



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

The Wisconsin Light

Mowry's Legacy of Accomplishment Saluted as MASN Moves to New Quarters

By John Quinlan

Madison— Community leaders see a bright and challenging future ahead for the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN) at a time of major transition. On February 24, MASN moves into spacious new headquarters at the near east side Gateway Center on Williamson Street.

The exciting new opportunities represented by the move are happening at a time of strength and stability, due in large part to the leadership of MASN director MaryAlice Mowry. With great regret, the MASN board has accepted Mowry's resignation, due to illness, which will be effective at the end of February. Mowry's illness, while serious, is not life-threatening or HIV-related, an MASN spokesperson told the Light. (A recent Wisconsin Public Radio broadcast reported otherwise.)

Meeting on February 14, MASN board members expressed great sadness at the news—noting that the transition will be difficult, but made much easier because of the legacy that Mowry leaves behind.

"With great regret, the board accepts MaryAlice's resignation," they noted. "Her three year tenure at MASN was an important and challenging time. MASN is a much stronger and more vibrant service organization because of her efforts."

"We offer her our most heartfelt thanks for her commitment and dedication, and we wish her well in all of her future endeavors," they continued. "We know that she will continue to be a part of our MASN family for years to come."

Mowry's contributions to the agency, to the state, and the nation are extraordinary, noted Interim Associate Director David Clarenbach, who had worked closely with Mowry as a former state representative. She was a "field general in the fight against AIDS and will be greatly missed," he added. Clarenbach will fill in as acting director during the transition.

MASN will be officially installed at its new location at 600 Williamson Street on Friday, February 24. MASN staff members are especially excited because the new facility is 100% wheelchair accessible.

MASN can be accessed by entering the main entrance to the Gateway Center next to the El Charro restaurant on Williamson Street, or by entering through the Center's rear entrance off of E. Wilson Street. MASN has reserved parking spaces for clients in front and there are a number of special places for people with disabilities.

The move marks an end to five years at MASN's previous address behind Camp Randall Stadium on Lathrop Street. At a time of enormous growth for the agency, it was clear that the cramped, non-accessible building was no longer acceptable. In the last two years alone, MASN's budget has almost doubled.

As of February 24, the Madison AIDS Support Network's new phone number is: (608) 252-6540. Their new fax number is: 252-6559.

Madison School Board Candidate Forum Gay and Lesbian Issues and The Schools

When: Sat., Mar. 4, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Where: James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Church, 2146 E. Johnson St. (Behind East High School).

For more information, contact Jan Shepard at (608) 265-2407 (days); Jack Siebert at (608) 231-3064 (evenings); or Sunshine Jones at (608) 276-8010.

Sponsored by Gays, Lesbians and Allies for Diversity in Education (GLADE) and a broadly-based coalition.

New Front Line in HIV Prevention is Now In Nation's Small and Moderate Size Cities



Academy Award Nominee—The third movie in the Blue, White, Red trilogy, Red, opens Friday, February 24 at Milwaukee's Downer Theatre. Pictured above from the Krzysztof Kieslowski film is Irene Jacob.

Kenosha Residents Fear Bob Enyart's TV Show Will Cause Anti-Gay Violence

By Sue Burke

Kenosha, WI— A loose-knit group of people in Kenosha, Wisconsin, are trying to get the "Bob Enyart Live!" show off the local TV station.

Enyart has conducted the weeknight, hour-long call-in show from Denver, Colorado, for almost four years. It began airing in Kenosha in early November. He opens the show by proclaiming himself "the nation's most popular self-proclaimed right-wing religious fanatic, homophobic, anti-choice talk show host."

Late last year, he called a Kenosha resident who signed a petition against his show a "Lesbo pervert." Recently, he displayed a photograph of a man who died of AIDS with the caption "Sodomite."

As reported in the January 19 issue of Light, according to the Associated Press, Enyart read the obituary of James Bybee and added, "He's not really a sodomite. He's a former sodomite." Enyart was ordered by the Denver station manager to stop using names and photos from obituaries after protests flooded the station.

According to the AP, Bybee's spouse, Don Dias is contemplating suing Enyart.

In Denver, a movement centered on the Metropolitan Community Church there is trying to get Enyart off the air. In Kenosha, Ginger Helguson started a petition in November asking television station WHKE-TV 55 to cancel the show. She said she and other people she knew thought the show was sick and violent.

After talking to the station management, Helguson began circulating petitions at her church, Bradford Community Church. Members of a nearby synagogue, Beth Hillel Temple, also circulated petitions.

The station sent the petitions to Enyart, who called some of the petitioners on December 6 during his show, which begins at 11:00 p.m. The surprise phone calls angered some of the recipients. One woman said that Enyart shouted at the person in her house who answered the phone.

Helguson said Enyart also scrutinized the names on the air, smirking at names that sounded Jewish to him and concluding that others were Lesbians or Gay men.

WHKE general manager, John Miller, has since told Enyart he may not call people on the air without prior arrangements. He said ratings will determine whether Enyart's show remains on the air.

"It's viewership and salability of the show that pretty much determine whether it stays on the air," Miller said. "So, Bob Enyart will be treated just like any other show the station carries."

He said a few advertisers have called the station to be sure their ads do not run during Enyart's show. "If they have a problem with

Bob's show, they pretty much limit it to Bob's show and not to the whole station," he said.

WHKE's broadcast on Channel 55 reaches 800,000 viewers in southeast Wisconsin and Northern Illinois, Miller said. A quarter-million cable viewers can see it in Racine and Kenosha Counties and part of Walworth County. In Milwaukee County, it is carried on Warner Cable in Milwaukee and the southern suburbs, and on Marcus Cable in West Allis.

Helguson and others have been calling local advertisers to say they object to the show and suggesting advertisers tune in to see what they think of it.

"I think he's really, really stepping close to the line sometimes," Helguson said. Some of the people who signed the petition who are Gay are frightened by the way Enyart referred to them on the air.

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State Rep. Tim Carpenter Says First Look At State Budget Raises Concerns About Adequate HIV/AIDS Funding

Madison— State Rep. Tim Carpenter (D-Milwaukee) said on February 15 that the governor's 1995-'97 state budget proposal, released to the public on February 14, has no inflationary increases built into Wisconsin's AIDS and HIV programming.

"While the base funding for existing programs has not decreased, as was feared in these budget-slashing times, I am concerned about the impact of the governor's denial of an inflationary increase to these programs, especially at a time when caseloads are increasing," Carpenter said.

Carpenter said that rejection of an on-average 5% inflationary increase will mean fewer state dollars being spent per client in the next two years. In effect, the same amount of dollars will have to be stretched to cover more clients.

Also rejected by the governor was a new teen HIV prevention program. The governor took \$160,500 of unused funds earmarked for AIDS and HIV programming and ran away with it, instead of reallocating this money into adequately funding AIDS and HIV programming.

Carpenter said that federal funding through a Ryan White grant is being debated in Congress, and could make up for the shortfall in Wisconsin funding. However, several questions about the federal formula need to be addressed to assure that Wisconsin receives its fair share of grand money, he added.

"I will be working with my Democratic and Republican colleagues to assess the impact of the Wisconsin budget and the federal budget on persons with HIV and AIDS, on our al-

Milwaukee— Although AIDS is often thought to be primarily a "big city" problem, over 57% of AIDS cases diagnosed in the United States have occurred outside the country's ten largest cities.

A scientific article just published by a team from the Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR) at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) reports findings of the largest study ever conducted establishing HIV/AIDS risk among Gay and Bisexual men in middle-sized American cities and identifying factors that contribute to risk. The study's findings show that a new front line in HIV prevention efforts is now the nation's small and moderate-sized cities.

The study, directed by Jeffrey A. Kelly, Ph.D., MCW Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, anonymously surveyed 6,000 Gay men in 16 U.S. cities, all with populations of under 250,000. The cities were located in the Midwest, northeast, southeast and northwest regions of the country.

Excluding from the survey those men in exclusive relationships, 27% of the men reported that they had engaged in unprotected anal intercourse in the past two months.

"This is of great concern," said Dr. Kelly, "because unprotected anal intercourse is the sexual practice which confers the greatest risk for HIV infection among Gay men, and many men having high risk sex were doing so outside exclusive relationships."

"Efforts to reach these men," Dr. Kelly continued, "with effective HIV prevention programs are urgently needed if we are to avert a growing AIDS/HIV epidemic in our country's smaller cities."

The survey also questioned men about the factors that contributed to their risk or to their successful avoidance of risk.

Gay men who were older, who had more education, had fewer sexual partners overall, had a strong commitment to safer sex, and who believed that safer sex was an expected standard of behavior among their own friends, were the group most likely to avoid risky sex.

How strongly a person intended to avoid unsafe sex was the single best predictor of how safely he behaved.

"By contrast," Dr. Kelly said, "those men who were most likely to continue having unsafe sex were younger, had less education, had larger numbers of different sexual partners."

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REP. TIM CARPENTER

ready over-burdened AIDS Services Organizations, and on our prevention efforts," Carpenter said.

In Washington

In related news, Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project was called to Washington on February 15 to testify before Congress concerning the reauthorization of the Ryan White Act.

Nelson is reported to be cautiously optimistic that the Act will be re-funded by Congress.