

## In WiGOUT

Benjamin Bratt talks about his role as the homophobic father of a gay son in "La Mission." Page 19.



THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY

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# Judge rules against DOMA

By Lisa Neff  
Staff writer

Take two narrowly defined gay rights cases. Add a conservative judge. The sum is a history-making victory for both same-sex couples and state's rights – a federal court declaration that a section of the U.S. Defense of Marriage Act is unconstitutional.

U.S. District Court Judge Joseph Tauro on July 9, ruling in two cases from Massachusetts, doomed a section of DOMA as motivated by "irrational prejudice."

Tauro's rulings are "confirmation of what every lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender American knows to be a basic truth – we and our families are equal," said Joe Solmonese, president of the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest LGBT group.

The rulings create a

dilemma for the U.S. Justice Department, which has yet to announce whether it will appeal to the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston. The department is responsible for defending Congress' acts, but the current administration maintains that DOMA is discriminatory and should be repealed.

DOMA became law with the signature of Bill Clinton in 1996, when it seemed that Hawaii might soon legalize same-sex civil marriages, a first in the United States.

The GOP-dominated Congress had crafted DOMA to carve out an exemption to the U.S. Constitution's full faith and credit clause, wanting to allow one state to refuse to recognize a same-sex marriage from another state.

Another element of DOMA defined marriage, for federal purposes, as the union of a man and a woman. The result of this provision is that gay couples legally married in five states and the District of Columbia are denied the more than 1,100 federal benefits and respon-

DOMA page 11



PHOTOS: COURTESY FEASTOFFUN.COM / FAUSTO FERNÓS

## GREEN BAY PRIDE

More than 3,200 people (including performers Deven Green, Michael Ryan and Joel Bryant, top) turned out for Pride Alive 2010 at Joannes Park in Green Bay. UW-Oshkosh professor Bill McConkey, who recently lost a court case challenging the constitutionality of Wisconsin's same-sex marriage ban, gave the opening speech. He issued a call to action for LGBT people and their allies to continue fighting for equal rights for all Wisconsin citizens. See more pictures on page 10.

# Cyclists gear up for the ride of a lifetime

By Louis Weisberg  
Staff writer

It's every cyclist's nightmare – a sudden hailstorm on a deserted road in the middle of nowhere. But when Scott Jones found himself in that situation last summer while participating in the ACT 7 AIDS Ride, what began as a

nightmare turned into a fond memory.

"I thought, 'This is bad,'" Jones remembers. "But about the time I was really getting concerned about my safety, a van came and (volunteers) loaded up my bike and took me to the next pit stop, where I waited out the storm

with several other riders. Everyone was so supportive and kind. After that, there was a new energy, and we rode another 35 or 40 miles that day."

For Jones, that stormy experience embodies the meaning of an event that has become a highlight of

his year. When ACT 8 AIDS Ride sets out July 29 for a four-day, 300-mile trek across Wisconsin's rolling countryside to raise money for AIDS Network of Madison, Jones will be along for the third time.

"I look forward to being with a group of people who

are all united in the same cause, and I look forward to the spirit of community that exists within the ride," Jones says.

The community created by the ride extends beyond volunteers, contributors and AIDS Network staff and cli-

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## LGBT news with a twist



## WIGWAG

By Lisa Neff &amp; Louis Weisberg

**NORMAL AT LAST**

Mark Ruffalo told MTV he'll star in the long-awaited film adaptation of Larry Kramer's groundbreaking 1984 AIDS play "The Normal Heart." Ryan Murphy (creator of "Glee") will direct, with Kramer adapting his work for the screen. Barbra Streisand held rights to the film for 10 years, but never got around to making it, reportedly due to creative differences with Kramer. No surprise there — they're both famously difficult. Ruffalo is currently on-screen in Lisa Cholodenko's lesbian family flick "The Kids Are All Right."

**RETURN TO LENDER?**

Yvonne Moore is mad as hell because her Washington, D.C., church has decided to perform same-sex marriages. She's suing the church for \$250,000. Moore estimates that's the amount of cash

she's tossed into the collection basket over the past 37 years.

**PEE-WEE REDUX**

Judd Apatow is developing an untitled Pee-wee Herman feature for Universal that Paul Reubens (Pee-wee's real name) is co-writing with "Inglourious Basterds" screenwriter Paul Rust. "Let's face it, the world needs more Pee-wee Herman," Apatow told Daily Variety. "I am so excited to be working with Paul Reubens, who is an extraordinary and groundbreaking actor and writer." Pee-wee also is headed for Broadway in the fall, with a six-week run at the Stephen Sondheim Theatre.

**NAUGHTY MILEY**

Miley Cyrus was spotted looking very grown up at London's G-A-Y nightclub in early July. The tween idol was said to be flaunting her

stuff in revealing tattered clothes complemented by bondage-style accessories.

**GLEEFUL**

Fox TV's "Glee" earned the second-most Emmy nominations for 2010. The musical-comedy show, which has a huge gay following, got 19 nods, including best comedy and acting noms for Lea Michelle and Matthew Morrison.

**LADY GAGA EYES**

A bathtub scene from a Lady Gaga video ignited a fashion trend that has ophthalmologists seeing red. In the scene, La Gaga flashes a pair of larger-than-life eyes that resemble characters from Japanese anime films. Teenagers and young women are trying to imitate the look with oddly colored

contact lenses, known as circle lenses, which cover not just the iris but part of the whites of the eyes. The lenses are not legal in the United States, but available online from Asian companies. Doctors warn they can cause permanent damage.

**HEAR THIS...**

Three men were freed following rape convictions in Vietnam partly based on an acupuncturist's claims that the men are virgins because each has a small red spot on his ear. "The spots should have disappeared if they had had sex," acupuncturist Pham Thi Hong told AP. "My many years of experience told me that these men did not have sex before." It seems, however, that this test only can be used to determine whether men have had sex with women, not other men, according to Hong. Whose ears are you looking at now?

**TABULATE THIS...**

Ellen DeGeneres, the sweet judge on "American Idol" and the funny talk show host, ranked No. 23 on Forbes' new list of most successful, most prominent 100 celebrities. DeGeneres falls between Steven Spielberg at 22 and David Letterman at 24 with her pay, put at about \$55 million. Oprah Winfrey holds the No. 1 spot with earnings of about \$315 million. She's followed by Beyonce Knowles, James Cameron, Lady Gaga and Tiger Woods. Mariska Hargitay just made the cut at No. 100.

**RECORD THIS...**

Martina Navratilova, still recovering from radiation treatment for cancer and now age 53, won another Wimbledon title. Navratilova, the most decorated player in tennis, and Jana Novotna defeated Tracy Austin and Kathy Rinaldi-

Stunkel in the women's invitation doubles at the tournament. Navratilova has nine Wimbledon trophies.

**FILE THIS...**

Melissa Etheridge has filed in a Los Angeles court to dissolve her domestic partnership with Tammy Lynn Michaels, a move that apparently surprised Michaels. After learning of the filing, Michaels posted a poem to her "hollywood farm girl" blog: SMACK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!/FILE FOR DIVORCE!!!!!!!!/even though we both promised/agreed/handshook/pinkyswore/no filing until after tour/in the fall/her broken promises/told to me by/headlines/i'm raising the kids/doing what i can/second set of yours/could you stop blind siding me?!/unless it's another art form you're working on?" Don't expect Etheridge to adapt that into a tune for her tour.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4 • RIVERSIDE  
**THE NATIONAL**

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**mewithoutYou**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7 • TURNER  
**JOHNNY WINTER**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10 • RIVERSIDE  
**KEANE**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11 • RIVERSIDE  
**MELISSA ETHERIDGE**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12 • PABST  
**HANSON**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13 • TURNER  
**THE SCARRING PARTY**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13 • RIVERSIDE  
**THE BLACK CROWES**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14 • TURNER  
**JAILL**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19 • PABST  
**THE SILK ROAD ENSEMBLE WITH YO-YO MA**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21 • PABST  
**GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA**

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# Madison activists organize rally against National Organization for Marriage

By John Quinlan

Contributing writer

Efforts are underway to generate a large grassroots protest to meet the National Organization for Marriage's anti-gay "Summer for Marriage" tour when it arrives in Madison July 27, for a noon rally at the State Street entrance of the Capitol.

A coalition-based counter-rally and march in support of the freedom to marry will begin at 11 a.m. on the UW-Madison's Library Mall,

in the 700 block of State Street, proceeding up State Street to the Capitol.

"Everywhere that the National Organization for Marriage caravan goes, they need to be shown that they do not represent majority opinion," said coalition leader Jesse Otradovec with the Queer Student Alliance. "Our highest hope is that if we're successful and we can significantly outnumber them when they come to Madison, we can be a force for turning back this tour."

## Rally is slated for July 27.

Spurred on by a federal court decision in Boston that found a section of the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional, NOM has launched a bus tour across 17 states and the District of Columbia. July 27 is the caravan's only stop in Wisconsin.

In NOM's call to action, the organization declared that this is an urgent time

for marriage, that a strong marriage makes a strong family, and that groups of these strong families make strong neighborhoods and strong towns, cities and states.

Sean Eldridge, of the marriage equality group Freedom to Marry, said he wants the rally to be more than a counter-protest.

This is "a positive campaign to show Americans supporting the right of all persons to marry," he said. "Freedom to Marry has always believed that the best way to change

hearts and minds is to break the silence, spark conversations and share personal stories about why marriage matters to same-sex couples and their families. But we also know that we cannot allow the distractions, distortions and discriminatory agenda of groups like NOM to go unanswered," Eldridge said.

Freedomtomarry.org is acting as a clearinghouse for those seeking to connect with local efforts. The organization asks participants to register at that Web site in

support of all efforts nationwide.

As of press time, the coalition was still coming together, but included the UW-Madison's Queer Student Alliance, UW-Whitewater's direct action group Impact and OutReach, Madison's LGBT community center, in addition to grassroots groups in Milwaukee and statewide.

For more information, write to queerstudentalliance@gmail.com, or call OutReach at 608-255-8582.

## BRIEFS

### EEOC SUES COMPANY OVER HARASSMENT IN WIS. STORE

A federal agency is accusing a Kentucky company of permitting a sexually hostile work environment in one of its Wisconsin pharmacies. The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission said it has filed a federal lawsuit naming Covington, Ky.-based Omnicare Inc., which does business as Pinnacle Pharmacy. The suit says a pharmacy manager at a La Crosse, Wis., store sexually harassed female employees through unwanted touching and demeaning comments.

The EEOC says several women complained, but pharmacy management didn't help them. An Omnicare spokeswoman says the company doesn't tolerate sexual harassment in the workplace. She says the company took prompt action when it learned of the allegations.

### GAMMA PRESENTS OPEN MIC NIGHT

GAMMA Milwaukee holds its second open mic and potluck night at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center on July 31. There is no cover charge or registration fee. The event is open to the public, and every one is encouraged to bring a favorite dish to share.

GAMMA's Richard Goldberg says all types of performance are welcome:



PHOTO: YOUTUBE SCREEN CAPTURE

**Republican U.S. Senate candidate Ernest J. Pagels Jr. addresses the camera in his commercial calling for outlawing homosexuality.**

song, dance, spoken word, comedy. "People can perform whatever they want, it's an adult show," Goldberg says.

The first event, held in April, drew more than 30 people to share a meal and watch five performances by

members of the community. If the upcoming event is as successful, GAMMA plans to hold regular open mics four times a year.

Contact GAMMA at 414-530-1886 to reserve a performance slot, or just show up the night of the event to be worked into the schedule.

### WIS. SENATE CANDIDATE WANTS TO OUTLAW GAYS

In recent TV ads that aired in the Milwaukee market (and are posted on youtube.com), a Republican U.S. Senate candidate says he'd outlaw homosexuality, if elected.

"I'm a born-again Christian, a U.S. veteran and a very conservative Republican," Ernest J. Pagels Jr. says in the commercial. "If elected, I

will initiate a bill to outlaw homosexuality, abortion and all forms of pornography. I think these are three ills that are plaguing our nation and bringing us down."

Pagels, who's running in the Republican primary, is unlikely to clinch the nomination. Oshkosh businessman Ron Johnson, who also opposes LGBT equality, is heavily favored in polls to win the chance to take on Democratic incumbent Russ Feingold.

Pagels was cited for disorderly conduct in February after witnesses reported him urinating on a car tire in a parking lot at Waukesha County Technical College. He sued the college for violating his civil rights, but the case was dismissed.

— from WiG and AP reports

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- Project Q (youth program)
- Speaking & Training
- Tobacco Cessation & Smoke-Free Space

# Carol Stevens remembered as lesbian pioneer

By Jamakaya

Contributing writer

More than 120 family members and friends crowded Milwaukee's Quaker Meeting House on July 5 to pay tribute and share a potluck dinner in memory of Carol Stevens, a founding mother and guiding light of the city's lesbian community.

Stevens died June 26 at St. Mary's Hospital surrounded by loved ones. She was 86.

Stevens was a member of the Gay People's Union in the early 1970s and one of only a handful of people at that time willing to publicly identify herself with the first gay organization to incorporate as a non-profit in Milwaukee.

She was a mainstay of many LGBT and feminist groups in the decades that followed, including Grapevine, the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee, Silver Space and Senior Action in a Gay Environment. She was an avid volunteer, working for publications like GPU News and Amazon, staffing information tables, selling raffle tickets and organizing dances for the women's community.

"The great thing about Carol was how committed and dependable she was," an old friend said. "She'd have an idea for a fundraiser or event and then get everyone involved to make it successful. She didn't really see herself as a leader and yet that's exactly what she was."

She was also a legendary hostess and cook. Together with her longtime partner

Jai, she opened her home to hundreds of women over the years for feasts and potlucks. All women were welcome, from argumentative political dykes to nervous "newbie" lesbians taking their first tentative steps to meet other lesbians.

Almost everyone at the memorial celebration commented on the generosity and gift for friendship which Stevens used to bring women together and mentor them.

Mo White, who called herself one of Stevens' "adopted granddaughters," cited six important life lessons she learned from her grandmother: Always look for the good in people. Fight for what is right and stick up for yourself. Find pleasure in life. Work continuously to better yourself. Be true and loyal to your partner.

Finally, White said: "Carol always said, 'I have a good life because I think I have a good life. There are always things to be grateful and happy for.'"

Longtime friend Kathy Herbst pointed out that alongside her goodness and generosity, Stevens also had a "toughness and tenacity about her."

The crowd roared when White told an anecdote illustrating that toughness. Once, when a driver cut Stevens off and took her parking space, she marched to the offending vehicle after the driver had left and released the air from some of its tires.

Stevens loved reading, especially mysteries, and

enjoyed music, theater and games. At the service, participants joined in singing some of her favorite songs, including "Shenandoah," "Always" and "The Girl in the Red Velvet Dress." For many years, Stevens and Jai hosted the Off-Stage Players, an amateur play-reading group, in their home. They also loved playing charades, Scrabble, UpWords and Finish Lines.

Education and self-improvement were constant themes in her life. She earned her bachelor's degree in criminal justice from UW-Milwaukee just a few months before her 75th birthday.

Stevens was born Carol Mauser in 1924 in Oak Park, Ill., and grew up in Chicago. As a child, she lived a few blocks from Wrigley Field and became a big Cubs fan, attending games with her father.

She married in 1951 and had three daughters, Vicki, Valerie and "Little" Carol, who later chose the name Chiron. Stevens divorced about 20 years later, starting her new life in Milwaukee in the early 1970s and getting involved with the emerging gay, lesbian and feminist communities.

She and Jai were presented with the PrideFest Community Service Award in 1997. On the occasions of Stevens' 75th, 80th and 85th birthdays, as well as her and Jai's 30th anniversary, potluck parties were held at the Milwaukee LGBT

**'I have a good life because I think I have a good life.'**

Community Center. Last year, they were named king and queen of SAGE's annual Spring Fling. "It was such a treat to see them dancing," Bill Serpe, SAGE executive director, recalled. "Carol was always such a pleasure to be with."

Stevens is survived by daughters Valerie and Chiron, four grandchildren, her partner of 38 years Jai, and hundreds of friends and admirers.



Carol Stevens

## Former Madison PD Officer James Witalison dead at 60

Retired Madison police Officer James Arthur Witalison, 60, died April 27 of congestive heart failure. As a pioneering openly gay officer, Witalison played an important role in building a gay-friendly police force in the city.

A celebration of Witalison's life is sched-

uled to be held at Olbrich Gardens, 3330 Atwood Ave., on July 16. Retired Madison Police Chief David Couper, who is now an Episcopal priest, will officiate. Couper hired Witalison in 1980 and initiated many of the reforms that brought greater racial, cultural, gender and sexual orientation diversity to the

Madison Police Department.

The gathering begins at 5:30 p.m., and the memorial service starts at 6 p.m. Witalison's family and friends are proud to have the MPD K-9 unit and Honor Guard present for the memorial.

- L.W.

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# PrideFest is a political statement

**Opinion**  
SCOTT D. GUNKEL

I would like to thank Wisconsin Gazette for including PrideFest-related articles in some editions before the festival, especially the article about our organization's volunteerism. There also was a mention of the LGBT entertainers showcased at PrideFest. Many of them come from around the country and the world simply for exposure at our festival.

But I take to task WiG's view that PrideFest didn't do enough or anything political. It also cited a blank Web site history page.

PrideFest's very presence at Henry W. Maier Festival Park is a political statement. Numerous people, from Milwaukee and from around the country, have told me that PrideFest should look

at other venues to hold our event, because of the costs incurred using these grounds. I have to educate them about PrideFest's history. Our community came together to save the festival and the use of these grounds. By being there, PrideFest becomes a significant part of the wider community of cultural festivals. This is extremely important, socially and politically, because it places PrideFest and the LGBT community at an equal level with all the other diverse communities in our state.

However, PrideFest is *not* a political entity. The community has other organizations for that. PrideFest is an organization that builds the platform for others to utilize and express the LGBT community's full concerns and constructs. These include the political and historical.

WiG must have missed our opening ceremony, or simply neglected to mention it in the editorial. The

ceremony included, among the many presentations, the unveiling of the U.S. Postal Service's PrideFest pictorial cancellation and the account of how it came about through the leadership of Milwaukee LGBT Community Center executive director Maggi Cage. The presence of Milwaukee Postmaster Charlie Miller to unveil the cancellation, as well as the post office's staffing of a booth at PrideFest to cancel items to mail, recognized the importance and relevance of Milwaukee's LGBT community. PrideFest also produced postcards and a unique postage stamp of our own. These are political achievements.

In recognition of decades of service to our community's health needs, the PrideFest Medal for Community Service was presented to the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin and BESTD Clinic. This recognition was also bestowed on



PHOTO: COURTESY

**Scott D. Gunkel**

Mark Mariucci, publisher of QUEST, for his long-term service to Wisconsin's LGBT community. The Castaways MC and the Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf received certificates for their many years of volunteer service to PrideFest.

During the Opening Ceremony, Diverse & Resilient's Brenda Coley spoke about PrideFest's

Health & Wellness area's emphasis on HIV testing. She described the renewed outreach that PrideFest's H&W area implemented this year in response to Milwaukee's increase of HIV cases. This is a socially and politically important act.

The history project is an undertaking by individual community members under the guidance of SAGE Milwaukee. A history display has been part of our celebration for years. PrideFest purchased the materials needed to create the exhibit in the Arts and Culture Building. Numerous panels showed hundreds of photos of our past events. Included were images of Pride balls and parades, softball tournaments, AIDS Walks and much more. A separate SAGE display with photos and biographical texts gave tribute to our early LGBT activists. Their contributions are part of our legacy and honored as such. Also in the Art &

Culture Building, the UWM LGBT Archive presented information about its holdings.

The blank page of the Web site was an unfortunate omission due to a change in Web providers and developers. They also are volunteers. PrideFest will address this and find a solution.

Ultimately, more than 30,000 people attended PrideFest 2010. They enjoyed top comedy and musical entertainment, art, theater, a volleyball tournament, belly dancing, family programs and religious services. They explored our H&W area, got tested for HIV, danced and celebrated the great strides our Milwaukee LGBT community has made.

Those facts are worthy of an editorial.

*Scott D. Gunkel is president of PrideFest.*

## Fair Wisconsin, HRL-PAC issue endorsements

Fair Wisconsin PAC and Human Rights League PAC have released their joint 2010 fall election endorsements. The groups previously announced their endorsement of Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett for governor.

"We are excited to support so many pro-fairness candidates from across Wisconsin as we celebrate

the one-year anniversary of the passage of domestic partnership protections," said Fair Wisconsin executive director Katie Belanger. "These candidates have shown a commitment to advancing equality in Wisconsin, and we look forward to working with them in the next legislative session."

Endorsements include:

**Governor:**

Mayor Tom Barrett

**Attorney General:**

Scott Hassett

**Wisconsin Senate**

**Districts:**

- Sen. Tim Carpenter (3rd)
- Sen. Jim Sullivan (5th)
- Sen. John Lehman (21st)
- Sen. Pat Kreitlow (23st)
- Sen. John Erpenbach (27th)

- Sen. Kathleen Vinehout (31st)

**Wisconsin Assembly Districts:**

- Rep. Fred Kessler (12th)
- Rep. Christine Sinicki (20th)
- Tom Michalski (21st)
- Rep. Sandy Pasch (22nd)
- Liz Jones (29th)
- Rep. Kim Hixson (43rd)
- Speaker Mike Sheridan

- (44th)
- Rep. Gary Hebl (46th)
- Rep. Joe Parisi (48th)
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- Rep. Robert Turner (61st)
- Steve Brown (66th)
- Rep. Kristen Dexter (68th)
- Janet Bewley (74th)
- Rep. Terese Berceau (76th)

- Rep. Mark Pocan (78th)
- Janis Ringhand (80th)
- Rep. Kelda Helen Roys (81st)
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— L.W.



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 Brady Street Drag Show 7:00 PM  
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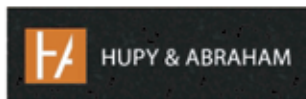
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## { Editorial }

**Let decision stand**

A U.S. district court judge in Massachusetts ruled on July 9 that a section of the U.S. Defense of Marriage Act is unconstitutional. This is a welcome development for married same-sex couples in that state, but its impact on same-sex marriages elsewhere is unclear.

To become federal law, the decision first would have to survive an appeal at the federal circuit court level. From there, the case would go to the U.S. Supreme Court. It's nearly impossible to imagine the current justices supporting the decision, which states that the federal marriage ban violates the Constitution's equal protection clause and interferes with states' rights to establish their own marriage laws.

The decision puts the Obama administration in a quandary. The White House has condemned DOMA, but the nation's chief executive has an obligation to use the Justice Department to defend laws enacted by Congress.

As of press time, the White House had not spoken on the ruling except to say that the president believes DOMA is discriminatory and should be repealed by Congress. But the administration refused to comment on whether it believes DOMA is unconstitutional.

If the administration chooses to let the decision stand, it will not have any impact beyond the state of Massachusetts. But if the White House appeals the decision, the outcome is unlikely to be favorable.

Still, the best course of action the White House can take is none. Allowing the ruling to stand will establish a framework of legal encroachment against the discriminatory federal law. The administration should argue that marriage law falls under the sovereignty of the state and leave it at that. After all, the states'-rights argument is a mantra of conservatives, when it suits their purposes. Turn it back on them.

Moreover, the nation needs – and wants – a president who stands by his or her convictions. The voters, including an overwhelming majority of LGBT people, cast their ballots in 2008 for a promise of change and “no more politics as usual.” But Obama has provided mostly half-measures and capitulations on a host of the issues that drove so many of us enthusiastically to the polls.

It's time for courage and leadership, for change we can believe in. The White House should let the decision stand.



“Same-sex marriage aside,  
do we have to wear the same pajamas?”

## { Letters }

**PRIDEFEST AND THE PARADE**

The (July 1) issue of Wisconsin Gazette had some thoughtful articles on the Pride celebrations in Milwaukee in June. I have my own thoughts to add regarding the Pride parade.

I believe the time has come to address the issue of the timing of the Pride parade. After 2003, Milwaukee's Pride Parade was eliminated by the PrideFest committee, which was experiencing serious financial difficulties. The Pride parade was resurrected in 2005, organized and funded by the bars. (Much of the history of Milwaukee's Pride celebrations can be found at the Milwaukee LGBT History Project Web site at [www.mkelgbthist.org/organiz/act\\_pol/pride/pridefest-timeline.htm](http://www.mkelgbthist.org/organiz/act_pol/pride/pridefest-timeline.htm).)

I applaud the way the LGBT print media, the bars and some other businesses and organizations came together to restore the parade, one of the most politically visible aspects of Pride displays in the city. However, I take issue with the timing of the parade – that is, the same weekend as PrideFest.

There has been a noticeable and serious decline in PrideFest attendance on Sunday since the parade was restored by the bars. People don't attend PrideFest early

on Sunday, instead going to the various bars to watch the parade. Many of the bars organize their own street parties, with seating, special events, etc. That's all great – but it is taking people away from PrideFest.

I was disappointed to have to miss the parade because I was working at PrideFest. And I was not alone – it takes hundreds to run and staff the festival.

The best thing the parade committee can do is move the event to another weekend. The weekend before PrideFest would be perfect to kick start a week of lead-up events. This would mean more people at the parade, and the bars would have much greater attendance. They could extend the celebration into the evening, because people wouldn't consider going to PrideFest after the parade. And more people would go to PrideFest earlier in the day on Sunday.

Let's support each other. The two events need to be on different weekends, so people can enjoy both to their full extent.

*Don Schwamb*

**WHERE THERE'S SMOKE ...**

I found the recent opinion piece by Jennifer Cadenas on second-hand smoke at PrideFest and the Pride

Parade interesting. While I am a non-smoker, I do have several smoking friends and am more than pleased with the indoor smoking ban now in effect. But I'm disappointed with Cadenas' willingness to impose her rules on smokers. All of her ground rules affect areas which are open air, whether at PrideFest or on Second Street. I recall very many spots on the parade route and at PrideFest where parents, children and strollers could sit well away from smokers. I hate to imagine the car exhaust inhaled by spectators that day.

I also can suggest additional ground rules that could be added to her list. 1) Do not bring children into areas where smoking is going on. 2) Always ask others if it is OK to bring your children into the area. 3) Do not bring strollers and walking toddlers into well-traveled areas and paths. Common areas should not be taken over by over indulgent parents with their children in tow. What I am getting at is the all too frequent desire of well-meaning people to impose their beliefs on others. We have enough politicians and moral majorities out there willing to do that. Creating rules for others to follow reeks of intolerance. Perhaps we should be careful in getting what we wish for.

*Jerry Warzyn*

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## The real 'L' mentors

A recurring topic in my columns is the importance of advocates and role models in today's media for young gay people. As the oldest of 12 siblings, I understand that one does not always choose to be a role model. Sometimes people just look up to you, whether you like it or not.

People in the media should understand that by choosing to be on television, they're positioning themselves as role models, whether they like it or not. I don't think a lot of them realize this.

When I heard that a new show called "The Real L Word" was coming to Showtime, I made time to see it with the hope that one of the stars would have her life together enough to deserve the responsibility she was taking on as an openly lesbian role model.

The "Real L Word" is a reality show that follows six Los Angeles lesbians through their friendships, relationships and careers. The episode begins with each of them taking turns telling about their first sexual experience with another woman (or another girl — as in the case of Whitney, who was 9 and whose sex partner was 11). The characters vary from the girl who has a lot of random hook-ups to the lesbian couple planning their wedding, giving viewers a wide enough range of personalities from which to find one to identify with.

But in watching the episode, I struggled to find any reason why these women deserved to be on a reality show, other than the fact that they were lesbians on a show about lesbians. A couple of the women were professionals in their chosen fields. Almost all of them were in some type of relationship, but none of them had lasted more than a few months. Even the couple planning a wedding — Jill and Nikki — had been together for just over a year.

**Opinion**  
ANGEL SEVILLA

**The program has potential to exert a positive influence on LGBT youth.**

I was watching the episode and losing faith (and interest) in these average women doing nothing but walking around aimlessly on camera. That is, until I saw Mikey's story. Mikey is kind of a soft butch lesbian. She works in the fashion industry and is very hardworking. She and her girlfriend had been together for nine months, and I noticed immediately that they seemed to have the healthiest relationship of the bunch. They both have a lot of goals, as well as an equal amount of respect for each other. This couple was, in my opinion, the couple for young people to look up to, gay or straight.

Jill and Nikki seemed pretty put together too. The only tension I saw was when they were planning their wedding, which can be stressful on any couple. It doesn't necessarily mean that their relationship is doomed to failure. I also really enjoyed their philosophy on how they live their lives. Nikki described them as "the straightest gay couple" she's ever seen. That's not my favorite choice of words, but I understood what she was getting at.

"The Real L Word" has potential in a couple of the characters to exert a positive influence on the LGBT community.

*Did you watch the show? Share at [managingeditor@wisconsinazette.com](mailto:managingeditor@wisconsinazette.com).*

## Extreme Vukmir confidential

Republican state Rep. Leah Vukmir of Wauwatosa is running for the 5th District state senate seat against incumbent Democrat Jim Sullivan. All indications point to this being the highest profile race for the state Legislature this year.

Republicans have invested large amounts of support in Vukmir because they view this race as their key to taking back control of the Senate. But did they invest in a candidate who is too extreme for this moderate/conservative-leaning district?

Leaked e-mails from Vukmir's office provide many examples of extremism that is of particular interest to the LGBT community. For instance, Julaine Appling, the rabidly anti-gay leader of the Wisconsin Family Council, wrote to Vukmir on Jan. 12 to say she was "checking in" with Vukmir about testimony that her organiza-

tion presented on a bullying provision in Senate Bill 154 (the education omnibus bill). Appling claimed the legislation's language was "dangerous." She maintained the bill was being "promoted by the pro-gay group GLSEN and others."

Appling offered to help Vukmir with some "alternative language" for the legislation. Vukmir responded by saying she was "open to your suggestions." A few months after this e-mail exchange, and only one day before the National Day of Silence, the bullying legislation passed without Vukmir's support. She repeatedly voted against it both in the education committee and on the Assembly floor.

This example of Vukmir's chummy relationship with far-right leaders is reflected throughout her official e-mail record. There are frequent exchanges between her

office and anti-LGBT organizations, including:

- Family Research Council: Since the early 1990s, this organization has emerged as the leading conservative organization championing so-called "traditional family values." The group was founded by the notoriously anti-gay Dr. James Dobson. FRC is so far to the right that it even attacked President George W. Bush for his "implicit endorsement of the homosexual political agenda." FRC has called for boycotts of Disney because of the company's "gay-friendly" policies. FRC officials often refer to an imagined agenda to "indoctrinate" children to the "homosexual lifestyle."

- National Prayer Network: This self-described "ministry" is headed by the Rev. Ted Pike. Its Web site — "truthtellers.org" — consists of some of the most over-the-top anti-gay rhetoric imaginable.

**Opinion**  
CORY LIEBMANN

NPW warns of the "dangers of hate laws" and admonishes its followers to help "stop the pedophile-protecting Hate Bill." It also addresses what it calls "sodomite adoption" as being "disastrous for kids." The group's favorite legislative targets include the proposed Employment Non-Discrimination Act and the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell."

Vukmir's close affiliation with extremist groups should be alarming not only to members of the LGBT community, but to 5th District residents in general. She's a poor fit for moderate and fair-minded voters.

*Share comments at [managingeditor@wisconsinazette.com](mailto:managingeditor@wisconsinazette.com).*

## Carol Stevens: a wonderful life

One of the lessons of the movie classic "It's a Wonderful Life" is how one person's life touches so many others. This has never been truer than for Carol Stevens, a Milwaukeean who died in June at age 86. (See obituary, page 5.)

I first met Carol in 1976-1977 when I became immersed in the crazy, exhilarating politics of Milwaukee's lesbian feminist community. It was most likely at one of Carol's renowned lesbian potlucks.

Feminism then was at high tide. Sisterhood was powerful. There were women to be saved, wrongs to be righted, battles to be won. Is it any wonder that with all that passion flaring so many of us fell into each others arms?

It was the disco era, so there were places to dance like Sugar Shack and The Factory. But brawling butches at the Shack and sweaty, shirtless boys at the Factory were too much for "advanced" politicians like myself, who were increasingly drawn to the siren call of separatism.

Lesbian separatism pro-

**Opinion**  
JAMAKAYA

duced extraordinary poetry, music and literature. It built institutions like music festivals, women's land cooperatives and social and political networks. But it degenerated into paranoia and an ever-shrinking circle of zealots, some of whom condemned women for having babies and attacked transgender individuals for being who they are.

Through all the thrills and divisiveness of those decades, the most enduring vehicle for affirming solidarity and sustaining the women's community was the lesbian potluck.

Carol Stevens was the doyenne of the lesbian potluck in Milwaukee. She and her partner Jai probably hosted thousands of women in their East Side flats over the years. They provided a safe, congenial space for women of all ages and political persuasions to meet, mingle and munch.

Most definitions of potluck refer to "whatever food happens to be available for

a meal," suggesting a rather humble affair with a thrown-together quality. But Carol loved cooking and sometimes spent days preparing appetizers, main courses, side dishes and unbelievably rich pies and other desserts. Guests added to the feast with their own favorite recipes or, if they were cooking-impaired like me, brought treats from local bakeries, delis or confectioners.

The feasting went on for hours. Conversation was animated and unceasing. There was gossip, there was flirting, there were hook-ups and break-ups. There was laughter and story-telling and singing. Jane, Mary or Deb would play the piano, and those not too shy to join in would sing Christmas carols, Irish folk songs, patriotic anthems or show tunes. Yes, lesbians have the musical comedy gene too!

Sometimes Carol and Jai's place was so crowded I'm sure the fire marshal would have ordered it shut down as a potential hazard. In the colder months, coats, gloves, sweaters and scarves were piled shoulder high on the

bed. The crowding could be nuts, but what better way to meet new friends or be thrown together with a potential new girlfriend? What better pretext could there be to ask someone to go out into the night for a walk and some fresh air? And what better way was there to find common ground with a political foe or an ex than "Mmm-mmung" over a strawberry schaum torte or banana cream pie?

It was no surprise that Carol's memorial service featured a big potluck. Many women talked about how an invite to Carol and Jai's parties connected them to other women and a sense of community. Women found friends, relationships, volunteer opportunities, career guidance and sometimes a shoulder to cry on through the hospitality of these lesbian godmothers.

What a wonderful life Carol Stevens had and what a legacy she leaves behind! Unlike Clarence, who had to work for his in the afterlife, Carol earned her wings while still among us. Fly away and rest well, sister.

# PRIDE ALIVE GREEN BAY

Scenes from Pride Alive in Green Bay July 10



David and Brent



The Feast of Fun's Marc Felion and Fausto Fernós with Pride Alive's Andrew DeBaker (middle)



Betty Bowers, "America's Best Christian," as portrayed by Deven Green



Comedian Joel Bryant



Having fun at Pride Alive

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## NATIONAL GAZE

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## ‘This is an important step forward, but there is a long path ahead’

DOMA from I

sibilities tied to marriage, including Social Security survivor benefits, family and medical leave, equal compensation as federal employees and immigration rights.

Tauro's rulings dealt with a challenge to DOMA from Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley called Commonwealth of Massachusetts v. Health and Human Services and another challenge to the law from Gay & Lesbian Advocates and Defenders called Gill v. Office of Personnel Management.

"It is ... unconstitutional for the federal government to decide who is married and to create a system of first- and second-class marriages," Coakley said. "The federal government cannot require states, such as Massachusetts, to further the discrimination through federal programs."

In the state's case, Coakley

alleged that Section 3 of DOMA unlawfully creates separate and unequal categories of married individuals in Massachusetts and that DOMA unlawfully requires Massachusetts to disregard valid marriages in its implementation of federally funded programs.

In GLAD's case, attorneys alleged that Section 3 of DOMA violates the federal constitutional guarantee of equal protection as applied to federal income tax, Social Security, federal employees and retirees and the issuance of passports.

Tauro, appointed to the federal bench by Richard Nixon in 1972, wrote that lawmakers clearly passed Section 3 of DOMA "for the one purpose that lies entirely outside of legislative bounds, to disadvantage a group of which it disapproves. And such a classification, the Constitution clearly will not

permit."

GLAD civil rights project director Mary Bonauto said, "The court simply affirmed that our country won't tolerate second-class marriages. This ruling will make a real difference for countless families in Massachusetts."

Gay civil rights advocates called the rulings historic but narrow, applying only to Massachusetts.

"This is an important step forward, but there is a long path ahead before we see this discriminatory law consigned to the dustbin of history," Solmonese said.

"We believe this is the first of many federal court rulings, coupled with anticipated movement on federal legislation, that will slowly dismantle the system of laws preventing same-sex couples access to the same rights and protections afforded all other people," said Molly McKay of Marriage Equality USA.

## Next up is a decision in California's Prop 8 trial.

R. Clarke Cooper of Log Cabin Republicans celebrated Tauro's rulings as a victory not only for gay equality, but also for state's rights. Section 3 of DOMA is "an unprecedented intrusion by the federal government upon the right of states to make their own decisions about what makes a marriage," Cooper said. "As conservatives and federalists, Log Cabin Republicans support this ruling. In addition to being a victory for equality, it is a much-needed reminder to Washington that the powers of the federal government are, indeed, limited."

It wasn't lost on LCR members that the rulings in the marriage cases go to a central tenet of Tea Party movement – the expanded role of federal government in state matters.

Still to come from a federal trial court is a decision in the widely covered case challenging the constitutionality of California's Proposition 8, the voter-approved amendment defining marriage as the union of a man and a woman and prohibiting same-sex civil marriage.

The California case, Perry v. Schwarzenegger, alleges that Prop 8 violates the 14th Amendment's equal protection clause. Closing arguments were made earlier this summer, and a decision could come at any time and likely would be far-reaching.

And still to come in Massachusetts is a decision from the Justice Department on whether it will appeal

Tauro's rulings in the next two months. In the days following the rulings, the Justice Department was silent on the issue, as was the White House.

But parties on both sides of the issue were not silent.

Gay activists have mounted a campaign calling for the Justice Department to let the rulings stand, though some have noted that Tauro's rulings might have more impact if upheld on appeal by the nation's highest court – the U.S. Supreme Court.

Meanwhile, anti-gay marriage activists have said Tauro's rulings are the result of a weak defense from a reluctant Obama administration. "It's not surprising that this judge got it wrong, because a sham defense was put up by the Obama Justice Department," said Maggie Gallagher, chair of the National Organization for Marriage.



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**How to Apply:** Send resume and letter of intent to Rachel Federlin, Diverse and Resilient, 2439 N. Holton Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212 (rfederlin@diverseandresilient.org). Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis until the best candidates are selected for interviews. All positions offer a competitive salary and benefit package.



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# Kagan headed for confirmation vote

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Elena Kagan's detractors and endorsers on the Senate Judiciary Committee reached an agreement following a four-day hearing on Kagan's nomination to the Supreme Court: She's bound for confirmation.

"Solicitor General Kagan will be confirmed," U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., told reporters during a pause in testimony.

"I assume she will be," Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, said in a separate statement.

Kagan's nomination will go to the Senate later this summer with a round of endorsements, including one from the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest LGBT political group.

"Kagan has demonstrat-

ed her understanding of the Constitution and the protections it provides all Americans" said HRC president Joe Solmonese. "She has articulated a commitment to the substantive protections of liberty guaranteed by the Constitution – an issue of the utmost importance to the LGBT community. We are confident that Elena Kagan is well qualified to become our nation's next Supreme Court justice."

Solmonese focused on Kagan's testimony recognizing the constitutional right to privacy found in the 14th amendment, which was first articulated in the landmark case *Griswold v. Connecticut*, and that Kagan indicated *Griswold* is settled law.

That case is important to Solmonese and other LGBT

politicos because it laid the foundation for recognition of the fundamental rights of LGBT individuals.

HRC also heralded Kagan's record on LGBT issues while working in the Clinton White House and as dean of Harvard Law School, where she defended the school's anti-discrimination policy and challenged the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

During her testimony before the Senate committee, Kagan called DADT "a profound wrong – a moral injustice of the first order."

A number of organizations and individuals – in addition to the senators on the committee – submitted statements supporting or opposing Kagan's nomination that contained no surprises.

The NAACP Legal



PHOTO: COURTESY WHITE HOUSE/PETE SOUZA

**President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden and Solicitor General Elena Kagan wait in the Blue Room of the White House prior to the president's announcement of Kagan as his choice to replace retiring Justice John Paul Stevens on the Supreme Court.**

Defense and Educational Fund endorsed the nomination, stating, "Our review of her record leads us to conclude that she has the professional credentials, respect for the institutional roles of all three branches of federal government, intellect and independence of mind, ability to build consensus, and commitment to justice required of one who would serve in this critical role."

The National Gay and Lesbian Bar Association wrote, "We look forward to the day when the makeup of the federal judiciary mirrors the diversity of our great country, and we believe the nomination of Ms. Kagan would be a step in that direction. Although women com-

prise approximately 55 percent of the U.S. population, Ms. Kagan would only be the fourth female justice in the 200-plus year history of the court."

The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights stated, "In every step of her career, Elena Kagan has distinguished herself through her outstanding intellectual credentials, her independence of thought, and her strong respect for the rule of law, establishing herself beyond question as qualified and ready to serve on the Court."

The confirmation hearing record also contains a statement from Army First Lt. David Tressler about Kagan's position on military recruit-

ment at Harvard Law School. "She always expressed her support for those who serve in the military and encouraged students to consider military service" stated Tressler, currently serving in Afghanistan. "It was clear she was trying to balance the institution's values underlying its anti-discrimination policy with her genuine support for those who serve or were considering service in the military. Indeed, her sense of DADT's injustice seemed to grow out of her belief in the importance and value of military service. I remember that she repeatedly said as much while dean."

Kagan, if confirmed, would take retiring Justice John Paul Stevens' place on the Court.



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## ON DEADLINE

A new national HIV/AIDS Strategy was released this week, as WiG went to press.

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, White House Domestic Policy Council director Melody Barnes, Office of National AIDS policy director Jeffrey Crowley and HHS Assistant Secretary for Health Howard Koh unveiled the strategy in a press conference in Washington.

The NHAS focuses on reducing the number of people who become infected with HIV, increasing access to care and optimizing health outcomes for people living with HIV and reducing HIV-related health disparities, according to reports from HHS.

The plan is intended to serve as a roadmap for policymakers, partners in prevention and the public on steps the United States must take to lower HIV incidence and get people living with HIV into care.

— L.N.

## NATIONAL GAZE

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## Hawaii governor vetoes civil unions bill

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Hawaii Gov. Linda Lingle said no to civil unions July 6, vetoing legislation that would have provided marriage-like benefits to same-sex couples in Hawaii because she said voters should directly decide the issue.

"Today is a sad day for the thousands of Hawaii families who remain second-class citizens," said Alan Spector, legislative affairs co-chair for Equality Hawaii. "We're disappointed and outraged that same-sex families will not be treated equally under Hawaii law, but vow to come back and fight this fight another day."

Now Lingle and the state face the threat of a civil suit.

Lingle went down to the wire on her decision – July 6 was the last day for her to veto the civil unions bill, sign it into law or allow it to become law without her signature. The legislation would have allowed couples – same-gender and opposite-gender – the benefits of a civil marriage, but not marriage.

She eventually decided to veto the measure, along with 32 other bills a press release from her office characterized as "detrimental to public policy and would hinder efforts to expand the economy and create jobs."

In a statement, Lingle said,

"After carefully reviewing each of these bills and weighing the considerable amount of input that we received from the public, I made the decision to not allow these measures to become law. Although the legislature passed bills they believe are important, I have the final responsibility to ensure that any new law is constitutional, fiscally responsible and in the best interest of the state."

Lingle also issued an explanation of her decision to veto the civil unions legislation.

"I have been open and consistent in my opposition to same-gender marriage and find that HB 444 is essentially marriage by another name," Lingle said. "However, I want to be clear that my personal opinion is not the basis for my decision against allowing this legislation to become law. Neither is my veto based on my religious beliefs or on the political impact it might have on me or anyone else of either political party in some future election. I am vetoing this bill because I have become convinced that this issue is of such significant societal importance that it deserves to be decided directly by all the people of Hawaii."

Lingle took issue with how the bill reached her desk – passed, she said, on the last day of the session, at the 11th hour, via a suspension of rules "after legislators led the public to believe that the bill was dead, was wrong and unfair to the public they represent."

Referring to the correspondence she received on both sides of the issue, she said, "In the end, it wasn't the persuasiveness of public debates, the soundness of legal arguments, or the volume of letters and e-mails that convinced me to reach this decision. It was the depth of emotion felt by those on both sides of the issue that revealed to me how fundamental the institution of marriage is to our community. It is as fundamental to



PHOTO: COURTESY GD

Hawaii Gov. Linda Lingle, R, at the christening of the USS Hawaii.

## For the record

"With such broad support from the legislators, who are the elected officials closest to the public, and the consistent results of the professional polls showing broad support for civil unions as a civil rights issue, we are deeply disappointed that the governor ignored the will of the people and vetoed the bill. We are determined, no matter how many sessions and election cycles it takes, to achieve full recognition for our families."

– Jo-Ann Adams, chair of the GLBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii

"Americans nationwide share in the disappointment and outrage of thousands of Hawaii's families who will not receive equal treatment under law. Thankfully, there are local advocates as well as leaders in the Hawaii Legislature who will continue to further the cause of equality."

– Joe Solmonese, president of the Human Rights Campaign

"Today, on July 6, 2010, Gov. Linda Lingle denied social justice when she vetoed HB444 for civil unions. Her denial is a violation of the integrity of her office and a violation of her oath of office. Gov. Lingle's denial of equal rights, benefits and protections for one segment of our citizens is a denial for all of our citizens of Hawaii."

– the Rev. Carolyn M. Golojuch, president of PFLAG-Oahu

"Two separate and independent economic studies, a poll conducted by a nationally recognized polling organization and the thousands of residents who vocalized their support of the bill to the governor and the legislature over the past two years makes clear that the passage of HB444 is good economic sense, is socially just, and is supported by the people of Hawaii. The LGBT community's fight for equality in Hawaii will continue."

– Tara O'Neill, president of Pride Alliance Hawaii

those who support marriage between two people of the same gender as it is to those who support marriage only between one man and one woman."

There is no indication lawmakers will attempt to override Lingle's veto. Nor is there any indication that an initiative on civil unions will be put to a vote in Hawaii soon.

But the issue is likely to reach a judge.

The day Lingle vetoed the bill, the American Civil Liberties Union and Lambda Legal announced plans to sue.

Jennifer Pizer, director of Lambda's national marriage project, said Lingle caved into a disinformation campaign. "This was a sad surrender to political expediency that does not support business or family interests, but damages them," said Pizer.

Attorneys with the civil liberties groups began working on a court challenge months ago, when the Hawaii House tabled the civil unions bill in January and the legislation seemed doomed in 2010.

"We're obviously disappointed that Gov. Lingle has, once again, used her power to deny the people of Hawaii their civil rights," said ACLU attorney Laurie Temple. "Luckily for the people of Hawaii, however, our consti-

tution prevents discrimination based on sexual orientation. If the governor won't

honor her oath to uphold the constitution, the courts will."



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# Defense Department surveys troops on DADT

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The Department of Defense issued its survey on gays in the military to 400,000 servicemembers earlier this month.

The survey is part of the Pentagon's study on a potential repeal of "don't ask, don't tell," the policy that bans gays from serving openly in the Armed Forces.

The U.S. House voted for a repeal and the Senate is expected to vote on the issue later this summer. A provision in the legislative plan would delay a repeal of DADT until the Pentagon completes its study in December.

Military officials have said a crucial component of the study is the survey of ser-

vicemembers, intended to give a review panel a baseline of information about the opinions of 2.2 million servicemembers and their families.

About half the surveys went to active-duty servicemembers and half to reservists, who received instructions to use an untraceable PIN number so that responses remained confidential.

Pentagon officials said it was important to provide anonymity so that gay and lesbian servicemembers could respond to the survey.

However, Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, a D.C.-based watchdog group, cautioned gay members of the Armed Forces against participating for fear an error

in the process might actually result in a violation of DADT. The policy, as the nickname implies, prohibits the military from asking about sexual orientation and prohibits a servicemember from telling.

"A number of servicemembers have contacted SLDN to seek guidance on surveys concerning the repeal of 'don't ask, don't tell,'" said SLDN executive director Aubrey Sarvis. "At this time SLDN cannot recommend that LGB servicemembers participate in any survey being administered by the Department of Defense, the Pentagon Working Group or any third-party contractors.

"While the surveys are apparently designed to pro-

tect the individual's privacy, there is no guarantee of privacy and DOD has not agreed to provide immunity to servicemembers whose privacy may be inadvertently violated or who inadvertently outs himself or herself. If a servicemember still wishes to participate, he or she should only do so in a manner that does not reveal sexual orientation."

Servicemembers United, a national group that represents LGBT troops, took a different approach with the survey.

SU executive director Alexander Nicholson, an Army interrogator discharged under DADT, said, "Servicemembers United remains concerned about

## ON TRIAL

The "don't ask, don't tell" policy went on trial this week in a federal courtroom in Riverside, Calif.

Log Cabin Republicans, a gay GOP group, brought the constitutional challenge, the only current court case against the 17-year-old DADT.

The Justice Department, responsible for defending U.S. law, had sought to have the case thrown out. The government "was saying Congress had reason to pass the statute, and that's all that mattered," said Dan Woods, an attorney for LCR. U.S. District Judge Virginia Phillips "didn't go for that," he added.

— L.N.

unintentional bias in the question wording within this survey, we are satisfied that sufficient measures are in place to protect the confidentiality of any gay and lesbian servicemember who would like to fully and hon-

estly participate in this survey."

The organization, however, stressed flaws in the survey, which consistently refers to gays as "homosexuals."

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## Feds solicit opinion on fair housing policy

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is seeking comment on a proposed policy intended to provide assistance to LGBT individuals and their families facing housing discrimination.

The draft of the policy, published in the federal register, was announced by HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan in late June and described by HUD Assistant Secretary John Trasviña.

The policy, according to Trasviña, instructs HUD staff to inform individuals filing discrimination complaints about discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation and that gender identity discrimination is covered under the federal Fair Housing Act as gender discrimination.

"Our job to prevent and combat housing discrimination is not complete without addressing 21st-century issues," Trasviña said. "Our Fair Housing staff will work with state and local civil rights agencies to investigate and refer discrimination cases and work to combat all aspects of gender discrimina-



HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan

tion."

The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in rental, sales and lending on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability and familial status.

In about 20 states and the District of Columbia, and in more than 60 cities, towns and counties across

the nation, additional protections specifically prohibit discrimination against LGBT people. Under the HUD rule, the federal agency would, as necessary, retain its jurisdiction over complaints filed by LGBT individuals or families, but also jointly investigate or refer matters to those state, district and local gov-

ernments with other legal protections.

HUD's example situation involved a female prospective tenant alleging discrimination by a landlord because she wears masculine clothes and engages in other physical expressions that are stereotypically male. In that situation, the allegations may be jurisdictional under the Fair Housing Act as discrimination based on gender.

Earlier this summer, HUD also announced that it would require grant applicants seeking HUD funding to comply with state and local anti-discrimination laws that protect LGBT individuals.

In addition, HUD intends to propose new regulations that would clarify that the term "family," as used to describe eligible beneficiaries of HUD's programs, include otherwise eligible LGBT individuals and couples.

Last October, Donovan announced a series of measures to ensure that the agency's core housing programs are open to all, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

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**NBC CHANGES  
RULES TO ALLOW  
GAY 'TODAY'  
WEDDING**

NBC's "Today" show says it is changing the rules for its annual wedding contest to allow same-sex couples to apply.

The network made the determination after a meeting with gay and lesbian activists July 8, and extended the deadline for applications.

The morning show runs a contest every year in which viewers choose a couple to get married on the show. Viewers plan every aspect of the wedding, from the cake to decorations, and it takes place live on the air sometime in the fall.

NBC says it abided by New York state rules, where same-sex marriages aren't allowed. But after activists pointed out that a couple could still get a marriage license in another state and have the ceremony at the "Today" show, the network said it would allow same sex

couples to apply.

There's still no guarantee that viewers will be able to choose a same-sex couple. NBC ultimately culls through thousands of applicants to give viewers a choice of four couples.

**LUNG  
ASSOCIATION  
REPORTS HIGHER  
LGBT SMOKING  
RATES**

Gay, bisexual and transgender men are 2 to 2.5 times more likely to smoke than heterosexual men, according to Smoking Out a Deadly Threat, a new report from the American Lung Association.

The ALA report examines the trend of tobacco use among the lesbian, gay,

bisexual and transgender community and the need for additional research specific to this community.

Most state and national health surveys do not collect information on sexual orientation and gender identity. However, there are current data indicating the LGBT population smokes at a higher rate than the general public.

Other key findings in the report:

Lesbian, bisexual and transgender women are 1.5 to 2.0 times more likely to smoke than heterosexual women.

Bisexual boys and girls have some of the highest smoking rates when compared with both their heterosexual and homosexual peers.

**FIRE DESTROYS  
GAY PRIDE FLOAT  
IN ANCHORAGE**

Anchorage authorities say they're investigating the cause of a fire that destroyed a gay Pride float being built for a July 4 parade.

KTUU-TV reported witnesses told investigators that moments before the fire began July 2 they saw someone running from the driveway where the float was being constructed.

Neighbors and the float's builders say they fear a hate crime.

Investigators say they're still working. A report that concludes the fire was set would lead to a criminal investigation.

**TENNESSEE  
COURT RULES FOR  
LESBIAN MOM**

A three-judge panel of the Tennessee Court of Appeals has unanimously ruled that a trial court judge was wrong to impose a "paramour provision" barring a mother's lesbian partner of more than 10 years from being in the home during the mother's overnight visits with her children.

This is the second time the appeals court has rebuked the trial court for impos-

ing the "paramour provision" against American Civil Liberties Union client Angel Chandler. In September 2009, the appeals court ordered the trial court to reconsider the provision.

"We are relieved that the appeals court has recognized that restrictions like the one imposed on Angel Chandler can unfairly harm families raised by same-sex couples," said ACLU LGBT Project director James Esseks. "Hopefully such a stern rebuke from the appeals court will send a loud and clear message to judges across the state that these kinds of restrictions are unduly burdensome on lesbian and gay parents who are just as capable of being good parents but don't have the option of marrying."

**LAMBDA FIGHTS  
ARIZONA ANTI-  
PARTNER MOVE**

Lambda Legal recently argued in U.S. District Court to block a law stripping

domestic partner benefits from gay and lesbian state employees in Arizona.

Lawmakers included a provision eliminating domestic partner health benefits for gay state employees as part of a last-minute budget deal signed by Gov. Jan Brewer last September. The state retained spousal health benefits for heterosexual workers. Lambda Legal represents 10 state employees.

"Our clients got a fair hearing," said Lambda attorney Tara Borelli. "Judge Sedwick zeroed in on the heart of the case when he asked the attorney for the state how it promotes the state's interest in marriage to deny insurance to gay employees who are not allowed to marry. The state's attorney had no good answer."

—WiG and AP reports

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## Riders say it's a life-changing experience and a path to a new community



Onlookers cheer as ACT 5 AIDS riders pedal into Capitol Square in 2007 for the closing ceremony. This year's ceremony is Aug. 1.

PHOTO: LARRY PALM

ACT from I

ents. A number of corporations and Madison-area businesses are involved as sponsors. Chiropractors and volunteers from a massage school help relieve riders' aches and strains. Mechanics from Williamson Street Bikes travel along in a support van to help keep riders' wheels spinning.

The ACT AIDS Ride sprang from the ashes of the Heartland AIDS Ride, a six-day trek from Minneapolis to Chicago. After several years of dwindling returns, which critics blamed largely on the management fees and extravagant style of California entrepreneur Dan Pallotta, the ride disbanded in 2002.

But AIDS Network volunteers believed that a trimmer, more efficiently run event could be financially successful. They also felt that the AIDS awareness and sense of community generated by the rides were of great value

to their mission. So they launched ACT – an acronym for AIDS Network Cycles Together – the very next year.

There are still critics who contend the rides do not return as much as promised, but coordinator Melissa Kruser contends that every dollar netted is essential to AIDS Network's operating budget. Recent years have seen not only stagnant government funding of AIDS services but also the diversion of donations and volunteer energy to other medical causes and fundraising events. ACT helps fill in the gap.

"We work hard," Kruser says. "Our job is to raise as much money as we can so the people we see coming into our office every day can get the services they need."

Last year's ride attracted about 200 riders and grossed over \$305,000. It passed through rural areas and small towns such as Baraboo, Spring Green and Albany.

People line village streets to cheer riders on. In Argyle last year, riders were greeted by a band and presented with goodies baked by local residents.

"Having 200 people go through these small towns makes people think about AIDS, it makes them ask questions," Kruser says.

### PERSONAL REWARDS

Riders say that in addition to the money they raise, participation in the ACT Ride rewards them with a life-transforming experience that connects them to a new community of friends and gives them a greater sense of purpose.

"I've become closer to some of the people I met at last year's ride than to people I've known for five, six, seven years," says Lana Chute, who's setting out for her second ride on July 29. "I'm excited to go back to

that wonderful ACT world. I've never experienced such kindness and generosity. I've never experienced that much love before. We joke that if only the rest of the world could live the way we do on the ACT Ride, it would be a better place."

When Chute first heard about AIDS, she thought it never would affect her life. But when a woman friend tested positive for HIV about 15 years ago, Chute quickly became an activist. "At that point it became so important to let people know that it's everyone's disease," she says.

Chute, a volunteer coordinator for the American Red Cross and mother of a 19-year-old son, says her involvement with the ride has changed her life in several ways. It inspired her to quit smoking after 20 years of failed attempts, and it's turned her into an exercise and cycle enthusiast.

"A year and a half ago, I was chain smoking and my

### HIT THE ROAD

ACT 8 AIDS Ride pedals out of Madison's Olin Park on July 29 for a 300-mile trek that ends with an Aug. 1 ceremony in Capitol Square. The annual bike-a-thon benefits AIDS Network of Madison. For information about participating, volunteering and contributing, go to [www.actride.org](http://www.actride.org).

only form of exercise was walking from the parking lot into work," Chute says. "Then last March, I saw an ad promoting (the ride) and I thought, 'I'm getting involved this year. I'm going to do more than just preach to my friends about safe sex.'"

Chute has since traded in her hybrid for a road bike and purchased biking gloves and a helmet. She cleans and oils her own bike chains. People are amazed by the change, she says. Several friends who contributed to her effort last year probably thought they'd never have to pay up, because "they weren't sure I'd be able to do it," she jokes.

### A RIDE FOR EVERYONE

The ride is designed to accommodate newcomers as well as cycling veterans. "It's not a race, it's a ride," Kruser likes to remind people.

ACT offers training leading up to the ride, and during the event riders are encouraged to stop when they need to rest – or to walk their bikes for a while. "Sweep crews," such as the one that rescued Jones from the storm last year, patrol the route and transport riders and their bikes to the next pit stop, if needed.

"There's no shame in walking or taking a break," Kruser says. "We really, really want people to stay healthy and be healthy."

Volunteers pass out water, ice and snacks every 15 miles. Meals and sleeping accommodations are provided, and volunteers carry riders' gear for them.

"Physically it's very challenging, of course," Jones says. "But the support from other riders and the crew is inspiring and really helps get us through the tough times."

The toughest climb of each ride is designated "Popsicle Hill," because volunteers hand out popsicles to riders when they reach the summit. "The great thing about Popsicle Hill is once you do it, you know there aren't going to be any more as hard as that one," Chute says.

As a result of making the ride so accessible, it attracts riders of all ages and fitness levels. "It's like taking a random sample of people at the mall," Kruser says. "We have people as young as 17 and riders in their 70s. We have people who are gay, straight and transgender. We have people who are athletic, and we have people who make it up a big hill and stop and smoke a cigarette. It's just humans coming together and knowing this is the right thing to do."



PHOTO: LARRY PALM

**Scott Jones, pictured here from the 2009 ACT AIDS Ride, is participating in the event for the third time. He and the other members of Woofs' Madd Dawgs team hope to meet or exceed the \$30,000 they raised last year. Jones is especially proud of the money contributed by students at Oregon High School, where he teaches English.**



# Nordic nations at forefront on LGBT equality, neighbors not

From AP

Iceland's prime minister made history earlier this summer when she wed her girlfriend, becoming the world's first head of government to enter a gay marriage.

But fellow Nordic nations hardly noticed when 67-year-old Johanna Sigurdardottir tied the knot with her longtime partner — a milestone that would still, despite advances in gay rights, be all but inconceivable elsewhere. Scandinavia has had a long tradition of tolerance.

"There is some kind of passion for social justice here," respected cross-dressing Swedish lawmaker Fredrick Federley said. "That everybody should be treated the same."

Gay rights activists said Europe in general has a better record on accepting gays at the highest levels of government than the United States.

"In the current climate

of U.S. public opinion it is impossible to imagine a U.S. president who is openly gay and who marries their longtime partner," said Peter Tatchell, spokesman for the London-based gay human rights group Outrage.

"In Europe the reaction is completely different — people just don't care."

Although no openly gay American has made a potentially winning run for president, gays and lesbians have made significant advances in recent years in winning other elected offices in the United States, often while being open about their same-sex partners.

In Europe, the situation varies.

Several top-level politicians are openly gay, including Sweden's Environment Minister Andreas Carlgren and Paris Mayor Bertrand Delanoë, considered a possible contender for the 2012 presidential elections.

But a gay head of government would be impossible in strong Catholic nations.

"We will never see a gay prime minister in Italy. The power of the Catholic Church is too strong," said Giuseppina Massallo, 60, a Rome resident originally from Sicily. "We have institutions that make us believe that ... being homosexual is simply not the right thing to do."

Gays in politics would be inconceivable in Africa, where 37 countries have anti-gay laws and where Zimbabwe's leader Robert Mugabe has described same-sex partners as "lower than dogs and pigs."

Ugandans were shocked to hear of Sigurdardottir's marriage to her partner, with whom she had been in a registered relationship since 2002. The partnership was converted into a marriage July 4, when a new law legalizing same-sex marriage went into force. The Icelandic

leader has two adult children from a previous marriage.

"Their society is finished, they have no morals," said Uganda's ruling-party spokeswoman, Mary Karoro Okurutu. She described the marriage as "disgusting."

The East African nation is considering proposed legislation that would impose the death penalty for some gays. The bill has sparked protests in London, New York and Washington.

The Nordic countries have been at the forefront of gay freedoms.

In 1989, Denmark became the first country in the world to allow registered gay partnerships and Sweden's Lutheran church last year ordained its first openly gay bishop.

All five Nordic nations reached top-10 rankings in a 2010 study of the legal situation for lesbian, gay and bisexual people in Europe.

Even Finland, the remot-

est country in the region, which has been slower than its neighbors in adapting to Scandinavian lifestyle trends, scored six out of 10 points.

Russia and Ukraine both received bottom-rankings in the 2010 Rainbow Europe index by ILGA-Europe, a non-governmental umbrella organization representing LGBT groups.

In neighboring Baltic countries, which have a long history of dealings with the Nordics, gay tolerance is generally low. Same-sex marriages are not legal and are generally frowned upon in Estonia, Latvia and particularly in predominantly Catholic Lithuania.

Gay pride marches in Latvia and Lithuania typically attract crowds of angry counter-demonstrators far larger than the marches themselves.

Estonian Prime Minister Andrus Ansip concedes he is "somewhat conservative" on the question of gay marriages.

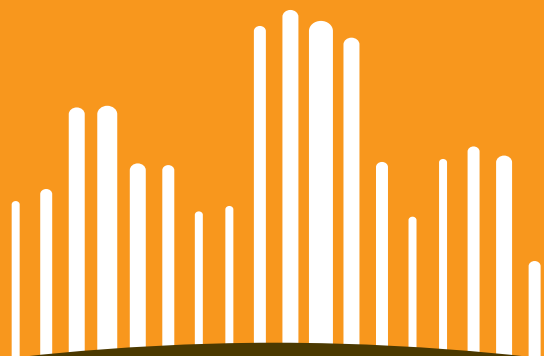
"I consider marriage a holy matrimony between a man and a woman," Ansip said Wednesday. "But I do fully accept that same-sex part-



**Johanna Sigurdardottir, prime minister of Iceland**

ners possess the same kind of legal guarantees as registered marriages currently do."

The following Associated Press writers contributed to this report: Malin Rising in Stockholm, Matti Huuhtanen in Helsinki, Jari Tanner in Tallinn, Jan Olsen in Copenhagen, Ian MacDougall in Oslo, Gary Peach in Latvia, Paisley Dodds and Andrew Khouri in London, Daniele De Bernardin in Rome, Angela Charlton in Paris, Donna Bryson and David Crary in Johannesburg, Godfrey Olukya in Kampala.



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# Man on a 'Mission'

An interview with Benjamin Bratt

## Interview

GREGG SHAPIRO

**A**n unqualified labor of love, "La Mission," starring Benjamin Bratt, was written and directed by his brother Peter Bratt. In the film, Bratt plays Che, a single father living in San Francisco's Mission District with his high school-aged son Jesse (Jeremy Ray Valdez). Their household is turned upside down when the macho Che discovers that Jesse is gay.

A powerful and well-acted story about family and relationships, "La Mission" features exceptional performances by Bratt and Valdez, as well as the supporting players. I spoke with Bratt on the film's opening day. "La Mission" is currently playing in limited release and is due to be released on DVD later this summer.

**Gregg Shapiro:** Was it a good experience for you working with your brother?

**Benjamin Bratt:** I had no choice, man. No, it was a great experience. ... My brother and I have been best friends for as long as I can remember ... and we began working together at a very early age. We bounce off of each other. To actually have evolved into producing partners – trying to execute his stories, the stories that we want to tell together, is a great blessing.

**GS:** "La Mission" takes place in San Francisco, but worlds away from The Castro. As someone who grew up in San Francisco, did you witness the cultural tension in the film?

**BB:** I grew up in an era where there was a lot of racial disharmony. And yet, as a child of the '60s and '70s, I didn't really experience that disharmony. Most of my best friends were from

widely varied ethnic groups – Latino, Asian, white, black, Native American. That was reflective on some level not only of the cosmopolitan nature of San Francisco, but also its freewheeling acceptance of all things, including gay culture in the Castro neighborhood, which, unironically, butts up on the Mission District. But I think that you are on to something. ... (San Francisco) was a city made unique by its diverse neighborhoods. The Mission District remains a Latino hub and culturally vibrant. ... On some level, (it) maintains a kind of homophobic stance. But it's not a stance unlike the rest of America. It seems there's been a level of acceptance with the gay community, but you don't have to peel the layers back very deeply to find that it's still an issue.

**GS:** Father and son, Che and Jesse, couldn't be more different. Che is an ex-con and Jesse is an honor roll student bound for UCLA. And yet the relationship feels real and honest.

**BB:** Their relationship speaks to a couple of different dynamics that exist in real life. Che is a dinosaur. He's a throwback, an anachronism. He's a guy who is a follower of the Lowrider aesthetic. Here it is 2010 and he's wearing clothes from the '40s and '50s – Stacy Adams shoes and stingy brims. He listens to music that is part of the Lowrider ritual. He doesn't drive cars that are newer than 1960 – they're referred to as "bombs." Jesse is the personification of this new modern era, where not only do people cross cultural lines, but they cross sexual-orientation lines freely.

**GS:** When Che confronts Jesse about his boyfriend Jordan (Max Rosenak), he makes almost as much fuss over the fact Jordan is white as he does about Jesse being with another guy.

**BB:** I think that the discovery of his son's sexual



Benjamin Bratt in a scene from "La Mission"

PHOTO: COURTESY

orientation was the shocking aspect. The fact that he was a wealthy white kid simply aggravated the sore. Because at the end of the day ... it's a coming-of-age story – not the son, but the father.

From the opening moments, Che is immediately recognizable. He is a kind of archetype; he's cut from the same cloth as a lot of American movie icons. He's a man who knows how to negotiate life using violence. My brother wanted to present him with a conflict that he couldn't beat his

way out of. Giving this ultra alpha male, this Chicano-to-the-bone man, this prideful physical person, a gay son was the ultimate dramatic arc because it completely thwarts his identity.

**GS:** How much do you think Che's homophobia is based on his religious beliefs, and how much of it do you think has to do with him not wanting Jesse to have a difficult time of being a young gay man?

**BB:** Undoubtedly, religion plays a part. But so does the fact that he's a Latino-American man. It's interest-

ing to note that as a society, when we want to demean a gay person, we often feminize them by calling them a woman or a woman's parts. While that speaks to the homophobia in our society, it also speaks of misogyny and the way that we view women in society. My brother was also taking on that issue.

**GS:** His aunt and uncle take him in after Che throws him out of the house.

**BB:** Right. Whatever our orientation is or our age is or our gender is, we're all the same. We all need nurtur-

ing and care. It was equally important to my brother to capture the real life celebration of family as the center of the universe, as the center of life.

**GS:** Ultimately, it is a family movie.

**BB:** It's a movie about family, but it ain't a family movie. In the face of alienation from his father, if not his community, it is an act of courage to stand up for who he is. To walk away from the one relationship that is most meaningful to him, his relationship with his father.

# Camp adventures – in Wisconsin’s great outdoors

By Lucky Tomaszek

Staff Writer

There are few things as quintessentially Wisconsin as a summer camping trip. And whether you prefer a rustic weekend backpacking in the woods or a long road trip with all the amenities (and then some) of home, you can find it nearby – and in a setting that welcomes LGBT campers. WiG discovered the following:

## ROUGHING IT

Lots of private LGBT social groups organize weekend camping trips throughout the summer. Milwaukee’s GAMMA has a long history of organizing trips to beautiful locations. GAMMA is a largely male, member’s only organization, but women are always welcome.

A typical camping trip with GAMMA includes two or three nights of tent camping and meals cooked over the fire. “These are relaxed camping trips,” says Danny Lagerman, camping trip organizer. “The idea is to get away from your normal routine, to relax and enjoy the sun.”

A trip is planned for Devil’s Lake State Park in Baraboo Aug. 19-22. (Go to [www.milwaukeegamma.com](http://www.milwaukeegamma.com).)

For those who want to DIY, there are a couple of options in Wisconsin. Wilderness Way in Wascott, an hour from Superior, has 14 tent sites (with and without electric) and two camping cabins available in their LGBTs resort. “The ‘S’ is for our straight friends, because we all have them,” says co-

owner Glenda Cherrey.

Wilderness Way has a lake with a nice beach, Cherrey says, and camp site and cabin rentals include the use of row boats and canoes. The grounds also have five modern cabins available to rent. (Go to [www.wilderness-waywomen.com](http://www.wilderness-waywomen.com).)

Cedar Hills Campground in Mazomanie offers large tent and RV sites, according to campground owner, Dennis Sohol. He says adult men and women are welcome at the campground, and about 75 percent of the campers are gay or lesbian. The camp is near Mazo Beach, Wisconsin’s only legal nude beach. Naturists can extend their enjoyment of the outdoors at Cedar Hills, where once or twice a month the entire campground is clothing optional, Sohol says. (Go to [www.cedarhillscampground.webs.com](http://www.cedarhillscampground.webs.com).)

## TAKING TO THE OPEN ROAD

For a lot of people, there is no appeal to sleeping on the ground, using an out-house or even giving up air conditioning during a vacation. It’s much more exciting for them to drive America’s scenic highways and byways, pulling into a wooded area and hooking up to the 50 amp power supply.

For those LGBT outdoor enthusiasts who are more into creature comforts than actual creatures, there are a few groups to check in to.

Rainbow RVs is a gay and lesbian group made up of

chapters throughout Canada and the United States. Chapters sponsor RV gatherings (known as rallies), ranging from 10 to 150 rigs, according to the Web site’s owner Greg O’Connor. Each day brings opportunities for socializing with the group, such as coffee gatherings, potlucks, softball games and other events. “But nothing is mandatory,” O’Connor says. “There is a lot of free time for relaxing.”

In addition to chapter rallies, the group’s Web site includes a “Kamp With Us” page where members can invite each other to meet up on the road.

Between the planned rallies and the “Kamp With Us” opportunities, RVers can stay busy throughout the year. Currently, there’s no chapter in Wisconsin, but O’Connor wants Wisconsinites to get involved.

“Anyone can send me an e-mail, and I’ll help them out as much as I can,” he says. “We really want our group to grow and connect gay and lesbian RVers from all over the country.” (Go to [www.rainbowrv.com](http://www.rainbowrv.com))

There are at least two other LGBT-welcoming RV groups. One is RVing Women, founded in the early 1990s by a lesbian couple. The group is open to all women “regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or financial status,” according to the group’s mission statement.

RVing Women has 17 active chapters all over the United States and Canada. Wisconsin is part of the Lyte Heart chapter. Each year, there are several large national events, including a national convention and many smaller chapter events, says Monica Lindmark, who’s with RVing Women’s national headquarters. (Go to [www.rvingwomen.org](http://www.rvingwomen.org).)

Traveling Our Way is largely a men’s RV community, though there are a few female members, says Doug, who answers the group’s e-mail. According to the Web site, the group is “a gay and gay-friendly, casual, no-fuss,



PHOTO: COURTESY

**Mazo Beach, the only legally nude beach in Wisconsin, attracts large numbers of gays and lesbians. Cedar Hills Campground is located nearby.**

social, non-profit RV group.”

A small membership fee pays for the printing of a quarterly newsletter and offsets the cost of sponsoring a rally. In general, the events are smaller (five to 50 rigs), and the rules are simple: “Come when you want, socialize as much as you like, leave when you need to.” (Go to [www.travelingourway.org](http://www.travelingourway.org).)

## RELAXING RUSTIC RESORTS

A small collection of cabins, a club house, some walking trails – for many people, spending part of the summer at a resort is almost a recreational requirement.

In the Wisconsin Dells, there is only one LGBT vacation spot. Rainbow Valley Resort has a variety of accommodations (some with whirlpool tubs), a bar, a restaurant, hiking trails, and clothing-optional sunbathing areas and an outdoor pool, according to the resorts Web site. The resort also houses the area’s only gay bar, Captain Dix.

Owner Gary Hanson says the resort welcomes everyone. “About 10 percent (of the guests) are straight couples, about 20 percent are

lesbians, and the rest are gay couples and singles,” he estimates.

Rainbow Valley has volleyball and horseshoes, as well as walking trails and two large fire pits where guests can “get together in the evening and talk,” Hanson says.

One of the best features of Rainbow Valley, according to Hanson, is that it’s practically mosquito-free! (Go to [www.captaindix.com](http://www.captaindix.com).)

Saugatuck, Mich., and the neighboring town of Douglas have long been destinations for LGBT people in the Great Lakes region. Almost directly across Lake Michigan from Milwaukee, the area is a short trip either by ferry or car. Saugatuck and Douglas are harbor villages that have retained their original pre-Civil War architecture, charm and character. The area prides itself on celebrating diversity, according to the Saugatuck-Douglas convention and visitor’s bureau Web site.

Two well-known Saugatuck/Douglas LGBT resorts are Windover and Campit. Both are private, members-only outdoor resorts offering rustic and modern tent and RV sites. They also offers rental trail-

ers that sleep up to six people.

Windover is a women’s-only resort with a heated pool, volley pits, horseshoe area, and club house with WiFi and satellite television, says co-owner Judy Woodland. Almost every weekend of the season there are events such as craft fairs, motorcycle rallies and live entertainers. The resort is on heavily wooded land, and includes 40 undeveloped acres with walking trails. Membership is \$25 per calendar year. (Go to [www.windoverresort.com](http://www.windoverresort.com).)

Campit is a gay and lesbian resort. In addition to tent and RV sites, there are cabins and a bed and breakfast. The Web site lists volleyball, horseshoes, game room, heated pool and club house among the amenities available. There is also the Campit store (with firewood, snacks and essentials) and the Campit Toy Store (with leather goods, novelties and personal items for men and women), according to the site. The events page shows a packed calendar, with a major event happening each weekend of the summer. (Go to [www.campitresort.com](http://www.campitresort.com).)

## SUMMER CAMP – FOR GAYS!

As kids, many of us packed a duffel bag and headed out to live in a shared bunkhouse for a week – swimming, creating crafts and eating dreadful food. Whether you loved summer camp as a kid or dreaded it because you never felt like you fit in, Maine’s “Camp” Camp is a great idea. It’s a traditional summer camp for LGBT adults, but with better food and a true sense of community, according to the camp’s Web site. The daily schedule is available online, and shows all the things you remember: campfire songs, jewelry making, swimming and s’mores. Plus, “Camp” Camp offers things like massages, swing dance lessons, early morning yoga and a ropes course. (Go to [www.campcamp.com](http://www.campcamp.com).)

# The art of entries and exits

By Debra Brehmer

Contributing writer

What struck me most about Theaster Gates' remarkable installation "To Speculate Darkly," at the Milwaukee Art Museum through Aug. 1, was the beautiful orchestration of the entry and the exit. I don't think I've ever seen a show that does a better job of this.

The Chipstone Foundation and MAM received a Joyce Foundation grant of \$50,000 to invite Gates, who was also included in this year's Whitney Biennial, to create a new work specifically for the museum's basement exhibition space. What he did is outstanding.

Before we pass through the dramatic entry into the show, we are greeted by a sign that warns the exhibition might be "unsuitable" for children. I couldn't find anything unsuitable, so I asked the guard afterward, "Why is this unsuitable?" He said because you can find the word "bitch" and the word "nigger" in the show.

But those words should certainly not be shunned in the context of an exhibition that seeks to add a page of history that wasn't written in the big book. The show

## TAKE NOTE

A panel discussion, "Race, Community and the Museum in the 21st Century," will be from 6:15 p.m. to 8 p.m. on July 15. It is free with MAM admission.

is also about the transgressive power of words. I think the disclaimer on the show should have read: "Caution, black man down here in the basement. How would you feel if you were left out of history, both the art and cultural kind, bitch?"

The show is centered on the work of an enslaved South Carolina potter named Dave (Drake), who produced and signed functional clay pots between 1834 and 1862. About 100 stoneware vessels, made for his "master" Lewis Miles, survive.

Slaves were legally not allowed to read or put words in writing. But Dave Drake signed his works and often wrote short poems on them, digging a sharp tool into the wet clay to leave not only his mark but traces of his heart.

Gates' constructs a narrow hallway from which we enter the show. Its ceiling is lined with retired glass

slides from the University of Chicago (where Gates is director of arts program development) that visually tell the standard art history class story of ceramic production from ancient Greece onward. The Western canon includes no black artists.

Peering down that hallway, we see a three-foot tall pedestal with a huge, simple clay vessel on it, sealed in a plexi vitrine. This is Dave's pot. It is the authentic historic object that occupies the center of the exhibition. It is displayed traditionally, as a rare and important thing.

From here, Gate's uses a contemporary vocabulary of installation tactics to explore the discomfort of how this black man's hand-wrought pot, used for storing pork, enters the lexicon of history. He employs a wall-sized video projection of gospel singers in a room where a grid of flat porcelain sinks (produced during a residency at the Kohler's Arts and Industry program) forms a cool, minimalist "high art" presence. The drains in these "clay" sinks are actually speakers emitting the gospel songs. What has been washed away seeps out. The songs were written using the lyrical

phrases that Dave the Potter etched into his pots. The performance brings Dave's misadventure back to the living realm.

The exhibition also speaks of how value is generated in the art market. Dave's pots are actually worth a lot now, but even that monetary recognition doesn't necessarily help us know these objects. If anything, it further distances them from their rich history.

The museum provides a few succinct paragraphs on a handout to anchor us in the ideas of the exhibition, which include: questions about display, the authoritarian voice of the museum, how an installation affects our perception, how omission functions as an unseen and often unnamed force, the physical beauty and weight and mute displacement of Dave's pot, the powerful legacy of oft-ignored African-American cultural contributions, and the messiness of our current globally all-inclusive art-making mélange. All of this is touched upon and yet the installation still hums gently.

Then we exit. There is a heavy velvet curtain in the same room as the video that forms a wall. We don't know what's behind it. Is there another room of the exhibit?



COURTESY PHOTO

**The work of Civil War era potter Dave Drake (above) is at the center of MAM's exhibition "To Speculate Darkly."**

One hesitantly pulls open the curtain and realizes that it is indeed an exit.

On the other side of the curtain is a freak show, a horrifically scary room of intimidating, pasty-faced, frozen authorial faces ensconced in Liberace gold, ornate frames. We have walked through the curtain and back into the Canon of Art History, back into the museum's perma-

nent collection. Here are the slave owners, their portraits secured in an all-too-familiar story and, for once, we clearly see the perversity of this.

A catalog with musical scores from the gospel songs and an essay by Ethan Lasser, Chipstone curator, as well as an invented interview with Dave the Potter, were produced in conjunction with the show.

## Artwatch

KAT MURRELL

Art doesn't just imitate life — sometimes it is life. That is the approach filmmaker Ashley Altadonna pursues in her ongoing documentary film "Making the Cut."

A native of Houston and longtime Milwaukee resident, Altadonna is chronicling her experiences and fundraising activities for gender reassignment surgery.

In support, an upcoming benefit at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center will help raise funds toward the \$20,000 needed. The event includes an evening of music from DJ Too Sarcastic, plus an art

auction with a wide range of works donated by local artists.

Combining creative vision with personal transition is a natural fit for Altadonna. She has explored gender identity in previous films, with work that has received attention internationally in Europe and Australia, as well as in major U.S. cities.

"One of my goals with the film is to combine art with activism," Altadonna says. "This is probably the most direct approach to do it. I think this benefit does that quite nicely."

Along with the special events of opening night, the ongoing art auction will be held in the gallery space.

Summer Gallery night is coming up on Friday, July

23, and continues through Saturday, July 24. A notable exhibition, over a year in the making, opens at Portrait Society, 207 E. Buffalo St., with "J. Shimon & J. Lindemann's Real Photo Postcard Survey Project." (WiG writer Debra Brehmer is the gallery's director.)

The photographic survey captures contemporary people with a vintage appearance. As is characteristic of Shimon & Lindemann's work, there is a probing sense of exposure that the artistic pair adeptly conjures from their subjects.

Also on view will be portraits by internationally recognized photographer Vanessa Winship. Based in London, Winship shows her suite of work focusing on

## TAKE NOTE

A benefit from 7-11 p.m. on Saturday, July 17, at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second St., benefits transgender filmmaker Ashley Altadonna. An accompanying art exhibition and auction continues through July 30.

children of the Republic of Georgia, titled "Dancers and Fighters."

The exhibition opens with a reception on Gallery Night and continues through Oct. 3.

PHOTO: COURTESY  
**Filmmaker Ashley  
Altadonna.**



# Wright revisits her gospel roots

Music

HARRY CHERKINIAN

You hear it in her voice when Lizz Wright first speaks: a resonant tone – calm, centered, sure of herself. She's grounded, very much down-to-earth.

But when Wright sings in that rich contralto, she conjures images of her gospel upbringing in the South, blending soul, blues and jazz that are born of the spiritual.

"I'm in a very joyful, grounded place in my life," says Wright. "My music comes from an ancestral place, and I'm just thankful for it."

At 30, Wright has recorded and released three albums in the past seven years, although she's been singing and performing since childhood. The daughter of a minister, she was born in the small town of Hahira, Ga., and raised on gospel music and traditional church hymns.

With her fourth album,

scheduled to be released this fall, Wright returns to the wellspring of her musical soul.

"It's a concise little sacred record of songs that I sang with my family," she says. "It was a nice time to return to that."

The title track of the release, titled "I Remember, I Believe," comes from Bernice Johnson Reagon, who founded the all-woman, African-American a capella group, Sweet Honey in the Rock. The CD features Wright's family favorite "God Specializes" and includes other women artists who play their own songs, including Me'Shell Ndegéocello's "Fellowship" and "Feed the Light," by Joan as Police Woman (Joan Wasser). Wright calls the collaborative work "a family affair."

"I had been talking to my mom about it, and I felt I really needed to do this for my family," Wright says. She includes all manner of "home-grown" instruments, including "body percussion" (tapping the body), washboards and whatever else evokes the

sounds of the spirituals she sang growing up.

"It's just a very big part of my life," Wright says. "It reinforces the way I do everything else. It's that simple for me."

In her upcoming Milwaukee-area concert, Wright will perform songs from her first three works, as well as the new traditional material. She's performing outdoors at the Wilson Center, and she's choosing her song list for to fit that setting.

"I like to walk around a venue, a city before writing my set list," she says.

But one favorite that she always sings is the title track from her debut album "Salt," written when she was 19.

After moving recently to North Carolina, Wright has been listening to a lot of Appalachian and blue grass music. In addition, she's been studying the music of Bonnie Raitt as well country and rock's oddest, yet acclaimed, coupling to date – Led Zeppelin's Robert Plant and bluegrass singer and fiddler Alison Krauss

(Union Station). "I'm stuck on 'Raising Sand' (the duo's CD)," Wright says.

Whatever the genre, music is the foundation of Wright's life, and she has a deep respect for what it creates for the artist and the audience.

"Music speaks of the power, music has the power to cut through time like nothing else," she says. "It means a lot more to me now, being at a place where I can sing songs of the elders. They need them now."

Wright has a deep connection to her past, her land and the traditions that feed the creativity of her music. But her relationship to her music is constantly changing and moving her in new directions. "That's the beauty of it," she says. "The songs evolve with me. They're mirrors but they have their own life."

And what's beyond the current tour and new recording?

"I'm really learning how to garden my voice, my music, my soul," Wright says, "and see what I reap with the harvest."



Lizz Wright performs at 7 p.m., Saturday, July 24, in the Gerlach Outdoor Theater at the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts, located in Brookfield's Mitchell Park. Call 262-781-9520 or visit [www.wilson-center.com](http://www.wilson-center.com).

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## Music

GREGG SHAPIRO

## iMusic: It takes two

## COURT YARD HOUNDS

Sisters Martie Maguire and Emily Robison go from being two-thirds of the Dixie Chicks to being the Court Yard Hounds on their eponymous Columbia debut. We already know they are gifted musicians, thanks to their work with fellow Dixie Chick Natalie Maines. With guest musicians, Court Yard Hounds fulfills the promise of previous DC discs that found the trio expanding on their modern country sound. The edgy "Delight (Something New)" and the fury of "Ain't No Son" (sung from the perspective of the father of a gay son) provide a counterpart to the bare bones acoustic course of "April's Love" and the front-porch plucking of "See You In The Spring" (a Jakob Dylan duet). If Sheryl Crow doesn't cover "The Coast," which sounds like it was written for her, she's a fool.

## BEACH HOUSE

With "Teen Dream" (Sub Pop), Baltimore duo Beach House (Victoria Legrand and Alex Scally) expand on the promise of their stunning sophomore release "Devotion." "Teen Dream" sets their route on a more

commercial path, beginning with the alluring "Zebra." "Silver Soul" has a Cocteau Twins flavor, while the woozy "Norway" might have you going for the Dramamine (and that's meant to be a compliment). "10 Mile Stereo" and "Take Care" are also incomparable examples of why it's worth spending time with Beach House. A double-disc set includes a DVD with music vids.

## HIGH PLACES

Another male/female duo, High Places goes for a more dance-oriented slice of the pie on "High Places vs. Mankind" (Thrill Jockey). Funky and frigid, this is hat-and-gloves music. You'll probably be able to see your breath while dancing to "The Longest Shadows," "When It Comes" and the dingy dub of "The Most Beautiful Name."

## THE BIRD AND THE BEE

After releasing a trio of deliriously retro-inspired albums, The Bird and The Bee (a.k.a. the equally busy Inara George and Greg Kurstin) does more time-traveling on "Interpreting The Masters Volume I: A Tribute to Daryl Hall and John Oates" (Blue Note). Hall & Oates are treated with reverence. The pair's interpretations of "Rich Girl," "Kiss On My List" and "Sara Smile," among others,

are alternately soaring and sweet.

## SHE &amp; HIM

The pairing of hot actress Zooey Deschanel and hipster musician M. Ward as She & Him was a match made in modern pop heaven. Their first album, aptly called "Volume One" was a vintage-veined country pop tune treasure and "Volume Two" (Merge) picks up where its predecessor left off. "Volume Two" improves on the formula. The duo's chemistry ignites a near-perfect set of songs, including infectious highlights such as "In The Sun" and "Over It Over Again," as well as covers of NRBQ's "Ridin' In My Car" and Skeeter Davis' "Gonna Get Along Without You Now."

## PETE YORN &amp; SCARLETT JOHANSSON

Deschanel and Ward aren't the only singing actress and singer/songwriter duo out there. Scarlett Johansson joined forces with Pete Yorn for the "Break Up" (Atco) disc. Yorn takes the lead for most of the disc, but on the tracks on which Johansson can be heard in equal measure, such as "Relator" and "Clean," or where she dominates, as in "I Am The Cosmos," he is a generous performer in terms of shar-



Court Yard Hounds performs July 17 at Lilith Fair at the First Midwest Bank Amphitheater, 19100 S. Ridgeland, in Tinley Park, Ill.

ing the focus.

## BROKEN BELLS

The latest collaborative effort by Danger Mouse/Brian Burton finds the multifaceted artist teaming up with James Mercer of The Shins to form Broken Bells. To the guys' credit, their self-titled Columbia album makes good use of their respective talents, while subtly reminding us from whence they came. That is a feat – making something new without forsaking the old. Memorable tracks include "The High Road," "The Ghost Inside" (tell me you can't hear trac-

es of Gorillaz and Gnarls Barkley here!) and "The Mall & Misery."

## SNOW &amp; VOICES

Like Beach House, mixed gender duo Snow & Voices inhabit the dream pop realm on their gorgeous album "Anything That Moves"

(Elastic Ruby). "Maybe Finland," "Everything Coming Apart" and "Blue" are a gorgeous trio of songs that lull the listener without putting them to sleep. That's good, because the fittingly named "I Am A Storm" blows in to kick your ass. The heavy-lidded "Mistress" is also lovely.

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Film

GREGG SHAPIRO

**'THE TWILIGHT SAGA: ECLIPSE'**

(Summit Entertainment)

Still obsessed with brooding vampire Edward (Robert Pattinson), graduating high school senior Bella (a slightly less sullen Kristen Stewart), accepts her true love's marriage proposal in exchange for his promise to "change" (read: "kill") her so that they can be together eternally. In other words, Mormon author Stephenie Meyer thinks it's fine for teenagers to marry vampires, but believes LGBT folks should be deprived of the same expression of love and commitment.

It's probably an easy shot to take, but the third installment of the vampires, wolves and humans of Forks, Wash., eclipses its predecessors. It's got plenty of skin, courtesy of stud (wolf) cub Taylor Lautner (who does most of his acting with his abs and pecs) as Jacob. It's got a fair amount of special

effects, although the wolves' pelts are wearing thin. There's an increase in the Native American folklore aspect. The scary factor is also ratcheted up with the lingering presence of the ruthless Jane (Dakota Fanning) and her creepy crew, as well as bent-on-revenge Victoria (Bryce Dallas Howard), her boy Riley (Xavier Samuel) and his army of ruthless newborn vamps.

Additionally, this installation of the saga gets points for cranking up the humor. You will most likely find yourself laughing out loud on several occasions, and that appears to what screenwriter Melissa Rosenberg intended. For not taking itself too seriously and doing it in a respectable couple of hours, "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse" is recommended viewing.

**'THE GIRL WHO PLAYED WITH FIRE'**

(Music Box Films)

After surviving the multitude of traumas inflicted upon her in the riveting "The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo," bisexual self-defense expert, electronics wiz and

**This girl who played with fire is like a hunted animal with multiple lives.**

computer hacker Lisbeth Salander (Noomi Rapace) is back for more. Still out to clear her sullied name, Lisbeth finds herself in even deeper trouble.

Without giving away too many key plot points, let me say that everything short of the meaning of life is explained in this nail-biter of a sequel. The "fire" of the title takes center-stage when Lisbeth comes face-to-face with her abusive and despicable father Alexander Zalachenko (Georgi Staykov), a.k.a Zala. Before that occurs, she is blamed for the brutal murder of journalist Dag (Hans Christian Thulin) and

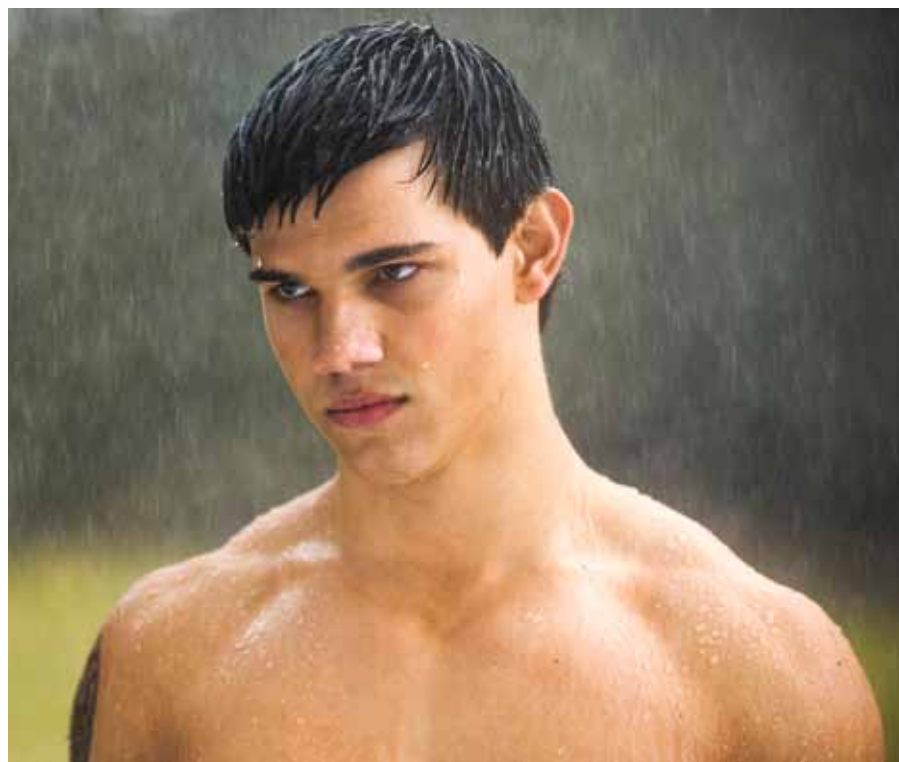


PHOTO: COURTESY

Taylor Lautner in a scene from "Eclipse"

his writer girlfriend, who are investigating a human trafficking ring.

While on the lam, Lisbeth keeps tabs on her nemesis Bjurmann (Peter Andersson), as well as her part-time lover,

journalist Mikael Blomkvist (Michael Nyqvist). She even finds time to bed her girlfriend Miriam (Yasmine Garbi) and provide her with a nice place to crash. This girl who played with fire is like a

hunted animal with multiple lives. It's impossible not to cheer for her as she takes down a variety of ruthless villains. This is definitely one of the hottest movies of the summer.

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## An avatar and a messenger

### 'AVATAR'

(20th Century Fox Home Entertainment/Light Storm)

With 30 minutes worth of editing, James Cameron's cinematic epic, "Avatar" could have qualified as his best movie. More than just a special effects feat for the senses, Cameron gets political, commenting on the destruction of the planet, corporate greed and the negative military mentality.

In the not-too-distant future, paraplegic Marine Jake (Sam Worthington, of the distracting accent) is recruited to take the place of his recently deceased scientist brother on a mission to the planet Pandora. A multinational corporation has a vested interest in the mission because Pandora is rich in "unobtainium," the valuable mineral Earth needs for fuel. Under the guidance of the scientist Grace (Sigourney Weaver), Jake walks again in a surrogate body built like

the Na'Vi, the native people of Pandora. Through a series of interactions with Neytiri (Zoe Saldana), the daughter of the Na'Vi's tribal leaders/power couple, Jake earns their trust and is accepted as one of them.

However, Jake is also being given orders by the square-jawed, GI Joe-minded Col. Quaritch (Stephen Lang), who wants to wipe out the Na'Vi, get the unobtainium and return to whatever Red State he calls home. Pulled in different directions, when Jake realizes that the relationship he worked so hard to establish with Neytiri and her people is at risk, he naturally switches sides. Purposely preachy and mesmerizing, "Avatar" is first-rate entertainment with a message. LGBT (and straight) parents concerned about the PG13 rating should keep in mind that they gave away "Avatar" toys in McDonald's Happy Meals when the film

first opened.

### 'THE MESSENGER'

(Oscilloscope)

Like Kathryn Bigelow's Oscar-winning "The Hurt Locker," one of the best and most effective films of 2009, Oren Moverman's "The Messenger" is a non-traditional war movie. And what "The Hurt Locker" did for its star Jeremy Renner, "The Messenger" could potentially do for Ben Foster. Staff Sgt. Will Montgomery (Foster) is a model soldier, described by his superiors as a "goddamn hero" after saving several of his buddies in combat. As a reward, he is assigned duty on a casualty notification team, alongside expert casualty notification officer Capt. Tony Stone (the ubiquitous Woody Harrelson, who received an Independent Spirit Award for turning in his second admirable performance of the year). Their job is to alert next of



PHOTO: COURTESY

A scene from "The Messenger" with Woody Harrelson and Ben Foster

kin of war casualties. With three months left to serve, Montgomery stoically faces his new duties, death beeper in hand. His personal life is nothing to write home about. His main love interest Kelly (Jena Malone) is engaged to marry someone else.

There is a visceral intimacy at work in "The Messenger" as we watch the impact that the delivery

of the devastating news has on the recipients, including Steve Buscemi as Dale, the father of a fallen soldier, and Samantha Morton as Olivia, a new widow, as well as the messengers themselves. Will takes an unexpected interest in Olivia and her young son Matt (Jahmir Duran-Abreau), aware that he might be seen as taking advantage of a vulnerable widow. Ultimately,

"The Messenger" is a film about relationships.

DVD special features include a "Variety" Screening Series Q&A with Harrelson, Foster, Moverman and others; audio commentary; and "Notification," a doc about U.S. Army Casualty Notification Officers and much more.

Read more at [www.wisconsin Gazette.com](http://www.wisconsin Gazette.com).

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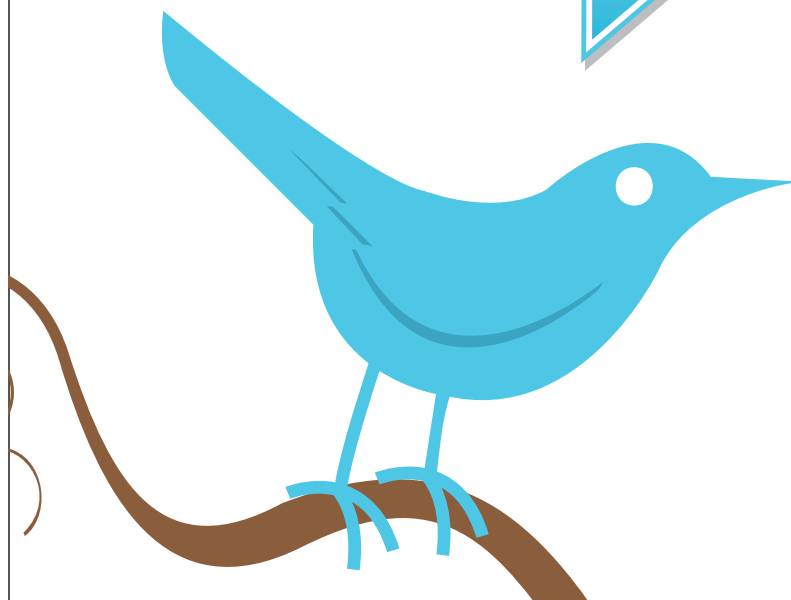
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# WIGOUT ON THE TOWN

EDITED AND COMPILED BY GREGG SHAPIRO

## JULY 17, SATURDAY

High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison, presents Anne Heaton and Rose Polenzani at 7 p.m. Call 608-268-1122.

Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, has John Doe, Robbie Fulks and Nora O'Connor at 9 p.m. Call 414-276-7288.

Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. 4th, welcomes Neon Indian at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.



Neon Indian

## JULY 15, THURSDAY

Led by Rhett Miller, Old 97's performs at 8 p.m. at The Pabst, 144 E. Wells. Call 414-286-3663.

Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth, welcomes Liars at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

Bear-aoke is back at Woof's, 114 King St. in Madison, from 7-10 p.m. Tonight's event is a fundraiser for ACT 8 AIDS Ride. Call 608-204-6222.

## JULY 16, FRIDAY

Kate Digby, Holly Jaycox and James Robey – choreographers from New York, Indiana and Connecticut, respectively – present a collaborative concert tonight and tomorrow night at 7:30 p.m. at Danceworks Studio Theatre, 1661 N. Water. Call 414-277-8480.

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## JULY 18, SUNDAY

Out sax man Dave Koz plays The Pabst, 144 E. Wells, at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

Club 5 Bar, 5 Applegate Court in Madison, presents a live female impersonator show at 10 p.m. Call 608-277-9700.

You can win a cruise at Raven's Facebook Password party, beginning at 8 p.m., 215 E. College Ave. in Appleton. Go to [www.ravensnightclub.com](http://www.ravensnightclub.com).

## JULY 20, TUESDAY

John McGivern performs "The Wonder Bread Years" through July 31 at Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, 400 W. College Ave. in Appleton. Call 920-730-3760.

The Cardinal Bar, 418 E. Wilson in Madison, presents a Latin Gay Night with live entertainment, including DJ and dancing, drag performances and snacks, from 7-9 p.m. Call 608-267-8650.

## JULY 22, THURSDAY

Harbor Room, 117 E. Greenfield, has The Historical Mystery Band with Jerry Grillo at 8 p.m. Call 414-672-7988.

Alterra Cafe at the Lake, 1701 N. Lincoln Memorial Dr., hosts Florentine at the Lake at 7 p.m.

Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin in Madison, presents "The Game Sho\_ Sho\_" on the Evjue Stage, through Sunday night at 7:30 p.m. Call 608-661-9696.

## JULY 23, FRIDAY

The one and only Natalie Merchant performs at 8 p.m. at The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin. Call 414-286-3663.

Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth, has Built To Spill at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

## JULY 21, WEDNESDAY

The legendary Squeeze plays The Pabst, 144 E. Wells, at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

## JULY 24, SATURDAY

Capitol Steps brings its brand of political humor to The Pabst, 144 E. Wells, at 7 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.



Capitol Steps

Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth, presents Langhorne Slim at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

## JULY 25, SUNDAY

Kele of Bloc Party, performs at 8 p.m. in Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth. Call 414-286-3663.

Club 5 Bar, 5 Applegate Court in Madison, hosts a live female impersonator show at 10 p.m. Call 608-277-9700.

## JULY 26, MONDAY

Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth, welcomes Heartless Bastards at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.



## JULY 28, WEDNESDAY

Defy gravity and see the beloved musical "Wicked," running through Aug. 8 at the Marcus Center For the Performing Arts, at the corner of Water and State. Call 414-273-2787.

Boulevard Theatre, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic, presents Fourplay: 4 Comedies Of Seduction, including John Patrick Shanley's "The Red Coat," Elaine Jarvik's "Dead Right," David Ives' "Sure Thing" and Harold Pinter's "The Lover," through Aug. 29. Call 414-744-5747 or visit [www.boulevardtheatre.com](http://www.boulevardtheatre.com).

## JULY 29, THURSDAY

Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth, presents Greg Laswell & Cary Brothers at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.



Greg Laswell

## JULY 27, TUESDAY

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.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

## APARTMENTS

Apartments available in popular Brady street area building. Rent includes heat, water, cooking gas. Studios are \$525 /month and two-bedroom are \$775. On site W/D and storage locker. Call Sharon at 414-241-4606.

## HELP WANTED

Professional, experienced Executive Assistant seeking employment as a Personal or Executive Assistant. Private or Professional. Full-time preferred, but amenable to part-time. Open to other job opportunities. For a copy of resume, please inquire via e-mail. Age: 34 Experience: 7 years (both Small Business and Corporate).

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experience. Near east side location. By appointment only. Call 414-962-6340.

### DOG WALKER

Dog walker and pet/house sitter with more than 25 years of experience. Contact me at olivia.merrillbaum.com or olivia@merrillbaum.com.

### SWIMMING POOL & SPA

Swimming Pool & Spa Service Racine & Kenosha Area 262-857-7470.

### COMPUTERS

PC Medic Milwaukee Mobile PC repair We also do Virus Removal, Upgrades and Custom Computer Builds. Call Kevin @ 414-788-2383.

## SEEKING

### HOUSE BOI WANTED

SGWM with a limited disability looking for a house "boi" for lack of a better term. I need a guy to clean, do some minor cooking & run errands when necessary. I occasionally need a lift, so a car would be helpful. You wouldn't have to live in full time. Seeking SGWM, age 24-34, for this position. It is not a difficult job. If you live in rent would be minimal. Reimbursed for gas \$. Please send stats and what your plan is for the next 5 years with

contact info. Must have references & a phone of your own. Perfect for college or grad student. All the comforts of home. Send to: hummelcreche@netzero.net.

### SEEKING CRAFTERS FOR FALL CRAFT FAIR

I'm seeking crafters for a Fall Craft Fair in Walker's Point. Booth sizes and prices would be flexible. The craft fair would be held indoors at 907 S. 1st Street. The tentative date would be October 16. For more information, contact me at ahavlicek@wi.rr.com.

### FLEA MARKET ON 8/21 & 9/12

In Miller & Campbell's parking lot, 907 S. 1st Street, 8am-3pm. Want to join the fun? You can have a booth for just \$10. Call 414-671-6227 to reserve your space. The flea market on 9/12 is in conjunction with Miller & Campbell's annual costume sale.

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### Tango's Tip:

Temperatures are climbing, so don't forget that extreme heat affects dogs and cats, too! Just like people, companion animals can get heat stroke and heat exhaustion. Unlike people, however, they cannot regulate body temperature in the same way. Learn how to keep your furry friends safe at [www.wihumane.com](http://www.wihumane.com).



Shamrock

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# OUT & ABOUT

Got a listing to add? Tell us  
[managingeditor@wisconsin-gazette.com](mailto:managingeditor@wisconsin-gazette.com).

## STATEWIDE BAR AND ENTERTAINMENT VENUE LISTINGS

### KENOSHA/RACINE

**Club ICON**, 6305 120th St. (off I-94), Kenosha, 262-857-3240

**JoDee's**, 2139 Racine St., Racine, 262-634-9804

### MILWAUKEE

**Art Bar**, 722 Burleigh, 414-372-7880

**Ballgame**, 196 S. Second St., 414-273-7474

**Boom & The Room**, 625 S. Second St., 414-277-5040

**Boot Camp**, 209 E. National Ave., 414-643-6900

**City Lights Chill & Grill**, 111 W. Howard Ave., 414-481-1441

**Fluid**, 819 S. Second St., 414-643-5843

**Harbor Room**, 117 E. Greenfield, 414-672-7988

**Hybrid**, 707 E. Brady St., 414-810-1809

**JACK**, 200 E. Washington St., 414-389-3596

**Kruz**, 354 E. National Ave., 414-272-KRUZ

**LaCage**, 801 S. Second St., 414-383-8330

**Mona's**, 1407 S. First St., 414-643-0377

**Nut Hut**, 1500 W. Scott, 414-647-2673

**Pump**, (Sundays at Decibel), 1905 E. North Ave., 414-272-3337

**This Is It**, 418 E. Wells St., 414-278-9192

**Triangle**, 135 E. National Ave., 414-383-9412

**Tropical Niteclub**, 626 S. Fifth St., 414-460-6277

**Walker's Pint**, 818 S. Second St., 414-643-7468

**Woody's**, 1579 S. Second St., 414-672-0806

### MADISON

**Cardinal Bar**, 418 W. Wilson St., 608-257-2473

**Club 5**, 5 Applegate Court, 608-277-9700

**Plan B**, 924 Williamson St., 608-257-5262

**Shamrock**, 117 W. Main St., 608-255-5029

**WOOF'S**, 114 King St., 608-204-6222

### BELOIT/JANESVILLE

**Impulse**, 132 W. Grand Ave., Beloit, 608-361-0000

**Off The Wagon**, 18-24 S. River St., Janesville, 608-359-3209

### LACROSSE

**My Place**, 3201 South Ave., 608-788-9073

**Players**, 300 Fourth St., 608-784-4200

**Chances R**, 417 Jay St., 608-782-5105

### WISCONSIN DELLS

**Captain Dix Rainbow Valley Resort**, 4124 River Road, 866-553-1818

### SHEBOYGAN

**Blue Lite**, 1029 N. Eighth St., 920-457-1636

### FOX VALLEY

**Rascals Bar & Grill**, 702 E. Wisconsin, Appleton, 920-954-9262

**Ravens**, 215 E. College Ave., Appleton, 920-364-9599

**Napalese**, 1351 Cedar St., Green Bay, 920-432-9646

**SASS**, 840 S. Broadway, Green Bay, 920-437-7277

**The Shelter**, 730 N. Quincy St., Green Bay, 920-432-2662

**XS Niteclub**, 1106 Main St., Green Bay, 920-430-1301

**Debs Spare Time**, 1303 Harrison St., Oshkosh, 920-235-6577

**PJS**, 1601 Oregon St., Oshkosh

### NORTHERN

**Scooters**, 411 Galloway Street, Eau Claire, 715-835-9959

**JT's Bar and Grill**, 1506 N. Third St., Superior, 715-394-2580

**The Flame**, 1612 Tower Ave., Superior, 715-395-0101

**The Main**, 1217 Tower Ave., Superior, 715-392-1756

**OZ**, 320 Washington St., Wausau, 715-842-3225

*Don't see your favorite LGBT hangout?  
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# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## ONGOING

Mondays and Thursdays, 1-5 p.m., SAGE Office drop-in hours, Milwaukee.\*

Mondays, Wednesdays-Saturdays, LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin drop-in hours, Racine.\*

## THURSDAY

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

6 p.m., third Thursdays, same-sex partners group, OutReach, Madison.\*

6 p.m., Qgrads, UW Memorial Union Rathskeller, 800 Langdon St., Madison, 53276.

7 p.m., third Thursdays, Lesbian Alliance movie night, LGBT Community Center, Milwaukee.\*

7 p.m., AA Living Sober; 7 p.m., Crystal Meth Anonymous, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.\*

7 p.m., Q2-LGBTQ Youth Group, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, Eau Claire.

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

## FRIDAY

4-7 p.m., fourth Friday, Happy Hour with Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin, rotating location in Milwaukee/Madison, [www.ppawi.org](http://www.ppawi.org).

5:30 p.m., second and fourth Fridays, Pozitive Lite HIV/AIDS group, OutReach, Madison.\*

6 p.m., second Fridays, Lesbian Alliance game night and potluck, LGBT Community Center, Milwaukee.\*

6:30 p.m., Open Mic night, Harmony Cafe, Green Bay.\*

7 p.m., AA, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.\*

7 p.m., Gay Narcotics Anonymous, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.\*

7 p.m., Drop-in night, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, Eau Claire.\*

8:30 p.m., second and fourth Fridays, Shoreline Milwaukee line dancing and lessons, Hot Water, 818 S. Water St., Milwaukee, 414-383-75936.

9:30 p.m., first Friday, Milwaukee Guerilla Gay Bar takeover, location varies, [www.mkeggb.com](http://www.mkeggb.com).

## SATURDAY

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

9 a.m., Frontrunners/Frontwalkers Madison, Wingra Park off Monroe St., Madison, 608-469-4882.

3 p.m., second and fourth Saturdays, Women4Women, OutReach, Madison.\*

6 p.m., AA The Women's Light meeting; 7:30 p.m., Spiritual Light, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.\*

6 p.m., Rotating Activity Night each week, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, Eau Claire.\*

7-8:30 p.m., third Saturdays, BWMT (Black and White Men Together), general meeting.\*

## 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, Milwaukee.\*

5 p.m., OutThere LGBT youth group meeting, OutReach, Madison.\*

5 p.m., third Sundays, PFLAG Milwaukee, Martin Luther Church, 9235 W. Bluemound Road, Wauwatosa.

7 p.m., second Sundays, Gay and Straight in Christ, Good Shepherd Catholic Church, N88 W17658 Christman Road, Menomonee Falls, 262-502-0437.

## MONDAY

7 p.m., Spectrum - Social and networking LGBT group, Harmony Cafe, Appleton.\*

7:30 p.m., AA Came to Believe, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.\*

## TUESDAY

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

5 p.m., AA Over 40; 7 p.m. AA The Blue Group, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.\*

6 p.m., third Tuesday, Fair Wisconsin Action Network of the Chippewa Valley, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, Eau Claire.\*

7 p.m., last Tuesday, Canasta night, SAGE Milwaukee.\*

7 p.m., Spectrum GLBT and Allied social group for adults, Harmony Cafe, Appleton.\*

## WEDNESDAY

7 p.m., AA 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.\*

7 p.m., first Wednesday, Bear Club 4 Men monthly meeting, Napalese Lounge, 1351 Cedar St., Green Bay, Info: [bearclub4men@gmail.com](mailto:bearclub4men@gmail.com).

Send listings to

[ltomaszek@wisconsinngazette.com](mailto:ltomaszek@wisconsinngazette.com).

**\* SEE COMMUNITY LISTINGS, NEXT PAGE, FOR ADDRESS AND CONTACT INFORMATION.**

## THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

### THURSDAY

**July 15**

5-8 p.m., Summer social on the Patio, LGBT Senior Alliance, Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin St., Madison, 608-255-8582, [info@lgbt Outreach.org](mailto:info@lgbt Outreach.org).

### FRIDAY

**July 16**

6 p.m., Fish Fry with SAGE, MONAs Out 'N About, 1407 S. First St., 53204, RSVP to 414-224-0517.

6:30 p.m., Dining out with Milwaukee GAMMA, La Perla, 734 S. Fifth St., 414-530-1886, [milwaukeegamma.com](http://milwaukeegamma.com).

7 p.m., Classics movie night, LGBT Center of S.E. Wisconsin, 1456 Junction Ave., Racine, [asstdirector@lgbtsewisc.org](mailto:asstdirector@lgbtsewisc.org).

### SATURDAY

**July 17**

Noon - 4 p.m., Rainbow Community Potluck Picnic, Washington Park Senior Center, 4420 W. Vliet St.

6:45-10 p.m., Movie night at the LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley features "Transamerica." The center is at 510 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, 715-522-LGBT, [www.thecentercv.org](http://www.thecentercv.org).

7-11 p.m., opening night reception for "Making the Cut" art show and silent auction, Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second St., 414-383-3727, [milwgac@yahoo.com](mailto:milwgac@yahoo.com).

### MONDAY

**July 19**

7 p.m., Seniors In Charge, LGBT Center of S.E. Wisconsin, 1456 Junction Ave., Racine, [www.lgbtsewisc.org](http://www.lgbtsewisc.org).

### TUESDAY

**July 20**

6:30-9:30 p.m., Nashville Songwriters Association International, Harmony Cafe, 1660 W. Mason St., Green Bay, 715-854-2215.

### WEDNESDAY

**July 21**

5:30-8 p.m., Betty Lou Cruise with Madison OPEN, launch from Machinery Row, register: [www.openmadison.org](http://www.openmadison.org).

7-9 p.m., Reading, Writing and Relating: LGBTQ Narratives, OutReach, 600 Williamson St., Madison, 608-255-8582, [info@lgbt Outreach.org](mailto:info@lgbt Outreach.org).

7-9 p.m., Brew City Bears Coffee and

Chat, Starbucks, 1130 Miller Park Way, RSVP to Bruce, 414-514-4063.

### FRIDAY

**July 23**

5 p.m., Gallery Night and Day involves various art galleries in the Third Ward. A list of participating galleries is at [www.historic-thirdward.org/events/gallerynight.php](http://www.historic-thirdward.org/events/gallerynight.php).

### SATURDAY

**July 24**

11 a.m., cooking demonstration with Aria Kagan of "The Next Food Network Star," fundraiser for Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, Public Market, 400 N. Water St., 414-336-1111.

11 a.m.-11 p.m., Brady St. Festival, Brady Street and Astor Street, 53202., 414-BRADYST, [info@bradystreet.org](mailto:info@bradystreet.org).

### SUNDAY

**July 25**

1:25 p.m., "The Kids Are Alright" movie matinee with Women4Women, Sundance Cinemas, Hilldale Mall, Madison, [dswess2@yahoo.com](mailto:dswess2@yahoo.com).

2-4 pm., Open cards with SAGE

## SAVE THE DATE

Cream City Foundation presents its annual fundraiser My Best Friend is Straight at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 29, at Lynden Sculpture Garden, 2145 W. Brown Deer Road, River Hills. The event includes tours of the garden, open bar and free valet parking. Go to [www.creamcityfoundation.org/my-best-friend-is-straight.html](http://www.creamcityfoundation.org/my-best-friend-is-straight.html).

Milwaukee, SAGE Milwaukee, 1845 N. Farwell Ave., Ste. 220, 414-224-0517, [www.sagemilwaukee.org](http://www.sagemilwaukee.org).

5 p.m., PFLAG Racine/Kenosha first meeting, LGBT Center of S.E. Wisconsin, 1456 Junction Ave., Racine, [www.lgbtsewisc.org](http://www.lgbtsewisc.org).

7 p.m., Meet and greet with Aria Kagan of "The Next Food Network Star," fundraiser for Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, Ambassador Hotel, 2308 W. Wisconsin Ave. RSVP to [lorif@ambassadormilwaukee.com](mailto:lorif@ambassadormilwaukee.com) by 7/20/2010.

### WEDNESDAY

**July 28**

6:30 p.m., Dining out with Brew City Bears, Baker's Square, 10200 W. National Ave., RSVP to Bruce, 414-514-4063.

Send listings to

[ltomaszek@wisconsinngazette.com](mailto:ltomaszek@wisconsinngazette.com).

# COMMUNITY GROUPS

## MILWAUKEE

### ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Cream City Chorus, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-276-8787, [www.creamcitychorus.org](http://www.creamcitychorus.org), [info@creamcitychorus.org](mailto:info@creamcitychorus.org).

Cream City Squares, 414-445-8080, [www.iagsdc.org/creamcity](http://www.iagsdc.org/creamcity).

Men's Voices Milwaukee, 2717 E. Hampshire St., 53211, 414-964-1513 [www.mensvoicesmilwaukee.com](http://www.mensvoicesmilwaukee.com).

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second St., 53204, 414-383-3727, [www.milwaukeegayartscenter.org](http://www.milwaukeegayartscenter.org).

Milwaukee/LGBT Film/Video Festival, [www4.uwm.edu/psoa/programs/film/lgbtfilm](http://www4.uwm.edu/psoa/programs/film/lgbtfilm).

Queer Zine Archive Project, 2935 N. Fratney St., 53202, [www.qzap.org](http://www.qzap.org).

Shoreline Country Dancers, 2809 E. Oklahoma Ave., 53207, [www.shoreline-milw.org](http://www.shoreline-milw.org), [info@shoreline-milw.org](mailto:info@shoreline-milw.org).

Women's Voices Milwaukee, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-534-5645, [womensvoicesmke.viviti.com](http://womensvoicesmke.viviti.com), [womensvoicesmilwaukee@gmail.com](mailto:womensvoicesmilwaukee@gmail.com).

### COMMUNITY

Bay View Gays, 414-482-3796, [www.bvgays.com](http://www.bvgays.com).

Brew City Bears, P.O. Box 1035, 53201, 414-331-3744, [www.bcb4men.info](http://www.bcb4men.info).

BWMT, 414-463-5359, [www.nabwmt.org/milwaukee](http://www.nabwmt.org/milwaukee).

Castaways, P.O. Box 1697, 53202, [castawaysmc@yahoo.com](mailto:castawaysmc@yahoo.com).

CONNEXUS, 2439 N. Holton St., 53212, 414-390-0444, [www.diverseandresilient.org/connexus](http://www.diverseandresilient.org/connexus).

Diverse and Resilient, 2439 N. Holton St., 53212, 414-390-0444, [www.diverseandresilient.org](http://www.diverseandresilient.org).

Firebirds, P.O. Box 159, 53201.

FORGE, P.O. Box 1272, 53201, 414-559-2123, [www.forge-forward.org](http://www.forge-forward.org).

GAMMA Milwaukee, P.O. Box 1900, 53201, 414-530-1886, [www.milwaukeegamma.com](http://www.milwaukeegamma.com).

Gemini Gender Group, P.O. Box 44211, 53214, 414-297-9328, [gggwi.tripod.com](http://gggwi.tripod.com).

Lesbian Alliance, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-272-9442, [www.lesbianalliance.org](http://www.lesbianalliance.org).

Lesbian Fund of the Women's Fund of Milwaukee, 414-290-7350, [www.womensfund.com/who\\_we\\_are/lesbian\\_fund](http://www.womensfund.com/who_we_are/lesbian_fund).

LOC/Women of Color, P.O. Box 93594, 53203, 414-263-1631.

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-271-265, [www.mkelgbt.org](http://www.mkelgbt.org).

Milwaukee LGBT History Project, 414-224-0517, [www.mkelgbthist.org](http://www.mkelgbthist.org).

Milwaukee Pride Parade, P.O. Box 070177, 53207, [www.prideparademke.org](http://www.prideparademke.org).

Out to Brunch, [jennieragland@wi.rr.com](mailto:jennieragland@wi.rr.com).

PFLAG-Milwaukee, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-299-9198, [pflagmilwaukee@hotmail.com](mailto:pflagmilwaukee@hotmail.com).

PrideFest, 414-272-3378, [www.pridefest.com](http://www.pridefest.com).

Queer Program, P.O. Box 090441, 53209, 414-265-8500, [queerprgm@aol.com](mailto:queerprgm@aol.com).

SAGE Milwaukee, 1845 N. Farwell, Suite 220, 53202, 414-224-0517, [www.sagemilwaukee.org](http://www.sagemilwaukee.org).

Sapphic Adventures Milwaukee, [www.meetup.com/sapphic-MKE](http://www.meetup.com/sapphic-MKE), [calamityjane321@gmail.com](mailto:calamityjane321@gmail.com).

com.

SHIBA/Sisters Helping Each other Battle AIDS, 2349 N. Holton St., 53212, 414-390-0444.

WanderWomyn Outdoors Group, [debydoo2@yahoo.com](mailto:debydoo2@yahoo.com).

Washington Heights Rainbow Association, 414-258-8834 [www.washingtonheightsrainbow.org](http://www.washingtonheightsrainbow.org).

Wauwatosa Rainbow Association, 414-218-9277, [tosarainbow@yahoo.com](mailto:tosarainbow@yahoo.com).

Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf, P.O. Box 353, Hartland, 53029, [www.wiscrad.org](http://www.wiscrad.org).

Wisconsin Rainbow Families, 315 W. Court St., 53212, [www.wirainbowfamilies.com](http://www.wirainbowfamilies.com), [info@wirainbowfamilies.com](mailto:info@wirainbowfamilies.com).

### HEALTH

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 510498, 53202, 414-273-1991, [www.arcw.org](http://www.arcw.org), [info@arcw.org](mailto:info@arcw.org).

Brady East STD (BESTD) Clinic, 1240 E. Brady St., 53202, 414-272-2144, [www.bestd.org](http://www.bestd.org), [bestd@execpc.com](mailto:bestd@execpc.com).

Galano Club, 315 Court St., Suite 201, 53213, 414-276-6936, [www.galanoclub.org](http://www.galanoclub.org), [mail@galanoclub.org](mailto:mail@galanoclub.org).

Health Institute of Milwaukee, 1817 N. Martin Luther King Drive, Suite 3, 53212, 414-263-9999.

Milwaukee Women's Center, 611 N. Broadway, Suite 230, 53202, [www.mwcinc.org](http://www.mwcinc.org).

Pathfinders, 1614 E. Kane Pl., 53202, 414-271-1560, [www.pathfinders.org](http://www.pathfinders.org), [info@tccmilw.org](mailto:info@tccmilw.org).

STD Specialties, Inc., 3251 N. Holton St., 53212, 414-264-8800, [www.stdspecialties.org](http://www.stdspecialties.org).

### POLITICS

Center Advocates, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-271-2656, [www.centeradvocates.org](http://www.centeradvocates.org).

Equality Wisconsin, 2717 E. Hampshire Ave., 53211, 414-431-1306, [www.equalitywi.org](http://www.equalitywi.org).

Human Rights League, P.O. Box 510407, 53203, 414-319-9863, [www.hrl-pac.org](http://www.hrl-pac.org), [hrlpac@yahoo.com](mailto:hrlpac@yahoo.com).

Vets Do Ask Do Tell, 315 W. Court St., 53212, [www.vetsdoaskdotell.org](http://www.vetsdoaskdotell.org).

Religion/Spirituality

Central United Methodist Church, 639 N. 25th St., 53233, 414-344-1600, [www.centralumcmilw.org](http://www.centralumcmilw.org).

Congregation Shir Hadash, 414-297-9159, [www.cshmilw.org](http://www.cshmilw.org).

Cross Lutheran Church, 1821 N. 16th St., 53205, 414-344-1746, [www.crosslutheranmilwaukee.org](http://www.crosslutheranmilwaukee.org).

Divine Word Lutheran Church, 5505 Lloyd St., 53208, 414-476-3189, [divinewordlutheran.org](http://divinewordlutheran.org).

First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee, 1342 N. Astor St., 53202, 414-273-5257, [www.uumilwaukee.org](http://www.uumilwaukee.org).

Lake Park Lutheran Church, 2647 N. Stowell Ave., 53211, 414-962-9190, [lakeparklutheran.com](http://lakeparklutheran.com).

Metropolitan Community Church, 1239 W. Mineral St., 53204, 414-383-1100, [www.milmcc.org](http://www.milmcc.org).

Milwaukee Friends Meeting (Quakers), 3224 N. Gordon Pl., 53212, 414-263-2111, [www.milwaukeequakers.org](http://www.milwaukeequakers.org).

Plymouth Church, 2717 E. Hampshire Ave., 53211,

414-964-1513, [www.plymouth-church.org](http://www.plymouth-church.org).

St. James Episcopal Church, 833 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53233, 414-964-1513, [www.stjamesmilwaukee.org](http://www.stjamesmilwaukee.org).

### SPORTS

Front Runners/Front Walkers, 414-443-0379, [ullrwoolf.com](http://ullrwoolf.com)/[frontrunnersmke](mailto:frontrunnersmke), [thbolt@milwpc.com](mailto:thbolt@milwpc.com).

Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club, 3957 81st St., 53222, 414-616-3716, [moenell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:moenell@sbcglobal.net).

Milwaukee Gay Soccer League, 1012 E. Clark St., 53212, 414-405-5878, [www.milwaukeegayssoccer.org](http://www.milwaukeegayssoccer.org).

Milwaukee Gay Volleyball League, [www.milwaukeegayvolleyball.com](http://www.milwaukeegayvolleyball.com).

Saturday Softball Beer League, 2333 N. 56th St., 53210, [www.ssbmlmilwaukee.com](http://www.ssbmlmilwaukee.com).

### YOUTH/EDUCATION

Alliance School, 850 W. Walnut St., 53205, 414-267-5400, [www.allianceschool.org](http://www.allianceschool.org).

Alliance for LGBTQ Youth, 1212 S. 70th St., 53214, 414-453-1400, [www.cssw.org](http://www.cssw.org).

Gay Youth Milwaukee, P.O. Box 090441, 53209, 414-265-8500, <http://gayyouthmilwaukee.tripod.com>.

Marquette Gay/Straight Alliance, 1442 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53233.

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

Project Q, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-223-3220.

UWM LGBT Resource Center, UWM Union WG 89, P.O. Box 413, 53201, 414-229-4116, [www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/LGBT](http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/LGBT).

## FOX VALLEY

### COMMUNITY

Harmony Café, 233 E. College Ave., Appleton, 54915, 920-734-2233, [www.harmonycafe.org](http://www.harmonycafe.org), [skenevan\\_gw@gwicc.org](mailto:skenevan_gw@gwicc.org).

PFLAG-Appleton/Fox Cities, 740 Kensington Road, Neenah, 54956, 920-722-7145. Rainbow Over Wisconsin, 702 E. Wisconsin Ave., Appleton, WI 54911, [www.rainbowoverwisconsin.org](http://www.rainbowoverwisconsin.org).

## GREEN BAY

### COMMUNITY

Argonauts of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 22096, Green Bay, 54305, [www.argonautsll.org](http://www.argonautsll.org), [info@argonautsll.org](mailto:info@argonautsll.org).

Bear Club 4 Men, P.O. Box 13463, Green Bay, 54307, [www.bc4m.com](http://www.bc4m.com).

Harmony Café, 1660 W. Mason St., Green Bay, 54303, 920-569-1593, [www.harmonycafe.org](http://www.harmonycafe.org).

Positive Voice, P.O. Box 1381, Green Bay, 54305, 920-435-4404, [pvinc.org](mailto:pvinc.org), [info@pvinc.org](mailto:info@pvinc.org).

Pride Alive, 920-471-3260, [www.newpride.org](http://www.newpride.org), [info@newpride.org](mailto:info@newpride.org).

### RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

Angels of Hope MCC, P.O. Box 672, Green Bay, 54305, 920-983-7452, [www.aohmcc.org](http://www.aohmcc.org), [aohchurch@netnet.net](mailto:aohchurch@netnet.net).

## MADISON

### ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Dairyland Cowboys and Cowgirls, Club 5, 5 Applegate Court, Madison, 53713, 608-277-9700, [www.dcancd.org](http://www.dcancd.org)

### COMMUNITY

OutReach, 600 Williamson St., Suite P1, Madison, 53703, 608-255-8582, [www.lgbtoutreach.org](http://www.lgbtoutreach.org), [info@lgbtoutreach.org](mailto:info@lgbtoutreach.org).

PFLAG-Madison, 4221 Venetian Ln., Madison 53718, 608-848-2333, [pflagmadison@yahoo.com](mailto:pflagmadison@yahoo.com).

### POLITICS

Fair Wisconsin, 112 State St., Suite 309, Madison, 53703, 608-441-0143, [www.fairwisconsin.org](http://www.fairwisconsin.org), [info@fairwisconsin.com](mailto:info@fairwisconsin.com).

### SPORTS

Madison Gay Hockey Association, [www.madisongayhockey.org](http://www.madisongayhockey.org).

Madison Gay Volleyball, 608-347-8907, [www.madisonlbtvolleyball.com](http://www.madisonlbtvolleyball.com).

### YOUTH/EDUCATION

GSA for Safe Schools, 301 S. Bedford St., Madison, 53703, 608-661-1360, [www.gsaforsafeschools.org](http://www.gsaforsafeschools.org).

## RACINE/KENOSHA

### COMMUNITY

LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin, 1456 Junction Ave., Racine, 53403, 262-664-4100, [info@lgbtsewisc.org](mailto:info@lgbtsewisc.org).

PFLAG-Racine/Kenosha, P.O. Box 580058, Pleasant Prairie, 53158, 262-694-2729, [pflagkenosha@aol.com](mailto:pflagkenosha@aol.com).

### RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

Bradford Community Church-Unitarian Universalist, 5810 8th Ave., 53140, 262-656-0544, [www.bradforduu.org](http://www.bradforduu.org).

### SPORTS

Wisconsin Warriors, P.O. Box 334, Somers, 53171, 414-759-8823, [wiwarriors.com](http://wiwarriors.com), [wiwarriors@yahoo.com](mailto:wiwarriors@yahoo.com).

### YOUTH/EDUCATION

Rainbow Alliance, UW-Parkside, Student Center, L108D, 262-595-2685, <http://www.uwp.edu/clubs/clubtemp.cfm?clubID=38>.

Send changes or addition suggestions to [ltomaszek@wisconsinngazette.com](mailto:ltomaszek@wisconsinngazette.com).

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