



Give the People Light and they will find their own way.

# The Wisconsin Light

## Second National Coming Out Day Oct. 11

[Santa Fe, New Mexico]- The second annual National Coming Out Day (NCOD), October 11, is being co-sponsored by a broad base of highly respected community leaders and organizations. The goal of NCOD is to increase the visibility of the more than 20 million Gay people in the U.S.

October 11 has been chosen because it commemorates the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. NCOD organizers invite individuals and organizations to become co-sponsors by making financial contributions to support the central office and by planning local activities in their communities.

As coming out is a process and not a singular event, people are being asked to "take the next step" in their coming out process. "Our power is awesome and it's time we use it," said Jean O'Leary, Executive Director of National Gay Rights Advocates.

Among NCOD co-sponsors are Rev. Troy Perry, founder of the Metropolitan Community Churches; Jeff Levy and Urvashi Vaid of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force; Vic Basile and Tim McFeeley of the Human Rights Campaign Fund; Tom Stoddard of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund; writer Harvey Fierstein and comedian Robin Tyler and veteran activists Morris Kight, Virginia Aptizzo, Vivian Shapiro, Susan McGreivy and Cleve Jones.

For more information or to contribute to NCOD, write NCOD, P.O. Box 15524, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506 or call (505) 982-2558.

## Abortion Hearing September 27 In Milwaukee

[Madison]- A packed public hearing in the Assembly Chambers in Madison has set the tone for the abortion debate in Wisconsin, as pro-choice advocates urge supporters to attend the hearing in Milwaukee on September 27.

About 1,500 people registered at the Capitol on both sides of the issue.

Assembly Bill 500 would repeal a state law prohibiting abortions except in medical emergencies. The law that imposes criminal penalties for women and doctors involved in abortion procedures hasn't been enforced since the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

"What we are in the process of resolving today is: Who will be empowered to answer these questions, the government or the individual?" said State Representative David Clarenbach (D-Madison), the author of AB 500.

"We are using the power of the state, Big Brother government, to make a reproductive choice for an individual," Clarenbach said in his testimony in Madison.

(For the full text of Clarenbach's remarks, see elsewhere in this issue.)

"As a part of that government, I do not feel qualified to make that decision for the individual. I do not presume my personal views, or my own ethical or religious standards, on another," said Clarenbach.

Anti-choice advocates want to keep the law on the books, hoping the Supreme Court will change its mind on Roe v. Wade. Pro-choice supporters want it eliminated in case the court reverses itself.

The hearing in Milwaukee will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the downtown Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) building, 700 W. State St. in Room T-207 on Wednesday, September 27. Any person may speak or may merely register their position on AB 500 at the hearing before the Assembly Committee on Children and Human Services.

## Milwaukee AIDS Project Recipient of \$155,000 Planning Grant



Jim English

Dozens of people from Wisconsin attended the March and Rally in Dubuque Iowa on September 16, including several carloads from Madison and Milwaukee.

## Milwaukee Public Relations Firm Resigns as Mole Global Walk's Rep

[Milwaukee]-As a result of developing controversy regarding reports of "less than totally appropriate handling" of funds raised by Bill Mole's Global One Race Against Time USA, the Milwaukee-based public relations and marketing firm of Robison, Havlicek & Associates has resigned their role as worldwide representatives of the organization.

Bill Mole is the Canadian walking around the world to raise money for AIDS research. He visited Milwaukee this Summer as part of his tour.

The controversy came to light following a letter from ACT-UP Kansas City appearing in *Gay Chicago* magazine and after an intensive investigation by feature reporter Robert Peterson of the Los Angeles based *Advocate*. The story resulting from Peterson's investigation will appear in an upcoming issue.

Investigations revealed discrepancies and inconsistencies regarding the accounting of funds and what portion was remaining in each city to benefit local AIDS organizations.

In a prepared statement, Bob Robison of Robison, Havlicek & Associates said, "Since our involvement with Mole's organization, the only money that has passed through our hands is half of the money Mole raised while in Milwaukee which we promptly turned over to the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP)." Robison went on to say that "We have received sufficient doubts expressed by people in other cities Mole has visited. This has brought about our decision to disassociate this company from his operations."

Robison continued, saying, "What our decision means for Milwaukee is that the 10K walk we were producing here on behalf of Bill Mole will continue as scheduled, but exclusively as a MAP benefit."

Robison emphasized that "One hundred percent of the proceeds from the Milwaukee 10K walk will go to MAP and remain in Milwaukee to help fund their many worthwhile programs. Our loyalty is with the people of Milwaukee and the many local AIDS organizations around the country, including MAP which is putting hard-earned funds to good use. We are presently advising other cities holding walks on October 1st to continue as planned and give the money raised to benefit local organizations.

When asked about specifics regarding

Mole's activities, Robison said, "We don't have any. We knew of his intentions and we wanted to be public about it. We wanted to be public about it. We wanted to be public about it. It was the lack of information and numerous phone calls from around the country, including several conversations with Bob Peterson that prompted our decision to resign our representation before things got out of hand. We look forward to a large turnout for the MAP walk and feel good in knowing for certain that all the money raised here will be put to good use in our community."



Jerry Johnson

BILL MOLE

The MAP 10K Walk is Sunday, October 1st starting from McKinley Park on Milwaukee's lakefront. Registration is at 9:00 a.m. with the walk beginning promptly at 10:00 a.m. The route will follow the bike path along the lake and wind through beautiful Lake Park back to the McKinley Park starting point where a rally will be held.

To receive a "Walk For Time" brochure and sponsor pledge forms, you may call the MAP offices at (414) 273-2437 or look for information at several area locations. The entry fee is only \$1 and each participant will receive a commemorative MAP cap.

You may also call the MAP office to sponsor one of the walkers in the event. You will be asked to pledge a certain amount for each kilometer walked. 10K is the equivalent of 6.6 miles.

[Milwaukee]- The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) is the recipient of a Federal grant/award of \$155,706.

The one-year grant is part of nearly \$3.5 million that has been awarded by the Health Resources and Services Administration to 22 organizations to assist in planning systems of HIV care for states and communities that have yet to experience large numbers of AIDS cases.

Milwaukee is one of only three cities in the Midwest to receive such a grant. The others being Cincinnati and Columbus, Ohio.

Doug Nelson, Executive Director of MAP, spoke with pride and enthusiasm of the grant. "It's the biggest Federal grant we've ever received," he said, adding that "This is the first Federal money ever distributed for services to people with AIDS."

He also noted proudly that receiving the grant "elevates MAP to a position of stature" that will allow the Milwaukee AIDS service organization to "go beyond what traditional AIDS organizations are involved in."

As intended, the money will be used to develop a plan that will cover the next five years. It will be developed by a broad coalition of leaders drawn from the ranks of business, labor, politics, religion and other areas.

A plan of action, Nelson said, is "absolutely essential." He noted sadly that the increasing number of AIDS cases in Wisconsin is "no end in sight. Therefore, everything must be 'in place' to meet the needs of these increasing numbers of people. Such a plan as the Federal grant will allow MAP to do this."

Nelson also said that the timing of the award was "perfect."

Since Milwaukee does not have the number of AIDS cases that exist in other places such as New York or San Francisco, having the money now, he said, will "enable Milwaukee to do planning that other cities were unable to do before the epidemic hit them."

Milwaukee, Nelson said, is extremely fortunate to have this opportunity and he indicated thanks to MAP's sponsors, health departments on city, county and state levels as well as the Milwaukee Foundation.

## Volunteers Sought For Loftus 1990 Election Bid

[Madison]- Wisconsin State Assembly Speaker Tom Loftus is busily laying the groundwork for his 1990 bid to unseat Governor Tommy Thompson.

In a September letter sent to potential supporters across the state, Loftus announced that Michele Carrier and Bill Christofferson have been taken on as campaign consultants.

Carrier/Christofferson's firm have had as clients Herb Kohl, Mayors John Norquist of Milwaukee and Paul Soglin of Madison.

Also brought on board is The Campaign Group of Philadelphia described as "a top flight media firm" and pollsters, Mellman and Lazarus of Washington, D.C.

Mellman and Lazarus have worked for Norquist, Rep. Jim Moody and Milwaukee County Executive Dave Schulz.

The Loftus Campaign which has targeted Milwaukee and Dane Counties as among the "20 most crucial counties" in the state, are asking for volunteers who can give either/or time or money.

For those interested in offering help to the Loftus Campaign, contact them at P.O. Box 1582, Madison, WI 53701-1582.