May/June
2011

our lives

Madison's LGBT&XYZ Magazine

Inside:

Craving Comfort Food in Madison
Eight Feel-Good Restaurants you should treat yourself to

Ways to Support Local Growers
Marcelle Richards goes back to the land with area farmers

Is Your Happiness Sustainable?
How to improve your sense of internal satisfaction

food & dining

THE **OLD FASHIONED** WAY

Jennifer DeBolt

MINI of Madison

JOIN OUR FAMILY

At MINI of Madison, our team of dedicated MINI professionals is not only here to sell you a new or used MINI; we are also prepared to help you service your vehicle, regardless of the make or model. Call us today or stop in and check us out.

Alicia Stevenson
MINI Motoring Advisor
608-729-6443
Sales Hours: Mon, Thu
8:30 AM – 8:00 PM
Tue, Wed, Fri 8:30 AM – 6:00 PM
Sat 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Phil Keller
MINI Service Advisor
608-729-6421
Service Hours:
Monday – Friday
7:00 AM – 6:00 PM

310 W. Beltline Hwy Madison, WI 53713 • 608-729-MINI (6464) • www.MiniofMadison.com • Social Media – MINIofMadison.org

our lives

ourlivesmadison.com
on

FOX 47
WMSN-TV MADISON

NETWORK PREMIERE MAY 28

ASSOCIATED HOUSEWRIGHTS

Remodeling, Additions, New Homes

Our careful Listen, Design, Build process has produced award-winning projects and satisfied clients since 1992. We meet your project needs, honor your budget and finish your project on time.

NARI MEMBER

We deliver Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®.

See over 40 completed projects at
housewrights.com
1217 Culmen Street, Madison

SMART DENTAL

Smart Dental understands the ELEMENTS of the perfect smile.

He – Healthy
A healthy smile is the foundation for all of our patients.

Ed – Educated
The educated patient is the empowered patient.

In – Individualized
You are unique and your smile is no exception.

Es – Esthetic
You deserve the confidence and beauty of a natural smile.

608-241-8782
www.SmartDentalMadison.com
2317 International Ln, Suite 101
Madison WI 53704

Tamim Sifri, DDS

5:30-10a: CONNIE & CURTIS
10a-12p: KATIE KRUZ
12p-04p: RYAN SEACREST
04p-07p: HUNTER

07p-12a:
AARON ROGERS

WEEKEND DANCE MUSIC
SAT 10p-1a:
CLUB Z WITH KIDD LEOW
SUN 7p-12a:
CLUB KANE

Z104
The Hit Music Channel!

z104fm.com

Features

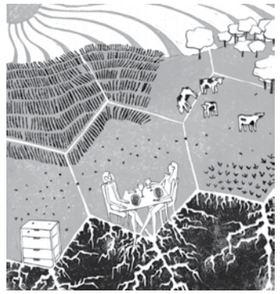
MAY / JUNE 2011

20 Comfort Food

A Madison-area comfort food tour with **Marcelle Richards**

24 The Old Fashioned

Jennifer DeBolt invites readers to come create memories



26 Back to the Land

Marcelle Richards tells how local growers and farm organizations enrich the lives of all

Departments

5 Editor's Letter and **The Ripples Project**

6 Contributors The faces behind our pages

Community

8 Our Organizers AIDS Network's Anders Zanichkowsky

10 Our Artists Niki Johnson deconstructs pop culture

12 Our Pages, Poems and **Prose** *The Truth of Yesterday* by Josh Aterovis, "Zebra Dust" by Corrine and prose from Wayne Gathright

14 Our Stages Performance art during the capitol protests as observed by Tara Ayres

16 Our Calendar Celebration of Leadership, FruitFest, PrideFest

18 Our Stages Steve Noll and OUT!Cast Theatre

Quality of Life

30 Our Apparel Bonnie Raimy reviews Duluth Trading Company

32 Our Issues Dr. Sue Gill acknowledges the tough times and offers ideas for sustainable happiness

34 Our Elders Caroline Werner introduces this new column and looks at the Older Americans Act

36 Our Careers Marty Fox applauds Kraft Foods for its Rainbow Council

38 Our Rights Tamara Packard on the death of DOMA

40 Our Plates Marcelle Richards features Bunky's Café

42 Our Future Leaders Angie Alcorta of Outreach

Our History

28 Gay Bars

Richard Wagner explores how we found ourselves within the walls of taverns and clubs in the early years.

Cover Photographed by: **Matt Wisniewski, matthewwisniewski.com**
Hair by: **Scott Staples, duhair.com**

our lives OL

Madison's LGBT&XYZ Magazine

Patrick Farabaugh
Publisher / Editor-in-Chief

Virginia Harrison
Editor

John Kromer
Copy Editor

Contributing Writers
Angie Alcorta
Tara Ayres
Jennifer DeBolt
Marty Fox
Sue Gill
Wayne Gathright
Tamara Packard
Bonnie Raimy
Marcelle Richards
Dick Wagner
Caroline Werner
Karin Wolf

Editorial Facilitators
Kristina Kosnick
Linda Lenzke
Ryan Petty

Contributing Photographers
Roberto Amezcua
Eric Baillies
Melody Harrison Hanson
Jessica Horn
Matthew "Skip" Resenhoeft
Matt Wisniewski

Contributing Illustrator
Juliet Darken

Account Executive
Nathan Kidder

Business Manager
Matt Jelinek

Advertising Production
Ingrid Ankerson

National Advertising Sales
Rivendell Media Inc.

Webmaster
Josh Myers

©2011 All Rights Reserved.

May/June 2011 Volume 4, Issue 6
Life in the Middle Publishing, LLC
Patrick Farabaugh & Joseph Patane, Publishers. 215 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd., Box 1202, Madison, WI 53703

Any reproduction of OL: Our Lives Magazine in part or in full without the written permission of the publisher is strictly prohibited. OL: Our Lives Magazine shall not be held responsible for any claims made by our advertisers. Submission of photographs or other images to OL: Our Lives Magazine may be published without providing image credit. Appearance of any person, business or organization within photographs, advertisements, or editorial content neither implies nor infers any indication of their sexual orientation.

Subscribe to *Our Lives* for FREE and have your copy mailed directly to you. Never miss an issue! Support us at: OURLIVESMADISON.COM

Surrounded by Support

Our Food & Dining issue couldn't be coming out at a better time. If you are anything like me, then you are probably feeling burned out and disheartened from the political turmoil in Wisconsin and across the nation. You may even be casting about for other mid-sized, liberal cities outside of Wisconsin to which to flee.

But hold fast, gentle readers. Wisconsin needs people like you more than ever: those who are involved in their communities, who care about quality of life, and who can (and do) lead by example.

One of the ways that I have gained strength and sustenance during these trying months is by noticing and taking part in the groundswell of community cohesiveness—among friends, among organizations, and even among supportive businesses.

On the cover and inside the pages of this issue, you will see the faces and names of businesses and organizations that support our community and the concerns we have. Give yourself some respite from the fray and savor the stories and images of local restaurants and community growers. Then, get back to doing the great work you do.

The best way out of a bad situation is through it. Stay concerned, stay on-message, and stay united in the effort to make things right.

Virginia Harrison
EDITOR
vharrison@ourlivesmadison.com

A *Ripples* Splash from **Paul Wesselmann**

Ripples is a weekly inspirational email blast. Learn more at ***TheRipplesProject.org***

The Wise Woman's Stone —Author Unknown

A wise woman who was traveling in the mountains found a precious stone in a stream. The next day she met another traveler who was hungry, and the wise woman opened her bag to share her food. The hungry traveler saw the precious stone and asked the woman to give it to him. She did so without hesitation.

The traveler left, rejoicing in his good fortune. He knew the stone was worth enough to give him security for a lifetime. But a few days later, he came back to return the stone to the wise woman.

"I've been thinking," he said, "I know how valuable the stone is, but I give it back in the hope that you can give me something even more precious. Give me what you have within you that enabled you to give me the stone."

Please Welcome New Advertisers:

2 MINI of Madison
7 Door Visitor's Bureau
11 Holy Wisdom Monestary
15 Red Cat Networks
18 OUT!Cast Theatre
21 Yahara Bay Distillers
27 Umami Ramen & Dumpling Bar
35 Bethke Heating and Air Conditioning Inc.
37 Promega
38 Dayton Street Grill
40 Daisy Cafe & Cupcakery
41 Quivey's Grove

To advertise, contact us at: OURLIVESMADISON.COM

I'll find savings your mouse can miss.

Jim Hartman Ins Agcy Inc
Jim Hartman, Agent
McFarland, WI 53558
Bus: 608-838-4171 Fax: 608-838-0441
jim@jimhartman.com

Get a **Free** **Discount Double Check.™**
Finding the car insurance discounts you deserve could end up saving you hundreds.
Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®
CALL ME TODAY.

State Farm Insurance

1003056 State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company, Bloomington, IL

The Old Fashioned
Resturant & Tavern
Presents Your Cure for Spring Fever

Loaded With Vitamin C, Potassium
And Brandy Which Will Fully Refresh
Your Summer Thirst!

Like us on Facebook for Updates & Specials

On The Capital Square
32 N. Pickney St.
608-310-4545
www.theoldfashioned.com

The Old Fashioned Tavern & Restaurant

open
Out Professional and Executive Network

Presented by:
WISCONSIN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Join the
Out Professional & Executive Network (OPEN)
for a breakfast discussion at 7:30 on
Wednesday morning,
May 11, 2011
at the
UW—Madison's Union South

LGBT Business & Marketing: The Tip of the Iceberg
featuring:
Tracy Baim
Publisher of:
The Windy City Times

FREE for OPEN members
$15 for non-members
Find additional details and RSVP at **openmadison.org**

fair wisconsin
EDUCATION FUND

4TH ANNUAL *fair wisconsin*
LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Please join **Fair Wisconsin Education Fund** as we honor statewide leaders standing up for fairness and celebrate the achievements of the past year.

Madison Honorees Include:

AFSCME Wisconsin
Dave Fowles
First Congregational Church
Will Van Roosenbeek

Milwaukee
MAY 4
Coast Resturant
931 E. WISCONSIN AVE.

Madison
JUNE 6
Madison Museum of Contemporary Art
227 STATE ST.

FOR TICKET INFO:
fairwisconsineducationfund.com/leadership

contributors

Matt Wisniewski grew up in Madison and attended the School of Journalism at the University of Wisconsin. While studying strategic communication, he specialized in photojournalism and fell in love with video. Matt was the 2008 Wisconsin College Photographer of the Year and now works at the University of Wisconsin for the Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center. **Most recently, he covered the Wisconsin budget protest and created four videos that have amassed over 300,000 views and have been seen in almost every country in the world.** Contact Matt at MatthewWisniewski.com.

Marcelle Richards writes the Our Plates column and loves to put a face on the people in our community who remind us that we all have food in common. She attends culinary school at Madison College and is looking forward to starting her internship at **L'Etoile** this summer. You can find her cooking column in Isthmus every second Thursday and other food ramblings and reviews at gastropacalypse.com. She lives in Madison with her partner Sid and dogs Ringo and Claire.

Roberto Amezcua has a love for meeting new people. He believes that everyone hums to their own tune. By genuinely asking questions and wanting to get a little glimpse of who the person is, Roberto finds a way to hear the melody the person is humming. It is all about being sincerely and truly listening while getting to know the person. That is all it takes to find the melody and capture it in a split second. You can see some of his work at amezcuaphotography.com.

With this issie, **Caroline Werner** begins the new Our Elders column. She is a lesbian and retired social worker who provided case management to seniors in both urban and rural areas of Dane County. In 2010, she won the OutReach Volunteer of the Year award for her advocacy on behalf of LGBT seniors, baby boomers, and younger people. Caroline can be reached by emailing carolw@terracom.net or by calling OutReach at (608) 255-8582.

Subscribe to *Our Lives* for FREE at: OURLIVESMADISON.COM

rm2breathe

YOU CAN QUIT SMOKING

GET READY

- You can double or triple your chances of a successful quit by combining strategies. Cold turkey rarely works.
- Build a social support network among your friends and family that cheers you on.
- Work on changing the habits of smoking. What triggers your smoking behaviors?

GET HELP

- Check out **rm2breathe.org**
- Call **1-800-QUIT-NOW** for loads of resources, including nicotine replacement products.

University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
sage
American Lung Association of Wisconsin
UW-CTRI
OutReach
LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley
Milwaukee LGBT Community Center
LGBT Resource Center
Diverse&Resilient

This program is funded by the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health's Wisconsin Partnership Program

rm2breathe

The Great Connector

Anders Zanichkowsky is the hub that keeps all the many spokes of the ACT Ride wheels spinning.

Where are you from and what do you do? I am a grassroots community organizer. I grew up on the east side of Madison and moved back after graduating from college in 2008.

How did you come to be involved with AIDS Network? My first experience with the AIDS Network was through Teens Like Us (TLU) in the late 90s when I first met Christopher Walters, who was an AIDS Network Prevention Specialist and a TLU mentor. Ten years later, I found out that a bunch of my friends were involved with the ACT Ride. I had experience with event planning, so I worked on some fundraisers and was a day volunteer on ACT 7. I remember getting ready for a James Bond-themed fundraiser I did with Bri Deyo; I was putting together these cardboard cut-outs of myself as a drag queen Bond Girl when it hit me: "I am living the life I want to live." Many fundraisers later, I was making plans to become a professional non-profit event planner when the Ride Coordinator position opened up. It was pretty much perfect.

What is the most important role you play as ACT Ride Coordinator? The most important role I play is keeping the different parts of the ACT community connected to the Ride and to each other. There's the incredible steering committee of volunteers who work on this event year round, the extremely talented staff at AIDS Network, our whip-smart board of directors, as well as a whole family of people who contribute to the Ride as volunteers, riders, and sponsors. My job is to work for all of them. It's a great honor.

What role does the ACT Ride play in our community?

The ACT Ride is the single largest fundraiser for the AIDS Network and one of the most successful grassroots events I've ever encountered, pulling in over $250,000 last year with an 85% return rate to AIDS Network. So we're not just raising money from individuals who feel a personal connection to the Ride, we're connecting those donations to individuals in the community who are receiving essential services and resources. That person-to-person connection is so important in the work we do. It's the reason people feel so passionately about giving to the Ride year after year, and it's at the heart of how they do that work—from educating their family members about HIV/AIDS to helping someone pitch their tent after a long day in the saddle.

Please share anything new riders can expect for this year's Ride.

This year we're putting together some new programming for the ACT community, both before and on the Ride. AIDS Network staff and volunteers will be presenting a series of workshops, giving people a comprehensive look at our services and educating them about issues that impact our clients—such as their immigration status or living with HIV/AIDS in a rural community. We're also facilitating some dialogues led by Positive Pedalers (www.pospeds.org) and clients to help people of any HIV status build stronger, personal connections to each other within the ACT community and our service areas.

How can readers learn more about the ACT Ride and how they can volunteer?

You can learn more and register by visiting the ACT 9 website at www.actride.org. You'll find lots of information there about being a rider, crewmember, day volunteer, or donor, and you can register online or make donations to someone's sponsorship in a few simple steps. We also host Info Sessions and other events where you can meet previous ACT participants in person and chat them up about the Ride. You can find that schedule on the website, too. If you'd like to contact me directly about the Ride, call (608) 316-8619 or email me at actride@aidsnetwork.og. I'm here to recruit you!

The ACT Ride is the single largest fundraiser for the AIDS Network and one of the most successful grassroots events I've ever encountered, pulling in over $250,000 last year with an 85% return rate to AIDS Network.

Photographed by **Jessica Horn**

History of the ACT Ride, Wisconsin AIDS Ride

The AIDS Ride concept was conceived about 12 years ago, when someone thought it would be a great way to build community, challenge people, and raise needed money.

There have been numerous rides since all across the US. In the Midwest, we had what was called the Heartland AIDS Ride, which was a 500-mile ride from Minneapolis, through Wisconsin, to Chicago. Over 1,200 riders raised money and participated in this event.

Eight years ago, that ride started seeing dwindling returns, so AIDS Network decided to produce its own ride. It was called ACT I, or AIDS Network Cycles Together.

Between ACT I-8 over 1000 riders and 650 crew have traveled through small towns and cities all over southwestern Wisconsin and raised over $2,200,000. An incredible 87 to 90% of that amount went directly to AIDS Network and the services that they provide.

Middleton Travel
When? Where? We can get you there!

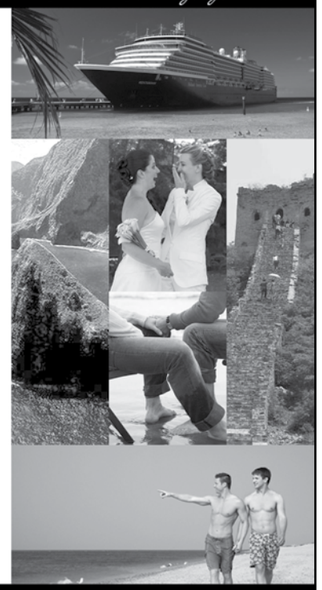
When it comes to your travel plans, we're the one looking out for you.

Offering over 25 years of travel experience, we are here to help you get to where you want to be.

Let us help you plan all facets of your vacation:

- Cruises
- Tours
- Wedding-Honeymoons
- Getaways
- Groups

Start planning your next adventure today!



Call 608.831.4664 x106 or email schampion@middletontravel.com

Middleton Travel
2831 Parmenter St., Suite 190
Middleton, WI 53562
P: 608.831.4664
TF: 800.688.8785
www.middletontravel.com

Gets you back where you belong.

Proud to be a part of the Madison Community.

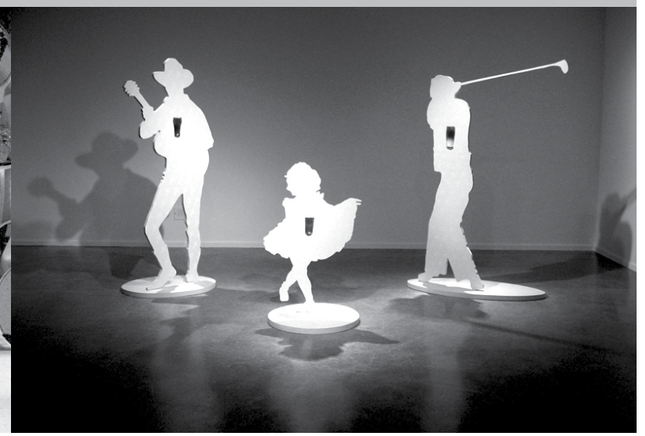
Madison is the kind of place that anyone would be proud to call home. For those of us that live here, it's easy to see why. Safe, welcoming, open-minded, affordable and vibrant. I am lucky to have the opportunity to serve the insurance needs of those that have worked so hard to make Madison a wonderful place to live.

Contact me to find out how Farmers can help safeguard your most valued assets. Auto, homeowners, renters, umbrella, life and commercial policies are all available.

Jason Holder, Agent
Farmers Insurance

2310 Crossroads Dr
Ste 5000
Madison, WI 53718
Office: 608-316-6004
Cell: 608-514-3447
Fax: 608-316-6095
jholder@farmersagent.com

Farmers Insurance Group Symbol of Superior Service
FARMERS



Cultural Sensitivity

Niki Johnson combines tabloid celebrity and disposable objects to create artwork that re-sensitizes images and items that have been nullified by mass-production.

In the late 1970s, Judy Chicago created *The Dinner Party*, a sculptural installation that included 39 place settings depicting important women from history. *The Dinner Party*, comprised of vulvar plates, embroidered runners, and other spoils of domesticity arranged around a triangular table, is celebrated as one of the major breakthroughs in feminist art history. By employing textile arts and china painting, highlighting the invisibility of women's history, and brazenly celebrating female sexuality, Chicago cracked the ceiling of the male-dominated art world.

Around the same time Chicago was making a place for women artists by questioning culturally sanctified misogyny, Andy Warhol was entering his quieter decade. Having survived the ideological attacks of critics who claimed he compromised his artistic integrity and caved in to capitalism, and a near fatal attempt on his life by Valerie Solanas, Warhol spent much of the 1970s post-factory-heyday stage of his artistic career making portraits of the Hollywood celebrities and wealthy patrons with whom he hobnobbed.

In the unlikely event that boundary-pushing Judy Chicago and Andy Warhol had borne an artist offspring, that child would probably be a lot like Niki Johnson.

In the unlikely event that boundary-pushing Judy Chicago and Andy Warhol had borne an artist offspring, that child would probably be a lot like Niki Johnson. Johnson seems to have an almost genetic interest in domestic ephemera, craft, and pop culture. Like Chicago, Johnson embraces textile arts and incorporates into her work materials commonly found in the kitchen. Like Warhol, Johnson's work centers on caricatures of celebrities. And like both of them, Johnson's work blurs the artificial boundaries around fine art, craft, taboo, power, gender, and sexuality.

Johnson's examination of the power of fame is loaded with humorous irony. Take *Le Tart* (2006) in which Johnson embroidered a portrait of Paris Hilton in a 5" round baking pan. Or her series *The Great American Bake-off* (2008), in which the visages of three potential presidential spouses (Michelle Obama, Bill Clinton, and Elizabeth Edwards) were stitched into three 9" round pans. Showing her versatility with scale, Johnson later made a 10' by 12' portrait of Amy Winehouse called *Corner Drug* (2008) from what is perhaps the most ubiquitous contemporary domestic material of all: the plastic grocery bag.

In *Mocktails* (2010), which is inspired from the artist's long history in the service industry, we see the ghosted silhouette frames of famous figures that had popular drinks named after them. In the cases of Roy Rogers, Arnold Palmer, and Shirley Temple, both the drinks and their once-famous namesakes are fading from our cultural memory.

Whether it be bronze-cast contraceptive devices displayed in a glass bowl (*Condiments*, 2007), tableau plates with subjects whited-out, or Sarah Palin's perky face atop a coffee creamer, Johnson's witty social criticisms make very serious points about art, celebrity, and material culture. Throughout Johnson's body of work, food, drink, and other consumables serve as metaphors for the way our culture devours pop icons. The resulting statement is, perhaps, that neither is served well. We end up unsatisfied and our icons tossed away and forgotten.

To learn more about Niki Johnson, visit her website at nikijohnson.com or see her latest work at wisculpture.com (find her under "graduate portfolios"). Her Master's of Art (MA) exhibition opening is 7–9 p.m. on May 6 in the Class of 1925 Gallery in the Memorial Union on Langdon Street. The exhibition continues through May 24. **—Karin Wolf**

Our Sustainable living motto: Quality materials coupled together with the highest standards in craftsmanship to create a beautiful outdoor living space that you can enjoy for many years to come.

608.577.4277 • quigleydecks.com

Liz Lauer and associates

FEATURED PROPERTY

Hip Bungalow—409 Miller Ave

- Gracious floor plan
- Spacious living area
- Second floor getaway
- Great sunlight
- Next to park
- $259,900

Find your perfect home…
WWW.LIZLAUER.COM
608.444.5725

ARTISANAL CHEESES & PERFECT COMPANIONS
FROM LOCAL PASTURES

VISIT OUR SUSTAINABLE SPACE FOR CAREFULLY SELECTED
CHEESES, CHARCUTERIE & CONDIMENTS MADE BY LOCAL ARTISANS

fromag|nation™

artisanal cheeses & perfect companions™

TWELVE SOUTH CARROLL, ON MADISON'S CAPITAL SQUARE • 608.255.2430 • FROMAGINATION.COM

To advertise, contact us at: OURLIVESMADISON.COM

A Room of One's Own

Serving the LGBT community for over 30 years

A Room of One's Own
Feminist Bookstore
307 West Johnson St., Madison, WI 53703
608/257-7888 room@chorus.net
www.roomofonesown.com

the LAW CENTER for CHILDREN & FAMILIES

FORMING FAMILIES
ADOPTION · SURROGACY
FOSTER PARENTING

PROTECTING FAMILIES
LEGAL PARENTAGE · GUARDIANSHIPS
LIFE AND ESTATE PLANNING
CO-PARENTING AGREEMENTS
CHILD CUSTODY AND VISITATION
DISSOLUTION

WWW.LAW4KIDS.COM

450 S. Yellowstone Drive
Madison, WI 53719
608-821-8200

LIKE MOVIES?
we do, too.

Specializing in foreign-language, documentary, anime, LGBT, local and independent films

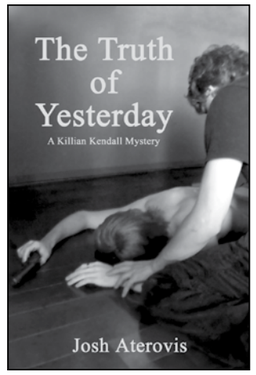
Your business keeps us in business – Thank You!

Four Star Video Heaven

315 N. Henry -Just off Johnson & State Street, downtown Madison
(608) 255-1994 www.fourstarvideoheaven.com

The Truth of Yesterday (A Killian Kendall Mystery)

by Josh Aterovis



Killian is thrilled when his first real case takes him on a surveillance trip to Washington D.C.—and with his boyfriend Micah, no less. When Micah takes him out to celebrate the successful resolution of his case, Micah's past comes back to haunt them in a big way. Killian is stunned by what he learns, and even more shocked to hear about the murder of Micah's former lover, Paul. The truth threatens to tear them apart, but at the same time, Killian finds himself drawn to find Paul's killer.

Meanwhile, he's also been asked to investigate an old friend whose behavior has changed radically over the last few months. Killian is worried Jake may be involved in something dangerous—and he has no idea how right he is.

Entering into the perilous and often grim world of male escorts, Killian discovers that things are seldom what they seem and that everyone has a past. The truth of yesterday becomes a lie tomorrow.

The Truth of Yesterday is published by PD Publishing. Go to joshaterovis.com for more information. ■

ZEBRA DUST

A children's poem and poem for the child within us

A sprinkle of this
A dash of that
A pinch of this
And a little bit of that
Not quite enough
Just a little bit more
Oh and a sprig of this or this
Why what's that?
How could I have forgotten
The most important?
Why but of course
A measure of this
Aha, that's it
Whatever are we making?
A tiny bit of this
Whatever it is
But of course that's it
Now it's done

CORRINE is a transgendered woman now in transition. She started to deal with it at age 58. Corrine writes poetry to heal her deep scars. She recently had her first book of LGBT poems published, *A Little Girl Growing*, under her birth name, Bill Jutz. Available from Amazon for Kindle.

Our Lives is **ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS** of original, previously unpublished poetry by Madison-area poets. We invite contributions that represent our diversity including: gender and gender identity, sexual preference, racial and ethnic heritage, allies, emerging voices, and poets—young and old. Poems should be no longer than 20 lines. When submitting, please indicate any special group(s) you may represent. This will assist us in selecting works that represent our diverse community.

Submit your poetry to: LINDA LENZKE, llenzke@charter.net

A Piece from the LGBTQ Narratives Group

lgbtqnarratives.blogspot.com

Wayne Gathright self-identifies as a heterosexual cross-dresser. He has been out since 2000. He wears women's clothes in public but makes no attempt to pass as a woman. He facilitates a cross-dressers support group and co-facilitates a transgender support group—both at OutReach, Madison's LGBT Community Center.

I am male.

From my earliest days, I've had an interest in women's clothes.

These two facts are incompatible in the eyes of society.

For years, I hid my interest behind an "acceptable" façade. Wearing my mother's clothes for brief periods of time behind closed doors took the edge off my need but never completely satisfied it. I would admire the boots and skirts and dresses of the females around me and wish I could wear those kinds of clothes. In my dreams, I wore the boots I adored without fear of condemnation. Each year, I would see one fashion trend fade and another one take its place. My heart would ache with a yearning I could not reveal to anyone.

All that began to change on my 33rd birthday, when I ordered my first pair of boots from the J. C. Penney website. The first time I slipped them on and zipped them up was euphoric. I was wearing boots I could call my own.

Society tells me I am mentally ill and pressures me to conform to its rigid gender binary. To that I say: "Cross-dressing is the cure, not the disease."

Soon my closet was filled to overflowing with boots and skirts and other feminine finery. The years spent admiring women's clothes helped me develop a fashion sense I could not get being raised male. My wish to dress like the females around me was coming true. But was it, really?

I must contend with a society that says it's okay for women to wear pants but not okay for men to wear skirts and heels.

The threat of harassment because my clothes don't match my sex shadows me whenever I go out en femme. I envy women. They can wear boots and skirts without giving any thought to that kind of harassment. Plus, they got to wear those kinds of clothes all their lives, while I didn't.

Because I am male, society would deny me the option of wearing women's clothes. For me to do so would be perverted, deviant, sinful, and morally wrong. Society tells me I am mentally ill and pressures me to conform to its rigid gender binary. To that I say: "Cross-dressing is the cure, not the disease." Wearing a masculine façade made me miserable. Since I came out, I feel so much better.

I was in the closet for over 30 years. I think about all the fashions that came and went, all the clothes I never got to wear. And I think about how I was cheated, ripped off, robbed—of all those years—just because I was born with a penis instead of a vagina.

I tell you, it's not fair.

LGBTQ Narratives is a queer activist-writers' group open to all LGBTQ people interested in creative expression and social justice. To get involved, visit lgbtqnarratives.blogspot.com, write to lgbtqnarratives@gmail.com, or contact OutReach, Madison's LGBT Community Center.

To subscribe, sign up at: OURLIVESMADISON.COM

Tamar Zick, LPC
Licensed Professional Counselor
2453 Atwood Avenue 201A
(608) 240-0488
Serving Our Community for 20+ Years.

When you need encouragement and support, help is at hand.

- Complicated Relationships
- Loss & Trauma
- Addiction
- Depression & Anxiety

It is possible to feel better.

tamarzick.com

Celebration of Leadership
15th Anniversary
May 14
Monona Terrace

G·S·A for Safe Schools
gay straight alliance for safe schools

Call GSAFE to reserve a seat or table and support the activism of our student leaders

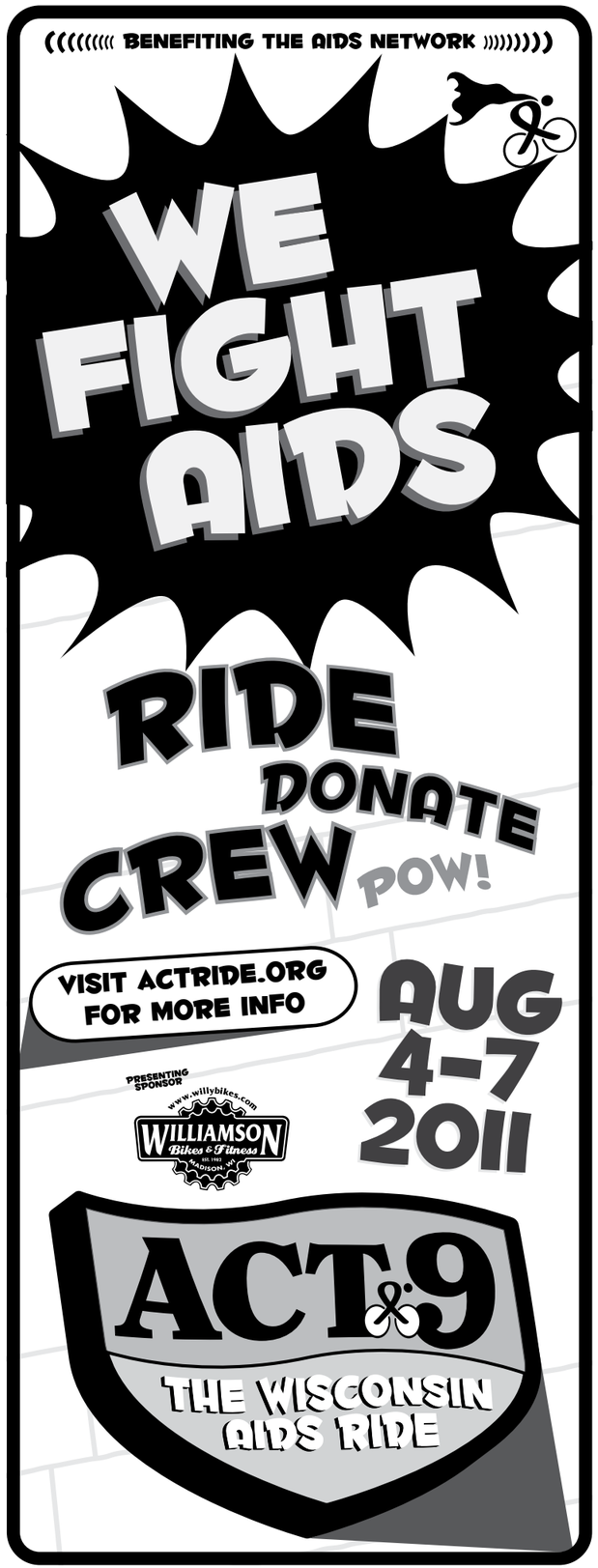
608-661-4141

Holy Wisdom Monastery

Open to All
4200 County Road M • Middleton, WI

LGBT Spirituality Retreat
Saturday, August 27, 2011; 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

- Learn ways to enter into a deeper spiritual life as you seek to be fully yourself in everyday life and relationships. Retreat led by Craig Mueller, an openly gay pastor from Chicago's Holy Trinity Church.
- For more information or to register contact Jerrianne at jbland@benedictinewomen.org, (608) 831-9306.
- To learn more about this retreat, commitment ceremonies and other events at Holy Wisdom Monastery visit **www.benedictinewomen.org**.



Rotundaville

In the midst of protests and bad politics, art takes over the Wisconsin capitol.

I've always been a believer in the power of art to change people's hearts and minds and to buoy us up and sustain us in fighting the good fight, or even to just help us survive the daily grind. For the last several years, people in the arts have been talking about the "Creative Economy." The Creative Economy is the impact that the arts have on the life of their communities—not just the revenue generated by arts events directly and indirectly—but a vibrant creative life, embodied by citizens who participate in the arts on every level from scrapbooking to opera. This is how we can generate the creative solutions to the issues facing our society. People in the arts are used to thinking outside the box and to coming up with innovative ideas. That's true whether we're talking about a professional dance troupe, a busker on the street, or a community theater.

Over the last few months, as I've watched and participated in the protests at the Capitol, I've been struck by how creativity has been woven into the action. Of course, any protest or march is almost guaranteed to have elements of street theater. But as the months have passed and the protests have continued, the level of creativity has thrilled me.

Every march and rally I've attended has included arts activists, speaking out about the assault on workers and decrying Walker's intention of eliminating the Wisconsin Arts Board.

On the very simplest and most obvious level, some of the handmade signs have been brilliant: touching, often hilarious, and sometimes true works of art on a graphic level. Many of them turned the corridors of the Capitol into an impromptu art gallery. And the costumes! Count on creative types to trot out great costumes at any event.

From the very beginning of the protests, there was a drum circle in the Capitol Rotunda, with drummers of all skill levels coming and going. It provided a kind of heartbeat for the event. Individual musicians, playing everything from French horns and tubas to mandolins and bagpipes, have serenaded the crowd from the sidelines and jumped in with the marchers. And entire bands have shown up, some with new music inspired by the protests. Madison's own VO5, which usually is a fabulous disco cover band, came up with an homage to the protests called "Cheddar Revolution." A video of the song, filmed outside the Capitol during the protests, is sure to make you laugh as much as it did the folks it entertained on that snowy Saturday. (Look for it on YouTube.) The Madison surf rock band "Venus in Furs" has written a rousing call to stand with the workers. Folks from Four Seasons Theatre and Madison Theatre Guild organized a flash mob to converge on the rotunda and perform "Do You Hear the People Sing?" from "Les Misérables" to the great delight of the crowd (you can also see that on YouTube). It was followed the next weekend by a flash mob from "Newsies."

While the music started as an impromptu expression, the rally organizers quickly integrated it into the events inside the Capitol Rotunda. There's no doubt that, given the opportunity, the people will bring music and art to the people's house. Every march and rally I've attended has included arts activists, speaking out about the assault on workers and decrying Walker's intention of eliminating the Wisconsin Arts Board.

If you'd like to get more involved in the arts at the Capitol protests, there's a Facebook group: the Rotundaville Artists' Collective is acting as an information clearinghouse and organizing tool. SolidarityWisconsin.com provides regular information on arts activism and the protests, as well as updates on the impact of budget cuts on the arts. **— Tara Ayres**

TOP PHOTOS BY CALLEN HARTY. BOTTOM PHOTO BY MATTHEW WISNIEWSKI

RESTAINO & ASSOCIATES REALTORS
EcoBroker®, Realtor®
Kim Nemacheck
608.213.2906
As an experienced, top-producing, realtor and consultant, I am dedicated to helping our community make informed buying and selling decisions
Mention this ad and I will donate $100 towards the LGBT organization of your choice.
open Out Professional and Executive Network
Founding member
kimnemacheck.com

REDCAT NETWORKS, LLC

John & Curt
IT Professionals Specializing in:
Custom Built PC's
Discreet Data Recovery
PC Troubleshooting & Repair
Custom Security Systems
Home & Office Network Setup
608-212-0633 ■ www.redcatnetworks.com

NEW HARVEST FOUNDATION
Funding South Central Wisconsin's LGBT Communities Since 1984
2011 Funding Priorities: LGBT Youth & Seniors
Grants Awarded Twice a Year
- Applications available on our website
- Fall cycle starts October 1st, grants awarded by January 30th
- Spring cycle starts April 1st, grants awarded by July 30th

Contact Us to Volunteer
- Serve on a committee
- Help plan an event
- Consider joining the board

Follow Us on Facebook
www.newharvestfoundation.org

Cultural, Social, Service and Nightlife listings edited by **Virginia Harrison**

Celebration of Leadership

May 14, Concourse Hotel, Madison

At their 15th annual banquet, the Gay Straight Alliance for Safe Schools will award scholarships to four graduating high school seniors and the 2011 Educator of the Year and Judi Devereux Community Activist Awards will be presented.
gsaforsafeschools.com

FruitFest

June 18, Williamson Street

The LGBT block party is back and growing. For one day Plan B's parking lot turns into a live music venue and 80's pop princess **Tiffany** will serve as the reigning queen *(don't tell Davina DeVille we said that…)*. Bitch is back, too, and Little Red Wolf rounds out the 2011 headliners.
fruitfestmadison.com

PrideFest

June 10–12, Milwaukee

PrideFest energizes Milwaukee with one of the nation's most dynamic celebrations of LGBT culture and community, including music and dancing, shopping, health and wellness information, family activities, and more. Headliners include LeAnn Rimes and **Salt-N-Pepa**.
pridefest.com

GET LISTED To see your event on this page, be sure to post it on our community calendar **ourlivesmadison.com**

Save the Date

ACT 9: The Wisconsin AIDS Ride
August 4–7 | actride.org

Wisconsin Capitol Pride
Aug. 20 & 21 | wisconsincapitolpride.org

OPEN Cruise on the Betty Lou
July 19 | openmadison.org

Community Shares: 40th Anniversary Party
September | communityshares.com

OPEN Workplace Summit
September 17 | openmadison.org

19th Annual OutReach Awards Banquet
September 23 | lgbtoutreach.org

GSAFE Walk/Run/Eat
October | gsaforsafeschools.org

Fair Wisconsin Art Auction
December 1 | fairwisconsin.com

OPEN Annual Dinner
January | openmadison.org

Submit your event listings to our online calendar at: **ourlivesmadison.com**

OPEN Breakfast Series: LGBT Business & Marketing, May 11, UW Union South Executive editor at Windy City Media Group, Founder of Chicago Area Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce and co-vice chair of the Gay Games VII, Tracy Baim will share market insights from her work helping small businesses, non-profits and corporations to partner with the LGBT community. **openmadison.org**

Fifth Annual Drag Down Cancer Comedy Benefit, May 14, High Noon Saloon, Madison Come out for an evening of performances, fun, and spectacles featuring Cass Marie and friends; more than a dozen drag acts are scheduled. **dragdowncancer.webs.com**

Proud Theater: Rockin' the Rotunda! May 19–21, The Bartell Theater, Madison A fun and exciting evening of theater, music, poetry, and dance written by and starring the talented youth of Proud Theater, Madison's very own LGBTQ youth theater troupe. **proudtheater.org**

***Queer Shorts 6*, May 27–June 4, Bartell Theater, Madison** The 6th annual collection of short plays full of laughs, tears, surprises, and lots of queers! **stageq.com**

Fair Wisconsin Leadership Awards, June 6, MMoCA, Madison Join Fair Wisconsin Education Fund as they recognize pro-fairness leaders from the past year. The Tammy Baldwin Statewide Impact award this year is being given to AFSCME Wisconsin. **fairwisconsineducationfund.com/leadership**

***It's Murder, Mary*, June 17– July 2, Bartell Theater, Madison** Eight gay men spend the weekend at a creepy country house and find themselves being killed off in the style of classic movies. This campy gay comedy spoof of murder mysteries is an OUT!Cast Theatre/StageQ Production. **stageq.com**

Perfect Harmony Men's Chorus "Queen: A Tribute to Freddie Mercury" June 18, McFarland High School Auditorium, McFarland Join in celebrating the iconic British rock band Queen and the equally astounding Freddie Mercury. **perfectharmonychorus.org**

ORGANIZATIONS

A representative sampling

AIDS Network
600 Williamson St., Madison (608) 252-6540
aidsnetwork.org

Bowling Out Loud
beckwith.matt@yahoo.com

Dairyland Cowboys and Cowgirls
dcandc.org

Fair Wisconsin
122 State St., Madison (608) 441-0143
fairwisconsin.org

Frontrunners/Frontwalkers
personalpages.tds.net/~tmcclurg

Gay/Straight Alliance for Safe Schools (GSAFE)
301 S. Bedford St., Madison (608) 661-4141
gsaforsafeschools.org

Gay Softball League
ssblmadison.com

Gay Volleyball League
madisongayvolleyball.com

Hermanos Latinos
sneal@aidsnetwork.org

Lez In Color Yahoo Group
LezInColor@yahoogroups.com

Lez Talk Yahoo Group
leztalkmadison@yahoogroups.com

LGBT Business Alliance
madisonbusinessalliance.com

Madison Gay Hockey Association
madisongayhockey.org

Madison Minotaurs Gay Rugby
minotaursrugby.org

New Harvest Foundation
newharvestfoundation.org

Out Professional and Executive Network (O.P.E.N.)
openmadison.org

OutReach Community Center
600 Williamson St., Madison (608) 255-8582
lgbtoutreach.org

PFLAG - Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays
(608) 848-2333
pflag-madison.org

Perfect Harmony Men's Chorus
perfectharmonychorus.org

StageQ - Madison's Queer Theater
stageq.com

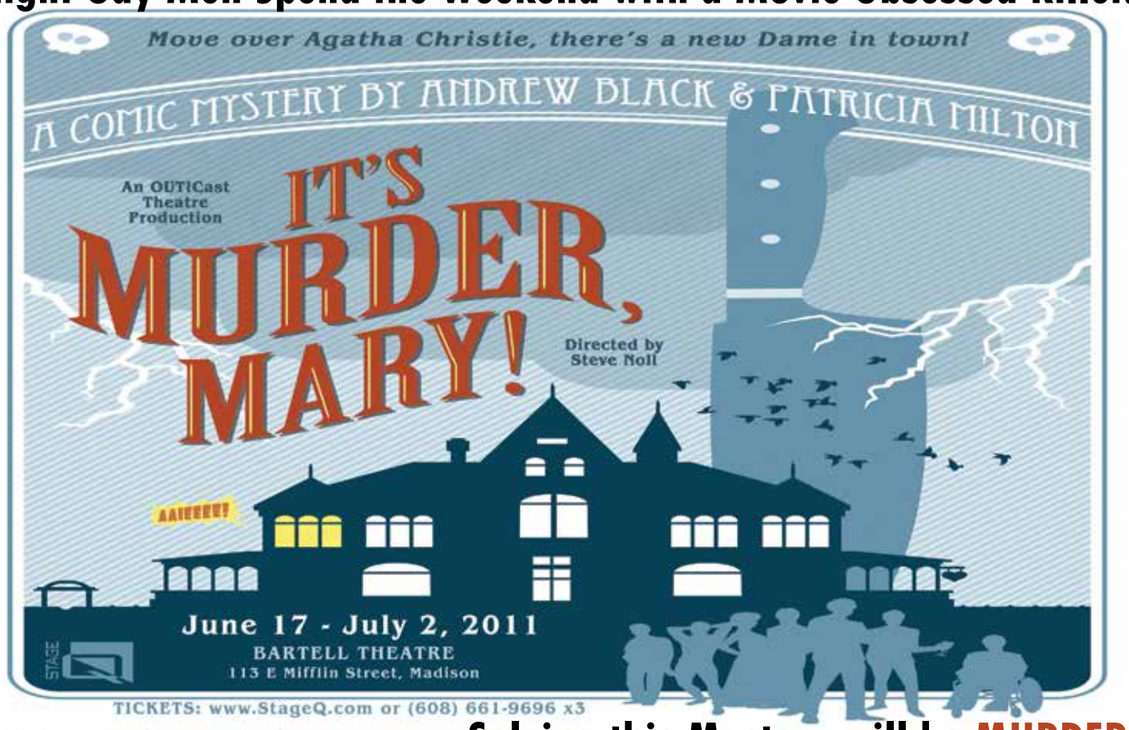
UW - Madison LGBT Campus Center
800 Langdon St., Madison (608) 265-3344
wisc.edu/lgbt

Wisconsin Rainbow Families
wirainbowfamilies.com

Expand your reach and **Be Seen**. Advertise your business in *Our Lives*. For rates and info, contact us at: **OURLIVESMADISON.COM**

March 5 | New Harvest Foundation Dinner Dance

Eight Gay Men Spend the Weekend with a Movie Obsessed Killer.



For Mature Audiences Only

Solving this Mystery will be MURDER!

OUT!Cast Theatre

Steve Noll sets the stage for community theater fundraising in Madison.

Where are you from and what do you do? I'm a Madison native. I'm the lead Professor in Marketing at Madison College and I run my own Marketing/Advertising firm. I hold a Bachelor's Degree in Communications and a Master's Degree in Business Marketing. I've been actively involved in community theater since 1999. I was one of the original founding members of StageQ, the LGBT theater group in Madison back in 2001. I've produced and/or directed about 15 shows and worked in some capacity on about another 10.

How did you come to create OUT!Cast Theatre? OUT!Cast came about when I was pitching a play called "Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead" in 2009. It was an edgy, satirical look at the Charlie Brown characters 10 years after the comic strip. Very R-rated and dealing with themes like teen suicide and sex and drug use in high school. Several theater groups passed on doing it. They liked the script, but felt it didn't fit into their core mission. So a few of my colleagues and

I'm financing "It's Murder, Mary" myself. My hope is that the show is a big enough hit that, once I recoup the show cost, I can donate all the profits to the theater community.

I who were hoping to get our show up felt like "outcasts." We had a great script, passion, and enthusiasm for the show, but no home in which to do it. StageQ offered me a late-night slot if we could cover all the costs to do a two-week run in November 2009. The *Wisconsin State Journal*/Madison.com ended up picking it as one of the top five best theater shows of 2009 (and that included Overture and all other theater in the area).

Photographed by **Melody Hanson**

What is the mission of OUT!Cast Theatre? We have no set mission yet. Having been involved with community theater for over a decade, I'm always running into people who have dream projects that have never made it past the dreaming stage. I'm hoping that if we can make "It's Murder, Mary" a hit, it will open more doors to finding these projects and showing that we have the skills to make them happen with both artistic and financial success.

What is your vision for the future of OUT!Cast Theatre? "It's Murder, Mary" is only the second OUT!Cast show. Again, this was a great script that we couldn't find a "home" for, so I decided to produce it myself. StageQ was very generous in partnering to give us access to the Bartell Theater and their production resources. My hope going forward is perhaps to make OUT!Cast into a "real" theater company with the purpose of producing shows that are "passion projects" for people while serving as fundraisers for the community.

How does OUT!Cast Theatre benefit the larger community? With all the financial uncertainties facing the arts, I think it's critical that people step up and make personal commitments to make sure the arts stay viable and affordable for the community. I'm financing "It's Murder, Mary" myself. My hope is that the show is a big enough hit that, once I recoup the show cost, I can donate all the profits to the theater community (both groups and locations). The Bartell Theater is in the middle of a fundraising campaign, and if I could raise $5,000 from profits to give to the Bartell, I think everyone would be successful. And I'd love to lay down the start of doing a regular fundraising production that could benefit many organizations for years to come.

It's Murder, Mary

"It's Murder, Mary" is a campy gay comedy spoof of murder mysteries. Eight gay men spend the weekend at a creepy country house and find themselves being killed off in the style of classic movies. Witty one-liners, dirty jokes, sexy (and some skimpily dressed) guys and a genuine who-done-it plot twist! Opens Friday, June 17 at the Bartell Theater and runs through July 2.
StageQ.com

By Andrew Black & Patricia Milton, originally produced in San Francisco in 2007.

An Out!Cast Theatre Production in association with StageQ.

Profits from the show will go to the Bartell Theater Foundation.

Directed by Steve Noll
Produced by Ginger Swart
Executive Producer, Steve Noll
Set Design by Erin Ball
Light Design by ETC Theater
Special Death Props by Emmalee Pearson

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS · NARI MEMBER · HOME PERFORMANCE ENERGY STAR

"Thanks for the great work on our bathroom. It looks fabulous and we're very pleased!"
MARK POCAN

TIME 2 REMODEL, LLC
Curt Dimmig • 608-212-0633 • www.time2remodel.com

- Kitchens, baths, additions, and basements
- Exceptional customer service
- Award winning designer with 25+ years of experience
- One stop remodeling shop from concept to completion

Proud to partner with Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®.

There is Power in Our Pride
Please help us grow by taking our annual survey
LGBTsurvey.com
our lives · Community Marketing, Inc. · NGLCC CERTIFIED

You can now find us in your favorite Grocery Store!

Copps
1312 S Park St., Madison
6655 Mckee Rd., Madison
6540 Monona Dr., Monona

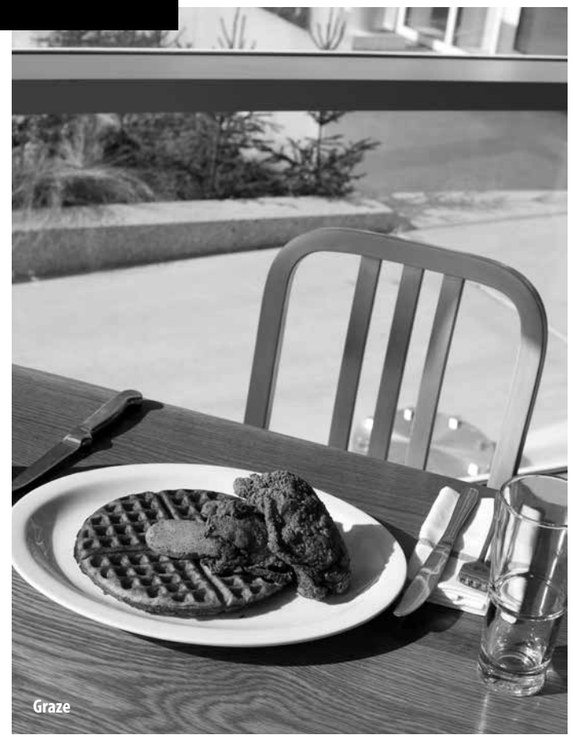
Hy-Vee
3801 East Washington Ave.

Metcalfe's Sentry
726 N Midvale Blvd.

Willy St Co-op
East: 1221 Williamson St.
West: 6825 University Ave.

Woodman's
East: 3817 Milwaukee St.
West: 711 S Gammon Rd.

Whole Foods
3313 University Ave.


Graze

Full of Bull Famous Roast Beef

Batch Bakehouse

Plaka Taverna

Photographed by **Roberto Amezcua**

Food That Makes You Say, "Mmm …"

A Madison-area comfort food tour with **Marcelle Richards**.

Maybe Mom had it right—comfort food is where it's at. Culinary media outlets are selling the concept like hotcakes, and even fine dining restaurants are tapping into the feel-good power food can bring to the table. And then there are places—gritty holes in the wall, quaint diners, and such—in which comfort food has and always will be the unapologetic golden child.

Customers are on board with the idea of comfort food, especially in a tight economy and stressful climate in which value and some levity in food is prized. My take is that there's also been a gradual shift toward an appreciation for simple pleasures and a little nostalgia.

To me, comfort food is any food that makes you feel good. Go to another part of the globe, and that might be chicken feet from a food cart or a steaming bowl of pozole. Our choices are highly personal—the thoughts and associations behind the foods we seek for comfort. Madison has been good to me in this respect, and I'd like to highlight a couple that I overlooked at first and then felt a sense of discovery when I found them. Other places serve specific menu items that I find particularly difficult to track down in Madison.

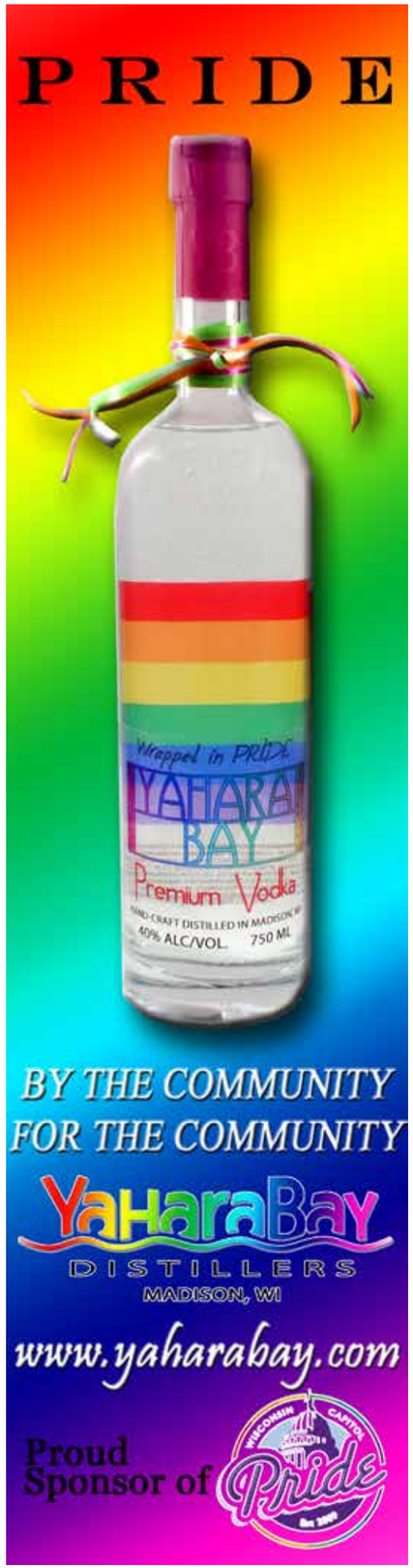
Umami Ramen and Dumpling Bar **923 Williamson Street:** I used to live about a block down from them and excitement for their 2011 opening had been building since I saw a makeshift sign go up on the lawn in the fall. It was absolutely worth the wait, and it fills a niche Madison has been lacking to date. I'm particularly fond of the tonkatsu ramen bowl with char sui pork. The noodles are custom produced by RP's Pasta and the dumplings are some of the best I've had—the wrapper is soft and chewy on one side and seared to a crispy golden brown on the other—which reminded me of making mandu, a Korean version, with my mom.

Batch Bakehouse **1511 Williamson Street:** When I was in junior high, the cafeteria served cinnamon buns, which I'm sure were frozen and from a box, but they ruined me forever with their sugary crisp, tall walls and gooey center until I met the Batch morning bun: a pecan sticky bun with all the right dimensions and a lovely crisp exterior with a soft chewy center. Grab a slice of "Lauren's Mom's Apple Cake" if you can, or check out a host of savory artisan delights, such as the bacon cheddar scone.

43 North **108 King Street:** They know the way to my heart and it's through pork belly. I practically hunt eggs Benedict for sport, and I thought I had seen it all until I tried the "fried pork belly, chocolate peanut banana bread, poached egg." It is served for brunch at 43 North in the likeness of a Fat Elvis. It's glistening in brown sugar hollandaise, which brought back sinful memories of me eating brown sugar by the spoonful.

Mad Dog's

Full of Bull Famous Roast Beef **605 E. Washington Avenue:** Hands down one of my favorite places for "fast" food that doesn't cut corners. Rather, their roast beef, turkey, and pork are slow-roasted and it'll take two hands to hold one of their sandwiches, so don't eat and drive. My favorite is the elusive French dip, which is nearly impossible



Umami Ramen and Dumpling Bar

Cottage Café

to find on Madison menus. Also noteworthy are the chili cheese fries. Their "Pilgrim" sandwich reminds me of what my partner's family calls a "fatbowl"—Thanksgiving leftovers piled into one bowl—or in this case turkey, cranberry sauce, and bread stuffing in a French roll.

Graze 1 S. Pinkney Street: Your one-stop shop for globally influenced comfort food made with local, sustainable ingredients. The menu does an especially good job of bringing together items you don't often see on Madison menus, from roasted bone marrow to a sustainable fish fry. As a die-hard Roscoe's Chicken and Waffles fan, my heart flutters at the appearance of fried chicken and waffles on the menu. Pork3—with roasted pork loin, potato sausage, and pulled pork shoulder—is for people, like me, who couldn't possibly choose between the three.

Plaka Taverna 410 E. Wilson Street: This charming successor to Cleveland's Diner has kept Cleveland's popular breakfast menu with Greek-inspired additions and an entire lunch and dinner menu pulled from owner Telly Fatsis's Greek mother's arsenal. My olfactory memory can't let go of the Rock the Casbah Scramble with Moroccan Chicken. It is chock-full of flavorful, aromatic chicken, and fresh vegetables with a side of some of the best breakfast potatoes in town.

Cottage Café 915 Atlas Avenue: I was introduced to this place about a year ago and then quickly made up for lost time at this charmingly dated diner full of pleasantly gruff waitresses, fake plants, and real serious portions. It reminds me of little mom-and-pop places my dad liked to go to out in central California, though the country fried steak at Cottage Café has any place out there beat. The key is the country gravy, equally good on an order of their biscuits and gravy.

43 North

Mad Dog's 309 N. Henry Street: Say what you will, but my mom used to fry up hot dog slices dipped in egg and I've had a thing for hot dogs ever since. This is why I can't believe it took me so long to find Mad Dog's. One fine lunch break during the Scott Walker protests, I stumbled in. I couldn't have been happier wearing a BBQ sauce mustache, sitting on a bar stool, and listening to Bruce Springsteen in this little hole-in-the-wall full of union workers. I was enjoying the "Dirty Harry"—a beef hot dog topped with slow-roasted pulled pork in BBQ sauce. This is food for hard-working people who've worked up an appetite. ■

You can now find us in your favorite Grocery Store!

Copps
1312 S Park St., Madison
6655 Mckee Rd., Madison
6540 Monona Dr., Monona

Hy-Vee
3801 East Washington Ave.

Metcalfe's Sentry
726 N Midvale Blvd.

Willy St Co-op
East: 1221 Williamson St.
West: 6825 University Ave.

Woodman's
East: 3817 Milwaukee St.
West: 711 S Gammon Rd.

Whole Foods
3313 University Ave.

LOCAL INGREDIENTS · GLUTEN FREE
CATERING AVAILABLE
ITALIAN · MEDITERRANEAN
BUNKY'S CAFE
VISIT OUR NEW LOCATION:
2425 ATWOOD AVE, MADISON
OPEN:
TUESDAY-THURSDAY 11-2, 5-9
FRIDAY 11-2, 5-10
SATURDAY 11-10
SUNDAY 5-9
MONDAY CLOSED
204·7004
BUNKYSCAFE.NET

additions • kitchen and bath remodeling • windows • project design

TZ of Madison, Inc. GENERAL CONTRACTORS
(608) 241-2967
2011 NARI National Region 3 and 2010 NARI of Madison, Inc. Contractor of the Year Award Residential Addition under $100,000
View our award winning projects at www.tzofmadison.com

willy street co-op
a natural foods cooperative since 1974
Willy West: 6825 University Ave., Middleton • (608) 284-7800 | open 7:30am–9:30pm daily
Willy East: 1221 Williamson St., Madison • (608) 251-6776 | www.willystreet.coop

CHOCOLATE CAKE WITH MALTED MILK BALL FROSTING

Special order desserts made with local & organic ingredients

We also have a full catering menu including entrees, coffee and juice, breakfast bakery and deli platters. All fresh produce used is organic, and all cheese, butter, eggs and milk used is locally made.

See our menu at www.willystreet.coop/catering. To place an order or ask questions, please call us at 608-237-1201 or e-mail catering@willystreet.coop.

cover

A Tribute to Tradition

Jennifer DeBolt's **The Old Fashioned** summons memories of classic Wisconsin taverns and supper clubs of old and welcomes us to create memories within the restaurant's culture of happiness.

Food has always been an important part of my life. I had my first retail experience with food at about 10 years old. We would sell extra tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchini, and anything in abundance from my grandparents' garden. We had a table in the front yard packed with veggies, and my cousin and I would sit for hours selling the goods. Growing up in our house, it was like a holiday to have fast food. As I grew older, I treasured the home-cooked meals and the thought process behind each meal. I have always enjoyed cooking, but my true food awakening came via my partner Tami Lax. She opened my mind and palate to everything food is and can be.

The restaurant business intrigued me early on. We were the total supper club family. Growing up, we spent birthdays, anniversaries, and many Saturday nights at some of the best supper clubs around the Watertown area. I remember thinking how cool the guy was behind the bar talking with everyone. It just looked like fun. So, 25 years later when Tami filled me in on her idea for The Old Fashioned, I knew I wanted to be a part of it.

A Commitment to the Best

I love food, but knew that my strengths would be best utilized in the front of the house. I grew some passions rather quickly: cheese, beer, promotions, and customers. With some research, guidance, introductions, and a great deal of driving, I discovered some of the great products the state has to offer. Some of my best moments involve eating a piece of cheese or having a sip of beer that literally has given me goose bumps because it's so good. Bringing those products back to the customers has been my mission. Whether it is finding distributers to pick up the products for us or getting in a vehicle and picking them up myself, I will get them for others to enjoy.

Creativity All Around

Being creative is an area I never really knew existed in myself prior to The Old Fashioned. Now one day about every two weeks, I tell the staff it's party planning day and we sit and think of new promotions/events. It's one of my favorite times. Nothing makes me happier than when a promotion or party goes well and it turns into a tradition. Late this summer will be our Fifth Annual $1.00 Old Fashioned Party. We get packed for three hours, and it is a blast making over 1000 Old Fashioneds. Customer age ranges from roughly 22 to 65, and it seems like a big family reunion with all our regulars. Who wouldn't enjoy a Korbel Brandy Old Fashioned for $1.00? Our annual Cherry Bounce Party is always a big hit as well. It's so satisfying to see crowds of people laughing, smiling, and enjoying all the hard work we put into events like these.

The Learning Never Ends

The learning curve is endless at The Old Fashioned; it's like a big classroom every day. The list of everything I have learned from this adventure could be made into a novel. A few main points stick out. The first is that in order to be an effective leader, you must be respected. I try to carry a bus tub full of dirty dishes to the dishwasher every day. I do this to remind myself that busing tables is a hard, physical job. I fully believe you must know and have the ability to perform every job in the restaurant, no matter how physically difficult or dirty it is; I feel I cannot ask anyone to do a job which I cannot do or do not have the knowledge to complete. I have found that this mentality has created an equal respect between the staff and me.

Secondly, I am a firm believer that you must always try to improve yourself, staff, menus, products, and atmosphere. The slightest reinvention to keep it fresh—whether it is related to a menu or the atmosphere—is important. And listen…Listen to what your customers and staff have to say, whether it is good or bad. Listen to what they want, and try to meet their expectations.

Thirdly, I have learned that everyone likes memories—whether they are past or future. So, I strive to touch on the things that remind customers of their parents, grandparents, or products that seemed to be lost along the way. I keep in mind that customers and people in general just want to feel good. Food is not just a staple of life but an institution of culture and happiness.

Finally, I've learned never to be afraid to ask. Asking the staff about their opinions and ideas or just bouncing ideas off of them is very valuable. When putting together a promotion, I will sometimes bounce ideas off of the staff for three reasons: for further input/ideas, to get them excited for upcoming dates, and to create a sense of ownership that they had input on the event. We are fortunate to have a wonderful crew that truly believes in our philosophies and passion for everything Wisconsin. They get just as excited as customers when we have a new beer or a special of the day. All of them help make The Old Fashioned the institution it is becoming.

I strive to touch on the things that remind CUSTOMERS OF THEIR PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, or products that seemed to be lost along the way.

The Rewards are Plentiful

The most rewarding feeling comes when people walk in and see our beer list with 55 different tap lines—or the goblet of PBR with a pickled egg in it—with full amazement. Or when I hear customers talk about how their parents used to make brandy slush in summer and they haven't had one in twenty years. It is rewarding to hear patrons telling stories of their past because something at The Old Fashioned reminded them of it, or to see the faces of customers that have never eaten a cheese curd before after their first bites, or to serve the person that swears they hate bleu cheese a piece of Wisconsin artisan bleu cheese and they are blown away. Those are emotions and experiences I want to bring to everyone that walks in the door. A place they can feel at home, share experiences, meet new friends, have great food and drinks, and develop more memories. That is the supper club I remember as a kid. And nothing is more satisfying than seeing that continue.

My favorite evening here was a Friday night about a year ago. A group of 12 people came in for an 80th birthday party. The lady who was celebrating her birthday was shy and so cute, about five feet tall, wearing a cute red sweatshirt with a cardinal embroidered on it. The wait for a table was one-and-a-half hours, so the group bellied up to the bar. To make a long story short, three-and-a-half hours later, when they were leaving, she came up to me and gave me a hug and said, "This was the best birthday of my life. I have never laughed so hard and had so much fun. This was my first time here but will not be my last. Thank you." Then I noticed that she had on a t-shirt over her sweatshirt that said "Badgers Rule" (which had belonged to a twenty-something gentlemen sitting near them at the bar), and a birthday hat made from one of our beer menus. I asked her how she obtained the shirt and the hat. She said, "All I said was, 'I like your shirt,' and the good looking bartender made me the hat, just think if I would have had three Old Fashioneds instead of two—what I would have gotten?!" She was laughing all the way out the door. I just watched her walk away, thinking, "That's what it is all about." Those are the moments that warm my soul and make me proud to be a part of The Old Fashioned. ■

BACK TO THE LAND

Marcelle Richards talks with local women who work the land and harvest its bounty to share with others as they enrich their own lives, too.

Madison's "buy local" movement connects consumers to their farmers and their products. It puts a face on the food we eat, but how many of us take that one step further, back to the land? Many of us don't know that we can, in our own small ways, find a connection to our food by being both the consumer and producer. We all have the power to be stewards of the land, and—if we really want to—we have the power to be both producers and consumers.

The Bee Charmer

"People have to start to be aware of our earth; this consciousness has started to be more widespread," says "The Bee Charmer" Mary Celley. In addition to organic black locust/apple blossom, clover, and wildflower honey, she produces heirloom squashes and pumpkins, sweet corn, and various other fruits and vegetables. "It's so simple, too, if we just give thanks. I get a bounty of food and all I do is say 'thank you' to the earth. It works," she says.

Celley usually sells all of what she brings to the Dane County Farmers' Market while still producing enough to sustain her own needs.

"For so many years, people have gotten sick from cantaloupes or grapes because they've been sprayed with pesticides or washed with dirty water. I know my stuff is safer for people, and it's fresh. My partner and a friend pick the corn the morning of the market and bring it to me. All my other vegetables are picked the night before," she says.

With the price of gas and oil on the rise, Celley anticipates that the market will see higher traffic as people turn to local sources of food.

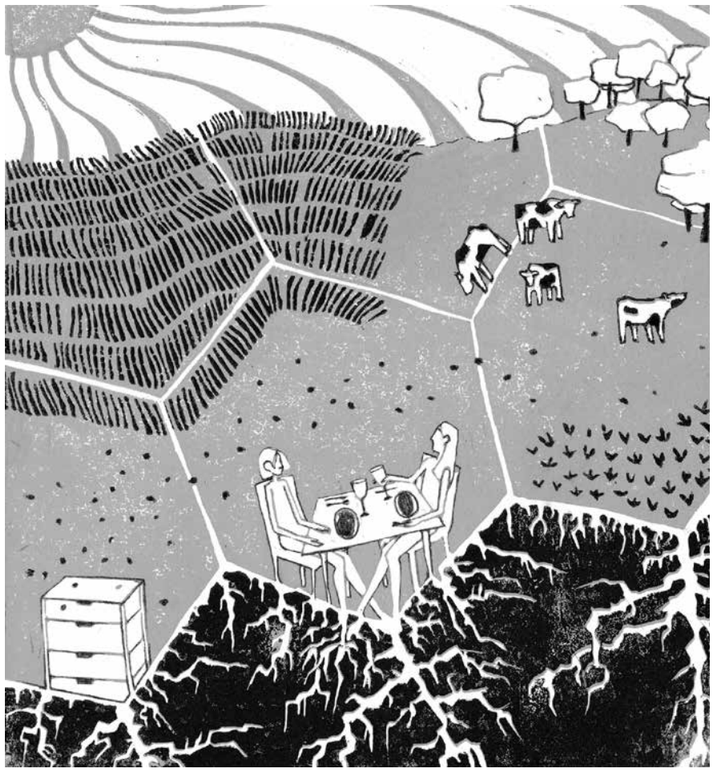
"Everybody's struggling this year, so I've lowered my prices. I'm going to sell a lot for a little. I've got everything that I need," she says.

Celley tends to her fields and orchards and a bee house of her most prized associates on a plot of oak savannah in Brooklyn, which she acquired through meeting an older farmer at the Hilldale farmers' market.

"He knew there was something special up here, but he didn't know what it was," she says, commenting on the spiritual energy of the grounds. "I consider myself the steward of this property and that's why everything is natural," she adds.

All buildings on Celley's property are made of stone and wood—purposely void of metal—to stand firm in "tornado alley." Celley, her partner, four labs, and multiple cats call a log cabin home.

Slowly, Celley has bought and rented more of the old farmer's property, keeping the "greedy grandson's" heavy machinery further and further away from the oak trees' roots.



"That one out there is like the grandmother of all of these," she says as she points out the window at a gnarly-knuckled oak, making herself sound like the Lorax of this patch of Brooklyn.

The outdoors have always felt like home to Celley. "I found comfort in being outside from a young age. I was always outdoors," she says.

When she attended UW-Madison, Celley worked as a beekeeper for the USDA, and she's been devoted to bees ever since.

"They're little miracle workers: they're organized, they're clean, and they can live in a metropolis and function," she says. "Bees teach people that you can get along, and you can work as a unit."

Luna Circle

For Tricia Bross, owner of Luna Circle Farm in Rio, being a producer has created spheres of overlap between other organic farmers, farmers in general, her customers, and the local communities she's involved in.

Bross experienced her hardest year to date last year, which she nicknames "the year of the broken equipment." But in times of trouble, other farmers help.

"A lot of what keeps me going is I feel this deep commitment to providing good food to people, I feel a commitment to the piece of land I live on, and I really want to find ways to make good food affordable for people in a way that supports the farmer," she says.

Bross has faithful clientele, and feels it really comes down to high-quality produce, which she also sells to L'Etoile, Harvest, The Old Fashioned, and Krista's Café in Portage.

Although Tricia's parents were hobby farmers, women were still a rarity in farming, and she initially started down a different path.

"I got out of high school in 1978, and it was not a time when they thought of girls in farming," she says. "I actually got a degree in business administration, worked in San Francisco, went to graduate school, and met people there that were growing organic vegetables. I started volunteering on the farm and ended up deciding that was what I wanted to do."

While interning, a farmer told Bross, "Women bunch the vegetables, the men drive the equipment." She says, "I had grown up driving equipment as a kid and wasn't allowed to get on a tractor there."

Frustrated by how women were treated on farms, Bross created Luna Circle Farm "to train women in how to do things like run tractors, run rototillers, and how to not be terrified by a chain saw." A short time later, she began hiring men as well.

Originally, Luna Circle was located in Gays Mills. The drive from Gays Mills to the Dane County Farmers' Market meant that Saturday mornings began at 1 a.m., so as Tricia entered her forties, she looked for something closer to Madison. She traded the scenery of a hilly vista in Gays Mills for prairieland in Rio where, as an experienced farmer, she loves the high-quality soil.

Madison CSAs

Kiera Mulvey, executive director of the Madison Area Community Supported Agriculture Coalition says that in this area of the state, "We happen to be on years and years of old prairie soil, so we have access to really wonderful topsoil that's rich in nutrients. If, as farmers and gardeners, we care for that soil, we can have really amazing results in our backyards, in our homes, and on our farms."

Even in the city, growing can happen in our own backyard, or even on a windowsill.

"You can grow a little bit of food no matter what your situation is. You don't have to have any ground, but knowing what it is you're working with will make your experience that much more successful and satisfying," Mulvey said.

"One of my favorite things to do, especially when I was living in an apartment, was to sprout the garlic that sat around for a little too long and started to have the green tip," Mulvey says. "If you stick that in some soil in your windowsill, and the green shoots grow out, that's a great chive."

Mulvey and her partner have a home on the east side near Olbrich. A yard was one of their top three priorities when selecting a home. Systematically, they've been getting rid of grass and implementing more garden, hence the transitional nickname of their "yarden" which springs up with vegetables, herbs, and flowers and provides room for experimenting with food production.

On the side, Mulvey also works seasonally at Blue Moon Community Farm to maintain a direct connection to the farm experience and farmers.

"I want to be able to grow my own food; Blue Moon Community Farms allows me to do that. I work so much with farmers and community members who want to know what's going on at the farm that it feels like a really important connection for me to be experiencing it and not just hearing about it second-hand," she says.

For people looking for a stronger connection to the land, consider a worker share on a farm, attend CSA farm events, or ride in the annual Bike the Barns event this year on September 18, Mulvey suggests.

"There are young couples, women who are primary operators of their farms, lesbians—all these people who are coming together who are united by something that's different from more traditional definitions of society. Everybody's here because they're passionate about food, so it doesn't matter where you're coming from," Mulvey says. ■

923 WILLY ST.
Parking Available
608.819.6319

LUNCH
Mon - Sat
11:30am - 2:30pm

DINNER
Mon - Thu, 5pm - 10pm
Fri - Sat, 5pm - 12am

うまみ
umami
RAMEN & DUMPLING BAR

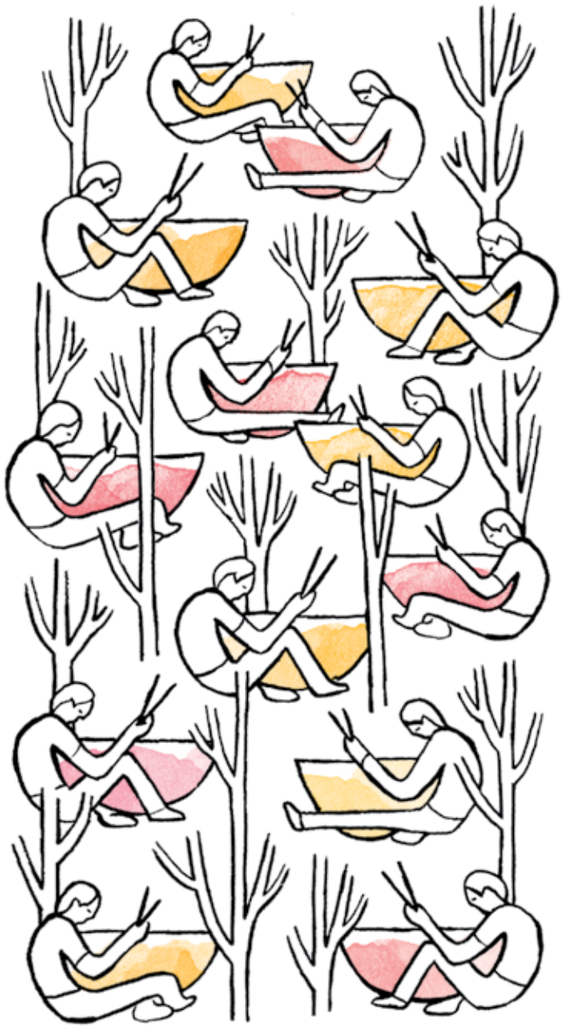


Illustration by **Juliet Darken, darkenart.com**

Our History by Richard Wagner

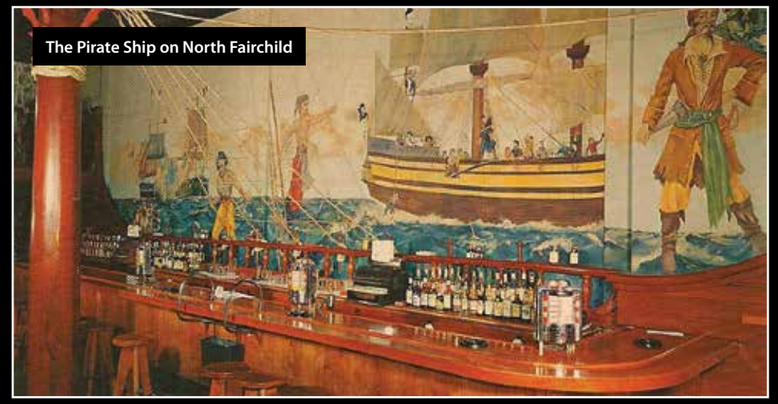
Gay Bars

Finding Ourselves Pre-Stonewall: Part 2

I have previously noted theories on how gay identity was formed during the mid-20th century through the consumer culture—in part via physical culture magazines. Another consumer culture icon, the gay bar, also had a formative part in creating the links of community and identity for gays before Stonewall in 1969. Before we could be a movement or a political force, we needed to find ourselves.

Will Fellows' recent book *Gay Bar: The Fabulous True Story of a Daring Woman and her Boys* in the 1950s describes life in early gay bar culture. The California Supreme Court even weighed in on the side of gay bars during the 1950s to permit their existence. The 1960s saw a rapid increase in gay bars around the country.

There was even early scholarly recognition of the significance of gay bars. Joseph Harry, writing in the *Journal of Sex Research* in 1974 contributed an article on "Urbanization and the Gay Life." He noted, "The gay bar is one of the central institutions of the gay world, serving both as a sexual marketplace and as a meeting place for friends."


The Pirate Ship on North Fairchild

Harry's article noted the limits of gay research up to the early 1970s in which, according to his view, the data had focused only on specialized samples of either the largest urban places or on the small populations of members of the early homophile organizations. His study of 1,980 American gay bars was proclaimed to "constitute the only national data on gay institutions to date." The data he used included the *Guild Guide* (1972) to gay bars plus places of interest and census data of 1970. The study noted 426 cities were listed in the guide with gay bars, many cities with multiple bars, though he noted some were of mixed clientele.

Harry commented there were several guides, and "they greatly facilitate the social life of a new comer to a strange city." He also noted, "Bartenders serve as excellent informants in the gay community because of their communicational centrality." In the conclusion, he summed up the matter, "For various reasons of personality, social exclusion, or labeling, gays create a segregated set of institutions."

The *Guild Guide* used by Joseph Harry was among several different published guides for gay bars, though he selected it as the most accurate. There were charges that several guides simply borrowed from each other for information. The *Guild Guide* tried to make its publication participatory. In a personal message to users the editors stated, "We need your help if this Guide is to grow in both usefulness and availability." Yet it was cautioned, "If you go into the dullest bar in the world and meet the nicest person in the world, this is not sufficient to ask that this bar be listed. On the other hand, if you go into a place filled with lonely young men and just can not make friends, this is no reason not to let us have the listing!" In the 1966 introductory, the editors of the *Guild Guide* noted, "We are always anxious for listings and corrections anywhere in the world, but resort areas, college towns, and areas with military installations are of particular interest to vacationers." So let us turn to Wisconsin listings to find ourselves …

April 1 | AIDS Network's Red Ribbon Affair

***Bob Damron's Address Guide '76* had the entry for Rodney Scheel's Back Door Bar on North Park Street "no sign—just 4 blinking lights—use rear entrance to one of the friendliest bars anywhere."**

The *Lavender Baedeker Guide*, with a first issue published during 1963 in San Francisco by Guy Strait, listed five Wisconsin cities with gay spots, one each in Fond du Lac, Green Bay, and Marinette; six in Madison; and 12 in Milwaukee. The Madison listings included the Belmont Hotel Bar (now the YWCA), The Fireside on Regent Street, the Kollege Klub on lower State Street, Marty's on Wilson Street, the 602 Bar on University Avenue, and the Uptown Restaurant on mid-State Street. All were near campus or downtown. In 1964, the same Madison places were listed in the *Directory 43* guide published from Minneapolis. But this guide picked up an Appleton bar and another bar in Green Bay. Milwaukee now had 21 listings including many cruising places. The 1964 *Guild Guide*, which was published in Washington, DC, added Lombardo's Piano Lounge on East Main Street and the Three Bells on University Avenue to the other Madison listings.

Sometime the guides were very specific. For instance, in one guide the Antlers Hotel in Milwaukee was recommended for Saturday night only and on the 10th or 11th floor rooms. The 1966 *Male World Guide* noted one Milwaukee bar, the Godfrey's 1800 Club as "mainly colored."

The 1969 *International Guild Guide* on the eve of Stonewall had expanded the Wisconsin listings to include a bar in the Dells, one in Kenosha, and one in Oshkosh. This guide started to use codes to be more informative. The Madison bar with the most codes was The Clinique, 110 North Hamilton, still fondly remembered by older gays in this area. The listing noted it was "lively every night" and "many collegians." Other codes given to it were "G," "YC," and "WE-especially" which meant respectively Gay, Young Crowd, and Weekends. The Velvet Swing at 317 Gorham had a code "M" for "Mixed" or "Appears straight but sufficiently active to make it worthwhile." It was also noted the Velvet Swing had go-go girls. The Three Bells also earned an "M" with a further note "popular with construction workers." Luckily none of the Madison entries had the code AYOR, which stood for "At Your Own Risk" or "Designates an entry where you might like the people there, but it is highly questionable that they will like you."

In 1970, presumably based on 1969 data, both nationally popular gay guides reduced the listings in Madison, with only the three or four in each. But one of the newcomers as the old ones went away was the Pirate Ship on North Fairchild, the first gay bar in Madison into which I stepped. Behind the Pirate Ship there were infamous parking lot parties. Folks would buy a six-pack and from closing to 4:00 a.m. would party on. One 1970 guide also noted that outside cruising occurred in Burrows Park from 11 a.m. until dark.

Among the memories of early gay cruising in Madison, the Capitol Square had the nickname of "Bull Ring," as documented in earlier studies. The piano bar at the Edgewater Hotel, while not a gay bar or in any listings, was popular with gays who wanted to sing show tunes. Sometimes a popular Republican state senator with the queer nickname "Dolly" could be seen on the premises.

Though outside the nominal timeline here, for gay bars continued and grew after Stonewall, one further note should be made that the *Bob Damron's Address Guide '76* had the entry for Rodney Scheel's Back Door Bar on North Park Street "no sign—just 4 blinking lights—use rear entrance to one of the friendliest bars anywhere." A review of a road trip taken to Madison bars the same year by publishers of *GLB*, a Milwaukee newsletter said, "Go to the Back Door, go there just to see the mural of a young Judy Garland captioned, 'I don't think we're in Kansas anymore, Toto.'" Rodney Scheel would go on to build the Hotel Washington Complex, including the basement bar, Rod's, into the Capital City's premier gay entertainment venue.

The Milwaukee article also commented, "Madison seems to be more open than most cities in Wisconsin. Perhaps the University has an effect on the gay scene, but the people in Madison seem to take being gay more seriously, and the straight population seems to have a better understanding of the word 'tolerance.'"

Many of us found important parts of our identity, our friendships, and our community in gay bars. Pre-Stonewall, there were few other choices. Many still find things there, but today—thanks to the post-Stonewall blooming of gay culture—there are many other choices. ■

Dick Wagner (rrdickwagner@gmail.com), openly gay former Dane County Board Chair and co-chair of Governor Earl's Commission on Lesbian and Gay Issues, is now working on gay Wisconsin history and welcomes topics and sources.

Getting in too deep?

Sue Gill, PhD
Licensed Psychologist
Proud member of the LGBT community
608-250-2492 • www.drsuegill.com
6314 Odana Rd, Ste E, Madison, WI 53719

Serving the L.G.B.T. community since 1974
Cardinal
Madison's Classic Dance Bar
418 E. Wilson St. • 608.257.bird (2473)
cardinalbar.com • facebook.com/cardinal.madison

Commitment Ceremony & Wedding Photography
elitevideophoto.com

ulla™
eyewear

www.ullaeyewear.com 608.231.3937 Hilldale Mall

Madison's Premier Running Specialty Store

Berkeley
Running Company

Your Town. Your Neighborhood. Your Store.

3234 University Ave. • 608/395-BERK
Weekdays 10am-7pm • Sat 10am-6pm • Sun 11am-5pm
www.berkeleyrunningcompany.com

Solidarity

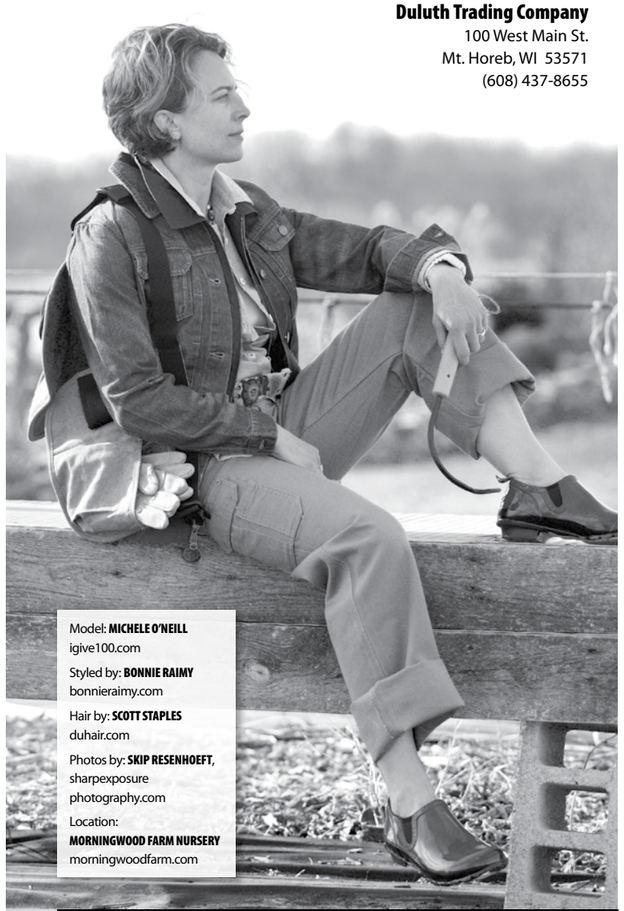
Bonnie Raimy on Duluth Trading Company

The clothes and gear at Duluth Trading Company are made for workers. The hipster style and tongue-in-cheek marketing make us all want to work in the trades, or at least dress like we do.

In 1989, two "wild and woolly, hippie tradesmen kind of guys" from Duluth saw workers carrying their tools in all sorts of strange containers. From there, these men invented a tool carrier called the "Bucket Boss," which sparked the humble beginnings of Duluth Trading Company. Twenty-one years later, Mt. Horeb was lucky enough to have Duluth Trading Company open its first-ever flagship store. Duluth Trading Company is a unique brand of retailer. Sporting both men's and women's active/workwear garments, they also carry a unique blend of tools…think anything from leather tool belts to gardening shears.

At a store like this, one might expect the clothing to be "frumpy," but Duluth has been able to find the perfect balance between durability and style. The clothing is well-made, reasonably priced, and quirky enough to be fashionable… who doesn't love blue-and-white and red-and-white striped railroad overalls? Duluth Trading Company is much more than a tradesmen tool shop. Make the trek to Mt. Horeb and see for yourself.

Duluth Trading Company
100 West Main St.
Mt. Horeb, WI 53571
(608) 437-8655



Model: **MICHELE O'NEILL**
igive100.com

Styled by: **BONNIE RAIMY**
bonnieraimy.com

Hair by: **SCOTT STAPLES**
duhair.com

Photos by: **SKIP RESENHOEFT**, sharpexposure photography.com

Location: **MORNINGWOOD FARM NURSERY**
morningwoodfarm.com

To advertise, contact us at: **OURLIVESMADISON.COM**

To subscribe, sign up at: **OURLIVESMADISON.COM**

60 YEARS

- Full-service design and installation
- Patios, walkways and retaining walls
- Renovation of existing landscapes
- Drainage correction and grading
- Year-round maintenance and snow removal
- Low-voltage landscape lighting

NARI

Ganshert Nursery & Landscapes LLC
sit back & enjoy the view

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

5284 E. Lacy Rd., Fitchburg, WI 53711 • 608-274-2443 • ganshert.com

Providing the best care for your best friend

DEER-GROVE
Veterinary Clinics LLC.

535 Southing Grange
Cottage Grove, WI 53527
608-839-5323
www.deergrovevet.com
deergrovevet@deergrovevet.com

A Full Service Small Animal Clinic

Get responsive banking and friendly, personalized service. Home Savings Bank leads the way in community reinvestment and sustainable banking. Visit any of our four locations or stop by online.

HOME SavingsBank
There's no bank like Home!

FDIC Outstanding Rating for Community Reinvestment

Member FDIC

home-savings.com 282.6000

A team of experienced lawyers committed to the rights of the **LGBT Community**.

BALISLE & ROBERSON, S.C.

- **Wills**
- **Power of Attorneys**
- **Partnership Agreements**
- **Guardianships**
- **Adoption**
- **Child Custody Disputes**
- **Non-traditional Families**
- **Mediation**

131 West Wilson St., Madison, WI 53703
608-259-8702 b-rlaw.com

Stephanie Graham, PhD
LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST
608-509-8060
702 N. Blackhawk Ave.
Ste 209

Respectful and **Affirmative** psychotherapy with individuals and couples

free initial phone consultation

Proud community member

drstephaniegraham.com

When Nothing You Try is Enough

Dr. Sue Gill acknowledges the tough times and offers ideas for sustainable happiness.

People are telling me that this is a tough year. For some it's the bad news around the world or in our own state. Others are having a hard time on the job, finding a job, selling a house, or with other financial problems. Still others are having problems with their families or partner. Some seem to be okay on the outside but are suffering considerably on the inside.

At some point while facing adversity, many of us will go through a period of activism. When it's a political situation, this may be literally marching around with signs. When it's a job search, there might be a period of significant effort toward making

The most satisfied people are those whose focus is to build a life that is engaged and meaningful, with only secondary focus on fostering positive emotion and pleasure.

contacts and sending out résumés. If it's a relational situation, there may be a period of working intensely on ways to improve the relationship. When the problem is a hard-to-treat physical or mental health issue, the activism might take the form of intensely researching possible cures, seeking out health care providers, or finding specialist care.

However, there comes a time when the energy of the activism wears off, the excitement of a new approach wanes, and progress does not seem to be occurring. Hope wanes and discouragement sets in. It seems easier to watch reruns of Oprah than to put effort toward the problem at hand. Friends may have even stopped calling for updates because the news always sounds the same. What then?

"Learned helplessness" is a theory of depression that was developed in the 1960s by Martin Seligman. In essence, it suggests that we become depressed if our efforts are continually thwarted. This can get entrenched so that even when avenues out of a difficult situation become available we no longer have the drive to move forward. Seligman then changed the focus of his work to examine how people become happy and how some are able to maintain a positive outlook in life. From this work he developed the field of positive psychology.

The wisdom garnered from positive psychology may guide us in a useful direction when discouragement sets in. Seligman has found that the most satisfied people are those whose focus is to build a life that is engaged and meaningful, with only secondary focus on fostering positive emotion and pleasure (Peterson, Park, and Seligman, 2005, "Orientations to happiness and life satisfaction: The full life vs the empty life." *Journal of Happiness Studies*, 6, 25–41). **This is important, so let me say it again:** Pursuit of a life that is engaged and meaningful *trumps* pursuit of feeling good or feeling pleasure. People who are satisfied with their lives have found ways to make their lives engaged and meaningful.

Have you caught yourself thinking, "I will be happy when _____." (Fill in the blank here: when the boss leaves, when I get a new job, when I get into therapy, when I sell my house, when we get rid of that politician, when my health is better.)? You might begin to feel more satisfied with your life if you change that focus to "How can I become more engaged in the things that really matter to me?" "What sorts of pursuits truly infuse meaning in my life?"

If you are feeling lost about how to answer those questions, here are some places that you may want to start. Seligman found that "strengths of the heart" including zest, gratitude, hope, and love are strongly associated with life satisfaction (Park, Peterson, and Seligman, 2004, Strengths of character and well being. *Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology*, 23, 603–619).

Zest is the characteristic of approaching life with excitement and energy. I know that, by definition, depression and some other illnesses will rob you of your zest, so this may be especially hard for some. At a minimum, I encourage you to avoid the things that might rob you of your zest. By the way, the excitement that is a part of this life-affirming zest is not the same excitement you might get if you buy the new iPad. It is more the excitement that comes with feeling truly engaged in the world around you.

Seligman found that "strengths of the heart" including zest, gratitude, hope, and love are strongly associated with life satisfaction.

Gratitude is a powerful state of mind. Seligman did a study where people were asked to write down three things that went well each day for a week. They were also asked to write down the causes for those things. Seligman compared these participants with some who were asked to do other affirming exercises and found that the participants who did the gratitude exercise had increased happiness and decreased depression for six months!

Hope can be a state of mind and not just a feeling that you may happen upon. Hope includes choosing to expect the best and working to achieve it. If this is a struggle for you, try to find ways that you can begin to imagine the possibility of a positive outcome.

Love includes the general sense of valuing and cultivating close relationships with others. Look for ways to deepen the relationships that you do have in whatever way works for you.

If you are interested in learning more about the field of positive psychology, I hope that you will go to Dr. Seligman's website at authentichappiness.sas.upenn.edu. It is filled with scientifically rigorous questionnaires and advice that can help you move toward a greater sense of internal satisfaction, even if it has been a tough year.

Sue and her partner Sheri have lived in Madison since 2000. They keep busy with their two dogs, Frankie and Maslow. Sue is a psychologist in private practice and can be found online at **www.madisontherapy.com**.

David Lacocque, Psy.D.
Licensed Psychologist

Psychotherapy with Respect and Expertise

Increase joy and confidence

Reduce anxiety and depression

Boost creativity and mental flexibility

Strengthen friendships and intimate relationships

Free initial phone consultation
www.drlacocque.com
(608) 358-6868
702 N. Blackhawk Avenue Free Parking

MONSTERS OF TALK!

Stephanie Miller

Ed Schultz

Randi Rhodes

92.1 THE MIC
MADISON'S PROGRESSIVE TALK

Streaming online at themic921.com

Have *Our Lives* mailed directly to you. **Subscribe** at: **OURLIVESMADISON.COM**

MADISONSALTERNATIVEREALTORS.COM

Susan Oshman & **Jessica** Riphenburg
206.1440 & **381.0114**
kw

SAL SEAL MLC
Scott E.Mickelson
Attorney At Law, LLC

Proudly serving your legal representation and advice needs since 1995.

Wills & Partnership Planning
Traffic and Criminal
Civil Litigation
Special Education
Landlord-Tenant
Estates and Probate
Construction Liens
Corporations and LLC's
Real Estate Transactions
Small Business

Member:
The Business Alliance (Greater Madison's LGBT Chamber of Commerce) &
US Referral Network

(608) 288-7859
smickels2@mailbag.com

2817 Fish Hatchery Road • Madison, WI • 53713
P.O. Box 259125 • Madison, WI • 53725-9125

OUR ELDERS

Older Americans Month

Caroline Werner begins this new column with a review of the Older Americans Act and its upcoming reauthorization efforts.

Our senior issues go beyond the Defense of Marriage Act. While passage of the Defense of Marriage Act is a stepping stone to equality, it's important that general discrimination and appropriate health care be addressed, especially for those most vulnerable in our population. We all have the potential to be seniors; we can all have a hand in determining our future.

May is Older Americans Month. The Older Americans Act (OAA) is a Federal program that provides health benefits and protection to our nation's seniors. This Act provides funding for the Area Agencies on Aging in several Wisconsin counties and the programs administered by these agencies. This year the OAA is up for reauthorization.

A study found that 34 percent of older lesbian and gay Americans thought hiding their sexual identity would be necessary if they moved into a retirement home

Through "Outing Age: Public Policy Issues Affecting Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Elders," by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute (pg. 10, 2010) we learn that, "In its current form, the (federal) OAA remains massively underfunded to meet the needs of all older Americans. Organizing for the 2011 reauthorization should focus intently on the importance of resource allocation to meet the needs of the nation's burgeoning aging population."

The "Outing Age" document continues to say, "LGBT elders are virtually invisible in the Act, which discusses the importance of addressing the needs of 'vulnerable senior constituencies' but fails to name them. This has left LGBT advocates with an opening to push for explicit language on LGBT people in the regulations for the current Older Americans Act, something that is just underway as we go to print with this book, and the Administration on Aging has committed to funding a National LGBT Resource Center [which now exists through SAGE]. Accordingly, a key point of organizing for the 2011 reauthorization is explicit language that identifies and defines 'vulnerable senior constituencies.' Finally, defining and mandating culturally competent care for LGBT elders (and other vulnerable populations) could be addressed in this bill, with LGBT advocates forming strategic coalitions with other underserved communities."

While preparing this column, I contacted the office of Wisconsin's Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin to get her opinion on this year's reauthorization of the OAA. Here is their response: "As you know, the OAA funds programs and services such as home-delivered meals, legal services, transportation, and benefit counseling administered in local communities. Congress must reauthorize the legislation every five years. OAA is to be reauthorized this year. In addition to reauthorizing, Congress must appropriate funding for programs under OAA annually. On March 22, 2010, Congresswoman Baldwin signed a letter to then-Chairman Obey and the Appropriations Committee requesting an increase of at least 12% in appropriations for OAA programs and services in Fiscal Year 11."

On March 31, 2011 Baldwin said, "In the coming weeks, I plan to introduce legislation that, for the first time, will comprehensively address the needs of LGBT elders. There are nearly six million American LGBT seniors, and it is estimated that this number will soon increase to seven million. According to a recent study, one-third of lesbian and gay individuals who are part of the 'baby boomer' generation identify discrimination due to sexual orientation as their greatest concern about aging. Indeed, LGBT elders have largely been shut out of the basic institutional supports, benefits, and safety nets that other older Americans rely on as foundational commitments of our democracy.

"Our current network of federal support for aging Americans fails LGBT seniors on many levels. We know that LGBT seniors have higher rates of health disparities due to factors like low rates of health insurance coverage and a lack of cultural competency in the health care system. LGBT elders are four times less likely to have children or grandchildren to look after them than heterosexual and non-transgender elders. Additionally, a study found that 34 percent of older lesbian and gay Americans thought hiding their sexual identity would be necessary if they moved into a retirement home. We also know that LGBT seniors suffer from high rates of poverty, and almost 30 percent of people living with HIV/AIDS in the U.S. are 50 or older. These alarming reports demonstrate how critical it is that we act now."

Rep. Baldwin concludes, "I am introducing legislation to end the aging crisis in the LGBT community and ensure fair treatment of all Americans as they plan for a secure retirement."

This column will continue to bring you information about relevant legislation, provide information about the current services available in Dane County, and tell you about activities happening locally on behalf of our seniors.

Caroline Werner is a retired social worker who provided case management to Dane County seniors. She is also a past OutReach Volunteer of the Year recipient.

BETHKE
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING INC.
251-2222

- *Maximize your furnace & A/C efficiency with energy saving tune-ups by our specialists*
- *Residential & light commercial installations & service*
  AIR CONDITIONERS • FURNACES • BOILERS
  HUMIDIFIERS • AIR FILTRATION SYSTEMS
  IN-FLOOR HEATING
- *Madison's local*
  AIR DUCT CLEANING
  experts!

bethkeheat.com

Have *Our Lives* mailed directly to you. **Subscribe** at: **OURLIVESMADISON.COM**

Celebrating
Mothers and Fathers
and All Kinds of Families

We are a fully inclusive spiritual community joining together to help realize a more loving and just world.

First United Methodist Church
Downtown for Good
203 Wisconsin Avenue | Madison, WI 53703
608-256-9061 | www.fumc.org

Understanding the heart's

desire to parent a child.

Anne M. Johnson
M.S.W./L.C.S.W., Director
www.cffwi.org
2810 Crossroads Drive
Madison, WI 53718

children & FAMILIES first

thecomputerplaceonline.com
608.616.5674

We understand that every business is unique. We'll help you find the best and most cost effective options to meet your needs. Contact us today to see how we can help you.

- Website design and hosting
- On-site personal and business computer support
- Network design and administration
- Virus and malware protection and removal
- Visit our website to see our full list of services

The Computer Place
We've got IT covered

Everyone Under the Rainbow

Marty Fox reports on how the Kraft Foods Rainbow Council has empowered national and local LGBT employees.

LGBT employee resource groups (ERGs) provide networking and leadership development for members, enhance company recruiting and marketing efforts, and provide support to the greater community through philanthropic outreach. Only a few companies in Madison have LGBT ERGs or a workforce large enough to support an active group.

I invite you to join me in congratulating the Kraft Foods Rainbow Council where they have made great strides building allies, educating the workforce, and reaching out to make a difference in our community.

They are creating an environment that allows their employees to be out and visible in the workplace and creating role models for anyone who struggles to fit into their corporate culture.

The Kraft Foods Rainbow Council was formed to ensure that all employees are able to bring their whole selves to work. They foster understanding by hosting events like the panel discussion held on Valentine's Day. The discussion covered LGBT issues and included a raising of the rainbow flag at the company's Madison location by Oscar Mayer President, Nick Meriggioli. The panel featured Patrick Farabaugh, founder of Madison Gay Hockey Association and *Our Lives* Magazine and co-founder of the Out Professional & Executive Network (OPEN); Dennis Johnson, VP of Advisory Services for Forward Community Investments and board member of OPEN; and Liz Lusk, Madison Metropolitan School District's LGBTQ resource specialist. Each panelist shared their personal coming out stories and their views on the importance of LGBT issues in our community, including the "It Gets Better" Project.

In addition, Kraft Foods/Oscar Mayer employees were invited to sign a pledge from the "It Gets Better" campaign. For each signature on the pledge, Kraft will donate $1.00 to OutReach Community Center, up to $2,000.

They have also invited other local businesses to participate. Kraft Foods/Oscar Mayer will share the banner with the pledge, which reads:

> **Take the Pledge!**
> **"It Gets Better"**
> ***By signing this pledge, I believe ...***
> ***Everyone deserves to be respected for who they are. I pledge to spread this message to my friends, family, and neighbors. I'll speak up against hate and intolerance whenever I see it, at school and at work. I'll provide hope for lesbian, gay, bi, trans, and other bullied teens by letting them know that "It Gets Better."***

Any business wishing to participate can request the banner from Syd Lindner at Kraft Foods/Oscar Mayer via email at sydney.lindner@kraftfoods.com.

It is terrific to see Kraft Foods/Oscar Mayer taking the initiative on events like this one. Watch for additional events at Kraft Foods/Oscar Mayer, as they are planning to celebrate Pride month in June.

Now let's examine the specific things that Kraft Foods/Oscar Mayer is doing right.

1. They have done a great job encouraging and nurturing allies as demonstrated by the makeup of the Rainbow Council and by the host of signatures of people who have taken the pledge.

2. They are creating an environment that allows their employees to be out and visible in the workplace and creating role models for anyone who struggles to fit into their corporate culture.

3. They have built a model that works: they have a core of committed individuals who make and execute plans and they have strong support from the company's leadership team.

4. They are balancing social networking with cause and purpose. It is great to see corporations stepping up to support an LGBT nonprofit. They will be sponsoring the ACT 9 Jersey for the third year, and they are working with OPEN to sponsor a Workplace Summit this fall.

The Kraft Foods Rainbow Council is planning to build on these successes in future years. They are striving to focus some of their recruiting efforts on LGBT career fairs and making the Kraft Foods Rainbow Council more visible to potential LGBT recruits so they know there is support for them in the Kraft Foods/Oscar Mayer workplace.

It takes a lot of effort to build a strong ERG and it is difficult to maintain unless it balances the needs of LGBT employees, allies, the company, and the community. Thank you to Kraft Foods/Oscar Mayer and the Kraft Foods Rainbow Council for the work you have done and the terrific challenge you bring to other local companies. Perhaps we will see the gay flag flying in front of several local businesses in June.

Many thanks to Laura Webster for her significant contributions to this article. Laura is the Supply Chain Innovation & Cost Manager at Kraft Foods/Oscar Mayer and serves as co-chair of the Kraft Foods Rainbow Council.

If you know of other companies in the Madison area who are reaching out to their LGBT employees, customers, and suppliers in creative, effective ways, please contact me at mfox@ourlivesmadison.org. ■

Marty Fox retired in 2009 as the Executive Director of the Alliant Energy Foundation.

Have *Our Lives* mailed directly to you. **Subscribe** at: **OURLIVESMADISON.COM**

Downtown Madison's
sweet
spot is the Dayton Street Grille. Chef Charles Lazzareschi has created a menu where the
savory
powers of contemporary, imaginative American cuisine welcome irresistible international flavorings in a casual and tasteful setting. Entrées are paired with your choice of three sweet, savory and
spicy
sauces from an incomparable selection of 24! It's dining you'll go dip, dip, hooray over!

dayton street grille
in The Madison Concourse Hotel

serving dinner 5:30 - 10:00 pm
1 w. dayton st. ▪ 608 257 6000
complimentary parking at the hotel
daytonstreetgrille.com

Equal Protection

Tamara Packard explains the reasoning behind the Obama Administration's decision that the Defense of Marriage Act is unconstitutional.

On February 23, the Obama Administration announced that after careful analysis, it had determined that the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) violates the United States Constitution's guarantee of Equal Protection under the laws. This determination has potentially significant ramifications for legally married same-sex couples, and it has potential positive ramifications for the LGBT community's wider fight for equal rights as well.

When strict scrutiny applies, the government must do even more: it must demonstrate that the law is necessary to promote a compelling governmental interest. When laws are analyzed under these tests, they rarely survive.

Through Section 3 of DOMA, the Federal government refuses to recognize marriages lawfully formed by same-sex couples, such as those made in Iowa, Massachusetts, and several other states. Prior to the announcement from the Office of the Attorney General, the Obama Administration had defended DOMA in several legal challenges brought by legally married same-sex couples. The government did so by applying the controlling law in the region where the cases were brought. In those regions, prior judicial decisions had held that different treatment of gays and lesbians, versus heterosexuals, was not a violation of the Equal Protection clause so long as the government was able to articulate a "rational basis" for the discriminatory treatment.

Bear with me for a little Constitutional Law 101: The "rational basis" standard is one of three generally recognized standards for analyzing laws that treat one group of people differently than others, when that different treatment (or classification) is challenged under the Equal Protection Clause. Most laws that treat one group differently from others are found not to violate the Equal Protection Clause when the rational basis standard is applied, for in such cases, the government must merely show some justification for the law, even if it is not a justification that was relied on by those who created the law. Cost or administrative convenience is often an accepted justification under the rational basis test.

In contrast, the other two standards, known as "heightened scrutiny" and "strict scrutiny," are higher hurdles for the government to meet to justify a law's discriminatory treatment. When heightened scrutiny applies, such as when a law discriminates on the basis of sex, the government must identify an actual reason for the classification that advances an important governmental objective using means that are substantially related to achievement of those objectives. When strict scrutiny applies, traditionally when the classification is based on race or national origin, the government must do even more: it must demonstrate that the law is necessary to promote a compelling governmental interest. When laws are analyzed under either of these tests, they rarely survive.

The Attorney General had the opportunity to take a fresh look at whether the rational basis standard was appropriate for laws that discriminate based on sexual orientation when another DOMA challenge was filed in a region where there was no controlling law on which standard of review applied. The Attorney General considered prior U.S. Supreme Court decisions discussing circumstances where heightened scrutiny should apply: (1) when the group has suffered a history of discrimination, (2) when individuals in the group have obvious, immutable, or distinguishing characteristics that define them as a discrete group, (3) whether the group is politically powerless, and (4) whether the characteristics defining the group have little relation to legitimate policy objectives or to an individual's ability to contribute to society.

Applying these factors to classifications based on sexual orientation, the Attorney General concluded that such classifications should be analyzed under the heightened scrutiny test. He noted that there is an unfortunate and real history of purposeful discrimination against gay and lesbian people. Second, he recognized growing scientific consensus that sexual orientation is a characteristic that is immutable. Third, the existence of laws disadvantaging gays and lesbians, such as banning service in the military, and the absence of federal employment protections, were cited as evidence of limited political power. Fourth, the Attorney General explained that there is growing acknowledgment that sexual orientation bears no relation to ability to contribute to society.

The Attorney General also concluded that applying the heightened scrutiny standard, the government could not prove that the discriminatory treatment of same-sex couples compared to heterosexual couples—as DOMA requires with respect to social security, taxes, and hundreds of other federal programs—is substantially related to an important government objective, using actual reasons behind the law. The Attorney General reached this conclusion in part because the legislative history behind DOMA is filled with expressions of moral disapproval of gays and lesbians and stereotype-based thinking that the Equal Protection Clause is designed to guard against.

Ultimately, the Attorney General determined that it can no longer argue that the rational basis standard applies in Equal Protection challenges to DOMA, and further that it cannot defend the law under a heightened scrutiny. The Attorney General's Office is therefore seeking to bow out of the litigation. Others will have the opportunity to step in to the Attorney General's place in the pending litigation to defend DOMA, and there is little doubt that they will. But the studied and careful analysis of this issue by the United States Attorney General will carry much weight with the judges considering the DOMA challenges. And, of course, this recognition that classifications based on sexual orientation deserve heightened scrutiny will also be persuasive in challenges to other discriminatory laws, such as those which treat gays and lesbians differently from heterosexuals in connection with adoption or in the military.

Tamara Packard is a Madison civil rights lawyer, activist and partner in the law firm of Cullen Weston Pines & Bach LLP, **www.cwpb.com**.

Subscribe to *Our Lives* for FREE at: OURLIVESMADISON.COM

Ameriprise Financial

Can you afford to retire?

That's a question on many people's minds these days. But you can take steps to help ensure you won't outlive your retirement savings.

I'll work with you to develop a plan that considers all aspects of your finances. Then I'll recommend solutions to help you put a confident retirement within reach.

Start preparing today. Call me for a complimentary 30-minute consultation.

Our Advisors. Your Dreams.
MORE WITHIN REACH®

BEST PLACES TO WORK 2010 for LGBT Equality 100% CORPORATE EQUALITY INDEX

Ameriprise Financial is proud to be recognized with another perfect score on the Human Rights Campaign's Corporate Equality Index.

Call me today at (608) 819.0520

Shannon M. Anderson, CFP®
Financial Advisor
CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional

with the practice of
Sharon Brantmeier, CRPC®

2501 W Beltline Hwy, Suite 301
Madison, WI 53713

(608) 819.0520

shannon.m.anderson@ampf.com

amerispeadvisors.com/
shannon.m.anderson

Brokerage, investment and financial advisory services are made available through Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA and SIPC. Some products and services may not be available in all jurisdictions or to all clients. The initial consultation provides an overview of financial planning concepts. You will not receive written analysis and/or recommendations.

© 2011 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.

Make your dream home a reality.

Our Lives Featured May/June '08

To find out how you can get into the home of your dreams, call Mike today.

- Buyers Edge® – first time homebuyers program
- Conventional, FHA and VA financing
- New construction loans
- Refinancing
- Jumbo financing

Associated Bank provides statewide support to the community.

Mike Fumelle
4402 East Towne Blvd.
(608) 259-4263
michael.fumelle@
associatedbank.com

Associated Bank

Subject to credit approval. Equal Housing Lender.
Member FDIC and Associated Banc-Corp (6/08) 3837

associatedbank.com

gourmet coffee • fresh bakery • authentic gelato
100% Fair Trade
java cat©
always the purrfect cup
www.javacatcoffee.com
Stop in and cool off!
Read a newspaper, enjoy quiet conversations, study or hop online **(we have free wi-fi & computers)**, as you sip on gourmet coffee while enjoying our fresh bakery goods.
3918 Monona Drive • Madison, WI 53716 • 608-223-5553

GREENBUSH BAR
914 Regent St., Madison
608-257-2874
BUYING FRESH
BUYING LOCAL
Sicilian Cuisine in the Heart of Madison's Old Greenbush Neighborhood

Creative Cupcakes baked in-house daily.
Breakfast and Lunch served daily
Dinner served Tuesdays through Saturdays
DAISY CAFE & CUPCAKERY
www.daisycafeandcupcakery.com
2827 Atwood Ave, Madison, Wis. 53704 • (608) 241-2200
2827 Atwood Ave
(608) 241-2200
info@daisycafeandcupcakery.com

Co-owners Teresa Pullara and Rachid Ouabel

Good Neighbors

Bunky's Café serves up the neighborhood Mediterranean, Italian, and Good Samaritan.

In memory of Uncle Frank…

Every year, Bunky's Café donates a "birthday gift" in honor of another year since they opened.

"We opened seven years ago, and the first thing we talked about was giving back to the community," Owner Teresa Pullara says.

This year, they donated food at cost to a 300-person fundraiser for a friend battling breast cancer without insurance. It's the Bunky's mission.

Teresa and her husband Rachid Ouabel merged their dreams and cuisines (Italian and Moroccan/Mediterranean) to create Bunky's Café on Atwood Avenue three generations after Teresa's great-grandparents, Vito "Bunky" and Ninfa Capadona, opened the original Bunky's in the downstairs level of their home.

"It's kind of interesting because now we're living upstairs and the restaurant is downstairs," Teresa says.

She and Rachid, a civil engineer-turned-cook, bring their rich and varied cuisine under one roof in the building that was once the Atwood Community Center. The abundantly decorated interior is filled with family photos, such as one from Teresa's grandparents' first date at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. The restaurant even offers an appropriately vinyl-draped table for any respectable Italian grandmother—specifically Teresa's.

In addition to the family roots that hold them close, Teresa and Rachid are also part of a family of staff and customers who connect in this nostalgic neck of Atwood.

"The Atwood area is a fabulous neighborhood. We really try to take care of the community because we have a huge understanding of how well the community takes care of us," says Tina Calantoni, General Manager.

Bunky's makes regular contributions to groups as varied as Min Pin Rescue, the AIDS Network, O'Keefe Middle School, local mosques and churches, and other charities that come up in customers' conversations.

To advertise, contact us at: OURLIVESMADISON.COM

Executive Chef Jesse Matz, General Manager Tina Calantoni and Pastry Chef Susie Feest

Their work with GSAFE blossomed after two high school girls came to dine on the night of their high school prom.

Teresa explained, "Two of our regular customers, older ladies, asked, 'Are they together?' and I said, 'I don't know.' They said, 'Well can you find out because we want to buy them dinner…When we were their age, we had to tell our parents we were going out with Tom but we'd meet Molly.'

"So we told the couple, and the older women bought them dinner," said Teresa. "The couple came in the next day with prom pictures and said they've been asked to leave other restaurants. That was my awakening."

Teresa reflected on her Uncle Frank, who was gay and didn't have any support systems, let alone the network and resources that many people in the Madison LGBTQ community enjoy today.

Keeping in mind that every customer has their own story, Teresa finds motivation through learning the passions of her customers.

"We have to be givers because every customer who walks through the door has something they're passionate about, something they've lived through," she says. We try to tap into the personal—the friendship—and then try to take it a step further… if you ever have anything you're passionate about, please let us know," she adds.

Two things Bunky's customers seem to be decidedly passionate about are the hummus and Italian salad dressing; they are two of the most requested items to be sold in bulk.

Tina adds, "I would say the Chicken Shawarma is our signature dish… Never as a server have I received anything but completely positive comments," says Tina. "And I like our seafood dishes because the seafood is cooked to perfection every time. You'll never get dry salmon, and you'll never get undercooked shrimp."

Gluten-sensitive customers can rejoice in a menu completely modifiable to be gluten-free, including decadent desserts by pastry chef Susie Feest.

New this year, Bunky's is also trying on new things like a weekend brunch and a family night on Monday evenings.

Teresa and Rachid are taking a step back and turning over more to their notably dedicated point people, such as Tina. Doing so has been good, but hard, Teresa acknowledges.

Tina completes the thought: "They started [Bunky's] from its infant stages, and it is kind of coming into its adolescence.

"We are a wonderful family," Tina says. "We have our dysfunctional moments like every family, but we are a great team. Every leader is only as strong as their team, and that's definitely a motto we embrace here. We surround ourselves with people who are givers versus takers and that helps us run a really nice, personable business." **—Marcelle Richards**

To advertise, contact us at: OURLIVESMADISON.COM

The Sow's Ear
Needles and caffeine- Feed your addictions!
Cafe/Bakery
Fresh, Daily Lunch Menu Items
Coffee
Fair Trade Ancora Coffee Bar
Smoothies
Fresh Fruit, Chocolate and Espresso
Knitting
Yarns, Accessories and Classes
We use local produce and cheese
608-848-2755 125 S. Main Street, Verona, WI knitandsip.com

Outdoor Fish Fry begins Friday, June 10 in Quivey's Paddock Tent
Paddock Parties
Company Picnics
BBQ's
Family Reunions
QUIVEY'S GROVE
6261 Nesbitt Road • Madison • 273-4900 • quiveysgrove.com

Dazzling Lakeside Dining
The Admiralty MENU
BE *Enticed* BY THE UNEXCELLED VIEW... BUT YOU'LL BE TRULY MORE *Amazed* BY THE CULINARY CREATIONS!
The Edgewater
Wisconsin Avenue @ Langdon Street
608.661.6582 • theedgewater.com
FREE INDOOR PARKING
MADISON ORIGINALS

Turning a Passion into a Profession

Angie Alcorta follows her lifelong dream of becoming a counselor with a little help from her experiences with Outreach.

As a child, I remember a particular class discussion about what we wanted to be when we grew up. At the tender age of six, each of us had an opportunity to say what our dream job was. While everyone went around and said they wanted to be a doctor, lawyer, firefighter, or teacher, I said I wanted to be a counselor. I'm not even sure if I realized what that meant at the time, but as it turned out, that's currently what I'm trying to accomplish 17 years later.

As time passed, I started to have a strong interest in LGBT causes and community after I met and made friends with people who were openly gay. I quickly learned about organizations like OutReach and groups for youth such as Teens Like Us. Though I supported the LGBT community as an ally, I didn't feel like I fit in anywhere. It wasn't until I was 21 that I finally recognized my sexual orientation as a gay female.

Part of the reason I never felt I was in the right place was because I was in a relationship with a man for over six years. Once I finally realized that I was living a double life, I admitted to myself that this was not the life I wanted to live anymore. I came out to myself, and the very next day everyone knew. I told my mother, my friends, and even my co-workers all within a 24-hour period. There was doubt from others that it was simply a "phase," but now that has faded. I have been with my girlfriend, Heather, for over two years. I am much happier than I have ever been. Overall, this recognition quickly became the basis for the merging of my desire to be a counselor and my passion for LGBT issues.

After high school, I went to MATC in the Human Services program. Midway through the program, I set up an internship interview at OutReach. I had to do an internship at a non-profit organization, and I decided that I would do it at OutReach. I had never even set foot in the organization before I made up my mind that I wanted to devote a year of my life to being there.

I met with Harry Straetz, Outreach Program Director. He was very excited about getting me on board and encouraged me to check out some of the groups that were offered before I officially started. I had the summer break to rest and finally come to terms with my own sexuality. I officially came out May 4, 2009—three months before my internship started with OutReach.

My time at OutReach not only helped me understand what my future in this field of non-profit organizations would be like, but it was one of the most supportive environments I have ever been in. I have my wonderful co-supervisors, Harry Straetz and Josh Bartz, to thank for that. I'd like to thank them both for being there for me not only as my co-supervisors, but as my friends, too. After my internship with OutReach ended last spring, Josh Bartz approached me about joining the Board of Directors. The difference was, this time I wasn't taking orders—I was helping make decisions.

Currently, I am working on educating teachers and working with publishers about using proper, positive terminology for the LGBT community. I am still heavily involved with OutThere, an 18ish to 24ish youth group. I enjoy working with the Speakers Bureau and various other programmatic committees within OutReach.

After graduation this month from MATC, I plan to continue my education and become a Marriage and Family counselor helping to foster all relationships. I know my journey is just beginning, but I can't wait to see where it takes me. ■

Expand your reach and **Be Seen**. Advertise your business in *Our Lives*. For rates and info, contact us at: **OURLIVESMADISON.COM**

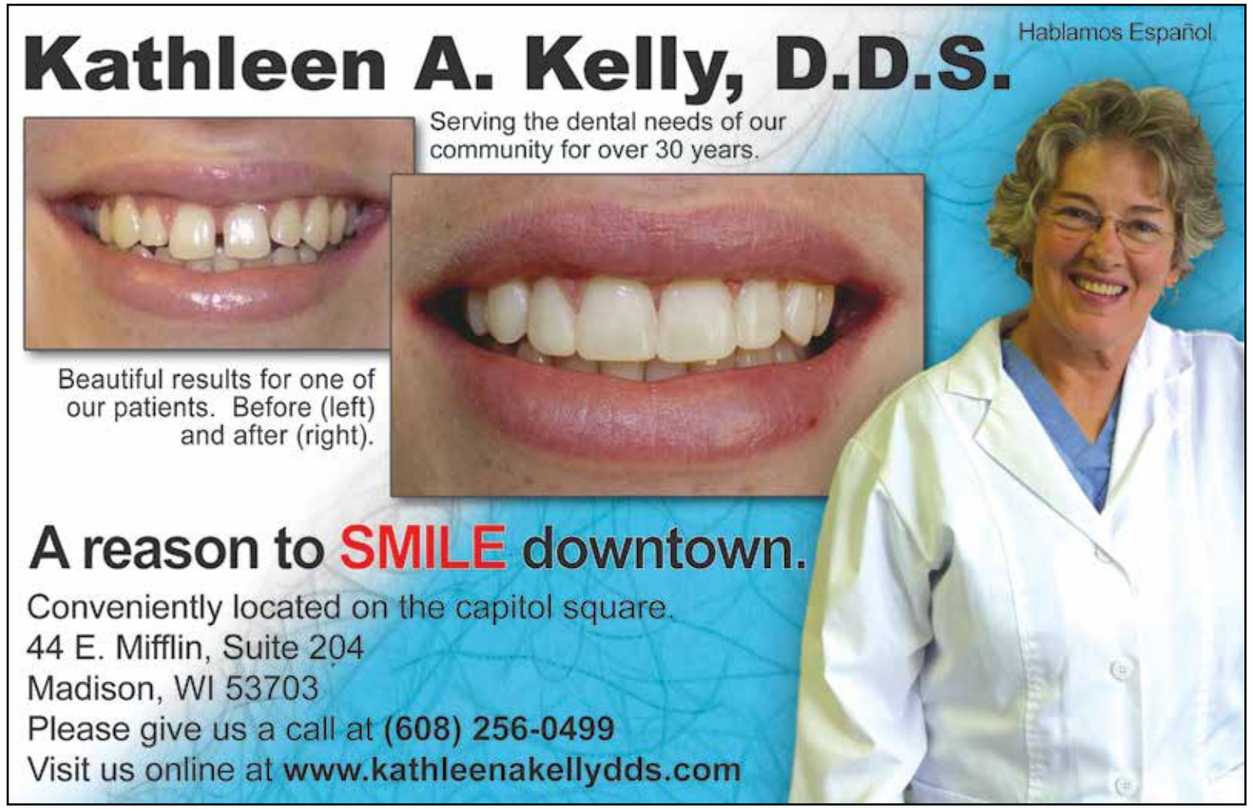
We have something greater in mind when we talk about meaningful returns. You already know you can expect fair rates and reasonable account fees, but you can also expect to receive thoughtful service, honest advice and compassion when facing challenges. Take our new Credit Consultation Service. With it, we look for opportunities to save you money—all while putting your best interest first.

Your best interest always comes first.℠

UW Credit Union

FEDERALLY INSURED BY NCUA
© 2011 UW Credit Union

uwcu.org | 800.533.6773



MILWAUKEE PRIDE FEST 2011

SATURDAY JUNE 11 SALT-N-PEPA

SUNDAY JUNE 12 LEANN RIMES

W/SPECIAL GUEST CHELY WRIGHT

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

PRIDEFEST WEEKEND: JUNE 10, 11 & 12

- OVER 150 ACTS
- ON 8 STAGES
- OVER 200 FOOD & MARKETPLACE VENDORS

GRAB
COMPETE SPORTS MEDIA We Are Gay Sports
106.9
FM 106.1
PUMP!
QUEST
STATE FARM INSURANCE
WOOF'S
DOUBLETREE HOTEL
SPEND THE WEEKEND AT PRIDE! SPECIAL ROOM RATES AVAILABLE INCLUDES WKND PASS!
POTAWATOMI BINGO • CASINO
WINDY CITY MEDIA GROUP
iG DESIGNS
FEAST OF FUN
98.3
PrideFest MILWAUKEE
Miller Lite GREAT TASTE OF PRIDE FEST
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!!!

PRIDEFEST.COM

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM /PRIDEFESTMKE

WWW.TWITTER.COM /PRIDEFESTMKE