

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

The Wisconsin Light

Baldwin Starts Her Campaign by Seeking to Open American Democracy to the Powerless

News and Analysis by Bill Meunier
 With a cheering crowd of sign waving, hand clapping supporters around her, openly Lesbian State Representative Tammy Baldwin officially launched her campaign for Congress in Wisconsin's Second Congressional District. Baldwin's Sunday, June 7, 1998 announcement laid out her platform to restore "our faith in ourselves - in our capacity as citizens to make our democracy work."

Baldwin has been campaigning and raising money for several months so her announcement was no surprise. Still it presented an opportunity for her to lay out the theme of her campaign. That theme seemed to be giving voice to those who are not politically powerful, family farmers, children, minorities, seniors and the working poor.

Baldwin's announcement was held on the grounds of the University of Wisconsin Madison Hospital and Health clinics. Much of Baldwin's speech centered on health care reforms.

In her speech, Baldwin attacked the health insurance industry saying that she wanted doctors and nurses to make medical decisions based on medical need. At the same time, Baldwin said she is not calling for more bureaucracy or paperwork.

In addition to health care reform, Baldwin also said she would work to protect social security, farmers, the environment, children and the "civil rights of all people."

Her address included several attacks on special interest groups. Baldwin won loud and sustained applause when she said, "Of late, people with very different values than ours, have learned that if they tell citizens over and over again that they have no power, that their vote doesn't matter, that their activism won't change things, they can effectively turn people away from our democracy. This is the politics of cynicism, hopelessness, and disenfranchisement. People who don't vote give their power over to those who do."

"We have got to stop listening to those who say we can't achieve our dreams. We are Americans. We decide what's possible."

The event included two protestors. One of the protestors carried an anti-abortion sign. The other carried two signs denouncing Gays and Lesbians.

Baldwin faces two well regarded opponents in the September 9th Democratic primary, former Dane County Executive Rick Phelps and State Senator Joseph Winecke. The winner in the primary, will take on a Republican opponent in

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Making It Official! - Tammy Baldwin as she announces her candidacy for Congress in Madison on Sunday, June 7, 1998 before a crowd of cheering supporters. If elected Baldwin would be the first openly Lesbian Congresswoman.

Bill Meunier Appointed New Editor of *The Wisconsin Light*



Good Friends - (L-R) Greg Quindel, who helped put together the group of investors who have purchased the Wisconsin Light, Ron Geiman, founder of InStep and Terry Boughner PhD, and Jerry Johnson the outgoing Editor and Publisher of *The Wisconsin Light* during the Decade of Light Party held at the Milwaukee Downtown Hilton, November 6, 1997.

Milwaukee—Long-time writer and community activist William (Bill) Meunier has been appointed Editor of *Wisconsin Light*.

As previously reported, *Wisconsin Light* has been sold to a local group of Gays and Lesbians. A spokesperson for the new owners, Greg Quindel, enthused "Bill is eminently qualified to assume this new position and has the confidence of the entire ownership group."

Meunier has written for *Wisconsin Light* from its first issue over ten years ago and has extensively reported on a wide variety of issues affecting the Wisconsin Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Community.

He also authored a monthly column *Politically Speaking* and served as the *Spot-Light* Editor. At the Wisconsin Democratic Party convention in 1992, he was the first journalist to get Bill Clinton to commit to ending the ban on Gays in the military.

He was also instrumental in breaking the news nationally that Zima was owned by long-time Gay/Lesbian nemesis Coors Brewing Company. His history at the paper also includes photography, distribution and advertising sales.

Meunier served as Chairman of Milwaukee's PrideFest Committee from

Publisher's and Editor's Notes

Looking Back On Over a Decade of "Light" Good by, God Speed, Good by

By Jerry Johnson

Part 2

During the past several months, word has gotten out that Terry and I were selling *Wisconsin Light*. So, the front page headline in the last issue announcing the sale didn't come as a surprise to some. However, I suspect, for the majority of the paper's readers the news was a big surprise. The reaction that Terry and I have experienced has been most interesting; of those who have expressed their feelings to us, perhaps without exception, no one was very happy about the sale.

Reactions have ranged from total shock to dismay, skepticism and surprise. In one way I am pleased that there were such reactions. It's obvious that the community and you, the readers, care a great deal about *Wisconsin Light*. If no one had shown concern then, perhaps, it would have been time to discontinue publishing!

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By Terry Boughner

After 10+ years and 259 issues of *Wisconsin Light*, this is the last time that I shall write as editor. For Jerry and I, this is a good time, a happy time.

People have asked me "What are you going to do?" said in a tone of voice and with the expression that wonders is there life after *Light*? Yes, there is.

One of the things Jerry and I plan to do is take a vacation, go back to Pennsylvania, my home state. I want to take him there, have some "real" ham salad, some Heinz dark mustard all slathered over chipped ham. These things are true Pittsburgh—"Picks-burg" eatin'.

I want to introduce him to my former

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Joi Cardwell, Men Out Loud, Musique, Mrs. Fun to Entertain August 28-30 at PrideFest '98

Milwaukee—PrideFest offers something for everybody at this year's festival. With just a few weeks to go before the gates open, the entertainment line-up is nearly complete. With the addition of the Harley-Davidson Stage, more live bands will be performing than in the past.

"I think this is the most diverse line-up PrideFest has ever offered," said Entertainment Coordinator, Jill Clark. "With five entertainment stages, visitors may actually have a hard time deciding who to see."

The national acts from 1997 may seem hard to beat, but PrideFest is confident the crowd will be on its feet Saturday night in the Miller Oasis.

Joi Cardwell
 Dance Music and More

Many of you may have heard Joi Cardwell at *Wisconsin Light*'s 10 Anniversary celebration. If not, you have a treat coming as Cardwell returns to Milwaukee for an encore at PrideFest '98.

With more than twenty singles and two albums out, and music in movies and



Bill Meunier

1992-96, a time during which PrideFest grew from a small neighborhood festival

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commercial, along with a number of dance songs that hit the top of the charts, Joi Cardwell may surprise you because you've heard more of her music than you think. You can hear her live at in the Dance Tent at 9:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28, and on the Miller Stage at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29.

Cardwell's appearance is being sponsored by Dish, a dance club in Milwaukee.

Her most recent single is "Found Love." Other top songs include "Run To You," "Soul To Bare," "Club Lonely," "Jump For Joy," and "You Got To Pray." She's not just a singer but a songwriter and producer who averages more than 50 live performances per year.

Her delicate voice and ability to put depth and emotion into the simplest phrase has won her acclaim, as have her songwriting talents. "I didn't really choose dance music, it kind of chose me," she says. "I actually perform all kinds of

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