

# Rosalie Morgan

*The local musician gets personal with 'Songs of Comfort and Inspiration'*

**BY MEGAN GLOSS**

of River Stages

For Rosalie Morgan, life is not about how hard you fall, but how quickly you can get up.

The same message is embodied in her music.

"I am a survivor," Morgan said. "There is a lot I have been through. Life is about the tough times and the choices we make."

Morgan will release her fifth CD, "Songs of Comfort and Inspiration," Dec. 16 on her REM Productions record label, based in her home in Platteville, Wis.

The CD is a compilation of popular hymns such as "Adel Weiss," "Amazing Grace," "Let There Be Peace on Earth" and "How Great Thou Art" that Morgan has performed at funerals.

"A lot of people had asked me about recording some of these songs," Morgan said. "This music speaks to everyone, especially those who have lost someone they are close to this time of year. Some people hear my music and say 'Gee Rosalie, your stuff is really depressing.' I say to deal with things, I write music."

"Music is a good connector. When people are happy, they don't feel the need to connect the same way as they would when they are unhappy. When people are struggling, they look for that connection. They look for some answers to life."

"How many times have people heard a song that they have connected to or that answers those questions and said, 'This is my song.'"

A full-time musician with many facets, Morgan began her musical journey at age 7, playing piano.

At 11, Morgan was penning tunes and began voice training at 13.

She attended the University of Wisconsin Richland Center for Music, but dropped out after a year and attended beauty school.

"I didn't think music was a good profession," Morgan said. "But after spending a good deal of time as a beautician, I realized music was something I couldn't escape — it was in my blood."

From then on, Morgan devoted everything she had to her music, a decision that has paid off.

At 39, she records voice overs, custom-made jingles and telephone music. Some of her credits include Floor Show Interiors and New Destination Travel.

In addition, Morgan has recorded two original CDs and two Christmas

## "SONGS OF COMFORT AND INSPIRATION"

*at a glance*

**Who:** Rosalie Morgan

**What:** "Songs of Comfort and Inspiration," CD release

**Date:** Dec. 16

**Available:** www.remproductions.com, Rosalie Morgan's live shows, or at MaCandis Apparel, Lancaster, Wis., Erschen's Florist, Platteville, Wis., Benton State Bank, Benton, Wis., and Schurman's Cheese, Beetown, Wis.

CDs.

She also is working on another original CD, "Home to You," to be released in 2005.

Morgan performs frequently at area venues such as Shultzie's Supper Club, The Grape Escape, Grand Harbor, Rafters Restaurant and Lounge, the Royal Supper Club, Dubuque Golf and Country Club and Benjamin's.

"It's a different kind of experience singing songs with this amount of depth in bars," Morgan said. "It's amazing to see how even in that kind of a venue, the music still touches people. People will still be moved to cry or request some of the songs from the CDs that hold special meaning to them. That is what I want for my music — to let people know that they are not alone."

## River Stages

River Stages is a free weekly publication highlighting live entertainment in the tri-states.

Performances are listed for Thursday through Wednesday. The deadline for accepting information is Monday, 10 days prior to publication.

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