

## FREEDOM FIGHTERS

LGBT groups are among those fighting for freedom in the Egyptian uprising. *Page 10*



THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY

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## Probe finds anti-gay climate at Marquette

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

Marquette University appears to have few LGBT students, and those who are out on campus face ongoing harassment in classrooms and residence halls, according to an investigation commissioned by university officials.

LGBT faculty members also face a hostile atmosphere at Marquette. One unnamed professor told the investigator, "As a lesbian faculty member, I am in constant terror that I will become the next big campus controversy, so I tend to avoid campus events and speaking out."

Those are among the findings in a 31-page report by Ronni Sanlo, senior associate dean of students at UCLA. She visited Marquette by

invitation last October "to examine campus issues related to sexual orientation and gender identity/expression," according to the report.

Last spring Marquette caused an international stir in academia when university president Fr. Robert A. Wild made but then withdrew an offer to out lesbian scholar Jody O'Brien to serve as dean of the college of arts and sciences. News of the job retraction brought charges of anti-LGBT discrimination, spurring demonstrations on campus and raising questions about academic freedom at the university. Several major academic organizations considered censuring Marquette.

Fallout over the hiring scandal prompted Sanlo's investigation – and overshadowed it. "That singular event has placed a pale over the entire institution and cannot be separated from the current campus climate," her report noted.

### LITTLE SUPPORT

Sanlo told WiG she was unable to comment on the study she conducted. But in her report, Sanlo said her investigation brought her face-to-face with students, faculty, staff and administrators in a variety of settings Oct. 28-29, 2010. Her interviews ranged from one-on-one meetings to discussions

**MARQUETTE** page 8

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION



## Filming Milwaukee's LGBT homeless youth

By Will Fellows

Contributing writer

"Out of Respect" offers a 90-minute window into a year in the life of five young homeless LGBT adults in Milwaukee whose childhoods were dominated by instability, neglect, abuse and abandonment. The film also reveals the inadequacy of community support for those whose sexual/gender

orientation makes them more vulnerable to such hazards as discrimination, substance abuse and sexual exploitation.

In fall 2009, when UWM lecturer and documentary filmmaker Tess Gallun (Reel Life Films) met the young people profiled, all of them were new recipients of housing through two assistance programs. One of the

programs, Q-Blok, was a promising new resource for Milwaukee's LGBT youth in need.

By the time filming was completed about a year later, three of the youth – Amber, Jesse, and Monica – had been kicked out of their programs. Amber left Milwaukee to live with relatives for a while, then returned to the city, home-

less. Jesse began to couch-hop and his boyfriend Josh joined him. Monica lived in her car.

In anticipation of the film's Feb. 24 Milwaukee premiere, Gallun shared her thoughts and experiences.

*Will Fellows: You've explored varied topics in your previous films: wildlife conservation, gun violence, religion, HOMELESS* page 14

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LUCINDA WILLIAMS TALKS ABOUT HER DOWN-HOME STYLE, PAGE 19

# LGBT news with a twist



By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg

### RENAISSANCE DRAG

The head of Italy's National Historic Commission says the Mona Lisa was actually a male lover of artist Leonardo da Vinci.

Researcher Silvano Vicenti said at a press conference in Rome on Feb. 2 that the Mona Lisa's real name was Gian Giacomo Caprotti, a young male who became da Vinci's apprentice at age 10 and worked for the artist for 20 years.

"Salai was a favorite model for Leonardo," Vicenti said. "He certainly inserted characteristics of Salai in the Mona Lisa. .... Salai was very handsome and probably Leonardo's lover."

### BUSH ♥ MARRIAGE EQUALITY

Barbara Bush, daughter of George W. and Laura Bush, endorsed the Human Rights Campaign's New Yorkers for Marriage Equality effort, taping a video to be circulated as activists ramp up their push for legislation this year. Laura Bush already is on the record as a proponent of marriage rights for gays, as

is — in his own way — former Vice President Dick Cheney. Barbara Bush's pro-equality video can be seen at [www.hrc.org/NY4marriage](http://www.hrc.org/NY4marriage), as can videos featuring Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Whoopi Goldberg, Kyra Sedgwick, Fran Drescher, New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Julianne Moore and Kenneth Cole.

### DISTINCT ODOR

Celebrity perfumes give mere mortals the chance to smell like celebrities such as Kim Kardashian, Posh Spice, Taylor Swift and Reese Witherspoon. But Lady Gaga is creating a perfume quite unlike anything branded by those stars. According to Fashionista.com, La Gaga is developing a fragrant concoction with an odor that's reminiscent of blood and semen — perfect for little monsters.

### RED STATE PROTEST

"Red State," a controversial feature film by Kevin Smith inspired by the anti-gay antics of Kansas preacher Fred Phelps and his

Westboro Baptist Church clan, sparked a protest and counter-demonstration at Sundance Film Festival. The horror story follows a gay-obsessed preacher who kidnaps and murders people he believes to be gay. Phelps and members of his church staged a protest at the premier screening at Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, on Jan. 23. About 100 counter-protesters confronted the Phelps crew, holding satirical signs that said "God hates signs" and "Shut up and dance."

### BABY PIC

A current cover of Us Weekly featuring a photo of Elton John and his husband David Furnish with their new baby Zachary set off a controversy in the Bible Belt. After receiving complaints about the cover, a Harps supermarket in Mountain View, Ark., blocked it from view with a "family shield" — a piece of plastic bearing the words, "To protect young Harps shoppers." Zachary, the couple's first child, was born via a surrogate on Christmas Day.

### FRANCO IN OZ

The man who's something of a wizard in real life is in talks to take on the role of the Wizard in a prequel to "The Wizard of Oz."

The film "Oz, The Great and Powerful" is a Disney project to be directed by Sam Raimi ("Spiderman"), according to The Hollywood Reporter. Like the book and stage musical "Wicked," the feature film will tackle the backstory of Dorothy's visit to Oz.

The plot follows the Kansas conman who later becomes Oz's wizard after his hot air balloon is swept up by a tornado and lands in the mystical place where Dorothy will later visit. He falls in love with Glinda, the Good Witch, and the two plot against her evil sisters.

### ETHERIDGE'S 'IDIOT' GIG

Arguably the most famous lesbian in the United States, Ellen DeGeneres, had her gig on "American Idol." The second-most famous lesbian in the United States, Melissa Etheridge, now has had her gig on "American Idolot."

The folk-rocker, for eight days this month, portrayed a drug dealer in the Green Day rock opera now on Broadway. Singing the Broadway melodies didn't require any adjustment. Etheridge told AP, they're "all up in my rockin' screaming range."

### OVER ICE?

A California businessman has plans to introduce a line of medical marijuana soft drinks, including Doc Weed (think Dr. Pepper), Sour Diesel (like lemon-lime), Orange Kush (no explanation needed?) and the stock Canna Cola. A bottle will retail for about \$10 at participating medical marijuana dispensaries.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthdays this week include Mamie Van Doren, 80; James Spader, 51; Garth Brooks, 49; Ashton Kutcher, 33; Sammy Llanas of The BoDeans, 50; Carole King, 69; Judith Light, 62; Laura Dern, 44; Tina Louise, 77; Burt Reynolds, 75; Jennifer Aniston, 42; Ray Manzarek of The Doors, 72; and Christina Ricci, 31.



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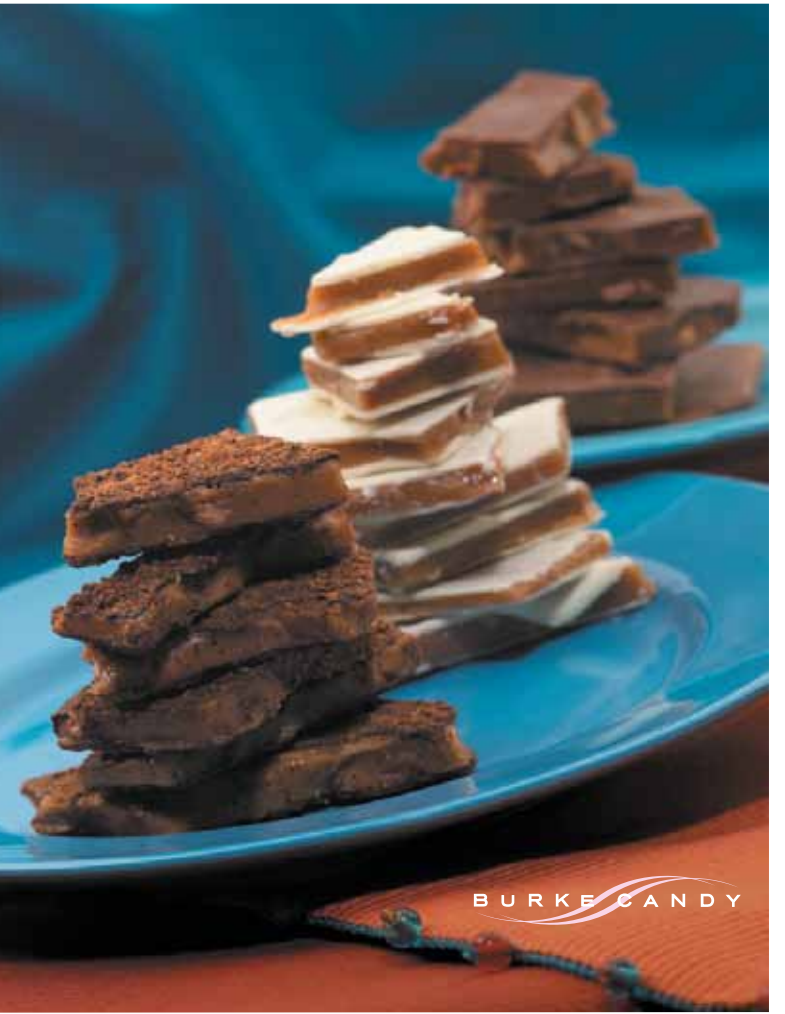

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## REGIONAL BRIEFS

## ARCW OPENS PHARMACY

The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin is opening a new HIV-dedicated pharmacy on March 1, located in the ARCW Medical Center, 820 N. Plankinton Ave. The pharmacy will be open to all HIV patients, regardless of their healthcare providers or their ability to pay for medications.

In addition to dispensing medications and providing home delivery, the pharmacy will provide in-depth adherence counseling to help ensure that HIV patients take their medications as prescribed. The pharmacy will also provide refill reminders, smoking cessation counseling, drug interaction and side-effect counseling.

"The opening of the ARCW Pharmacy is essential to assure all HIV patients in Wisconsin have access to the medications they need to achieve and maintain good health," said the center's CEO Mike Gifford. "Our patients will have access to a comprehensive array of healthcare services at one location."

To utilize the ARCW Pharmacy, contact pharmacists Rick Fons or Nick Olson at 414-223-6820.

## MILWAUKEE, MADISON HOST LGBT RELATIONSHIP FORUMS

A forum featuring LGBT relationship specialists "will provide you with the tools to protect and maintain a healthy, happy relationship with your partner," according

to the event's organizers. The three-hour forum covers such topics as effective communication, financial planning and legal issues.

The Madison Club, 5 E. Wilson St., hosts the forum from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Feb. 12. The forum moves to the Milwaukee Athletic Club, 758 N. Broadway St., from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Feb. 19.

Last year's event sold out. To pre-register, call 608-259-8702 or send e-mail to office@b-rlaw.com.

## EVENTS TO RECALL MADISON'S HOTEL WASHINGTON

Two Feb. 20 events will commemorate the anniversary of the 1996 fire that destroyed Madison's Hotel Washington, the city's major gay venue at that time.

The first event is a party from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Talula, 802 Atlas Ave., featuring food inspired by dishes served at the hotel's Cafe Palms and Barbers Closet restaurants.

The second event is from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Plan B, 924 Williamson St., featuring vintage videos, DJs and maybe a drag queen or two.

## WEBSITE SUPPORTS LGBT ELDERS

A new online forum at www.grayprideparade.com is designed to inform older LGBT adults about policies, programs and resources that can improve their lives. The public is invited to contribute by submitting blog posts for consideration, using the comments section, or donating photographs.

Longtime Milwaukee LGBT aging advocate Loree Cook-Daniels is the site's curator.

## CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM TO OPEN LGBT EXHIBIT

The Chicago History Museum opens what officials there call a first-ever exhibit on gay and lesbian history this spring.

"Out in Chicago" debuts on May 21. The timeline of the exhibit begins 150 years ago. Subjects include individuals, neighborhoods, buildings and political action.

"We are very aware that the story represents many facets, including struggles and setbacks," co-curator Jill Austin said in a press release. "We tried to find the balance between the positive experiences of these communities and the prejudices they often faced - helping to tell the whole story."

The museum has sponsored a series of programs on LGBT history in Chicago since 2004, and will continue its "Out at CHM" programming this year.

## IOWA LEADER VOWS TO HALT ANTI-GAY MEASURE

A resolution calling for a statewide vote on amending the Iowa constitution to ban gay marriage passed the state's Republican-controlled House Feb. 1.

But Senate Majority Leader Mike Gronstal has vowed to prevent the bill from getting to the floor of his chamber.

The resolution would have to be approved by the current Iowa Legislature and the one elected next year to get onto the ballot. It's aimed



PHOTO: KAT BERGER

## Ex Fabula storytelling event supports It Gets Better project

Tim Clark (above) tells his coming-out story to more than 150 listeners at Stonefly Brewery, 735 E. Center St., on Jan. 11 for an Ex Fabula event based on Dan Savage's It Gets Better project.

"We felt that January can be a dark time for many people and the stories would help us to remember that we all go through tough times - and we can get through them," said Ex Fabula co-founder Megan McGee, who chose the topic.

Several storytellers talked about growing up gay and coming out to themselves and others. All stories ended with the reassuring message that things do indeed get better. A portion of the proceeds from the evening were donated to the It Gets Better project.

Ex Fabula, a nonprofit organization devoted to storytelling, began when five friends created an event in October 2009 after being inspired by "This American Life," "The Moth" and other story-based programs.

Ex Fabula's next event is at 8 p.m. Feb. 15 at Bay View Brew Haus, 2535 S. Kinnickinnick Ave. The theme is "Valentine/Anti-Valentine."

For information, go to www.exfabula.com.

- Martin Palicki

at overturning a 2009 Iowa Supreme Court decision that legalized gay marriage. Three of the justices involved in that decision were voted out of office during last November's election.

Gronstal told the editorial board of the Des Moines Register, "It's wrong to put

your rights to a popular vote of the people."

## INDIANA GOP PUSHES ANTI-GAY MARRIAGE AMENDMENT

Republican lawmakers in Indiana are resuming their push for an amendment ban-

ning gay marriage. A legislative hearing is scheduled for this month.

Opponents said the amendment isn't needed because Indiana law already bans gay marriage, but supporters worry that courts could overturn that law.

An amendment banning gay marriage passed the General Assembly in 2005, when Republicans controlled the House and Senate, but constitutional amendments must go through two separate legislatures before being put to a public vote. In 2006, Democrats won control of the House and the proposal never cleared.

Republicans now control both chambers, giving the proposal a better shot of passing.

If it clears the legislature this year, it would have to pass again in 2013 or 2014 before getting on the ballot.

- From staff and wire reports

## Valentine's Day - a Soap Opera occasion in Madison

By Michel Muckian

Contributing writer

Valentine's Day is a special occasion for life partners Chuck Bauer and Chuck Beckwith - for professional as well as personal reasons. The two own and operate The Soap Opera, a retail and wholesale supplier of soaps, body oils and other personal products.

One of the oldest businesses on Madison's State Street, The Soap Opera was launched on March 3, 1972, in response to Beckwith's unfulfilled search for a decent hairbrush. The pair's combination of specialty products - including a full assortment of rubber ducks - and personalized service have allowed them to carve out a successful niche in what was then an almost non-existent market.

"We're known for helping customers create personalized gift selections and wrapping them," said Bauer, a former Army brat whose family settled in Philadelphia.

"The Soap Opera is very service-oriented," Beckwith agrees. "We're old-fashioned

in that way."

The Soap Opera imports and blends many of its own oils and soaps for retail sale. Larger sizes, including soaps by the gallon and perfume oils by the half-pound, are available at wholesale prices for budding entrepreneurs who want to bottle their own lines.

The current location at 319 State St. was not The Soap Opera's first home. Bauer and Beckwith, who was born in Mexico City and eventually settled with his family in Chicago, met as art students at UW-M. The pair started in business with an old dresser strapped to roller skates that they pushed around campus and down State Street, peddling their products from the dresser drawers. Although neither has formal business training, they credit experience on the street as being their best teacher.

"The joke always was that Chuck and Chuck are playing store," Bauer says. "But anyone who starts out selling from a blanket on the street learns his business

very quickly."

They also were early participants in gay causes, comprising two of the eight people who banded together in 1970 to form the Madison Association for Homosexual Equality. With college campuses focused on anti-war protests, being gay in Madison was a "non-event" in those days, the pair says.

"We mostly got together to plan dances and things," Beckwith says.

However, Bauer and Beckwith continue to tap their activist roots, opening their stunning University Heights home for tours and events in support of gay and straight social causes, including benefits for Madison's AIDS Network. They also own a former farm near New Glarus that serves as a wildlife sanctuary.

Over the decades, the pair's enterprise has blossomed, moving from a handful of soaps to literally hundreds, along with many other products. Beckwith early on satisfied his search for

a wooden-handled boar-bristled hairbrush and the store now stocks 46 different styles. "We also have 72 different lip balms," Beckwith says.

Beckwith serves as the face of The Soap Opera, spending his time on the selling floor and interacting with customers, while Bauer operates behind the scenes tending to the business side of the enterprise. The division of duties has helped both their business and relationship to prosper through good times and bad, they say.

Valentine's Day sales focus on gifts that can be mutually shared, such as massage oils. There are also Valentine's Day glycerin soaps, hand-cut by the inch from large loaves, as well as numerous chocolate-scented products. Generally among the top sellers are shaving products, including brushes, soaps and aftershave balms.

"We're seeing the move away from aerosol shaving creams to more traditional products," Beckwith says. "Our shaving supplies are



PHOTO: KELLY DOERING/STICK PEOPLE PRODUCTIONS

Chuck Bauer and Chuck Beckwith launched The Soap Opera in 1972.

popular items for girls to buy for their boyfriends."

"Or boys to buy their boyfriends," Bauer says.

What will the entrepre-

neurs buy each other for Valentine's Day? Season tickets to American Players Theatre are the gift of choice this year, as in years past, they say.

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# Lesbian Methodist minister faces church trial

By Louis Weisberg  
Staff writer

A United Methodist minister in northwest Wisconsin faces a church trial and possible dismissal from the denomination's clergy.

Charges were brought against the Rev. Amy DeLong of Osceola after she acknowledged conducting a holy union ceremony for a lesbian couple and registering with her longtime partner under Wisconsin's domestic partnership statute. The United Methodist Church, the nation's third-largest denomination, bans clergy from performing same-sex unions and allows gays and lesbians to serve as clergy only if they're celibate or keep their sexual orientation secret.

DeLong's trial, to be held in Appleton April 11-13, will be the first of its kind in the state. Penalties range from defrocking to as little as a reprimand.

The church committee that brought the charges against DeLong indicated that its members did so

## The trial is to be held in Appleton April 11-13.

only because they had no choice under church law. They released a statement praising DeLong's courage and describing the charges against her as "fundamentally unjust."

"The Committee fears that the United Methodist Church ... is at grave risk of forever losing the infinite talents, gifts and grace that gay and lesbian clergy bring to make the (church) a better, stronger, more vibrant place," the statement said.

The case has prompted a letter of protest from 32 retired Methodist bishops who urged the church to drop its ban on "self-proclaimed practicing homosexuals" serving as ministers.

The Methodist ban on openly gay clergy is a source

of contention within the church, as it is within other Protestant denominations. In recent years, proposals to eliminate the restriction have been presented on a regular basis only to be voted down by representatives at the denomination's general conferences. DeLong said the situation is unlikely to change due to the growth of church membership in the conservative southeastern United States, as well as in the developing world.

DeLong has served in the clergy for about 14 years and is well known in Wisconsin's Methodist community as an advocate for progressive causes. She's co-founder of Kairos CoMotion, a group that provides advocacy and education about progressive issues in the Methodist church.

DeLong served as a parish pastor for eight years, until complaints about her sexual orientation led to her loss of an appointment at a Milwaukee congregation in 2006. Since then she's served in the extension ministry,

without health insurance coverage and other benefits.

Despite no longer serving a congregation, DeLong, who is an elder in the church, is required to submit annual reports detailing her ministerial activities. It was in filing a report that she informed church authorities about officiating at a same-sex union ceremony.

"No one has asked me why I did the holy union, they've only asked me why I reported it," DeLong said.

Despite the elaborate preparation that's required for a church trial, DeLong said she's glad to have her sexual orientation out in the open after years of living "a divided life" in which she had to learn "how to parse the language, how to introduce my partner without calling her my partner."

"It was taking a toll on my soul and psyche," she said. "The truth-telling has been life giving. Telling the truth and being who I am openly without an ounce of shame or embarrassment, that is life giving."

DeLong said she's surrounded by a supportive team that's helping her prepare for the trial, including friends, Methodist laypeople and clergy from Wisconsin and northern Illinois.

"All of the details of this are more than one person can handle," she said. "But I am surrounded by love in every direction."

## Chuck Cicirello dies at 67

Pioneering gay bar owner Charles "Chuck" Cicirello, 67, died Feb. 1. Also known as Chuck Balistreri, he is survived by wife Mary, sons Charles and Thomas, grandchildren Tommy and Teresa, and sister Marie Bozora.

According to the Milwaukee LGBT History Project, Cicirello was "perhaps the most prolific owner/manager of gay bars in Milwaukee's history." He opened his first bar, the Neptune Club, in the late 1960s, followed by The Factory in 1972. The latter was the city's largest and most popular gay nightclub for many years.

In the early 1980s, Cicirello served as president of the Business Association of Milwaukee, a coalition of local gay bar owners. He opened the 27th Street Danceteria in the late 1980s.

From the late 1990s until it closed in autumn 2005, he managed Club 219.

Visitation for Cicirello was held Feb. 5. He was interred at Highland Memorial Park.

- L.W.

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## 'I'm close to deciding it's not worth trying to reform Marquette'

### MARQUETTE

from page 1  
involving groups of as many as 40 people at a time. She also used online surveys to garner feedback.

One of the report's most disturbing findings is that the university does not allow students to report hate incidents without being publicly identified. During her investigation, Sanlo spoke with two male students who said they were victims of an anti-gay assault but declined to report it after being told by the university's department of public safety that their identities could not be protected. They dropped the complaint, fearing further victimization.

Sanlo's investigation found few "substantive" support systems for LGBT students at Marquette, including no LGBT campus center. Although the university has a diversity office, its focus is on racial issues.

The few support channels that do exist for LGBT students are informal — "loosely developed" and "unaware of what the others are doing," according to the report.

Reflecting the institution's Jesuit roots, there's a social justice thread running throughout the Marquette community, the report stated; but it added that LGBT inclusion generally is not included in that tradition.

Sanlo found that although Marquette has a Gay Straight Alliance, its functions are more limited than similar groups on other university campuses. And unlike other organizations on its own campus, Marquette's GSA is not allowed to engage in

activism or advocacy. The group does not even have a current website.

Sanlo found that transgender and genderqueer inclusion are not addressed at all on campus.

In the wake of the O'Brien hiring scandal, faculty members who are LGBT allies feel unsupported by the administration — and even ostracized. A number of them told Sanlo they were "on the market," looking for new jobs. Others have simply given up trying to change things on campus.

"I regularly try to challenge and interrupt anti-gay language and actions, and have done so for a number of years, but I am very close to deciding that it is no longer worth it to try to reform Marquette's sexist/heterosexist culture," one faculty member is quoted as saying in the report.

### 'NOT CATHOLIC ENOUGH'

"We'd like to at least have a safe campus," said Margaret Steele, a graduate student in Marquette's philosophy department and an LGBT ally. Steele said she's familiar with Sanlo's report and can attest to the hostile climate it documents.

Steele said she attended Marquette hoping to find a values-based educational environment that promotes the Jesuit tradition of social justice. But she said she's been disappointed to find herself engulfed in a culture that seems to elevate "a couple of ambiguous statements about sexuality" over "the hundreds of scriptural injunctions about helping the poor, the sick and the disen-

franchised."

"For me, Marquette is not Catholic enough," Steele said. "They use their Catholic identity as window dressing to attract a certain customer base. But they don't show a true commitment to Christianity or Catholicism at its best. They talk up Catholicism when they want to defend something they're doing to appease their conservative customers and donors.

"There's a lot more the university could do without going in any way against Catholic teaching — just by emphasizing the shared humanity of people. The university could make the campus a more comfortable place for most people by sending the message that we might have different views but there's nothing in Catholic teaching that says we can't make people feel comfortable on campus."

### 'We'd like to at least have a safe campus.'

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"For me, Marquette is not Catholic enough," Steele said. "They use their Catholic identity as window dressing to attract a certain customer base. But they don't show a true commitment to Christianity or Catholicism at its best. They talk up Catholicism when they want to defend something they're doing to appease their conservative customers and donors.

"There's a lot more the university could do without going in any way against Catholic teaching — just by emphasizing the shared humanity of people. The university could make the campus a more comfortable place for most people by sending the message that we might have different views but there's nothing in Catholic teaching that says we can't make people feel comfortable on campus."

### 'LEGALLY DOMICILED ADULTS'

Among the many recommendations that Sanlo proposed for changing the culture at Marquette is extending employment benefits to the same-sex partners of university workers. Other Jesuit universities have done this, including Loyola University Chicago, Loyola Marymount, Georgetown University and

### ON THE WEB

To read the entire report, go to [www.wisconsinazette.com/marquette-lgbt-report](http://www.wisconsinazette.com/marquette-lgbt-report).

Seattle University.

During the academic year 2007 to 2008, 42 percent of all universities in the nation provided such benefits, according to the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources. That was the most recent year for which WiG could find statistics.

Late last year, the administration at Marquette floated a proposal for partner benefits. But in order to avoid conflict with Catholic dogma, the benefits were positioned as being for "legally domiciled adults" — that is, the benefits would be accessible to any two unmarried adults living together in a financially interdependent relationship.

Like nearly every action concerning equality on Marquette's campus, the LDS strategy appears to have galvanized both sides of the issue. Proponents of LGBT equality reacted negatively, saying it's typical of the superficial half-measures that Marquette's administration takes on equality issues. Opponents, on the other hand, said they resented the subterfuge.

"The proposal doesn't limit coverage to gays and lesbians, although the prefatory language makes it clear that coverage for homosexuals is the real issue," blogged Marquette political science professor John McAdams,

perhaps the most outspoken conservative on campus (see story page 9).

McAdams told WiG that he's speaking for others who are afraid to speak out when he contends that domestic partner benefits should be a non-starter at Marquette. Extending such benefits, he said, would put the university in the situation of subsidizing relationships its church considers illicit.

"For most gay and lesbian couples, there's no reason they both can't work — and that's doubtless the typical case," he said. "I think it's inappropriate to come to a Catholic University and then try to attack or water down the Catholic nature of the university."

### SIGNS OF PROGRESS

Although Marquette officials declined to answer questions about Sanlo's report, Kate Venne, director of university communications, e-mailed WiG an update of actions that have been taken to improve campus conditions for LGBT students, faculty and staff. They include:

- Holding an LGBTQ/ally welcome reception for new students at the start of the school year;
- Adopting a policy directing students and faculty to immediately report harassment;
- Implementing residence hall training on harassment, hate crimes, bullying and the inclusion of all students;
- Working to create safe zones on campus;
- Staging a production of the

"The Laramie Project" Feb. 24-March 6 in the Evan P. & Marion Helfaer Theatre;

- Holding a two-part lecture in late February called "Gay Issues and the Church: Is Change Happening?" presented by the Rev. James Alison, a Catholic priest, theologian and author.

According to Venne, some of these actions directly address Sanlo's recommendations. She wrote that the administration's work on improving conditions for "ALL students" is ongoing.

But Trevor Smith, a doctoral candidate in philosophy at Marquette, said he's heard promises before and "things haven't changed at all."

"Once in a while they make these overtures," he said. "They have a talking session on queer issues. But none of us have any faith that it means anything. Nobody's thoughts or feelings have changed. I have little to no faith in this administration."

Smith said the effects of the O'Brien hiring scandal have "split (his) department in half."

"I think if it were feasible to transfer somewhere else, a lot of people would look into it," he said. "But for graduate students like myself, it would mean giving up years of our lives and starting all over."

Still, some hold out hope that conditions at Marquette will improve.

Fair Wisconsin executive director Katie Belanger, whose group began working with the university to address concerns about LGBT inclusivity in the spring of 2010, sounded a hopeful note about progress on the campus.

"We were welcomed by both faculty and the administration to facilitate a meaningful dialogue to shed light on key areas for improvement," Belanger said. "While this is a long process, I believe that Marquette University will continue to take important steps in building a more inclusive institution and community for LGBT students, faculty and staff."

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## Blogging from the right on campus

### By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

Ironically, political science professor and conservative blogger John McAdams was the first person to report on Ronni Sanlo's visit to Marquette University to explore campus conditions for LGBT people. On Oct. 30, 2010, he posted an item on his blog Marquette Warrior that began: "It was supposed to be hush-hush.

"Chris Miller, vice president for student affairs, invited lesbian activist and director of the UCLA Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) Campus Resource Center Ronni Sanlo to Marquette as a 'consultant.'

"Marquette's website contains nothing at all about the visit. E-mailed invitations were sent to people who are apparently gay, lesbian or 'allies' on campus. The thing ceased to be hush-hush when we obtained an e-mail chain and 'outed' (to coin a phrase) the whole affair."

The man sometimes known as Marquette's Glenn Beck was clearly not pleased about Sanlo's appearance.

In fact, members of the Marquette community told WiG that he's probably the man she referred to anonymously in her report as "a professor who has publicly harassed and otherwise bullied Marquette faculty, staff and students without censure from the institution."

But unlike Marquette officials, who declined to answer questions about Sanlo's report, McAdams did not shy away from discussing it. He began by dismissing Sanlo's findings as inaccurate and tainted, because she spoke only to like-minded people, he said. Brandishing a verbal acuity that even his detractors acknowledge, McAdams characterized those people as "the



PHOTO: DAN ZAITZ

Two students confront a Marquette official during a forum held last spring concerning the hiring flap.

axis of grievance."

"I like that phrase," he added. "Use it."

McAdams said he wanted to set the record straight (to coin a phrase) about life at Marquette. He painted a picture of conditions on campus far different from those observed by Sanlo, claiming that Marquette is ruled by a politically correct bureaucracy that's "in business simply to cater to the aggrieved." According to him, conservatives are afraid to speak their minds.

Present company, it seemed, was excluded.

When McAdams is not defending global warming deniers and Fox News commen-

you can get a lot of leverage by being the victim," McAdams said, alluding to what he called "the race hustle" as an example.

Apparently without irony, however, McAdams went on to complain at length that people who abhor homosexuality on religious grounds are victimized for their views and denied the right to impose them on others, even at religious institutions like Marquette. McAdams insisted that Marquette has a responsibility to protect its Roman Catholic identity, and he accused its leaders of shirking their duty to protect it by "catering" to gays.

"The fundamental virtue at (Texas) A & M is that the Catholic Campus Ministry there is actually Catholic, while the Campus Ministry at Marquette is liberal/left and politically correct," McAdams wrote in a recent blog. "At Marquette, promoting the gay agenda and demonstrating against the School of the Americas seem to be the first two priorities."

Although McAdams seemed to acknowledge to WiG that injunctions against homosexual behavior are scripturally scant, he expressed the commonly held view among conservatives that those injunctions are nonetheless central, if not paramount, to a Christian identity.

But McAdams vigorously defended the principle of academic freedom for his colleagues on the left, noting that he benefits from it as much as they do.

"I've published all kinds of things on my blog," he said.

For proof, go to <http://www.mu-warrior.blogspot.com>.

tators, he regularly blogs about Marquette's "campus gay cabal," "gay fascism" and "liberal elitist bigotry."

While McAdams told WiG he believes gays and lesbians should be protected from harassment on campus, he cautioned that too many people at Marquette subscribe to the belief that "simply being disagreed with or told that homosexuality is a sin" constitutes harassment for LGBT people.

"I make the distinction between protecting gay and lesbian students from harassment and condoning their behavior," he said.

"We live in a society where

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# Human rights advocates herald Cairo uprising

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

While the world watched and listened to news of the people's uprising in Cairo's Tahrir Square, international human rights groups were monitoring government-sanctioned assaults on organizations in Cairo, Alexandria and other Egyptian cities.

The Arabic Network for Human Rights Information reported a "fierce crackdown on human rights organizations," including several involved in HIV/AIDS and LGBT rights work, such as the Hisham Mabarak Law Center, the Egyptian Center for Economic and Social Rights and the Women's Group for Human Rights.

At the law center, authorities arrested two activists and seized computers and documents.

Security forces "smashed up the offices of the Egyptian Center for Economic and Social Rights and stormed the office of the Women's Group for Human Rights," according to the ANHR.

Asmaa Soliman, director of the women's group, said of the raiders: "Some were wearing military clothes, others were special forces of the ministry of interior. The office was completely ruined, all furniture was smashed."

Representatives from these groups and other rights organizations said in early February that the Egyptian people are united in shared grievances against the regime of President Hosni Mubarak: lack of employment opportunities, inadequate standard of living and infringement on human rights and freedoms.

"There is nothing we want more than an end to the Mubarak era, which has been marred by repression, abuse and injustice," read a statement from the Egyptian Institute for Personal Rights, which has a record of action on LGBT issues.

GayEgypt, an LGBT Internet forum and website, issued a "call on all to demonstrate peacefully but we deplore the violence by the security services, factional militias, police and government."

The Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, which also works on LGBT issues, proclaimed its "deep esteem for the Egyptian people who rose up in governates around the country to loudly proclaim their aspirations for freedom, justice and human dignity, in peaceful demonstrations."

CIHRS further stated that its leadership "hopes for change and a peaceful end

to the monopolization of power, as well as the urgent need for serious measures to achieve social justice and end the blatant monopolization of wealth and spread of corruption."

Six months before the 2011 demonstrations, Egyptians assembled in a number of cities to demonstrate against the public police beating of Khaled Said. The We Are All Khaled Said movement - coordinated largely on facebook - helped initiate the mass demonstrations that began Jan. 25.

Human Rights Watch, an international watchdog and advocacy group, focused on Khaled Said's death as it researched allegations of government-sanctioned torture in Egypt for a new report, released just before the recent demonstrations began in Tahrir Square.

In that report, HRW concluded that Mubarak's government has "used torture and ill-treatment on a widespread, deliberate and systematic basis over the past two decades to glean confessions and information, or to punish detainees."

"Beatings, electric shocks, suspension in painful positions, forced standing for long periods, waterboarding, as well as rape and threat-



PHOTO: ALISDARE HICKSON FOR GAYEGYPT.COM

The first group of protesters marching under the October 6 Bridge by the Ramses Hilton in Cairo when the anti-government protests began.

ening to rape victims and their family" are conducted by special security forces and police under the authority of the Egyptian Interior Ministry, according to HRW.

"Egyptians deserve a clean break from the incredibly entrenched practice of torture," said HRW deputy director Joe Stork. "The Egyptian government's foul record ... is a huge part of what is still bringing crowds into the streets today."

HRW also has issued several papers specifically on government-sanctioned persecution and torture of gays. In 2004, HRW's "In a Time of Torture" documented the routine arbitrary arrest and torture of gay men, or suspected gay men.

Since 2000, coinciding with widespread improvements in communications technologies, HRW has tracked a series of crackdowns and raids resulting in the arrests of gays - at least a thousand between 2001 and 2004 - and the ransacking of offices of groups involved in LGBT campaigns.

The report documented the 2000 arrest of a gay couple charged with "violation of honor by threat" and "prac-

ticing immoral and indecent behavior."

A year later, authorities conducted a series of private party raids, arresting gay men for allegedly violating the Public Order and Public Morals Code. The largest of the raids resulted in the arrest of 52 males, including some youths, who became known as the Cairo 52. The raid and prosecution that followed drew international attention and condemnation.

"Every place we were held, somebody beat us," one man told HRW. "It was like they weren't dealing with human beings at all.... Like we weren't even animals, just mud or something they could kick around."

Such allegations of torture prompted a coalition of human rights groups to call on Mubarak to establish a cabinet to work on guaranteeing "equal opportunity for all Egyptians in the constitution" and ending the "arbitrary security interference in the freedom" of Egyptian people.

Now, if anti-government demonstrators get their demand met, a government other than that headed by Mubarak will be called upon to take such action.

student received a two-year prison sentence for posting a profile on a gay dating site.

Detainees told HRW about being bound, burned with cigarettes, submerged in icy water and subjected to electroshock. Doctors involved in police interrogations required detainees to strip and then kneel for examinations to determine whether they engaged in "homosexual conduct."

"Every place we were held, somebody beat us," one man told HRW. "It was like they weren't dealing with human beings at all.... Like we weren't even animals, just mud or something they could kick around."

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Now, if anti-government demonstrators get their demand met, a government other than that headed by Mubarak will be called upon to take such action.

# Prominent Ugandan gay rights activist slain

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

"Hang them," read the Ugandan tabloid headline published with a photo of David Kato and other gay rights activists.

The 42-year-old was fatally beaten with a hammer on Jan. 26.

"An atmosphere of extreme homophobia in Uganda has clearly contributed to a climate where LGBT people are unsafe," said Sharon Groves, the deputy director of the religion and faith program at the Human Rights Campaign, the largest LGBT civil rights group in the United States.

Memorials for Kato took place in late January and early February in San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York City and Washington, D.C., as well as in Cape Town, South Africa, and Uganda.

In New York on Feb. 3, activists gathered at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza for a candlelight vigil, then marched in silence to the Uganda House, the Ugandan mission, and then on to the United Nations

headquarters.

"David Kato was a hero not just to LGBT Ugandans, but to all Ugandans, and to all supporters of human rights," said Frank Mugisha. He worked with Kato at Sexual Minorities Uganda, an LGBT rights group, and spoke at the vigil.

Kato, a schoolteacher by profession, served as the advocacy officer for SMUG. Colleagues described him as a small man with a powerful presence.

"David was an important leader of the Ugandan and East African LGBT movement," said Cary Alan Johnson, executive director of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission.

Kato lived for a period in South Africa, where, with the uprising against Apartheid, he was energized - activated. "In South Africa, I fought for their liberation in Johannesburg, so when I came home ... I had the same momentum - I tried to liberate my own community," Kato said in a video posted on YouTube last year.

He became one of the most widely known and respected gay rights activists in East Africa and gained international attention as he campaigned the last two years against proposed legislation that would criminalize LGBT advocacy and lead to death sentences for homosexual conduct in his country.

Kato endured repeated threats, and, as the controversy over the pending Anti-Homosexuality Bill escalated, a Ugandan tabloid called Rolling Stone ran a front-page "expose" under the headline "Hang them" that included the names and addresses of the country's top "100 homosexuals."

In the month before his death, Kato and two other gay activists won a successful invasion of privacy claim against the periodical. The judge in the case issued an injunction banning Rolling Stone (no connection to the U.S. entertainment magazine) from publishing similar reports.

But threats and harassment continued. In the days

before his death, Kato's e-mail account was hacked, according to SMUG.

On Jan. 26, the activist was found in his home suffering serious wounds, which authorities later said were inflicted with a hammer. Kato died on the way to the hospital.

As Kato's colleagues, relatives and friends mourned, they shared a concern that Ugandan authorities would fail to conduct a full and fair investigation into the killing. Those concerns remained after police announced that a suspect was in custody, and he had confessed.

"I have no doubt that homophobia in its many vicious forms is responsible for his tragic death," Johnson said.

Police, even in the earliest reports of the killing, said that Kato's death was not related to his sexual orientation and that robbers who had killed at least 10 people in the past two months were involved. Authorities took one man, a driver for Kato, into custody and said they

were searching for a second, a housekeeper recently released from prison.

In later reports, police said 22-year-old Enock Nsubuga, in his confession of the killing, said that he became enraged at Kato, who had promised him money for sexual favors.

Responding to reports that Kato's death was the result of gay-on-gay violence or a robbery-gone-bad, the Ugandan Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights and Constitutional Law stated: "In the climate of fear and homophobic hatred stirred up in Uganda by political and religious leaders ... a murder of this kind was increasingly possible. The question was not whether it would happen, but when."

"David, along with fellow activists, had been facing direct intimidation, including receiving threats, for many, many months before he was killed. The matter now, therefore, is to ensure that those who survive can be better protected from violence."

Pressure on Ugandan

authorities to fairly and fully investigate Kato's death came also from official sources, including United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who met Feb. 1 in Ethiopia with Gilbert Balibaseka Bukenya, vice president of Uganda, to discuss LGBT rights and Kato's death, as well as upcoming elections in the country.

In the United States, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Kato's death "underscores how critical it is that both the government and the people of Uganda, along with the international community, speak out against the discrimination, harassment and intimidation of Uganda's LGBT community, and work together to ensure that all individuals are accorded the same rights and dignity to which each and every person is entitled."

Clinton encouraged people to reflect on Kato's activism and honor his "legacy by continuing the important work to which he devoted his life."

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{ Editorial }

## No place for gays

Institutions of higher learning are typically at the cutting edge of forward-thinking and cultural evolution. But not at Marquette University, where progressives complain that backward religious conservatives have a stranglehold on the administration. As a result, they fear the university's academic standing is moribund.

"Marquette is where faculty go to die," an unnamed faculty member told a researcher contracted by the university to examine conditions for LGBT people on campus.

That the examination occurred at all is encouraging. But the clandestine way it was handled clouds hopes that the subsequent report will have much impact on a campus where LGBT people and their allies clearly feel beleaguered. University officials have not been forthcoming about the report and are resistant to discussing it publicly.

Of course, following last year's hiring scandal involving lesbian scholar Jody O'Brien, Marquette will not attract many LGBT students or faculty in the near future. The recent report only underscores the perception of Marquette created by that incident. So perhaps the people responsible for the study feel there's little to gain by publicizing it. Perhaps they hope to use it to convince the real decision-makers — i.e., archdiocesan officials — that conditions on campus need to change.

We wish them luck but we don't have much faith in their success. Other Jesuit institutions have succeeded in balancing the interests of a rapidly changing world with those of a church that took 360 years to forgive Galileo for observing that the Earth revolved around the sun. But Marquette has never found the formula. At Marquette, Vatican orthodoxy trumps Jesuit social justice.

We commend those fighting for LGBT acceptance at Marquette. But we caution anyone considering enrolling or working there: It is no more comfortable or even safe to be out at Marquette than it is at Notre Dame. While baby steps are being taken, the pushback is strong and secretive. Marquette lags far behind many Jesuit universities and is likely to remain that way for some time.

The situation at Marquette not only makes it off-limits for LGBT people but threatens to erode the quality of scholarship, just as faculty there fear. That makes the situation a loss for the entire city.



{ Letters }

### IMMIGRATION EQUALITY WINS RECORD NUMBER OF ASYLUM CASES

Immigration Equality, a national organization that helps obtain asylum for individuals persecuted in their home country based on their sexual orientation, gender identity or HIV-status, won a record 101 cases in 2010. An overwhelming number of those wins — 38 — were for clients from the Caribbean, with 28 of those for individuals from Jamaica. Other cases included 24 asylum seekers from Central and South America; 16 from Eastern Europe (including seven Russian clients); nine from the African continent and five from the Middle East.

Since the mid-1990s, the United States has recognized persecution due to sexual orientation and gender identity as a basis for seeking

asylum. In the past five years, Immigration Equality and its partner law firms have represented more than 500 LGBT people fleeing persecution abroad. Clients have hailed from some of the most notoriously homophobic countries in the world, including Uganda, Syria, Egypt and elsewhere.

For too many lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, the world remains a dangerous place. In many cases, the clients who turn to Immigration Equality for help are literally running for their lives. They have been mistreated and beaten by authorities in their home country, disowned by their families and ostracized by society. By offering them safe haven, the United States is not only saving their lives, but benefitting from the talent, skills and service these people bring to our country.

Rachel B. Tiven  
executive director  
Immigration Equality

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## So they said

“

“Uganda 'anti-gay' fairy tale implodes. Killer did it because Kato wouldn't pay him for sodomy as promised.”

— Peter LaBarbera echoing anti-gay Ugandan propaganda blaming murder victim David Kato for his own killing.

“This nomination is a win for marriage equality, and that is the most I could hope for.”

— Mark Ruffalo on receiving a best supporting actor nod for his role as a sperm donor in “The Kids Are All Right.”

“Heck, all they had to do was ask me or ask Todd himself, ‘Hey Todd, you been hanging out with hookers in Anchorage?’ And he'd tell the truth.”

— Sarah Palin protesting that authorities didn't check with her or her husband before exonerating the former First Dude of Alaska of published reports that he'd become too friendly with a “massage therapist” running a prostitution ring.

“The world has gone crazy. People are turning away from the scriptures. They should turn back, they should abandon what they are doing. You cannot start admiring a fellow man. ... It is ungodly.”

— A pastor berating slain Ugandan gay activist David Kato at his own funeral. Kato was beaten to death after being targeted by a local newspaper that called for his execution. Villagers refused to bury Kato.

“They asked me (at Columbia University in 2007) why you crack down on homosexuals in Iran? I answered, we don't have so many homosexuals in Iran because we believe this act is against the human spirit and humanity.”

— Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad following the hanging of six people in his country on Jan. 31 for alleged sexual offenses.

“I have a tremendous compassion for people that are homosexual. I feel that they are bullied and abused in our society. They take such shit just because they like to be with the same sex, and it's so absurd to me.”

— Shock jock Howard Stern vowing to curtail his use of the word “fag.”

“It's not a kissing scene. It's a ton of kissing scenes. I actually just met (Leonardo DiCaprio) for the first time Saturday at the DGA Awards. He's a talented actor. I am not nervous or afraid of it being awkward. The script is great. The scenes are in there for a reason.”

— Armie Hammer, who plays opposite Leonardo DiCaprio in the upcoming biopic of J. Edgar Hoover.

“Steve McQueen is considered a real man, and he beat up his wife. Which I've never understood. He was an alcoholic that used to slap around Ali McGraw. I've heard many, many menswear designers reference Steve McQueen when they're talking about 'real men.'”

— Gay fashion designer Daniel Cox speaking with StyleLikeU.

## Right-wing judge is wrong for court

Wisconsin just came out of a very high-profile and contentious election cycle. The public may have some election fatigue, but we should not lose sight of the important races this spring, including the race for a seat on the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

The conservative candidate for Wisconsin Supreme Court is incumbent Justice David Prosser. He is part of a slim conservative majority on the increasingly contentious high court. Some have raised serious concerns regarding what appears to be an increased level of partisanship from Prosser leading up to this election.

In an early campaign press release, Prosser announced his plan to be a “complement” to the new right-wing Republican state Legislature and governor. It is critical for a justice to make decisions based on the rule of law and the facts of each

Opinion  
CORY LIEBMANN

case, not on ideological loyalties and personal partisan views. Although some have suggested that the problematic press release simply was a poor choice of words, Prosser went on to immediately court support at a Republican women's group.

Prosser has been a speaker at right-wing events, where he's shared the spotlight with some of the most ardent foes of equality. A good example is the Defending the American Dream Summit, which was sponsored by a coalition that reads like a who's who of right-wing Wisconsin extremist groups, including the Wisconsin Family Council.

The Tea Party group known as the “Northwoods Patriots” sent out a message to its supporters telling them

to vote for Prosser because he's sufficiently conservative for them.

It is important to note that before becoming a state Supreme Court justice, Prosser was a Republican Assembly member and speaker. He served in that capacity during a time when Wisconsin still had moderate Republicans. In fact, it was during his tenure that Republican Gov. Lee Dreyfus signed into law legislation prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation (1982), making Wisconsin the first state in the nation to pass such a law.

But Prosser was not among the GOP elected officials who supported that law. Instead, he was one of 45 Assembly members who voted against the landmark legislation, which passed on a close vote of 49-45.

The LGBT community should be concerned about Prosser's vote against land-

mark anti-discrimination legislation and his obvious maneuvering toward a deeper level of right-wing partisanship. There are three other candidates in the judicial race who often are described as the progressive alternatives to Prosser: Marla Stephens, who serves as the director of the state public defender's appellate division; JoAnne Koppenburg, an assistant attorney general; and private practice attorney Joel Winnig.

The primary for this race will take place on Feb. 15, and the top two vote getters will advance to a general election on April 5. Wisconsin Supreme Court terms are a full 10 years, so Wisconsin's vote in this election will have a lasting impact.

Hopefully voters will favor a fair approach to the state's highest court rather than an attempt to position the court as a complement to extreme right-wing ideology.

## Self-avowed practitioners of love

What is this obsession that religious zealots and anti-gay bigots have with sex and sex acts?

The latest silliness struck with news that the United Methodist Church is putting a woman minister in Wisconsin on trial for being a “self-avowed practicing homosexual.”

A “self-avowed practicing homosexual”? Kind of makes you go, hmmm ...

Just how long has she been practicing? Hasn't she gotten it right yet? What lesbian describes herself as a “practicing homosexual”? Where is the “practice” held? And if she “self-avowed” it, shouldn't we assume she's OK with it and move on?

Not according to some churches, which, despite a few minor developments like the Enlightenment, constitutional democracy, human rights, sex research and the 21st century, are still policing and demonizing sexuality and sexual orientation.

How creepy is it that anyone would equate two people making love to necrophilia (Cal Thomas), child

Opinion  
JAMAKAYA

or accept modes of sexual expression different from their own, everyone loves love. It's universal. It's unifying. And it's a powerful way to redirect the conversation.

I think that along with our coming-out stories, it's time to share our love stories. Not just on Valentine's Day but the whole year round. The LGBT community has a lot to teach the world about “practicing” love, both individually and collectively.

I know gay and lesbian couples who have been together 20, 30, 40 years. We rightfully celebrate the longevity of married straight couples. Is that kind of remarkable commitment, through good times and bad, less valid when accomplished by gay couples? And is it sex that sustains these long-term relationships? My bet is that it's love.

Many gay and lesbian couples are raising children from previous straight relationships. Others are choosing to share their love by having their own kids. Millions of these families are without the security of the legal, finan-

cial and health protections afforded to state-sanctioned unions. Rather than seeking “special rights,” these families are simply trying to protect their loved ones.

In recent years, efforts to establish school services for LGBT kids have been denounced by homophobes. Many of us who are gay, who survived those painful years of isolation and bullying, have vowed to ease the burden on young people. What is depicted by some as a nefarious plot to “recruit” children is actually a noble effort to save lives. However much critics may snicker, this too is motivated by love.

AIDS added a new dimension to the ostracism of gay people. But we led a constructive and compassionate response, putting in limitless hours to raise money and awareness and helping those affected. The gay community's leadership has been a model of social responsibility and it, too, was motivated by love.

So how about we all start practicing more love, this Valentine's Day and beyond?

# 'I think I may have experienced a form of depression throughout the editing process'

**HOMELESS** from page 1  
*racism. Why this topic?*

Tess Gallun: About four years ago, Jane Ottow came to my office at UWM. As LGBTQ program coordinator with Children's Service Society of Wisconsin, she was looking for help to raise awareness on gay youth aging out of foster care. She hoped we could do this through my documentary production class. I agreed, but knew it would require a bit of funding to do it right. For a year I sought grants and support, without success.

I stayed in touch with Jane, knowing that somehow, some way, I had to tell this story. My determination had to do with my own upbringing, and how fortunate I felt to have a supportive family when I came out. But it also had to do with my protective maternal instinct. My partner and I had been trying to build our own family and, after years of unsuccessful pregnancy attempts, we decided to go the adoption route. In September of 2008 we were placed with a 10-day-old baby through the child



PHOTO: "OUT OF RESPECT"

**Amber, 22, is currently homeless and jobless but pursuing a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. "We're still individuals, just trying to make ends meet and get back to stability and structure and security," she said.**

welfare system.

That first year as Mom, I began researching the aging-out process for gay youth. The more I learned, the more shocking the story became and the more urgent my need to tell it. Sexual discrimination at home, in school, and in the child

welfare system was jeopardizing the chances for gay kids to lead productive lives. As soon as I met a homeless gay youth, I became aware of the urgency and multi-layer impact. Even though I had no funding, I decided it was time to tell this story.

In September of 2009 I

invited my documentary class to begin pre-production on this powerful undertaking. Sharing this project with my students would resolve some major production expenses. More importantly, it would provide a meaningful collaboration between gay youth and college students. Both groups would learn from each other and foster community relations and social media activism. This kind of experience is one reason I love to teach!

*WF: How have you been affected by becoming closely involved in the lives of the film's subjects?*

TG: Both positively and negatively. On the positive side, I truly believe this problem can be resolved - after witnessing the youths' focus and courage to become healthy adults despite the pain they've endured; after witnessing Q-Blok and other allies in action; after seeing the discussion gain momentum.

Knowing how uninformed many parents, educators and child welfare workers are, I'm compelled to continue providing support after the documentary is done. First, through finding financial and physical support to create an educational outreach campaign. Second, by becoming a Q-Blok sponsor. Seeing the impact a few sponsors have made on one of these young people has shown me how invaluable one person can be in their lives.

On the negative side, I found myself consistent-



PHOTO: "OUT OF RESPECT"

**Josiah, 19, lost contact with director Tess Gallun before the final month of filming. "I think my parents love me, they just love their God more," he said. "I've yet to feel completely, unconditionally loved.**

### ON SCREEN

"Out of Respect: A Story of Five" premieres at 6 p.m. on Feb. 24 in the Milwaukee Art Museum's Lubar Auditorium. There is no admission. A pre-screening reception at 4:30 p.m. at Coast, 931 E. Wisconsin, is open to those donating \$25 or more. Funds support an educational outreach campaign for homeless LGBT youth.

ly feeling that my role as "professional documentary filmmaker" was denying my innate desire to become their "Mom" and bring them home. I think I may have experienced a form of depression throughout the editing process, wishing I could do more.

*WF: What effects do you hope "Out of Respect" will have?*

TG: I hope it will raise awareness of homelessness among gay youth, who are at greater risk than non-gay youth. I hope it will push schools, youth service agencies and the child welfare system to acknowledge the existence of gay youth and provide more safe resources and open support. And I hope it will mobilize allies and other families to step in where homophobic parents and families have failed - to confront discrimination, to have no tolerance for hate and to become a source of the unconditional love and respect that these youth so greatly deserve.

Our biggest challenge was to build trust with these young adults. I was asking a group of abandoned and abused youth to trust and be open to a group of privileged college students, most of whom had no understanding of being homeless or gay. Once trust was achieved, the students had to learn the balance of being close with our

*Editor's Note: Cover illustration is not from the documentary "Out of Respect."*

# Training to precede 'don't ask' repeal

**By Lisa Neff**  
*Staff writer*

Training is to begin this month as the Armed Forces prepares for the repeal of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

President Barack Obama signed the repeal bill in late December, following a lame-duck rush in the House and Senate to lift the legal barrier to out gay and lesbian servicemembers before a new, more conservative Congress was sworn into office.

Meanwhile, Log Cabin Republicans, a gay GOP group,

continues to fight for its court challenge against DADT.

In September 2010, a federal district court judge found the military ban unconstitutional in LCR's case. The Obama administration, however, has urged a clean repeal of the 17-year-old DADT through the legislative process, not the courts. So the U.S. Justice Department, turning to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, asked that the district court decision be set aside to allow Congress, the

president and the Pentagon to move forward with eliminating DADT.

On Jan. 29, the appeals court gave the Justice Department 60 days to file its brief.

The president has said DADT's repeal could take at least six months, but it will be completed this year.

In his State of the Union address, Obama said, "Starting this year, no American will be forbidden from serving the country they love because of who they love."

He added, "It is time to leave behind the divisive battles of the past. It is time to move forward as one nation."

The task force charged with repealing the policy has outlined three stages, which under-Defense Secretary Clifford Stanley summarized at a news conference Jan. 29: "The first step being implementing or changing policies, the second step being training changes and then, of course, would be the training of the actual force."

Stanley said the task force was moving forward expeditiously and already completed two major documents - an outline of the process and a memo on specific policy changes.

However, much remains to be worked out, according to gay civil rights advocates who want equal treatment for gay and lesbian servicemembers in the Armed Forces, the nation's largest employer.

The Pentagon memo released Jan. 29 indicates that the Military Equal

Opportunity program will not be amended to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Additionally, the Pentagon is still working on benefits, and how it should address domestic partnerships and gay marriages while complying with the Defense of Marriage Act. That measure, enacted in 1996, prohibits the federal recognition of same-sex marriages.

*For news updates, go to [www.wisconsin Gazette.com](http://www.wisconsin Gazette.com).*

# Survey finds increasing support on LGBT issues

An analysis of public opinion data shows increasing support among U.S. citizens on a range of LGBT civil rights issues.

The numbers "don't lie," said Joe Solmonese, president of the D.C.-based Human Rights Campaign,

which issued the report in late January.

"Americans want equal rights for LGBT citizens, and lawmakers should heed their call," Solmonese said.

The analysis found:

- In 1996, when the U.S. Defense of Marriage

Act passed, 25 percent of Americans supported marriage equality. Today, polls show 52 percent of Americans think same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marriage equality.

- In 2004, there was not a U.S. state where a majority of

citizens supported marriage equality for gays and lesbians. Today, polls show that majorities in 17 states support marriage equality.

- In 1993, 44 percent of the public supported gays serving openly in the Armed Forces. Today, polls show that

77 percent of the public supports gays serving openly in the military.

- In 1992, 42 percent of Americans said they knew someone gay or lesbian. Today, the percentage is at 77 percent.

- L.N.

**Today 77 percent know someone who is gay or lesbian.**


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WYOMING SENATE PASSES BILL FOR MARRIAGE AMENDMENT

In a warning that could portend a conflict with lawmakers, Gov. Matt Mead said in late January that Wyoming must be careful not to limit same-sex couples' access to the courts.

Both houses of the Wyoming Legislature passed bills last month seeking to deny state recognition to such marriages performed elsewhere.

The Senate voted 20-10 in favor of a resolution asking voters to amend the state constitution to specify that Wyoming wouldn't recognize same-sex marriages.

BRIEFS

The Wyoming House approved a bill to change state law to specify the state wouldn't recognize same-sex marriages or civil unions.

ACHTENBERG APPOINTED TO U.S. CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

President Barack Obama named a veteran gay rights activist and California State University trustee to a seat on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

The White House announced the appointment

of San Francisco resident Roberta Achtenberg to the commission in late January.

Achtenberg co-founded the National Center for Lesbian Rights and was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1990.

In 1993, she became the first openly gay or lesbian person to be confirmed for a federal appointment when the U.S. Senate approved President Bill Clinton's nomination of Achtenberg as assistant secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

She's served on the Cal State Board of Trustees since 2000.

POLL: MORE NY SUPPORT FOR GAY MARRIAGE

A poll released Jan. 27 showing increased support among New Yorkers for legalizing gay marriage is bolstering a new effort to revive a bill narrowly defeated in the state legislature just more than a year ago.

The Quinnipiac University poll found 56 percent of New Yorkers support legalizing gay marriage. That's almost a complete reversal from 2004, when 55 percent opposed legalization.

Regionally, 54 percent of upstaters, 55 percent of New York City voters, and 61 percent of suburban voters supported legalizing same-sex marriage.

The Republican-led Senate could take the issue up as early as this spring. The measure has strong support in the Democrat-led Assembly, and Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo supports gay marriage.

UNIVERSITY CHANGES POLICY AFTER PROTEST

Belmont University president Bob Fisher has announced that the board of trustees has added sexual orientation to its non-discrimination policy.

The Tennessee university drew national attention in December after students protested what they said was the ouster of a soccer coach, who came out as a lesbian to her team.

During a recent news conference, Fisher would not answer questions regarding Lisa Howe. The university has called her departure on Dec. 2 a "mutual decision," but students and players have said Howe was let go because she told them she was having a child with her same-sex partner.

CIVIL RIGHTS BILLS INTRODUCED IN FLORIDA

Florida state Rep. Scott Randolph filed a bill in late January that would prohibit all forms of discrimination in the workplace, including sexual orientation and gender identity.

"In a time of serious economic hardship, it is imperative that we do everything we can to encourage economic growth and investment," Randolph said. "This bill promotes smart business practices that will attract employers to our state and create jobs. The Florida Competitive Workforce Act seeks to move Florida forward."

Meanwhile, state Rep. Mark Pafford has introduced the Domestic Partnerships Act to provide some protections to same-sex couples in the state.

"At a time when many Florida families are facing difficult financial challenges, this bill will provide valuable protections, as well as responsibilities, to unmarried couples and will help more Floridians to take care of their loved ones," said Pafford. "House Bill 337 recognizes the intrinsic value of all families, and the importance that they be recognized and protected by law."

TWO SIOUX FALLS WOMEN, LEGALLY MARRIED, PETITION TO CHANGE NAMES

Two Sioux Falls, S.D., women who were legally married in Iowa are petitioning to change their names after the state of South Dakota refused to issue them driver's licenses in their married names.

A North Sioux City

woman who took her wife's name after an Iowa marriage has filed a similar petition. The Argus Leader reported that the American Civil Liberties Union is backing both petitions.

South Dakota voters in 2006 passed a constitutional amendment that banned and refused to recognize same-sex marriages and civil unions.

South Dakota Family Policy Council director Chris Hupke says the driver's license denials are proof that the amendment is being taken seriously by state government.

South Dakota ACLU director Robert Doody says constitutional amendments prohibiting same-sex marriage are being used to deny people basic rights.

ND SENATE REJECTS 'HATE' ASSAULT PENALTIES

A proposal for harsher criminal penalties for racially motivated assaults and attacks on gays and lesbians was defeated in the North Dakota Senate.

Bismarck, N.D., Sen. Margaret Sitte said the hate crimes measure would require prosecutors to prove what was in an attacker's mind during an assault. She said local state's attorneys already have the laws they need to prosecute beatings.

Sitte claimed the bill was "so broad that almost anyone could allege discrimination" to have someone prosecuted for a hate crime.

Senators defeated the legislation 37-10.

COLO. JOINS 4 STATES IN DEFENDING MARRIAGE LAW

Colorado has joined four other states in defending a federal law that defines marriage as being a union only between one man and one woman when it comes to getting federal benefits.

The Denver Post reported that Attorney General John Suthers signed onto a brief defending the federal Defense of Marriage Act, enacted in 1996. The law is being chal-

lenged in Massachusetts.

The law also allows states to not recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states. A spokesman for Suthers said he joined the case because if that provision is struck down, it would nullify the constitutional ban on gay marriage Colorado voters passed in 2006.

Gay rights groups are criticizing Suthers' decision, and say there are other issues, including economic ones, he should be focusing on.



HAWAII SENATE APPROVES SAME-SEX CIVIL UNIONS

The Hawaii Senate in January overwhelmingly approved civil unions for same-sex couples, a major step toward the proposal becoming law.

The state Senate voted 19-6 for the bill, which now goes to the state House of Representatives, where a nearly identical measure passed last year before it was vetoed by then-Gov. Linda Lingle, a Republican.

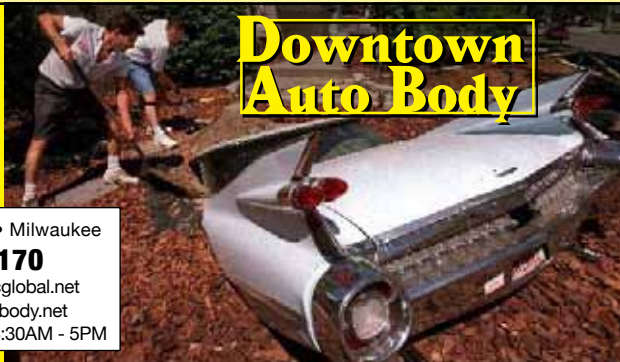
But this year, Democrats who control the state Legislature said they want to quickly approve the bill and send it to new Democratic Gov. Neil Abercrombie, who supports civil unions.

If the House and Abercrombie approve the measure, Hawaii would become the sixth state to grant some of the rights of marriage to same-sex couples without authorizing marriage itself. A civil unions bill also passed the Illinois Legislature last month.

Five states and the District of Columbia permit same-sex marriage.

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Advertisement for Toolshed Toys featuring 'An Erotic Boutique' logo and text: 'Quality sex toys & gifts for people of all genders! Friendly, knowledgeable staff... Comfortable atmosphere... LGBT-owned and operated'.

Advertisement for Bella Caffe featuring an image of coffee and a sandwich, with text: 'Coffee • Lattes • Cappuccino • Desserts • Soup Sandwiches • Quiche • Baked Goods'.



PHOTO: BRETT WHITE/WEST HOLLYWOOD

ON THE ROAD
University of Southern California film student A.J. Goodrich, center in a blue plaid shirt, has embarked on a walk across the United States to talk with people about marriage equality. In West Hollywood on Feb. 1, Mayor John Heilman, center in a black suit, joined Goodrich and his filmmaking team on the earliest steps of the 4,000-mile journey. From June 2008 through Nov. 4, 2008, the city of West Hollywood issued more than 1,000 marriage licenses and performed more than 600 civil ceremonies. Nov. 4, 2008, was the date California voters passed Prop 8, the constitutional amendment defining marriage as the union of a man and a woman.

Advertisement for QShare featuring 'CREAM CITY FOUNDATION' logo and text: 'QShare Milwaukee's LGBT Professional Network www.QShareBusiness.com'.

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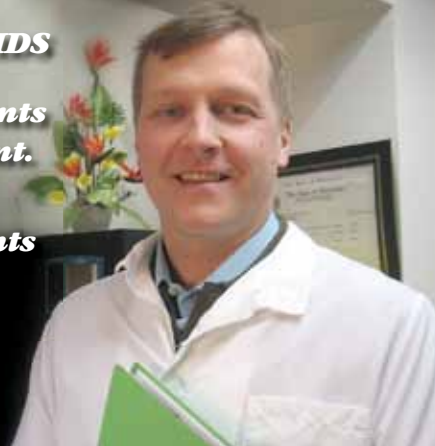
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WiGOUT!

WISCONSIN GAZETTE ENTERTAINMENT

down-home diva

By Harry Cherkinian Contributing writer

The first time I saw Lucinda Williams was in 2000. She walked tentatively on stage, hiding beneath what looked like a 50-gallon cowboy hat, surrounded by a band of men and the unwanted glare of a hot white spotlight.

But while her stage presence was yet a work in progress, the songs were complete in their rootsy brilliance. Tales of life back home in Lake Charles, La., and timeless stories of love lost and its aftermath filled the stage. Williams exuded a simple but fierce determination to tell the stories that most affected her.

I've seen her perform countless times since, and while Williams' comfort level on stage has evolved, her earnest, down-home quality remains. Her fans, including many in the LGBT community, will get a rare chance to see her in a solo acoustic performance at Turner Hall Ballroom Feb. 23, when she'll take to the stage equipped only with her guitar.

"When I first started out, people would say, 'You're really good but you need to work on your stage pres-

ence,'" Williams, sitting at the kitchen table in her Studio City, Calif., home, tells me over the phone. "Practice makes it a little bit easier."

At 58, Williams is moving in new directions, on stage and in recordings, while remaining true to her alt-country roots. She released her first album, "Ramblin'" in 1979, but it would take another 19 years before she'd break through with the landmark "Car Wheels on a Gravel Road," winning what would be the first of three Grammy Awards (out of 11 nominations). With her soon-to-be-released 11th album, "Blessed," Williams is back in the spotlight.

"There's still that pre-show anxiety thing, but I've come to sort of embrace it," Williams says. "I realize it's part of the process."

Williams keeps a lyric book on a music stand while she performs — "like a safety net, just in case," she says. That strategy has clearly influenced other performers.

When Williams performed five nights in New York City in 2007, playing a different album front to back each night, David Johansen of the classic glam rock band the New York Dolls joined

her on stage. "I could tell he was really relieved to see I had my lyric book up there," Williams says. "I even made extra copies" of songs.

A year later, when Williams and her manager and husband Tom Overby went to see the Dolls perform in Los Angeles, she got a pleasant surprise. "Bless his heart, but David Johansen had a lyric book on a music stand on stage," she says. I detect a smile in her voice.

Williams says she's come to a point in her career where live performance is integral to her persona. If she forgets a word or doesn't like the way a song is going, she'll just start over. Her audiences have come to expect it — even look forward to it.

"It seems to work for me with my audience," she says. "But I also tell them, 'Trust me, the second go around is going to be better.' And it is."

ON STAGE

Lucinda Williams performs her solo acoustic show at 8 p.m. on Feb. 23 at Turner Hall Ballroom. Call 414-286-3205 or visit www.pabsttheater.org.



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# MAM offers fresh look at Wright

By Kat Murrell

Contributing writer

Frank Lloyd Wright looms large in Wisconsin art history. He was an unabashed genius, a bigger-than-life personality and an icon who created iconic structures. A new exhibition at the Milwaukee Art Museum revisits the master architect's career from some interesting angles, with more than 150 works that bring out the many facets of his creative practice.

Born in Richland Center, Wis., Wright was a rural boy who showed an interest in engineering and architecture. One of his first projects was Unity Chapel in Spring Green, Wis., built in 1886 and still extant. Wright left the bucolic countryside to seek his fortune in the big city of Chicago.

Some of Wright's buildings remain architectural landmarks today. Unity Temple in Oak Park, Ill., was completed in 1905 and remains a functioning building. It's one focus of this exhibition. Wisconsin has a fair share of Wright designs as well, including the 1936 Johnson Wax Building (known today as the SC Johnson Administration Building), and Wright's workshop near Spring Green, called Taliesin.

So if Wright's major works are buildings that occupy their own place in the world, what can one expect to see in the confines of a museum gallery? In this case, plenty.

"Frank Lloyd Wright: Organic Architecture for the 21st Century" is a joint effort

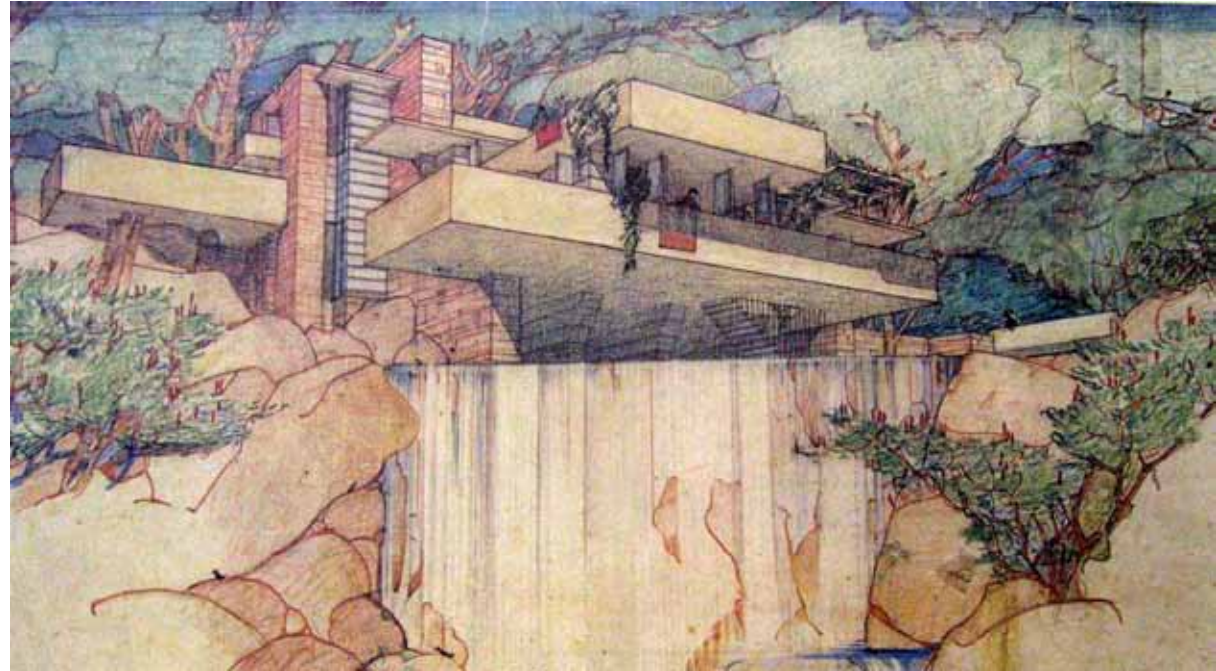


PHOTO: 2010 FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT FOUNDATION/SCOTTSDALE, ARIZ.

Frank Lloyd Wright's rendering of the Edgar J. Kaufmann House "Fallingwater" (1934-37).

between the Milwaukee Art Museum and the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation in Scottsdale, Ariz., the location of Wright's later wintertime studio. The exhibition offers a range of objects, including drawings, photographs, models and even home movies. Viewing these objects in an independent environment, apart from their architectural contexts, could prove eye opening. His buildings often feature broad, powerful lines and close ties to their organic environments. But smaller design elements are crucial players in his overall concepts. Not only did he

create the floors and walls and ceilings of his buildings, but in many cases, the lights, the furniture and other fixtures, too.

An excellent example of this is Unity Temple. The sense of harmony that flows from exterior to interior is apparent even in photographs. The repetitious geometry – the reiterations of rectangles and perfect squares – is enlivened by the bold round globes in his light fixtures. It's all Wright, not just a fortuitous fluke of multiple creative designers at work.

What may be especially

**Wright was inventive but practical. The clarity of his designs is very au courant.**

and efficiency. In examining Wright's concern with material and space efficiency, economical use of manufactured materials, attention to local environment and use of natural light, we see his profound contribution as a visionary for architectural practice in the 21st century."

This year is an appropriate one in which to look back at Wright's work as a reflection of his own day and for its relevance to our day. It's been a century since he established his studio at Taliesin, and this year marks the first decade of the Calatrava addition to the art museum. It is a fitting exhibition for considering the aesthetic and practical applications of architecture as art that shapes the spaces of our lives.

## WRIGHT NOW

"Frank Lloyd Wright: Organic Architecture for the 21st Century" is at the Milwaukee Art Museum through May 15.

sages. Several current exhibitions attempt to make us more aware of the spaces of display in relationship to the art put in them.

Charles Allis Art Museum and Villa Terrace are hosting long-term installations of contemporary Wisconsin artists within the rooms of these two historic house museums. Plagued with the frozen-in-time aura, house

museums need to find ways to keep light and breezes flowing through their abandoned hallways. As part of a centennial celebration, six Wisconsin artists have created installations in various rooms of the Allis mansion, 1801 N. Prospect. The diversity of these artists' styles provides a sense of discovery in each room.

On Feb. 16, Villa Terrace,

2220 N. Terrace Ave., opens installations by two Wisconsin ceramic artists, Linda Wervey Vitamvas and Karen Gunderman. They're creating installations for two rooms of the mansion.

Upstairs at the Haggerty Museum of Art on the Marquette campus, an exhibition of large-scale, hand-painted theater signs by Ghanaian artist Mark

Anthony addresses a very different shift of art and locale. Once hauled around Ghana on flatbed trucks to be erected as promotional signs for touring "concert parties," the signs now have entered the sterile embrace of the institution. How does this change of parlance affect our viewing of the paintings? How do we hold on to their original con-

text while re-defining them as "art?" A lecture, "The Dialectics of Mass Media in African People's Quest for Liberation" by Dr. Ahmed F. Mbalia, department of Africology at UWM, will help us fill in the missing context. The free lecture is at 6 p.m. Feb. 16.

Join WiG's online social community on facebook.

# 'Becky Shaw' explores the hazards of love

Theatre

HARRY CHERKINIAN

**'In this play, we see people actually taking a real journey, examining their choices. People get hurt.'**

Having performed in many productions in the Milwaukee area for years, out local actor David Flores is comfortable on stage. But with "Becky Shaw," he's taking a different turn, directing his first straight drama (pun intended) at Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theatre. He's finding that being an acting veteran onstage helps with directing offstage.

"I come to the project knowing what is helpful to other actors," says Flores, 46. "I know what it's like to be in their shoes."

His day job for the past 16 years has been working with the Milwaukee Housing Authority. But on weeknights and weekends, audiences have seen the talented actor play a range of roles, frequently at the same theater where he's now direct-

ing. with plot complications that include blackmail, suicide and incest. The play was a finalist for the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for drama.

Becky is not the main character, but rather the catalyst who sets into motion a series of events that brings about more questions than answers, forcing the audience to consider their own choices as the characters face theirs.

"In this play, we see people actually taking a real journey, talking to each other, examining choices," Flores says. "It's difficult, because the audience has to do quite a bit of the work as these characters don't address things that are 'under the surface.' You think they're under control when in fact they're not. And when they try dealing with them, people get hurt."

But Flores wants audiences to know that this is a "funny" drama, despite the bad karma surrounding the characters. "There are a lot

## ON STAGE

"Becky Shaw" runs Feb. 15-March 20 at Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theatre, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic. For more information, call 414-744-5757 or visit [www.boulevardtheatre.com](http://www.boulevardtheatre.com).

of laughs mixed in with all the pain," Flores says.

"Becky Shaw" is very much about understanding one's self, and what choices we can make in the pursuit to attain happiness," Flores says. "The stakes are very high. I hope that audiences want to experience that journey. Whether they're ready for that is another question. But at least if they want it, that's a start."

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"Becky Shaw" is onstage Feb. 15-March 20.

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Artwatch

DEBRA BREHMER

Most artists are conscious of how an exhibition space affects the display and reading of their work. The gallery or museum box can attempt to be white and neutral, but it secretly emits powerful mes-

# Doing the Time Warp again in Madison

## Theatre

MICHAEL MUCKIAN

If it's been a while since you've donned Riff Raff's hump, Brad's horn-rimmed glasses or Dr. Frank-N-Furter's eye makeup and bustier, never fear. Thanks to University Theatre on the UW-Madison campus, we'll all soon be able to do the Time Warp again.

UT is bringing live performances of "The Rocky Horror Show" to the Wisconsin Union Theatre in March. You'll have the chance to act up and act out with the largely student cast, dress as your favorite character and fall down in the aisles at the show that just may have the greatest cult following in the history of theater and film.

"'Rocky Horror' is campy, it's a parody," says Dennis Courtney, the out Broadway director and choreographer brought in to oversee the show. "But you may experience some self-discovery in the process."

Part B-movie science fiction send-up and part gender crossover comedy, "Rocky Horror" chronicles what happens when straight conservative couple Brad and Janet drop in on a party at Dr. Frank-N-Furter's isolated mansion one dark and stormy night. A self-confessed "sweet

transvestite from transsexual Transylvania," the good doctor invites the couple "up to the lab to see what's on the slab," and the pair is never quite the same again. If the show has a message, then that just may be it, Courtney says.

"We come from a society that tells us who to be," he explains. "'Rocky Horror' tells us who we can be, and how to have a big party to celebrate it."

The show may have emerged from author and actor Richard O'Brien's need to express his inner character, according to Courtney. Although married twice and the biological father of three children, O'Brien sometimes considered himself transgender or possibly "third sex," a sociological designation for men and women who take on characteristics or responsibilities of the opposite gender in society. "There is a continuum between male and female," O'Brien told PinkNews, Europe's largest gay news service, in 2009. "Some are hard-wired one way or another; I'm in between."

The show, which premiered at London's 63-seat Theater Upstairs in 1973, was considered at the time to be too controversial for New York audiences, Courtney says. Two years later, O'Brien's romp spawned "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," the celebrat-

## ON STAGE

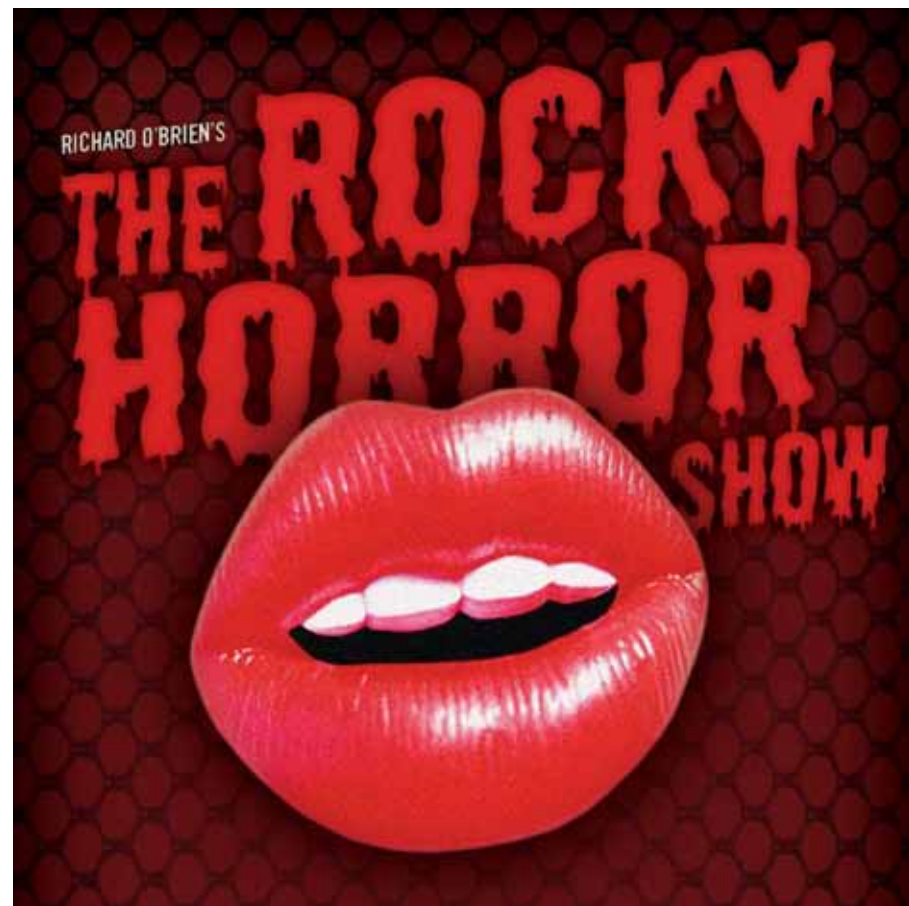
"The Rocky Horror Show" runs for five performances, including two at midnight March 3-5 at Madison's Wisconsin Union Theatre. For info, go to [www.utmadison.com](http://www.utmadison.com).

ed film version that became a cult midnight-movie favorite, with O'Brien himself playing Riff Raff. Eventually "Rocky Horror" came full circle to last fall's Halloween episode of the Fox TV hit series "Glee."

"'Rocky Horror' is highly theatrical and tends to attract a younger audience," Courtney says. "The show's theme is embodied in the character of Frank-N-Furter, a pure hedonist who celebrates who he is without apology. That's something young people aspire to."

Choreographing such a familiar property isn't difficult if you recognize that every show has iconic moments that the audience comes to expect, says Courtney, who faced a similar challenge when he choreographed a production of "Fiddler on the Roof" in Israel. By maintaining those moments a choreographer can take license in other areas. "That's where the creativity comes in," he says.

The result is an unabashed



romp with singing, dancing and audience participation. Fans of the film, which played every Friday and Saturday at Madison's Majestic Theater, Milwaukee's Oriental Theater and countless others for decades, came to the show dressed as their favorite onscreen characters. They fired squirt guns, hurled rice and tossed toast at the appropriate moments. The

barrage became so great that the Oriental began lowering an older screen before each show that would serve to protect the regular screen from abuse.

Courtney expects the Wisconsin Union Theatre crowd to do much the same thing. Or at least he hopes they will.

"I hope they come in costume!" says Courtney, who

himself used to dress up as Riff Raff, Brad or Frank-N-Furter, depending on his mood. WUT staff will be handing out bags of approved "projectiles" for audience members to toss, including a rice substitute. "Rice is just too dangerous," he says.

If nothing else, the performances will give all who come the chance to do the Time Warp one more time.

# 'Tongues' is an eloquent look at love and trust

## Theatre

JODY HIRSH

"Speaking in Tongues" is a perfect production for our times — a challenging and engrossing examination of love, trust, betrayal and need in a turbulent and fragile world. Rep artistic director Mark Clements, who directed both the London and New York premieres of the play, wisely made it part of his first season in Milwaukee.

The brilliance of this play is the way its mystery unfolds.

Rather than a systematic chronology of events, the script is a seemingly haphazard intersection of circumstances. Playwright Andrew Bovell, who first produced the play in 1998, conceived of it as a web of human relationships. Four actors play nine characters (another character is talked about but never seen).

Bovell adapted his work into a 2001 Australian film titled "Lantana," starring Anthony LaPaglia, Geoffrey Rush and Barbara Hershey. The cinematic version is necessarily more chronological, with each character played

by a separate actor. In the Rep's production, Lee Ernst, Jenny McKnight, Jonathan Smoots and Deborah Staples bring clarity and individuality to each of their nine characters.

From the very first scene, we are thrust into the complex worlds of four characters on the verge of extramarital affairs. Two scenes are performed simultaneously, in two separate and squalid hotel rooms. In a theater world that increasingly tends to emulate cinema, where the central rule is "show them, don't tell them," the glorious language of this scene (like

all the play's dialogue) sets it apart from most other contemporary plays. Poetic, yet accessible, the language is astonishingly powerful.

The opening scene is orchestrated perfectly into a symphony of dialogue, with characters sometimes speaking the same words, or dovetailing their lines between the two different scenes. Director Laura Gordon masterfully navigates the spoken word with the hand of a musical conductor. In repeating each other's lines, the actors create not just a powerful glimpse of four random people driven to infidelity,

but the images of four troubled human beings of "everyman" stature.

Much of the play consists of long speeches describing incidents or dreams, which become interwoven in surprising ways. Most striking is the need of the characters to tell their stories to perfect strangers. This complex matrix of conversation and intimacy becomes the "speaking in tongues" alluded to in the title of the play.

The screen version added a gay nuance to the story — a gay character and the suspicion that one of the "straight" husbands is having

## ON STAGE

"Speaking in Tongues" runs through March 13 in the Stiemke Studio of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater. Call 414-224-9490 or go to [www.milwaukeeeep.com](http://www.milwaukeeeep.com).

# Skylight's 'Jacques Brel' plays lively and well

## Theatre

HARRY CHERKINIAN

Thanks to the Skylight Opera Theatre, the songs of Jacques Brel are alive and well performed once again, giving audiences the chance to see and hear this rarely done revue by the Belgian singer/songwriter.

While a hit in international circles as a performer, Brel is better known to present day audiences via the performers who've covered his music — ranging from crooners Dusty Springfield and Frank Sinatra to glam rocker David Bowie and indie rock band Beirut.

The cast of four — two men, two women — convey the arc of relationships throughout the 27-song cycle, using only music and movement to tell the story within the song. Brel, who wrote in French, transcended language with his lyrical expressions of romanticism counterbalanced with

## ON STAGE

"Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris" runs through Feb. 20 in the Cabot Theatre at the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800 or go to [www.skylightopera.com](http://www.skylightopera.com).

realism — the joy of coupling juxtaposed with the sorrow of uncoupling.

It's a tricky business doing a revue today, when audiences expect dialogue and interaction. But director Ray Jivoff and the talented foursome of Liz Baltes, Alison Mary Forbes, Steve Koehler and PJ Baccari pull it off splendidly, adding a few contemporary twists of their own.

Each actor has moments to shine in the spotlight, both comic and tragic. Liz Baltes offers a stirring version of the oft-sung "Ne Me Quitte Pas" (Don't Leave Me). With just a spotlight and little move-

ment, her clipped yet vulnerable vocals and her pleading stare bare it all. Alison Mary Forbes, leading the rest of the company, is just as moving in the tale of "Old Folks," and she raises the proverbial roof with a whirlwind dervish rendition of "Carousel," her vocals accelerating wildly as the merry-go-round of life and love goes awry.

Steven Koehler entertains throughout, providing a wonderful balance of acting and singing. He presents the story of the Red Light District in "Amsterdam" as well as the poignant bookended "If We Only Have Love," which opens and closes the show.

PJ Baccari rounds out the production with "Fanette" and a duet with Forbes on "No Love You're Not Alone," a redemptive look at love lost and hopefully, rediscovered.

Jivoff keeps the pace lively and engaging amid set designer Keith Pitt's giant-sized "box" of items. Nooks and crannies of shelves are filled with old clocks, toys and collectibles (recalling artist Joseph



Steve Koehler, Liz Baltes, PJ Baccari and Alison Mary Forbes.

Cornell's assemblage boxes). The set mirrors the way memories get shelved away and pulled out when we happen to recall them, much like the songs in "Jacques Brel."

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# 'Crush' on you: Q&A with Juan Velazquez

By Gregg Shapiro  
Staff writer

Juan Velazquez plays guitar in Abe Vigoda — the band, not the actor. Velazquez is one of a growing number of out musicians playing in cool indie bands, including Grizzly Bear, The Soft Pack and These Arms Are Snakes.

With its welcome use of synthesizers and dance beats, "Crush" (PPM), Abe Vigoda's new disc, might take some of the group's fans by surprise. The band has definitely increased its potential for a larger LGBT fan base.

I spoke with Velazquez (a real trooper, as he was seriously under the weather) in early 2011.

Gregg Shapiro: Would you say that the sonic difference of "Crush," audible in the songs "Dream of My Love," "Throwing Shade," "Repeating Angel" and "We Have To Mask," was a conscious decision or did it occur organically?

JV: Definitely organically, but it took a while. We write sporadically, usually when we're practicing. Our drum-

mer (Dane Chadwick), who really likes dance music, introduced electronic elements to the band. For those songs, I think we were finally more comfortable using synths. We toyed around with them as a thing that we would be able to use and then we realized how much we liked it.

GS: How has the response to "Crush" been from longtime Abe Vigoda fans?

JV: It's very varied. Some people just don't get it. To me it sounds more accessible than other things we've done through the years. Some people are not so jazzed on it, and some people like it.

GS: The songwriting on "Crush" is credited to the band Abe Vigoda. How would you describe your role in the process of song creation in Abe Vigoda?

JV: It's different for different songs. Sometimes Michael (Vidal) and I will have an idea or something we're fiddling around with on the guitar and bring that to practice. Then everyone does their own thing on it.



Abe Vigoda

We generally jam together as a band. Everyone is in charge of their own instrument as far as what they contribute. We all edit each other and edit ourselves. It's a pretty democratic way of writing songs, I think.

GS: What's the best part of being the lone gay member of a band?

JV: What's funny is that some people think everyone (in the band) is. Or they think there is one, and it's Michael, the singer. Which is really funny (laughs). When we're on tour, the other guys in the band aren't looking for girls. They're really nice guys, which is awesome. If anyone, I'm probably the one who's more like on the prowl

(laughs). I get really excited when I find someone else in a band who is gay because there aren't that many of us in indie rock. Sometimes I'll venture out (while on tour in a city) and check out the gay bars, or if I have a friend in town we'll go out and do our thing. In a way, I have a little freedom where I can go and do my own thing. I get some space away from the whole touring thing and being in close quarters with everybody.

Sometimes we'll all go out to a gay bar. It's a non-issue, obviously. I don't think I could be in a band where it was an issue.

GS: Are you aware of a contingent of LGBT fans among

Abe Vigoda's fans?

JV: I'm not aware of one if there is. Not to generalize, but we're usually playing for kind of a straight crowd. I'm not even sure people know that there's a gay member of the band. It's also not the focus of our music. There are some bands for whom that is the focus of their music, to be in a queer band to give voice to queer issues, even in a fun or punk way.

GS: Abe Vigoda is on a cross-country tour. Does being in a touring band make it difficult to maintain a relationship?

JV: You betcha! If you would have asked me this at this time last year, I would have said, "No! I have an amazing boyfriend." It was the first time that I legitimately fell in love with someone. Before that it had been more casual. In January of last year, I was in love. We went out on tour with Vampire Weekend and then recorded "Crash" around this time last year. I was gone and missed him and talked to him on the phone. It felt like a relationship. It

was great and exciting. Then I got home and soon after I got dumped. He didn't enjoy that I was gone for so long. Hopefully, I'll meet someone who doesn't mind that their significant other has to leave for a while.

GS: Does Abe Vigoda the actor know that Abe Vigoda the band exists?

JV: I have a pretty strong feeling that he does. One time somebody who wanted to interview us, instead of contacting (the band's publicist) Kasey, found his publicity person and messaged them. They got a response saying that it wasn't the band's publicist that they had reached, it was the actor's. If his publicist knows, he knows. And he doesn't seem to care, which is good.

### ON STAGE

Abe Vigoda performs Feb. 21 at Der Rathskeller/U-W Memorial Union, 800 Langdon, Madison.

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# Heart-shaped boxes: musical valentines

Music  
GREGG SHAPIRO



### FOR THE UNDER-VALUED DIVA LOVER

For years, it seemed you couldn't watch a major Hollywood movie without hearing Jennifer Warnes' gorgeous voice singing the theme song. Beginning with the Oscar-winning "It Goes Like It Goes" from "Norma Rae" and continuing with Randy Newman's Oscar-nominated "One More Hour" from "Ragtime," the Oscar-winning "Up Where We Belong" from "An Officer and A Gentleman," the Oscar-winning "I've Had

The Time of My Life" from "Dirty Dancing," and so on.

Warnes' recording career, which began in the late 1960s, yielded hit singles such as "Right Time of the Night" from 1977 and produced a handful of albums, most notably the acclaimed 1986 "Famous Blue Raincoat," on which she performed her own interpretations of songs by friend, collaborator and occasional boss Leonard Cohen (for whom Warnes was a back-up singer).

"The Hunter" (Impex), from 1992, is the latest in a series of remastered and handsomely repackaged 24-karat gold special edition reissues of her albums. The under-appreciated disc features Warnes' exquisite readings of Todd Rundgren's "Pretending To Care," The Waterboys' "The Whole of The Moon," Donald Fagen's "Big Noise, New York," and exceptional originals including "Lights of Louisiana," "Way Down Deep" (co-written by Cohen) and "I Can't Hide," making this an essential part of her canon.



### FOR THE APPLE OF YOUR EYE

Impressive in its scope, as well as its distinctive packaging, the 17 disc "Apple Records Box Set" (Apple/EMI), is both a souvenir and a celebration of a specific moment in musical history. The Beatles' legendary, if short-lived, label was home to a mind-blowing array of musical acts, reflecting their eclectic tastes in music.

In addition to a double disc set of rarities and the 21-track single disc compilation "Come and Get It: The Best of Apple Records," you will find two albums by Mary ("Those Were The Days") Hopkin, one by a pre-Warner Brothers James Taylor, one by Doris Troy, four by Badfinger, two by the

late Billy Preston and one by The Radha Krishna Temple, to mention a few. An utterly thrilling musical experience is in store for anyone who listens to these recordings.

### FOR THE SATURDAY NIGHT FEVERISH

The Bee Gees have been the subject of numerous box sets in recent years. There was the red "velvet" repackaging of 1969's ground-breaking "Odessa," the 2006 box of 1967-68 studio albums and a couple of greatest hits compilations.

The four disc set "Mythology" (Reprise) takes a different approach than the aforementioned compilations.



Each of the four brothers, Barry, Robin, the late Maurice and the late Andy, are represented on their own disc. Containing Bee Gees tracks that go back to the 1960s, as well as previously unreleased selections, the box does its part in expanding the band's legacy. The addition of a disc representing Andy's work, including hit singles such as "Shadow Dancing," "Love Is Thicker Than Water," "I Just Want To Be Your Everything" and "(Our Love) Don't Throw It All Away," among others, highlights the musical contributions of the brothers Gibb, individually and collectively.

### FOR THE METAL QUEEN

The LGBT community is well-respected and renowned for its wide ranging artistic tastes and that includes music, too. LGBT folks listen to opera and polka music, punk and show tunes, disco and classical, cabaret and salsa, country and hip-hop. So it would make sense that within this varied community that there are those who listen to metal and progressive rock. The expanded, double disc 20th anniversary edition of "Empire" (Capitol) by Queensryche would therefore make an ideal Valentine's Day gift for that special someone. That segment of queer listeners will probably delight in the theatricality of the whole affair, exemplified in the songs "Best I Can," "The Thin Line," the Pink Floyd-esque hit single "Silent Lucidity" and the title cut, as well as the "Scarborough Fair" bonus track. The second consists of a 1990 Hammersmith Odeon concert.



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### DVDiva GREGG SHAPIRO

#### 'BOYS LIFE 7'

Over the years, the "Boys Life" short film compilation series has allowed gay film fans to catch up with work from such gay filmmakers as Eytan Fox, Jason Gould, Brian Sloan, Phillip J. Bartell, Adam Salky and Michael Burke, among others. Three of the four shorts collected on "Boys Life 7" (Strand), the seventh DVD in the series, are promising additions to the canon.

In the highly stylized "The Young and Evil," which opens with an Oscar Wilde quote, 18-year-old, Tiparillo-smoking, bug-chaser Karel (Vaughn Lowery) lives with his drunk, widowed mother (Diana Jordan). Harassed in the 'hood by thugs, including The One (Reggie Watkins), Karel seems disappointed when the doctor (Heather Halley) tells him that he's tested HIV-negative. But he has plans to remedy that.

Meeting up with Julio (Eric Pumphrey) at a sex club run by Maxie (Raja), he pursues an HIV-positive maintenance man and tailor named Naaman (Mark Berry) and proceeds to seduce him.

"Spokane," subtitled "My Brother's Wedding," finds the bridegroom's gay brother David (James Waters) leaving the wedding reception early to get high with his brother's straight and married friend James (Kyle Bornheimer). After David answers some probing questions from James and the two make a drunken stop at a strip club, they wind up in bed together in David's hotel room. After a furtive and awkward start, the men achieve a level of sexual intimacy.

In Spanish with English subtitles, "Raw Love/Amor crudo" takes place at the end of the school year. Soccer-playing classmates Jeremias (Valentino Arocena) and Ivan (Juan Felipe Villanueva) are inevitably going their separate ways. But Jere is in love with Ivan, who is unable to return his friend's affections. The least interesting of

the quartet, the short film "First Date" begins with an IM exchange online and the possibility of a hook-up between ex-con "KCMuscle" (Santiago Vasquez) and underage "Luvoldr" (Tian Wei). The problem is that the whole thing feels improvised - and not in a good way.

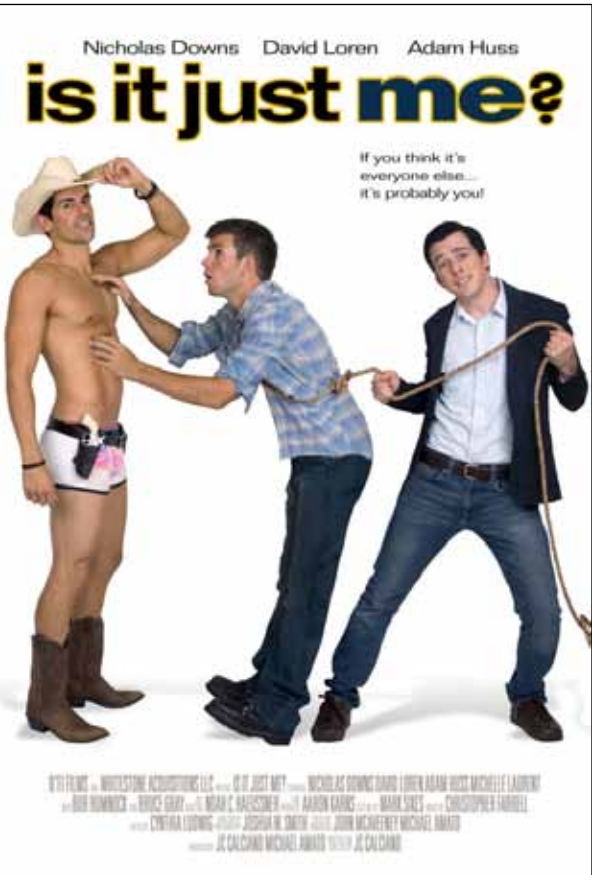
#### 'IS IT JUST ME?'

A cyber-gay "Cyrano de Bergerac," "Is It Just Me?" (Wolfe) takes the mistaken identity rom-com in a different direction. Cute as a button USA To-Gay columnist Blaine (Nicholas Downs) feels like he is invisible in his WeHo neighborhood. "Alone at sea in an ocean of beautiful men" is how he puts it in his column. He's regularly mistreated by baristas at The Healthy Bean coffee house, where he occasionally goes to write.

His gym-bunny/stripper roommate Cameron (Adam Huss) feels the exact opposite. He's an egotistical Adonis who sells his used Andrew Christians and Aussie Bums for \$20. He has his choice of any guy he wants, including his surfer dude boyfriend.

While in an online chat-room, Blaine comes across Xander (David Loren), a Texas transplant who is a fan of his "The Invisible Man" column. They move from chatting online to a phone call, where Xander plays a song on his guitar for Blaine. They have phone sex. After that, there's nothing left to do but arrange to meet at a coffeehouse.

That's where the conflict arises. Cameron, who had been using Blaine's computer, forgot to log off his profile, so while Xander was hitting it off (and getting off) with Blaine, he actually thought he was talking to Cameron. What starts out as a simple case of mistaken identity escalates into a battle of Blaine's brains versus Cameron's brawn, with plenty of room for things to go wrong or (Mr.) right. The three male leads are all terrific, both dressed and undressed, although the supporting players (with the exception of Michelle Laurent as Michelle) leave a little something to be desired, making "Is It Just Me?" a just average movie.



DVD special features include several deleted scenes, audio commentary, and more.

## In 'Blue Valentine,' love really does hurt - a lot

### Film GREGG SHAPIRO

Just like the song says, love hurts. In Derek Cianfrance's romantic tragedy "Blue Valentine," there's little doubt that house painter Ben Dean (Ryan Gosling) and nurse Cindy (Oscar-nominee Michelle Williams) love each other when we first encounter them at home with their young daughter Frankie (Faith Wladika). But unmistakable cracks are beginning to show, especially after Cindy fails to lock the yard gate and the family dog Megan gets out and is hit by a car.

Another indication of trouble brewing is that Cindy's boss, Dr. Feinberg (Ben Shenkman), has offered her a job that involves relocation, something she hasn't yet discussed with Dean. It bears

mentioning that Dr. Feinberg also is attracted to Cindy.

Leaving the present setting, "Blue Valentine" sets up a series of flashbacks to the past to establish that Dean and Cindy's relationship wasn't always so tenuous. Dean, sweet and kind of goofy, interviews at a moving company and is hired, in spite of his lack of experience. Cindy is in college, where she is studying medicine and dating jock Bobby (Mike Vogel).

Cindy lives with her parents in a house clouded with tension and often visits her grandmother, who lives in a senior's facility. It is there that Dean and Cindy meet after the moving company that employs Dean relocates an elderly man into the home.

Back in the present, Dean books a room at a Sybaris-style motel so that he and Cindy can get away following their pet's death. They drop Frankie off at Cindy's father's

house. On the way to the motel, they stop to pick up libations for the night and to refuel. Cindy runs into Bobby in the liquor store, which has an unexpected impact on her, especially since he hits on her. Once in the car, she tells Dean about seeing Bobby, and he is visibly upset.

Dean has good reason to be upset, as we discover in several of the flashbacks, because Bobby is a dark bruise in both of their

lives. The scenes from the past provide viewers with an understanding of how Cindy and Dean arrived at the crucial point they now find themselves.

The characters are intimately rendered, with a combination of humor and raw erotic heat. Williams and Gosling believably portray the blush of new and real love and the devastation of finding yourself irretrievably out of love.

**Greed. Deception. Betrayal.**

**Same s\*\*t ... different century.**

**MAURITIUS**  
a contemporary thriller  
by Theresa Rebeck  
Feb. 17 - March 13

**THE LION IN WINTER**  
a classic black comedy  
by James Goldman  
April 14 - May 1

*milwaukee chamber theatre*

Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway, Milwaukee  
414.291.7800 [milwaukeechambertheatre.com](http://milwaukeechambertheatre.com)



"Alice in Wonderland"

### FEB. 10, THURSDAY

"Alice in Wonderland" is at Off the Wall Theatre, 127 E. Wells St., through Feb. 13. Call 414-327-3552. Mercury Players at the Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin in Madison, presents "The Last Supper" through Feb. 12. "Jacques Brel Is Alive And Well And Living In Paris" runs through Feb. 20 in the Cabot Theatre at Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800. "The Norman Conquests," presented by Strollers Theatre, runs through Feb. 12 at the Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin in Madison.

### FEB. 11, FRIDAY

Carte Blanche Studios Theatre, 1024 S. Fifth, presents "The Imaginary Invalid" by Molière, through Feb. 20. Call 262-716-4689. The beloved Stephen Schwartz musical "Wicked" runs through Feb. 20 at Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, 400 W. College Ave. in Appleton. Call 920-730-3760. "Speaking In Tongues" by Andrew Bovell runs through March 13 in the Stiemke Studio at Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells. Call 414-224-9490. Boulevard Theatre, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic, presents Gina Gionfriddo's cracked comic valentine "Becky Shaw" through March 13. Call 414-744-5747 or visit boulevardtheatre.com. DJ Multidimensional Fortitude and special guest DJ John Murges present The "Love" Ball starting at 8 p.m. at Zen Den Lounge in the InterContinental Milwaukee Hotel, 139 E. Kilbourn. Call 414-978-2161. Audience members are wedding guests at Tony & Tina's Wedding, opening tonight for nine shows this weekend and next at Turner Hall Ballroom, 1032 N. Fourth. Call 414-286-3663.

### FEB. 12, SATURDAY

Nordic dance goddess Robyn performs at The Rave, 2401 W. Wisconsin. Call 414-342-RAVE. Jerry Grillo Band's annual birthday gig begins at 9 p.m. at Paddy's Pub, 2339 N. Murray. High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison, welcomes Justin Townes Earle and Jessica Lea Mayfield. Call 608-268-1122. Majestic, 115 King in Madison, presents Against Me! with Cheap Girls and Fences at 9 p.m. Call 608-251-2582.

### FEB. 13, SUNDAY

A Brahms and Schumann Soiree will be presented with Peninsula Music Festival musicians David Bell on clarinet and Judith Jackson on piano at 3 p.m. at Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church in Ellison Bay. More info at www.musicfestival.com.



### FEB. 14, MONDAY

The National Touring Company of "Wicked" hosts "Our Wicked Romance," a jazz cabaret, at 8 p.m. in the Kimberly-Clark Theater at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, 400 W. College Ave. in Appleton, with net proceeds benefiting Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS and the FCPAC. Call 920-730-3760. "Slow Start, Long Beginnings," an installation by Karin Haas, Jessica Steeber and Cassandra Smith, runs through March 19 at Walker's Point Center for the Arts, 839 S. Fifth. Call 414-672-2787.

### FEB. 15, TUESDAY

Fight Tuesday-night cabin fever at COA Club Tuesdays at COA Restaurant, 5750 N. Port Washington, Glendale. Call 414-967-1451.

### FEB. 16, WEDNESDAY

UW-Milwaukee hosts "Erase Hate - The Meaning of Matthew" with LGBT activist Judy Shepard at 7 p.m. in the Wisconsin Room of the UWM Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. Free tickets can be picked up at the LGBT Resource Center - Union WG-89. Call 414-229-5538.

### FEB. 17, THURSDAY

Boswell Book Company, 2559 N. Downer, presents Paul Harding, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of "Tinkers," at 7 p.m. Call 414-332-1181. Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, 158 N. Broadway, presents "Mauritius" through March 13. Call 414-291-7800.



"Hair" on Feb. 22

### FEB. 18, FRIDAY

"Dinner with Friends" is presented by Madison Theatre Guild through March 5 at Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin in Madison. Danceworks Performance Company presents "Vaudeville," tonight and tomorrow night at 7:30 p.m. at Danceworks Studio Theatre, 1661 N. Water. Call 414-277-8480.

### FEB. 19, SATURDAY

UW-Milwaukee's free annual drag show takes place in the Wisconsin Room of the UWM Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd., at 7 p.m. Call 414-229-5538. Jean's Jazz Series presents Davina and the Vagabonds at 7 p.m. at The Racine Theatre Guild, 2519 Northwestern (Highway 38) in Racine. Call 262-633-4218.



Brew City Bruisers

### FEB. 20, SUNDAY

Women's roller derby team Brewcity Bruisers plays at 3 p.m. at The U.S. Cellular Arena, 400 W. Kilbourn. Milwaukee Chamber Orchestra performs a concert including works by Arnold Schönberg, Swedish composer Rolf Martinsson and Ottorino Respighi at 4 p.m. at Calvary Presbyterian Church, 935 W. Wisconsin. Visit www.milwaukeechamberorchestra.org.

### FEB. 22, TUESDAY

Out singer/songwriter Pamela Means performs at 9 p.m. at Linneman's, 1001 E. Locust. Call 414-263-9844. The revival of the rock musical "Hair" runs through Feb. 27 at Marcus Center For the Performing Arts, at the corner of Water and State. Call 414-273-2787.

### FEB. 23, WEDNESDAY

Queer singer/songwriter Bitch plays The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison, with Venus in Furs, at 9:30 p.m. Call 608-819-8777. The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Union's Distinguished Lecture Series presents best-selling author Terry McMillan at 7 p.m. in the UWM Union Ballroom, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. Call 414-229-5538.

Got news? Tell us! managingeditor@wisconsinngazette.com

# OUT & ABOUT



## STATEWIDE BAR AND ENTERTAINMENT VENUE LISTINGS

### KENOSHA/RACINE

Club ICON, 6305 120th St. (off I-94), Kenosha, 262-857-3240  
Fierte, 5722 Third Ave., Kenosha, 262-764-9713  
JoDee's, 2139 Racine St., Racine, 262-634-9804

### MILWAUKEE

Art Bar, 722 Burleigh, 414-372-7880  
Ballgame, 196 S. Second St., 414-273-7474  
Boom & The Room, 625 S. Second St., 414-277-5040  
Boot Camp, 209 E. National Ave., 414-643-6900  
Fluid, 819 S. Second St., 414-643-5843  
Harbor Room, 117 E. Greenfield, 414-672-7988  
Hybrid, 707 E. Brady St., 414-810-1809  
JACK, 200 E. Washington St., 414-389-3596  
Kruz, 354 E. National Ave., 414-272-KRUZ  
LaCage, 801 S. Second St., 414-383-8330  
Mona's, 1407 S. First St., 414-643-0377  
Nut Hut, 1500 W. Scott, 414-647-2673  
Pump, (Sundays at Decibel), 1905 E. North Ave., 414-272-3337  
TempT, 324 E. Mason St., 414-221-0228  
This Is It, 418 E. Wells St., 414-278-9192  
Triangle, 135 E. National Ave., 414-383-9412  
Tropical Niteclub, 626 S. Fifth St., 414-460-6277

Walker's Pint, 818 S. Second St., 414-643-7468  
D.I.X., 739 S. 1st St., 414-231-9085  
Woody's, 1579 S. Second St., 414-672-0806

### MADISON

Cardinal Bar, 418 W. Wilson St., 608-257-2473  
Club 5, 5 Applegate Court, 608-277-9700  
Plan B, 924 Williamson St., 608-257-5262  
Shamrock, 117 W. Main St., 608-255-5029  
WOOF'S, 114 King St., 608-204-6222

### BELOIT/JANESVILLE

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

### LACROSSE

My Place, 3201 South Ave., 608-788-9073  
Players, 300 Fourth St., 608-784-4200  
Chances R, 417 Jay St., 608-782-5105

### WISCONSIN DELLS

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

### SHEBOYGAN

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

### FOX VALLEY

Rascals Bar & Grill, 702 E. Wisconsin, Appleton, 920-954-9262  
Ravens, 215 E. College Ave., Appleton, 920-364-9599  
Napalese, 1351 Cedar St., Green Bay, 920-432-9646  
SASS, 840 S. Broadway, Green Bay, 920-437-7277  
The Shelter, 730 N. Quincy St., Green Bay, 920-432-2662  
XS Niteclub, 1106 Main St., Green Bay, 920-430-1301  
Debs Spare Time, 1303 Harrison St., Oshkosh, 920-235-6577  
PJ's, 1601 Oregon St., Oshkosh

### NORTHERN

Scouters, 411 Galloway Street, Eau Claire, 715-835-9959  
JT's Bar and Grill, 1506 N. Third St., Superior, 715-394-2580  
The Flame, 1612 Tower Ave., Superior, 715-395-0101  
The Main, 1217 Tower Ave., Superior, 715-392-1756  
OZ, 320 Washington St., Wausau, 715-842-3225

Don't see your favorite LGBT hangout? To get considered for a listing on Out & About, e-mail managingeditor@wisconsinngazette.com.

## WiG'S TAIL-WAGGER

COURTESY OF THE WISCONSIN HUMANE SOCIETY

### MEET BETTY

Betty is an 11-month-old Turkish Angora mix who originally came from the Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission. No one came to claim Betty, but the Wisconsin Humane Society picked her up to become a part of the WHS adoption program. Like all the dogs and cats at WHS, Betty has been sterilized, micro-chipped and vaccinated. This stunning beauty has a personality to match, and she can't wait to meet you in person at WHS!



Betty, an 11-month-old Turkish Angora mix.

### TIP OF THE WEEK:

Sometimes you may have concerns about your companion animal's behavior that go beyond the scope of regular seminars. We can offer you one-on-one behavior consultations with your companion's behavioral challenges. Check out wihumane.org for info.



optix on downer

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



www.creamcityfoundation.org

Cream City Foundation seeks to hire a skilled and enthusiastic team member for the part-time position of Program Director.

The Program Director is responsible for leading all aspects of Cream City Foundation's programs, focusing on two primary initiatives — LGBT Youth Homelessness and Project Aging. Role requires facilitation of community partners' convening to advance visibility and coordination of identified target issues — including providing capacity and training support, overseeing relevant research, consultants, and policy work.

The Foundation is interested in candidates who have experience with evaluation, intersectional analysis, community organizing, program management, and media relations. Knowledge of racial equity and ability to make connections to other social justice issues is important.

Interested applicants should send cover letter, resume and references to info@creamcityfoundation.org. No phone calls please. Candidates will be reviewed on a rolling basis, meaning applicants will be considered as they are received and offers made as such.

Cream City Foundation is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Women, minorities, and people with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply.

# COMMUNITY GROUPS

Got news? Tell us managingeditor@wisconsin-gazette.com.

## MILWAUKEE

### ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

**Cream City Chorus**, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, 414-276-8787, www.creamcitychorus.org, info@creamcitychorus.org.

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

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

**Milwaukee/LGBT Film/Video Festival**, www4.uwm.edu/psoc/programs/film/lgbtffilm.

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

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

**Women's Voices Milwaukee**, 630-890-5984, womensvoicesmke.viviti.com, womensvoicesmilwaukee@gmail.com.

## COMMUNITY

**Bay View Gays**, 414-482-3796, www.bvbgays.com.

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

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

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

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

**Cream City Foundation**, 759 N. Milwaukee, Suite 212, 53202, 414-225-0244, www.creamcityfoundation.org.

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

**Firebirds**, P.O. Box 159, 53201.

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

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

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

**Lesbian Alliance**, 252 E. Highland Ave., 53202, 414-272-9442, www.lesbianalliance.org.

**Lesbian Fund of the Women's Fund of Milwaukee**, 414-290-7350, www.womensfund.com/who\_we\_are/lesbian\_fund.

**Milwaukee LGBT Community Center**, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, 414-271-2656, www.mkelgbt.org.

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

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

**PFLAG-Milwaukee**, 252 E. Highland Ave., 53202, 414-299-9198, pflagmilwaukee@hotmail.com.

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

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

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

**Sapphic Adventures MKE**, 414-628-1049, www.facebook.com/sapphicadventures.mke, sapphicadventuresmke@gmail.com.

**SHEBA/Sisters Helping Each Other Battle AIDS**, 2349 N. Holton St., 53212, 414-390-0444.

**WanderWomyn Outdoors Group**, debydoo2@yahoo.com.

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

**Wauwatosa Rainbow Association**, tosarainbow@yahoo.com.

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

**Wisconsin Rainbow Families**, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, www.wirainbowfamilies.com, info@wirainbowfamilies.com.

## HEALTH

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

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

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

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

**Milwaukee Women's Center**, 611 N. Broadway, Suite 230, 53202, www.mwccinc.org.

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

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

## POLITICS

**Center Advocates**, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, 414-271-2656, www.centeradvocates.org.

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

**Human Rights League**, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, 414-445-5292, www.hrl-pac.org, hrlpac@yahoo.com.

## RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Unitarian Church North**, 13800 N. Port Washington Road, 53097, 262-375-3890, www.ucnorth.org.

## SPORTS

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

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

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

**Milwaukee Gay Volleyball League**, www.milwaukeeegayvolleyball.com.

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

## YOUTH/EDUCATION

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

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

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

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

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

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

**UWM LGBT Resource Center**, UWM Union WG 89, P.O. Box 413, 53201, 414-229-4116, www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/LGBT.

## FOX VALLEY COMMUNITY

**Harmony Café**, 233 E. College Ave., Appleton, 54911, 920-734-2233, www.harmonycafe.org, skenevan\_gw@gwicc.org.

**PFLAG-Appleton/Fox Cities**, 740 Kensington Road, Neenah, 54956, 920-722-7145. Rainbow Over Wisconsin, 702 E. Wisconsin Ave., Appleton, WI 54911, www.rainbowoverwisconsin.org.

## GREEN BAY COMMUNITY

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

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

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

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

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

## RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

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

**MADISON ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT**

**Dairyland Cowboys and Cowgirls**, Club 5, 5 Applegate Court, Madison, 53713, 608-277-9700, www.dcancc.org

## COMMUNITY

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

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

**Gay / Bi Fathers Support Group**, c/o Outreach, 600 William St., Madison, 53703, toooldforthis@tds.net.

## POLITICS

**Fair Wisconsin**, 122 State St., Suite 500, Madison, 53703, 608-441-0143, www.fairwisconsin.org, info@fairwisconsin.com.

## SPORTS

**Madison Gay Hockey Association**, www.madisongayhockey.org.

**Madison Gay Volleyball**, 608-347-8907, www.madisonlbttvolleyball.com.

## YOUTH/EDUCATION

**GSA for Safe Schools**, 301 S. Bedford St., Madison, 53703, 608-661-4141, www.gsaforsafeschools.org.

## RACINE/KENOSHA COMMUNITY

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

**PFLAG-Racine/Kenosha**, at the LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin, 1456 Junction Ave., Racine, 53403, 262-664-4100, pflag@lgbtsewisc.org.

## RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

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

## SPORTS

**Wisconsin Warriors**, P.O. Box 334, Somers, 53171, 414-759-8823, wiarriors.com, wiarriors@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**, 1305 Woodland Ave., Eau Claire, 54701, 715-552-LGBT, www.thecentercv.org.

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

Online for you at www.wisconsin-gazette.com.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## ONGOING

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

LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin drop-in hours, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tue., Wed. and Thurs.; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fri.; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sat., 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

1 p.m., Art Experience, SAGE Milwaukee.\*

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, 414-383-7593.

## 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.\*

## SUNDAY

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, TheGalano 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., second Monday, Outwords men's book club, 2710 N. Murray Ave., 53211, 414-963-9089, www.outwordsbooks.com.

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.\*

7 p.m., second Tuesday, lesbian reading group at Outwords Books, 2710 N. Murray Ave., 53211, 414-963-9089, www.outwordsbooks.com.

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

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

7 p.m., Women's Voice Milwaukee rehearsal, 630-890-5984.

## 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., first Wednesday, Bear Club 4 Men monthly meeting, Napalese Lounge, 1351 Cedar St., Green Bay, Info: bearclub4men@gmail.com.

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

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