

In WiGOUT

Despite her recent break-up, Melissa Etheridge says life is good. See interview, page 19.



THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY

July 29, 2010 | Vol. 1, No. 19

Marriage equality foes outnumbered in Madison

By Emily Mills

Contributing writer

Supporters for marriage equality outnumbered National Organization for Marriage protesters by a ratio of 8 - 1 during a July 27 duel of rallies on the streets of Madison.

NOM's Madison stop was part of the group's Summer for Marriage Tour, a 23-city trek to spread the group's message of traditional, heterosexual-only unions. NOM also hopes to gather two million signatures from what executive director Brian Brown referred to as an "army for traditional marriage rights."

But at most stops, local pro-equality supporters, alerted to the tour's appearances via Facebook and Twitter, have overwhelmed NOM's small cadre of march-

ers. In Madison about 500 counter-demonstrators faced off against the anti-equality visitors.

An hour before NOM began its presentation on the steps of the Capitol, the counter-protesters gathered at a rally organized by a large coalition of state and local groups, including Fair Wisconsin, the LGBT Campus Center of UW - Madison, PFLAG and Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin.

Addressing the crowd before the march began, husbands Michael Knaapen and John Becker of Milwaukee told the story of their courtship and marriage.

"Our relationship is the most special thing in the world to us, of course," Becker said. "But it's probably not so different than what millions of other people have. After we got engaged, though, that's when things got complicated and became a little more unique."

Knaapen went on to explain how the two had to travel to Canada to have a Madison page 11



PHOTO: LUCKY TOMASZEK

Pro-equality demonstrators (above) overwhelmed the National Organization for Marriage's Summer for Marriage tour during its Madison stop on July 27.

City worker disciplined for sending hate mail

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

A Milwaukee city worker is back on the job after agreeing to apologize to a gay man she harassed via her government e-mail account.

Donna Luty, an administrative assistant with the Port of Milwaukee, was suspended

without pay in mid-July after a man complained to city officials that she'd sent him e-mails from her office computer filled with Christian right anti-gay rhetoric.

Gordon Jablonski, a former Wisconsin resident who now lives in New Jersey, described Luty as a peripheral acquaint-

ance from several years ago. He said she contacted him after seeing pictures on Facebook of his nuptials with another man. "You know you are living in sin and will burn in hell if you don't change your life around," Luty wrote in an e-mail that Jablonski shared with WiG. "I'm sorry

to hear you married another man. God made Adam and Eve not Adam and Steve."

"I wrote back and said, 'What you're saying to me is inappropriate, wrong and hurtful. I have the right to choose my own religion,'" Jablonski said.

But Jablonski said despite

his objection and his request that Luty stop contacting him, she continued to write.

Milwaukee employee relations director Maria Monteagudo said she immediately sent Luty home after learning of the harassment and launched an investiga-

Hate mail page 5

This issue

inside and online at wisconsin Gazette.com

News

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Wisconsin Gaze..... | 4 |
| Editorial..... | 8 |
| National Gaze..... | 12 |
| International Gaze.... | 16 |
| WiGWAG..... | 26 |

Features

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| WiGOUT..... | 19 |
| Art Gaze..... | 21 |
| Theater Gaze..... | 23 |
| On the Town..... | 29 |
| Community Events.... | 30 |



During the month of August, Peabody's is offering 25% off of all Hickory Chair purchases and one hour free design consultations.

Peabody's
INTERIORS

WE HAVE ARRIVED! VISIT US IN OUR NEW SHOWROOM. EXPERIENCE THE INTRIGUE.
8655 N. Deerwood Drive ♦ Brown Deer, WI 53209 ♦ 414.962.4550 ♦ peabodysinteriors.com

The Pabst
THE RIVERSIDE TURNER HALL
HISTORIC VENUES | LEGENDARY PERFORMANCES

Point FISH FRY & A FLICK
Returns!
POINTFISHFRYANDAFLICK.COM

**THIS FRIDAY!
HANGOVER
FRIDAY AUGUST 6**

COMING TO *Milwaukee!*

KEANE
PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS
**INGRID MICHAELSON
& FRAN HEALY
(OF TRAVIS)**

AUGUST 10 • RIVERSIDE • 7PM Presented by Shepherd

WMM 89.7 FM PRIDEFEST MILWAUKEE
ALTEIRA COFFEE WELCOME
**RUFUS
WAINWRIGHT**
+ VERY SPECIAL GUEST
MARTHA WAINWRIGHT

TUE. AUGUST 10 • PABST

The Pabst
THE RIVERSIDE TURNER HALL

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4 • RIVERSIDE
THE NATIONAL

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4 • TURNER
**ME WITHOUT YOU
+ MURDER BY DEATH**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7 • TURNER
JOHNNY WINTER

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

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14 • TURNER
JAILL
ALBUM RELEASE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19 • PABST
YO-YO MA

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22 • PABST
**LARRY
CARLTON TRIO**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24 • PABST
**RHYTHM DEVILS W/
GRATEFUL
DEAD DRUMMERS
MICKEY HART & BILL KREUTZMANN**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28 • TURNER
**TRAMPLED BY
TURTLES**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 • PABST
SLASH

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31 • RIVERSIDE
ALICE COOPER

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 • PABST
CROWDED HOUSE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 • TURNER
BILLY BRAGG

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 • TURNER
MONDO LUCHA

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 • PABST
PAVEMENT

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 • TURNER
JEFF DANIELS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 • RIVERSIDE
**DONALD FAGEN,
MICHAEL MCDONALD
& BOZ SCAGGS**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 • RIVERSIDE
LOUIS CK: WORD

**AN EVENING WITH
MELISSA
ETHERIDGE**

WOMEN'S Komen cure SUPPORTED BY
PRIDEFEST MILWAUKEE / ALTEIRA COFFEE
** \$1 ADDED TO EACH TICKET PURCHASED WILL GO
TO THE KOMEN FOR THE CURE**

WED. AUGUST 11 • RIVERSIDE

m&l
WELTZER MANAGEMENT
WELCOMES
**YO-YO
YO
MA**
WITH THE SILK
ROAD ENSEMBLE

THURS. AUGUST 19 • PABST
FREE WINE TASTING BEFORE THE SHOW! 6PM-8PM

WHY CONNECT WITH US?
 >> find out about concerts 1st
 >> win concert tickets
 >> up to the minute music news

facebook.com /PabstTheater

twitter.com /PabstTheater

PABSTTHEATER.ORG
414.286.3663

Milwaukee settles 'Naked Boys' lawsuit

By John Quinlan

Contributing writer

Five years after a Milwaukee vice squad officer shut down a traveling production of the gay-themed, off-Broadway hit "Naked Boys Singing" at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, the city has settled the resulting lawsuit with a \$20,000 check delivered to the center July 14.

The initial controversy broke in August 2005, less than five months after MGAC had opened with a Broadway revue. Fundamentalist street preacher Drew Heiss, tipped off by the extensive publicity campaign that preceded the performance of "Naked Boys," filed an open records request that revealed MGAC had not applied for a small theater license with the Milwaukee City Council, which was then in summer recess and not scheduled to meet until September.

MGAC's attorneys maintained that the center was exempt from the requirement because of its non-profit status, a position that was later affirmed by the city attorney's office. But the city's official stance was expressed in chilling terms by two visits to MGAC from members of the Milwaukee Police Department vice squad, followed by a telephone ultimatum.

"Naked Boys Singing" producer Mark Hooker told the Broadway-based publication

'He informed me if I wanted to be all high and mighty that he could take me down to the police station if I sold even one ticket.'

Playbill that a man who identified himself as Milwaukee vice squad Det. Wilcox called him to warn that performing the play that evening was not advised.

"(Wilcox) was very gruff and I perceived his voice as threatening," Hooker said. "He informed me if I wanted to be all high and mighty and act like I was above the law, that he could take me down to the police station if I sold even one ticket and have me booked and printed like any drug dealer who was breaking the law."

Organizers briefly considered moving ahead with the performance as an act of civil disobedience. However, Hooker, who is living with

AIDS, said the threat of jail time without access to medications was not a risk he could afford to take. So on Aug. 18, 2005, what was supposed to be the Milwaukee premiere of "Naked Boys Singing" became a press conference to announce a lawsuit against the city on First Amendment grounds of prior restraint.

With the help of ACLU of Wisconsin legal director Larry DuPuis, MGAC filed a notice of injury and claim in federal court seeking \$634,420 in damages. It stated that the group's "rights were violated when the employees of the city selectively enforced the ordinance in violation of the constitutional rights of (MGAC) and the staff of ("Naked Boys Singing") due to the organization's focus on gay-related and AIDS-related causes."

The play's themes are rooted in the transformations that come with gay identity and individual struggles with AIDS, and supporters pointed out that most of the play's critics had never heard or seen the play. They argued that the play's award-winning musical score contains "naked truth messages" inherent to the universal struggle of being true to who you are.

After a meeting with about 50 LGBT community leaders in September 2005, Milwaukee Mayor Tom



COURTESY BROADWAYWORLD.COM

The cast of the New York production of "Naked Boys Singing."

Barrett called for a review of the city's licensing practices and the police department's handling of the shutdown. Following a city attorney's ruling that the ordinance should never have been applied to a non-profit organization, 16 highly successful performances played MGAC later that fall.

The Milwaukee show's shutdown was the fourth such occurrence in its now decade-long history, including similar incidents in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Atlanta. Ironically, the first incident occurred in 2001 in the gay

mecca of Provincetown, Mass., which later amended its local ordinance to prohibit all nude entertainment.

Some Milwaukee officials downplayed the significance of the case and the settlement. "There's no admission of wrongdoing," assistant city attorney Miriam Horwitz said. "The city settled as a practical matter."

But advocates for MGAC disagreed.


"Requiring any theater to get a license before putting on a play comes dangerously close to the kind of prior restraint on speech the First

Amendment was designed to prohibit," Dupuis said. He was supported in the suit by cooperating Madison civil rights attorneys Steven Porter and Jeff Scott Olson.

"We are pleased that the city has clarified the process so that non-profits will know they are not required to get a license. However, we continue to believe that the city should amend its ordinance to limit the time the city has to issue any theater license.

It's too easy for the authorities to just delay giving the permit to performances they don't like."

GET THE WISCONSIN GAZETTE DELIVERED. CALL 414-961-3240



Class act

One location · Focus on you · Bring your prescription

**BRONZE
OPTICAL**

FABULOUS
AND
AFFORDABLE
EYEWEAR

Visit our website for special-offer coupons and more.

1568 N. FARWELL AVE. | MILWAUKEE | 414-221-7055 | BRONZEOPTICAL.COM

OPTICIANS
Bronze Quinton, ABOC
Linda Berna, ABOC



The Total Home Company Inc.

START WITH THE PROS

Design, Build, Remodel and Everything In Between





(414) 218-7833

www.yourcarpenters.com

JUDGE: HIV CLAIM CAN PROCEED TO TRIAL

A U.S. district judge ruled July 22 that a discrimination case concerning a woman who was denied surgery because she's HIV-positive can proceed to trial.

In February 2009, Lambda Legal and the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin filed suit on behalf of Melody Rose, 36, after Dr. Steven Cahee of Fond du Lac refused to remove her gallbladder due to concerns about HIV transmission. Rose underwent the procedure at a different medical facility.

The suit names Cahee, the Fond du Lac Regional Clinic and Agnesian Healthcare, which operates the clinic as

well as St. Agnes Hospital. The defendants had sought a summary judgment that would avoid a trial, but Judge J.P. Stadtmueller said the case could proceed to trial under four different anti-discrimination laws. "A reasonable jury could look at all of this evidence and conclude that Dr. Cahee discriminated against Rose in the provision of services by declining to perform surgery on her and that this decision was based on Rose's disability," he wrote.

"Doctors are supposed to first do no harm, but Dr. Cahee's conduct was very harmful," said Rebekah Kopec-Farrell, director of ARCW's legal services program. "Our state has laws that explicitly protect people

BRIEFS

living with HIV from discrimination, and our community's healthcare providers should be our first line of defense in the fight against the misinformation and fear that fuels such discrimination."

The case is *Rose v. Cahee et al.*

GOP CHALLENGES BALDWIN'S NOMINATION

Republicans have filed a challenge to U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin's nomination papers.

The Young Republicans of Dane County allege Baldwin, a Madison Democrat, listed her campaign office as her

address on the papers rather than her voting address.

A message left with Baldwin's campaign wasn't returned.

However, state Government Accountability Board spokesman Reid Magney said state election officials have allowed Baldwin, who is openly lesbian, to use her campaign office as her address for years because she received threats after she was first elected in 1998.

OUTREACH SEEKS NOMINATIONS

OutReach, Madison and south central Wisconsin's

LGBT community center seeks nominations of individuals, organizations and businesses that have made outstanding contributions to Madison's LGBT community in the past year.

The awards will be presented at OutReach's 18th Annual Community Awards Banquet, to be held Fri., Sept. 17, at the Monona Terrace Convention Center.

A committee of community members reviews the nominations and selects award recipients. Past award winners, OutReach staff and board members are not eligible.

Award categories are David Runyon Memorial Man of the Year, Susan Green Memorial Woman of the Year,

Business or Organization of the Year, Ally of the Year (non-LGBT individuals or groups that support the LGBT community) and OutReach Volunteer of the Year.

Nomination forms are available at OutReach, 600 Williamson St., or online at www.lgbtoutreach.org.

The deadline for submission is Aug. 1.

For more information, contact Harry at OutReach at 608-255-8582.

— from WiG and AP reports

More news online at www.wisconsin Gazette.com.

Three months of e-mails were reviewed

Hate mail from I

tion to determine whether the behavior was an isolated incident or part of a pattern. Her office reviewed three months of e-mails sent from Luty's city account and ques-

tioned co-workers to ascertain whether Luty tried to impose her religious views on them at the workplace.

In the end, the employee relations office determined that the e-mails were an isolated incident and Luty was allowed to return to work

if she'd agree to apologize to Jablonski, according to Monteagudo.

What Luty did was "very wrong," Monteagudo said.

In addition to contacting city officials about the harassment, Jablonski alerted local media, Fair Wisconsin

and the national organization GLAAD.

"If she'd done that from her home computer, it would have been a different story," Jablonski said. "But she's a government employee. She represents diversity. She represents all of us. It's hard

enough in this country, where we don't have protections for our marriage or anything else."

Fair Wisconsin executive director Katie Belanger said she was "extremely disappointed that a City of Milwaukee worker would use

her city e-mail account to express discrimination and hateful messages."

"It's an important reminder that discrimination still happens all around Wisconsin, and we need to remain vigilant in the fight against (it)," Belanger said.

OUR ADVERTISERS
They invest in our community.
Please invest in them.

THANKS FOR READING WiG!

**LOWEST PRICES!
LARGEST SELECTION!**

HINKLEY LIGHTING

Wisconsin's Largest Showroom!

BBC LIGHTING

2015 W. St. Paul Ave. • Milwaukee, WI • (414) 933-0808 • www.bbclighting.com

OPEN EVERYDAY! Mon-Sat: 9am-5pm • Sun: 11am-4pm

Sheriff candidates square off for LGBT votes

POLITICAL ANALYSIS

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

Incumbent Milwaukee County Sheriff Dave Clarke and his challenger in the Democratic primary both say they support the hiring and promotion of openly lesbian and gay law-enforcement personnel. That's apparently one of the few points of agreement between two candidates who seem to differ on nearly everything else.

Challenger Chris Moews (pronounced "maze"), a Milwaukee police lieutenant, told WiG that sexual orientation is "a non-issue" for him. "This is the land of the free," Moews said. "I've got gay and lesbian officers on the force who are my friends and they do excellent jobs. They should be given the same promotional opportunities. I don't look at people as gay, straight, black or white. I look at them as officers."

Clarke, who visited PrideFest this summer to meet LGBT voters, said he doesn't know whether openly lesbian or gay people are currently serving under him.

"The only thing you're judged on is your performance," he said of his department. "I would imagine I have openly gay officers, but I have not gone around and conducted a head count, because I don't care. That's none of my business. I've never had

anybody come up to me and ask me about my sexual preference."

But interviews with the candidates revealed that neither is familiar with LGBT issues nor has relationships — advisory or otherwise — with any LGBT community leaders or organizations. And Clarke's close association with right-wing talk radio personality Charlie Sykes, coupled with his proclivity for bringing religion into the workplace, could prove worrisome for LGBT voters. (Sykes was neutral on the constitutional amendment banning same-sex unions and marriage in Wisconsin.)

In 2006, Clarke was the target of a lawsuit filed by deputies who objected when he invited a representative from the Fellowship of Christian Centurions to address meetings they had to attend. The case ended last year when the 7th District Court of Appeals ruled unanimously against Clarke.

Clarke contended that the judge who issued the initial ruling in the case "didn't know what he was talking about." He told WiG the speaker in question was non-denominational and was brought in by someone else — not to preach to deputies but rather to counsel those who were suffering from on-the-job stress.

But in July, Clarke told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel that he wanted to include Bible study in a boot-camp

style prisoner rehabilitation program at the Milwaukee County Correctional Facility in Franklin. He said this approach is standard in such programs.

Moews said these incidents show that Clarke is pandering to the Christian right. "I am a religious person myself, but you can't bring your religion into the workplace on the taxpayer dime and force it down everyone's throats," he said. "Not only is that contradictory to our constitutional foundations, but it opens the county up to lawsuits, costing the taxpayers money."

Neither candidate would answer whether he considered "homosexuality" a "sin." "I don't even think it's appropriate for a sheriff to comment on that," Clarke said.

Moews responded that it's something he doesn't think about. "Judge not lest ye be judged," he said.

A LIGHTNING ROD

On other issues, Clarke has been a lightning rod for progressive pundits and bloggers, who deride him as a Republican disguised as a Democrat. Clarke was appointed to the sheriff's post in 2002 by Republican Gov. Scott McCallum. Although he's run as a Democrat since then, Democratic leaders complain about his retaliatory and dictatorial management style (Clarke has been quoted referring to his depu-



PHOTO: COURTESY

Milwaukee County Democrats unanimously endorsed Chris Moews for county sheriff.

ties as "losers" in roll call meetings) and his affiliation with the Tea Party movement.

Milwaukee County Democrats took the unusual step of endorsing Moews over Clarke in the upcoming primary.

"The current sheriff has been a comedy of errors," said county party chair Sachin Chheda in a statement. "Whether he's using the power of his office to pursue personal vendettas against political rivals or simply endangering other officers by ignoring his own rules, he's weakened the sheriff's department."

"My management philosophy is very, very different

from his," Moews said. "He rules with an iron fist. It's important to have open dialogue with rank-and-file officers. We might not always agree but we have to have open dialogue. Your personnel are your greatest asset. If I don't treat them with respect, they will not make me as successful as a sheriff as I can be."

Clarke countered that his management style has yielded a record of success, including a 10-percent reduction in crime last year and reduced fatalities on area freeways.

"Look at my record — my record of results," Clarke said. "When I became sheriff, this organization had annual multi-million dollar deficits. I

have not outspent my budget in seven years. For seven consecutive years, we've returned a surplus to the county board. In 2009 we had a \$900,000 surplus."

Clarke charged that his opponent does not have the experience required to lead the sheriff's office. Clarke is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the FBI's National Executive Institute. He earned a certificate from the Senior Executives in State and Local Government program at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government (he's frequently spotted wearing his Harvard ring at events).

But Moews said he has accumulated the kind of on-the-street experience that's most important for the job.

"I've always had career aspirations of being the executive in charge of a law-enforcement agency, and I've worked hard to give myself the kind of diverse background needed to be an effective leader," he said.

Moews began his policing career in Fox Point before moving to Milwaukee and working up the ranks. He's been a patrol officer and worked as a detective in the criminal investigation bureau as well as the vice squad. He's currently the late-shift supervisor of the city's homicide unit.

Primary elections are Sept. 14. A Republican has also entered the sheriff's race but he is unopposed in his party.



"The Pet Sitter"

The Kennel Alternative
Dogs • Cats • Birds
Exotics • Fish • Reptiles
Daily Walks • In Home Pet Sitting
Airport Pick-up • Insured



RICK CORBETT
414-481-7838

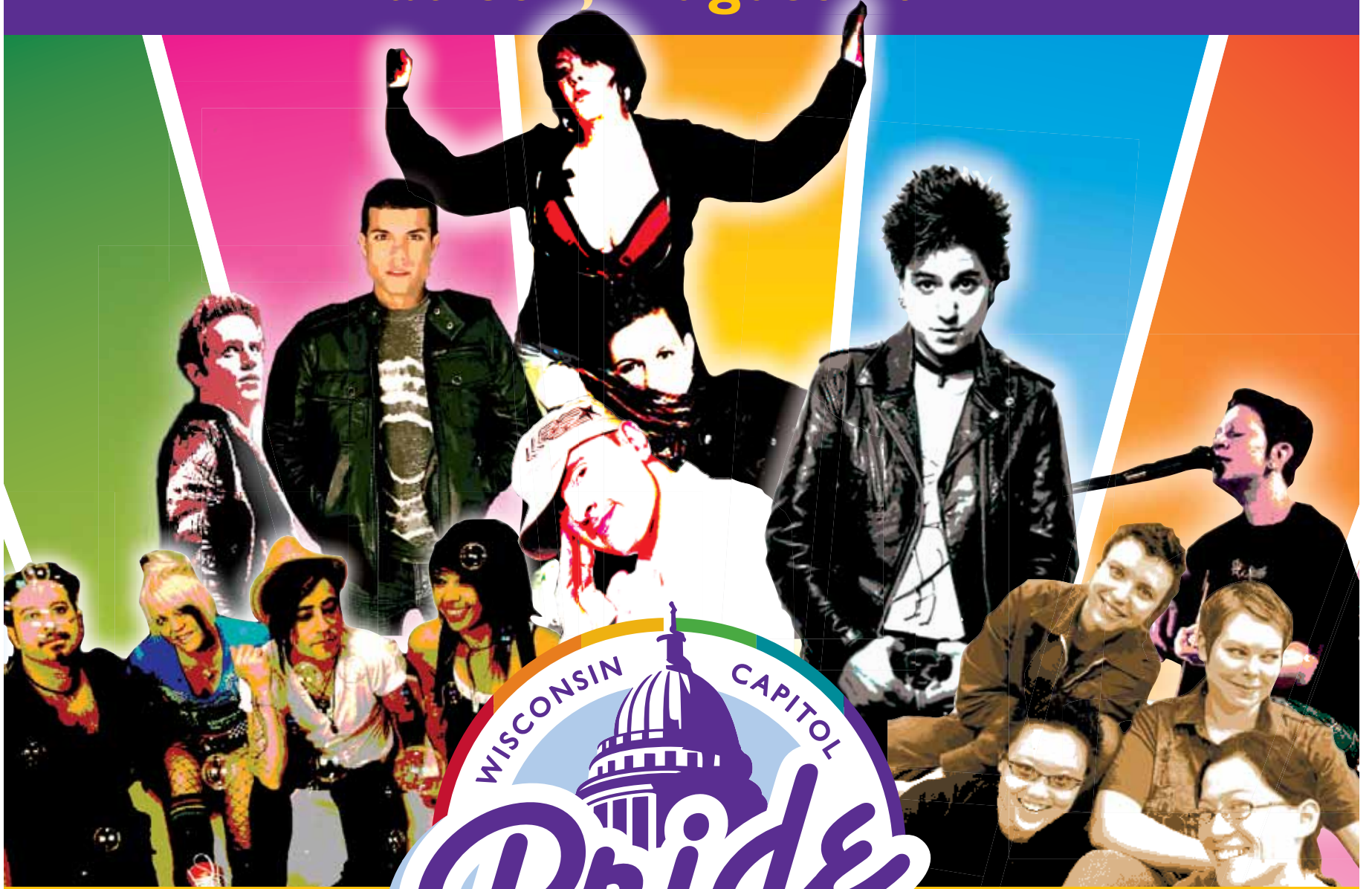
Cell: 414-331-7183
rick040659@hotmail.com
www.rickthepetsitter.com

C3 Designs
Award Winning
Custom Jewelry Designs
The Official Jeweler of Pridefest
414-764-3892
www.c3-designs.com
8628A S. Marketplace Oak Creek, WI 53154
Located In The Marketplace Shopping Village
At The Intersection Of Puetz & Hwy 32

BOTANICA
PSYCHIC READINGS
&
CHAKRA BALANCING
By Sally
Available for Private Events
414-519-3849

WISCONSIN CAPITOL PRIDE

Madison, August 20-22



Willow Island at the Alliant Energy Center
Saturday, August 21

Dot Dot Dot
RJ Helton
Matthew David
God-des and She

A.J. Shanti
Julie Schurr
Georgie Porgie
G Cavelle Project

Parade begins on Capitol Square and ends on Library Mall
Sunday, August 22

Harry Towers
Tod Miner
Tuo Tuo
Ciara Corr

Laylah
Raquela
Rick Styles

PROUD • CONNECTED • VISIBLE

www.wisconsinpride.org

Visit www.crowneplaza.com/madison-etown for special discounted PRIDE RATES VIP packages available
FREE SHUTTLE BUS to/from sponsoring bars and Willow Island all day/night Saturday, August 21

PLAN B



WOOF'S

{ Editorial }

President must defend 'don't ask'

LGBT-rights advocates were outraged when Wisconsin Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen decided in August 2009 not to defend the state in a lawsuit over the domestic partner law. Van Hollen's unusual move forced Gov. Jim Doyle to hire outside counsel to defend the law, forcing taxpayers to pay for a job that Van Hollen was elected and paid to do.

But now advocates are harshly criticizing the U.S. Justice Department for defending the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy in a lawsuit brought by Log Cabin Republicans in California. It is the duty of the White House to implement and enforce laws passed by Congress, just as it is Van Hollen's obligation to defend laws passed by the Legislature.

Van Hollen justified refusing to defend the Wisconsin law by claiming it violated the state's constitutional ban on same-sex marriage or its equivalent. However, the attorney general lacks the authority to make such decisions. They must be decided by the courts. Van Hollen's argument was specious, but it was a convenient way for him, as a social conservative eyeing higher office, to avoid defending a law that he – and his followers – politically oppose.

Our advocates are asking the Obama administration to do the very thing we criticized Van Hollen for doing. They're asking the president not to defend "don't ask" on the basis that it violates his personal principles and could cost him our votes. Their specious argument is that the White House is currently working to overturn "don't ask" and should not defend a law that's in peril. But the president does not have the discretion to avoid defending a standing law on the basis that it faces an uncertain future.

WiG has argued that the administration should let stand a U.S. district court ruling that a section of the Defense of Marriage Act is unconstitutional. But the situations are different. The administration has already fulfilled its Constitutional duty to defend DOMA in court. It is not obligated to file an appeal.

In the current case, the Justice Department doesn't appear to have much choice. The LGBT community and its advocates must continue to press for repeal and not let the White House's defense of "don't ask" divert our energy from this goal or divide us.



{ Letters }

AIDS RIDE RETURNS LESS THAN STATED

I am writing in reference to your article on the ACT 8 Ride.

The Wisconsin Gazette article on the AIDS Network ACT Ride stated, "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."

I am one of those critics. I served on the AIDS Network board of directors from March 2007 until May 2008. I also served as a member of the executive committee as the elected secretary. My tenure on the board ended when I resigned due to fundamental concerns regarding the management and direction of the agency, particularly the disparity of HIV/AIDS services provided to clients of AIDS Network compared to services provided to those living with HIV/AIDS in other areas of the state.

My concerns regarding the annual ACT ride are borne out of frustration over the agency's refusal to provide verifiable information regarding the direct and indirect expenses of the ride. The ride has been built on the myth that the bulk of dollars raised go to fund direct client service. This is simply not

the case.

AIDS Network's annual independent financial audit shows clearly where the agency's fundraising dollars are spent. A combined total of 58.7 percent of the agency's fundraising income in 2009 was used to pay for "fundraising expenses" and "management and general" expenses. This is unconscionable.

The ACT riders, donors and crew have been led to believe that the bulk of the dollars fund client services, yet through carefully parsed words AIDS Network avoids telling the truth, instead saying that it funds the "provision" of services (i.e., overhead of the agency).

More information regarding the annual ACT Ride and other issues of concern regarding HIV/AIDS services in the state can be found at www.wisconsinhiv.com.

Greg Milward
Madison

TRIBUTE TO CAROL STEVENS

I appreciated your articles on Carol Stevens' life. Below is a poem I wrote, and read at her memorial service. I hope you can share it with your readers and all the many people who loved Carol.

"Carol Stevens Meets the Big Dipper"

Earth receive a beloved guest;

Carol Stevens has come to rest.

Birds fall silent in their nests,
The river dries in its distress;
Hills are flat with emptiness.
Yet out in starry galaxies
in graceful dance serene
around a golden table
celestial women convene
celebrating their queen
who's lived up eternity
with newfangled delight:
with gusto they all tuck
into a lesbian potluck.
Your earthly food was pies and meats,
communion served up with the
beets.

Christmas Eve
your door was wide
and all we Jews welcome inside.
Your heart expanded to embrace

Each hesitant emerging face
With feasts of love unconditional

And organically nutritional.
Now it's courage you serve up
Your spirit fills the diamond cup
From which we sip your love
and cheer;

Just like you, we're proud we're
queer

The skies are wide and you
are there

In stars, in moon, in everywhere;
Death builds bridges,
on which we'll meet
as long as we still hear
your living words,
your song:

"Come my darlings,
come and eat."

Carole Gottlieb Vopat
Milwaukee

**Wisconsin
Gazette .com**

CEO/PRINCIPAL

Leonard Sobczak

PUBLISHER/ EDITOR IN CHIEF

Louis Weisberg

NATIONAL NEWS EDITOR

Lisa Neff

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Jason Smith

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Lucky Tomaszek

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Will Elwood, Marypat Wulff,
Diane Banach

The Wisconsin Gazette is published every other week and distributed throughout the Milwaukee area, Madison, Racine, Kenosha, and 40 other cities statewide. To have WiG delivered to your address, contact circulation@wisconsin-gazette.com or call 414-961-3240, ext. 101

WiG Publishing, LLC. © 2010

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Gregg Shapiro

CONTRIBUTORS

Harry Cherkinian Jr., Jody Hirsh, Rick Karlin, Kerrie Kennedy, Cory Liebmann, Jamakaya, Emily Mills, John Quinlan, Jay Rath Angel Sevilla, Paul Varnell, Dan Zaitz

TECHNICAL CONSULTANT

Kevin Rux

DISTRIBUTION

Kelly Harmon

Quitting Myspace

I first opened my Myspace account in 2004 just so I could look at someone else's profile (you had to be a member to do that back then — they had rules). At that time, Myspace was all the rage with the cool kids, so I decided to keep it.

I was 16 and my social networking skills were at an all-time low. But it turned out that my profile customizing skills were top notch. I had the page with all the cool graphics and music playlists. I had a place to display my pictures so that the entire world could see how cool I had become.

Now I'm 23 and over it. I haven't used Myspace in ages. So the other day I put "delete Myspace" on my list of things to do.

But the next day I signed on to the site for the first time in a year and a half and everything looked different. Myspace has changed so many things about the layout of the home page and the navigation that it actually looks a lot more like Facebook. All of this change piqued my interest, so I went surfing around Myspace's never-ending web of friendships for one last hoorah, just to see what I'd been missing.

As it turns out, I'd been missing nothing! Nothing good, anyway. Myspace has apparently become a place for teenagers to hook up with each other and leave inappropriate comments on each others' inappropriate pictures. I kept seeing names like #1bABY-mama and HOT.cuz.I.got.IT.lyke.DAT on the pages of teenage girls claiming to be 99 years old. There were provocative photos of them taken in mirrors with their iPhones. Under the photos, others had posted comments like, "You look good ma. I would hit that." And the response from the girls? "Thank you."

Someone needs to tell these girls that "thank you" is not the appropriate response to "I would hit that." The appropriate response is, "That's nasty,

Opinion
ANGEL SEVILLA

Myspace has degenerated into a teenage hook-up site that parents should find alarming.

you nasty boy! Please don't write on my page ever again!"

Then again, the whole situation could have been avoided if the provocative pictures had never been posted in the first place.

Parents should monitor their children's Internet activity! It seems as if these kids have free rein to do whatever they want, whenever they choose to do so. This is not OK.

The banner ads posted on Myspace should be enough to warn parents that young people should not be there. One of the ads posted on my home page, for instance, was for meeting hot singles in my area. If that showed up on my page, then it must be showing up on the kids' pages too.

After seeing all of this I was certain about my decision to delete my page, but Myspace never sent back the confirmation e-mail. I tried several times to delete it, but still no e-mail was sent. So I basically I tried to cancel my membership, and Myspace told me "No."

It's an evil corporation.

Check out more news and views online at www.wisconsin Gazette.com

Scott Walker's dismal fiscal record

WiG reported on June 17 that Republican candidate for governor Scott Walker would oppose the state's domestic partner registry as well as benefits for same-sex partners of state workers. In fact, last year Walker vetoed an effort to extend benefits to Milwaukee County employees and their domestic partners.

This follows Walker's pattern of pandering to some of the most extreme elements of the right wing in the run up to an election. Unfortunately, LGBT employees and their families have paid the price for Walker's grandstanding.

The LGBT community is certainly diverse, including in the areas of political and ideological beliefs. There are some in the community who favor what may be called a fiscally conservative approach to public policy, while at the same time remaining socially progressive. The Log Cabin Republicans are an example of this. But even if groups like LCR choose to ignore

Walker's anti-LGBT record, what redeeming value would they find in his fiscal record?

Walker's rhetoric on fiscal matters does not match the reality of his performance. If Log Cabin Republicans truly value smaller government, it is difficult to fathom how they could support him. During his time as Milwaukee County executive, county spending has increased 35 percent based on Walker's own proposed budgets. Earlier this year, the progressive group One Wisconsin Now did an analysis comparing the rate of Walker's spending to that of Gov. Jim Doyle and Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett. It showed that Walker's spending increases surpassed both of them.

On their website, the Log Cabin Republicans list "low taxes" as one of their key beliefs. But nearly every one of Walker's proposed budgets has called for a higher tax levy. His proposed tax levy for 2003 was just over \$218 million, while his proposed levy for the 2010 bud-

get was \$258 million. That is an increase of nearly \$40 million during Walker's time as county executive. That figure does not even include the massive fee increases that Walker has promoted during his time in office. You simply can't claim to be a fiscal conservative and then support someone with that kind of a record.

One would think that a fiscal conservative would also see the error in adopting short-term policies that come at a much higher long-term cost. That approach has been the hallmark of Walker's time as county executive. For example, rather than making pension obligation payments, Walker chose instead to issue \$400 million in bonds to cover those costs. Many warned that this scheme was risky and voters even rejected a similar plan in a 2005 referendum.

By comparison, Barrett made tough budgetary decisions and had the city pay its pension obligations rather than take on a risky set of

Opinion
CORY LIEBMANN

debts.

A recent report by the Public Policy Forum confirmed that Milwaukee County has applied short-term approaches that have only prolonged the dire fiscal problems that it faces. That same report estimates that Milwaukee County under Walker's leadership faces a structural deficit of between \$20 million and \$45 million for 2011. That amount is estimated to grow to an unprecedented \$100 million by 2014.

Whether you look at Walker's abysmal record on LGBT issues or take the Log Cabin Republican look at his fiscal record, he has been an abject failure. Regardless of party affiliation or ideological loyalties, this kind of failure just shouldn't be rewarded with support from anyone in the LGBT community.

LGBT history from the trenches

Opinion
JAMAKAYA

Writing for Wisconsin Gazette has made me think about the news I've covered and the many changes I've witnessed since I first had stories published in the GPU News and Amazon, Milwaukee-based publications, in 1977.

The year I began writing for gay and lesbian presses, Anita Bryant was leading her crusade against a civil rights law covering sexual orientation in Florida. It was also the year that Harvey Milk emerged as a major figure in San Francisco politics. Hundreds of thousands of women marched on Washington in support of the Equal Rights Amendment.

The spirit of Anita Bryant is certainly still alive in the land, but civil rights provisions incorporating sexual orientation and gender identity have spread exponentially across the United States.

Harvey Milk was assassinated in 1978 by a bitter, woeful wreck of a man whose

light sentence shocked the nation and who later committed suicide. Today, hundreds of openly LGBT individuals serve in public office and continue to seek office with hardly a raised eyebrow. The ERA was defeated by a right-wing campaign of fear and misrepresentation promoted by some of the same players who worked to defeat gay rights laws. Yet, over the past three decades, a plethora of legislation has passed eliminating inequities based on sex from statutes. Enforcement is another matter, of course, and there is still no excuse for not enshrining the principle of sexual equality in our constitution.

It's a truism that history runs in waves of progress and reaction. Those dueling elements are especially prominent in the recent history of the LGBT movement.

In covering local and statewide events as a reporter, I witnessed some major highs and lows.

The lows that stand out most are related to hatred and institutional negligence.

I am still haunted by cases I covered in the Milwaukee courts of vicious overkill-type murders of LGBT individuals, none of which were ever adjudicated as hate crimes. Dennis Owens, Ricky Roundtree, Juana Vega — the list goes on and on.

The racism, homophobia and incompetence of the Milwaukee Police Department in the Jeffrey Dahmer case was almost as shocking as the crimes. Officers' inability to detect a pattern of young gay men of color disappearing, their failure to respond to the concerns of family members searching for sons, their delivery of Konerak Sinthasomphone into the hands of Dahmer, who then murdered him, and their

entrenched hostility to the queer community all contributed to the tragedy. Over the years that Dahmer stalked his victims, often in the bars, the MPD was routinely raiding strip shows at gay clubs and harassing and ticketing patrons outside those clubs.

The high points I recall are legal victories and institution-building.

The American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from its list of mental disorders in 1973, and Lawrence v. Texas obliterated criminal sanctions for homosexuality in 2003.

In February 1982, Republican Gov. Lee Dreyfus signed a law banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment and public accommodations. A combination of legislative calculation, alliances, timing and enlightened executive leadership helped Wisconsin claim the title as "First Gay Rights State."

www.wisconsin Gazette.com

Bar fundraiser aims to raise AIDS awareness

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

Since the beginning of the AIDS epidemic, gay bars have played a pivotal role in disseminating information about HIV disease and prevention. They've also contributed significantly to fundraising for local AIDS service organizations.

Raising the Bar, a state-wide fundraiser for AIDS Walk Wisconsin, draws on the bars' unique ability to raise both awareness of the disease and dollars to fight it. Begun in 2006, the fundraiser is open to all LGBT and LGBT-friendly bars in the state. This year's event launched recently but is still adding participants. (See sidebar for a list of participating bars, as well as contact information for joining the effort.)

In addition to money that participating bars raise through such activities as drink specials, auctions, bingo, live performances and the sale of \$1 Raising the Bar tags, fundraising is augmented with a \$5,000 challenge grant from the Johnson and Pabst

PARTICIPATING BARS

Ballgame, 196 S. Second St., Milwaukee
D.I.X., 739 S. First St., Milwaukee
Hybrid Lounge, 707 E. Brady St., Milwaukee
PJs, 1601 Oregon, Oshkosh
The Shelter Club, 730 N. Quincy St., Green Bay
Woody's, 1579 S. Second St., Milwaukee
To sign up call 800-348-WALK or go to aidswalkwis.org.

LGBT Humanity Fund. The bar team that raises the most cash gets to add that amount to its total.

Organizers at the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, which benefits from AIDS Walk, aim to enlist participation from at least 10 bars this year and to raise a minimum of \$25,000. To date, the bars have raised \$179,041.

The bars are an "ideal" way to boost AIDS awareness, especially among young gay and bisexual men, says Tad Gospodarek, ARCW director of development. The overall rate of new HIV infections in Wisconsin climbed 11 percent last year, and young men who have sex with men had the greatest

increase. In fact, reported HIV cases among young men who have sex with men have risen 170 percent in the greater Milwaukee area and 247 percent in other metropolitan counties of Wisconsin over the last decade.

Perhaps not coincidentally, Gospodarek says, younger gay and bisexual men have become increasingly less involved in such events as AIDS Walk. "(Raising the Bar) is a way to pull them in to support the cause and to understand that this is really affecting the younger generation of gay men more so than any other specific age population," Gospodarek says.

"The younger group – if it's not put in front of them, it's not there," says Steve Tucker,

co-owner of PJs Oshkosh. He sees Raising the Bar as an opportunity to put HIV/AIDS back on people's radar.

"Even if (the event) makes one or two or three people aware that it's still out there and it's still a problem, then we've won," he says.

In addition to participating in Raising the Bar, Tucker has ARCW staff visit his bar every three months to conduct free HIV testing.

Brian Volker, who's coordinating Raising the Bar efforts at Woody's, says young people's general sense of invincibility, which has been reinforced by medical progress, has created apathy toward HIV.

"People in general just aren't paying attention the way they used to," he adds.

Volker is particularly troubled by online dating profiles in which men advertise that they're HIV-positive but want to have sex without protection. "There's different strains out there," he says. "Just because you're already positive doesn't mean you can't get reinfected with a different strain or reinfect

someone else with another strain."

Volker believes the bars can contribute to spreading information such as this through events like Raising the Bar.

Cory Bartel, co-owner of D.I.X., which opened June 11, says he joined Raising the Bar

not for any one particular reason, but because it's the right thing to do.

"It's a very worthy cause," he says. "Everyone knows someone who's infected with HIV or has breast cancer or something. I think we need to help because our healthcare system sucks."

'Witches' Night Off' raises money for ARCW

In support of AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin and Broadway Cares, the Broadway touring cast and crew of "Wicked" is performing a one-night-only adult cabaret fundraiser at 7 p.m., Aug. 2., in Cardinal Stritch University's Nancy Kendall Theatre.

Tickets are \$25 or \$50 for VIP tickets, which include a dinner reception with the cast at Coa in Bayshore Town Center.

In addition to the show and dinner reception, the evening's entertainment includes silent and live auctions. Bidders will vie for autographed items and show memorabilia, as well as opportunities for a walk-on part in one performance of "Wicked" or a backstage chance to see Elphaba get "greenified."

The performances, theater space and dinner for the event are all being donated, which means beneficiaries will receive 100 percent of the money raised, said ARCW development director Tad Gospodarek. ARCW and Broadway Cares, the philanthropic arm of the Actors' Equity Association, will each receive half of the proceeds.

"Wicked" cast member Don Richards said the cast enjoys such fundraisers and finds them energizing, despite having to do them on their only night off. "We really love our audiences and the cities we visit," he said. "This is a way to do something important for (them)."

While no specific fundraising goal has been set for the event, Gospodarek hopes to exceed the \$20,000 raised by "Witches' Night Off" in Charlotte, N.C.

- Lucky Tomaszek

"Witches' Night Off" is 7 p.m., Aug. 2, in Cardinal Stritch University's Nancy Kendall Theatre, 6801 N. Yates Road, Milwaukee. Call 414-225-1570 or e-mail shannon.malnory-silber-nagel@arcw.org.

JOIN IN ON THE FUN!

Wisconsin
Gazette .com

+

facebook

=

ONLINE
COMMUNITY

Search for "Wisconsin Gazette" on Facebook

AIDS
WALK
WISCONSIN

AIDS Walk Wisconsin takes place Sept. 19 on the lakefront at Milwaukee's Summerfest Grounds. For information go to aidswalkwis.org.

WUWM
@
NITE

M-W & F: 8 p.m. - 12 a.m.
Th: 10 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Join us for music at night.

Tune to WUWM for hand-selected music by unique artists, songwriters & bands that reach across generations.

WUWM MILWAUKEE PUBLIC RADIO 89.7 www.wuwm.com/music

89.7 FM/HD-1: IN-DEPTH NEWS WUWM2/HD-2: MUSIC 24/7 WUWM.COM

FROM THE COVER

'For a great good'

Madison from I

legal ceremony that is not recognized in their country. They went on to help fight for Wisconsin's domestic partnership law.

Openly gay state Rep. Mark Pocan, D-Madison, also spoke, urging protesters not to "allow NOM to use us by getting angry so they can talk about how intolerant we are." Instead, he suggested, it would be better to offer opponents a hug.

But some pro-equality demonstrators said they were angry and frustrated by the evangelical right's ongoing efforts to impose its religious views on lesbians and gays in a way that limits their freedom.

"I believe what everyone here is saying (is) that everyone should be treated the same and that marriage isn't just for certain kinds of people," said Lori of Madison, who withheld her last name. "It needs to be for people who love each other, people who are committed."

"This affects me personally as a lesbian and a resident of Wisconsin," said Jackie Scott of Madison. "I feel like this is kind of important. It isn't enough that the hate amendment passed, people from out of state have to come to our capital and rub salt in the wound."

Several politicians currently vying for office attended the pro-equality rally. Henry Sanders, who's seeking the Democratic nomination for lieutenant governor, collected signatures for his petition to overturn the state's constitutional ban on gay marriage.

"I'm here," Sanders said, "because I want to stand by all advocates and allies of equality for all. I think marriage equality is a civil rights issue, but I also think it's economic. One of the things we have to do is make sure we're not a state that's about discrimination. We want to recruit and retain the most talented workforce."

By the time the marchers reached the Capitol, reciting such chants as "Get your



PHOTO: EMILY MILLS

Michael Knaapen and John Becker of Milwaukee addressed the rally.

hate out of our state" and "LGBT, we all want equality;" a small area had been cordoned off for NOM and its dozen or so supporters. There, after chanting "One man! One woman!" into the microphone to get things started, Brown declared, "We're standing up for a great good. We're standing up for the foundation of our society – that marriage, the union between one man and one woman, is something worth fighting for."

Local traditional marriage advocates, including Bishop Robert Morlino and Julaine Appling, chief executive officer of the Wisconsin Family Council, also took turns at the podium in support of NOM. All echoed the claim that same-sex marriage backers were being "intolerant" and "hateful" toward them and their message. Morlino urged listeners to "pray to open hearts and minds to see marriage only between one husband and one wife, with openness to children."

Brown referred to an incident from the tour's stop in Providence, R.I., where his group was met by protesters employing tactics that a NOM press release referred to as "harassment and threats." He said the overwhelming opposition NOM has met on most stops has only inspired them more to "spread their message of respect for human dignity and the importance of marriage for children and society."

Brown's message reflected a new tactic of the religious right: borrowing language from the Civil Rights movement to paint evangelicals

as victims of discrimination. But in Indianapolis, the tour's last stop before Madison, it was Brown's side that provoked charges of hate talk. A NOM supporter there carried a sign headlined "The Solution to Gay Marriage" that displayed two nooses and contained a biblical verse proscribing death as punishment for homosexuality.

Fair Wisconsin and Freedom to Marry launched an online petition drive calling on NOM to denounce the statement.

At the stop in Madison, NOM touted its electoral victories, including Wisconsin's 2006 constitutional amendment banning both same-sex civil unions and marriage, as well as the narrowly passed Proposition 8 in California, which overturned that state's supreme court decision to extend marriage rights to same-sex couples. Several recent polls in California, however, indicate that public opinion has since shifted toward acceptance of gay marriage. A lawsuit aimed at overturning Proposition 8, *Perry v. Schwarzenegger*, is working its way through the courts.

Coming tour dates for the Summer for Marriage tour include: July 29 in St. Cloud, Minn.; July 30 in Rochester, Minn.; Aug. 1 in Des Moines, Iowa; Aug. 3 in Sioux City, Iowa; Aug. 5 in St. Louis; Aug. 7 in Atlanta; Aug. 8 in Tampa, Fla.; Aug. 10 in Raleigh, N.C.; Aug. 11 in Charleston, W.Va.; Aug. 13 in Harrisburg, Pa.; and Aug. 15 in Washington, D.C.

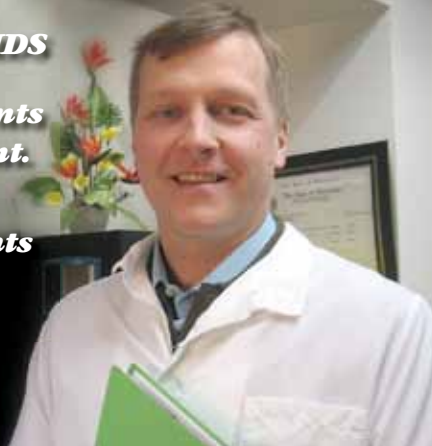
– Lucky Tomaszek and Lisa Neff contributed to this story

ARCW MEDICAL CENTER

"Never in the history of AIDS has there been so much promise for helping patients succeed with HIV treatment."

"Our goal is to fulfill this promise for all our patients so they can live long and healthy lives."

John Fangman, MD
Medical Director



Medical Care

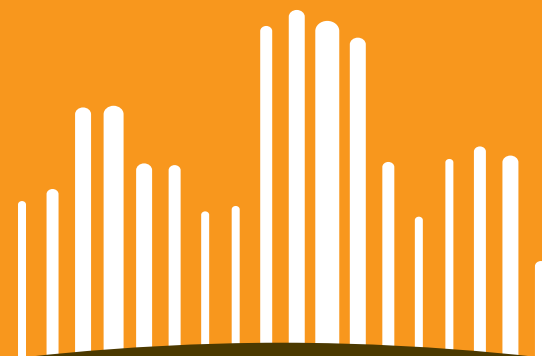
Mental Health & Wellness

Dental Care

Last year 251 new HIV patients chose the ARCW Medical Center for their care joining more than 1,000 HIV patients at Wisconsin's largest provider of HIV health care.



Call for an appointment: (414) 223-6800 or 800-359-8272 extension 6800



88NINE

RADIO MILWAUKEE

DIVERSE MUSIC
FOR A DIVERSE CITY

www.radiomilwaukee.org

CARE FOR YOUR HEALTHY SMILE.

DeWAN DENTAL WELLNESS

MICHAEL DeWAN D.D.S., S.C.



A healthy smile begins with preventive care and a balanced bite and continues with aesthetic enhancements to give you the brightest and most natural smile possible.

2445 N. Farwell Ave.
414.962.5915
www.dewandental.com

**Wisconsin
Gazette** .com

NATIONAL GAZE



PHOTO: LUNA MEDIA GROUP

VEGAS ACTION

Demonstrators with GetEQUAL and HERO are hoping that what happened in Las Vegas in mid-July doesn't stay in Las Vegas. Demonstrators took to the streets to demand action on ENDA, which would outlaw workplace bias based on gender identity and sexual orientation. Activists unfurled a banner under the Statue of Liberty replica at the New York, New York hotel and draped a banner from the crosswalk over Las Vegas Boulevard. Activists called on Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., to schedule a vote on ENDA.



By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The "don't ask, don't tell" policy is on trial.

The Clinton-era policy that bans gays and lesbians from serving openly in the Armed Forces already has been panned in public opinion polls.

The president has urged its repeal.

And a majority in the U.S. House also has voted to dismantle the ban.

Now a U.S. court will render a verdict in Log Cabin Republicans v. the United States

of America.

The lawsuit, being heard in a non-jury trial in a federal courtroom in Riverside, Calif., originated in 2004 and moved slowly toward trial because of the government's efforts to dismiss the case.

The suit alleges that DADT violates servicemembers' constitutional guarantees of free speech, due process and open association.

On July 20, former Army interrogator Alexander Nicholson took the stand as LCR attorney Dan Woods' lead witness. Nicholson,

after his discharge under DADT, became the executive director of Servicemembers United, the nation's largest group of gay and lesbian troops and veterans.

The day before Nicholson testified, former Air Force Maj. Michael Almy told the court he was discharged under DADT after another servicemember snooped through his e-mails.

Almy had been a communications officer in the Air Force, helping to maintain control over the vast majority of Iraq's air space. After serving a tour in Iraq, he was sent to Germany, where he was questioned by a superior officer about personal e-mail messages found on his computer in Iraq. After the interrogation, Almy was relieved of his duties.

"I was completely devastated," he testified. "I drove myself home. I took my uniform off and I curled up in the fetal position on my bathroom floor like a baby and bawled for several hours."

Later, Almy was honorably discharged.

Woods said that while Congress is pursuing a legislative repeal, he may convince a federal judge to halt discharges under DADT if he wins the LCR case.

"We're trying to get this changed right away," Woods said. "After all, there are people today fighting, dying for our country, while their constitutional rights are being violated."

'Don't ask' goes on trial

Lesbian Musical Evangelists

Carolyn Marshall
In And **Pat Grant**
Concert

Saturday, July 31,
7:00 PM

Milwaukee MCC
1239 W. Mineral
Street,
Milwaukee

Info: 414.383.1100
or
info@milbcc.org

A love offering
will be taken.



Ready for a New Direction?

John Meier, M.Ed. LPC

Guidance & Support for:

- Self-Esteem
- Relationships
- Growth & Healing

for LGBT individuals
& couples

(414) 305-3049

John@JohnMeierTherapy.com

www.JohnMeierTherapy.com



2634 N. Downer Ave.
(414) 964-3125
optixondowner.com

NATIONAL GAZE

Wisconsin
Gazette .com

U.S. lawmakers lobby to include binational same-sex couples in immigration reform

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Lawmakers and civil rights activists took a stand on Capitol Hill July 15, demanding passage of comprehensive immigration reform that helps protect binational LGBT families.

The assembly at the House Triangle in the Capitol followed President Barack Obama's call for Congress to tackle immigration reform. Lawmakers working to pass the Uniting American Families and Reuniting Families acts want to make sure their measures are part of any broader reform package that moves this year.

U.S. Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y. and U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., introduced UAFA with strong support from U.S. Reps. Luis Gutierrez and Mike Quigley, D-Ill., U.S. Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Calif., and U.S. Rep. Jared Polis, D-Colo.

UAFA would help end the process that results in the separation of binational families because current immigration laws discriminate against same-sex couples.

"Binational LGBT couples must be granted the right to sponsor their permanent partners for immigration, just as other committed and straight married couples can," Nadler said. "To that end, I am joining a diverse coalition of legislators, advocates and LGBT groups calling on Congress to include my critical legislation ... in immigration reform, and to make sure that immigration reform is truly deserving of the term 'comprehensive.'"

The Reuniting Families Act, sponsored by U.S. Rep. Mike Honda, D-Calif., also offers protections for immigrant families, including LGBT families.

Honda said his proposals ensure "that all immigrants

— irrespective of race, religion and sexual orientation — are afforded the same rights and responsibilities as the immigrants who came before them, including a legal path to citizenship.

"We do that by reuniting families — spouses, children, siblings, parents, same-sex partners — who have been separated for decades," Honda said. "We do that by ensuring that families are included in comprehensive immigration reform."

Representatives from 30 groups joined in the Capitol Hill stand, releasing a joint statement that read, "Our constituencies, members and congregations stand ready, willing and able to support passage of legislation that fixes our broken immigration system for all families, including binational families. No reform can truly be called comprehensive unless it includes LGBT immigrant

families as well. Today, leaders made clear that all future immigration legislation must be truly inclusive, and we are proud to stand with them in that call."

Signers included the Anti-Defamation League, Equality Federation, Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network, Hispanic Federation, Human Rights Campaign, Lambda Legal, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, National Immigrant Justice Center, People for the American Way and South Asian Americans Leading Together.

U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley (left) is working to ensure that binational LGBT families are protected under immigration reform.



Crimes against LGBT people rise in 2009

The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs reported 22 anti-LGBTQ killings in 2009, the second-highest number in a decade.

Of the 22 deaths, 79 percent were people of color and most were transgender women.

"These facts are deeply disturbing, as these are the

same people who are more likely to face discrimination, criminalization or further violence when interacting with criminal legal and social service systems. What we see is that they are less likely to seek and access support from these institutions," said Maria Carolina Morales of Community United Against

Violence in San Francisco.

The rise in deaths came as NCAVP organizations reported a loss in personnel and a drop in funding.

"During the past year, NCAVP member organizations lost crucial staff and programming in the wake of the fiscal crisis. In a survey of members participating

in this report, 50 percent of respondents laid off staff, 70 percent reported budget decreases and others could not expand positions, staff hours or programming, despite a demonstrated need for such growth. We believe that this drastically limited the ability of LGBTQ people to report violence and access

vital support and services in 2009," said Lisa Gilmore of Education and Victim Advocacy at Center on Halsted in Chicago. "While the total number of reported incidents of hate violence declined slightly in 2009, we suspect that this represents a decrease in reporting, not in actual violence."

The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center was the local reporting agency to the NCAVP. The center reported 17 bias-motivated incidents involving 17 offenders and 17 victims, according to the annual survey. The numbers were down slightly from 2008.

— L.N.



LICENSED BONDED INSURED

2038 S. Muskego Ave. • Milwaukee, WI 53204

- Specializing in all types of Residential & Commercial Roofing Systems
- Complete Home Remodeling Services
- Free Inspections and Estimates

Ask about our **EXCLUSIVE** 15 year roof maintenance guarantee!

10+ Years in Business & A+ BBB Rating
EMERGENCY REPAIR SERVICES

(414) 855-4943

www.vtxconstruction.com



White House promises commitment to combating AIDS

From AP and WiG Reports

President Barack Obama says a new strategy for combating HIV and AIDS fulfills America's obligation to stop the spread of the virus and will root out the inequities and attitudes it thrives on.

The strategy sets a goal of reducing new infections by 25 percent during the next five years, getting treatment for 85 percent of patients within three months of their diagnosis, and increasing education about the virus, even in communities with low rates of infection.

"Fighting HIV/AIDS in America and around the world will require more than just fighting the virus,"

Obama said at a White House reception honoring people who fight HIV and AIDS. "It will require a broader effort to make life more just and equitable."

While medical breakthroughs have greatly improved the quality of life for the 1.1 million U.S. residents living with HIV, the nation has struggled to lower the rate of new infections.

About 56,000 people in the United States become infected with HIV each year, a rate that has held steady for about a decade.

"We've been keeping pace when we should be gaining ground," said Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius.

Part of the strategy for lowering new infections relies on targeting HIV prevention efforts among the highest-risk populations, which include gay and bisexual men as well as black Americans.

That means finding creative ways to expand successful local programs that help HIV-negative people stay that way, as well as providing education and treatment for people who are living with HIV to reduce their chances of spreading the virus, said Chris Collins of the Foundation for AIDS Research, one of the many groups that advised administration officials on the new strategy.

The administration is allocating \$30 million from the massive health care overhaul Congress passed earlier this year toward implementation of the new plan.

Some AIDS activists criticized the plan for not setting more ambitious goals and for not funding the benchmarks it lays out.

"The president's plan is so flawed that it might actually represent a step backward in combating HIV and AIDS in the United States," said Charles King, president of Housing Works, a community-based AIDS organization.

The strategy aims to copy some of the steps credited with spurring the success of a Bush-era policy to fight AIDS

in hard-hit developing countries. That includes setting specific targets and mandating coordination among different government agencies to guard against missteps and wasted, duplicated efforts.

"We've never had that kind of coordinated, accountable effort to address AIDS in America, and that's what we need," Collins said.

There is a new HIV infection every nine and a half minutes in the United States. But about one of every five people living with HIV does not know it.

Access to care plays a role in prevention, too, because the more virus in someone's bloodstream, the easier it is for that person to spread

infection through such behaviors as unprotected sex.

In one step toward reducing disparities in access to care, the Obama administration earlier this month reallocated \$25 million to states that have waiting lists for their AIDS Drug Assistance Programs, which provide treatment for the uninsured and underinsured.

The National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors reported that more than 2,200 people in 12 states were on waiting lists for ADAP help as of last week.

Check out more news
and views online at
www.wisconsin-gazette.com



DID YOU KNOW?

In 2009 alone, Wisconsin experienced an 11-percent increase in the number of HIV infections – an all-time high. There are currently more than 7,000 people living with HIV infection in Wisconsin – an all-time high.

Is there a coffee shop, restaurant or retailer in your area that distributes free newspapers? Ask the owner or manager to add the Wisconsin Gazette.

More locations mean
greater visibility for our
LGBT community –
and greater
convenience for you.

Send distribution
suggestions
to [circulation@
wisconsin-gazette.com](mailto:circulation@wisconsin-gazette.com).



Help get us 'out'

re•threads

- modern
- vintage
- new
- recycled fashion

buy • sell • trade

NOW BUYING
FOR SUMMER



Find us on
Facebook

414.263.1690
2943 north humboldt
mon - sat 11am - 7pm sun noon - 5pm
www.rethreadsclothing.com/gazette

Milwaukee Magazine's
critic's choice for
New Restaurant
Opened in 2009-2010
centro cafe

Dinner Hours:
4-9 pm Tues-Thurs
4-10 pm Fri
2-10 pm Sat
2-9 pm Sun
Sat & Sun Brunch
10 am-2 pm

808 E Center St.
Riverwest
414-455-3751



www.centrocaferiverwest.com

MTV leads in showing gay characters

MTV held a solid lead among 15 U.S. TV networks for its representation of gay characters last season, according to a report released July 23.

In its fourth annual Network Responsibility Index, the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation found that of MTV's 207.5 hours of original prime-time programming, 42 percent included content reflecting the lives of LGBT people. This earned MTV the first-ever "excellent" rating from GLAAD.

"MTV programs like 'The Real World' and 'America's Best Dance Crew' have offered richly diverse por-

trays of gay and transgender people that help Americans better understand and accept our community," said GLAAD president Jarrett Barrios.

Among broadcast networks, the CW was on top with 35 percent, while Fox ranked a close second with 30 percent. ABC, with 26 percent, got a "good" rating, while NBC was "adequate" with 13 percent. CBS' 7 percent earned that network a "failing" grade from the report.

Scoring high on cable along with MTV were ABC Family (37 percent), TNT (34 percent), Showtime (32 percent), Lifetime (31 percent)

and HBO (26 percent), which all received a "Good" rating. The report assigned a "Failing" grade to USA (4 percent), A&E (3 percent) and TBS (2 percent).

GLAAD reviewed all prime-time programming – totaling 4,787.5 hours – on the major broadcast networks between June 1, 2009, and May 31, 2010. The study also examined all original prime-time programming – 1,227.75 hours – on 10 prominent cable networks. This included dramas, comedies, unscripted fare and newsmagazines.

GLAAD noted, with approval, the parenting roles played by gay couple Mitchell

and Cameron on ABC's "Modern Family" and the story line on Fox's "Glee," where high school student Kurt comes out as gay to his father.

"When television networks share real stories of our community, audiences begin to see the common ground that we all share," Barrios said.

In September, GLAAD will release its annual report evaluating gay, bisexual and transgender inclusion, and other diversity, among scripted characters scheduled to appear during the 2010-11 season.



GLAAD praised Fox TV's "Glee" for its accurate portrayals of LGBT people. Chris Cofler (above) plays gay teenager Kurt on the popular series.

– AP

Trial in school slaying stalls

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The trial of a 15-year-old facing a first-degree murder charge in the death of a classmate stalled before testimony began in a Ventura, Calif., courtroom.

Attorneys for defendant Brandon McInerney filed a

motion July 19 seeking a new judge in the case. The motion follows an order from Ventura County Superior Court Judge Charles Campbell rejecting the defense's request for a trial delay to better prepare.

McInerney is being prosecuted as an adult in the February 2008 shooting

of Lawrence King at E.O. Green Junior High School in Oxnard, Calif.

Authorities say McInerney shot King in front of about 25 classmates in a science lab. McInerney was 14 at the time of the shooting. King was 15, and died of a gunshot wound to the head.

News reports indicated there was friction between the boys. King was gay, and there are claims that McInerney is gay and feared being outed.

McInerney, if convicted, could face 53 years to life in prison. The prosecution is seeking enhanced hate crime

and gun use penalties.

Campbell, citing prior delays in the case, refused the defense's request for a delay in mid-July and set jury selection to begin July 20, with pre-trial motions to be heard July 19.

But the motion for the judge's dismissal, which alleges that McInerney and his attorneys can't get fair treatment from Campbell,

halted any other proceedings.

"Whatever happens in this trial, two young lives have been lost to homophobia," said Eliza Byard, executive director of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network. "One young person is dead, and another gave up his future by murdering a classmate so no one would say he was gay."

www.wisconsinazette.com

HAWAII GROUPS LAUNCH 'BOYCOTT'

Three Hawaii groups that support civil unions are launching a campaign to encourage consumers to buy from companies that also back civil unions.

The campaign is dubbed a

"boycott." It is in response to calls to boycott Hawaii tourism in the wake of Gov. Linda Lingle's July 6 veto of legislation that would have permitted same- and opposite-gender couples to form civil unions.

The effort lists Hawaii businesses that score well on

a questionnaire and an evaluation by an advisory board composed of members of Pride Alliance Hawaii.

The alliance, Gay and Lesbian Connection for Me and the Lesbian and Gay Businesses of Hawaii are coordinating the campaign.

– LN.



DID YOU KNOW?

Gay men accounted for 68 percent of all new HIV cases reported in Wisconsin in 2009.

When Disaster Strikes, Ethics and Integrity Matter.

Wisconsin's Leader in Water & Fire Damage Restoration

Since 1973

kellmann corporation

www.kellmann.com

414-774-3799 **Emergency Services** **24 Hours / 7 Days a Week**

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU SERVING WISCONSIN

Torch Award
For Business Ethics & Integrity

2003

2004

2006

Argentina legalizes gay marriage in historic vote

By Michael Warren
AP Writer

Argentina became the first Latin American nation to legalize gay marriage earlier this month, granting same-sex couples all the legal rights, responsibilities and protections that marriage brings to heterosexuals.

The law's passage – a priority for President Cristina Fernandez's government – has inspired activists to push for similar laws in other countries and a wave of gay weddings are expected in Buenos Aires. Some gay business leaders are predicting an economic ripple effect from an increase in tourism among gays and lesbians who will see Argentina as an even

more attractive destination.

But it also carries political risks for Fernandez and her husband, former President Nestor Kirchner. The vote divided their governing coalition, and while gay rights have strong support in the capital, anti-gay feelings still run strong in much of Argentine society, where the vast majority of people are Roman Catholic.

"From today onward, Argentina is a more just and democratic country," said Maria Rachid, president of the Argentine Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender federation.

The law "not only recognizes the rights of our families, but also the possibility of

having access to health care, to leave a pension, to leave our assets to the people with whom we have shared many years of life, including our children," she said.

The 33-27 Senate vote was tallied shortly before dawn, after a marathon debate that touched on religion, ethics, the legacy of Argentina's dictatorship and the challenges of raising children. There were three abstentions. Since the lower house already approved it, the law took effect within days.

Gays and lesbians who have already found Buenos Aires to be a welcoming place to live will likely rush to the altar, but same-sex couples from other countries

will need to live in Argentina before becoming eligible, and the necessary residency documents can take months to obtain.

The approval came despite a concerted campaign by the Roman Catholic Church and evangelical groups, which drew 60,000 people to march on Congress and urged parents in churches and schools to work against passage. Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio led the campaign, saying that "children need to have the right to be raised and educated by a father and a mother."

Opponents of gay marriage proposed a civil-union law instead that would have barred gays from adopting or undergoing in-vitro fertilization to have children, and enabled any civil servant to "conscientiously object" to register gay couples. In the end, parliamentary maneuvers kept the Senate from voting on civil unions as the government bet all or nothing on the more politically difficult option of marriage.

The final vote split both the governing coalition and the opposition, with lawmakers on both sides saying they went with their convictions.

Sen. Juan Perez Alsina, usually a loyal supporter of the president, called marriage between a man and a woman "essential for the preservation of the species."

But others compared the discrimination closeted gays face to the oppression millions suffered under

Argentina's dictatorship years ago, and urged their fellow senators to show the world how much Argentina has matured. "Society has grown up. We aren't the same as we were before," Sen. Daniel Filmus said.

Same-sex civil unions have been legalized in Uruguay and some states in Mexico and Brazil, and the Colombian Constitutional Court has granted same-sex couples inheritance rights and allowed them to add their partners to health insurance plans.

Mexico City went even further, not only legalizing gay marriage but launching a tourism campaign to encourage foreigners to come and wed. Two weeks ago, Mexico City officials offered a free honeymoon in Mexico to the first gay couple to wed under the new Argentine law.

Argentina doesn't allow non-resident foreigners to tie the knot, but it is likely to draw more gay tourists who already contribute millions to the country's economy, said Pablo De Luca, founder of the Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce in Buenos Aires.

"The fact that we are the first country in Latin America that respects the rights of the gay community by law sends a solid message that makes Argentina even more attractive," said De Luca, who estimates that 18 percent of the tourists who come to Argentina are gay or lesbian.

Still, many Argentines,

especially outside the capital, remain firmly opposed to gay marriage, and while the president's confrontation with the Roman Catholic Church may play well in the socially liberal Buenos Aires, the vote may encourage fissures in her ruling coalition.

Some opposition leaders accused Fernandez and Kirchner of trying to gain votes in next year's presidential elections, when Kirchner is expected to run again.

BRIEFS

18 SLAIN AT BIRTHDAY PARTY

An attack July 18 on a gay-themed birthday party in the northern Mexican city of Torreón has left 18 people dead and more than a dozen injured, police say.

Gunmen sprayed bullets at revelers after storming the party inside a walled garden in the city in Coahuila state, across the border from Texas.

Drug gangs are fighting over the region, which is a key transit point along smuggling routes into the United States.

The attackers drove up to the party, taking place in the open but within the grounds of a recreation center, before opening fire on those present with a machine-gun, reports said.

The victims, aged between 20 and 38, included the gay man who was celebrating his birthday.

"They came in, opened fire and shot against everything that moved," an official at the Coahuila prosecutor's office told Reuters news agency.

The same source said the attackers had pulled up at the venue of the birthday party in five 4x4s, smashing down a door to reach the walled garden where the party was being held.

A source within the state police department told AFP news agency that witnesses had reported hearing the group yell "kill them all" before opening fire.

– From WiG and AP reports

Don't just smile – Sparkle!

David A. Paris, DDS, SC

Cosmetic & General Dentistry

414-272-7747

Downtown Milwaukee

601 N. Broadway

(corner of Broadway & Michigan)



Community Bark

Dog Wash & Coffee Bar

DON'T MISS...

THE DOG WASH: You wash, we wash or call ahead for Professional Grooming.

THE BARKER LOUNGE: Enjoy delicious Alterra Coffee, relax with your dog, surf the net, find the finest supplies for your pup!

Come see us in Bayside!

326 W. Brown Deer Road
Just east of Sendik's

414-DOG-WASH

3 6 4 - 9 2 7 4

Join our mailing list! www.communitybark.net

United Nations accredits longtime LGBT group

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission won a hard-fought campaign and secured accreditation July 19 from the United Nations.

The UN Economic and Social Council, which serves as the main UN forum for international economic and social issues, voted 23 – 13 in favor of a U.S.-led resolution to grant consultative status to IGLHRC, the 10th organization working on LGBT issues to gain such status at the United Nations.

"Today's decision is an affirmation that the voices of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people have a place at the United Nations as part of a vital civil society community," said IGLHRC executive director Cary Alan Johnson. "The clear message here is that these voices

should not be silenced, and that human rights cannot be denied on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity."

The vote means IGLHRC formally will participate in UN meetings, submit statements and collaborate with the UN and member governments on human rights issues.

"IGLHRC's access to the UN means that we too will have greater access to international human rights mechanisms that can prove invaluable to LGBT people's lives," said Frank Mugisha of Sexual Minorities Uganda.

"We celebrate this decision," said Toni Reis of the Brazilian group Associacao Brasileira de Lesbicas, Gays, Bissexuais, Travestis e Transexuais.

IGLHRC, which operates offices in the United States, Argentina, South

GAYS MARCH IN POLAND TO DEMAND EQUALITY

Thousands of gays and lesbians from around Europe marched through Poland's capital July 17 to demand equal rights and more tolerance in this heavily Roman Catholic nation.

The parade, part of the EuroPride gay rights festival, was meant to give a boost to the fledgling gay rights movement in Poland. Gay rights were strongly repressed during the Communist era, and gays and lesbians have struggled since Communism fell 20 years ago for acceptance in a society still strongly influenced by the church.

"We feel like they are 20 years behind the Netherlands," said Ad Bakker, a 39-year-old from Holland who traveled to Warsaw to show solidarity with Polish friends. "But the atmosphere is good and we hope that EuroPride will help."

An initial police estimate put the number of participants at 8,000.



PHOTO: DONTCALLMEIKKE/DOMINIKA KOMENDER VIA FLICKR
Marchers in the gay Pride parade in Warsaw, Poland, earlier this month.

Africa and the Philippines, began the application process about three years ago and had recently received a "no action" vote from a subcommittee involved with the initial review. Johnson said IGLHRC faced deferrals, homophobic questioning and procedural roadblocks in its push for accreditation.

But support came from more than 200 non-govern-

mental organizations from 59 countries.

Support also came from the U.S. government. UN Ambassador Susan Rice endorsed IGLHRC's application, as did 14 members of the U.S. House and four members of the Senate, including John Kerry, who chairs the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

A congressional letter to

ECOSOC stated, "Diversity of civil society at the United Nations is essential to respecting, protecting and promoting the human rights of all people and to achieving sustainable peace and human security. Please do not allow the voices of marginalized people to be silenced by discrimination and procedural roadblocks."

Following the vote, the

White House issued a statement from President Barack Obama. "I welcome this important step forward for human rights.... The UN was founded on the premise that only through mutual respect, diversity and dialogue can the international community effectively pursue justice and equality," the statement said.

www.wisconsinazette.com



CANNON & DUNPHY

Wisconsin Personal Injury Attorneys
 with a Reputation for Winning™

- Automobile Accidents
- Civil Rights
- Fires and Explosions
- Medical Malpractice
- Nursing Home/Elder Abuse
- Truck Accidents
- Wrongful Death

(Domestic Partner under ch. 770)



Mark L. Thomsen
 Attorney at Law

595 N. Barker Road
Brookfield, WI 53008

(262) 782-2700 Office / (262) 796-3703 Direct



Milwaukee PC

The People Behind The Product - Since 1989

Local service, Experienced technicians

- Service any brand PC, Desktop or Laptop
- Custom built computers
- Computer parts / HDMI & DVI video cabling

BRING THIS COUPON IN FOR
20% off
in-store labor

2334 N. Farwell Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211

414-223-2641 | www.milwaukeeipc.com

10 AM - 6 PM M-F 10 AM - 4 PM Sat



PHOTOS: COURTESY COREE COPPINGER/WWW.EMPTYHEADSTUDIO.COM

BRADY STREET'S MAIN DRAG

The Brady Street Area Association's tagline is "For All Walks of Life," and what better way is there to strut that motto than wearing high heels? The Brady Street Festival's annual drag show has become a hallmark of the lively street fair celebrating the area's rich diversity. This year's drag show, pictured here, took place July 24.

- L.W.



"THE ORIGINAL"
Dairy Queen
 Wisconsin State Fair
 AUGUST 5-15 Presented By U.S. Cellular
 WISTATEFAIR.COM

HUNGER TASK FORCE
\$2 DAY
 AUGUST 5

\$2 ADMISSION! Fairgoers who donate at least two nonperishable food items or make a cash donation between 8 am – 5 pm at the designated locations outside any of the Fair admission gates will receive a voucher for \$2 admission on Opening Day, Thursday, August 5. Donations benefit Hunger Task Force. Promotion ends promptly at 5pm.



SPRECHER BREWING DAY
AUGUST 9 - SAVE \$3!
 Visit www.sprecherbrewery.com/fair to receive a \$6 before 6 pm adult admission voucher valid on Monday, August 9. Vouchers must be presented at any Fair admission gate to receive the \$6 before 6 pm admission. Promotion ends promptly at 6pm.



GOODWILL TWO-FOR-ONE
TUESDAY, AUGUST 10 - SAVE \$9!
 Fairgoers who present a Goodwill Store and Donation Center purchase receipt dated between July 12 and August 10 will receive two-for-one admission at any ticket window between 8 am – 2 pm on Tuesday, August 10. Promotion ends promptly at 2pm.

Etheridge: 'Fearless is a path'

By Harry Cherkinian
Contributing writer

There are a lot of numbers involved in Melissa Etheridge's career: one Academy Award; one Juno Award (Canada); one ASCAP Songwriter of the Year Award; two Grammy Awards; 15 Grammy nominations; 11 studio albums; 14 million recordings sold in the United States and over 25 million worldwide.

There are also some vital numbers in her personal life: one extended bout with breast cancer; two former spouses; and four children (two boys and two girls). Add in, of course, the millions of LGBT people worldwide who consider Etheridge an iconic LGBT-rights activist.

But on the afternoon when WiG spoke with her, eight was probably the number uppermost on Etheridge's mind. That's how many interviews she'd already conducted that day in advance of her concert tour to support "Fearless Love," her latest release. The tour comes to The Riverside in Milwaukee on Aug. 11.

Despite all this and the ongoing stress of her bitter split with wife Tammy Lynn Michaels, Etheridge's voice was brimming with energy and enthusiasm. "I'm healthier than I've ever been in my entire life," she said.

At 49, Melissa Lou Etheridge still puts her heart fearlessly into everything she does, whether it's the confessional lyrics of her songs or her political activism. When California banned same-sex marriage in November 2008 with the passage of Proposition 8, Etheridge refused to pay taxes as an act of civil disobedience. Rather than remain in seclusion during chemotherapy, she per-

formed bald-pated at the 2005 Grammy Awards, paying tribute to the late Janis Joplin.

Etheridge's brand of fearlessness is particularly impressive in today's volatile social climate, where right-wingers are inclined to hold a bonfire and burn the recordings of performers who speak out against the status quo. (Remember the Dixie Chicks and a certain former president of the United States?)

"Fearless is a path, it's not a destination," Etheridge said. "If you're out, you're fearless. If you don't have fear, then you're filled up with love. Love can change the world. And that's what we need to do. We're all going to be OK."

Etheridge came out in January 1993 at the Triangle Ball, an LGBT celebration of President Bill Clinton's first inauguration. Since then, she's been in two domestic partnerships – and messy breakups. Court proceedings between Etheridge and her ex grabbed headlines on July 16 when she accused Michaels of using their kids as "pawns" in their battle over spousal support.

Still, Etheridge remains a firm believer in legalizing same-sex marriage. The absence of marriage laws for same-sex couples has complicated her relationships, Etheridge said.

"You need gay marriage to have gay divorce," she explained. "You want things in place, and we need to understand that it's not about dressing up and ceremonies. It's a legal process."

Being a well-known performer complicates relationships both for straight and gay couples, according to Etheridge. "We still have the same hardships, with one being away (touring) and one at home with the kids," she said.

"I love performing and I love family. It's finding a balance."



Melissa Etheridge performs at 8 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 11, at the Riverside Theater. Call 414-286-3663 or go to www.pabsttheater.org.

Part of the balancing act during her upcoming tour is having her two older children – Bailey Jean, 13, and Beckett, 11 – accompany her.

KANSAS TO BROADWAY

A native of Leavenworth, Kansas, Etheridge first picked up a guitar at age 8. By the time she was a teenager, she was playing in all-male country music groups. Her determination to perform her own songs kept her going, despite her first attempt – and rejection – in getting signed to a record label. Ironically the

well-known lesbian record label Olivia Records passed on her (she still has the rejection letter).

Although Etheridge recorded her debut in 1988, it was "Brave and Crazy," her second release, that brought her first hit – "Bring Me Some Water" – and a Grammy nomination. By that time, Etheridge already was attracting the attention of other artists with her raspy vocals and mix of rock, folk and pop styling. (U2's lead singer Bono can be heard playing harmonica on "Brave and Crazy").

In Milwaukee, Etheridge will perform her hits as well her new material, which has a much rockier feel to it – a return to who she is musically as well as personally.

"It's a culmination of learning from all the other tours before," she said. "I looked around and saw how many people want to come see me. I thought, 'Maybe I can just enjoy myself (this time around).'"

"The difference with this tour is confidence," she added. "The new stuff is exciting, and I enjoy every song I play. And shoot! I'm

really starting to recognize my audiences."

Etheridge said she's aiming for an entirely new type of audience in 2011, when she'll begin work on a rock 'n' roll musical, penning both the music and lyrics. Her collaborator is longtime friend and producer Linda Wallem (producer and writer of Showtime's "Nurse Jackie").

"I'm gay! I like show tunes!" Etheridge exclaimed, a smile in her voice. "Seeing that rock 'n' roll can be embraced, it'll be a totally new story, a rock opera. I hope they love it."

Rufus Wainwright returns to The Pabst

Interview

GREGG SHAPIRO

Multi-talented out performer Rufus Wainwright has returned with "All Days Are Nights: Songs for Lulu" (Decca), his first studio album of new material since 2007's "Release the Stars." He's been keeping busy professionally in between, releasing a pair of concert albums and working on his opera "Prima Donna."

Personally, Wainwright has been dealing with his mother Kate McGarrigle's illness and death earlier this year. The melancholy and emotional "All Days Are Nights" is reflective of his loss. Possibly Wainwright's least accessible release, it is nevertheless well worth the investment of time and psychic energy. A sort of mourner's prayer, the album also finds a way to celebrate life, which is much to the credit of his bountiful talents.

Gregg Shapiro: I want to

begin by offering my sincerest condolences on your mother's passing.

Rufus Wainwright: Thank you.

GS: I had the honor of interviewing her for "The McGarrigle Hour," the 1998 disc on which you also performed. It's being reissued in a vinyl edition. Are you involved with that project?

RW: Well, I am in spirit and historically. But that's really Anna McGarrigle's territory at the moment. I'm really happy that it's coming out. I think it's a fantastic album. I do intend, along with Martha (Wainwright's singer/songwriter sister), to further my mother's legacy down the line, for sure. But at the moment, we're just trying to get our act together in general (laughs). There is a void. But it's great that that's coming out.

GS: "All Days Are Nights: Songs For Lulu" and your previous release, the live album "Milwaukee at Last!" are released domestically on Decca. Does being on Decca give you license or freedom to pursue

ON STAGE

Rufus Wainwright performs Aug. 10 at the Pabst Theater, 144 E. Wells.

your more classical side, as you do on "All Days Are Nights"?

RW: I think that it definitely ensures that the album will be made and that there won't be too much interference, which I did experience a little bit of before on Geffen and Interscope. It was such a pop label. But on the other hand, a huge major label is a huge major label. When you get a project out with one of those companies, you do have a lot more power and it goes a lot further. I think at the end of the day, it works out to be about the same. You're on a nice little label where you can do what you want, but they can't push it as hard as someone who has more might.

GS: "All Days Are Nights" includes both a song from your opera "Prima Donna" and three



COURTESY GEFFEN RECORDS

Rufus Wainwright recorded the CD/DVD "Milwaukee At Last!" at The Pabst, which he calls "a magical place."

selections from your collaboration with Robert Wilson. With so much from which to choose, how did you go about selecting what to include on "All Days Are Nights"?

RW: That group of songs, "All Days Are Nights" – they're all flowers from a garden that I've been growing for at least 20 years. ... I had to squeeze my artistic sensibilities to the max in order to come up with this rarified mix of material. There wasn't a lot of sifting through songs. I knew that these were the songs of a lifetime, so I had to put them all together.

GS: "Martha" and "Zebulon" are among your most deeply personal compositions. What was it like exposing yourself through your work?

RW: Probably due to the fact that I am a musician first and secondly a lyricist, my lyrics have to be really, really potent. They come with an ounce of blood, shall we say (laughs)? I think I get some really good ideas and they're most effective when they're closest to my personal life and there's a certain truth that shines through there. I have to do that in order to maintain my ability as a songwriter.

GS: Has the raw, emotional tone of the material on "All

'The music mirrors what's going on in my soul. I'm in heavy-duty mourning. I'm going through the motions of grief but artistically.'

Days Are Nights" had an effect on your live performances?

RW: If anything, it mirrors what's really going on in my soul. I'm in heavy-duty mourning, and when I get out there and I have to master these treacherous compositions and get from one end to the other without being cute, because that's what I'm doing with this album. It's a very serious show. I'm just going through the motions of grief, but artistically.

GS: One of the stops on

your concert tour includes a return to The Pabst Theater, where "Milwaukee At Last!" was recorded. How was that venue chosen for the live CD and DVD – and did you always intend to return again to perform?

RW: Yes! That theater, specifically, has been a real milestone for me in terms of both maintaining a stronghold in middle America and also bringing back a kind of European, sophisticated sensibility that I think once existed in America, throughout the country, which that theater embodies. It's a magical place. Also, I have to say that the owners of that theater are just wonderful – they're a great family. That really has to be supported in this day and age.

GS: You gave a memorable performance in the 2005 movie "Heights." Are there any upcoming movie roles?

RW: (There is) nothing set yet. But if they come to me with a good offer, I may accept. I'm not saying that I don't want to act. But I would say that it is a little bit spooky how many music people do go into that field. I guess there's a reason for it. But I'm battling opera at the moment.

GS: Battle on!

RW: Hollywood will have to wait!

HERITAGE
SENIOR LIVING

INDEPENDENCE • INDIVIDUALITY • DIGNITY • CHOICE • PRIVACY

LET US HELP YOU
WITH THE *next step.*

*Assisted Living
and Memory Care Communities*

Greenfield • New Berlin
Menomonee Falls • Eau Claire
West Allis • Monona

For tours and information, please contact us at
(414) 302-9700 • www.heritagesenior.com

'New Media' provokes unanswered questions

By Kat Murrell

Contributing writer

New media. It speaks to the future, it screams cutting-edge, high-tech, clean and streamlined. And now you can see it in a 100-year-old mansion.

The current exhibition at the Charles Allis Art Museum features five contemporary Wisconsin artists whose work is cleverly, successfully inserted among the furnishings and art treasures of this former family home. The new media works enliven rooms on the first floor that are usually reserved for the permanent collection.

This strategy is a great antidote to the so-called "white cube syndrome" that often plagues gallery spaces by showing art as inhabiting living space. But more than that, it makes sense. The works in this show carry on dialogues between the present and past. Less poetically, they suggest what life would be like if the Allis family shared our fixation with having TVs in nearly every room.

There seems to be a consensus here that new media means using electricity in some form. Each artist incorporates moving or changing

images, and often sound, with a variety of techniques and outcomes.

Stephen Hilyard's "Morning Glory" is shown on a flat screen television that sits atop a sideboard in the elegant formal dining room. This reveals that even artwork shares such quotidian problems as where to stow those unattractive remote controls. Here, they sit incongruously in front of the screen, a digital montage unfolds before us and we journey into the heart of the eponymous flower. Then things get really trippy in a charming, idyllic countryside inspired by Messiaen's "Mouvement pour piano" — an Asian landscape replete with a pagoda, and imaginative points beyond.

James Barany is fittingly showcased in the sitting room, where the grand piano suggests a room of musical enjoyment. The music in this case is provided by Barany, who sings with the Florentine Opera in addition to his work as an artist. Stereoscopic images, a favorite entertainment of the 19th century, are blended as digital images with recordings of Barany's vocals and presented in complex wooden contraptions.



COURTESY CHARLES ALLIS ART MUSEUM.

"New Media" is at the Charles Allis Art Museum, 1801 N. Prospect Ave., through Sept. 15. Above, a detail from James Barany's "Liberate Me Stereo."

Jill Casid's installation in the library spans recent decades with a juxtaposition of quintessential technologies. The advent of the Polaroid was a breakthrough in instant gratification and allowed users to avoid the weeklong wait to get pictures back from the local Photomat. Today, they are undeniably quaint.

Casid pairs Polaroids with suites of images on an array of iPods, illuminating how differently we can look at pictures. Is a still photo more apt to invite contemplation and a critical eye? Do pic-

tures on a phone (or the like) seem poised to convey information — this is our vacation, this is my friend Beth, this is our dog?

In Casid's installation, there is a dance between nostalgia and information as multiple images vie for attention. The Polaroids, in contrast to the changing iPod slideshows, seem fundamentally tangible and lasting, while their counterparts have the fragility of digital obsolescence, easily erased from memory.

Upstairs, video dominates. Sabine Gruffat offers moody

and murky explorations of place, history and memory. These works have the most conventional character in terms of contemporary art, and they occupy rooms that lack the richness of historical decorations, furniture and knickknacks to act as counterpoints.

In contrast, Chele Isaac's "Listing Towards, Falling Away," installed in the master bedroom suite, doesn't just take advantage of the setting but transcends it. The walls dissolve into a sunset seascape and from there, ghosts

take over.

Sit in the large leather chair in the corner and feel like you're observing a play of life come back from the dead. The narrative is vague and not necessarily related to the actual history of the room, but it does evoke meditations on a bedroom before it became a museum piece. It's a must-see in this season's art installations.

The ideas behind new media are fun and even sexy in the way artists deploy techniques and technologies. Combining these elements with the antique setting opens up all sorts of possibilities.

Yet, the messages to the viewer remain murky; what are the definitive statements behind these constructions? There is little curatorial guidance on this matter. The wall text is essentially each artist's statement, and these tend to be declarations geared toward the specialized art world rather than the public at large.

The exhibition leaves one with thoughts more about the methods of delivery than an overarching meaning of the exhibition.

www.wisconsinart.com

Artwatch

DEBRA BREHMER

The Milwaukee Art Museum's special interest group, the Photography Council, is growing at an accelerated pace of late. Along with the city's other photography group, The Coalition of Photographic Arts, one would think Milwaukee was turning into a photo hotbed.

Lots of good things have come out of this emerging network of collectors, artists and enthusiasts. If you want to climb on board, attend the Photography Council's

upcoming fundraiser, called "Exposure," on Aug. 4. The event is in a warehouse at 234 Florida, just east of the Iron Horse Hotel. There will be music, food, drink and a silent auction including great photographs donated by Jen Davis, Brian Ulrich and Jonathan Gitelson, among many others. There will also be a Slideslam featuring projected "favorite pictures you've taken this year" — images submitted by the public. Call 224-3284 for information. Cost of the event is \$50 in advance, \$60 at the door, which includes dinner.

On Aug. 6, the Racine Art Museum is free on First Fridays. Artist Matt Eskuche will unveil his instal-

lation "Agristocracy" in the Windows on 5th Gallery, which is part of RAM. Eskuche is a glass artist who casts large piles of garbage or "trash" out of Italian glass. Curator Lena Vigna will talk about this new work at 7 p.m.

Summer is the time to be downtown and to do things out of our normal routines, such as visit the city's least well-known art museum — The Grohmann Museum, 1000 N. Broadway, on the Milwaukee School of Engineering campus. It houses Eckhard G. Grohmann's personal collection of more than 800 works from a 400-year span. Uniquely, all of the works are thematically connected to the subject "man

at work." The paintings and sculptures chronicle the history of industry and labor, from farming to the introduction of the steam engine and on.

It's a quirky notion for a museum of this size to have such a narrow focus, and one might question the man-at-work focus here. Didn't women work too? But if one can ignore that, one could view this museum as something of a gay paradise (admission is \$5). There are bare-chested, hunky men everywhere, sweating in steel mills, smelting iron, working in the fields, reeling in the fishing nets. The current exhibition features working men from Wisconsin, with art by



PHOTO: COURTESY PHOTOGRAPHY COUNCIL

XCaliber

Richard Lorenz, Robert van Neumann, Gerrit Sinclair and John Stuart Curry — all bor-

rowed from the Museum of Wisconsin Art in West Bend and on view through Aug. 20.

Luxury, nature reward guests at Sundara Spa

By Anne Siegel

Contributing writer

Nestled amid a forest of fragrant pines in the Wisconsin Dells, Sundara Spa is a hidden treasure. The main lodge rests at the end of a winding road and contains traces of Frank Lloyd Wright in its architecture, which uses natural stone, rocks and timber to create a soothing visual harmony.

This would be an arresting sight in any location, but one hardly expects to find it in the Dells, where the racket of traffic, water parks and roller coasters mixes with the vroom-vroom of miniature racecars. None of that is evident in this peaceful, adults-only environment.

Sundara (the Sanskrit word for beautiful) lives up to its name. In the past few years, its has received accolades from The New York Times and National Geographic Traveler ("the Midwest's first destination spa, a civilized getaway in the hills.") Spa Magazine has dubbed Sundara "one of the Top 10 Spas in the Midwest."

According to guest services manager Elaine Schreiber, the spa caters to a mix of straight and gay couples, small groups (such as female co-workers on retreat) and individual travelers looking for a relaxing getaway. Each year sees an uptick in the number of male clientele,

Guests often loll about in robes and slippers.

Schreiber says. She estimates the current mix is about 60 to 40 (female to male guests).

While women are the exclusive recipients of mother-to-be massages, men have massages designed for them, too. The most popular is the signature massage, which can last 50 - 80 minutes (\$135 - \$190 *). First, guests are quizzed about health issues and areas of the body that may need extra attention. "Therapists," as they are called, can apply a light touch or a firmer approach for a deep-tissue massage. If requested, aromatherapy complements the experience.

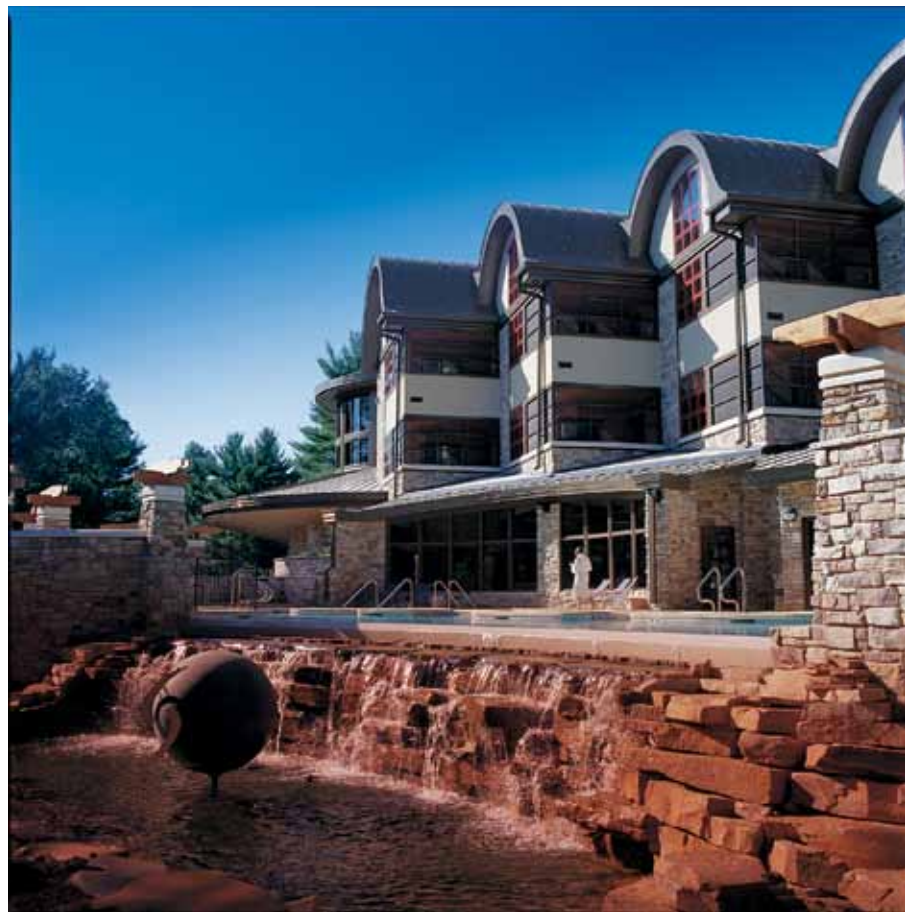
Surprisingly, the second most popular treatment for men is the pedicure (\$55*). Men's feet receive a total makeover in 30 minutes. The third most popular treatment for men is the facial (\$70-135*). First, one's back and shoulders receive an exfoliating scrub using an exclusive

sandstone body polish. (The stone, quarried on Sundara property, is sent to California for refinement and the addition of herbs and oils. It is then shipped back to Sundara, where it provides the ideal mix of grit, scents and soothing oils). Then the face gets a series of treatments that are both soothing and energizing.

In addition to individual spa rooms, Sundara also offers spa rooms for couples who want to indulge in the experience together.

An exclusive, not-to-be-missed pleasure is the warming glow massage (\$145-170*). It melts away stress with candles made from organic oils and shea butter. First, guests choose from eight different scents (including citrus, tropical, tranquility and "ice"). The therapist lights the selected candle and uses the warmed oil for a Swedish-style massage. Finally, the remaining candle is returned to customers as a keepsake of their experience. It can be used as a candle or, perhaps, for an in-home massage.

Before or after experiencing their spa pampering, guests often loll about in robes and slippers (provided by the spa). You must bring a bathing suit for the communal purifying bath ritual, which precedes all spa services. But if you forget, don't



COURTESY PHOTO

Sundara's main building.

worry. The lobby gift shop offers swimsuits for both men and women, as well as spa products used at Sundara, CDs, inspirational books and, of course, the massage oil candles.

Every element of the Sundara experience is geared toward balancing the spirit and body. Lodge rooms are bathed in tranquil colors and feature gas fireplaces and (in most cases), Jacuzzis and elaborate shower sys-

tems. Although cell phones are forbidden in the spa's public areas, one needn't shut off the world entirely. Wi-fi is available, as well as cable channels on the large plasma TVs.

Guests can decide to stay in the well-appointed lodge, or rent one of the 12 villas scattered throughout the property. The one- and two-bedroom villas include full kitchens, expansive dining areas and private terraces.

As with most destination spas, Sundara is not the place for travelers on a budget. However, before making reservations, it would be a good idea to check out the room/spa packages at www.sundaraspa.com. Many deals are available, especially for late summer and fall.

Sundara is open year-round. For more information, call 888-735-8181.

*Prices do not reflect gratuities

Sunday, Sept. 19

**AIDS
WALK
WISCONSIN**

Presenting Sponsor

 MillerCoors™



REGISTER TODAY
aidswalkwis.org



**Wisconsin
Gazette** .com

THEATER GAZE

‘Wicked’ flies high on talent and effects

Review

HARRY CHERKINIAN

It's got amazing special effects, catchy show-stopping tunes, a multi-talented cast and costumes and lighting and sets that dazzle the eyes. Oh my!

It's "Wicked," the award winning Broadway musical that tells the story of the two witches of Oz and how they got there. So catch a ride on a flying broomstick (or flying monkey) to see another side to the Emerald City.

"Wicked," based on the 1995 novel by Gregory Maguire, focuses on the relationship between Elphaba, who is green-skinned at birth, an outsider at school and the future Wicked Witch of the West, and Galinda, who becomes Glinda – the Good

Witch of the North.

The story references Dorothy before and during her travels through Oz, where it turns out that all is not well. The Wizard is a corrupt public official (what else is new?) and Elphaba suffers discrimination due to her skin color.

The plot is complex and, at times, confusing – with a number of subplots: Both witches love the same man. Animals can speak and there's a subversive political attempt to silence them. Elphaba's sister is confined to a wheelchair. And their father, the governor of Oz, likes sis best.

Fortunately, the show's songs, acting and special effects more than make up for the muddle. Stephen Schwartz ("Godspell," "Pippin") has created some memorable tunes, especially the Act I finale "Defying

ON STAGE

"Wicked" runs through Aug. 8 at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N. Water St. For more information, call the Marcus Center box office, 414-273-7206 or go to www.marcuscenter.org.

Gravity" and "For Good," the beautiful ballad about the bond of enduring friendship.

But it is the two actresses who inhabit the witches' roles that make "Wicked" worth the effort. Amid a talented ensemble of actors, Vicki Noon captures the heart of the audience as Elphaba, her outward appearance disappearing into an inner strength and a vocal prowess that rises above the ever-present din of discrimi-



PHOTO: JOAN MARCUS

"Wicked" stars Natalie Daradich and Vicki Noon.

nation. As Glinda, Natalie Daradich is a comical delight to watch – her impish, cutesy moves providing comic relief

against the background of growing discord in Oz.

As both witches sing to each other, "because I knew

you, I have been changed for good." And in way, so has the audience seeing this magical production.

TECHTERIORS

Intelligent Environments™

FULL-SERVICE AUDIO/VIDEO AND ELECTRICAL COMPANY

TechTeriors provides state-of-the art, easy-to-use, reliable systems

- HOME THEATERS
- AUDIO/MUSIC, VIDEO, LIGHTING, NETWORK TELEPHONE SYSTEMS
- FLAT SCREEN, HDTV, PLASMA, MIRROR, ART-WALL TELEVISIONS
- WHOLE HOUSE CONTROL SYSTEMS WITH REMOTE ACCESS AND VIEWING
- HVAC/ENERGY & LIGHTING EFFICIENCY
- SECURITY

- ✓ DESIGN
- ✓ SALES
- ✓ INSTALL

Delafield

3700 Hillside Drive

262-646-5222

Hours: M-F 10-6 | Sat 10-4

Mequon

12308 Corporate Pkwy, Suite 600

262-243-9800

Hours: By Appointment Only

Now Serving the Northwoods

Boulder Junction, WI

715-385-2595

www.TechTeriors.com

Dining al fresco – from ‘A’ to ‘Z’

By Rick Karlin

Contributing writer

Here we are, right in the middle of al fresco dining season. Why not take full advantage of Milwaukee's many sidewalk-dining opportunities and experience a beautiful view, a charming ambiance, fascinating clientele and, of course, great food and service?

Consider the following al fresco choices, from A to Z:

“A” is for Alterra. Alterra is ubiquitous, but none compare to the location at 2999 N. Humboldt. An old steel pergola provides a shady respite in a spacious courtyard. Relax with or without your dog at your side and people watch while enjoying the fair trade coffee or tea and nibble on treats made from locally grown ingredients.

“B” is for Barnacle Bud's, which has a patio that seems to float on the bank of the Kinnickinnic River in Bay View. The tin roof makes even rainy days a great time to sit and watch life drift by

from 1955 S. Hilbert.

“C” is for Cafe La Scala, with the pizzas and panini you expect from the Italian name. Seating in the quaint courtyard is a must at 631 E. Chicago.

“D” is for Dogg Haus, because dining al fresco doesn't have to be expensive or fancy. It just has to be good, and the Chicago-style hot dogs are perfection. Four locations: 1433 E. Brady, 1633 W. Wells, 318 E. Wisconsin or 3116 N. Downer.

“E” is for Eagan's, because seafood never tastes better than it does with water in view, even if it's only 1030 Water St.

“F” is for Fratello's Waterfront, with a boardwalk dining space that accommodates 100-plus diners at 102 N. Water, just feet from Milwaukee River.

“G” is for Good Life, where the Caribbean arrives at 1935 N. Water on a large patio filled with umbrella-covered tables.

“H” is for Hotch-A-Do, a café specializing in locally-

grown, organic foods. Grab a seat alongside 1813 E. Kenilworth and commence people watching.

“I” is for an Irish pub named Harp at 113 E. Juneau. All it takes is the three Bs: burgers, beer and a bench seat.

“J” is for John's, the Tosa sandwich shop that is an institution. Since 1963, folks have been enjoying the squares a day on the patio at 8913 W. North.

“K” is for The Knick, where the high style never overwhelms the substance of elegant food, simply prepared and served with panache at 1030 E. Juneau.

“L” is for La Fuente. It could be the fountains and colorful tile or the delicious margaritas, but you'll swear you're in an authentic Mexican courtyard, even though you're at 625 S. Fifth.

“M” is for Molly Cool's Fish Café, 1110 N. Old World Third. Sure the sushi and oysters aren't local, but if you squint your eyes and look at the Milwaukee River

you can pretend. Besides, it's the appearance and freshness that counts.

“N” is for North Shore Bistro. A Friday fish fry, Sunday night jazz and a cute outdoor dining area at 8649 N. Port Washington make a great weekend spot.

“O” is for Ouzo Café, where you can pretend you are in Athens with classic, affordable Greek dishes, all of which are completely homemade. One taste of the tzatziki sauce and you'll forget that you're at 776 N. Milwaukee.

“P” is for Palomino, an old-school tavern from the folks behind Fuel and Comet. The old school tavern at 2491 S. Superior specializes in lots of deep fried stuff and has some vegan fare as well.

“Q” is for the queen you'll feel like on Brocach's rooftop lounge while enjoying Irish fare from what appears to be a castle overlooking Water Street and the Milwaukee River at 1850 N. Water.

“R” is for Ristorante Bartolotta. How could you discuss dining in Milwaukee and not mention a Bartolotta place? The “cucina rustica,” at 7616 W. State in Wauwatosa, features traditional, simple foods that Italian families enjoy in their homes.

“S” is for Swig, a small plates joint at 217 N. Broadway. For those of you with a heartier appetite, check out the specialty entrees, salads and desserts. A full bar makes this an outdoor oasis in the heart of Third Ward.

“T” is for Taste of India at 17800 W. Bluemound in Brookfield. Moderate prices, approachable Indian fare and



Roots Restaurant and cellar

plenty of vegetarian options there's something for everyone on the vast menu. There's nothing like a cold Indian beer on the patio to make a hot summer night more bearable.

“U” is for upstairs at Roots Restaurant and Cellar, 1818 N. Hubbard. The two-tiered restaurant offers fine dining above with a terrace overlooking the city. The lower level, also high above the rest of town, offers a more casual environment in which to enjoy the organic fare.

“V” is for Vecchio, where there's fondue and focaccia, and cheese on just about everything at 1137 N. Old World Third on a beautifully maintained patio.

“W” is for Water Buffalo, with a two-story terrace

perched along the RiverWalk at 249 N. Water offers some of the best views of the city.

“X” is for xenophobia: the only reason not to enjoy the international influences that flavor the menu at Soup Brothers at 209 W. Florida in Walker's Point.

“Y” is for The Yard and its enormous outdoor patio adjoining the Iron Horse Hotel in Walker's Point. It's far from sedate with the soaring cables of the Sixth Street Viaduct Bridge and the occasional freight train passing by, but 500 W. Florida isn't the place to be heard. It's the place to be seen.

“Z” is for Zarletti. This Juneau Town hot spot offers rustic Italian fare on its street-side patio at 741 N. Milwaukee.

time
well spent is
time remembered

Great summer trips begin with the Lake Express high speed ferry. Beaches, dunes, coastal towns and scenic drives are just a small part of what you'll find in Western Michigan.

Great travel deals are just a click away when you visit us online.

For travel information and reservations:
www.lake-express.com or 866-914-1010

LAKE EXPRESS
HIGH SPEED FERRY

Coming Out
September 2010

Tt

www.theatricaltendencies.com

Film
GREGG SHAPIRO

'INCEPTION'
(Warner Brothers)

Written and directed by Christopher Nolan ("Memento," "The Dark Knight"), "Inception" is about the business of dreams – dreams and the money that can be made by influencing the other people's dreams. Dom Cobb (Leonardo DiCaprio), a sought-after dream extractor, is dealing with a living nightmare. He's under suspicion in the death of his fellow dream-weaving wife Mal (Marion Cotillard) and unable to gain access to his surviving children.

Cutthroat businessman Saito (Ken Watanabe) makes Cobb a business proposition that will clear Cobb's name, if it succeeds. It sounds like a dream come true. But the job doesn't involve dream extraction. It's a case of inception, implanting an idea into someone's dreams. It's a difficult and dangerous process.

Cobb accepts the challenge and assembles his dream team, if you will. Right-hand man Arthur (Joseph Gordon-Levitt), forger Eames (Tom Hardy) and architect Ariadne (Ellen Page). Then he sets about making contact with his subject, Robert (Cillian Murphy), the reluctant heir to a major corporation.

Here the work begins, not only for Cobb's team, but also the audience. Fight sequences that go on far too long, threaten to bog things down. And there's a lot to digest here, and one's capacity to suspend disbelief is challenged. But it's also rewarded with spectacular visual effects that stay with you long after the movie ends.

"Inception" is a dream-come-true for fans of action/fantasy films for taking the genre to a whole new level.

'SALT'
(Columbia)

As if to remind us that Russia and its citizens remain a threat to the well-being of the planet (see also: "The Girl Who Played With Fire"), obvious sequel-setup "Salt" sets teeth chattering with its Cold War revival mentality.



COURTESY PHOTO

"Salt."

After spending two years in captivity in North Korea, CIA agent Evelyn Salt (Angelina Jolie) is back at work in Washington, D.C. She's living in the U Street corridor with German national husband Mike (August Diehl) and dog Burt. She gets on well with co-worker Ted (Liev Schreiber). Everything seems to be fine.

But the arrival of Orlov (Daniel Olbrychski), a mysterious former high-ranking KGB agent throws Evelyn's world into a tailspin. Is she really, as he says, Chenkov, a Soviet-trained spy and killing machine whose unfulfilled mission includes the assassination of the Russian president, the devastation of Muslim cultural centers and total Russian world domination?

After countless cunning stunts, mounting body count, dozens of daring escapes, buckets of betrayals and action sequence after action sequence, we realize that, like Evelyn, we are being set up.

Breathtaking and bombastic, "Salt" seasons the audience, leaving us hanging, waiting for Evelyn's inevitable return.



FOLLOW US!

We're
@wigazette
on Twitter.



ANNETTE BENING

JULIANNE MOORE

MARK RUFFALO

The New York Times
"OUTRAGEOUSLY FUNNY."
A.O. SCOTT

Los Angeles Times
"FUNNY, SMART & OVERFLOWING WITH LOVE. THOROUGHLY ENTERTAINING."
BETSY SHARKEY

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
"EXUBERANT. A HEART WARMING LOOK AT MODERN FAMILIES."
MICHELLE KUNG

THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT

MIA WASIKOWSKA JOSH HUTCHERSON

Nic and Jules had the perfect family, until they met the man who made it all possible.



FOCUS FEATURES and GILBERT FILMS PRESENT AN ANTIPODE FILMS, MANDALAY VISION and GILBERT FILMS PRODUCTION A FILM BY USA ANNETTE BENING, JULIANNE MOORE, MARK RUFFALO, "THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT" MIA WASIKOWSKA and JOSH H HUTCHERSON. COSTUME DESIGNER LAURA ROSENTHAL. HAIR MARY CLARE HANMAN. MAKEUP JERILZA RICHARDSON. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CARTER BURWELL, JEFFREY M. WERNER. PRODUCED BY ROBY JADIE-BLUD. WRITTEN BY GARY GILBERT, JEFFREY LEVY, NIVTE, CELINE RATTIN, JORDAN HOROWITZ, DANIELA TAPLIN, LINDBERG PHILLIPS. DIRECTED BY USA, CHLOE ALKOVA, STUART BLUMBERG. PRODUCED BY USA, CHLOE ALKOVA, STUART BLUMBERG. GILBERT FILMS. KidsAreAllRightMovie.com



EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENTS NOW PLAYING

MOBILE USERS: For Showtimes – Text KIDS with your ZIP CODE to 43KIX (43549)

Tell us what "family" means to you! Go to Family-Is.com or Facebook.com/TheKidsAreAllRight and share your definition of "family" through a photo, video or story.

DVDiva

GREGG SHAPIRO

Runaways and showgirls

'THE RUNAWAYS'

(Sony Pictures Home Entertainment/Apparition)

Biopics are always a hit-or-miss proposition, and "The Runaways" is a good case in point. An all-girl (emphasis on "girl," as the band members were in their teens) rock band that actually played its own instruments and co-wrote its own songs, The Runaways formed in the mid-1970s, a time when such a thing was still on the risky side.

Southern California girls Joan Jett, nee Larkin (Kristen Stewart) and Cherie Currie (Dakota Fanning), who share a love of rock music and coloring outside of the lines, are groomed by record producer/starmaker Kim Fowley (Michael Shannon) to be the next big thing.

With other band members recruited, including Sandy West (Stella Maeve), Lita Ford (Scout Taylor-Compton) and someone — a possible composite? — named Robin (Alia Shawkat), taskmaster Fowley

puts the band through the paces and eventually unleashes the Runaways on the world. They only caused a ripple stateside, but in Japan they were a tsunami. One scene shows a mob of rabid and screaming Japanese fans shattering a glass wall separating them from the band.

Unprepared for success, the already unstable personalities begin to clash. Cherie, especially, feels pulled in several directions. After being abandoned by her self-absorbed mother (Tatum O'Neal), she feels guilty for having left sister Marie (Riley Keough) behind to care for their alcoholic father. Heading down a path similar to dear old Dad's, Cherie becomes involved in a romantic relationship with Jett. Things come to a head during a recording session where tempers flare and instruments are thrown.

Since the devil is in the details, it's interesting that in director/screenwriter Floria Sigismondi's vision, she gets the fashions, the hairstyles,

the make-up, even the cars so right, while she drops the ball on other things. The Runaways were more than just Jett and Currie, but their story is the main focus. This is true to the end of the film. Post band break-up, the two young women who hadn't spoken to each other for quite some time are reunited on the radio — one as an interview subject, the other as a listener and caller. Kudos, however, to Sigismondi for not shying away from the same-sex love story in The Runaways' tale.

DVD bonus features include the featurette "Plugged In: Making The Film," commentary by Joan Jett, Kristen Stewart and Dakota Fanning and more.

'SHOWGIRLS'

(MGM/UA)

Newly reissued in a Blu-Ray+DVD set, the value of this film is completely lost on me. As camp classics go, "Showgirls" ranks low on the list when compared to "Valley of the Dolls" or "Mommie

Dearest." It's a rabidly misogynistic mess: a corny, soft-core-porn, toxic baby-oil spill of a movie and probably Ann Coulter's favorite flick of the 1990s.

Switchblade-wielding hitchhiker Nomi (barely human blow-up doll Elizabeth Berkley) is on her way to Las Vegas to be a "dancer," a career goal as vague as the look in her eyes. Once there, she's frequently propositioned. One perv tells Nomi that "sooner or later she's going to have to sell it," and sooner comes sooner than later.

Staying with costume mistress Molly (Gina Ravera), Nomi "dances" at strip club Cheetahs, but clings to her dream of being a Vegas showgirl just like Crystal (Gina Gershon), the star of "Goddess" at the Stardust. But Nomi still has dues to pay, including a \$500 private dance for Crystal and boyfriend/manager Zack (Kyle MacLachlan and his important hair).

Before you know it, Nomi lands an audition at the Stardust with Tony (a toupee Alan Rachins) and his gay assistant Marty (Patrick Bristow), and she's cast in



PHOTO: COURTESY

A scene from "The Runaways."

"Goddess." Soon Nomi and Crystal are thick as thieves and flirting with lesbian titillation (it's a testament that she survived this car wreck).

Of course, Nomi can't resist banging Zack, which only heightens the sexual tension between her and Crystal.

And in a twist on the "42nd Street" myth, Nomi becomes Crystal's understudy and then proceeds to fix it so that she gets the lead in the show. But Nomi's world is about to be turned upside down when Molly is brutally raped and beaten and Zack discovers the truth about Nomi's sordid past.

LGBT news with a twist

WIGWAG


HOLY CASTING

Warner Bros. producer Jerry Weintraub has long been eyeing a remake of the 1977 classic "Oh, God!" starring George Burns and John Denver. Deadline recently reported that Weintraub finally has pitched the idea to the studio, with Betty White playing the title character.

MORE WOMAN THAN HE IS MAN

Sen. David Vitter, R-La., apologized to MSNBC host Rachel Maddow after quipping on a radio broadcast that she only looked like a woman "a long time ago." "Regarding my remark during a radio conversation today, I apologize," Vitter wrote in a letter to Maddow. "The hosts made their comment and I obviously chimed in. While we do not usually agree on the issues, I do not think you deserved that comment."

WOMEN BEHIND BARS

Lindsay Lohan's next-cell neighbor in jail is E! reality TV star Alexis Neiers, who's serving a six-month sentence for taking part in burglarizing Orlando Bloom's house. Neiers occupies the cell that once housed Paris Hilton. Lohan recently began a nine-day sentence for violating probation in a DUI case.

WOMEN TO LOOK UP TO

At a White House reception, President Barack Obama thanked the WNBA champion Phoenix Mercury players for being good role models for his daughters. "I want Malia and Sasha to know that there is absolutely no contradiction between women who are beautiful and healthy and contributing, and good athletes and competitive," Obama said.

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, one of the team's biggest fans, was in the audience when the Mercury won their second WNBA title in three years last season.

STONE AGE DILDO?

An object resembling an ancient dildo was excavated recently in Sweden, according to livescience.com. Measuring about 4 inches long and 0.8 inches in diameter, the find has an "erected-penis-like shape," said archaeologist Gsrn Gruber of the National Heritage Board in Sweden. Gruber couldn't say for certain how Stone Age people might have used the object.

Strong brew, strange mug
A Scottish brewery claims

to have created the world's strongest beer — a concoction that's 55 percent alcohol by volume and served in a dead, taxidermied squirrel. With a \$750 price tag, however, Wisconsin breweries shouldn't fret the competition. BrewDog, which produces the beer, has come under fire from animal rights groups for the stunt.

SUNSHINE STATE SLAYING

Authorities have arrested bisexual club dj/porn actor from Chicago Jason Andrews and porn actress Amanda Logue for allegedly killing a tattoo artist in Florida. Detectives say the pair stabbed and bludgeoned the 41-year-old man, then stole his cash. They allegedly planned the crime in a series of text messages. Authorities caught up with Andrews in Tennessee, where he had been managing an upscale pool hall and

By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg

cigar lounge. Chicago club-goers told AP that the man they know as DJ Veritas isn't the murderous type.

MISSISSIPPI MAKE-UP

Constance McMillen, the Mississippi teen who sued her school district over its policy banning same-sex dates at the high school prom, is due to receive \$35,000 from the district for damages and legal costs. School officials had initially refused to settle with McMillen, who won a federal court fight on the issue. The Itawamba School District also will amend its anti-discrimination policy. Yes, such a policy does exist.

F LIST...

Kathy Griffin is getting less than a D grade from U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass. The congressman says it's "terrible" and "completely unfair" that Griffin,

on her show "My Life on the D List," referred to U.S. Sen. Scott Brown's daughters as "prostitutes." Frank wrote to Griffin because she mentioned him on the episode and because he's made a name for himself standing against name-calling.

PUP-TOWN

Dog Fancy magazine has deemed Provincetown, Mass., "Dogtown USA." Forty cities are honored on the list, but the gay-friendly P-town, at No. 1, is the only place in the country where "virtually every establishment opens its doors to dogs — even the bank," according to the editors. Madison also made the Top 10 list, as did Carmel, Calif.; Benicia, Calif.; Fort Bragg, Calif.; Lincoln City, Ore.; San Diego, Virginia Beach, Va.; Sioux Falls, S.D.; and Salem, Ore.

www.wisconsin Gazette.com

Music

GREGG SHAPIRO

CRYSTAL CASTLES

Crystal Castles vocalist Alice Glass alternates between disco diva status and punk banshee, sometimes in the same song, on the Canadian electro duo's aptly named sophomore effort "II" (Fiction). You can get a taste of that in the suitably titled opening track "Fainting Spells," which should come with its own smelling salts. "Doe Deer" and "I Am Made of Chalk" pack a similar punch. Seasoned club-goers who survive those cuts are in for a real treat for the remainder, including the heavenly disco of "Celestica," the fat stomp of "Year of Silence" and the airy "Suffocation."

CHRISTINA AGUILERA

Coming just a few years after her triumphant and accomplished "Back To Basics" disc, Christina Aguilera's "Bionic" (RCA) is a disappointment. "Identity

Crisis" would have been a better name for the record. Combining the worst and most dated elements of Madonna's early sex-pot period and those of her pre-fab Disney clone Britney, Aguilera gets lost in the process on songs such as "Not Myself Tonight" and the Nicki Minaj collaboration "Woohoo." The album isn't a total loss. Aguilera's gorgeous reunion with Linda Perry ("Beautiful") pays off, as does the resilient "Elastic Love" and all three of the Sia numbers.

SIA

Sia delivers her most dance-driven disc with "We Are Born" (Monkey Puzzle/Jive). "The Fight" (from which the album's title is drawn) struts and pumps and gets the juices flowing. But it's the ecstatic and irresistible "Clap Your Hands" (go ahead, try not to clap your hands or dance, I dare you) that sounds as though it's destined to be the tea-dance tune of the summer. The retro "Stop Trying" and the thump-

ing "You've Changed" prove that Sia is nothing if not versatile. Of course, there's more to Sia: the soulful "Be Good To Me," the bouncy pop of "The Co-dependent" and a respectable reading of Madonna's "Oh Father."

DRAGONETTE

Led by Martina Sorbara, Dragonette isn't afraid to toss in a banjo sound on a dance track such as "Gone Too Far," from the trio's "Fixin To Thrill" (Bandroom) disc. "Liar" is a truly delirious dance cut and the syncopated "Easy" is hard to resist. "Pick Up The Phone" has the ring of a dance anthem, and "Big Sunglasses" sounds like an homage to Lady Gaga.

ROBYN

As tea-dance divas go, few can hold a candle to Swedish sensation Robyn. Her brilliant 2008 eponymous disc (and its preceding "Rakamonie" EP) put some distance between the Robyn of the 20th and the 21st centuries. The new "Body Talk Pt. 1" (Konichiwa/Cherry Tree/Interscope)

continues in a similar vein. "Fembots" is everything that Aguilera's "Bionic" track isn't. "Dancing On My Own," the best track, is that rare dance cut that stirs up emotions while whipping the listener into a dance-frenzy. "None of Dem" (featuring Röyksopp) is almost as good. The Euro reggae of "Dancehall Queen" is the only misstep.

KYLIE MINOGUE

Longtime tea-dance goddess Kylie Minogue retains her status with her dynamic new "Aphrodite" (Astralwerks/Parlophone) disc. There's no question about what's on her mind, because the first word she sings on album opener "All The Lovers" is "dance," and you have no choice but to obey. The exuberant "Put Your Hands Up (If You Feel Love)" could be kissing cousins with Sia's "Clap Your Hands." But the big news is Kylie's interesting choice in collaborators. "Too Much," co-written by Minogue, Jake Shears and Calvin Harris, is just right for dancing, while the pop-oriented "Everything



Kelis

Is Beautiful," co-written by Keane's Tim Rice-Oxley, is striking.

KELIS

One of the more surprising entries into tea-dance territory is from Kelis of "Milkshake" and "Caught Out There" fame. When Kelis chants "we control the dance floor" at the end of the intro from the new release "Flesh Tone" (will.i.am/Interscope),

you know that a change is in the air. Turns out there was a full-fledged dance diva under her tough urban cookie exterior all along. Just listen to "22nd Century," the explosive "4th of July (Fireworks)," the slamming "Acapella" and the motherhood anthem "Song For My Baby" as audible proof of this distinctly different side of Kelis.

www.wisconsinazette.com

Don't Lose Sleep Over It
Get Tested. It's Free!

At no cost to you, we provide:

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

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

BESTD
CLINIC

1240 East Brady St • Milw., • 414-272-2144 • contactus@bestd.org

Fine Crafts
from
Wisconsin Artists



DON'T MISS
OUR MORNING
GLORY FAIR ON
AUGUST 14-15:
10-5 BOTH
DAYS!

Original, handmade ceramics, fiber, glass, jewelry, leather, photography, sculpture, wood and mixed media.

VISIT THE MORNING GLORY GALLERY
BEFORE A SHOW OR DURING INTERMISSION

Inside the lobby of the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts
929 N. Water St. • Milwaukee



OPEN 12-6 THUR., FRI. & SAT. AND
DURING PERFORMANCES IN UIHLEIN HALL
414.765.7227 • www.wdccc.org

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 Burlingame, 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

D.I.X., 739 S. 1st St., 414-231-9085

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?

To get considered for a listing on Out & About, e-mail
managingeditor@wisconsin-gazette.com



SPIT &
SEAMEN III

FRIDAY
August 20th
10:30 p.m.

\$40 Includes: BEER, SNACKS,
CRUISE, CASH BAR

WOOF'S

CELEBRATE YOUR PRIDE WITH US!

Our third year, three times the fun...

SATURDAY
AWOL PARTY
10 p.m. – close
DJ BARNEY PHILLY
Internationally Renowned Circuit Kub
www.djbarneyphilly.com

SUNDAY
Before & After
the Parade
open early
\$4 BLOODY MARY'S, MIMOSA'S, PRIDE PUNCH

114 King Street • woofsmadison.com

JULY 29, THURSDAY

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

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

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

JULY 30, FRIDAY

Ravens Drag Revue presents Mama Mabel's 30th Anniversary at 10:30 p.m. at Ravens of Appleton, 215 E. College. Call 920-364-9599.

It's a "Showgirls" theme for the Miss Gay Forest City pageant, featuring Kenya Sanchez, Jackie Roberts and many others at 10 p.m. at The Office, 513 E. State, Rockford, Ill. Call 815-601-6982.

The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin, presents Neil Young solo acoustic and electric at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

The Pabst, 144 E. Wells, welcomes Ustad Amjad Ali Khan-De Almaas at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

JULY 31, SATURDAY

Wear your hottest beach wear as The Boys of Detention return to Club 5 Bar, 5 Applegate Court, Madison, with Beach Ball, featuring DJs MF and Cody Domino, at 10 p.m., followed by a shower contest at midnight. Call 608-277-9700.

Wonderful singer/songwriter Tift Meritt is at Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, at 8 p.m. Call 414-276-7288.

AUG. 1, SUNDAY

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

**WIGOUT ON THE TOWN**

EDITED AND COMPILED BY GREGG SHAPIRO

AUG. 3, WEDNESDAY

Out "American Idol" legend Clay Aiken and Ruben Studdard perform at 8 p.m. in The Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi Bingo Casino, 1721 W. Canal. Call 414-847-7922.

Clay Aiken

**AUG. 4, THURSDAY**

The farce "Not Now, Darling," by Ray Cooney and John Chapman, runs tonight through Aug. 8 at Carte Blanche Studios Theatre, 1024 S. Fifth. Call 262-716-4689.

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

AUG. 5, FRIDAY

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 Drive, hosts Florentine at the Lake featuring Florentine Opera Chorus members at 7 p.m.

AUG. 6, SATURDAY

Hear the sounds of the fabulous 1950s in the Milwaukee premiere of "Hula Hoop Sha-Boop," by Larry Deckel, John Leicht and John Tanner, in the Stackner Cabaret, running through Sept. 4 at Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells. Call 414-224-9490.

AUG. 7, SUNDAY

Montage Lounge at LaCage, 801 S. Second, presents Miss Gay Wisconsin pageant with April Reign, Seymour Chilton and many others at 10 p.m. Call 414-383-8330

Napalese Lounge, 1351 Cedar, Green Bay, hosts the Mr. & Miss Napalese Show at 10:30 p.m. Call 920-432-9646.

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

Timers, 739 S. First, hosts New Orleans Days, a benefit for Louisiana fisheries 8/7 beginning at 4 p.m. Call 414-276-0000.

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

AUG. 10, WEDNESDAY

The Pabst, 144 E. Wells, presents out singer/songwriter Rufus Wainwright at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

"Wicked" runs 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, through Aug. 29. Call 414-744-5747 or visit www.boulevardtheatre.com.

Keane performs at 7 p.m. at The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin. Call 414-286-3663.

AUG. 11, THURSDAY

The one and only Melissa Etheridge performs in support of her "Fearless Love" release at 8 p.m. at The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin. Call 414-286-3663.



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.

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.

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.

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 Rd., Wauwatosa.

7 p.m., second Sundays, Gay and Straight in Christ, Good Shepherd Catholic Church, N88 W17658 Christman Rd., 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.*

6:30 p.m., NORML weekly meeting, Berlin Public Library, 121 W. Park Ave., Berlin, 54923, www.northerwinorml.com.

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

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

WEDNESDAY

6 p.m., first Wednesday, LGBT cancer networking group, Gilda's Club, 7907 UW Health Court, Middleton, 53562, 608-828-8880, www.gildasclubmadison.org

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.

Send listings to ltomaszek@wisconsinngazette.com.

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

THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

THURSDAY

July 29

8 a.m., ACT 8 Ride, annual fundraiser for AIDS Network of Madison, takes off from Olin Park, 1101 Olin Turville Drive, Madison, 53713, www.actride.org.

5:30 p.m., My Best Friend is Straight, fundraiser for Cream City Foundation, Lynden Sculpture Garden, 2145 W. Brown Deer Road, River Hills, 53217, <http://www.creamcityfoundation.org/my-best-friend-is-straight.html>.

FRIDAY

July 30

8 p.m., Night Boat to Cairo Ska-Fla Hafla Belly Dance Party, Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second St., 53204, 414-383-3272, milwgac@yahoo.com.

SATURDAY

July 31

10:30 a.m., Downtown History Walk with SAGE Milwaukee, meet at the Chase Bank Tower, Water Street and Wisconsin Avenue, 414-224-0517, www.sagemilwaukee.org.

7 p.m., open mic and potluck with Milwaukee GAMMA, open to the community, Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second St., 53204, 414-530-1886, www.milwaukeeegamma.com.

7 p.m., 3Kings Saturday Night Fever, MONA's, 1407 S. First St., 53204, 414-643-0377.

7 p.m., Marshall Grant Ministries performance, Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church, 1239 W. Mineral St., 53201, 414-383-110, www.marshallgrantministries.org.

MONDAY

Aug. 2

7 p.m., Witches Night Off, a special adult performance of song and dance by the cast of "Wicked," at Cardinal Stritch University, 6801 N. Yates Road, 53217, 414-225-1570, shannon.malnory-silbernagel@arcw.org.

TUESDAY

Aug. 3

7-9 p.m., Brew City Bears coffee and chat, Starbucks, 1130 Miller Park Way, 53214, RSVP to Bruce, 414-514-4063.

THURSDAY

Aug. 5

8 a.m., Wisconsin State Fair opens, runs through Aug. 15, Wisconsin State Fair Park, 640 S. 84th St., West Allis, 53214, www.wistatefair.com.

7 p.m., Florentine at the Lake, season preview, Alterra at the Lake, 1701 N. Lincoln Memorial Parkway, 53202, www.alterracoffee.com.

SATURDAY

Aug. 7

11 a.m.-5 p.m., Firefly Art Fair, runs through Aug. 8, Kneeland Walker House, 7406 Hillcrest Drive, Wauwatosa, 53213, 414-774-8672.

4 p.m., New Orleans Days, fundraiser for New Orleans fisheries, D.I.X., 739 S. First St., 53204.

6 p.m., Bear Bash with Brew City Bears and Bear Club 4 Men, Harbor Room, 117 E. Greenfield Ave., 53204, 414-514-4063.

8 p.m., "A Single Man," Madison Gay Video Club, 608-244-8690, www.mgvc.org.

9 p.m., Miss Gay Wisconsin US of A pageant, Montage Lounge (third floor of La Cage), 801 S. Second St., 53204, 414-383-8330.

MONDAY

Aug. 9

6-7:30 p.m., La Crosse Pride planning meeting, new volunteers welcome, LGBT Resource Center of the Seven Rivers Region, 303 Pearl St., La Crosse, 54602, www.7riverslgbt.org.

WEDNESDAY

Aug. 11

Noon-1 p.m., Blue plate special with GAMMA, Ma Fischer's, 2214 N. Farwell Ave., 53202, R.S.V.P. to 414-530-1886, milwaukeeegamma.com.

7 p.m., Bingo, SAGE Milwaukee office, 1845 N.

CALL FOR ORIGINAL MONOLOGUES

Forward Theater Company seeks playwrights to submit unproduced, original monologues on the theme "The Love that Changed My Life."

There is no entry fee for the first two submissions from each author.

Scripts should be a maximum of 10-minutes long, and require minimal sets, props and costumes.

Send submissions to info@forward-theater.com before Oct. 1.

Winners will be announced on or before Nov. 30.

Winners will receive two complimentary tickets to the Feb. 11, 2011, opening night performance.

Farwell Ave. #220, 53202, 414-224-0517, www.sagemilwaukee.org.

Send listings to ltomaszek@wisconsinngazette.com.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

MILWAUKEE ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Cream City Chorus, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-276-8787, www.creamcitychorus.org, info@creamcitychorus.org.

Cream City Squares, 414-445-8080, www.iagsdc.org/creamcity.

Men's Voices Milwaukee, 2717 E. Hampshire St., 53211, 414-964-1513 www.mensvoicesmilwaukee.com.

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second St., 53204, 414-383-3727, www.milwaukeegayartscenter.org.

Milwaukee/LGBT Film/Video Festival, www4.uwm.edu/psoa/programs/film/lgbtfilm.

Queer Zine Archive Project, 2935 N. Fratney St., 53202, www.qzap.org.

Shoreline Country Dancers, 2809 E. Oklahoma Ave., 53207, www.shoreline-milw.org, info@shoreline-milw.org.

Women's Voices Milwaukee, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-534-5645, womensvoicesmke.viviti.com, womensvoicesmilwaukee@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY

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

Brew City Bears, P.O. Box 1035, 53201, 414-331-3744, www.bcb4men.info.

BWMT, 414-463-5359, www.nabwmt.org/milwaukee.

Castaways, P.O. Box 1697, 53202, castawaysmc@yahoo.com.

CONNEXUS, 2439 N. Holton St., 53212, 414-390-0444, www.diverseandresilient.org/connexus.

Diverse and Resilient, 2439 N. Holton St., 53212, 414-390-0444, www.diverseandresilient.org.

Firebirds, P.O. Box 159, 53201.

FORGE, P.O. Box 1272, 53201, 414-559-2123, www.forge-forward.org.

GAMMA Milwaukee, P.O. Box 1900, 53201, 414-530-1886, www.milwaukeegamma.com.

Gemini Gender Group, P.O. Box 44211, 53214, 414-297-9328, ggwi.tripod.com.

Lesbian Alliance, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-272-9442, www.lesbianalliance.org.

Lesbian Fund of the Women's Fund of Milwaukee, 414-290-7350, 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.

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

Milwaukee Pride Parade, P.O. Box 070177, 53207, www.prideparademke.org.

PFLAG-Milwaukee, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-299-9198, pflagmilwaukee@hotmail.com.

PrideFest, 414-272-3378, www.pridefest.com.

Queer Program, P.O. Box 090441, 53209, 414-265-8500, queerprgrm@aol.com.

SAGE Milwaukee, 1845 N. Farwell, Suite 220, 53202, 414-224-0517, www.sagemilwaukee.org.

Sapphic Adventures Milwaukee, www.meetup.com/sapphic-MKE, calamityjane321@gmail.com.

SHEBA/Sisters Helping Each other Battle AIDS,

2349 N. Holton St., 53212, 414-390-0444.

WanderWomyn Outdoors Group, debydoo2@yahoo.com.

Washington Heights Rainbow Association, 414-258-8834 www.washingtonheightsrainbow.org.

Wauwatosa Rainbow Association, 414-218-9277, tosarainbow@yahoo.com.

Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf, P.O. Box 353, Hartland, 53029, www.wiscrad.org.

Wisconsin Rainbow Families, 315 W. Court St., 53212, www.wirainbowfamilies.com, info@wirainbowfamilies.com.

HEALTH

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 510498, 53202, 414-273-1991, www.arcw.org, info@arcw.org.

Brady East STD (BESTD) Clinic, 1240 E. Brady St., 53202, 414-272-2144, www.bestd.org, bestd@execpc.com.

Galano Club, 315 Court St., Suite 201, 53213, 414-276-6936, www.galanoclub.org, 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.

Pathfinders, 1614 E. Kane Pl., 53202, 414-271-1560, www.pathfinders.org, info@tcmlw.org.

STD Specialties, Inc., 3251 N. Holton St., 53212, 414-264-8800, www.stdspecialties.org.

POLITICS

Center Advocates, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-271-2656, www.centeradvocates.org.

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

Human Rights League, P.O. Box 510407, 53203, 414-319-9863, www.hrl-pac.org, hrlpac@yahoo.com.

RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

Central United Methodist Church, 639 N. 25th St., 53233, 414-344-1600, www.centralumcmilw.org.

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

Cross Lutheran Church, 1821 N. 16th St., 53205, 414-344-1746, www.crosslutheranmilwaukee.org.

Divine Word Lutheran Church, 5505 Lloyd St., 53208, 414-476-3189, www.divinewordlutheran.org.

First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee, 1342 N. Astor St., 53202, 414-273-5257, www.uumilwaukee.org.

Lake Park Lutheran Church, 2647 N. Stowell Ave., 53211, 414-962-9190, lakeparklutheran.com.

Metropolitan Community Church, 1239 W. Mineral St., 53204, 414-383-1100, www.milmcc.org.

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

Plymouth Church, 2717 E. Hampshire Ave., 53211, 414-964-1513, www.plymouth-church.org.

St. James Episcopal Church, 833 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53233, 414-964-1513, www.

stjamesmilwaukee.org.

SPORTS

Front Runners/Front Walkers, 414-443-0379, ullrwolf.com/frontrunnersmke, thbolt@milwpc.com.

Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club, 3957 81st St., 53222, 414-616-3716, moenell@sbcglobal.net.

Milwaukee Gay Soccer League, 1012 E. Clark St., 53212, 414-405-5878, www.milwaukeegayssoccer.org.

Milwaukee Gay Volleyball League, www.milwaukeegayvolleyball.com.

Saturday Softball Beer League, 2333 N. 56th St., 53210, www.ssbilmilwaukee.com.

YOUTH/EDUCATION

Alliance School, 850 W. Walnut St., 53205, 414-267-5400, www.allianceschool.org.

Alliance for LGBTQ Youth, 1212 S. 70th St., 53214, 414-453-1400, 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.

FOX VALLEY COMMUNITY

Harmony Café, 233 E. College Ave., Appleton, 54915, 920-734-2233, www.harmonycafe.org, 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.

GREEN BAY COMMUNITY

Argonauts of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 22096, Green Bay, 54305, www.argonautsll.org, info@argonautsll.org.

Bear Club 4 Men, P.O. Box 13463, Green Bay, 54307, www.bc4m.com.

Harmony Café, 1660 W. Mason St., Green Bay, 54303, 920-569-1593, www.harmonycafe.org.

Positive Voice, P.O. Box 1381, Green Bay, 54305, 920-435-4404, pvinc.org, info@pvinc.org.

Pride Alive, 920-471-3260, www.newpride.org, info@newpride.org.

RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

Angels of Hope MCC, P.O. Box 672, Green Bay, 54305, 920-983-7452, www.aohmcc.org, aohchurch@netnet.net.

MADISON ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Dairyland Cowboys and Cowgirls, Club 5, 5

Applegate Court, Madison, 53713, 608-277-9700, www.dcancd.org

COMMUNITY

OutReach, 600 Williamson St., Suite P1, Madison, 53703, 608-255-8582, www.lgbtoutreach.org, info@lgbtoutreach.org.

PFLAG-Madison, 4221 Venetian Ln., Madison 53718, 608-848-2333, pflagmadison@yahoo.com.

POLITICS

Fair Wisconsin, 112 State St., Suite 309, Madison, 53703, 608-441-0143, www.fairwisconsin.org, info@fairwisconsin.com.

SPORTS

Madison Gay Hockey Association, www.madisongayhockey.org.

Madison Gay Volleyball, 608-347-8907, www.madisonlbtvolleyball.com.

YOUTH/EDUCATION

GSA for Safe Schools, 301 S. Bedford St., Madison, 53703, 608-661-1360, www.gsaforsafeschools.org.

RACINE/KENOSHA COMMUNITY

LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin, 1456 Junction Ave., Racine, 53403, 262-664-4100, info@lgbtsewisc.org.

PFLAG-Racine/Kenosha, P.O. Box 580058, Pleasant Prairie, 53158, 262-694-2729, pflagkenosha@aol.com.

RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

Bradford Community Church-Unitarian Universalist, 5810 8th Ave., 53140, 262-656-0544, www.bradforduu.org.

SPORTS

Wisconsin Warriors, P.O. Box 334, Somers, 53171, 414-759-8823, www.wiwarriors.com, wwarriors@yahoo.com.

YOUTH/EDUCATION

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

OTHER

LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, 510 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire 54701, 715-552-LGBT, www.thecentercv.org.

LGBT Community Resource Center Seven Rivers, P.O. Box 3313, 303 Pearl St., LaCrosse, 54602, 608-784-0452, www.7riverslgbt.org, r.st.sauver@7riverslgbt.org, lgbtcommunitycenter@yahoo.com.



EASTMORE

you're more at home

More
Possibilities



More Value. More Service. More Options.

Milwaukee Apartment Homes Located on the East Side,
Downtown, Shorewood and Whitefish Bay

3287 N. Oakland Ave. | Milwaukee, WI 53211 | 414-961-1822

eastmore.com