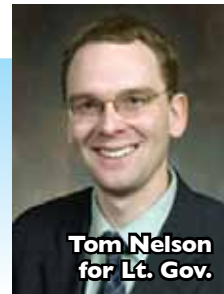


## Primary endorsements

See WiG's endorsements for key Sept. 14 Democratic primary races on pages 6 and 7.



Tom Nelson for Lt. Gov.

THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY

August 26, 2010 | Vol. 1, No. 21

# Suit seeks to overturn registry

By Louis Weisberg  
Staff writer

A Christian-right group is suing to overturn Wisconsin's domestic partner registry on the grounds that it violates the state's constitutional ban on same-sex marriage or anything "substantially similar" to marriage.

Wisconsin Family Action filed suit in Dane County Circuit Court Aug. 20, contending that the registry creates a legal status that is substantially similar to that of marriage. The WFA also was behind the 2006 voter referendum that resulted in the constitutional ban.

Gov. Jim Doyle proposed the registry as a means of granting same-sex couples basic legal rights, including the right to visit each other in hospitals, make end-of-life decisions and inherit each other's property. The Democratic-controlled Legislature approved the reg-

istry and it went into effect in August 2009.

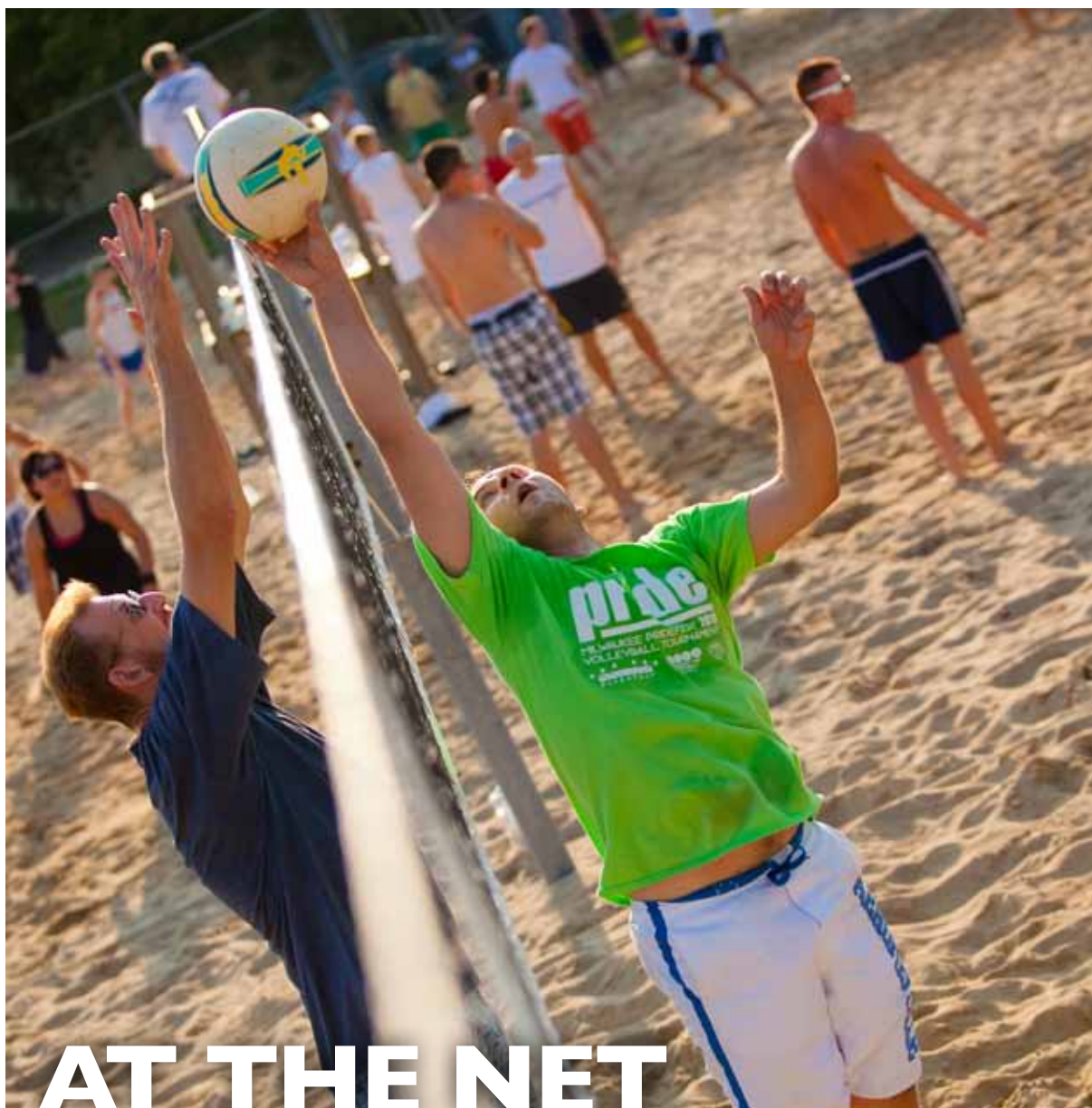
As of the beginning of August, 1,541 couples had signed up.

"A reasonable person observing this registry would easily conclude that it is intended to mirror marriage," Julaine Appling, president of Wisconsin Family Action, said in a statement. "It borrows the requirements and eligibility standards for marriage, even to the point of requiring that the price of the registry certificate be the same as for a marriage license."

But Katie Belanger, executive director of Fair Wisconsin, countered that the registry's 43 benefits do not compare in scope with the 200 rights that come with marriage under state law. "These are the most basic, critical things that couples need to have to take care of one another," she said.

The current lawsuit is the second filed by WFA against the registry. In July 2009, the group tried but ultimately failed to take its case directly to the Supreme Court, forcing WFA to re-file at the circuit court level.

Republican Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen Registry page 18



## AT THE NET

Tom Springstroh and Dino Mujakovic enjoy open play following the Milwaukee Gay Volleyball Association's regular league play Aug. 22 at Beulah Brinton Community Center, 2555 S. Bay St. in Bay View. The league numbers 18 teams and 130 players. Outdoor league play continues through September. The season closes with a league tournament Oct. 3. The league moves indoors in November. For information about joining the league, go to [milwaukeegayvolleyball.com](http://milwaukeegayvolleyball.com).

PHOTO: DAN ZAITZ

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inside and online at [wisconsin Gazette.com](http://wisconsin Gazette.com)

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# Prop 8 stay prolongs engagements

By Lisa Neff  
Staff writer

After a federal district court judge lifted his stay on same-sex marriages in California, couples were prepared to legally exchange vows Aug. 18.

But a three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals silenced their wedding bells by reinstating the stay Aug. 16. The good news for same-sex couples is the appeals court set a fast-track schedule for reviewing the

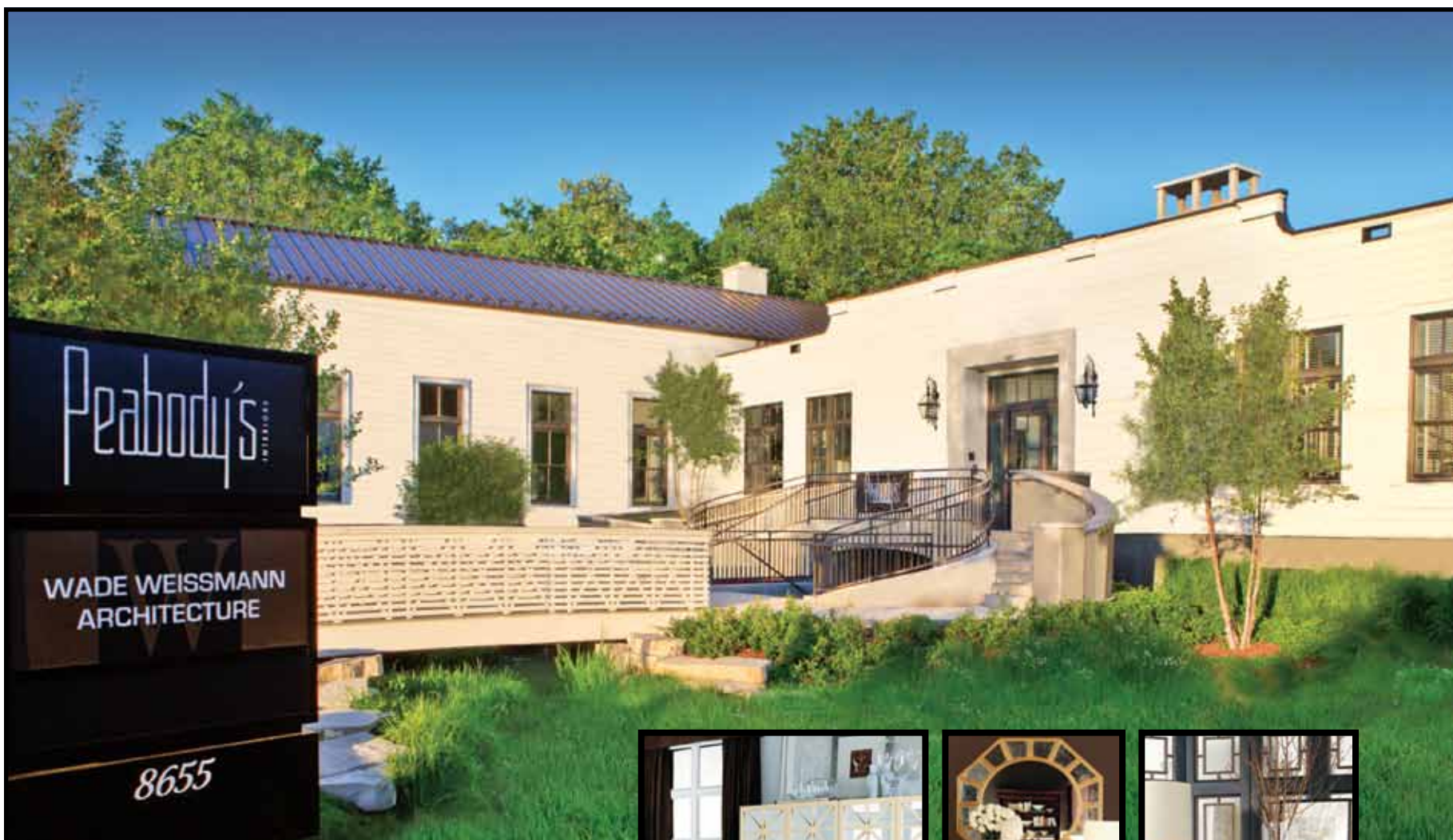
case, *Perry v. Schwarzenegger*. The case challenges Proposition 8, a ballot question approved by a majority of voters in 2008 that amended the California Constitution to prohibit same-sex couples from legally marrying. Early

in August, in a widely anticipated ruling, U.S. District Court Judge Vaughn Walker declared Prop 8 unconstitutional because it violates the equal protection and due process rights of gay and lesbian citizens.

Immediately after Walker issued his decision, Prop 8 proponents, who defended the measure in court after Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and Attorney General Jerry Brown refused to participate

Prop 8 page 12





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 & BOZ SCAGGS**

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**JACKSON BROWNE**

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**GABRIEL IGLESIAS**

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**STRAIGHT NO CHASER**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 • TURNER  
**LITTLE FEAT**

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## LGBT news with a twist

WIGWAG

By Lisa Neff &amp; Louis Weisberg

**BIAS IN SHOREWOOD**

If you're thinking of hiring a wedding planner for your same-sex commitment ceremony, don't bother contacting Sharon at Elegant Affairs. The Shorewood-based company would never consider working with a same-sex couple due to "religious beliefs," she told WiG. We didn't bother asking what religion she follows, but we were wondering where Sharon draws the line with her beliefs. For instance, would she hire a gay florist or dress designer? Or would she refuse to do business with them, too?



PHOTO: COURTESY

**She's no Judy Garland.****LEAVE JUDY OUT OF THIS**

Right-wing diva Ann Coulter has been dropped as a keynote speaker for WorldNetDaily's "Taking America Back National Conference" because of her plans to address a gay Republican event called "Homocon" in New York City Sept. 25. Posters for the event, sponsored by the group GOProud, proclaim Coulter as "the right-wing Judy Garland" (oh, yes, they did). WND officials accused

Coulter of legitimizing sodomy.

**GINGRICH GOES TO THE FAIR**

Newt Gingrich went to the Iowa State Fair recently to sell copies of his comically-titled new book, "To Save America: Stopping Obama's Secular-Socialist Machine," and to denounce judges who denounce unconstitutional campaigns to continue prohibitions against marriage for gays and lesbians. The former U.S. house speaker and probable 2012 presidential candidate said the Iowa justices who cleared the way for gays to marry were "dictatorial" and urged their ouster. Perhaps Gingrich, who's on his third wife, thinks he's an authority on marriage. He cheated on the first two while they were seriously ill.

**BIG, FAT GAY WEDDING**

Art Smith, 50, who is Oprah Winfrey's former chef and co-owner of the Table Fifty-Two restaurant in Chicago, wed artist Jesus Salgueiro, 49, before more than 400 guests at Smith's Art and Soul restaurant on Capitol Hill in Washington Aug. 21. The lavish gala included a nine-tiered wedding cake, a 10-man chorus and 14 guest chefs. The diverse guest list included Fox News broadcaster Chris Wallace, former NFL lineman Warren Sapp and Chicago drag queen Chilli Pepper.



PHOTO: COURTESY

**Paul Reubens claims he can't do anything with his left hand – not anything!****ON THE OTHER HAND**

Paul Reubens aka Pee-wee Herman told Playboy that an expert witness could have exonerated him of 1991 charges that he was masturbating at a porn theater. Police reports said Reubens was masturbating with his left hand and he's totally right-handed, Reubens explained.

"We had ready an expert from the Masters and Johnson Institute who was going to testify that in 30 years of research on masturbation the institute had never found one person who masturbated with his or her nondominant hand," Reubens said.

He also told Playboy that he turned to the late philanthropist Doris Duke to help him hide out from the press after his arrest. She put him up at her New Jersey estate in the cottage recently vacated by Imelda Marcos.

**HELP WANTED?**

WiGWag is guessing there will be no federal stimulus money used to boost employment in at least one job sector – that would be the "professional left" that White House press secretary Robert Gibbs says is too critical of the

president. Gibbs told the Hill newspaper, "I hear these people saying (Obama's) like George Bush. Those people ought to be drug tested. I mean, it's crazy!"

**NO ANGEL ON TRIAL**

German pop singer Nadja Benaissa, a member of the girl band No Angels, went on trial in mid-August for allegedly causing bodily harm. The prosecution contends that Benaissa engaged in unprotected sex despite knowing she's HIV-positive. She transmitted the virus to a man, for which she told the press she is "sorry from my heart."

**THROWING IN THE HATE TOWEL**

Perennially embattled radio talk show host Laura Schlessinger announced she will not renew the contract for her program, which ends in December. She told CNN's "Larry King Live" that she wants to "regain my First Amendment rights." Schlessinger said she was fed up with the fallout over her use of the "N" word during a recent broadcast in which she used it 11 times in five minutes.

**PRIDE AND PATIENT**

Dr. Sandeep Kapoor, one of three defendants on trial for conspiring to provide excessive drugs to Anna Nicole Smith, noted in a personal journal that he and Smith partied during a gay Pride parade. The journal entries were introduced as evidence in the Los Angeles trial of Kapoor, who wrote of blurring the lines between doctor and patient and worried, "Can she ruin me?" Drugs, no doubt, ruined Smith's life, who died of an overdose in 2007.

**DOCU-BEAUTY**

Gaffney, S.C., native Andie MacDowell now lives in Asheville,

N.C., where she and filmmaker Rod Murphy plan to make a documentary together about the city's Miss Gay Latina transgender beauty pageant.



PHOTO: COURTESY

**Vivien Leigh in Scarlett's legendary green dress.****GOWN WITH THE WIND?**

The Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas-Austin is raising \$30,000 to repair five of the gowns Vivien Leigh wore as Scarlett O'Hara in the film "Gone with the Wind." "GWTW" fans would likely recognize all five, but especially the green curtain gown that symbolized Scarlett's "I will survive" will. The dresses are in rough shape after more than 60 years, so the center decided to conduct a fundraising drive. Will it reveal just how much the public gives a damn?

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The HIV infection rate for black women is almost 15 times that of white women.



## The demand for justice will be fulfilled – sooner rather than later

### Opinion

DAVE CIESLEWICZ

Big movements in history are like large boulders moving down a gentle slope. It takes tremendous effort and a long time to get them going, but once they start down the hill they pick up steam and become impossible to stop.

That's the case when it comes to same-sex marriage. As reported recently in The New York Times, for the first time ever polls taken this month show a majority of Americans supporting it. This is either lightning quick or way past time, depending on how you want to look at it. As recently as three years ago that figure was only 36 percent, and in 1994 it was 25 percent. So, it took 13 years to move the dial 11 clicks and only three years to move it 14 more.



### Polls show a majority of Americans supporting same-sex marriage.

It's a nice coincidence that this turning point seems to have come in August of 2010, because it is exactly 90 years since the 19th Amendment was ratified providing suffrage to women in America. That was a similar movement, taking only a few years or several decades to arrive at success, depending on when you view the starting point. A

referendum rejected with 63 percent of the vote in 1913 was passed by the Legislature just seven years later, making Wisconsin the first state to adopt it (there was a good story about that in the State Journal).

I had cause to reflect on all that this weekend as I joined in the annual Pride parade down State Street in

Madison. The parade used to be outrageous and challenging to popular culture, and now it has become more or less another fun summer festival. The radical change that gays and lesbians are fighting for these days is simply to get the rest of society to formally recognize their commitments to one another.

Commitments to build families, join the PTO, pay the mortgage and take care of one another into old age.

As Madison's mayor, I support same-sex marriage because it's these kinds of commitments that build a stronger community. Why we should want to throw up barriers to it is just beyond me.

It now seems clear that that simple demand for justice will be fulfilled sooner rather than later. A majority of people under 30 in every single state now supports same-sex marriage. As they replace older voters, the truly

outrageous laws prohibiting it will fall fast and hard into the dustbin of history where they belong. Much like the effort of suffragists a century ago, decades of hard work to get the boulder moving will pay off in a rapid gallop past the finish line.

At the end of the parade there were some speeches, but first there was the national anthem. It was sung beautifully by the crowd on Library Mall, drifting on the wind past the Red Gym and out over Lake Mendota.

I have heard the anthem sung in perfunctory fashion at ball games, and I've heard it sung on other occasions almost in anger, a song like a fist. But when the "Star Spangled Banner" is sung reverently by a crowd of people who have not always been treated well by their country, it means something more. It's a song of hope. When it's sung by people who have not

been allowed to really be full citizens of their country, the anthem is less about what America has delivered and more about what it promises to be. It's not about defending what we have, but about what we still have to gain.

*Editor's note: This item originally appeared on Mayor Dave Cieslewicz's blog at [cityofmadison.com/mayor/blog](http://cityofmadison.com/mayor/blog).*



**Only 41 percent of Wisconsin residents ages 18-64 report ever receiving an HIV test.**

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New Harvest Foundation is the only foundation in South Central Wisconsin that channels charitable contributions exclusively to organizations working to promote lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights, services, culture and community development. 2010 Funding Priorities: LGBT Youth and Seniors

"Enriching the lives of LGBT individuals in Wisconsin"





## Tom Nelson can help Barrett win in November

The three leading contenders on the Democratic ticket for lieutenant governor express unqualified support for LGBT equality and have gone to some lengths to demonstrate that support. Businessman Henry Sanders, state Sen. Spencer Coggs and Assembly Majority Leader Tom Nelson all have earned our votes on this issue.

LGBT citizens of Wisconsin owe a particular debt of gratitude to Sanders, who has made our civil rights – and especially our marital rights – a cornerstone of his campaign. In his outreach to editorial boards and voters, Sanders has proven an outspoken champion of same-sex marriage, stressing its economic-development benefits at a time when job creation is uppermost on the minds of Wisconsin voters.

Sanders, who formerly served as Tammy Baldwin's outreach coordinator on

labor, jobs and environmental issues, has in effect made LGBT civil rights the second-most important issue in his campaign – behind jobs. In his appearances throughout the state, Sanders has circulated petitions calling for repeal of Wisconsin's same-sex marriage ban. He has appeared at most, if not all, major community events during this election season, including the July protest in Madison against the National Organization for Marriage's appearance there.

Coggs also has earned our respect and appreciation. As a 27-year veteran of the Legislature, he has consistently supported LGBT rights and HIV/AIDS funding. Coggs says he embraces our struggle for equality as part of his family's tradition of civil rights activism and public service – a tradition that includes an uncle who was one of Wisconsin's first

African-American state representatives and an aunt who served as the state's first black female legislator.

Nelson has been an effective LGBT advocate behind the scenes – and in the face of potential political backlash. Unlike Coggs, whose Milwaukee district is dependably Democratic, and Sanders, who has never held political office, Nelson has consistently stood firm on equality issues even though he represents a Fox Valley district that has a Republican majority.

When Democratic leadership pushed Nelson to support the same-sex marriage ban in 2006, he refused. As majority leader, he shepherded the domestic partner registry law through the Assembly, and he has used the power of his office to keep anti-LGBT legislation from reaching the floor.

But our major reason for

endorsing Nelson is that he brings the most political strength to the Democratic gubernatorial ticket. Scott Walker, the likely Republican nominee, has vowed to erase the fragile gains that LGBT Wisconsinites have made toward equality. Tom Barrett, on the other hand, has vowed to protect our rights. It is in the best interests of LGBT voters that Barrett has a running mate who increases his odds of winning.

Coggs and Sanders both believe they can help Barrett by energizing the Democratic base, including labor, youth and minority voters. But Sanders' ability to turn out the vote is unproven and Coggs' name recognition and political organization are limited to the Milwaukee area. And either Coggs or Sanders, who is from Dane County, could add geographic drag to the Democratic ticket in rural and small-town



PHOTO: COURTESY

**Tom Nelson, left, is an effective campaigner.**

Wisconsin.

On the other hand, Nelson's name-recognition and popularity in Green Bay and Appleton could prove very helpful to Barrett. So could his access to money and his record as an energetic campaigner who's able to bridge ideological divides: Nelson was re-elected in a district that's 55-percent Republican by a 64-percent

margin while maintaining not only an excellent record on LGBT rights but also perfect voting scores from Planned Parenthood and the League of Conservation Voters.

While the office of lieutenant governor has very little power in Wisconsin, this primary race could prove critical to the future of LGBT Wisconsinites. Vote for Nelson on Sept. 14.



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## Larson is best fit for Senate District 7

Representing Wisconsin's 7th Senate District, Jeff Plale has been a reliable ally on LGBT rights and a leader on HIV/AIDS funding. He opposed the 2006 voter referendum that banned same-sex marriage and civil unions in the state, and he secured \$1.8 million in new funding to expand the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin's medical centers in Green Bay and Milwaukee.

But Plale has angered progressives on other issues. He is a self-described "pro-life" politician, which means he opposes a woman's freedom to make reproductive choices about her body privately and in consultation with her doctor. Although Plale deserves credit for bringing anti-choice and pro-choice groups together over a safe haven law that allows desperate mothers to safely and

legally abandon their infants, we are still troubled by his position on women's rights.

Plale killed a renewable energy bill that was strongly backed by the League of Conservation Voters and other environmental groups. Plale says he opposed the bill because it set emission goals that were so ambitious they would have raised utility bills to unaffordable levels for working-class voters in the southern part of his district, including South Milwaukee and Oak Creek.

But given the arguments to the contrary from Gov. Jim Doyle and others who pushed the legislation, we can't help but feel that the contributions he's taken from Big Oil interests played a role in his decision-making process. Plale certainly was not concerned about his working-class constituents

when he took money from the cable and telecommunications industries and then voted for policies that raised consumer rates in those areas.

While we appreciate Plale's support for LGBT and HIV/AIDS issues, we endorse his challenger, Milwaukee County Supervisor Chris Larson. We believe Larson will be more than a supporter — he'll be a real champion for us in Madison.

Larson took it upon himself, without being asked, to introduce a measure last year that would have extended employment benefits to the same-sex partners of county workers. He also got a majority of his fellow supervisors to vote for the proposal, which was vetoed by county executive and Republican gubernatorial candidate Scott Walker.

Larson speaks about equality with conviction. Asked why he supports same-sex marriage, Larson gave the best answer of any candidate WiG has interviewed during this election cycle: "When I asked my wife to marry me, I just had to ask her," he replied. "It was enough that I had to get just one person to say yes. It's silly to have a group that has to force everyone else in society to say yes before they can get married."

Larson vows he'll use his understanding of our issues to educate and lobby fellow lawmakers on equality. He says he'll leverage the security of representing a 60 percent majority Democratic district, which includes the liberal East Side, Third Ward and Bay View, to move a progressive agenda forward in Madison on the environ-



PHOTO: ANDRE SIMMS

Chris Larson

ment, consumer protection, women's reproductive freedom and other issues. This is something that Plale has failed to do.

Although Plale is both better-funded and an incumbent, Larson has a good shot at winning this race. The American Federation of Teachers and the powerful SEIU, both of

which endorsed Plale in prior elections, have switched to Larson. The Milwaukee Police Association and the AFL-CIO went from endorsing Plale in the past to remaining neutral in this election cycle.

This is a race where LGBT support could make a difference — and should.

[www.wisconsin-gazette.com](http://www.wisconsin-gazette.com)

## Time for Milwaukee's cowboy sheriff to mozy

If you're a progressive LGBT voter or ally looking for a candidate to enthusiastically support in the Democratic primary for Milwaukee County sheriff, you're out of luck.

Incumbent Dave Clarke and his challenger, MPD Lt. Chris Moews, both say they support basic civil rights for LGBT people. But neither makes a strong case for that position, and during our interviews it was obvious that neither has given our

community much thought beyond how to leverage it for votes. Moews, however, proved more conversant about our issues.

Clarke and Moews both describe themselves as men of faith and oppose a woman's freedom to decide when and under what circumstances she bears a child. But Clarke has taken his religious faith into the workplace in inappropriate ways (one such foray resulted in a lawsuit), while Moews seems

to understand that his personal beliefs have no place in administering a public office.

So, looking at this race strictly along the lines of progressive ideology and LGBT equality, we'd give only an edge to Moews. Looking at the race more broadly, however, we feel it's important to support him.

Why? Despite that cowboy hat he's so fond of wearing, Clarke has the intelligence, academic background and professional experience

to lead a law-enforcement agency. But he clearly lacks the temperament and political skills of an effective leader.

Clarke has an embarrassing record of berating and retaliating against those under his command who dare to disagree with him. He's arrogant and abrasive, going so far as to ignore court- and arbitrator-ordered actions.

An unsuccessful mayoral candidate in the past, Clarke seems to focus his efforts as sheriff on gimmicks designed

to benefit him politically rather than on smart policies to serve the public. Despite running on the Democratic ticket, he has fueled the party's resentment by aligning himself with the Tea Party movement. Milwaukee County Democrats made the unusual move of endorsing Moews in the Sept. 14 primary.

Moews appears to be everything that Clarke isn't — a team player who's respected and admired by

his colleagues. Moews' quiet circumspection is a welcome contrast to Clarke's shrill bravado.

Moews has an impressively diverse resume that includes the kind of street experience most needed by a law-enforcement commander. But most importantly he understands that success as sheriff depends on the ability to motivate and inspire, and that's a memo that Clarke obviously hasn't received.

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PHOTO: 414 MEDIA

The 2009 Gay World Series, hosted by SSBL, brought 128 gay softball teams and about 1,700 players (including those above) to Milwaukee.

## Softball tournament slides into Milwaukee

Milwaukee's Saturday Softball League hosts the Dairyland Classic Labor Day weekend, with four days of playing ball and partying – Milwaukee-style. SSBL has hosted the tournament since its inception in 1978. Though the event has weathered a number of challenges and name changes, its organizers say one thing has remained constant: a dedication to equality, sportsmanship and fun.

For more information, go to [ssblmilwaukee.com](http://ssblmilwaukee.com).

### DAIRYLAND CLASSIC EVENTS

#### Thursday, Sept. 2

Pre-registration party at Boom, 625 S. Second St.

#### Friday, Sept. 3

5 p.m., registration/reception at Hyatt Regency Milwaukee, 333 W. Kilbourn Ave.

#### Saturday, Sept. 4

All day, tournament games at Wirth Park and Wick Field, full roster available from SSBL.

#### Sunday, Sept. 5

9 a.m., brunch at Club Charlie's, 320 E. Menomonee St.

3 p.m.-11:30 p.m., Dairyland Street Bash, featuring Dear Ruthie and 1980s pop sensation Tiffany, National Ave. between and First and Water streets.

#### Monday, Sept. 6

10 a.m., Woody's Annual Dairyland Classic Drinking Team Day at Miller Park. Meet at Woody's, 1579 S. Second St. There is bus transportation to Miller Park, but advanced reservations are required – contact [woodys-mke@ameritech.net](mailto:woodys-mke@ameritech.net).

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## LaCrosse celebrates pride Aug. 28

The LGBT Resource Center for the Seven Rivers Region has planned a day full of games, entertainment and local talent for La Crosse Pride, Sat., Aug. 28. This is the ninth year for the festival, which takes place on the Southside Oktoberfest Grounds, La Crosse Street and Second Street, from noon to midnight.

#### 11 a.m.

Registration opens for the La Crosse Pride Ride-Family Bicycle Ride, no registration fee, Pride button required for riders 13 and older.

#### All day

Family-friendly activities include a bounce castle and ball pit, story time, karate demonstration, coloring contest, sidewalk art, dunk tank and more.

#### 1-1:30 p.m.

Zumba.

#### 1:30-2:30 p.m.

B-I-N-G-O with Herold in the beer hall.

#### 2-3 p.m.

GALAXY talent show, \$10 registration fee, call 608-784-0452 for more information.

#### 3:30-5:15 p.m.

Sick of Sarah.

#### 6-7:45 p.m.

Ronnie Nyles.

#### 8:30-9 p.m.

Grand River Singers.

#### 9:15-11:15 p.m.

Show of Home Town Pride drag show featuring emcee John Unnasch and Champagne of Illusions, live vocalist Scotty Grosskopf, Holiday Rose, Averi Bois Dream, Sidonia, Liza Hollywoodz, Tammy Whyntott, Savannah and Co., Shane, and Lyle Lovesit (Mr. WI US of A Male Illusionist 2010).

The planning committee is expecting at least 500 visitors for the celebration. Pride buttons (instead of tickets) are \$10 at the gate and \$5 in advance (available Aug. 27 until 6 p.m. at the center and until bar time at Chances Are, Players and My Place). Go to [www.lacrossepride.us](http://www.lacrossepride.us).

- L.T.



**AIDS ACTIVIST DAWN WOLFF, 52, DIES**

Milwaukee HIV/AIDS activist Dawn Wolff, 52, died Aug. 23 of complications from the disease.

A mother who became infected by her husband and was diagnosed after they separated in 1989, Wolff refused to keep her HIV status secret. Instead she became an outspoken advocate for her son Nile Sandeen, who was infected with HIV at birth.

Wolff became the public face for a disease that few people understood at the time. She appeared at public forums and on "Oprah" to advocate for families struggling with the disease.

"She had immense courage to speak when few others would and, to the very end, she would happily talk with anyone who listened," Sandeen said in a public statement. "She did not lose. AIDS did not win. To the contrary, AIDS, like death, has no dominion over her."

A memorial service was held Aug 23. Memorials are suggested to One Heartland, 4425 N. Port Washington Road, #108, Glendale, WI

**BRIEFS**

53212, or to Hephatha Lutheran Church.

**OUTREACH NAMES COMMUNITY AWARD RECIPIENTS**

OutReach, Madison and south central Wisconsin's LGBT community center, will honor community leaders at its annual fundraising banquet Sept. 24 at the Monona Terrace Convention Center.

Honorees include:

Woman of the Year: Kristina Kosnick is recognized for her groundbreaking work in creating the LGBTQ Reading, Writing, and Relating Narratives Project at OutReach.

Man of the Year: The Rev. Ellwood (Woody) Carey is an openly gay Presbyterian minister who's been instrumental in expanding the reach and impact of the New Harvest Foundation, which channels charitable contributions exclusively to organizations working to promote LGBT rights, services, culture and community development.

Organization of the Year: Perfect Harmony Men's Chorus, Madison's gay and gay-friendly men's chorus, provides choral entertainment for a wide range of events and uses music to create a supportive and affirming environment.

Volunteer of the Year: Caroline Werner, a retired social worker, has a long history of working as an LGBTQ older-adult advocate, advancing awareness of and sensitivity to the needs of the communities among service providers.

Special Recognition Award: Jessie Otradovec will be honored for her intense community activism over the last year, including single-handedly organizing four busloads of people to attend the National Equality March in October 2009 and playing a major role in the recent organization of the National Organization for Marriage counter protest.

Courage Award: Cass Marie (Domino) Downing is recognized for her public

role as an entertainer and AIDS Network fundraising hostess in the face of significant personal health challenges.

For more information about the event, go to [www.lgbtoutreach.org](http://www.lgbtoutreach.org).

**PFLAG CONTINGENT TO MARCH IN COW CHIP PARADE**

PFLAG Plain is looking for LGBT-supportive people to march with its contingent Sept. 4 in the Wisconsin Cow Chip Parade.

The parade is part of the two-day annual Wisconsin State Cow Chip Throw, which draws more than 40,000 people to Sauk Prairie. In addition to the parade, the event includes over 125 arts-and-crafts vendors, live music and a cow pie-eating contest.

The parade steps off at noon. The PFLAG Plain contingent will meet at 11:15 a.m. at Marion Park, First Street at Lincoln in Sauk Prairie. Write to [pflagplain@yahoo.com](mailto:pflagplain@yahoo.com) for more information.

**GAY MINNESOTA LAWMAKER EXITS POLITICS**

Openly gay Minnesota state Sen. Paul Koering, R-Brainerd, said he's leaving the Republican Party and his political career after being defeated in a primary race by a right-wing candidate.

Koering lost the primary to state Rep. Paul Gazelka, who had the party's endorsement.

The race received extensive media attention after Koering acknowledged taking a male porn star out to dinner.

Koering complained that Minnesota's Republican Party was engaged in dirty campaigning when it filed requests with area law enforcement for any records authorities had on him. He told the Brainerd Dispatch that he wouldn't support Gazelka.

"The (Republican) party has taken a hard turn to the right," he said. "That's not where most people are."

**GINGRICH WANTS TO REMOVE IOWA JUDGES**

Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich says he wants to remove three Iowa Supreme Court justices who joined a unanimous ruling that legalized gay marriage in the state.

In a telephone interview with The Associated Press, Gingrich accused the justices of "substituting their values for the values of Iowa voters," when they overturned a law banning same-sex marriage.

Gingrich says last year's decision was one in a series of cases in which judges exercised "dictatorial" power. He says he'd like to help form a group to remove the Iowa justices when they come up for retention votes in the November general election.

Gingrich has been married three times. His first two marriages ended in divorce after he had affairs with younger women while his wives were seriously ill.

— from AP and WiG reports

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## { Editorial }

# Off Target

Conservative judicial activists on the U.S. Supreme Court opened a can of worms in January when they lifted a ban on political spending by corporations. But when Target used the Court's newly created First Amendment freedom to bait an election in Minnesota, the big retailer ended up hooking itself.

Target contributed \$150,000 to a right-wing group that used some of the money to support Minnesota gubernatorial candidate Tom Emmer, a staunchly anti-gay, anti-choice Republican who is a fan of a ministry that has called for the execution of homosexuals. All the work Target has done to cultivate a progressive brand image, including maintaining perfect workplace policies for LGBT employees, was seriously undermined by that contribution.

LGBT activists began demonstrating at Target stores in large markets. The Human Rights Campaign and other LGBT groups called for a boycott of Target and Best Buy, which gave \$100,000 to the same right-wing political group.

Target officials apologized. Then the company floated the idea of making a contribution of the same size to a progressive political action committee. Unfortunately for Target, that idea didn't sit well with anti-gay conservatives, who threatened a boycott of their own. The company backed down, and LGBT activists became riled all over again.

So, how's that political contribution thing working out for you, Target?

WiG heartily endorses the boycott of Target, Best Buy and any other corporation that's caught with its pants down in this way. The nation's corporate right has for too long exploited the guns, God and gays mantra to trick voters into supporting its agenda of low taxes and weak consumer and environmental regulation. Look behind the curtains and you'll find that brand images seldom match their corporations' underlying business strategies.

Target serves as a reminder that big-box retailers are bad, bad, bad. They've driven all the local retailers out of business and now they use their customers' money to pursue hidden agendas that are often contrary to their customers' interests. Unlike the corner shopkeepers of days gone by, they are removed from the feelings and the scrutiny of the people they serve.

In this case, the Supreme Court has inadvertently flushed out the creeps. We must respond with a fervor that prompts other two-faced giants to think twice before going down the same path.



"THE DESERT DOES STRANGE THINGS TO A MAN.... GLORIA."

## { Letters }

### OPEN LETTER FROM A TARGET EMPLOYEE

Earlier today, I received word that local LGBT groups plan to protest at the newly opened Wilson Yard Target Store over the retailer's recent corporate donation made to MN Forward. As a Wilson Yard team member, I feel torn between my job and my lifestyle. While I cannot in good conscience insert my raw opinion either way into the matter as I have a personal stake with both sides, I do feel my unique position allows me an opportunity to bring in a third perspective that until now has remained fairly silent over this unfortunate situation.

By "third perspective," I mean the perspective of the LGBT Target team member.

Here in Chicago, the opening of the new Wilson Yard Target store has created much excitement. Not only has it brought more than 300 local permanent jobs to the struggling Uptown neighborhood, but it is already being touted as one of the best, cleanest Targets in the area. However, in the gay commu-

nity, that excitement quickly waned as news started to surface about the donation mentioned above.

As a gay man, I have experienced overt discrimination and harassment from those who disagree with my lifestyle. Even in the local/national media realm, news is consistently filled with how the LGBT community has, and continues to be, discriminated against. So, with news that one of our longtime corporate allies made such a large contribution to a political action committee whom actively supports a candidate that is a known enemy of the LGBT community, it's no surprise that I feel somewhat disheartened and torn.

On one hand, Target is my employer. I, along with many other LGBT people, depend on Target for our livelihoods. On the other hand, the election of anti-gay politicians can have great effects on my life as well. Thus, I have several requests for both my friends protesting and for my employer.

To those protesting, please remember your purpose for protesting. It is a powerful

tool and should be treated as such. While my words are not meant as encouragement or discouragement of this, upon proceeding with this please create an open dialogue. Be open to discussion, and above all, know that you are not protesting those of us employed by Target.

To Target and its CEO Gregg Steinhafel, I am grateful for your quick response to this situation and your dedication to more careful review process for proposed donations in the future. However, I urge you to make this right by taking the advice of the Human Rights Campaign and providing at least an equivalent, if not greater, contribution to pro-LGBT organizations to compensate for the harm that can be done to our community should Tom Emmer be elected as Minnesota's governor.

It is my hope that soon a satisfactory conclusion for all parties can be reached.

Ryan S. Justice  
Chicago

Send letters to [lweisberg@wisconsin-gazette.com](mailto:lweisberg@wisconsin-gazette.com).

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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](mailto:circulation@wisconsin-gazette.com) or call 414-961-3240, ext. 101

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## What they said



*"My advice would be get your high-school diploma and keep your clothes on, voters like it."*

— Verne Rupright, the mayor of Wasilla, Alaska, giving some advice to Levi Johnston after learning the infamous father of Bristol Palin's baby is running for his job.

*"Black guys use it all the time. Turn on HBO and listen to a black comic, and all you hear is n\*\*\*\*, n\*\*\*\*, n\*\*\*\*. I don't get it. If anybody without enough melanin says it, it's a horrible thing. But when black people say it, it's affectionate. It's very confusing."*

— The notoriously temperamental and anti-gay radio host Laura Schlessinger in a racist rant on her show in which she used the "N" word 11 times in five minutes.

*"Dr. Laura: don't retreat ... reload!"*

— Sarah Palin tweeting her support for Laura Schlessinger.

*"I intend for my resignation to offer a concrete example of the consequences of a failed law and social policy."*

— Katherine Miller, a lesbian cadet who was one of the U.S. Military Academy's highest-ranking students, announcing that she was quitting West Point because she could no longer lie about her sexuality and was troubled by the anti-gay attitudes around her.

*"So, get this: David and I are expecting twins this fall. We're super excited/nervous/thrilled. Hoping the press can respect our privacy."*

— Neil Patrick Harris tweeting that he and partner David Burtka are expecting twins.

*"Do you not understand you are legitimizing a group that is fighting for same-sex marriage and open homosexuality in the military — not to mention the idea that sodomy is just an alternate lifestyle?"*

— Joseph Farah, founder and publisher of World Net Daily, in an e-mail exchange with Ann Coulter about her involvement with GOProud's HOMOCON.

*"In addition to being unjust and cruel and unconscionable, these laws are stupid because they are taking away some of the best and brightest minds and prospects out of the country."*

— "Eat, Pray, Love" author Elizabeth Gilbert, speaking to an LGBT rights organization about the Uniting American Families Act.

*"I think conservatives have tried to frame (LGBT rights) as 'would you personally engage in homosexual activity.' That's not the issue. There are many things I may not personally engage in, but that doesn't mean I don't believe people have the right to do it. People say to me, 'Well if someone does this or does that or this it's a sin and they're going to hell,' and I tell them, 'Okay, that may be but I'm going to fight for everyone's right to get there.'"*

— The Rev. Al Sharpton, founder of National Action Network, on how to engage the black community's support for LGBT rights.



## Protecting an equality majority

There are many important races in Wisconsin this election year. All of them are deserving of our time and attention. While most of the focus is understandably on the high-profile statewide races, we should also remember to carefully consider the races that are not garnering as much attention, especially the many races for the Legislature. These races could have a tremendous effect on the state and specifically on the LGBT community.

Control of the Legislature hangs in the balance. Along with control comes an agenda that could be either good or bad for both the LGBT Community and for Wisconsin as a whole. When Republicans last controlled the Legislature, they clearly demonstrated where they stood on equality. Rather than model themselves after former Republican Gov. Lee Dreyfus, who signed the nation's first statewide gay

rights law in 1982, they made the decision to adopt the agenda of the most extreme elements of their party. These are elements that thrive on mean-spirited division.

On Republicans' watch, the University of Wisconsin became the only Big Ten University that did not offer its LGBT employees full benefit equality. In fact, whenever the issue was broached, it was immediately shot down without a fair hearing.

But perhaps the best example of the Republicans' attitude toward equality is the way they repeatedly maneuvered and promoted the concept of marriage inequality while they controlled the Legislature. Their actions eventually led to the unfortunate constitutional amendment of 2006.

When Democrats took control of the Legislature, we were given repeated examples of how they valued all Wisconsinites, regardless

of their sexual orientation. Within just a couple of years the Legislature and Gov. Jim Doyle have taken critical actions on several issues that are important to the LGBT community. Key legislation passed last year establishing a statewide domestic partner registry. Along with the establishment of the registry came 43 (of the more than 200) protections that are afforded to married couples under state law. Those benefits include hospital visitation, the ability to take family medical leave and inheritance rights. Fair Wisconsin has compiled a useful reference guide that explains domestic partnerships and the protections these new policies bring. It can be accessed at [www.fairwisconsin.com](http://www.fairwisconsin.com).

In addition to the domestic partner registry, Doyle and the current legislative leaders ensured that all state employees are treated fairly. Because of their actions, the



domestic partners of state employees finally qualify for the same benefits as everyone else.

So pay close attention to your legislative candidates and learn where they stand on these important issues. Actively support those who value equality by contributing to and volunteering for their campaigns. Let your friends, co-workers and straight allies know the candidates' positions on equality.

If the current majority is replaced by the extreme alternative, history already shows us what could happen.

What better reason is there to become fully engaged? Our pro-fairness majority in the Legislature is certainly worth protecting.

## Lesbian sex: under the covers

I finally saw "The Kids are All Right" and have mixed feelings about it.

The movie, which has gotten great critical reviews, revolves around a lesbian couple (played by Annette Bening and Julianne Moore) and their teenage kids who are thrown into turmoil after seeking out the sperm donor (Mark Ruffalo) who made them possible.

No movie with Bening, Moore or Ruffalo is without some value, because all of them are excellent actors who choose interesting parts. And director Lisa Cholodenko is a veteran independent filmmaker with an interesting lesbian character study ("High Art") to her credit.

I liked the humor in "The Kids are All Right" and I liked some of the mundane details of family life, like the boredom of hearing an old story shared too many times and the pilgrimage to see the kid off to college. To the extent that "Kids" humanizes lesbian and gay families among mainstream viewers, I'm pleased.



What I found cringe-inducing was its unbalanced depiction of sex and its negation of lesbian sex.

I understand that "Kids" is about a long-term couple, whose long-term status and busy household makes the desire for and pursuit of sex more challenging for them. That is a realistic portrait. But let's look closer at the scenes related to sex.

Early on, the lesbian couple gleefully plans to have sex by watching their favorite video, which turns out to be gay male porn. While watching said porn, the Moore character, invisible but bobbing under the covers, tries to pleasure the recumbent, distracted Bening. The scene is played for comedy and abruptly curtailed. When their confused child asks why they watch gay porn, one of the women mumbles something about the complexity

of sex and acknowledges that it might seem "counter-intuitive." Uh, well, yeah mom.

Later, the son and his friend rifle through the moms' bedside table, finding the porn video and a dildo. A bathing scene with the promise of intimacy between the two women is interrupted by a phone call. Then we see Moore aggressively kissing Ruffalo and repeatedly, blissfully, having sex with him. The heterosexual sex scenes are above the covers, in the nude, vigorous and extended. After their first session, Ruffalo asks Moore: "So does this mean you're not a lesbian?" "No!" she replies, appalled. The audience around me was audibly, understandably confused.

I am not a lesbian sex cop. I don't care who sleeps with whom or what they do together. God knows, I've had a variety of adventures and misadventures in my life. But I do love movies, and I love women. In 2010, it is disappointing to see that lesbian sex and passion are still missing in action, under the cov-

ers, and/or male-identified in Hollywood films.

There have been few lesbian leading roles in mainstream features over the past 30 years. "Personal Best," "Basic Instinct," "Chasing Amy," "Monster" and "Kids" come to mind. In all these movies the reputedly lesbian character sleeps with a guy (or guys). In two of them, she ends up with the guy. In two others, she's a serial killer. I suppose it's progress that we're not still killing ourselves, like in "The Children's Hour," but it sure is aggravating.

Note to Hollywood producers and writers: Lesbians fall in love with other women. They frequently have passionate and fulfilling sex lives. Most do so without the need for male partners or even artificial male appendages. Lesbians also have affairs but when they do it is most often with women, not men. And, trust me, there is enough drama in lesbian relationships to fill dozens of feature films.

Send letters to [lweisberg@wisconsin Gazette.com](mailto:lweisberg@wisconsin Gazette.com).



# Target backlash growing

## From staff and AP reports

MSNBC has rejected a national TV ad calling for a boycott of Target Corp., but all three Minnesota network affiliates are running the commercial.

MSNBC spokeswoman Alana Russo said the commercial submitted by the liberal advocacy group MoveOn.org violates its advertising policy by directly attacking an individual business. The ad features Target's bulls-eye logo and accuses the chain of trying to buy elections.

MoveOn executive director Justin Ruben said the rejection was "the height of hypocrisy" and accused MSNBC and its corporate parent, General Electric Co., of trying to protect Target from consumer anger.

The dispute over the ad is one in an ongoing series of controversies that were unleashed after it was reported last month that Minneapolis-based Target had given \$150,000 last month to a political fund supporting right-wing Minnesota GOP gubernatorial candidate Tom Emmer, who opposes gay marriage and other rights for same-sex couples and contributes to a radical Christian ministry that calls for the execution of homosexuals.

Gay rights groups have protested at Target stores and headquarters. The Human Rights Campaign has announced that it is remov-

ing Target and Best Buy Co., which gave \$100,000 to the same political fund, from its buyer's guide. HRC gave both companies a score of 100 in the guide released in November 2009.

As a result of the controversy, HRC also has announced that it's revamping the criteria used to evaluate companies for future editions of its corporate equality index, which is the basis for its buyer's guide.

But the future of the new Minnesota law that let the public know about the polarizing donations from Target Corp., Best Buy Co., and other companies is now in the hands of a federal judge who will decide whether to suspend the disclosure requirement on free speech grounds.

A U.S. district judge said Aug. 20 he will rule within a month on a request for a temporary injunction to suspend the law, which could free corporations and other independent groups to spend on this year's election without revealing their identities.

In Wisconsin, a challenge to a similar law has been filed by representatives from both the political right and the political left. That challenge has yet to be resolved.

Under Minnesota law, corporations and other independent political groups must register with state campaign finance regulators. They're also required to file public reports naming their donors



and itemizing their expenditures five times this year.

In addition to LGBT and other progressive activists, institutional shareholders have become caught up in the controversy.

Walden Asset Management and Trillium Asset Management Corp., both of Boston, and Bethesda, Md.-based Calvert Asset Management Co. have filed shareholder resolutions with both Target and Best Buy. Together, the three firms control less than 1 percent of each company's outstanding shares — 1.1 million Target

shares worth \$57.5 million and 344,000 Best Buy shares worth \$11.3 million — but they are moving the debate over political giving to a new arena.

"A good corporate political contribution policy should prevent the kind of debacle Target and Best Buy walked into," said Trillium vice president Shelley Alpern. "We expect companies to evaluate candidates based upon the range of their positions — not simply one area — and assess whether they are in alignment with their core values. But these companies'

policies are clearly lacking that."

The shareholders said the donations don't mesh with corporate values that include workplace protections for gay employees and risk harming the companies' brands. Walden senior vice president Tim Smith said such giving can have "a major negative impact on company reputations and business."

The Target resolution urges the board to review the impact of future political contributions on the company's public image, sales and profitability and to consider

the cost of backing a candidate whose politics conflict with the company's public stances.

Spokeswoman Amy Reilly said Minneapolis-based Target had nothing to add to previous statements on the matter, including an apology from Chief Executive Officer Gregg Steinhafel.

A spokeswoman for Richfield, Minn.-based Best Buy didn't immediately respond to a message.

Send letters to [lweisberg@wisconsin Gazette.com](mailto:lweisberg@wisconsin Gazette.com).

## 'The fast schedule is excellent news for same-sex couples'

Prop 8 from I

in the case, sought a stay of same-sex marriages pending an appeal. Schwarzenegger and Brown, on the other hand, called for an immediate resumption of same-sex nuptials.

Walker did initiate a stay, but said it would be lifted Aug. 18, prompting a number of couples to make marriage plans.

Then, on Aug. 16, the

appeals court intervened.

In their initial challenge to Walker's decision, attorneys defending Prop 8 wrote, "The record leaves no doubt, none at all, that California, 44 other states and the vast majority of countries throughout the world continue to draw the line at marriage because it continues to serve a vital societal interest that is equally ubiquitous — to channel potentially procreative sexual relationships into enduring, stable unions for the sake of responsibly producing and raising the next generation."

The appeals court panel

issued a two-page brief granting the stay, but didn't include a reason, only the schedule for the appeal.

"It is frustrating that the appeals court seems not to have applied the standard test for when a stay should be ordered," said Jennifer C. Pizer of the LGBT group Lambda Legal. "But, at least (the) case management order gives no substantive disagreement with Judge Walker's conclusion that Prop 8 only serves to harm the countless lesbian and gay couples in California who are denied their constitutional

rights, without advancing any legitimate public purposes. Instead, the order just seems to represent step-by-step housekeeping by the court."

LGBT civil rights advocates also saw a positive in the appeals court's decision to hear arguments in the case as early as December. The court does not typically move so quickly.

"Today's order from the 9th Circuit for an expedited hearing schedule ensures that we will triumph over Prop 8 as quickly as possible," said Chad Griffin of the American Foundation for

Equal Rights, a group funding the effort to overturn Prop 8.

The court's schedule calls for oral arguments in the case the week of Dec. 6 in San Francisco. To meet that accelerated hearing date, the court ordered Prop 8 proponents to file their opening brief by Sept. 17.

"The very fast schedule set for the appeal is excellent news for same-sex couples who hope to regain their rights as soon as possible," Pizer said. "Even better may be the court's direction that Prop 8's proponents should explain why they think they

have legal standing to appeal. This means they must try to explain how Prop 8 deprives them of a legal right or interest. If they cannot show that Prop 8 actually harms them, then the federal procedural rules may prevent the appeals court from hearing their appeal."

Send letters to [lweisberg@wisconsin Gazette.com](mailto:lweisberg@wisconsin Gazette.com).

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  - 5-6pm - Rents Due
  - 6:15-7:15 pm - Pulsation
  - 7:30-8:30pm - Awards
  - 9-9:30pm - Tiffany
  - 9:30-11:30pm - DJ John Murges



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# ENDA is top LGBT labor issue

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Labor Day arrives Sept. 6 with a renewed push to pass employment protections for LGBT workers.

The federal holiday – first celebrated in New York in 1882 – coincides with the resumption of congressional work in the Capitol following the August recess. With the return to work will come a return to lobbying on the Hill for passage of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which would ban workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in hiring, firing,

promotion or compensation. ENDA would not apply to employers with fewer than 15 employees or religious organizations.

“As we approach the waning days of this congressional session, we must continue to demand immediate action on critical legislation,” said Joe Solmonese of the national Human Rights Campaign. “LGBT voters and our allies will be keenly aware of congressional action or inaction as the November elections approach.”

LGBT civil rights advocates have long focused on passage of workplace protections at the federal level.

Some form of ENDA has been introduced in each session of Congress since 1994.

And labor organizations have long served as allies on the legislation. In April, representatives from more than 200 groups sent federal lawmakers a message urging them to “pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act now.” Many co-signers represented LGBT groups, but a sizable number represented labor organizations. In total, more than 60 international unions and national union organizations have endorsed ENDA, including the AFL-CIO, AFSCME, SEIU and the

Communication Workers of America.

“From the American Federation of Teachers to Association of Flight Attendants to the Painters and Allied Trades Union, from the UAW to the UFCW to UNITEHERE, from local Central Labor Councils to our Union Locals, union members across our broad diversity of workers stand in solidarity with our LGBT sisters and brothers,” said Pride at Work executive director Peggy Shorey.

Pride at Work is the LGBT constituency group of the AFL-CIO. It has built support for LGBT employment rights

under the union’s historic motto: “An injury to one is an injury to all.”

“The labor movement unequivocally believes workers should be judged by their work, not who they are,” Shorey said.

ENDA was introduced in the Senate last August by Democrat Jeff Merkley of Oregon, Republicans Susan Collins and Olympia Snow from Maine and the late Massachusetts Sen. Edward Kennedy.

Kennedy, just three weeks before his death, said, “The promise of America will never be fulfilled as long as justice is denied to even one

among us. The Employment Non-Discrimination Act brings us closer to fulfilling that promise for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender citizens.”

U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., introduced the House version of the bill.

Federal law provides legal protection against employment discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, age and disability. In 29 states, it is legal to fire someone based on sexual orientation and in 38 states, it is legal to fire someone for being transgender.

Send letters to [lweisberg@wisconsin-gazette.com](mailto:lweisberg@wisconsin-gazette.com).



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## Troop interest in DADT is low

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Only a quarter of U.S. servicemembers responded to a survey about repealing the ban against gay troops.

Earlier this year, the Department of Defense sent out 400,000 questionnaires as part of a study on the implications of repealing the "don't ask, don't tell" policy that prohibits GLB troops from serving openly. Congressional Democrats have moved forward this session on President Barack Obama's call to repeal the policy enacted during Bill Clinton's first term in the White House.

By the late-August deadline for the survey, 103,000 servicemembers had turned in their questionnaires, which asked how comfortable they'd be rooming with a gay person.

The Pentagon is now surveying family members of

troops.

Meanwhile, an independent survey conducted by the Palm Center indicated that under DADT the military discharged a number of mission critical troops in 2009, including eight linguists, 20 infantrymen, 16 medical aides, seven combat engineers, six missile artillery operating crew members and one member of the Army Special Forces.

The study also showed women and minorities have been disproportionately discharged under DADT.

"This study is further proof that not only is the ban on lesbian and gay servicemembers discriminatory, but it undermines national security," said Joe Solmonese, president of the Human Rights Campaign, a national LGBT civil rights group. "War time is the wrong time to fire men and women in uniform whose skills are critical to

successfully completing our mission. When the Senate returns from recess, repeal of this failed law must be their first priority."

The full U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate Armed Services Committee voted to repeal DADT in May. The full Senate is expected to take up repeal when it considers the proposed National Defense Authorization Act this fall.

"We need supporters to contact their senators and tell them to repeal 'don't ask, don't tell' and follow the lead of (U.S. Sen.) Carl Levin, who will be managing the defense bill on the floor," said Aubrey Sarvis of Servicemembers Legan Defense Network, a D.C.-based advocacy group for LGBT veterans and servicemembers. "It is critical that we beat back any filibuster threat, defeat attempts to strike repeal and defeat any crippling amendments."

SLDN has compiled a list of states where senators must be lobbied, including Arkansas, Indiana, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Virginia.

"Senators need to hear from us now, especially in the 10 key states where our combined SLDN and HRC field teams are working now," Sarvis said.

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PHOTO: COURTESY

Aubrey Sarvis of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network.

### AVIATOR REACHES DEAL TO HALT DISCHARGE

An Idaho aviator has reached an agreement with the U.S. Air Force to temporarily block his discharge under the "don't ask, don't tell" policy that bars openly gay and lesbian military members from service.

The Servicemembers Legal Defense Network says an agreement reached Aug. 16 prevents the Air Force from discharging Lt. Col. Victor Fehrenbach until a judge can consider its request for a court order to stop his ouster from the military.

The network, an advocacy group seeking equal treatment of gays in the military, is representing Fehrenbach in his legal fight to keep his job. The network filed a federal lawsuit in Idaho seeking to have the law declared unconstitutional.

—AP

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# Run to the right in Florida gubernatorial primary

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

As Republican candidates for governor raced toward primary day in Florida, they took to the far-right lane in an effort to pick up points with the Sunshine State's conservative bloc.

On Aug. 24, Republican voters nominated businessman Rick Scott as their candidate for governor. Scott defeated Florida Attorney General Bill McCollum by a 46 percent to 43 percent vote and will face Democrat Alex Sink, the state treasurer, in November. Gov. Charlie Crist decided not to seek a second term and is waging an independent campaign for the U.S. Senate.

In the final months of their primary battle, Scott and McCollum courted conservative voters, touting right-wing positions on flash-point issues such as marriage equality, adoption rights and immigration reform.

Scott, late in the primary game, took the first anti-gay offensive run. His campaign disseminated a press memo promoting Scott as a conservative and denouncing McCollum as "more liberal than you think on life issues." The memo referred to McCollum's support of Rudy Giuliani, who supported LGBT civil rights measures, in the 2008 presidential primary.

The Scott campaign also reminded the press that McCollum once endorsed federal hate crimes reform,

which became a factor in his unsuccessful U.S. Senate campaign against Mel Martinez in 2006. A Martinez campaign flyer called McCollum the "new darling of the homosexual extremists."

But that's not what LGBT civil rights advocates in Florida call the attorney general, who has defended Florida's long-standing ban against gays adopting foster children.

"I don't believe that the people who do this should be raising our children," McCollum recently told the press.

He also has come out against gays serving as foster parents.

McCollum's name appeared widespread in LGBT news sources earlier this year, when one of his witnesses at the November 2009 trial on the adoption law, Baptist minister George Alan Rekers, returned home from a European vacation with a male hooker.

Rekers is a co-founder of the Family Research Council and a member of the National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality board. This spring, he was seen at Miami International Airport with another man, whom he said he hired to help him lift luggage during his trip abroad, but who had advertised his services and qualifications on Rentboy.com — a "smooth, sweet, tight ass" that is "up for anything."

McCollum had paid Rekers \$120,000 to serve as an

expert witness in the attorney general's courtroom defense of Florida's adoption ban. Rekers testified that gays are unfit parents because they are at higher risk for sexually-transmitted disease, because children are best served by being raised with a submissive mother and a head-of-household father and because homosexuality is an illness to be cured.

Equality Florida, Florida's leading LGBT political group, said it was "disgraceful" for McCollum to use "taxpayer dollars to compensate this discredited bigot-for-hire. It shows just how low they have to scrape to find anyone even willing to defend this awful ban that denies children permanent loving homes."

At an August campaign event at a Baptist church in Brandon, McCollum told a reporter, "I think same-sex marriages are wrong. I think same-sex adoptions are wrong. That's my view."

His position on gay parenting and other issues earned him a mid-summer endorsement from social conservative leader Gary Bauer, who is now with the Campaign for Working Families PAC and American Values.

"Now more than ever, we need men and women who understand the proper, limited role of government," Bauer said. "Bill McCollum's leadership in support of pro-family, pro-life and pro-free enterprise policies is greatly valued by the Campaign for

Working Families and all of our members. I'm proud to stand with him in the fight for family, faith and freedom."

McCollum accepted the endorsement, saying, "It gives me great pleasure to have Gary supporting my campaign. As a strong Christian and national leader on family issues, Gary has been a leading voice in the social conservative movement. As governor, I will continue to stand up for the rights of the unborn, fight for family values, and advance initiatives that will strengthen Florida's businesses and families."

But McCollum's right swing wasn't enough to best Scott, who has, to date, funded his campaign with \$50 million of his own money and steeped it in Tea Party values.

In the general election, Scott faces a candidate who advocates civil unions over same-sex marriage, but supports lifting the ban against gays and lesbians adopting foster children in the state.

Meanwhile, the adoption ban remains in place, pending an appeal that is likely to reach the Florida Supreme Court. The case, decided in favor of a gay couple at the circuit court level, is before the 3rd District Court of Appeal in Miami.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Bill McCollum



PHOTO: COURTESY

Rick Scott

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## BRIEFS

**JUDGE: DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP PETITION STAYS SEALED**

A federal judge ruled in mid-August that signed petitions calling for a Washington state vote on expanded domestic partnerships for gay couples are barred from public release while he hears arguments on whether to block them for good.

The U.S. Supreme Court had ruled in June that release of the signatures does not violate constitutional rights, but said the group behind

the Washington state initiative can still try to prove the release would put petition signers in danger.

Referendum 71 asked voters to either keep or reject the "everything but marriage" law that expanded already established domestic partnerships for gay couples in Washington. It was approved last fall with 53 percent of the vote.

Protect Marriage Washington, which was opposed to the new law, spearheaded the effort to get the referendum on the ballot.

The group turned in nearly 138,000 signatures last July, with 121,780 being accepted and qualifying for

the ballot. Two gay rights groups, WhoSigned.Org and KnowThyNeighbor.org, previously said they would post the names online, sparking legal action to keep them private.

U.S. District Judge Benjamin Settle extended a restraining order that bars public release of the signatures while the case moves forward.

**NM JUDGE RULES SAME-SEX MARRIAGE LICENSE VALID**

A district judge in Santa Fe, N.M., has ruled a marriage license issued by a Sandoval County clerk to two women

was valid, and therefore subject to divorce.

Judge Sarah Singleton made her decision in a hearing over a June 2009 divorce petition brought by Angela Carrejo against JaNelle Haught.

Singleton did not rule whether gay marriage is legal in New Mexico, but looked only at the issue of whether the same-sex marriage licenses were invalid.

Haught and Carrejo had no comment on the decision.

**FORMER SAILOR TO FACE CHARGES IN 1992 SC SLAYING**

A former U.S. sailor who feared being turned in for

having gay sex aboard a Navy vessel recruited three others to help him kill a crewman who witnessed the encounter nearly two decades ago, a law enforcement official familiar with the investigation told The Associated Press.

Thomas Solheim, 53, of Montauk, N.Y., was arrested near his home last month on a fugitive warrant linking him to the 1992 killing of a sailor near a South Carolina naval base. Three others – all former Navy personnel – also have been arrested in recent weeks in connection with the death of 22-year-old James Horton.

Horton, a native of Sherburne, N.Y., was found

hands tied behind his back with a gunshot wound to the chest in a ditch northwest of Charleston, S.C., in November of 1992. He had been sexually assaulted and struck in the head with a blunt object.

Rosaline Horton, a retired school custodian, told AP last month that her son was serving aboard the minesweeper USS Exultant and had served two tours in the first Gulf War. She said he had discovered two men engaging in sex aboard the vessel, but believes he never reported the incident to authorities.

— from AP and WiG reports

**'Protections under the registry are quite limited'**

Registry from page 1

refused to defend the registry last year, forcing the state to hire an independent counsel to represent the state. A spokesman for Van Hollen said the attorney general would not represent the registry in this case either.

Van Hollen is up for reelection in November, when

he faces Democrat Scott Hassett at the polls.

Madison attorney Lester Pines, who represented the registry last year, will probably do so again, according to sources close to the case. The ACLU of Wisconsin, which supported the defense in 2009 also is "ready to proceed to join the case," said executive director

Christopher Ahmuty.

WFA is represented by the Alliance Defense Fund. The plaintiffs include WFA board members Jo Egelhoff, Jerry Hiller, Richard Kessenich and E. Lee Webster. They claim the registry harms them because it costs taxpayer money to administer.

"They can't produce anyone whose marriage has

been harmed (by the registry)," Ahmuty said. "You've got to come to the conclusion that they're doing this because they just don't want domestic relationships recognized in any form. This case is a pretty clear example that they're not so much animated by the desire to protect marriage as animus, dislike or bias toward LGBT

people, because (the registry is) so far from marriage."

"While the Wisconsin Family Action and the Alliance Defense Fund will attempt to compare the domestic partnership registry to the legal definition of marriage," Ahmuty continued, "same-sex couples will seek to demonstrate a factual record of how the protections offered

by the registry are quite limited and in no way violate the marriage ban. ... That's just ludicrous."

In a separate case, the state Supreme Court issued a ruling in June that upheld the state's constitutional ban on gay marriage and civil unions. But that ruling did not affect the registry.

— AP contributed to this story

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# Mexico Supreme Court upholds gay adoptions

By E. Eduardo Castillo  
AP writer

Mexico's Supreme Court has upheld a Mexico City law allowing adoptions by same-sex couples, drawing jubilant cheers from gay advocacy groups and angry protests from Roman Catholic Church representatives.

The justices voted 9-2 against challenges presented by federal prosecutors and others who had argued the law fails to protect adoptive children against possible ill effects or discrimination, or to guarantee their right to a traditional family.

"Today, institutionalized homophobia has been buried," said Jaime Lopez Vela, a

leader of the group Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay, Transsexual and Transgender Agenda. "We are happy, because now we have the same rights and responsibilities of any other married couple."

The adoption decision followed earlier Supreme Court rulings that same-sex marriages performed in Mexico City are constitutional and that other Mexican states must respect them.

Mexico City's groundbreaking same-sex marriage law, enacted in March, extends to wedded gay couples the right to adopt children, to jointly apply for bank loans, to inherit wealth and to be covered by their

spouses' insurance policies.

Outside the court building, dozens of gay-rights activists erupted in cheers and chanted "Now we've won!", while a similar number of opponents of the Mexico City law chanted "Man plus woman equals marriage," and "Father, mother, that's what children need!"

Justices voting with the majority argued that once same-sex marriages had been approved, it would be discriminatory to consider those couples less capable of parental duties than heterosexual couples.

Church representatives strongly opposed the ruling. Father Hugo Valdemar,

the spokesman for the Archdiocese of Mexico, said the court had "treated children as if they were pets, to be adopted by whoever wants one, and that violates their rights."

Armando Martinez, the leader of the Catholic Lawyers' Association, said his group will ask for the impeachment of the justices who voted to uphold the Mexico City law, adding "the justices are not God. They make a lot of mistakes."

Three hundred and thirty-nine gay and lesbian couples have married under the law, but city officials say none of those couples have yet applied to adopt children.

The difficult process of adoption in Mexico — it usually involves years of red tape, and orphans here are usually adopted by a relative anyway — make it unlikely that same-sex adoptions of unrelated children will ever be numerous.

Justices who sided with the majority stressed that potential adoptive parents, gay or straight, are checked for suitability as part of the adoption process.

"It is not a question of sexuality that determines whether a person is qualified or not to adopt," said Justice Margarita Luna.

Mexico City's law was the first of its type in Latin

America when it was enacted.

Argentina became the first country in the region to permit gay marriage in July, when President Cristina Fernandez signed legislation declaring that wedded gay and lesbian couples have all the same legal rights and responsibilities as heterosexual couples, including the right to inheritance and to jointly adopt children.

- AP writer Mark Stevenson  
contributed to this report.

Send letters to lweisberg@  
wisconsin-gazette.com.

## COSTA RICA COURT BLOCKS CIVIL UNION REFERENDUM

Costa Rica's top court has blocked the electoral tribunal

from holding a referendum that would have let voters decide if same-sex civil unions should be allowed in the Central American country.

The Constitutional Court's 5-2 decision says such a referendum would put a minority at a disadvantage in a largely Roman Catholic country. It also says gay civil unions are

a legislative issue and not an electoral one.

The court says it considers gays a group that is at a disadvantage and the target for discrimination, requiring

government authorities to protect their rights.

The electoral tribunal had planned to hold the referendum Dec. 5, when Costa Rica also is holding municipal

elections.

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# CAPITOL PRIDE

## Madison 2010

PHOTOS BY EMILY MILLS

Hundreds of members of the LGBT community and their allies turned out for the annual Wisconsin Capitol Pride parade and rally in Madison Aug. 22, following a full day of entertainment and festivities that drew large crowds to a Pride celebration on Willow Island at the Alliant Energy Center. Advocacy groups, local churches and synagogues, youth organizations and politicians all joined forces to cut a colorful swath down State Street that culminated in a rally at Library Mall. Public figures who addressed the event included U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin, Madison Mayor Dave Cieslewicz, state Rep. Mark Pocan and Dane County Sheriff Dave Mahoney.



Mayor Dave Cieslewicz introduces Tammy Baldwin with back-up from disco band VO5.



A family watches the rally while sheltering from the sun.



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## Queen of 'the gays'

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Comedian Joan Rivers knows her audiences and she knows who most appreciates her acerbic wit and free-form social commentary.

"I say with full-blown ego that I am the queen of the gays," says Rivers, who will bring her rough-and-tumble act to Madison's Overture Center for the Arts on Oct. 23. "You can tell Kathy Griffin, who is my very good friend, that she can be princess and she can be lady in waiting. But don't try and take this throne away, bitch, because you will be in such trouble!"

Rivers, the subject of the remarkable new documentary "Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work," may be the hardest-working person in show business. But while she keeps a busy schedule, Rivers is particular about who is sitting in the audience when she performs.

"I can play to all women and I can play to couples and we can all have a good time," says the former Joan Molinsky. "But I will never play to an all-male audience because I have nothing to say to them. I will never do a bit about my car."

"I will always play to an amazing gay audience because gays get everything, God bless them," Rivers says. "Gay audiences want to have a good time and they will stretch along with you. You can take them to places where it is very hard to take a straight audience."

For Rivers, a Brooklyn, N.Y., native, one of those places was New York in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Rivers, who works out weekly in a gay club in Greenwich Village to keep her wit sharp when she's not touring, had no fear of making terrorist jokes after the



PHOTO: COURTESY

Joan Rivers is the subject of a new documentary film. She appears at Madison's Overture Center for the Arts Oct. 23.

attacks on the World Trade Center.

"I'm a New Yorker, and I was doing 9/11 jokes the day after the attack because it was so horrific," Rivers says. "I started doing jokes about terrorists who have no sex appeal and about how ugly they are. Have you ever opened up The New York Times, seen the face of a terrorist and went, 'I wonder if he's got a brother?'"

"People came back after the show and said, 'God, I haven't laughed for 48 hours. Thank you.'"

Rivers also appreciated her Pridefest audience when she appeared in Milwaukee in June. "We had so much fun," she says in her characteristic rasp. "They were great. I think they like me so much because I like them so much. I can come out on stage and say, 'I am so happy to see you all! Now, what do we really think of Lindsay Lohan?'"

Part of that appreciation

comes from past experience. One of Rivers' first theatrical roles was playing a lesbian in a play that couldn't recruit a male lead.

"The play was called 'Driftwood' and it was such a bad play even for off-off-off Broadway FREE that they couldn't find a male lead to play opposite a 16-year-old Barbra Streisand, who was so young she still had all the 'A's in her name," Rivers says. "I was still Joan Molinsky at the time, and I went to them said, 'Make them lesbians and I can play the male lead.' And they did."

"To this day, when Barbra and I see each other, she says, 'Hello, Joan Molinsky,' and I say, 'Hello, Barbra with all the 'A's.'"

To say that Rivers has a fondness for gay audiences is an understatement, and she's a staunch supporter of equality.

"What do I think of same-sex marriage? I'm against it,

because they will then know the pain of divorce," she jokes. "Seriously, of all my friends two of the happiest, longest unions I know are gay couples. My gay decorator is 91 years old and he can't even see the color of the fringe anymore, but he's been with his partner for 60 years."

Of course, it helps that gay audiences are among her biggest fans.

"It's always hard to go on stage and hope that they will laugh and find me funny," she confesses. "But as soon as I see a gay man, I say, 'He'll get this joke.' ... I'm like a happy mother with a child when I see a gay boy."

### ON THE BIG SCREEN

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# Art tickles in a playful exhibition

By Kat Murrell

Contributing writer

What's the difference between an art museum and a comedy club? Metaphorically speaking, maybe not much, considering the current exhibition at the John Michael Kohler Arts Center. "A Sense of Humor," which runs through Sept. 26, showcases over 20 artists in a cavalcade of works that play on strange juxtapositions, witty words and pictures, plus the playfulness and poignancy of the modern condition.

One can imagine the curator as emcee, arranging the show to keep the contrasts in artistic style and sense of humor energized. The organization of the gallery space disguises the scope of the exhibition and allows for some genuine surprises.

One of the most memorable sculptures is "Meet Mr. Weekend," a sock puppet by Mike Simi. It is about 15-feet tall, and it talks. That alone sounds pretty funny, but Simi adeptly mixes comedy with tragedy. The armature under the sock is a piece of machinery from a shuttered Chrysler plant in Michigan. The sock puppet laments his loss and muses about the future, which could include eating some art. Go figure.

Sock puppets lend themselves well to humor, and so do body parts, which show up frequently in various works. Jeffu Warmouth organizes grocery store shelves stocked with self-referential goods like cans of "Forked Tongue" and "Peeled Toes," in addition to less physical ingredients like "Crushed

**Over 20 artists in a cavalcade of works that play on strange juxtapositions.**

Resolve" and "Bruised Ego." Quotations of body parts and unexpected poses are rather poetic in the photographs of Matt Stuart, whose street images recall the exquisite French photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson.

There is more going on than just physical humor, as many artworks unabashedly expose society's foibles and fears. Life is not idealized for its grandeur and accomplishment, but made to admit the cheap pettiness that often abounds. Jean Lowe's paintings reference the ornate beauty of baroque palace interiors, but the stuff inside is consumer culture crap — discount racks of tacky, disposable stuff desired for cheapness rather than style. The paint mimics these blunt tastes through the unsubtle clarity of direct, opaque color.

A sense of grace, and even sentimentality, appear in Barnaby Barford's video "Damaged Goods." The visuals are interesting and lovely, as porcelain figures come to life amidst knickknacks and Victorian clutter. Ceramic animals play and a crazy

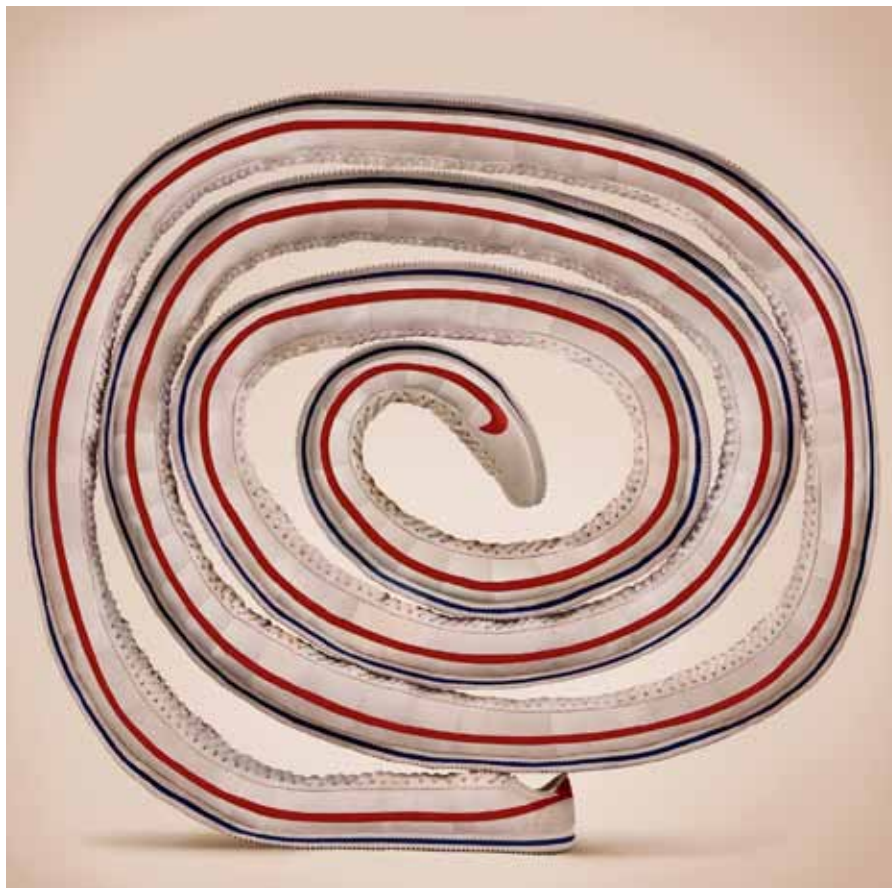


PHOTO: COURTESY FLEISHER OLLMAN GALLERY, PENNSYLVANIA

**Steven & Billy Blaise Dufala, Long Runner, 2009.**

sideshow circus appears out of nowhere, but the main story is a forbidden love with disastrous consequences, à la Romeo and Juliet. The ending takes a surprise twist, but the theme overtly suggests we are all damaged goods in our own way. As is suggested in much of this exhibition, there is truth in that.

While most of the art focuses on humans, one artist who famously does not is William Wegman, known for his ubiquitous photo-

graphs of Weimaraners. The dogs are irresistible for their sleekness and charm, but Wegman escapes the snare of kitsch. He is like a talented film director, coaxing stellar performances from the dogs in still photos and an early video called "Dog Duet." Two dogs sit in an ambiguous space, their heads moving in unison like spectators following a tennis match. Even the dogs' eyebrows become funny, but ultimately, whose attention is more raptly held?

Is it us watching the dogs, or the dogs watching the mystery item revealed at the end of the video?

Besides the main exhibition space, additional galleries host smaller shows. Jim Neel presents "Babel," an installation of ceramic, life-sized chimpanzees in military garb reflecting ancient and modern civilizations. The strongest visual reference is to the famous Chinese terra cotta warriors, as these chimps are similarly orga-

nized. Though Neel has rich ambitions through visual cues and poetic references to Percy Bysshe Shelley's sonnet "Ozymandias," the end result is more likely to evoke "Planet of the Apes" in the mind of the viewer.

For those with a penchant for reading Sunday funnies in the newspaper, a gallery displays "Lynda Barry and Roz Chast: Comic Reflections." Chast, whose cartoons often appear in the New Yorker, draws out urban anxiety and offers up some fantastic one-liners to share with friends. "Prayers of the Faithful" depicts a sidewalk scene of people with thought bubbles over their heads, revealing their futile hopes: "Pilates will change my life." "It's not too late to invest in Google." "Perhaps her answering machine is broken."

Danish artist Mads Lynnerup, in a small solo show called "Flip-Flop Ordinary," also plays on inner desires and motivations. "Routines" explores the habits of a neighborhood, teasing out the secret life of regulars in their daily stops at the liquor store, out for smoke breaks or walking the dog. On a more insular tone, a paper umbrella on the floor sets up a suggestion of rain, but becomes an amusing surprise when viewed from behind. "Flip-Flop Floor," an installation where visitors can walk around in cardboard flip-flops (and take them home, rather like a toy surprise in a gallery), melds grown-up sophistication with childlike play.

That, in itself, is an art.

**Artwatch**  
DEBRA BREHMER

When you head to the John Michael Kohler Arts Center in Sheboygan, you might want to make a full day of it. This week, I discovered an amazing restaurant

that has been in the downtown area for five years but somehow eluded my culinary radar. Margaux, 821 N. Eighth St., is owned by chef Rob Hurrie, who previously served as executive chef at Blackwolf Run in Kohler.

Margaux offers a contemporary, relaxed environment (clean, open, airy) with outstanding food and wine. Often these kind of ambi-

tious restaurants in smallish cities try way too hard and end up serving overly fussy foods that are meant to impress, but lack artisanal soul. This place seems to have both heart and good food politics embedded in its offerings. Hurrie is committed to locally grown ingredients (they partner with an organic farm) as well as a seasonal menu.

What sets Margaux apart from others of its ilk is the surprisingly innovative and seemingly original compositions. I had an heirloom tomato and basil bisque soup that had the smallest touch of goat cheese and truffle oil on the top. This magical compote was so interesting in flavor that every sip to the bottom of the bowl held the same level of pleasure,

discovery and surprise. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 5 to 7 p.m., a "Happy Hour" offers half-priced small plates and discounts on wine by the glass.

This week in the Milwaukee art world, I recommend checking out the Haggerty Museum of Art on the Marquette campus (13th and Clybourn). It just opened a suite of new shows, includ-

ing the locally sourced "Let There Be Light," an exhibition of stained glass, both historic and contemporary, from the collection of Paul Phelps, owner of Oakbrook Esser Studios. The exhibit runs Aug. 25 through Jan. 2, 2011.

Send letters to [lweisberg@wisconsin-gazette.com](mailto:lweisberg@wisconsin-gazette.com).

DVDiva

GREGG SHAPIRO

**'OFF AND RUNNING'**

(First Run Features)

Nicole Opper's documentary "Off and Running: An American Coming of Age Story" provides a unique LGBT twist to the genre. The film begins with African-American teenager Avery, a good student and rising track and field star, writing a letter to her birth mother Kay. Adoptive lesbian mothers Travis and Tova raised Avery and her two brothers in a Jewish household. Avery's interest in her birth heritage arose from attending Erasmus Hall High School, which has a large African-American student population.

After a few months, Avery receives a response from her mother that's friendly but distant. Kay answers some of Avery's questions but her experience is different from that of her best friend Jenna, who met with her birth mother, and her brother Rafi, who made a connection with his biological brother and sister.

Rafi's departure to Princeton following graduation combined with Kay's lack of response creates difficulty and discomfort for Avery. As she discovers black culture, Avery feels misunderstood by her mothers.

Avery's struggle with her identity leads to a downward spiral. She eventually



PHOTO: COURTESY

**'Off and Running'**

drops out of school with a plan to get her GED. Feeling out of place at home, she begins staying with various friends. In the midst of this, Travis and Tova, who are worried about and hurt by Avery's actions, get married in Toronto. Finally, a pregnancy scare leads Avery to a trans-racial adoptive counselor who helps her get her life back on track.

"Off and Running" is a film for everyone – gay, straight, childless or with a houseful of children. DVD special features include a behind-the-

scenes look, bonus scenes and more.

"Off and Running" airs on PBS's "POV" ("Point of View") series at 10 p.m. Sept. 7 (check local listings). "POV" will stream the documentary Sept. 8-Dec. 7 at [www.pbs.org/pov/](http://www.pbs.org/pov/) video to commemorate National Adoption Month in November.

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## Film

GREGG SHAPIRO

**'THE TILLMAN STORY'**

(The Weinstein Company)

There are countless infuriating stories connected to the war in Iraq, but few are as horrifying as the death of pro-football player turned soldier Pat Tillman.

Narrated by Josh Brolin, filmmaker Amir Bar-Lev's exceptional doc "The Tillman Story" is bound to stir up emotions and debate. Model-handsome Tillman excelled academically at Arizona State, where he also was a football star. He graduated to a multi-million dollar career in the NFL. But the events of Sept. 11, 2001, had a profound impact on him. Shortly after he married childhood

sweetheart Marie (Ugenti) in 2002, he and younger brother Kevin enlisted in the Army for a three-year stint.

Tillman carried his well-known dedication and professionalism into his military career. He was a model soldier who earned the respect of his battalion, including Bryan O'Neal and Russell Baer. But on April 22, 2004, things changed forever. A firefight in a canyon near Magarah went horribly wrong, possibly due to overexcitement among some of the troops. Tillman, who repeatedly identified himself by shouting, "I'm Pat fucking Tillman," was killed in a barrage of gunfire.

What came next was a cover-up that reached all the way to the highest levels of the U.S. government. Posthumously awarded the Silver Star and celebrated with honor at a memo-

rial service, Tillman's legacy became the stuff of heroic myth. That is, until the military's story began to unravel and the truth was revealed, little by little.

Bar-Lev focused on the difference between spinning the story and setting the record straight through interviews with Tillman's mother Donnie (who exudes a Judy Shepard quality), his father Patrick Sr., youngest brother Richard and widow Marie, as well as O'Neal, Baer and military officials. "The Tillman Story" is as much a tribute to the memory of a young man cut down in the prime of his life as it is testament to the resilience and persistence of a family who wanted to learn the truth about the death of a loved one.

Send letters to [lweisberg@wisconsin Gazette.com](mailto:lweisberg@wisconsin Gazette.com).



Pat Tillman

PHOTO: COURTESY

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## Music

GREGG SHAPIRO

## iMusic: Viva diva variety

## JOANNA NEWSOM

When it comes to harp-playing freak-folk goddess Joanna Newsom, you either love her or hate her. There doesn't seem to be much room in her vocal range for a middle ground. With her ambitious new triple-disc set "Have One On Me" (Drag City), I find myself in the former camp. An acquired taste, Newsom occupies a sphere in which early Kate Bush, early Joni Mitchell and Martha Wainwright merge. The project is epic in scope, and many of the tracks are six or more minutes, qualifying them as near-epic in their own right. All in all, "Have One On Me" has its own unavoidable charms. Emphatically recommended numbers include "Easy," "Good Intentions Paving Co." and "In California."

## BROOKE WAGGONER

Brooke Waggoner sounds

like a more spiritual musical cousin of Newsom. She is said to make "Christian music for people who are tired of Christian music." If Waggoner can keep the attention of this staunch atheist, then she has a convert, musically at least. "Go Easy Little Doves" (Swoon Moon) is lushly orchestrated. With only one overt mention of God ("Body"), the disc is ultimately intended as a celebration of finding a mate and (straight) marriage.

## LE KAT

"Boudoir Rouge" (lekat-music.com) by Le Kat could be a soundtrack for the burlesque revival burning up the globe. Well-versed in what makes a tune sizzle, Le Kat's originals, such as "Talk To Me" and the especially seductive "Desire," steam up the red zone. Le Kat revives the vamp with her own dizzying spin on a tasteful and titillating selection of covers, including Eurythmics' "I Need A Man," Esthero's "Wicked Lil' Grrrls" and Madonna's "Hanky Panky."

## APRIL SMITH

April Smith possesses an impressive set of pipes and knows her way around a vintage-sounding tune. A first-rate belter who is in complete control of her instrument, Smith and her band The Great Picture Show perform an irresistible set of original, timeless tunes on "Songs For A Sinking Ship" (aprilsmithmusic.com). From the bouncy Erin McKeown-like opener "Movie Loves A Screen" to the mean blues of "Drop Dead Gorgeous" and the sass of "Wow and Flutter," this is a vessel worth boarding.

## IMELDA MAY

Finally released domestically, "Love Tattoo" (Verve Forecast) by Imelda May leaves a mark. May's emotive voice growls one minute and purrs the next. It is a fine fit for the swinging rockabilly sensations "Wild About My Lovin'" and "Watcha Gonna Do," as well as the jazzy "Meet You At The Moon."

## ANGELA MCCLUSKEY'S

Former Wild Colonials lead singer Angela McCluskey's 2004 "The Things We Do" disc remains a personal favorite. The divine Ms. M returns with "You Could Start a Fight In an Empty House" (Bernadette). As you could guess from the title, there's domestic unrest at work on songs such as "End of My Rope," "You Let Me Down," "I Was Looking For A Fight" and the percolating electronic "Handle With Grace" (on which she is reunited with Telepopmusik). But it's far from a downer and for that McCluskey deserves to be praised.

## MISS LI

The song "I Heard of a Girl" by Swedish pop singer Miss Li (a.k.a. Linda Carlsson), from her album "Dancing The Whole Way Home" (Minty Fresh/National), takes on more significance following the suicide of bullied 15-year-old student Phoebe Prince. The track opens the disc on a solemn note and it's hard



Miss Li

to shake. "Dirty Old Man" also tackles a serious subject, but presents it in a more upbeat setting. Throughout the disc, Miss Li gives listeners plenty to think about, but

she does it so that you don't feel like you're being lectured. Miss Li isn't all work and no fun, as you can hear on "Stuck In The Sand!"

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-The Emcee



# 'Portrait' as page-turner

## An interview with author Bill Clegg

### Interview

GREGG SHAPIRO

Bill Clegg, an attractive, young, gay New York literary agent with a boyfriend in the movie industry, details his struggle with the crack cocaine addiction that nearly killed him in the memoir "Portrait of an Addict as a Young Man." Told in unflinching detail, Clegg moves back and forth in the book from his childhood and complicated relationship with his family to his exciting life in New York with partner "Noah." I spoke with Clegg shortly before the book's publication.

*Gregg Shapiro: We live in a post-James Frey memoir world. Did that concern you as you were writing "Portrait of an Addict as a Young Man"?*

Bill Clegg: I didn't think about James Frey's book once when I was writing this book. When I first started writing, I wasn't necessarily thinking of it as a book. It was initially a transcription of memories and it began while I was in rehab. When I arrived in rehab after a two-month period which resulted in a suicide attempt, I surfaced like somebody surfaces from a dream. So my memories – what I said, what I saw, what I felt – I had this feeling that those would evaporate in time. ... I started writing them down

in as much detail as I could. Part of the urgency was that so much of the period was confused for me. I thought if I wrote everything down, I'd ... be able to distinguish the truth from the delusion once I had more distance. ... That experience of transcribing memories went on for a couple of years. ... The issue of James Frey or other addiction memoirs didn't come up because I hadn't read those memoirs. It started as an incredibly personal and private thing.

*GS: Once it began taking shape as a book, why did you decide to keep it in the memoir format as opposed to the liberties you might have been afforded in a fictional format?*

BC: Because when other addicts and alcoholics have been candid about their experiences with me, it gives me courage to be more candid and more honest. Being honest about where my addiction took me, I feel less shame around it and I feel relief. If being candid about my experience inspires anyone else to be honest about what's going on with them, and if that lifts the shame in any way, it's worth it. Also, I went back through what I had written, and the hardest thing was how desperately lonely the experience was. Even ... when I was, on the surface, successful and living a crowded life, I was desperately lonely because I had this secret. I tried to manage my use: to have only

two drinks at night, to come home at two in the morning as opposed to 10 in the morning. I failed every time. That struggle ... was loaded with shame. I was convinced that if anybody found out, I would be banished from the life that I occupied. Of course now, in recovery, I know many recovering alcoholics and addicts who have struggled like I did. If anybody recognizes themselves in my struggle or sees how impossible it is to manage (addiction), then they might step up and get help.

*GS: As you mentioned, your drug of choice was crack cocaine.*

BC: I think people struggle with addiction and it takes many forms. There is some hole that needs to be filled and how that manifests in life has a lot to do with where you are, where you grew up and what you had access to. If I grew up in Antarctica ... God knows what I would have been addicted to there. Penguin feathers or something.

*GS: There is a sense that the book is more than just a memoir, that it's intended to be a tool to aid others.*

BC: That's the reason that it exists as a published document ... to be useful. And I hope that it is.

*GS: Being in the literary world, was it inevitable that you would write a book, about this experience or something else?*

BC: There's certainly a novel that I've been strug-

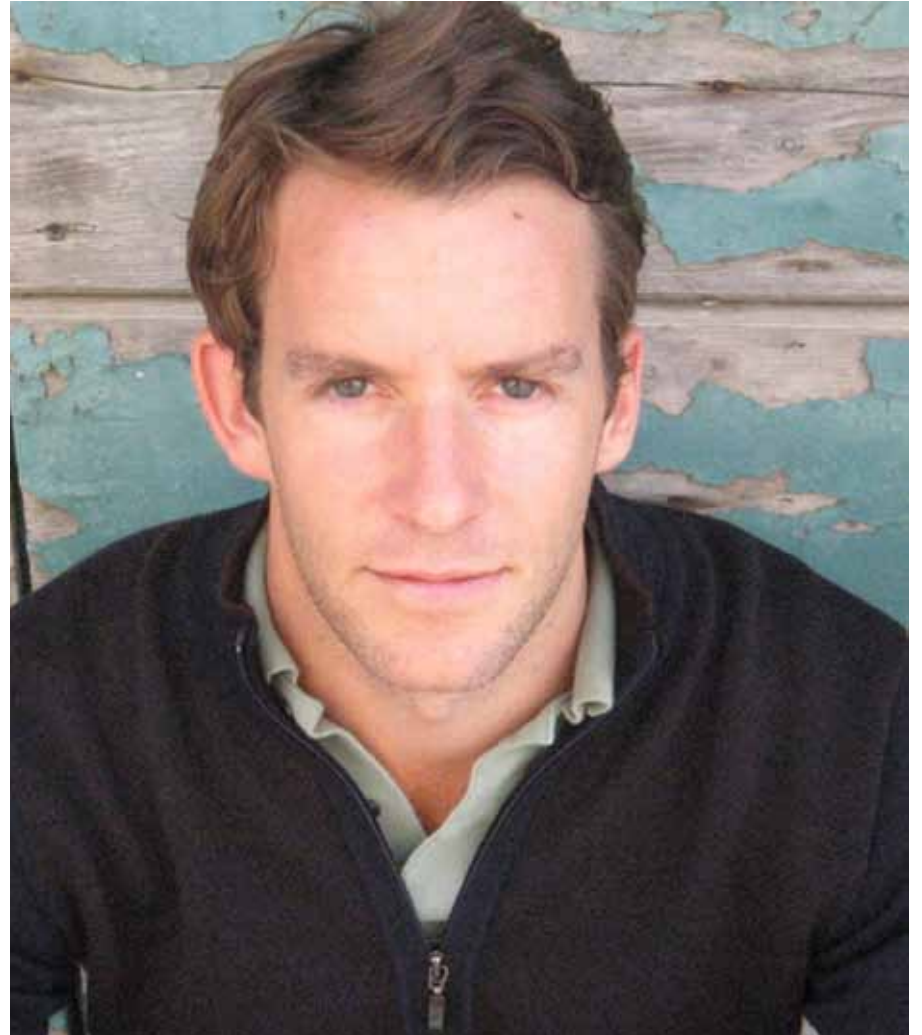


PHOTO: COURTESY


### Author Bill Clegg

gling with for over a decade, but I don't think I'm going to torture the world by having it rear its head. What I say to the writers that I work with is unless you have to do it,

don't do it. That should be the measure for all artistic endeavors. If you have to do it, do it. I had to do this. It began in the earliest hours of my struggle to get sober

and it never went away. At a certain point I stepped out of the way of it and let it happen.

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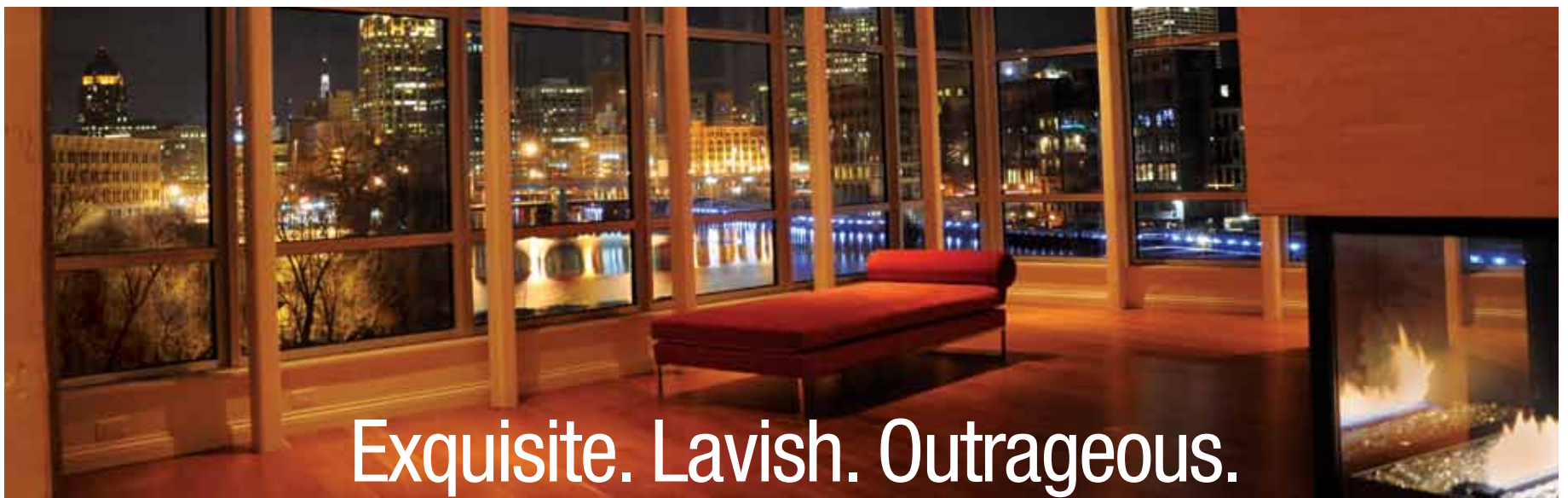
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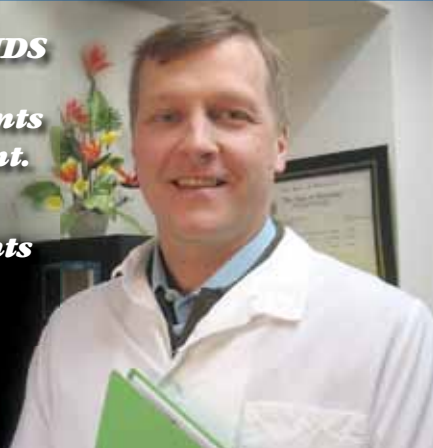
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 Excellence in HIV Health Care

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

## WIG'S TAIL-WAGGER

COURTESY OF THE WISCONSIN HUMANE SOCIETY

Molly is a 2-year-old American pit bull terrier mix. She has a silky tan and black coat and gorgeous brown eyes. Molly is a sweet girl who is always ready to "sit" for a treat. Meet Molly today at the Wisconsin Humane Society, located at 45th and Wisconsin Avenue in Milwaukee.

Tango's Tip: Get a sneak peek inside the new shelter, 630 W. Dekora Blvd., Saukville, Oct. 2. Enjoy food, beer and wine, silent and live auctions, animal greeters, music and self-guided tours. More details to come at [wihumane.org](http://wihumane.org) and [ozaukee humane.org](http://ozaukee humane.org).



Molly

**SEE HER TODAY!**

**AUG. 26, THURSDAY**

Admittedly bisexual Lady Gaga wannabe Ke\$ha brings her act to The Rave, 2401 W. Wisconsin, at 7 p.m. Call 414-342-RAVE.

At 9 p.m., Paul Collins is at The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison, with Ian Olvera & The Sleepwakers. Call 608-819-8777.

Milwaukee Chamber Theatre presents "Jeeves Intervenes" by Margaret Rather, based on the stories of P.G. Wodehouse, through Aug. 29 at Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800.

Club 5 Bar, 5 Applegate Court in Madison, hosts Foxy Veronica's Peach Pies Caburlesque Show at 10:30 p.m. Call 608-277-9700

**AUG. 27, FRIDAY**

Ozomatli, who addresses gay subject matter in the song "Gay Vatos In Love" from the new album "Fire Away," performs at 9 p.m. in the Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood in Madison. Call 608-241-2345.

Boulevard Theatre, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic, presents Fourplay: 4 Comedies Of Seduction, through August 29. Call 414-744-5747 or visit [www.boulevardtheatre.com](http://www.boulevardtheatre.com).

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

**AUG. 28, SATURDAY**

Kings For A Cause, a national drag event created by Anson Reign of Phoenix, brings together drag king troupes from all over the country, including the 3Kings, Debra Fox and Devon S. Hard, for a fundraising event from 7 - 9 p.m. at Mona's Niteclub, 1407 S. First St.

Club Garibaldi, 2501 S. Superior, presents Paul Collins with Ian Olvera & The Sleepwakers and The Obsoletes at 8 p.m. Call 414-483-6335.

Trampled By Turtles performs at 8 p.m. at Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth St. Call 414-286-3663.

Rock parodist Weird Al Yankovic plays The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin, at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

**AUG. 29, SUNDAY**

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

Club 5 Bar, 5 Applegate Court in 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. 31, TUESDAY**

Seventies rock legend Alice Cooper performs at 8 p.m. at The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin. Call 414-286-3663.

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

**SEPT. 2, THURSDAY**

Lady Gaga and queer band Semi Precious Weapons, recently seen together at Lollapalooza, perform at the Bradley Center, 1001 N. Fourth St., at 8 p.m. Call 414-227-0400.

The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison, presents Sam & Ruby and Abalone Dots at 7 p.m. Call 608-819-8777.

Hear the sounds of the fabulous '50s in the Milwaukee premiere of "Hula Hoop Sha-Boop" in the Stackner Cabaret, running through Sept. 4 at Milwaukee

Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells. Call 414-224-9490.



Lady Gaga

**SEPT. 3, FRIDAY**

Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin in Madison, stages a production of "Last Summer at Bluefish Cove" by the late lesbian playwright Jane Chambers, through Sept. 25. Call 608-661-9696.

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

**SEPT. 5, SUNDAY**

Club 35 Live/Club Purr, 3945 N. 35th St., hosts the Miss BrewCity Wisconsin USofA Preliminary Pageant 2010 at 10 p.m.

**SEPT. 8, WEDNESDAY**

Out singer/songwriter and indie rock favorite Tommy Keene performs at 8 p.m. at Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell. Call 414-276-7288.

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

**SEPT. 9, THURSDAY**

Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth, presents gay-friendly, politically-minded music legend Billy Bragg at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

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



Billy Bragg



# 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.  
7 p.m., third Thursdays, Lesbian Alliance movie night, LGBT Community Center, 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.mkegg.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., 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.\*  
7:30 p.m., AA Spiritual Light, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.\*  
10:30 a.m., Al-Anon, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.\*  
10:30 a.m., AA Step/Topic meeting, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.\*  
1 p.m., Cream City Squares dances, Lake Park Lutheran Church, 2647 N. Stowell, Milwaukee.  
7 p.m., AA The Big Book meeting, The

Galano Club, Milwaukee.\*  
5 p.m., OutThere LGBT youth group meeting, OutReach, Madison.\*  
5 p.m., third Sundays, PFLAG Milwaukee, Martin Luther Church, 9235 W. Bluemound Road, Wauwatosa.  
7 p.m., second Sundays, Gay and Straight in Christ, Good Shepherd Catholic Church, N88 W17658 Christman Road, Menomonee Falls, 262-502-0437.

## MONDAY

7 p.m., Spectrum - Social and networking LGBT group, Harmony Cafe, Appleton.\*  
7:30 p.m., AA Came to Believe, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.\*

## TUESDAY

12:30 p.m., third Tuesday, Retired Old/Older Lesbians (ROLLers), Madison. Info: 608-219-7751.  
5:30 p.m., AA Over and Under 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, 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, 608-828-8880, www.gildasclubmadison.org  
6:30 p.m., third Wednesday, Wauwatosa Rainbow Association monthly meeting, tosarainbow@yahoo.com.  
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.

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

## THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

### THURSDAY

**Aug. 26**

4 p.m., Party in the Park, fundraiser for Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, Washington Park, 1859 N. 40 St., www.75strong.com.

5:30 p.m., 90th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage Gala, Madison chapter of NOW, The Women's Building, 240 W. Gilman St., 608-256-1174, egalewski@alum.wellesley.edu.

### FRIDAY

**Aug. 27**

3 p.m., Camp OUT with the LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, through Aug. 29, Lake Wissota State Park, Chippewa Falls, RSVP required, lgbtcommunitycenter@yahoo.com.

5 p.m. - Midnight, MAM After Dark presents Moulin MAM, Milwaukee Art Museum, 700 N. Art Museum Drive, www.mam.org/afterdark.

### SATURDAY

**Aug. 28**

12-11 p.m., La Crosse Pride, Southside Oktoberfest Grounds, La Crosse St. and Second St., La Crosse, lacrossepride.us.

2 p.m., Life's a Beach with Single Me Out social events, North Beach, 89 Kewaunee St., Racine, 262-664-4100, programs@lgbtsewisc.org.

7 p.m., Kings for a Cause national fundraising

event, MONA's Out N About, 1407 S. First St., the3kingsenterprises@yahoo.com.

### SUNDAY

**Aug. 29**

11 a.m., 2010 Garden Party for Equality, fundraiser for HRL-PAC, \$50 suggested donation at the door, 2723 N. Summit Ave., 414-455-5292, www.hrl-pac.org.

5 p.m., pickleball with WanderWomyn, debydoo2@yahoo.com.

### TUESDAY

**Aug. 31**

5 p.m., golf with WanderWomyn, debydoo2@yahoo.com.

### WEDNESDAY

**Sept. 1**

5:30 p.m., beach volleyball with WanderWomyn, Bradford Beach, 2400 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive, debydoo2@yahoo.com.

### THURSDAY

**Sept. 2**

5 p.m., registration for Dairyland Classic softball tournament, Boom, 625 S. Second St., tournament through Sept. 6, full event schedule in this

issue, www.ssbmlmilwaukee.com

### SATURDAY

**Sept. 4**

8 p.m., Madison Gay Video Club screens "Gay Porn Stars" and "F\*ck U," 608-244-8690, www.mgvc.org.

### SUNDAY

**Sept. 5**

11:15 a.m., march with PFLAG Plain in the Wisconsin Cow Chip Parade, meet at Marion Park, Grand Avenue and First St., Prairie du Sac, pflagplain@yahoo.com.

7 p.m., Saturday Night Fever with 3Kings Enterprises, MONA's Out N About, 1407 S. First St., the3kingsenterprises@yahoo.com.

### MONDAY

**Sept. 6**

Noon to 4 p.m., Labor Day picnic with SAGE Milwaukee (adults of all ages welcome), 3162 N. 84 St., 414-224-0517.



# WALK WITH WiG

Wisconsin Gazette invites you to walk with Team WiG in ARCW's AIDS Walk Wisconsin. The walk takes place Sept. 19 on Milwaukee's lakefront. All WiG walkers get a free Wisconsin Gazette T-shirt and sense of personal satisfaction! Contact WiG team captain Lucky Tomaszek (ltomaszek@wisconsin-gazette.com) to join us. For more information about the walk, go to www.aidswalkwis.org.

# COMMUNITY GROUPS

## MILWAUKEE ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## COMMUNITY

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

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

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

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

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

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

Firebirds, P.O. Box 159, 53201.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SHEBA/Sisters Helping Each other Battle AIDS,

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

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

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

Wauwatosa Rainbow Association, [tosarainbow@yahoo.com](mailto:tosarainbow@yahoo.com).

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

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

## HEALTH

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## POLITICS

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

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

Human Rights League, 315 Court St., #9, 53212, 414-445-5292, [www.hrl-pac.org](http://www.hrl-pac.org), [hrlpac@yahoo.com](mailto:hrlpac@yahoo.com).

## RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Plymouth Church, 2717 E. Hampshire Ave., 53211, 414-964-1513, [www.plymouth-church.org](http://www.plymouth-church.org).

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

[stjamesmilwaukee.org](http://stjamesmilwaukee.org).

## SPORTS

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

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

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

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

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

## YOUTH/EDUCATION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## FOX VALLEY COMMUNITY

Harmony Café, 233 E. College Ave., Appleton, 54911, 920-734-2233, [www.harmonycafe.org](http://www.harmonycafe.org), [skenevan\\_gw@gwicc.org](mailto:skenevan_gw@gwicc.org).

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

## GREEN BAY COMMUNITY

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

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

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

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

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

## RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

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

## MADISON ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Dairyland Cowboys and Cowgirls, Club 5, 5

Applegate Court, Madison, 53713, 608-277-9700, [www.dcancd.org](http://www.dcancd.org)

## COMMUNITY

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

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

Gay / Bi Fathers Support Group, c/o Outreach, 600 Williamson St., Madison, 53703, [tooldforthis@tds.net](mailto:tooldforthis@tds.net).

## POLITICS

Fair Wisconsin, 122 State St., Suite 500, Madison, 53703, 608-441-0143, [www.fairwisconsin.org](http://www.fairwisconsin.org), [info@fairwisconsin.com](mailto:info@fairwisconsin.com).

## SPORTS

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

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

## YOUTH/EDUCATION

GSA for Safe Schools, 301 S. Bedford St., Madison, 53703, 608-661-4141, [www.gsaforsafeschools.org](http://www.gsaforsafeschools.org).

## RACINE/KENOSHA COMMUNITY

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

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

## RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

Bradford Community Church-Unitarian Universalist, 5810 8th Ave., 53140, 262-656-

0544, [www.bradforduu.org](http://www.bradforduu.org).

## SPORTS

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

## YOUTH/EDUCATION

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

## OTHER

LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, 510 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire 54701, 715-552-LGBT, [www.thecentercv.org](http://www.thecentercv.org).

LGBT Community Resource Center Seven Rivers, P.O. Box 3313, 303 Pearl St., LaCrosse, 54602, 608-784-0452, [www.7riverslgbt.org](http://www.7riverslgbt.org), [r.s.sauver@7riverslgbt.org](mailto:r.s.sauver@7riverslgbt.org), [lgbtcommunitycenter@yahoo.com](mailto:lgbtcommunitycenter@yahoo.com).





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