gay press will survive, but it will consist of five to eight regional papers with locally specific entertainment guides as inserts.

Same-sex marriage will be legal in 24 states, sometimes by legislative enactment but more often by court order. The U.S. Supreme Court will continue to avoid cases that would allow that court to rule on the constitutionality of denying same-sex marriage.

AIDS will still be with us.

After years of trying, scientists have not yet found a vaccine or a cure, and I do not expect them to make any breakthroughs in the next 15 years. Of no prediction am I less happy. The thought that I will live the rest of my life constantly trying to beat the virus inside me down with drugs is at best dismaying.

There will be another gay March on Washington in 2017 or 2018. Like the last one, it will draw 75,000 to 100,000 people, mostly from the eastern states. It won't accomplish anything, any more than the last one did. But young people seem to like the idea of marching on Washington, and this next one will be organized via whatever Web communication device is the latest fad.

Burying long-standing political and cultural differences, NGLTF and HRC will finally merge. The combined organization will be about

as effective as the two are separately. Lambda Legal will decline an invitation to join in the merger.

Gays and lesbians will be allowed to serve openly in the Armed Forces. That will happen sooner rather than later. There will be virtually no problems, just as there were none in Britain and Canada when they allowed gays to serve in their militaries. Calls for repeated studies on the potential impact will stand revealed for what they are – delaying tactics. The existence of openly gay men and women in military uniforms will powerfully impress the public and hasten the general acceptance of gay equality.

A Miss America will come out and announce that she is a lesbian, but only in the last days of her reign. Contest promoters will be upset, but it will be too late to do anything about it.

Anti-gay violence will still

Opinion

BY PAUL VARNELL

be with us, mostly perpetrated by young men in their teens and early 20s seeking ways to bond with their peers and assert their masculinity. Schools could do a good deal to inhibit this, but schools can't even prevent bullying of gay and "different" kids, so they are unable to deal with a larger social problem.

Exclusively gay bookstores will not survive. What will survive are general interest bookstores with a large gay section. My model here is Chicago's Unabridged Books. Mainstream publishers seem to be issuing fewer and fewer gay books, but the stream will never dwindle to a trickle. There is too strong a market for gay writing for that to happen.

Gays without borders

The gay news from Africa gets more frightening every day.

In Uganda, a member of Parliament said he would hang his son if he learned that he is gay.

He said this while the Ugandan Parliament debated an anti-gay bill imposing harsh penalties for homosexuality – including the death penalty.

In Malawi, a gay couple faces 14 years in prison because they held an engagement party. There, gay marriage is not just illegal (meaning, not allowed) – it is criminal.

And in Kenya, mob violence greeted fake reports of the marriage of two gay men. Rioters destroyed computers and other equipment in an AIDS clinic. They beat more flamboyant men in the street. And they went house to house in a witch hunt to find gay men, arrest them and beat them.

The American reaction to this – even the gay American reaction – tends to be one of two things. We're indifferent. Or we're horrified, but blame American Christians and expect them to fix it.

Opinion

BY JENNIFER VANASCO

We blame American Christians because some extremists encouraged fear of gays within the Ugandan government. Some have taken responsibility for that; some have not.

But it is not enough anymore for the gay community to stand by while our African brothers and sisters are rousted from their homes, beaten senseless, arrested and killed.

We cannot sit back and expect our homegrown American extremists to make it better. After all, they might have been responsible – or at least instigated – the situation in Uganda, but Kenya's horrors were incited by local Muslim clerics.

Instead, we must do what we can. And we can do a lot.

On the homefront, we can use our political power to ensure that African gays and lesbians who are in danger in their home countries find political asylum here. And

when they get here, we can help them find homes, jobs, education.

We can pressure our leaders to make public statements against anti-gay violence (Barack Obama, of Kenyan heritage and beloved in Africa, would be a particularly effective spokesperson).

And we can encourage our congressional leaders to tie the billions of dollars of HIV/AIDS funding that we send to gay-friendly education efforts. If Republicans can add pro-life strings, why can't we add pro-gay ones?

But I think we can be even more creative than that.

Christians, after all, didn't have pull in Uganda because they made a speech. They have influence because they have spent millions of dollars in Africa – on AIDS, yes, and also on infrastructure, on food aid, on personnel to educate and heal and help. They send missionaries to live among the people. They recruit.

It is time we did the same.

We need Gays Without Borders. We need to start pooling our talent and resources and assisting devel-

oping countries.

After all, gays and lesbians – lesbians in particular – tend to gravitate toward non-profits. We are social workers, doctors, nurses, teachers. Why shouldn't we put that knowledge to use to help Africans? Who knows how to organize the medical establishment (or lack thereof) to fight AIDS better than gays and lesbians? Who can tend to AIDS patients better or with more empathy?

And we wouldn't help just gay Africans, either. Christian relief groups don't just help Christians. Instead, the idea is to be a model – and to encourage a certain way of thinking. In our case, that way of thinking would be: Gay is OK.

Many Africans think of gay people as being perverted. They think of us as an underground sexual cult of some kind. But Gays Without Borders could show them first hand that we are a people to be respected, emulated, idolized.

We are scared and horrified by the news coming out of Africa. It is time we did something about it.

NATIONAL GAZE

Wisconsin
Gazette .com

Rep. honors gay soldiers, demands DADT repeal

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Day after day, since the first troops arrived in Afghanistan in 2001 and in Iraq in 2003, mainstream news outlets have honored fallen U.S. servicemembers.

Those hometown hero reports have not identified fallen servicemembers as gay, but statisticians estimate that about 200 gay and lesbian servicemembers have died in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The same policy that requires gays to lie about their sexual orientation while on active duty distorts the stories of their lives after their deaths, according to U.S. Rep. Jim Moran, D-Va., who in a recent floor speech read a letter from a gay soldier in Iraq who learned that a fellow soldier was gay only after he was killed by an improvised explosive device.

The letter read, "I've had

to face the DADT issue not just because I am gay – an immutable characteristic that is no more a choice for me than someone could choose their race – but because I've had four gay men in my command who I have known to be gay. I knew about two of them because they believed that living a lie was counter to their ethical charge as soldiers. ... I knew about another because he was outed by an evangelical roommate who had 'baited' him into admitting it.... And, I knew about the fourth one because after he died of wounds from an IED, his partner of four years wrote me ... to tell me how much (he) loved the Army, how we were the only family he'd ever known."

Moran, referring to the soldier's letter and DADT, said, "This issue is a matter of integrity. This immutable

human trait, sexual orientation, like the color of one's skin, does not affect one's integrity, their honor or their commitment to their country. Soldiers serving their country in combat should not have their sacrifices compounded by having to struggle with an antiquated 'don't ask, don't tell' policy. Let's do the right and honorable thing and repeal this policy."

Moran could not identify the soldier who wrote the letter, signed only "Mountain Soldier." Nor could the congressman identify the deceased soldier.

To date, one soldier killed in Iraq has been publicly identified as gay – Army Maj. Alan G. Rogers of Hampton, Fla., who was fatally wounded by an IED while on patrol in Baghdad in January 2008.

Rogers, who received a Purple Heart posthumously and his second Bronze



U.S. Rep. Jim Moran, D-Va.

Star, was buried at Arlington National Cemetery with full honors. His commanding officer wrote to Rogers' family, "As God would have it he shielded two men who prob-



PHOTO: COURTESY ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

The headstone for Army Maj. Alan G. Rogers.

ably would have been killed if Alan had not been there."

Mainstream news reports, hailing Rogers as a national hero, contained remembrances of the soldier as exceptional, brilliant, religious, calming and compassionate and detailed the soldier's childhood, career and interests, even his effort to raise money to buy a Persian rug for a gift for a friend. But Rogers was not identified as a gay man until gay friends came forward to salute his service, as well as his personal opposition to DADT.

The Memorial Day following Rogers' death, Steve Ralls of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays memorialized his friend: "He was brave in every sort of way. He deplored silence and understood all too well its impact. He felt the pain and isolation it could create. Those who spend so much time and energy propping up the military's gay ban have tried to cover up the real, and significant, contribution that gay and lesbian Americans make to our Armed Forces.

"In the meantime, gay servicemembers are fighting and – as we now know – dying on the battlefield in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the world. Their stories are irrefutable proof of the disrespect and dishonor DADT imposes on our men and women in uniform."



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'Don't ask' repeal bill introduced

By Lisa Neff

Wig Staff Writer

The legislative assault on "don't ask, don't tell" is under way.

Moderate U.S. Sen. Joe Lieberman, I-Conn., on March 3 introduced legislation to repeal the policy banning gays and lesbians from serving openly in the Armed Forces.

The independent from Connecticut filed the Military Readiness Enhancement Act of 2010, a companion bill to legislation Patrick Murphy, D-Pa., has introduced in the House.

For the past year, Murphy – a veteran of the Iraq War and former paratrooper with the Army's elite 82nd Airborne Division – has worked with the Human Rights Campaign, Servicemembers Legal Defense Network and veterans groups on a nationwide campaign to rally public opposition to DADT. Most recently he joined activists on Capitol Hill for a lobby day aimed at lifting the gay ban.

"My time in Iraq taught me that our military needs and deserves the best and the brightest who are willing to serve – and that means all Americans, regardless of their orientation," Murphy said.

IN THE SENATE

Lieberman, a senior member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and an expert on national security, announced he would introduce a repeal bill in the Senate as Defense Department officials and military chiefs deliberated over the best strategy to carry out the president's command to finally repeal the law that denies gay Americans the right to serve the country they love because of who they are." The Pentagon is pursuing a year-long review.

The Senate bill contains three main provisions, to:

- Repeal DADT.
- Ban discrimination in the military.
- Strengthen the recruitment opportunities on college campuses, where a number of demonstrations against DADT have taken place.

"The bottom line is that we have a volunteer military," Lieberman said at a press conference March 3. "If Americans want to serve, they ought to have the

right to be considered for that service regardless of characteristics such as race, religion, gender or sexual orientation."

Lieberman's co-sponsors include Democrats Carl Levin of Michigan, Mark Udall of Colorado, Kirsten Gillibrand of New York, Roland Burris of Illinois, Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico, Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein of California, Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley of Oregon, Patrick Leahy of Vermont, Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania and Al Franken of Minnesota.

While Franken has made a career in comedy, Udall remembered the comic line at the press conference.

"You don't have to be straight to shoot straight." Those were the words of Barry Goldwater, a combat veteran and unflinching advocate for national defense. And you certainly don't have to be straight to recognize who the enemy is," he said. "This is an issue of military effectiveness. I have soldiers and airmen in my home state of Colorado who are being asked to serve five tours of duty or more. We

DID YOU KNOW?

"Don't ask, don't tell" prohibits gays and lesbians from serving openly, but an estimated 66,000 gays and lesbians are now in the Armed Forces, according to the Williams Institute.

Gays and lesbians serve openly in the militaries of at least 28 countries.

In Iraq, gays and lesbians from 12 nations have fought alongside U.S. troops. In Afghanistan, gays and lesbians from nine nations have fought alongside U.S. troops.



U.S. Sen. Joe Lieberman, I-Conn., recently introduced legislation to repeal "don't ask, don't tell."

need all the qualified service members we have to fight – we shouldn't be dismissing them just because they're gay."

MOVING FORWARD

The introduction of Lieberman's bill is the first step taken in the Senate to repeal the 17-year-old policy instituted during Bill Clinton's first term in the White House. Clinton had moved to strike a long-standing ban against gay servicemembers but, facing resistance at the Pentagon and in Congress, negotiated a compromise. Under DADT, the military was barred from inquiring about sexual orientation, and servicemembers were prohibited from coming out as gay.

National LGBT civil rights advocates said that congressional action to repeal DADT would not conflict with the Defense Department's study of how to

lift the ban.

"Both can and should happen concurrently," said Aubrey Sarvis, SLDN's executive director.

Sarvis restated SLDN's position that the best route to repealing DADT is to incorporate language into the defense department authorization bill, before fiscal 2011 begins in October.

Activists already have public opinion on their side – a majority of Americans, regardless of political party, support repealing DADT.

They also have increasing support from politicians and high-ranking uniformed and retired officers. Dick Cheney, who served as George H.W. Bush's defense secretary and George W. Bush's vice president, recently said that when the Joint Chiefs of Staff back DADT's repeal, "then it strikes me as it's time to reconsider the policy."

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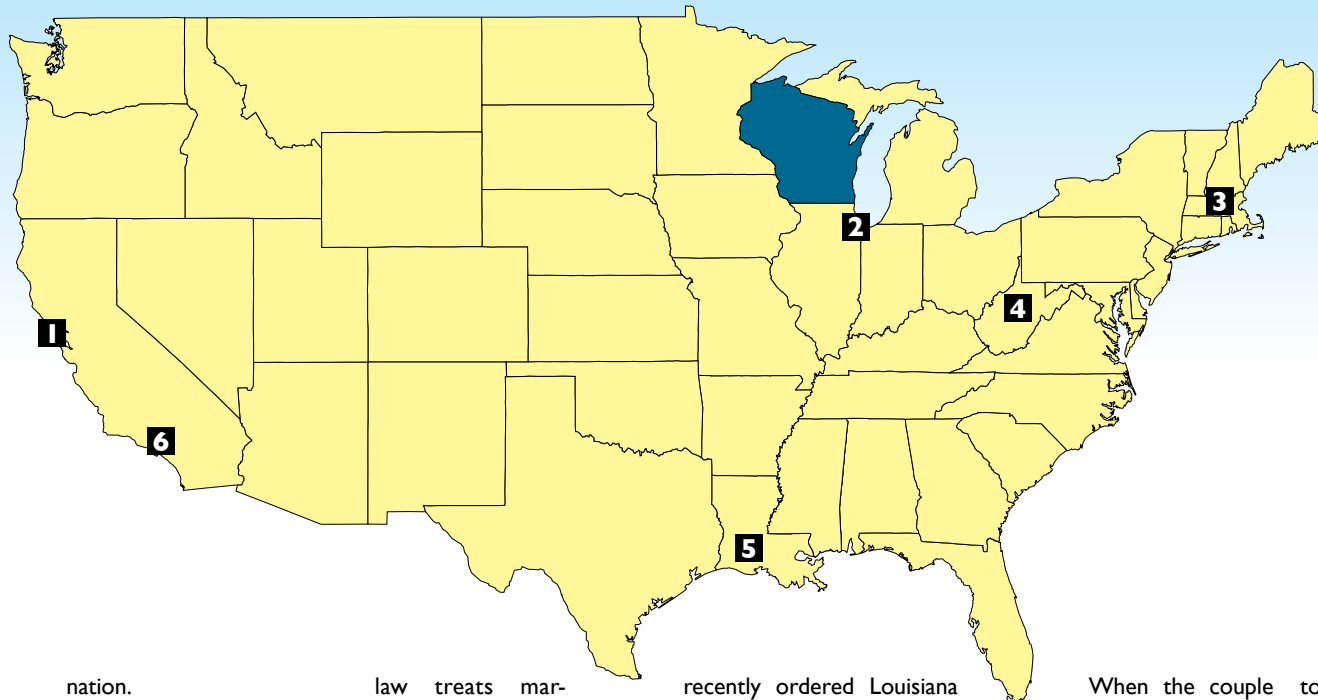
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1. NEW ARGUMENTS ADVANCED IN GAY MARRIAGE TRIAL

Lawyers in the first federal trial to examine whether state bans on same-sex marriages are constitutional have submitted new written arguments to the federal judge who will decide the issue.

Chief U.S. Judge Vaughn Walker requested the briefs summarizing the respective sides' evidence to help him prepare for closing arguments in the San Francisco trial.

In papers filed in late February, lawyers for the sponsors of California's gay marriage ban offered new twists on their claim that allowing gays and lesbians to wed could undermine man-woman unions.

The potential harms they cited included giving bisexuals a legal basis for pursuing group marriages and unmarried fathers an incentive to abandon their children.

Lawyers for gay marriage supporters argued that no evidence existed to back those claims.

2. ADVOCATES SHARE STORIES OF ANTI-GAY HOUSING BIAS

More than a dozen members of the gay community, fair housing advocates and officials have weighed in on a first-ever national survey of anti-gay housing discrimi-

nation.

The U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department held a listening session in late February at Chicago City Hall. Sessions also are set for New York and San Francisco as HUD gathers input on how best to design the survey.

In Chicago, housing advocates shared stories of discrimination from their clients.

Raphael Bostic, HUD's assistant secretary for policy development and research, said the meeting proved substantive, thoughtful and provocative.

3. MASS. ATTORNEY GENERAL CHALLENGES DOMA

A federal law that defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman forces Massachusetts to discriminate against same-sex couples, Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley argues in court papers.

Coakley's office filed a lawsuit in July challenging the federal Defense of Marriage Act.

In court papers filed in U.S. District Court in late February, Coakley asked a judge to deem the law unconstitutional without holding a trial on the lawsuit.

Coakley argues that regulating marital status has traditionally been left to the states. She said the federal

law treats married heterosexual couples and married same-sex couples differently, forcing Massachusetts "to engage in invidious discrimination against its own citizens in order to receive and retain federal funds in connection with two joint federal-state programs."

4. WEST VIRGINIA HOUSE DEFEATS AMENDMENT

The West Virginia House of Delegates in late February voted 68-30 to defeat a proposed constitutional amendment against same-sex marriage.

State law already prohibits gays and lesbians from marrying, but a campaign is underway to put a constitutional amendment to a citizens' vote.

The West Virginia Senate has yet to act on the proposed amendment.

"I'm energized by today's victory," said Stephen Skinner of Fairness West Virginia, a statewide LGBT group. "Doing what's right isn't always easy, but regardless of the difficulty, I know the good people of West Virginia believe in the spirit of our state's motto: 'Mountaineers are always free.'"

5. U.S. COURT: ISSUE BIRTH CERTIFICATE FOR ADOPTED CHILD

A federal appeals court

recently ordered Louisiana to issue a birth certificate to the adopted child of a gay couple that names both of the adoptive parents.

The parents, Oren Adar and Mickey Smith, were represented by Lambda Legal and supported in a friend-of-the-court brief by the American Civil Liberties Union.

"We're pleased our son will finally have a birth certificate where he sees both his parents included," said Adar. "A birth certificate is more than a piece of paper. It's at the heart of your identity."

The federal appeals court voted unanimously to uphold a lower court ruling in favor of Adar and Smith, who adopted their Louisiana-born son in 2006 in a New York court, where a judge issued an adoption decree.

When the couple attempted to get a new birth certificate for their child, in part so Smith could add his son to his health insurance, the Louisiana registrar's office told him that the state did not recognize adoption by unmarried parents.

6. AIDS DOCTOR SENT TO PRISON

A prominent AIDS doctor was sentenced to 15 months in federal prison in late February for injecting patients with saline and vitamins but billing them for expensive HIV/AIDS medicines.

The sentencing came nearly a decade after the OC Weekly in California broke the story about Dr. George Steven Kooshian's practices.

Kooshian also was ordered

to pay \$660,955 in restitution to 18 insurance companies.

The OC Weekly reported that the doctor charged patients up to \$9,000 for each shot. The payments financed a five-bedroom mansion with an ocean view, as well as the purchase of a Z8 convertible BMW, a Mercedes SUV, a Mercedes sedan and three Porsches.

— from WiG and AP reports

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INTERNATIONAL GAZE

Wisconsin
Gazette .com

International LGBT market study launched

By Lisa Neff

Wig staff writer

A London-based agency is conducting the world's largest LGBT marketing research study – a survey reaching consumers in 14 countries.

The agency Out Now is conducting in the study in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden, the

United Kingdom and Israel.

"We are seeing a lot of interest in this study due to its groundbreaking nature and its emphasis on understanding the tremendous diversity of LGBT people's lives all across this vast region," said Out Now CEO Ian Johnson, adding that the research should help non-profits, governments and businesses "better understand and meet the needs of

GLBT people."

Out Now estimates that the 14 countries together are home to about 35 million LGBT people.

In Europe, Out Now is working with Berlin Tourism Marketing on the study.

In Latin America, Delta Airlines is sponsoring the research, which is being conducted in partnership with the LGBT networking group GNETWORK 360.

"There has been a lot of past gay market research done in other places – like the U.S.A.," said GNETWORK 360 director Gustavo Noguera. "But never before in Latin America.... We will all learn so much about the lives of LGBT people living all across Latin America."

LGBT people are being surveyed about education levels, media usage, parenting responsibilities, relation-

ship status, employment, discrimination, aspirations, travel interests, income and consumer-spending habits.

"With more and more destinations and companies looking to target LGBT consumers, the need for detailed research data has never been greater," said Out Now consultant Darren Cooper. "By better understanding the important market, companies will discover their competi-

tive edge, enabling them to execute marketing strategies in far more effective ways."

Out Now serves a number of companies that court LGBT consumers, including Barclays, Citibank, IBM, Toyota, Volvo, VisitSweden, the German National Tourist Office and Time Inc.

Out Now plans to continue the study through the spring, with results to be released this summer.

BRITISH GROUP
CAMPAIGNS FOR
SAFE SCHOOLS

The British group Stonewall recently released a report finding that two-thirds of LGBT students endure bullying in school.

The report prompted the group to launch Education for All, a campaign providing students, parents and teachers with the "tools, confidence and guidance ... to tackle the epidemic of homophobic bullying," read a statement.

Stonewall planned to distribute educational materials to every secondary school in Britain this spring, as well as to begin a primary school program.

UGANDA
ACTIVISTS
PETITION
AGAINST ANTI-
GAY BILL

Critics of a proposed Ugandan law that would impose the death penalty for some gays gathered 500,000 signatures calling for the bill's rejection.

A delegation delivered the petition to Uganda's parliament.

Speaker of Parliament Edward Ssekandi Kiwanuk says the bill has been presented and soon will be debated.

The proposed bill has sparked protests in London, New York and Washington.

Uganda's conservative society frowns on homosexuality. One proponent of the bill even showed gay pornographic videos in church to try to garner support.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Thousands partied their way through Sydney in late February to celebrate Australia's annual Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade.

5,200
AUSTRALIANS
BARE ALL FOR
PHOTO SHOOT

About 5,200 naked people recently embraced each other on the steps of Sydney's iconic Opera House for a photo shoot by Spencer Tunick.

Tunick, who is known for his nude group photos in public spaces, posed participants for more than an hour in a variety of positions.

"It was difficult to get the straight participants to embrace the gay participants and vice versa," Tunick said. "So I was very happy that that last set up finally got done and everyone came together (in a) united, friendly kiss, a loving kiss in front of this great structure."

REPORT: GAY
PROTEST AT
DUTCH CHURCH

Dutch media say around a hundred activists walked out of a church in the Netherlands to protest the Catholic policy of refusing communion to gays.

A state news service reported activists left the Sint-Jan church in Den Bosch, 60 miles southeast of Amsterdam, yelling and singing. The church was prepared for the protest and had decided not to give Holy Communion during its Sunday Mass.

The conflict began during Dutch carnival celebrations in February when a gay man in a village near Den Bosch was chosen for a prominent role, but his local priest refused him communion – offending many in the village.

THOUSANDS
CELEBRATE GAY
MARDI GRAS

Thousands of people partied their way through Australia's annual Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade, held in late February.

The parade – one of the world's largest gay pride events – had 9,400 participants and 135 floats and featured the theme, "History of the World" – a look at gay history.

One reveler dressed as Osama bin Laden led a group of dancing "Binlettes," who sported pink sequins and improvised "mini-burkas," which only covered the head. "Michael Jackson's Thriller Zombie Marching Group" followed a hearse through the streets, which the director and producer of the float, Gareth Ernst, said was a parody of the celebrity death cult.

Spectators crowded the route of the parade through Australia's largest city. They held rainbow banners and Aussie flags aloft in the hot night air.

GUYANA GROUP
DEMANDS END TO
FASHION RULE

A group in the conservative South American country of Guyana is demanding the government remove a colonial-era law that bans cross-dressing in public.

In an affidavit, the Society Against Sexual Orientation Discrimination said the law is no longer relevant and violates people's rights.

"These laws are unconstitutional and discriminatory

against a social minority," spokesman Joel Simpson said Tuesday. "We are seeing a pattern of more and more abuses by police."

The group will pursue the case in the Trinidad-based Caribbean Court of Justice if it is struck down in local courts, said Simpson, who is a cross-dresser.

The affidavit also complains about a local judge

who told a group of cross-dressers last year to "go to church and give their lives to Christ" after they were detained for illegally wearing women's clothes in public, according to New York-based Human Rights Watch.

– Wig and AP reports

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FROM THE COVER

Wisconsin
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'It's a long time coming'

DC from I

nounce you man and wife."

As she sat at a desk in the bureau to complete the application, Young, 47, cried so hard she buried her head in the chest of the fiancée she had met 13 years earlier in a constitutional law class at the University of the District of Columbia.

CAPITAL
CELEBRATIONS

To celebrate the Washington milestone, the nation's capital threw a series of parties, beginning

**'I told them
I would
come and
celebrate.'**

with a reception March 2 at U.S. Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton's office with the Democratic congresswoman, D.C. Mayor Adrian Fenty and members of the D.C. City Council.

"Congratulations to all the district couples who are committing themselves to one another under the eyes of the law," Fenty said. "I wish you each a long and fulfilling marriage."

The next day, outside the courthouse, couples received best wishes from cheering crowds, congratulatory hugs, roses from the Hyatt Regency and cupcakes from openly gay D.C. Council Member David Catania, who sponsored the marriage bill.

"It's a long time coming for them," said D.C. resident Amy Natalini, who took the morning off work to watch the procession of couples at the courthouse. "My brother is gay. He and his partner — of like 30 years — are in Alabama. And it would mean so much for them to marry. I told them I would come and celebrate."

The celebrating is expected to continue for weeks.

On March 20, a super-wedding is scheduled to take place at the Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium, with organizers hoping 400 same-sex couples will say "I do" and break a Guinness World Record.

"The GLBT community has always found strength

MARYLAND TO RECOGNIZE
OUT-OF-STATE GAY MARRIAGES

As the neighboring District of Columbia began issuing marriage licenses to gay couples March 3, the state of Maryland prepared to recognize the marriages.

Maryland Attorney General Douglas F. Gansler, responding to a question from a state senator, wrote in an opinion, "You have asked whether those marriages may be recognized under state law. The answer to that question is clearly 'yes.'"

"In our view, the court is likely to respect the law of other states and recognize a same-sex marriage contracted validly in another jurisdiction," read Gansler's opinion, which has practical meaning for same-sex couples that may marry in D.C. and settle in Maryland.

Activists in Maryland also continue to work to amend the state's marriage law. A senate committee is hearing testimony this month on a pro-gay bill. —L.N.



PHOTO: AP/JACQUELYN MARTIN

Sinjola Townsend, of Washington, left, and her partner Angelisa Young, are the first couple to obtain their marriage license after the District of Columbia legalized gay marriage.

in numbers when it comes to advocating for equality," said wedding planner Mike Wilkinson. "Now we can finally stand together to affirm our love and have it recognized by the District of Columbia."

In addition to D.C., same-sex couples can legally marry in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Iowa, Vermont and New Hampshire. Five other states — California, New Jersey, Oregon,

Washington and Nevada — provide same-sex couples with the rights and benefits of marriage, but through civil unions or domestic partnerships. Meanwhile, Wisconsin, Hawaii, Colorado, Maine and Maryland provided limited rights and benefits to registered gay couples.

The D.C. City Council passed legislation paving the way for same-sex marriage in December 2009, then a 30-day wait period followed

to allow for a congressional review.

A last-minute effort to halt the issuance of licenses failed March 2, when U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. declined to issue an injunction pending a challenge to the marriage law.

"It has been the practice of the Court to defer to the decisions of the courts of the District of Columbia on matters of exclusively local concern," Roberts wrote.

'Blacks often had fewer risk behaviors than whites.'

CDC from I

While the HIV transmission rate is increasing nationally among young MSMs as a whole, young African-American men are disproportionately affected.

In Milwaukee, the rate for this group tripled between 2001 and 2008, compared with a 143 percent increase among young non-black males. Meanwhile, the transmission rate for other demographic groups leveled off or fell during that period.

Differences that could explain the disparity appear to be more social than behavioral. The CDC's Milwaukee investigation found that behavioral risk factors — such as having sex without a con-

dom — were similar for both young white and black MSMs.

"Black MSMs often had fewer risk behaviors than their white counterparts, so risk behaviors don't explain the increase," said a CDC investigator.

On the other hand, black MSMs face greater stigmatization in their community. For instance, half of the young African-American MSMs said they thought sex with men was a sin, and 60 percent said they sometimes wished they weren't attracted to men. Only 12 percent said they could be open about their sexual orientation in their churches.

This sort of marginalization leads to higher rates of HIV, said Dr. Andrew Petroll,

an assistant professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin who specializes in HIV.

"If people are highly stigmatized, they're not going to discuss HIV with anybody," he said. Thus, stigmatization can result in failing to ask or disclose HIV status with a sex partner.

Another difference between the two groups is the higher rate of HIV among Milwaukee's African-American community as a whole.

"The prevalence rate (of HIV among black MSMs) is somewhere between 28 and 41 percent," Petroll said. "That's huge. That could be almost half of all black MSMs.

Of course, that only begets more infection, because if

you're having sex with that population, then the chances of being exposed to HIV are really high."

Of the young black MSMs interviewed by the CDC, 42 percent reported having sex exclusively with other African Americans. Fifty-five percent said they'd had sex with men 10 or more years older than they were within a year of their HIV diagnoses, which also increases the risk of exposure: Older men are more likely to be infected.

While factors such as these are illuminating from an epidemiologic standpoint, they have little practical value for HIV/AIDS service providers.

"These are big factors that influence what's happening, but there is nothing public

health can do about (issues such as) homophobia in the community," said Timothy Pilcher, of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services HIV/AIDS Program.

Still, service providers said they must find ways to work with and around these issues.

Tim Medley, of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, said one important way to address the problem overall is to establish a greater presence of HIV/AIDS organizations within African-American areas of the community and to enlist the support of black churches and other grassroots institutions.

"There are two keys to making a business successful — that's marketing and loca-

tion," Medley said. "We need to have better marketing and be in better locations. The people we're trying to reach are not coming to us. We have to go to them."

Petroll said although the increasing rate of new HIV cases among young black MSMs is alarming, the absolute numbers "are still pretty small — under 30 per year." That means providers still have an opportunity to curb the trend.

But, he warned, "Numerically, as the proportion goes up, there's a tipping point in every epidemic where if you have the same level of activities, it's going to feed itself."

For news updates, visit www.wisconsin Gazette.com.

Queen for a night

Gary Mullen channels Freddie Mercury in tribute show

By Harry Cherkinian
Contributing writer

It started out pretty simply, him singing karaoke at his local watering hole – The Horseshoe Bar in Glasgow, Scotland. As the night wore on, and the drinks kept coming, the inhibitions faded. Eventually it was time to let 'er rip, singing songs by his favorite artist.

"I'd just get drunk and sing Queen tunes," remembers Gary Mullen, sitting in his hotel room in Texas while on his current tour. "Somebody would yell, 'Hey! I'll buy you a pint if you sing 'Bohemian Rhapsody.'" That's all Mullen needed to hear, and he was off doing what's become the best Freddie Mercury impersonation – ever.

Mullen and his five-member band The Works come to the Milwaukee Theatre March 18. If you think this is just another one of those myriad tribute bands, think again.

For his uncanny impersonation of Freddie Mercury, Mullen was the top vote getter (864,838 votes) in the history of the British TV series "Stars in Your Eyes." And 10 years after winning that contest, Mullen's Freddie Mercury is still winning acclaim. "One Night of Queen" sells out regularly across the United States.

One of the highlights of Mullen's decade-long tribute to his favorite band was meeting original Queen guitarist Brian May, who invited him and his band mates backstage.

"I took our bass player

(Billy Moffat) with me and before you know it, Brian is sitting beside me. And I couldn't think of anything to say," Mullen recalls with laughter. "He's such a lovely guy. So nice. Obviously there are so many tribute bands (he can choose from) and he personally invited me."

Another high point in his career came in a very private way. It happened one day when Mullen was asked for his autograph, which happens quite a bit. "She said that she was Freddie's mum's housekeeper," he recalls. "And I said, 'Right. I'm the Pope.'" The woman produced photos showing her standing next to Freddie and his mother.

Mullen gave her the autograph, but the story continued. "A couple of days later I got an e-mail. It was from Freddie's mum. It said, 'Thank you very much for keeping my son's memory alive,'" Mullen says. "You can't top that."

Mullen became a Queen fan, he says, when he was 4 years old. By the time Freddie Mercury died in 1991 at age 45 from complications of AIDS, Mullen was a teenager. He went on to marry, start a family and "got a day job" as a computer salesman in his native Glasgow, all while performing karaoke.

When he was encouraged to try out for "Stars in Your Eyes," Mullen scoffed at the idea. "I didn't want to offend all the Queen fans out there," he reminisces. But his wife and mother secretly sent in his application to the show. The rest, as they say, is history.

While the show is all

Queen music (with the permission of the Queen estate), Mullen has his favorites. "I love 'Keep Yourself Alive,'" he says. "It just drives with that drum solo. And I love the gospel feel to 'Somebody to Love.' It's a great sing-along with the audience, and we really want people to be a part of the show."

Mullen and The Works keep the music as accurately as possible to the Queen legacy. Mullen only has four other musicians on stage: Davie Brockett, guitar; Billy Moffat, bass; Jonathan Evans, drums; and Malcolm Gentle keyboards.

So how then does the group cover the harmonic territory of 180 voices (actually separate overdubs by the original members) used in the nearly six-minute opus "Bohemian Rhapsody"?

"We cheat," says Mullen, without missing a beat. "We leave the stage in the middle part and there's a light show" while a tape plays the original Queen music. While some Queen purists have taken issue with this, Mullen's all about providing the audience with the best possible experience within the show's two one-hour sets (plus a 20-minute intermission to cozy up to the merchandise booths).

"We hope to give the audience a feeling of what a Queen show would be like with the energy of Freddie. The guy wouldn't stand still," Mullen says. "The beautiful thing about music is that it transcends gender, race, color, creed. Everybody – kids, mums, dads, grand mums – music just brings everybody together."



"One Night of Queen," starring Gary Mullen (above) as Freddie Mercury, takes place at 7:30 p.m. March 18 at the Milwaukee Theatre, 500 W. Kilbourn Ave. Special \$20 tickets are available. For more information, call the Milwaukee Theatre Box Office at 800-745-3000 or visit www.milwaukee theatre.com

COURTESY PHOTO

Darling Lily: An interview with Lily Tomlin

By Gregg Shapiro

WiG Staff writer

The mere mention of Lily Tomlin's name brings an ear-to-ear smile to most people. The comedy legend is remembered fondly for her work in such big-screen gems as "Nine to Five," "All of Me," "Big Business," "The Incredible Shrinking Woman" and "A Prairie Home Companion." She's also beloved for her repertoire of hilarious comic characters performed on stage and television: Edith Ann, Ernestine, Susie Sorority and Lucille the Rubber Freak, among others.

In addition to laughter, Tomlin has won widespread critical acclaim, including an Oscar nomination, six Emmys and a Tony Award for 1991's "The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe," which she wrote with life partner Jane Wagner.

Tomlin can currently be seen on television in one of her most serious dramatic roles, as widow Marilyn Tobin in the Glenn Close series "Damages."

Gregg Shapiro: You starred in the Robert Altman films "Nashville," "Short Cuts" and "A Prairie Home Companion." What do you have to say about Altman.

Lily Tomlin: First of all, I just liked him immensely. I felt like I was a part of the Altman family, the film family. Altman was the one who gave me the break to be in the movies, to play a straight role. It was in '74 or '75 when we did "Nashville." And I had just come off of "Laugh In," and people thought of me as the characters I played on that show. It was very hard to cross over to film. That never even entered Altman's mind. He just went for it as he always did.

It was the most fun to make an Altman movie, because you always felt you couldn't fail; no matter what you do or tried, you never felt his judgment. If an actor would come on the set (laughs) and ask him what he wanted in a scene, he would say, "I don't know. Why don't you surprise me?"

He was just kind of a bigger-than-life kind of person,

but without asserting it at all (laughs). He just was by being there. I used to call him the benign patriarch. You felt protected, no matter what was going on. You felt like he had the playground under control. There wouldn't be any drive-bys.

GS: Do you have any interest in writing a memoir?

LT: No (laughs), no plans. I mean, if I did I could never take it seriously. I'd have to write something as if the characters were observing me.... I don't know, it's just not in my sensibility to.

GS: Has John Waters, who is pictured with you on your Web site, ever asked you to be in one of his movies?

LT: No, no he hasn't. But I'm friendly with him.

GS: Would you act in one if he asked you to?

LT: Probably. Well, depending on the script. Yeah, I think it would be fun. I mean he is an unusual filmmaker, and I would like to have the experience.

GS: You are ranked third in *Out Magazine's* list of "80 American Classics" in the March 2010 issue. What do you think about that?

LT: Really? Who's No. 1?

GS: Jasper Johns, isn't that interesting?

LT: Oh, oh my gosh, and who's No. 2?

GS: Tennessee Williams.

LT: (Laughs) That's just like a starlet (to ask), isn't it?

GS: It's quite an honor though, don't you think?

LT: Ah, yeah, No. 3, golly. Especially if Jasper Johns is one. Golly, I'm sort of knocked out.

GS: Since the 1990s, you have played recurring characters on television shows such as "Murphy Brown," "The West Wing" and "Desperate Housewives." Do you prefer the recurring character gig or would you prefer to be a lead character in a series?

LT: I did six pilots, basically what were considered pilots back in the '70s and '80s for a variety show. But (the) variety show was on its last legs then - even though I tried to reinvent the form.

We are developing an



COURTESY PHOTO

"When I first moved to New York, I had such a Detroit accent," says Lily Tomlin. "...I would go in and read for like a commercial or something and they would just scream laughing."

idea with Kathryn Joosten of "Desperate Housewives." We played sisters on that show for a few weeks and (were) out sleuthing stuff. So, I love television. So, yes I would probably like to be on a show regularly that would please me, that I thought was really fun or interesting or really well-produced. Like being on "Damages." I was crazy about that show and getting on it this third season was a delight to me.

GS: The character of Marilyn Tobin in "Damages" is a very serious, dramatic role. What is it that appeals to you about it?

LT: What appeals to me is the ... way it's produced and written and the actors are excellent. And it is just an exciting show, it is a thriller,

a legal thriller, and you don't know from one week to the next what's going to happen. I love that unpredictability and the challenge of it.... And then I love to do a dramatic part, sure, because I don't often get the opportunity.

GS: You have a very full performance schedule, including dates at the Overture

Center for Performing Arts in Madison, and other Midwestern cities. As a native Midwesterner, do you feel a special connection with Midwestern audiences?

LT: Likely, but my parents are from Kentucky,

and I spent all my summers in Kentucky. And I lived in an old apartment house in Detroit, filled with every kind of person you could imagine.

When I first moved to New York, I had such a Detroit accent. ...I would go in and read for like a commercial or something (laughs) and they would just scream laugh-

ing and I thought, "God, I must be so funny." But of course it was my damned accent. (Speaks in a clipped nasal tone) "Hiii. I'm going to go Winsday and get my hair waar-shh-ed" (laughs)." So I

was probably talking like that for so long and had no notion of it. I still fall into it, I still lose consciousness and start talking, saying that flat sound.

GS: Edith Ann and Ernestine, to name a couple, have gone on to become legendary characters in your repertoire. Are there any new characters that will be making their debut in your show?

LT: Well, probably not. But (the characters) do new things. Ernestine works for a big health care insurance corporation now, denying health care to everyone. I may have tried new characters. I don't know in this particular show. It really depends on how devoted to me you are (laughs) that you will know everybody.

Interview
WiGOUT

Lily Tomlin performs at the Overture Center for the Arts, 201 State St. in Madison on March 24. Call 608-258-4141 for tickets.

Gay group gets sneak preview of Florentine Opera's 'Elmer Gantry'

Harry Cherkinian

Contributing writer

The term "camerata" in the late 16th century referred to an informal group of writers, artists and musicians who met regularly to discuss trends in art.

Today Milwaukee has its own camerata. The Florentine Opera Camerata brings together men and women from the LGBT community to discuss and preview upcoming Florentine productions. On March 14, the group's members – numbering 75 to 100 – will get an exclusive sneak preview of selections from the company's upcoming production of "Elmer Gantry."

"This is a good way for members to get a feel for the opera and see if this is the one they want to go to," says Scott Stewart, Florentine's chorus master and associate conductor. Stewart's been with the Florentine for 32 years.

Theater

WIGOUT

Based on the classic novel by Sinclair Lewis, the opera tells the story of a corrupt evangelical preacher's rise and fall. The novel was turned into an Academy Award-winning 1960 movie starring Burt Lancaster and Shirley Jones (who won an Oscar for her performance).

"I love the text of this opera," Stewart says. "It really tells a good story."

The camerata formed in February 2007, the brainchild of Florentine's general director William Florescu. For an annual \$25 membership fee, members of the affinity group can attend events previewing upcoming operas. The events include complimentary hors d'oeuvre and a cash bar. Sponsoring bars and restaurants also provide

members with special patron discounts.

"The receptions are like a meet-and-greet," Stewart says. "(They) give the performers a chance to interact with the public when they're not on stage."

At the Camerata's March 14 Sunday Artist Social, cast members Sarah Lewis Jones, Julia Elise Hardin, Aaron Blankfield and Scott Johnson will perform selections from the work.

Like many well-established arts organizations across the country, Florentine Opera has watched with concern as its audiences have grown older. The camerata provides an opportunity to recruit new and younger audiences, Stewart says. It's attracting people in their early 30s, helping to turn them into opera fans.

"Elmer Gantry," which is billed as a "new American opera," speaks to a new generation of opera-goers.

Unlike the classical operas that are usually sung in their native Italian, French and German, "Gantry" is written in English. Its storyline is quintessentially American and of particular interest to the LGBT community, whose civil rights struggle has long been embattled with the Christian right.

Written by Robert Aldridge and Herschel Garfein, "Gantry" debuted in 2007 at the Nashville Opera.

The Florentine's production marks its second-ever full staging. A number of artists from the Nashville world premiere are slated to perform in Milwaukee, including: Keith Phares as Elmer Gantry; Patricia Risley as evangelist Sharon Falconer; and Hardin as Mrs. Baines.

John Hoopes, who last directed at the Florentine with 2008's "Salome," will oversee the production.

See wisconsin Gazette.com for more entertainment news.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Florentine Opera Camerata previews selections from its upcoming opera "Elmer Gantry" at 7 p.m., Sun., March 14, at The Room, 623 S. Second St., in Milwaukee. "Elmer Gantry" performs Fri., March 19, and Sun., March 21, at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N. Water St. For more information, call the Florentine Opera at 414-291-5700, ext. 224, or visit www.florentineopera.org.

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Milwaukee actor goes for his fourth take on Harpo Marx

Harry Cherkinian

Contributing writer

"A Night at the Opera" can have multiple meanings when it comes to the Skylight Opera Theatre. But in this case, it means the Marx Brothers, Grauman's Chinese Theater, a send-up of Russian writer Anton Chekhov and lots of laughs.

"A Day in Hollywood/A Night in the Ukraine" is comprised of two one-act plays that together were a hit on Broadway 30 years ago. "Day" is a musical tribute to stars from the 1930s, while "Night" inserts the irreverent Marx Brothers into Chekhov's short story "The Bear."

One of those brothers is veteran local performer Ray Jivoff, who plays Harpo, the mute Marx with a curly mop of hair who communicates by whistling or playing a horn. It's the fourth time Jivoff has played the second oldest of the comic foursome – three times in productions at the Skylight and once at Next Act Theatre. All four times, he's performed alongside fellow actor Norman Moses.

Jivoff and his partner C. Michael Wright have lived and worked in Milwaukee since 1988. Jivoff began as education director at the Skylight in 1990 and was named associate artistic director last fall. Wright, himself an accomplished actor, serves as producing artistic director of Milwaukee Chamber Theatre.

The couple met at an opening night party in San Francisco, where Wright was starring in the national tour of Athol Fugard's anti-apartheid tale "Master Harold and the Boys." Initially, the two were a bi-coastal couple, with Wright living in New York City. But they eventually settled together in Milwaukee after Wright was cast in The Milwaukee Rep's "A Christmas Carol."

Having a common profession is a bonding experience for them. "What we talk about a lot is theater," Jivoff says. "People who aren't in this business don't understand the hours and all the hats we wear all the time."

Jivoff's first acting stint



COURTESY PHOTO

"A Day in Hollywood/A Night in the Ukraine" runs through April 4.

in Milwaukee was in the Skylight's 1989 production of "Girl Crazy." Like that show, "Hollywood/Ukraine" features songs from the 1930s in the first half.

But it's the second half, with its slapschtick comedy, that keeps the actor on his toes – and off.

"I fall down a lot running around, I skate on a single roller skate, I ride a bike and fall off, then turn it upside down and go off stage," he says. "Harpo is such a stock character, with his horn and

his whistling. I drink the ink from an inkwell. I eat a flower. It's great material and really a lot of fun."

Working again with Moses adds fuel to the production's zany atmosphere. "Norman's so generous and really, really gifted. He really understands the timing," Jivoff says.

For audiences looking for an evening of laughs and escapism in these trying times, Jivoff sums up the show in one word: "Joy," he says confidently. "I just think it's going to be a blast."

ON STAGE

"A Day In Hollywood /A Night in the Ukraine" runs March 12 through April 4 in the Cabot Theatre at the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. For more information, call 414-291-7800 or visit www.skylightopera.com

'Three Other Sisters' combines music and legend with big ideas

By Harry Cherkinian

Contributing writer

What's in a name? Well, apparently quite a bit, literally and figuratively, especially a name that translates to mean "the theater of big ideas."

Theatre Gigante started out as a joke, according to founder and artistic director Isabelle Kralj. "We were sitting with some friends and one jokingly said, 'You should have the biggest theatre company.'"

Kralj's associate director and husband, Mark Anderson, immediately thought of the Grotta Gigante, the world's largest tourist cavern in Trieste, Italy, where Kralj's parents live.

"Mark said, 'That's it. Theatre Gigante' and the morning after, it still sounded good."

Kralj and Anderson are sitting in a coffeehouse on Milwaukee's East side, looking very relaxed considering they just finished a rehearsal for

Theater
WIGOUT

their newest show "Three Other Sisters," which runs March 11-13.

While the name Theatre Gigante is two years old, the company has been around much longer than that under its former name – Milwaukee Dance Theatre. Kralj has focused on dance since she first founded MDT in 1987, with Anderson joining officially in 1999, two years into their marriage. Both husband and wife are veteran performers in Milwaukee, with Anderson best known for his work as a writer and performance artist.

With "Three Other Sisters," the duo have once again taken a story and created their own version, incorporating dance movement, theater and music. "We're

taking a story with no action and doing it where one scene might be stylized and the next scene is naturalistic," Anderson says.

"Three Other Sisters" is based on a centuries-old legend from Montenegro near the Adriatic Sea. Three sisters all fall in love with the same man, a sailor who promises to return to each of them. As each sister dies, the remaining ones brick in her window in the house they share. Even after the third sister has died, the sailor never returned, according to legend.

As with such previous productions as "Antigone" and "The Beggar's Opera," TOS has an "organic evolution" in its creation, Anderson says.

"Part of the collaboration is to try and focus on exploration." In this case, the collaboration involves Slovenian singer-songwriter Vlado Kreslin, who is travelling from his native country to appear in the show while touring the

United States.

In addition to Kreslin's live accompaniment, TG also secured permission to use Bob Dylan's "Boots of Spanish Leather" as well as The Pogues' "Lorelei."

But TG is all about creating ideas for the audience to explore along with the performers.

"In most of our work, we like to put the skeletal structure out there and let the audience paint in the rest," says Kralj.

"This is the kind of work we really love doing," Anderson says.

"Three Other Sisters" performs March 11-13 at the Off-Broadway Theatre, 342 N. Water St., 2nd Floor. For more information, call 414-278-0765 or visit www.theatregigante.org

Art Gaze, a bi-weekly look at Milwaukee's vibrant art scene, launches April 8. You'll find in-depth features, interviews, previews and reviews by veteran art historians and writers Debra Brehmer and Katherine Murrell.

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Music

By Gregg Shapiro

"DOLLY"

I recently saw a 1978 interview with the late Dusty Springfield in which she called herself "the Dolly Parton of the '60s," referring to her piled-up blonde hair and elaborate makeup techniques. It was one icon acknowledging another, with respect.

In the more than 30 years since that interview, Dolly Parton has surpassed her own iconic status to become a living legend, with countless accolades to her credit. The four-disc box set "Dolly" (RCA Nashville/Legacy) includes 99 tracks and spans a period of more than 40 years. Among the gems are such beloved Parton classics as "Just Because I'm A Woman," "Down From Dover" (recently covered by Marianne Faithfull), "Coat of Many Colors," "My Tennessee Mountain Home," "Jolene," "I Will Always Love You," "The Seeker," "Light of A Clear Blue Morning," "Here You Come Again," "Two Doors Down," "Baby I'm Burnin'" (her disco hit), "9 to 5" and the Kenny Rogers duet "Islands In The Stream." The set also includes previously unreleased tracks and much more.

"NEED YOU NOW"

On their second album (from Capitol Nashville), the group Lady Antebellum (not the red state version of Lady Gaga) travels the country pop road paved by Parton and shared by Sugarland. Female vocalist Hillary Scott shares vocal duties with Charles Kelley (see Dolly and Porter Wagoner). Lady Antebellum finds influences both inside and outside Nashville: The former includes "Perfect Day," "American Honey" and "Something 'Bout A Woman," while the latter includes the title tune, "Our Kind of Love," "Love This Pain" and "Stars Tonight."

"RECOLLECTION"

"R e c o l l e c t i o n" (Nonesuch), out singer/songwriter k.d. lang's second career retrospective in less than five years picks up where 2006's "Reintarnation" left off, even going so far as to include the country numbers "Trail of Broken Hearts" from "Absolute Torch and Twang" and "Western Stars" from "Shadowland." From there we follow lang's notorious transformation to torch singer and pop diva through such songs as her massive hit single "Constant Craving," "Miss Chatelaine," "You're OK" and "Summerfling." There's also her riveting rendition of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah" – and more.

The second disc in the set is as essential as the

first. It includes soundtrack cuts ("Barefoot" from "Salmonberries" and the Roy Orbison duet on "Crying" from "Hiding Out"), along with tribute/VA disc tracks ("Help Me" from "A Tribute to Joni Mitchell" and "So In Love" from "Red, Hot & Blue." There's also a pair of Tony Bennett duets and a couple of previously unreleased tracks, including a re-recording of "Hallelujah."

"TEARS, LIES & ALIBIS"

You've heard of country cousins? Shelby Lynne and Alison Moorer are country sisters. Really! "Tears, Lies & Alibis" (Everso), Lynne's first album since her brilliant 2008 Dusty Springfield tribute disc, does a stellar job of picking up where she left off with her underrated "Suit Yourself" album. Raw emotion and deceptively simple arrangements combine for a delightful dose of modern country at its best.

Despite its sad undercurrent, "Rains Came" (with its glorious organ and oboe) is the most joyous song about rain since "It's Raining Men." "Why Didn't You Call Me" draws on Lynne's obvious love of R&B. "Like A Fool" and "Alibi" are heartbreak at its most heart-wrenching.

"Something To Be Said" celebrates Airstreams ("a rolling home made of silver"), "Loser Dreamer" conjures a dreamy atmosphere and



Shelby Lynne performs May 2 at Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth St.

"Family Tree" subtly shakes the apples loose from the branches. "Old #7" is the kind of drinking song that doesn't get written anymore, and "Home Sweet Home" could be the unofficial theme song to "Up In The Air."

"CROWS"

Lynne's kid sister Moorer, who is married to contemporary country legend Steve Earle, returns with the cloudy and fittingly titled "Crows" (Rykodisc). "Darkness lingers" (from "Goodbye To The Ground") throughout this moody set of songs, particularly in the cases of "Should I Be Concerned," "Just Another Fool," "When You Wake Up Feeling Bad," "Still This Side of Gone" and "It's Gonna Feel Good (When It Stops Hurting)." Some songs, including "The Broken Girl,"

"Like The Rain" and, to a lesser degree, "Early In The Summertime" and "Sorrow (Don't Come Around)," are not quite as bleak. Have the anti-depressants and Kleenex nearby for this one.

"SOMEWHERE GONE"

Even when she was the front woman for the legendary L.A. punk band X, Exene Cervenka wasn't afraid to slip a touch of twang into her songs. So it's not surprising that her latest solo effort (from Bloodshot) is a sort of insurgent country affair. It's detectable in the guitar on "Trojan Horse," the echoed harmonies on "Surface of the Sun" and "Why Is It So," the fiddle on "The Willow Tree" and the honky-tonk piano on "Walk Me Across The Street."

Exene sounds as comfortable here as she ever did fronting X, and it's a pleasure to be following her where she goes.

"BEFORE AND AFTER"

In possession of a rich and warm alto, Indiana-based Carrie Newcomer is the country voice of the Midwest. That's Mary Chapin Carpenter joining Newcomer on "Before and After," the opening titular cut of her new Rounder Records release. Their voices are lovely together, and the song sets the tone for the remaining dozen tunes. The best of them include "I Do Not Know Its Name," "If Not Now," "A Simple Change of Heart," "Do No Harm" and the bonus track "A Crash of Rhinoceros."

Izumi's is short on flash, big on fresh

Dining

By Rick Karlin

Izumi's Restaurant
2150 N. Prospect Ave.
414-271-5278
izumis.com

If you like a lot of flash with your sushi, Izumi's is not the spot for you. Its rather no-nonsense décor and quiet dining room are not for the trendy. But Izumi's is one of the best eateries in Milwaukee for experiencing true Japanese cuisine,

Izumi's isn't cheap (be wary of any restaurant that sells inexpensive sushi, because sushi-grade fish is expensive).

But it's a good value. To get sushi and sashimi any fresher, you'd have to pull it out of the water yourself.

Service is authentically friendly and knowledgeable. Our young server was an ocean of knowledge about fish. She capably steered the veteran sushi and sashimi fans among us through the extensive menu and assisted the novices with excellent suggestions.

For those not fond of sushi, there are numerous bento boxes (combination plates) offering such standards as tempura, dumplings, salads, teriyaki and katsu (breaded and fried meat cutlets).

If you'd like to branch out, try starting your meal with Japanese eggplant served

with miso glaze, sunomono (cucumber salad with rice wine vinaigrette – and a bit of octopus in Izumi's version) or gomae (blanched spinach or asparagus with sesame sauce).

If you're feeling daring, opt to kick off your meal with one of Izumi's signature dishes, a marinated and broiled cod dish known as miso zuke. Speaking of miso, Izumi's is the best I've had in Milwaukee.

All dinners are served with miso and fluffy steamed rice. The chicken and salmon teriyaki are both flavorful and generously portioned. The beef is even better, but since it's Wagyu, it is a bit pricey (\$34 for 8 ounces.) Combination plates range in

price from \$17 to \$33, and the "Izumi Special Dinner for Two" is \$58 and includes sushi, sashimi, broiled fish, tempura, chicken or beef teriyaki and dessert. You may upgrade the beef in the combination to Kobe for \$15 more. This isn't cheap, but it's a relative value given the quality and quantity.

If you're looking for something a little more unusual, try either the nabemono or shabu-shabu. This is small pieces of vegetables and meat cooked at the table in a fondue-like pot filled with boiling broth. At the end of the meal, you drink the broth. It's a fun date-night thing to do. Yosenabe is a seafood variation of the same dish, except that the cook-

ing is done in the kitchen. It's almost a Japanese bouillabaisse.

Of course, most food is available served atop udon or soba noodles, donburi or sticky rice.

For me, the maki rolls proved to be the stars of Izumi's menu. In addition to the usual varieties (spicy tuna, salmon skin, California, etc.), the specialty rolls are exceptionally good. The Melissa Maki features real crab, avocado, scallop, masago (spicy Japanese mayo) and cucumber. The dragon maki is wrapped with unagi and stuffed with shrimp tempura. A word about unagi (grilled freshwater eel): Many folks are hesitant to try this delicacy, but this is a case where

it really does taste just like chicken, in a great teriyaki-like barbecue sauce.

For those who won't do raw fish, there are plenty of maki featuring all cooked ingredients or just vegetables, including smoked salmon and cream cheese, pork cutlet or the "Ume Jiso," which features thin slices of cooked beef rolled around rice.

Usually I'm not drawn to desserts in Asian restaurants, but the green tea ice cream is terrific, as is the vanilla, which arrived tempura-battered and topped with caramel sauce. There's a great selection of wines by the glass that are very reasonably priced, along with Japanese and American beers.

The Bottom Line: Dinner can run about \$30 per person or more with tax and tip. Lunch offers bento boxes for less than \$10.

Film

By Gregg Shapiro

**“FISH TANK”
(IFC FILMS/BBC
FILMS)**

There must have been something in the air in 2009, when it comes to troubled teenage girls and their abusive mothers. Lee Daniels’ Oscar-nominated “Precious” set the bar high on the subject, and multi-award winning “Fish Tank” has something to say about it as well.

Mia (Katie Jarvis, who makes her searing film debut here) is 15 years old and lives with her trashy mum Joanne (Kierston Wareing) and younger sister Tyler (Rebecca Griffiths) in the projects. Rebellious and destructive,

she has contentious relationships with both of her family members.

But Mia’s not without ambition. She dreams of being a hip-hop dancer and practices every chance she gets. Her mother has no idea of her daughter’s aspirations (she’s too busy drinking and dressing like a

**She dreams
of being a
hip-hop
dancer.**

slag) and instead plans to ship her off to school. But the arrival of Connor (Michael Fassbender), her mother’s latest boyfriend, changes the mood in their flat when he moves in with them. He takes a genuine interest in the girls and encourages Mia to follow her dreams. He lends her his video camera so that she can record herself dancing for her audition. But following the consumption of too much alcohol, the relationship between Mia and



A scene from “Fish Tank”

Connor crosses an unfortunate line when they end up having sex.

Connor leaves soon after that. Instead of letting him go

and getting on with her life, Mia pursues him and tracks him down to his house in the suburbs. It’s there that she discovers he is married and

the father of a young daughter. From there, the movie takes a seriously ominous turn. But Mia is not all bad, and “Fish Tank” offers unex-

pected redemption and the closest thing we can expect to a happy ending for Mia, a character we come to care about.

SHOWTIME

“Fish Tank” is one of 10 films featured in the Milwaukee Film Festival-Winter Edition, March 12-18 at the Marcus North Shore Cinema.

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Danny Calvert, Zachary Dylan Robbins, Adam Estes and Justin Robertson. Photo by Jay Westhauser.

On stage

By Gregg Shapiro

NOTE: * Denotes out gay or lesbian artist or venue

March 11, Thursday

*Out singer/songwriter Brianna Lane plays The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison, with Josh Harty and John Statz, at 5:30 p.m. Call 608-819-8777.

*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Noche De Divas, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

Theatre Gigante presents the premiere of "Three Other Sisters," created by TG's artistic creating team Isabelle Kralj and Mark Anderson, featuring Slovenia's most popular singer/songwriter Vlado Kreslin, tonight through Saturday, at Off-Broadway Theater, 342 N Water St. 2nd Floor, Call 414-278-0765.

Overture Center for the Arts, 201 State in Madison, presents Ibsen's "An Enemy of the People" through March 28. Call 608-258-4141.

Friday, March 12

*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Divas Night, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

Skylight Opera Theatre presents "A Day in Hollywood/A Night in the Ukraine," tonight through April 4 in the Cabot Theatre at Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800.

The Pabst, 144 E. Wells, hosts an evening with film-

maker Kevin Smith, director of "Clerks," "Chasing Amy" and others at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theatre stages the Milwaukee premiere of "lost" Shakespeare play "Love's Labors Won," aka "All's Well That Ends Well," through March 14 at Boulevard Theatre, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic. Call 414-744-5747 or visit www.boulevardtheatre.com.

The Pub Theater presents "Bye Bye Liver: The Milwaukee Drinking Play," featuring a cast of some of Milwaukee's finest comedy and sketch artists, Fridays and Saturdays at 9 p.m. at Mi-Key's Skylight Room, 811 N. Jefferson. Call 414-312-4388.

Grand Funk Railroad, featuring founding members Don Brewer and Mel Schacher, performs at 9 p.m. in The Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi Bingo Casino, 1721 W. Canal. Call 414-847-7922.

Backyard Tire Fire burns up Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, at 8 p.m. Call 414-276-7288.

The Rave, 2401 W. Wisconsin, welcomes Flogging Molly, The Architects and Frank Turner at 8 p.m. Call 414-342-RAVE.

Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts, 19805 W. Capitol Dr. in Brookfield, presents Danú tonight and tomorrow night at 8 p.m. Call 262-781-9520.

The August Teens plays a CD release show at 5:30 p.m. at High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison. Call 608-268-1122.

Majestic, 115 King in Madison, presents Bomshel with Madison County at 8 p.m. Call 608-251-2582.

Saturday, March 13

*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Noche De Divas, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

Milwaukee Chamber Theater's production of "Duet for One" runs through March 14 at Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800.

Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth, presents Kramp & Adler's Comedy Festival with Nick Kroll, Wyatt Cenac and Nick Thune at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, has Spank! – a James Brown tribute at 8 p.m. Call 414-276-7288.

At 9 p.m., Cat House Drifters play Bay View Brew Haus, 2535 S. Kinnickinnic. Call 414-481-8060.

Pucker up for The Kissers at 8 p.m. at the Majestic, 115 King in Madison. Call 608-251-2582.

Madison's Perfect Harmony Chorus presents a cabaret titled "Do Ask, Do Tell," featuring music from the 1940s, at 7 p.m. at West Side Club, 437 County Road M. The event also features comedy, food, a cash bar and a silent auction. Call 698-445-6767.

Sunday, March 14

*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Divas Night, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

The Florentine Opera Company's free Sunday Artist Social features intimate discussions with principal artists and production staff and a live performance by resident artists, along with a cash bar and hors d'oeuvres from Miss Katie's Diner at 7 p.m.



PHOTO: TIM SOTER

Vampire Weekend, featuring openly gay band member Rostam Batmanglij (left), Ezra Koenig, Chris Baio and Christopher Tomson, plays The Riverside on March 23.

at The Room, 623 S. Second. E-mail Scott S. Stewart at ssstewart@florentineopera.org for reservations.

Slovenian folk/blues singer/songwriter Vlado Kreslin, who has been called the "Slovenian Bob Dylan," performs at 3 p.m. at Off-Broadway Theater, 342 N Water St. 2nd Floor. Call 414-278-0765.

Madison's Perfect Harmony Chorus presents a cabaret titled "Do Ask, Do Tell," featuring music from the 1940s, at 7 p.m. at West Side Club, 437 County Road M. The event also features comedy, food, a cash bar and a silent auction. Call 698-445-6767.

The Rave, 2401 W. Wisconsin, has RJD2, Happy Chichester and

KingHellBastard at 8 p.m. Call 414-342-RAVE.

Ted Leo & the Pharmacists are at High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison, at 8 p.m. Call 608-268-1122.

Monday, March 15

Norah Jones plays the Overture Center for the Arts, 201 State in Madison, at 7:30 p.m. Call 608-258-4141.

High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison, presents Electric Six at 8 p.m. Call 608-268-1122.

Tuesday, March 16

At 8 p.m., The Clientele and Field Music play High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison. Call 608-268-1122.

If you missed him in

Milwaukee, catch RJD2 with Break Science Adam Deitch & Borahm Lee – and Happy Chichester at 9 p.m. at the Majestic, 115 King in Madison. Call 608-251-2582.

Wednesday, March 17

Gaelic Storm blows into The Pabst, 144 E. Wells, at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663

Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells, presents August Wilson's "Radio Golf" through March 28 in the Stiemke Theater. Call 414-224-9490.

Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, has Pat McCurdy 8 p.m. Call 414-276-7288.

Thursday, March 18

*Tropical Night Club, 626



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S. Fifth, hosts Noche De Divas, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

Comedian George Lopez brings his funny business to The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin, at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

Shooter Jennings, the son of country legends Waylon Jennings and Jessi Colter, performs at 8 p.m. in The Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi Bingo Casino, 1721 W. Canal. Call 414-847-7922.

The Tossers play the WMSE 29th anniversary show at 8 p.m. at Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth. Call 414-286-3663.

Venice Gas House Trolley plays a CD release show at 10 p.m. at The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison. Call 608-819-8777.

The Appleseed Cast's Low Level Owl Tour stops by High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison, at 9 p.m. Call 608-268-1122.

Great Big Sea makes a splash at 8 p.m. at the Majestic, 115 King in Madison. Call 608-251-2582.

Friday, March 19,

*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Divas Night, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin, presents Norah Jones at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

Florentine Opera Company presents the Midwest premier of the American opera "Elmer Gantry," sung in English with English supertitles, tonight through Sunday, at the Marcus Center For the Performing Arts, at the corner of Water and State. Call 414-273-2787.

Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells, presents "Route 66" by Roger Bean, through Apr. 25 in the Stackner Cabaret. Call 414-224-9490.

Jason D. Williams and Sleepy LaBeef are at The Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi Bingo Casino, 1721 W. Canal, at 9 p.m. Call 414-847-7922.

The Big Pink and A Place to Bury Strangers perform at 8 p.m. at Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth. Call 414-286-3663

Led Zeppelin tribute band

No Quarter plays Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, at 8 p.m. Call 414-276-7288.

Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts, 19805 W. Capitol Drive in Brookfield, presents Erin Bode tonight and tomorrow night at 8 p.m. Call 262-781-9520.

High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison, welcomes P.O.S., Dessa of Doomtree and Astronautalis at 10 p.m. Call 608-268-1122.

Majestic, 115 King in Madison, has Need To Breathe with Stephen Kellogg and Graham Colton at 8:30 p.m. Call 608-251-2582.

Saturday, March 20

*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Noche De Divas, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. 2nd, presents "The Vagina Monologues" at noon today and tomorrow. Call 414-383-3727.

David Gray is at The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin, at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

Golden Dragon Chinese Acrobats perform at 6 p.m. at The Pabst, 144 E. Wells. Call 414-286-3663.

Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. 4th, welcomes P.O.S. with Dessa of Doom Tree and Astronautalis at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663

Cornmeal plays Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, at 9 p.m. Call 414-276-7288.

At 9:30 p.m., Leslie and the Ly's and Christopher The Conquered play High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison. Call 608-268-1122.

Scout Niblett performs at 9:30 p.m. at The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison. Call 608-819-8777.

Majestic, 115 King in Madison, welcomes Star Persons with Def Crew, Dr. Funkenstein and UW Breakers at 8:30 p.m. Call 608-251-2582.

Sunday, March 21

*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Divas Night, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

Experience Hendrix, featuring Billy Cox, Joe Satriani, Sacred Steel featuring Robert Randolph, Susan Tedeschi, Jonny Lang, Eric Johnson, Kenny Wayne

Shepherd, Ernie Isley, Brad Whitford, Doyle Bramhall II, Living Colour, Hubert Sumlin and Chris Layton, begins at 7 p.m. at The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin. Call 414-286-3663.

Crappy Dracula is at The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison, with Earl Foss and The Brown Derby and The Type at 8 p.m. Call 608-819-8777.

Monday, March 22

Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. 4th, presents The Temper Trap and The Kissaway Trail at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

Majestic, 115 King in Madison, welcomes Uncle Kracker and Rehab at 7 p.m. Call 608-251-2582.

Tuesday, March 23

*Vampire Weekend, featuring out member Rostam Batmanglij, plays The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin, 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

"Seven Keys to Baldpate" will be performed in the Quadracci Powerhouse Theater through April 18 at Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells. Call 414-224-9490.

Five For Fighting plays Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. 4th, at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

Winnipeg's Boats are at The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison, at 8 p.m. Call 608-819-8777.

Wednesday, March 24

*Overture Center for the Arts, 201 State in Madison, presents legendary comedian and actress Lily Tomlin at 7:30 p.m. Call 608-258-4141.

*Out singer/songwriter Katie Todd performs at 6 p.m. with Anna Coogan at The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison. Call 608-819-8777.

Smooth soul man Freddie Jackson performs at 8 p.m. at The Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi Bingo Casino, 1721 W. Canal. Call 414-847-7922.

Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, presents Stephen Kellogg and The Sixers and Graham Colton at 8 p.m. Call 414-276-7288.

Black Rebel Motorcycle Club roars into High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison, with Band Of Skulls, at 8:30 p.m. Call 608-268-



Out sister act Tegan and Sara play The Riverside March 25.

1122.

Thursday, March 25

*Out sister act Tegan and Sara play The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin, at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

The Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi Bingo Casino, 1721 W. Canal, pres-

ents an evening with Willie Nelson, at 8 p.m. Call 414-847-7922.

Cowboy Junkies perform at 8 p.m. at Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth. Call 414-286-3663.

Overture Center for the Arts, 201 State in Madison, presents Ibsen's "An Enemy of the People" through

March 28. Call 608-258-4141.

The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison, welcomes Mike Mangione with Jeremiah Nelson at 10 p.m. Call 608-819-8777.

Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, has Bob Schneider at 8 p.m. Call 414-276-7288.

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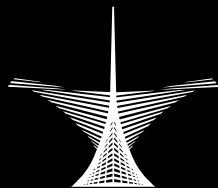
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William Klein, *Man under El*, 1955 (detail). Milwaukee Art Museum, Purchase, Richard and Ethel Herzfeld Foundation Acquisition Fund © William Klein



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OUT & ABOUT

MILWAUKEE.

Ballgame, 196 S. Second St., 414-273-7474. Sports bar.

Boom, 625 S. Second St., 414-277-5040. www.boom-mke.com. Neighborhood bar.

Cafe

Centraal, 2306 S. Kinnickinnic Ave., 414-755-0378, thecafecentral.com. Bar, restaurant, music.

City Lights, 111 W. Howard Ave., 414-481-1441. Neighborhood bar.

Cuvee Lounge, 177 N. Broadway, 414-225-9800, www.cuveemke.com. Cocktail lounge.

Elsa's on the Park, 833 N. Jefferson, 414-765-0615, elsas.com. Upscale lounge.

Fluid, 819 S. Second St., 414-643-5843, fluid.gaymke.com. Cocktail lounge

Kenadee's

Ultra Pub, 725 N. Milwaukee, 414-431-5556, kenadees.com. Trendy bar.

Kruz, 354 E. National Ave., 414-272-5789. Neighborhood bar.

La Cage, 801 S. Second St., 414-383-8330, www.lacagemke.com. Dance bar.

Mikey's, 811 N. Jefferson, 414-273-5397, mikeysmilwaukee.com.



Trendy bar.

MOCT, 240 E. Pittsburgh Ave., 414-273-6628, www.themoct.com. Dance club.

Out 'n About and Mona's Restaurant, 1407 S. 1st St., 414-643-0377, www.m-o-n-a-s.com. Nightclub/restaurant.

Nessun Dorma, 2778 N. Weil St., 414-264-8466, nessundormariverwest.com. Neighborhood bar and eatery.

Redroom, 1875 N. Humboldt Ave., 414-224-7666. Neighborhood bar.

Suite, 1103 Old World Third Street, 414-270-9653. Dance club, lounge.

Taylor's, 795 N. Jefferson St., 414-271-2855.

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Calendar

WHAT'S GOING ON?

ONGOING

Mondays, Wednesdays-Saturdays, the LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin, 1456 Junction Ave., Racine, holds drop-in hours. Info: www.lgbtsewisc.org, 262-664-4100.

THURSDAY

2:30 p.m., first and third Thursdays, LGBT senior adults discussion, Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin St., Madison. Info: ferington@charter.net.

6 p.m., third Thursdays, same-sex parents group, OutReach, 600 Williamson St., Madison. Info: 608-255-8582, www.lgb-toutreach.org.

7 p.m., third Thursdays, Lesbian Alliance movie night, LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee. Info:

414-272-9442
7 p.m., AA Living Sober; 7 p.m., Crystal Meth Anonymous, The Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., No. 201, Milwaukee. Info: 414-276-6936, galanoclub.org.

6 p.m., QGrads, UW Memorial Union Rathskeller, 800 Langdon St., Madison.

7:30 p.m., Four Lakes Bears, Michelangelo's Coffee Shop, 114 State St., Madison. Info: 608-251-5299.

FRIDAY

5:30 p.m., second and fourth Fridays, Pozitive Lite HIV/AIDS group, OutReach, 600 Williamson St., Madison. Info: 608-255-8582,

6 p.m., second Fridays, Lesbian Alliance game night and potluck, LGBT Community

Center, 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee. Info: 414-272-9442;

7 p.m., AA, The Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., No. 201, Milwaukee. Info: 414-276-6936.

7 p.m., Gay Narcotics Anonymous, 315 W. Court St., 2nd Fl., Milwaukee. Info: 414-276-6936.

8:30 p.m., second and fourth Fridays, Shoreline Milwaukee line dancing and lessons, Hot Water, 818 S. Water St., Milwaukee. Info: 414-383-7593,

SATURDAY

9 a.m., Frontrunners/Walkers Milwaukee Run Walk, starting at the Water Tower at the East end of North Avenue, Milwaukee. Info: 262-285-7645.

9 a.m., Frontrunners/Frontwalkers Madison, Wingra

Park off Monroe Street, Madison. Info: 469-4882

6 p.m., AA The Women's Light Meeting; 7:30 p.m., Spiritual Light, The Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., No. 201, Milwaukee. Info: 414-276-6936,

BWMT (Black and White Men Together) General meeting third Saturday each month, 7-8:30 p.m., preceded by business meeting 6-7 p.m. (open to all) We are a social group, with monthly group dinner outings and more. Info: 414-342-0705

BWMT (Black and White Men Together) General meeting third Saturday each month, 7-8:30 p.m., preceded by business meeting 6-7 p.m. (open to all) We are a social group, with monthly group dinner outings and more. Info: 414-342-0705.

SUNDAY

1 p.m., Cream City Squares dances, Lake Park Lutheran Church 2647 N. Stowell, Milwaukee.

7 p.m., AA The Big Book Meeting, The Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., No. 201, Milwaukee. Info: 414-276-6936,

5 p.m., OutThere LGBT youth group meeting, OutReach-Gateway Mall, 600 Williamson St., Madison. Info: 608-255-8582.

5 p.m., PFLAG Milwaukee, 3rd Sunday each month, Martin Luther Church, 9235 W. Bluemound Road, Wauwatosa.

MONDAY

7:30 p.m., AA Came to Believe, The Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., No. 201, Milwaukee. Info: 414-276-6936

TUESDAY

12:30 p.m., third Thursday, Retired Old/Older Lesbians (ROLLers), Madison. Info: 608-219-7751.

5 p.m., AA Over 40, and 7 p.m. AA The Blue Group, The Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., No. 201, Milwaukee. Info: 414-276-6936, galanoclub.org.

7 p.m., Spectrum GLBT and allied social group for adults Harmony Cafe - Green 1660 W. Mason St.

WEDNESDAY

7 p.m., AA 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, The Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., No. 201, Milwaukee. Info: 414-276-6936, galanoclub.org.

THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

THURSDAY

March 11

7:30-8:30 p.m., "Queer the Census" SE Wisconsin LGBT Center.

FRIDAY

March 12

6 p.m., Lesbian Alliance Game night and potluck dinner LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St., 414-272-9442.

8-10 p.m. Open Play Volleyball Beulah Brinton Center, 2555 S. Bay St., Milwaukee.

SATURDAY

March 13

12:30-2 p.m., Moonlighting Career Pathing Group, SE Wisconsin LGBT Center.

7-9 p.m., Q Law Gala fundraiser; UW-Madison University Club; contact uwqlaw@gmail.com.

6 p.m., Mediterranean Potluck LGBT center of the Chippewa Valley 510 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire.

9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., HER Day: Health, Education and

Recreation for Women, Chicago, e-mail: women@centeronhalsted.org.

SUNDAY

March 14

2 p.m., SAGE/Milwaukee St. Patrick's Day Party, 1845 N. Farwell, Ste. 220, Milwaukee.

3-7 p.m., Castaways Beer/Soda Bust. Lets Get Lucky event, 354 E. National Ave.

3-7 p.m., join Connexus for an LGBT community forum on black history and how it impacts our daily lives. At the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St.

MONDAY

March 15

7:30-8:30 p.m., Gender Identity Support Group LGBT of SE Wisconsin.

TUESDAY

March 16

6:30-8 p.m., Fair Wisconsin Action Network of the Chippewa Valley Meeting

LGBT Center of the Chippewa Valley, 510 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire.

SATURDAY

March 20

12-5 p.m., Open auditions for "The Vagina Monologues," at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second St., Milwaukee, 414-383-3727.

7 p.m., Milwaukee's Galano Club offers movie night, featuring "Ice Age 3." At 315 W. Court St., #201. Call 414-276-6936.

7 p.m., Milwaukee Gamma Game Night 414-530-1886. 6:45 p.m. Movie Night, "Jesus Camp. LGBT Center of the Chippewa Valley, 510 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire.

7:30 p.m., A provocative night of lesbian diversions \$7-\$10 sliding scale fee includes food and wine. Women & Children First 5233 N. Clark St., Chicago 773-769-9299.

SUNDAY

March 21

12-5 p.m., Open auditions for "The Vagina Monologues,"

no monologue preparation required. Milwaukee Gay Arts Center 703 S. Second St., Milwaukee, 414-383-3727.

2-5 p.m., SAGE/Milwaukee Sunday Card Party 845 North Farwell, Ste. 220, Milwaukee.

TUESDAY

March 23

6 p.m., SAGE/Milwaukee, Lets talk about...Social Security. 845 N. Farwell, Ste. 220, Milwaukee.

THURSDAY

March 25

7 p.m., Lesbian Alliance annual meeting at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St.

Send your events to eadams@wisconsin-gazette.com.

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COMMUNITY LISTINGS

MILWAUKEE

Arts/entertainment

Cream City Squares, 414-445-8080.

Men's Voices Milwaukee Chorus, Plymouth Church, 2717 E. Hampshire St., Shorewood, 414-964-1513.

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second St., 414-383-3727.

Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival, 414-229-4758, www4.uwm.edu/psol/programs/film/lgbtfilm.

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

Queer Zine Archive Project, 2935 N. Fratney St.

Shoreline Country Dancers, 818 S. Water St. (Hot Water Bar), www.shoreline-milw.org.

Wisconsin Cream City Chorus, 315 W. Court St., Suite 101, 414-276-8787.

Women's Voices Milwaukee, 315 W. Court St., womensvoicesmilwaukee@gmail.com, 414-534-5645.

Community

Bay View Gays, 414-482-3796, www.bvgays.com.

BWMT Milwaukee (Black & White Men Together), P.O. Box 1091475, Milwaukee, 53209, 414-463-5359.

CONNEXUS/African American LGBT Social and Educational Program, 2439 N. Holton, Milwaukee, WI 53212, 414-390-0444.

Cream City Foundation, 759 N. Milwaukee St., Suite

212, 414-225-0244.

Equality Wisconsin, 2717 E. Hampshire, Milwaukee, 53211, 414-431-1306, www.equalitywi.org.

Firebirds, P.O. Box 159, Milwaukee, 53201. FORGE, PO Box 1272, Milwaukee, WI 53201, www.forge-forward.org.

G/L Community Center, 904 S. 1st St., 414-643-1652. G/L Community Trust Fund, P.O. Box 1686, Milwaukee, WI 53201, 414-643-1652.

Gemini Gender Group, P.O. Box 44211, Milwaukee, WI 53214.

Lesbian Alliance, 315 W. Court St., 414-272-9442.

Lesbian Fund of the Women's Fund of Greater

Milwaukee, 316 N. Milwaukee Street, Suite 215, 414-290-7350, www.womenfund.com.

LOC/Women of color, P.O. Box 93594, Milwaukee, WI 53203, 414-263-1631.

Log Cabin Republicans, P.O. Box 199, Milwaukee, 53201, 414-755-1954.

Milwaukee Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender

Community Center, 315 W. Court St., Suite 101, 414-271-2656, www.mkelgbt.org.

Milwaukee LGBT History Project, 414-224-0517, www.mkelgbthist.org.

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

Pridefest, 315 W. Court St., Suite 203, 414-272-3378, www.pridefest.com.

Pride Parade, www.pride-parademke.com.

SHEBA/Sisters Helping Each other Battle AIDS, 2439 N. Holton, Milwaukee, WI 53212, 414-390-0444.

WanderWomyn Outdoors Group, deby-doo2@yahoo.com.

Washington Heights Rainbow Association, 414-217-1571, on Facebook.

SAGE Milwaukee, 1845 N. Farwell Ave., Suite 220, 414-224-0517.

Wisconsin Rainbow Families, 315 W. Court St., Room 112, info@wirainbowfamilies.com.

Business

Gay & Lesbian Tavern Guild, 209 E. National Ave.

Health

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, 820 N. Plankinton Ave., 414-273-1991.

BEST Clinic, 1240 E. Brady St., 414-272-2144.

Diverse and Resilient, 2439 N. Holton St., 414-390-0444, www.diverseandresilient.org.

Galano Club, 315 W. Court Street, Suite 201-A, 414-276-6936.

Health Institute of Milwaukee, 1817 N. Martin Luther King Drive, Suite 3,

414-263-9999.

Milwaukee Women's Center, 611 N. Broadway, Suite 230, 414-272-6199.

STD Specialties Clinic, 3251 N. Holton St., Milwaukee, 414-264-8800, www.stdspecialties.org.

Walker's Point Community Clinic, 611 W. National Ave., Suite 400, 414-384-1400.

Religion/spirituality

Central United Methodist Church, 639 N. 25th St., 414-344-1600.

Congregation Shir Hadash, 414-297-9159, www.cshmilw.org.

Cross Lutheran Church, 1821 N. 16th St., 414-344-1746.

Divine Word Lutheran Church, 5505 W. Lloyd St., 414-476-3189.

First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee, 1342 N. Astor St., 414-273-5257.

Lake Park Lutheran Church, 2647 N. Stowell Ave., 414-962-9190.

Metropolitan Community Church, 1239 W. Mineral St., 414-383-1100.

Milwaukee Friends Meeting (Quakers), 3224 N. Gordon Place.

Plymouth Church, 2717 E. Hampshire Ave., Milwaukee, 414-964-1513.

St. James Episcopal Church, 833 W. Wisconsin Ave., 414-271-1340.

Sports

Front Runners/Front Walkers, 414-443-037.

GAMMA-Milwaukee, P.O. Box 1900, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1900, www.milwaukeekeegamma.com

Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club, 414-616-3716.

Milwaukee Gay Soccer League, 1012 E. Clarke St., 414-405-5878, www.milwaukeekeegaysoccer.org.

Milwaukee Gay Volleyball League, milwaukeekeegayvolleyball.com.

Saturday Softball Beer League, 2333 N. 56th St., 414-350-7147, www.ssblmilwaukee.com.

Youth/education

Alliance School, 850 W. Walnut St., 414-227-2550, www.allianceschool.org.

Alliance for LGBTQ Youth, 1212 S. 70th St., 414-453-1400, www.cssw.org.

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

LGBT Resource Center a UWM, U.W.-M. Student Union, P.O. Box 413, Milwaukee, 53201, 414-229-4116.

Marquette U G/L Alumni, P.O. Box 92722, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

Marquette Univ. Gay/Straight Alliance, 1442 W. Wisconsin Ave.

Project Q, 315 W. Court St., Suite 101, 414-223-3220.

Rainbow Alliance at UWM, 220 E. Kenwood Ave., 414-229-6555.

UWM LGBT Resource Center, UWM Union WG89, www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/LGBT.

KENOSHA

Religion/spirituality

Bradford Community Church-Unitarian Universalist, 5810 8th Ave., 262-656-0544.

MADISON

Arts/entertainment

Dairyland Cowboys and Cowgirls, Club 5, 5 Applegate Court, 608-277-9700.

Community

OutReach, 600 Williamson St., 608-255-8582, www.lgbtoutreach.org.

Politics

Fair Wisconsin, 122 State, Suite 500, 608-441-0143, www.actionwisconsin.com.

Sports

Madison Gay Hockey Association, www.madison-gayhockey.org/ Madison Volleyball Group, 608-251-8716

RACINE

Community

LGBT Center of Southeast Wisconsin, 1456 Junction Ave., 262-664-4100, www.lgbtsewisc.org.



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Adult Fun

STRAP-ON SEX 101

Saturday, January 30, 8 p.m. Want to learn the ins-and-outs of dildo and harness use? All genders are welcome; we will discuss strap-ons for many types of bodies and uses! Bring your questions. \$10 per person. Register at www.toolshedtoys.com or by calling 414-906-5304.

www.wisconsin gazette.com



Body Heat

Femme Porn Tour Thursday, March 18, 8pm

Femmes from across the U.S. will converge in Milwaukee for a night of erotic song, dance, camp, smut, poetry, prose, and an all-around rocking good time!

FEATURING

Kathleen Delaney • Meliza Bañales
Jen Cross • Nicky Click
Alex Cafarelli • Vagina Jenkins

Co-sponsors: A Broader Vocabulary Cooperative & the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee



THE TOOL SHED
2427 N Murray Ave, MKE
414-906-5304

www.toolshedtoys.com

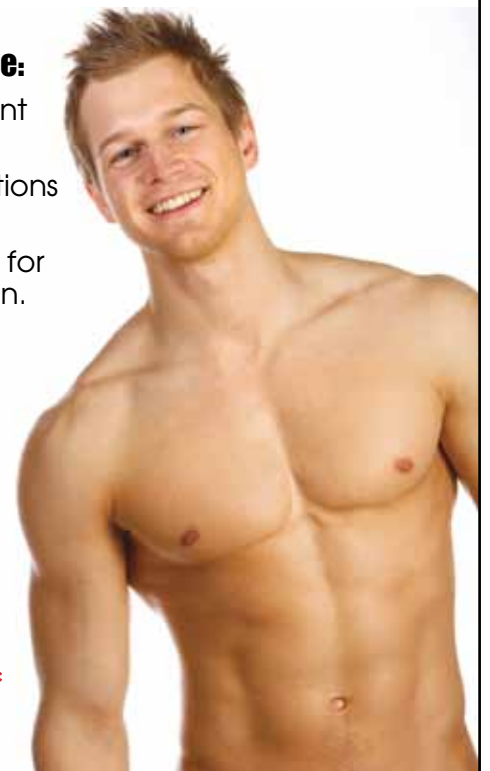
You Know You Wanna Know. Get Tested. It's Free!

At no cost to you, we provide:

- STD testing and treatment for men.
- Hepatitis A & B Vaccinations for gay or bisexual men.
- Hepatitis B Vaccinations for straight men and women.
- Anonymous or name associated HIV testing and counseling for men and women.

**Hours: Mondays & Tuesdays
6:00pm - 8:30pm**

**BEST D
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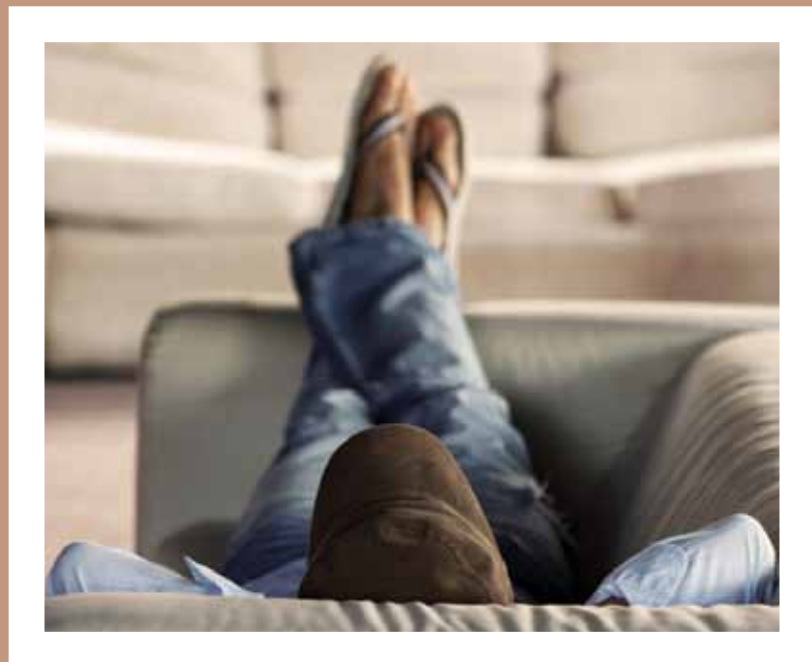
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