

## In WiGOUT!

Gay Icelandic sensation Jónsi talks about his breakout solo album. Page 17



THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY

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# PLANET PRIDE

## LGBTs are riding the green wave

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Dean Baigent-Mercer lives an alternative lifestyle.

It's a life far from the major urban communities that cradle the LGBT culture. It's

### REPORT

a life on an organic farm in Otangoroa, New Zealand. "WWOOFers – Willing Workers On Organic Food Farms, it's a global network – come stay, help out, enjoy the local area and contribute to positive environmental projects as part of their travels," says Baigent-Mercer.

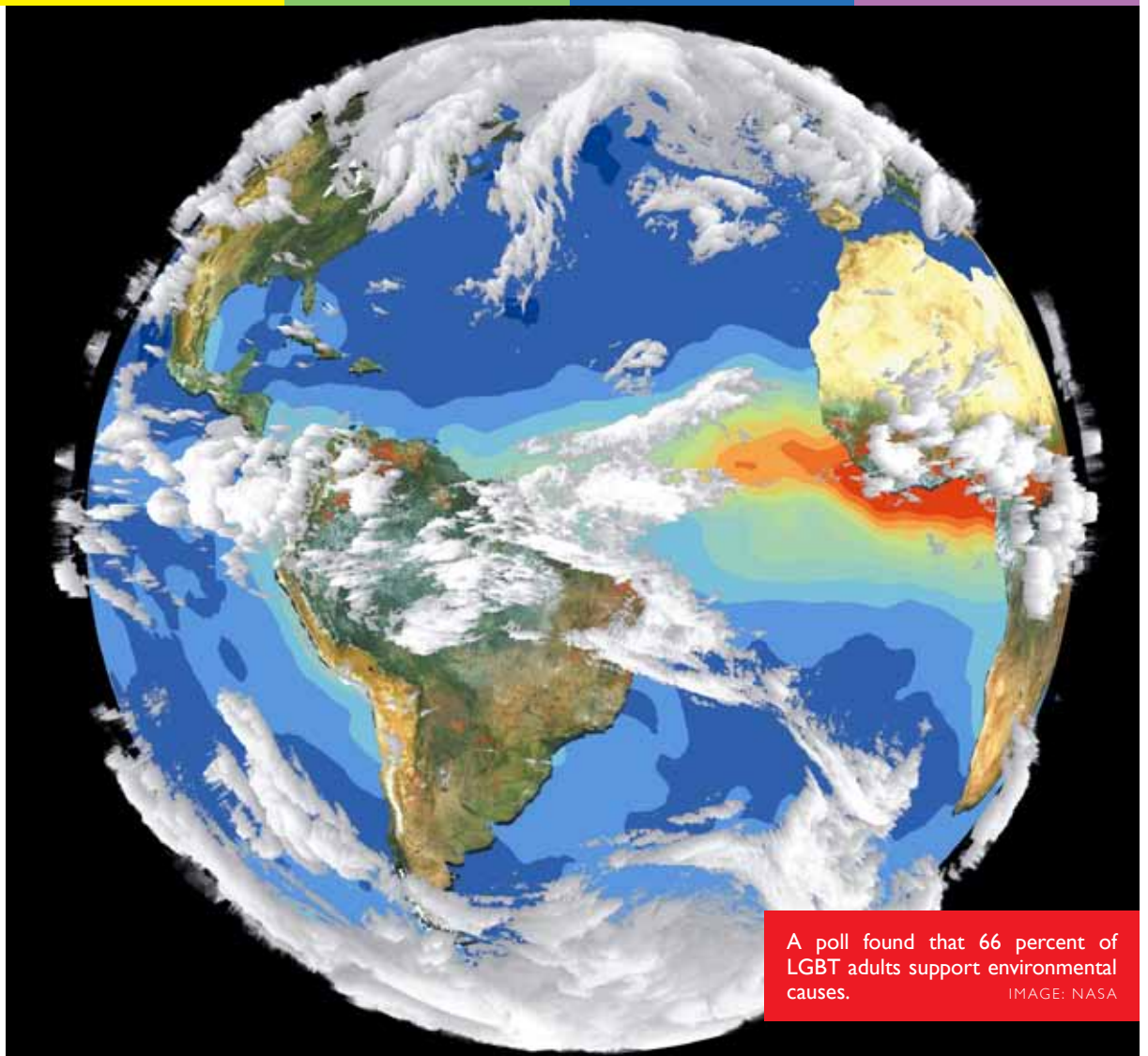
Baigent-Mercer, who describes himself as an "eco-

queer," is an environmental activist who has worked on campaigns in New Zealand and on an international level for more than a decade.

He's campaigned to end logging in ancient New Zealand rainforests, to block China-bound shipments of stolen rainforest timber in Papua New Guinea, to ban destructive deep-sea bottom trawling fishing, to promote marine protection zones, to stop construction of a coal-fired power station and against international over-fishing of tuna.

"Every day is Earth Day for me," Baigent-Mercer says when asked about the holiday observed worldwide April 22. "Maybe I'll plant another sub-tropical fruit tree to add to my growing sub-tropical fruit forest. Or trap some of the animals that were introduced to New Zealand that are threatening our national flightless bird, the kiwi, with extinction."

Baigent-Mercer says what drives his work is "common sense" and "caring about Planet Pride page 5



A poll found that 66 percent of LGBT adults support environmental causes. IMAGE: NASA

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## Obama asks for hospital visitation rights

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

A presidential memorandum signed April 15 calls on the secretary of health and human services to take steps to guarantee that hospitals

receiving federal funding do not deny gays visitation with their partners.

The subject line of the memo President Barack Obama signed reads, "Respecting the rights of

hospital patients to receive visitors and to designate surrogate decision makers for medical emergencies."

The president wrote, "There are few moments in our lives that call for greater

compassion and companionship than when a loved one is admitted to the hospital. ...

"Yet every day, all across America, patients are denied the kindness and caring of a loved one at their sides –

whether in a sudden medical emergency or a prolonged hospital stay."

The memo contains three requests:

- That HHS establish a rule Hospital page 7

## LGBT news with a twist

## WIGWAG

By Lisa Neff &amp; Louis Weisberg

**GO FLEETLY**

C. B. Fleet has created a new disposable douche campaign targeting gay men. The print ads, set to debut in Out magazine in June, feature a donkey above the tagline: "Keep it Clean. Naturally."

"We've always known that some of our consumers were using Fleet enemas for reasons other than to relieve constipation," said Emily Klopp, senior brand manager for Fleet Naturals.

The new campaign came in response to a Harris Interactive survey showing that 87 percent of gay and bisexual men use enemas as a precursor to "anal intimacy."

Fleet, which dominates the world enema market with about \$30 million in annual sales, is based in Lynchburg, Va., which is also the home of Jerry Falwell's Liberty University.

**TRUE ALLY**

Cyndi Lauper is helping establish Manhattan's first permanent housing for homeless LGBT youth in Harlem. The True Colors Residence, set to open in winter 2011, will provide young people ages 18 to 24 with a place to live while helping them get back on their feet.

"Kids are coming out in greater numbers as they see themselves accepted and represented on TV and in movies, but they're still being kicked out of their homes or running away and living on the streets," Lauper said in a statement.

"We need to make sure we're taking care of them. This is the next generation of the LGBT community."

Some of the money for the facility will come through Lauper's True Colors Fund.

**TOO RADICAL FOR THE KKK**

The Ku Klux Klan is distancing itself from Westboro Baptist Church, saying that it "absolutely repudiates" the church's activities.

Led by Fred Phelps, the church is notorious for picketing the funerals of U.S. soldiers killed abroad. According to Phelps, these fallen men and women have damned themselves by defending a nation that "enables" homosexuality.

**GOOD-BYE, DIXIE**

Dixie Carter died April 10 at the age of 70. Carter was best known for her role as Julia Sugarbaker, the liberal Southern-belle on the CBS hit sitcom "Designing Women" (1986 to 1993). Her tough, sarcastic character, who delivered such lines as, "If you do not correct

this, I am going to personally pick you up and throw you across the room," made Carter something of a gay icon.

In real life, Carter was a Republican. She broke party ranks in 1991 to write a \$1,000 check for Bill Clinton. Carter was married to actor Hal Holbrook.

**GOLDEN OLDIE**

The Vatican still has a long way to go to make peace with LGBT civil rights advocates and LGBT Catholics, but last week the Church made peace with the Beatles. The Vatican newspaper paid tribute to the Fab Four and stated that Church has gotten past John Lennon's boast that the band had become more popular than Jesus. Still, WiG has to point out — the tribute came on the anniversary of the band's dissolution.

**OFF, OFF STAGE TEXAS**

A Fort Worth, Texas, theater withdrew its offer to resurrect a staging of gay playwright Terrence McNally's "Corpus Christi," in which Jesus is depicted as gay. The Rose Marine Theater had offered to stage the play after Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas, canceled a student production. But, Rose Marine executive director Adam Adolfo told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, the board of directors had concerns about "financial repercussions and patronage."

**HAVE THIS DANCE?**

A band of celebrities (Green Day, musician Lance Bass and Iron Chef Cat Cora) are helping to pay for a student prom May 8 in Tupelo, Miss. The event also is receiving \$20,000 from the American Humanist

Organization. The prom queen, no doubt, will be Constance McMillen, a high school senior who challenged her school district's rule banning same-sex dates at the prom, as well as girls in tuxedos. The school board voted to cancel the prom rather than to allow McMillen to attend, and an alternative prom was poorly attended.

**NOT TOO SEXY**

The Phoenix, a Boston alternative newspaper, recently announced its 100 unsexy men. The Top 10 countdown — No. 10: Pope Benedict. No. 9: Mark Sanford. No. 8: Jay Leno. No. 7: Glenn Beck. No. 6: Jesse James. No. 5: John Mayer. No. 4: Kevin Smith. No. 3: John Edwards. No. 2: Mike Sorrentino. No. 1: Tiger Woods.

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## Bringing nature to the inner city

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

In the middle of one of Wisconsin's most densely populated urban areas, Joey Zocher is teaching inner-city kids about nature and ecology.

As program director of the Urban Ecology Center at Washington Park, 4151 W. Lisbon Ave., Milwaukee, Zocher partners with 16 area schools to offer experiential learning courses that foster environmental respect and awareness as well as provide outdoor physical activities, such as rock climbing, canoeing, hiking and snowshoe-

ing. The courses are integrated into the schools' curriculum and involve repeated visits to the park over the course of each school year.

"We're kind of like the schools' outdoor classroom," Zocher says. "Childhood needs to be preserved as much as any rainforest, and the kids love it here."

In addition to coursework, the center offers a young scientist club, a volunteer stewardship program, gardening, fishing and a host of other activities that attract kids, teens and adults to the 135-acre park. Thanks to all

the activity, crime in the park has fallen compared with overall crime in the city.

Zocher, who has a master's degree in environmental education, believes that the green movement has a lot in common with the LGBT civil rights movement. She says creating sustainable communities means not only respecting the environment but also the differences among people.

"The environmental movement is all about people changing the way we've thought about our footprint on the earth," she says. "That has to do with many

facets, not just food and transportation choices, but also how we treat each other."

Zocher's commitment to the environment doesn't end when she leaves work. She drives an old Mercedes that runs on vegetable oil. For recreation, she camps, canoes and gardens.

But Zocher is also something of a renaissance woman. She skates with the Brew City roller derby and plays in the band The Barrets, which has performed at PrideFest.

**Joey Zocher (center) on the job.**



## Reclaiming farmland for nature

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

A self-described "eco-nut," Vance Baker says he always wanted to have a positive impact on the environment. But after majoring in zoology at UW-Madison, he went on to medical school and a career in psychiatry.

"I'm not the type who could join the Sierra Club and go to board meetings," Baker says. "So I just didn't know what I could do (for the planet)."

Then, in the mid-1980s, Baker befriended a man who'd moved from Chicago to southwest Wisconsin to become a dairy farmer,

only to discover that he was infected with HIV. As the farmer grew ill and unable to milk his cows, he asked Baker to purchase 88 acres of his land so that he could pay his mortgage and remain there until he died.

The farm was located near Gays Mills in what is known as Wisconsin's "driftless" region, because it was spared the advance and retreat of glaciers. Once the floor of an ancient sea, the

area is dotted with bluffs, coulees and small winding streams. Drawn by the unique beauty of the land and compassion for the farmer, Baker said yes.

"I thought, 'Now what am I going to do with this hunk of land in western Wisconsin?'" Baker remembers.

Eventually the idea of a prairie restoration — or, more accurately, he says, "a prairie replanting" — came to him. "I just thought to

myself, 'I'm going to restore this little piece of earth and put my energy, money and time and channel it here in this one little place,'" he says.

Reclaiming prairie is an expensive and laborious undertaking. Baker spent the first two summers taking out weeds with a machete, preparing the soil and determining which native grasses and flowers could be successfully reintroduced. Then the land had to be repeatedly seeded, a few acres at a time. Invasive plants had to be continually removed, year after year, to prevent them from taking over.

"It's an ungodly amount of



**Vance Baker (right) and his partner Jack Pike on Baker's prairie.**

work," Baker acknowledges. "I've spent hundreds of hours just hand-pulling weeds."

But Baker says all the effort has proven "incredibly rewarding." In the summer, when the prairie is in full bloom, he sits in a portable deer stand — "I call it my throne," he says — and mar-

vels at the splendor in his grass.

"I look over this gorgeous valley, and I just take in the life around me," he says. "And to know that this land now is healthy and the wildlife is living and thriving ... I am proud that I had a hand in it."

## Greening the cityscape

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

"All environmental projects, big or small, have the same goal in mind — which is to make people more involved in their surroundings and more apt to take care of them," says Bay View resident Kevin Edwards.

Edwards and the 14 other members of Bay View Garden and Yard Society get involved through community landscaping. They put their green

thumbs to work improving their neighborhood by planning, designing and maintaining gardens in public spaces.

BVGAYS, a registered nonprofit group of "gay and gay-friendly" gardeners, began in 1995. "It almost began as a joke, because we loved the acronym," says Edwards, the group's president.

But its members have made some serious improvements in Bay View. Their largest project, Village Roots



**Kevin Edwards' partner Steve Singleman poses next to a BVGAYS landscaping project in Bay View.**

Garden, which is adjacent to the Beulah Brinton Community Center, spans a

city block and includes beautifully landscaped public spaces as well as raised garden

beds that are rented out to members of the community who want to get their own hands dirty.

BVGAYS also created the landscaping in front of Café Lulu, 2265 S. Howell Ave. For this project, members had to tear up and haul away concrete, then bring in soil and plants. They also secured a grant to install a watering system.

But some of the lower-profile projects have been among the most satisfying, Edwards says.

"Some of the public spaces we've planted have been in neighborhoods that could use some improvement, and

the effect has been dramatic," he says. "The yards (in these areas) have been improved. The neighbors have taken an active role in keeping an eye on the projects."

And what do BVGAYS' members get out of all this, besides a chance to indulge their passion for gardening?

"When you have a bunch of folks getting together, whatever brings them together, for the common good, that's a wonderful thing," Edwards says.

For news updates go to [www.wisconsin-gazette.com](http://www.wisconsin-gazette.com).

## Improving energy efficiency

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

In her day job as a senior associate at the Center on Wisconsin Strategy, Satya Rhodes-Conway consults municipalities and non-profit organizations about retrofitting buildings to make them more energy efficient.

In her night job as an out alderperson on the Madison Common Council, she serves on the city's Sustainable Design and

Energy Committee.

"When I was a kid, I wanted to be Wonder Woman, because I wanted to save the world," Rhodes-Conway says. "I've always had a very strong feeling that it was incumbent on me to make a positive difference in the world and contribute to my community. I see global climate destruction as one of – if not the most important – issue of our time. Working on these issues is my way of trying to

save the world."

Rhodes-Conway's work in environmentalism is an outgrowth of her interests in biology and ecology. "I thought I was going to work on things like saving the tropical rainforest," she says.

But after receiving an MS in Ecology, she decided that academic life wasn't for her, and Rhodes-Conway went to work for the State Environmental Resource Center. There she provided

support and information to state legislators around environmental policy. She's been working on environmental public policy ever since.

While environmentalism is at the center of her life, Rhodes-Conway tries to avoid being preachy about it.

"I feel like expressing that kind of judgment doesn't help (people) move anywhere," she says. "I hope that we're all doing the best that we can,



Satya Rhodes-Conway consults people on making their buildings more energy efficient.

and we can all individually find ways to do better.

"Some people find it easy to compost and others can't even fathom how to do that. I think people should do what

they can and certainly push themselves to do more. But I'm most interested in changing the systems that make it hard for people to do the right thing."

## Gays more likely to be green in their politics

Planet Pride from I

other people and this great planet we share."

### SHARED PLANET, SHARED AGENDA

Many U.S. conservative groups have long lumped together LGBT equality and environmentalism as part of a liberal or left-wing agenda that threatens the traditional American way of life.

Most currently, Tea Party activists have shared this view at demonstrations and in the blogosphere. "The Gay Agenda is far-reaching and encompasses every other liberal agenda there is, simply because of the 'if you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours' trade-off," writes one blogger on Tea Party Patriots. "Gays are far more likely to support Obama-care, cap-and-trade, government takeovers of the banking, automotive and other industries, global warming threats, environmentalism ... and even Marxism. ... Gays will vote for any other liberal agenda they can."

Darby Hoover laughs when she reads, "Gay Agenda."

"I can't help but think of that as something along the lines of '8:30 a.m.: Wake up. 9 a.m.: Go to gym. 10 a.m.: Be fabulous. Noon: Light lunch, then take over the world,'" says Hoover, a senior resource specialist with the Natural Resources Defense Council in San Francisco.

LGBT people, Hoover says, "are everywhere."

But, she adds, there are a lot of LGBT people working for positive change in many different arenas, including the environmental arena.

Hoover is working for change through the NRDC's urban program, focusing on waste and recycling issues and "comprehensive greening initiatives" with Major League Baseball, the National Basketball Association, the Oscars and the Grammys.

"For me, working toward creating a healthy and livable planet is a necessary foundation to any kind of social improvement or anything else, for that matter," she says.

Gerod Rody also is an out West Coast environmental activist. He's the executive director of Seattle's OUT for Sustainability, which is believed to be the first LGBT organization dedicated to environmental issues.

Rody thinks the Tea Party blogger has it right in one respect – gays are more likely to be green in their politics. But he says, "We do not support other agendas because they service our needs. We support them because they are right. ... A society that values every member is what we fight for."

A Harris Interactive poll conducted last October shows that LGBT people tend to think, act and vote greener than heterosexuals:

- 66 percent of LGBT adults surveyed said it is important to support environmental causes compared with 56 percent of non-LGBT adults.

- 48 percent of LGBT adults said it is important to consider environmental issues when voting for a candidate compared with 35 percent of non-LGBT adults.

- 51 percent of LGBT adults said they were concerned about the planet for future generations, compared with 42 percent of non-LGBT adults.

"It makes sense," says out Florida environmentalist Charmaine Combs. "A lot of

my green friends aren't gay, but most of my gay friends are green."

"We have two distinct movements – the gay rights movement and the environmental rights movement. Both came of age at the same time," Combs says. "The same year I went to my first Earth Day event, I attended my first Pride parade. It's more than a mutual admiration for Birkenstocks. There's a parallel, and there's a connection."

And yet, Combs and other activists ask, why isn't there more coalition-building to strengthen alliances between LGBT and green groups?

"I would love the LGBT community to use its political

power to send a resounding message to our Congress and president that they must pass bold, comprehensive climate and energy legislation this year," says Brianna Cayo-Cotter, a self-described "proud queer woman" who works for the Rainforest Action Network in San Francisco. "Climate change is arguably one of the greatest threats facing humanity, and we cannot wait another minute to seriously address it."

Cayo-Cotter knows a lot of LGBT people working in the environmental movement, but she's not seen formal relationships between the movements' organizations, with the exception of the Courage Campaign that has led the fight against the Prop 8 anti-gay marriage amendment.

Courage Campaign "is now doing some great work to force California oil corporations to pay an extraction tax to fund public education," Cayo-Cotter says. "That's some pretty great alliance-building that I would love to see more of."

Washington, D.C.-based activist Michael Eichler has another vision: "The Human Rights Campaign should hold a five-star, four-course fundraising dinner where the entire menu is vegan, hopefully raising the awareness of the leaders of the queer community to the amazingly delicious options that become available when a hunk of flesh no longer has center stage on the plate."

### LIVING GREEN, GETTING GREENER

Eichler lives every day as Earth Day.

"Every choice I make in my life has my concern for the environment factored into it," he says.

That includes his chosen profession as an urban planner.

"I wanted to work toward a world where we could live fulfilling lives without relying on fossil fuels and personal automobiles," says Eichler, who works for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority doing long-range transit planning.

Recent surveys have shown LGBTs trending to suburban, small-town and country living, but population statistics still show LGBT communities are heavily urban, which should make it easier to go green or become greener, says Eichler.

"We tend to live in denser urban spaces that provide the opportunity to live car-free," he says. "I'd love it if our community started putting more emphasis on consciousness of their surroundings and less on blatant consumerism."

"Urban living is a step in that direction, but we need to go further."

That's the direction Rody is headed.

OUT for Sustainability is "the first nonprofit that I'm aware of to integrate sustainability and the LGBTQ community," he says.

"We work in several environmental arenas, including

our Earth Gay event of service projects ranging from urban farming to habitat restoration. We have a youth environmental leadership program and are developing advisory groups around our 12 policy areas." OUT's policy areas include energy, food systems, transportation, natural resources, water and building.

In the Earth Gay program, an urban farm produces food for local organizations, including AIDS Housing of Washington. Neighbors join in clean-up campaigns and partnerships include LGBT groups, business groups and environmental organizations.

Rody envisions OUT for Sustainability "branching nationally."

But, he emphasizes an old grassroots principle – going green starts at home.

Rody says, "It starts small, with actions like composting, flying less, biking more, creating communities that support each other and changing the whole conversation from what do we sacrifice into what can we innovate to make our lives richer and more responsible."

Baigent-Mercer innovated, settling on a solar-powered farm.

The wireless reception is poor, but the trade-off is a New Zealand rainforest for a backyard.

"It's great. We all laugh a lot," he says of the no-tech perks.



## Gay retailer wants to help needy dress for success

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

"What should I wear?"

That's a question that Clai Green, owner of Milwaukee's Luci's Boutique, hears a lot from his customers as they browse the racks of his trendy women's store, 532 N. Water St.

But Green is aware that it takes money to have the luxury of indecision. In a society where people are judged on neatness and appearance, those who lack the financial means to look sharp are often at a disadvantage, both when it comes to self-esteem and, especially, finding a job.

So after becoming involved with Cinderella Project MKE, which collects used dresses from the overflowing closets of well-heeled women and donates them to economically disadvantaged girls to

wear to their school proms, Green hatched an idea: Why not collect used "designer duds" for needy gay youth?

"There's nothing like it," Green says. "Stores all over the country collect clothing for women's shelters, but they're not doing anything for the gay community."

And that, Green says, is how The White Star Project was born. It's named after Green's new men's clothing store at 532 N. Water St., adjacent to Luci's. The store's grand opening, featuring a DJ, wine, sushi, is set for 5 to 10 p.m. on April 29.

The project's goal is to have men's stores in 10 cities put out bins to collect clothing every May and September. At the end of those months, the clothing will be picked up by local LGBT social organizations and distributed to

their clients.

While charity is The White Star Project's goal, affordability and selection are the aims of Green's new store. From button-down dress shirts and neckties to clubby T-shirts and distressed jeans to trendy man bags and hip hats, Green intends to offer customers a lot of variety. But he says no matter what the look, price is a primary consideration in his merchandising.

In addition to shopping European lines and the major wholesale markets of the east and west coasts, Green plans to feature clothing by Milwaukee designers.

"We're bringing in lines you won't even be able to find in Chicago," Green promises.

You can find out more at [www.shopwhitestar.com](http://www.shopwhitestar.com).



PHOTO COURTESY OF GSAFE

On April 16, hundreds of thousands of students nationwide participated in the National Day of Silence, taking a vow of silence to bring attention to anti-LGBT name-calling, bullying and harassment in their schools. Above, UW-Madison students march up State Street for a Day of Silence rally. The event featured state Rep. Kelda Helen Roys as keynote speaker.

Come to the

## COIN SHOW

Central States Numismatic Society  
71st Anniversary Coin Show

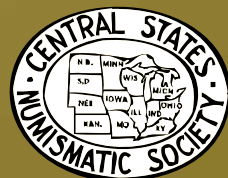
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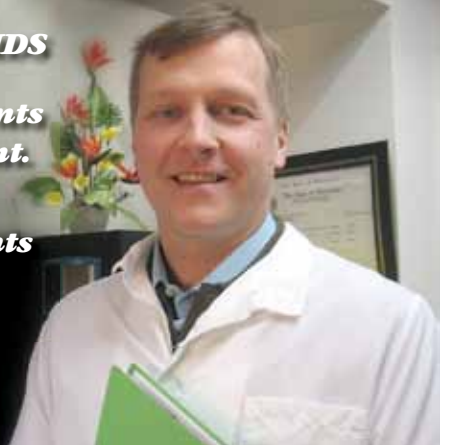


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**REPUBLICANS ASK FOR APPEAL OF TRANSGENDER RULING**

Republican lawmakers are calling on Wisconsin Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen to appeal a ruling that transgender Wisconsin inmates are entitled to taxpayer-funded hormone therapy.

Reps. Scott Suder, Joel Kleefisch and 32 colleagues signed a letter urging Van Hollen "to use the full power and all available legal resources of the Department of Justice" to fight the decision.

The request came in response to a ruling by U.S. District Judge Charles Clevert striking down a law that banned inmates from receiving hormone therapy. Inmates diagnosed with gen-

der identity disorder say they need the therapy, and Clevert says denying them would be cruel and unusual punishment.

A Van Hollen spokesman says he appreciates the input and continues to consider an appeal.

**PROSECUTOR SAYS HE'LL ARREST TEACHERS FOR CONDOM LESSONS**

A Wisconsin prosecutor is warning sex education teachers they could face charges if they follow a new state law allowing them to instruct students about proper contraceptive use. A letter sent to five school districts by Juneau County District Attorney Scott Southworth said the instruc-

tion could amount to contributing to the delinquency of a minor. He said the districts should drop sex education until the law is repealed. Southworth also argued that teaching contraceptive use encourages sexual behavior among children, which equates to sexual assault because minors can't legally have sex in Wisconsin. The law's chief author, state Rep. Tamara Grigsby, D-Milwaukee, dismissed the letter as a scare tactic. "It's beyond ridiculous," she said.

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel weighed in with an editorial saying that Southworth, whose county has high rates of Chlamydia and gonorrhea, should be ashamed.

"We're guessing that Southworth also objects to teaching kids how to use umbrellas and raincoats because they cause rain," the newspaper opined.

**FAIR WISCONSIN ENDORSES BARRETT FOR GOVERNOR**

The Fair Wisconsin PAC has endorsed Mayor Tom Barrett of Milwaukee in his gubernatorial race.

FW and U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin formally presented the endorsement during an April 17 reception at Cardinal Bar, 418 E. Wilson St., in Madison.

"(Barrett) has a proven track record of supporting the LGBT community and has earned our support," Fair

Wisconsin said in a statement. "As mayor of Milwaukee, he's been a staunch advocate for LGBT Wisconsinites. He vocally opposed the 2006 constitutional amendment banning marriage equality and civil unions. He proactively supported the City of Milwaukee's domestic partner registry. Tom Barrett also has ensured the LGBT community is represented in city government. ... He has evolved on issues important to our community to become one of the most trusted allies we have in government."

The group also commended Barrett for his opposition as a congressman to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

**LADY GAGA TICKETS FETCH \$4,500 AT ARCW AUCTION**

A VIP ticket package for Lady Gaga's Sept. 2 concert in Milwaukee brought in \$4,500 during a live auction at AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin's Make a Promise dinner on April 17. The tickets, donated by the Bradley Center, include four lower-level seats, VIP valet service and dinner for four at the center's Court Side Club preceding the performance.

About 750 people attended Make a Promise, held at the Midwest Airlines Center. Among those honored at the annual event were Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett and philanthropist Joe Pabst.

—WiG and AP reports

**'A great leap forward'**

Hospital from I

requiring hospitals participating in Medicare and Medicaid to "respect the rights of patients to designate visitors" and that privileges may not be denied on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability.

• That HHS ensure that Medicare and Medicaid participants respect patients' powers of attorney and health care proxies.

• That HHS provide additional recommendations within six months on how the department can "address hospital visitation, medical

decision making" and "other health care issues that affect LGBT patients and their families."

The president signed the memo days after a Florida hospital, Jackson Memorial, changed its policies to be more responsive to the needs of the LGBT community.

The policy changes were the result of pressure from LGBT civil rights groups, including Lambda Legal, on behalf of the family of Lisa Pond, who died alone in the hospital.

"Lambda Legal applauds Jackson Memorial's work ... to review and expand policies ... to help address the needs of same-sex couples

and their families, but we urge the hospital to finish the job," said Lambda attorney Beth Littrell. "The hospital should issue an official apology to the Langbehn-Pond family, and JHS should have a grievance procedure in the case of visitation denial that can be acted on quickly in an emergency situation."

Days after the announcement, the hospital had yet to issue the apology Lambda sought, but the president offered his condolences, calling Langbehn from Air Force One on April 15.

"It was very rewarding to hear 'I'm sorry' from the president, because that's what I have wanted to hear from Jackson Memorial since the night Lisa died," Langbehn said. "I hope that taking these steps makes sure that no

family ever has to experience the nightmare that my family has gone through."

Lambda Legal executive director Kevin Cathcart said Langbehn's fight made a difference.

"The steps that President Obama outlined ... are a great leap forward in addressing discrimination affecting LGBT patients and their families," Cathcart said. "These measures are intend-

ed to ensure that no family will have to experience what the Langbehn-Pond family did that night at Jackson Memorial Hospital. We are so proud of Janice and her family."

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## { Editorial }

### The blame game

The Vatican's spin machine has shifted into high gear, trying to deflect responsibility for its worldwide clerical-abuse scandal by blaming homosexuality and attempting to paint its critics as opponents of "family values."

There is, however, ample evidence that the culture of the Church itself is to blame.

Obscured under current headlines are the widespread abuses of women and girls within the church. In early April, for example, the archdioceses of Newark and Orlando settled a suit by a woman who was sexually assaulted in her home by a priest in 2004. Despite her complaint and others, the Church transferred the priest to Florida, where he broke into a woman's home and ripped her clothes off.

The priest pleaded guilty in 2007 to assault and aggravated stalking, but he has yet to be dismissed from the clergy.

Catholic priests in Africa have been increasingly forcing themselves on nuns in order to avoid getting HIV from local prostitutes. In some cases, nuns who become pregnant are pressured to have abortions. When one nun died while having an abortion, her abuser led the funeral mass.

When women and girls report sexual abuse, they are condemned as temptresses and whores. They are asked what they were wearing at the time and whether they enjoyed it.

Settlements involving female victims tend to be smaller than those for male victims of pedophiles, because it's presumed they're less harmed. Due to the way they're treated, women are less likely to report abuse.

Last year, researchers at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice issued a preliminary report commissioned by U.S. Catholic bishops on clerical abuse. It found no evidence that gay priests are more likely to molest children than heterosexual clergy.

A life of celibacy must seem an attractive alternative to men who can't deal with their sexual feelings, whether they're gay, straight or pedophiles. Men with healthy and well-integrated sexual identities would be less-inclined to seek out a celibate life.

Add to that recipe for disaster the Church's practice of enabling offenders by covering up their crimes and protecting them from prosecution, and you have the perfect storm for sexual abuse.

Homosexuality is not the problem. Celibacy, institutionalized secrecy and cover-ups are to blame.



"I'm gay."

## { Letters }

### IS RELIGION THE ENEMY?

Is religion the enemy of gay people? No, it is not the enemy, but it has been a source of oppression and a disguise for tribalism and a way to legitimize "us-versus-them thinking," which is ironic because located at the center of Christianity are the teachings of love and inclusion by Jesus.

For all the harm it can do, a religious community can also be a source of strength and healing. Liberal religion can serve to grow a person's sense of the sacred and their ability to respond to it. It is hard to go it alone and forgo the spiritual nourishment that comes from being in a vibrant spiritual community that grows your soul. GBLT folk are finding that while there are some oppressive religious communities, there are also those that are welcoming, and I would put first among them the Unitarian Universalists.

Being in a liberal, religious,

welcoming, spiritual community is important for several reasons. Alone, my vision is too narrow to see all that must be seen and responded to. Alone, without a faith community, it is too easy to fool myself and put off my spiritual work until the ever present tomorrow. A vibrant church with vibrant and affirming worship waters the spirit and moistens our political responses as we challenge all harassment and assault upon our dignity as human beings. Activism borne of the spirit makes our own political and social advocacy less brittle and dogmatic. It also nurtures us so that there is less burnout and more support for the work we are called to do to transform this injustice and work for the full dignity of all people.

Religion is too important to our souls to cede our ground to those who would distort the doctrine of love. It is time to let go of all the old stories that say gays and lesbians do not deserve

God's love or a vibrant caring religious community that provides support for them to grow as spiritual beings. Now is the time to live into our stories of healthy connection and love.

Life is too hard to go it alone. It is an ugly truth that too many religious communities do condone and encourage violence against gays and lesbians, which is why responding to, confronting and challenging these unholy, unwholesome, unhealthy statements and behaviors has so much extra meaning when religious groups do it. That is why I am so pleased to serve as the minister of Unitarian Church North, a church that has been standing on the side of love for a long time. Whoever you are, whatever the flags of your heritage, whoever you love, you are welcome at Unitarian Church North.

*The Rev. Julie Forest  
Unitarian Church North*

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## Our mission

To inform, engage and empower Wisconsin's LGBT community by providing a professional, independent print and online source for news and commentary, as well as coverage of political and cultural issues.

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# Weight of the world

I'm ashamed to say that my perspective and knowledge on environmental issues is not that broad. I care about the Earth and the air and the trees, but I just don't have time to keep up with it all. I avoid littering and I pick up trash (if it looks clean enough to touch), because I care about what my neighborhood looks like and I care about the well being of the planet. If our world becomes inhabitable, we're all going to die.

I open a tab on my Web browser, type in "environmental concerns," and I immediately have 41 billion sources that want to educate me on that which I've not had time for until now. My question is: Why don't we have time to care about the most integral organism to our own existence?

The environment has been a major topic of discussion for years. Climate change is one of the biggest concerns, and there are still people debating whether it is even a real concern or a normal change that the earth goes through every so often. Obviously awareness and education on the subject need to be promoted to more people. Perhaps then more individual citizens would have the information and decide that they want to help the situation in whatever small ways they can.

I was shocked to read on Environment.about.com that a new species of animal goes extinct as often as every 20 minutes. I had no idea that anything like this, especially this severe, was even a problem. They say that at this rate, 50 percent of the animal species around today will be extinct within the next 90 years. Your grandchildren might not get to

**Opinion**  
BY ANGEL SEVILLA

know what polar bears or giraffes are or see them at the zoo or even in National Geographic. They'll need to go to the History Channel to learn

**Our earth should always be at the forefront of our minds.**

about them, because the real things will be long gone. Something has to be done.

The Disney Channel launched a green campaign last year for which they released a music video starring Miley Cyrus, Selena Gomez, Demi Lovato and The Jonas Brothers. The song was titled "Send It On" and its lyrics spoke about helping the environment, not for you but for the generations to come. Tween-pop music might not be your cup of tea, but Disney sent all of the proceeds from iTunes purchases of the song to a number of environmental charities. So, even if you don't love the song you can still buy it and know that you did a good deed.

Our earth should always be at the forefront of our minds. Small acts such as picking up trash can truly make a difference, if everyone does it together. Start small if it's all you have time for, but think big for the future.

# Ask Mr. Advice Person

**Dear Mr. A.P.:** My roommate/partner smokes, and I am coming to hate it. The smoke clings to the walls and windows, it permeates our clothing and it fouls the air. What can I do?

**Dear Reader:** I assume separate residences are out of the question? You could try designating some rooms in your home as smoking and non-smoking. You could load up on air freshener, although that just masks the odor. You could buy a big exhaust fan or two. Massage, acupuncture, and hypnosis may help him stop, but there are no guarantees.

The tobacco addiction is a tough one to break. Nagging generally doesn't work and most efforts at persuasion, including the health argument and the economic argument, fall on deaf ears. If you've made it clear how much you

are offended by his smoking, the odor it produces and concerns about the effects of second-hand smoke on your own health, you've done about all you can.

**Dear Mr. A.P.:** The rest rooms at some of the bars I go to are in poor repair and sometimes dirty. I have complained to bartenders but it seems to have no impact. What to do?

**Dear Reader:** In a competitive capitalist economy, what you mainly do is go to a competing bar. But I assume you like these bars otherwise. Getting things accomplished generally requires getting to the right person. Complaining to bartenders generally has little impact. Bartenders are hired to be good-looking, pleasant and serve drinks, but that's about it. To get any action, you have

to complain directly to the manager (or bar owner). It may also help to write down your concern and give it to the owner/manager when you talk with him or her. It will be a reminder that a concern has been expressed.

**Dear Mr. A. P.:** It irritates me when I am out for coffee or a meal with a friend and he keeps checking his texting device and sometimes even answers messages right there in front of me. What can I do?

**Dear Reader:** We live in an age of Internet-facilitated rudeness. Texting devices represent power and sense of security for young people that they are reluctant to give up. Among those over 30, however, it is just plain rude for people to interrupt a meal or coffee with a friend to keep checking

**Opinion**  
BY PAUL VARNELL

their messages. It interrupts the natural flow of conversation and sends the message to the other person that whatever he has to say is not as important as whatever message is coming through the text device. Generally people learn manners from their parents, but parents have little experience with this so they are not able to teach manners.

Ask your friend to leave his texting device at home or ask him not to use it while you are together. If he is any sort of friend he will respect your wishes and honor your request. If he persists, then you know where you stand in his hierarchy of desires. Either reduce contact with him or put up with it.

# The new bisexuals

An article in Psychology Today online said something startling: Girls now are three times more likely to be "non-heterosexual" than boys. Where once lesbians and bisexual women were thought to number 1 percent of the population – while gay and bisexual men were 5 percent – the article said that now 15 percent of young women and girls identify as lesbian or bisexual. Fifteen percent. A 14-point jump like that is a giant and significant leap in our numbers, which could affect everything from political power to social approval.

The writer, Dr. Leonard Sax, wonders why there are "suddenly" so many queer girls. And I do, too. First, I wonder if those self-identifying girls call themselves bisexual because they're actually attracted to women or because they think it's sexier – and cooler – to call themselves bisexual and occasionally kiss girls for show. After all, a label in our more understanding era is an easy

**Opinion**  
BY JENNIFER VANASCO

thing to take on. Labels are important, but they don't necessarily lead to political action or even respect for equal rights (in fact, quite the opposite). A recent e-mail I received was from a woman who said, "I'm bisexual, but I don't think they should have gay marriage." Basically her argument was that women should be free to sleep with whoever, but they should marry men.)

And if this new percentage is actually gay or bisexual (that is, having or seeking sexual and romantic relationships with women) – is it simply because America is more tolerant of lesbians now and so they feel able to come out, is it because bisexuality no longer carries the stigma in the gay and straight world that it used to, or is it something else (or some combination)?

Women have always expressed their sexuality more fluidly – hence all those "Lesbians Until Graduation" (or LUGS) I went to school with at Wellesley (and a long history at women's colleges of women "spooning" and writing romantic letters to each other). I've known women to come out in their 40s and 50s after long happy marriages to men. And I've known self-identified lesbians who married men in their 30s and had happy marriages. This is lifelong bisexuality in fact, if not necessarily in self-identification. Dr. Sax says – and I find this very interesting – that "female sexuality is different from male sexuality ... sexual attraction seems to be more malleable. If a teenage girl kisses another teenage girl, for whatever reason, and she finds that she likes it – then things can happen and things can change. If a young woman finds her soul mate, and her soul mate happens to be female then she may begin to experience feel-

ings she's never felt before." Dr. Sax's conclusion – which is ridiculous on its face – is that girls are more interested in other girls because boys are "losers" who watch too much porn. Come on.

But girls do tend to have strong, deeply emotional attachments to each other. And it's interesting to think that those attachments – which may have previously just been labeled "girl crushes" and thought childish and insignificant – may now be socially considered lesbian feelings, and thus prod a girl to label herself differently, which leads to permanent changes in her brain. Dr. Sax didn't break down the numbers; I don't know what part of that new percentage is lesbian and what part bisexual.

But what I do know is this: the LGBT community hasn't always been great about welcoming and reaching out to and understanding and supporting bisexuals. But if we want this flood of young women to support us, that has got to change.

## REGIONAL GAZE

Wisconsin  
Gazette .com

## Scandal rocks Chicago's Howard Brown

By Kerrie Kennedy

Contributing writer

While rumors swirl and community leaders demand an explanation, the board of Chicago's Howard Brown Health Center continues to stonewall questions about the abrupt departure of its CEO and chief financial officer.

The board confirmed April 9 that CEO Michael Cook had resigned and CFO Mark Joslyn had been terminated. In a press release, HBHC said it was working with its lawyers to address the situation, but refused to supply details, calling the matter an "administrative decision."

That didn't sit well with many LGBT leaders in Chicago, who said the Midwest's largest LGBT health center owes answers to its clients and supporters.

"Howard Brown is a com-

munity health center and the community has a right to know what's going on," said Rick Garcia, director of public policy at Equality Illinois. He called Howard Brown "our own little Vatican."

State Rep. Greg Harris, D-Chicago, agreed. "I do not think it's in their best interest to not be forthcoming," he said. "All this uncertainty and secrecy is not helpful to them. The rumor mill is running wild and the rumors might be worse than what the facts will tell."

While Howard Brown has remained tight-lipped about the situation, community insiders say it stems from the loss of a major federal grant – the Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study (MACS). That program, which has collected and studied blood from more than 5,000 HIV-infected men since 1984, has made sig-

nificant contributions to the science and treatment of HIV.

"I first became aware of major problems at Howard Brown when I was told ... that the Multicenter AIDS Cohort Center grant to Howard Brown was being transferred on an emergency basis to Northwestern University," said the agency's co-founder Dr. David Ostrow in an open letter to HBHC board members and supporters. He went on to demand transparency concerning the problems leading to the transfer.

Northwestern is one of four universities involved in the study, which is administered by the National Institutes of Health. But as the primary contractor in Chicago, Howard Brown had earned about \$1 million annually in fees for managing the grant, which also involves

Chicago's Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center.

Now Northwestern is receiving the administrative fees, although Howard Brown and the CORE Center will continue to receive funding to provide client services.

While Ostrow said he doesn't know what led Cook to transfer the grant, he said the former CEO would not have been able to do it without good reason. "He would have had to explain the reasons to the National Institutes of Health, and they would have had to approve the transfer to Northwestern," Ostrow said. "You have to assume that he did it to protect the grant. Something was amiss, even though Howard Brown had been handling this grant for 26 years."

This is not the first time Howard Brown has been

engulfed in turmoil. Ironically, Cook was named president and CEO in October 2005 after executive director Keith Waterbrook resigned on the heels of a major drug scandal. Many community leaders credit Cook with restoring the agency's reputation – as well as its bottom line.

"Michael Cook came in and turned that organization around," Garcia said. "He brought a great team together and has done a great job."

Ostrow agreed. "This has been the golden age of Howard Brown with Michael Cook," he said. "It's been well run and the programs have doubled in size. So for them to have this idea that a transfer would take place and nobody would find out about it – it's naive thinking. When a successful leader suddenly leaves, everybody jumps to the conclusion that

there's something rotten in Denmark."

Board member Rocco Claps was among those who refused to comment on rumors that the grant was transferred to Northwestern due to mismanagement at Howard Brown. "I'm not prepared to talk ... about what's been going on," he said. "There are a number of things the board and management have had to deal with."

"They should hold a community forum and lay out exactly what's going on and take questions from community leaders," Ostrow said. "They need to get beyond this, otherwise it's like a kind of cancer that spreads."

However, Ostrow has a theory about why the two men left: "It's politics," he said. "Some things never change in this community."

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## What they said...



"Bullying is torture, it is another betrayal of basic human decency and its scars reach way into the future of its survivors."

Colin Farrell in a statement issued to Belong To, an organization for LGBT youth in Ireland. Farrell's gay older brother was bullied as a child.

"I know people are expecting me to 'out' her. But I think she's just asexual, she's poured all of her energies into her career. And if she is, she is never ever, ever going to come out. So relax, people."

Celebrity biographer Kitty Kelley speaking about the sexual orientation of her latest subject, Oprah Winfrey.

"Many psychologists and psychiatrists have demonstrated that there is no relation between celibacy and pedophilia. But many others have demonstrated, I have been told recently, that there is a relation between homosexuality and pedophilia. That is true. That is the problem."

Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, the Vatican's secretary of state.

"That would be like saying, well there's there are a lot of people who like to use drugs, so let's go ahead and accommodate those who want to use drugs. There are some people who believe in incest, so we should accommodate them. There are people who believe in polygamy, should we accommodate them?"

Mike Huckabee, saying that allowing gays and lesbians to marry is comparable to legalizing incest, polygamy and drug use.

"I'm single right now and I've chosen to be single because I don't have the time to get to know anybody. So it's OK not to have sex, it's OK to get to know people. I'm celibate, celibacy's fine."

Lady Gaga announcing her celibacy to London's Daily Mail.



## NATIONAL GAZE

Wisconsin  
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## Obama set to make second High Court nomination

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens announced earlier this spring that he plans to retire from the nation's highest court, creating another opportunity for Barack Obama to name a justice.

Stevens has served 34 years on the Court.

Obama, in a statement to the press, hailed Stevens, who "courageously served his country from the moment he enlisted the day before Pearl Harbor to his long and distinguished tenure on the Supreme Court.

"During that tenure he has stood as an impartial guardian of the law. He's worn the judicial robe with honor and humility. He has applied the Constitution and the laws

of the land with fidelity and restraint."

Stevens announced his retirement 11 days before his 90th birthday: "Having concluded that it would be in the best interests of the Court to have my successor appointed and confirmed well in advance of the commencement of the Court's next term, I shall retire from regular active service as an associate justice," Stevens wrote in a letter to the president, stating his retirement would be "effective the next day after the Court rises for the summer recess this year."

In his more than three decades on the Court, Stevens, a Ford appointee, has voted to limit the use of the death penalty, uphold affirmative action and broad-

en Roe v. Wade.

On LGBT issues, Stevens authored a dissent in *Bowers v. Hardwick*, the 1986 case in which the majority upheld a state law criminalizing consensual same-sex sex.

"The fact that the governing majority in a state has traditionally viewed a particular practice as immoral is not a sufficient reason for upholding a law prohibiting the practice," Stevens wrote.

While Stevens was in the minority on *Bowers*, he was in the majority on *Lawrence v. Texas*, the High Court decision overturning consensual sodomy laws in the United States.

Stevens also was among the majority in overturning the Colorado law preventing the state and its municipali-

ties from banning bias based on sexual orientation.

In the landmark case in which the majority held that Boy Scouts of America is a publicly supported but private organization that can ban gay and lesbian scout leaders, Stevens voted in the minority.

"It is plain as the light of day that neither one of these principles – 'morally straight' and 'clean' – says the slightest thing about homosexuality," Stevens said of the Boy Scouts pledge. "Indeed, neither term in the Boy Scouts' Law and Oath expresses any position whatsoever on sexual matters."

Obama said he would move quickly to name a replacement – and that the nominee would be like Stevens.

## SHORT LISTED...

The short list of potential nominees to replace retiring U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens was compiled from various media sources:

Solicitor General Elena Kagan; Judge Merrick Garland of the U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit; Judge Diane Wood of the Seventh Circuit Appeals Court in Chicago; Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm; former Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears; Homeland Security Secretary Janet

Napolitano; Harvard Law School dean Martha Minow; Judge Sidney Thomas of the Ninth Circuit Appeals Court in San Francisco.

The president's short list does not include Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, although there was widespread speculation that it might. Last week, White House spokesperson Tommy Vietor said, "The president thinks Secretary Clinton is doing an excellent job as secretary of state and wants her to remain in that position."

"I'll seek someone in the coming weeks with similar qualities: an independent mind, a record of excellence and integrity, a fierce dedication to the rule of law and a keen understanding of how the law affects the daily

lives of the American people," Obama stated. "It will also be someone who, like Justice Stevens, knows that in democracy powerful interests must not be allowed to drown out the voices of ordinary citizens."

## Letters to the editor

Letters from 8

## SUPPORT SUPPORTIVE BUSINESSES

It amazes me the infighting that goes on in the LGBT communities. As a transgender I know the pain, suffering, isolation and inhuman cruelty we face. Some of us face imprisonment, forced military service, slander campaigns, exodus crusades and catty people. We try desperately to please those who hate us. We spend our money, donate our time and pay with our lives. When asked what transgender people want, one prominent transgender activist said, "We want the right to live. We want love, relationships, education, healthcare, a good job and a future for our children. In short we are fighting for our very lives."

How do we win this battle? We vote with our wallet, that's how. Right now many corporations are

standing with us in the fight for equality. When you purchase a car, go to the bank, or spend money on any item, you vote for freedom. Let's send a message for freedom and help fix the American economy. Go to the 2010 HRC buying guide at <http://www.hrc.org/buyersguide2010>.

Jerry Hull  
Milwaukee

## HISTORICAL CORRECTION

I was reading the review for the play "The Value of Names" and noticed that there was a historical error in the article. It was mentioned that President Harry S. Truman in 1959 labeled what he saw as, "The most un-American thing in this country today." This is, however, incorrect because he was

not president in that year. It would have to be President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

I am a straight yet very supportive person for gay rights and I enjoy reading your newspaper. It helps me keep up with what's going on in the LGBT world.

Dave  
Milwaukee

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# Activists rally for gay Social Security equality

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Gay activists called for action April 11 in Hollywood, Calif., where they marched on a Social Security Administration office to protest discrimination in benefits.

The demonstration began at the L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center. From there activists marched more than a mile to the SSA building to demand change in a policy that costs gays and lesbians about \$120 million in Social Security benefits every year.

Under federal law, a widowed heterosexual is entitled to his or her deceased spouse's Social Security benefits, even if the couple had divorced. But a gay widow cannot receive Social Security

survivorship benefits, regardless of the couple's marital status.

A University of California-Los Angeles study found that the lack of eligibility for Social Security benefits cost the surviving partners of same-sex couples an average of \$5,700 per year.

Before the march, U.S. Rep. Linda Sanchez, D-Calif., told activists she would sponsor a bill to provide equal Social Security benefits to gays and lesbians.

"We now have quality, affordable health care coming to all," said Sanchez. "What good is the quality of our health care in America if Americans are not treated equally under all of our laws? I look at this country — which is great but could be

made better — and I see that there is still discrimination. ... I don't think it's right that Americans should be treated differently by the country they love because of who they love."

U.S. Reps. Judy Chu and U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer, Los Angeles City Councilmember Paul Koretz and West Hollywood Mayor Abbe Land attended the rally, as did L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center CEO Lorri L. Jean and National Gay and Lesbian Task Force executive director Rea Carey.

After Sanchez spoke, activists marched along Hollywood Boulevard to the SSA building at Hollywood and Vine, where they staged a picket. Alice Herman spoke about being denied benefits after her wife died.

"At the time I was burying Sylvia and grieving her loss, I had to look for a place to live as fast I as could," Herman said. She said she was "a heartbeat away" from living in her car, because she could not afford to live in the home she and her partner had shared.

Jean said Herman's story inspired her to campaign for Social Security equality.

"We must stop the discrimination heaped upon our elders just when they are suffering profound grief after losing a partner," Jean said. "They shared their lives for 20, 30 even 40 years — and paid into Social Security with every paycheck just like everyone else. But they are cheated out of survivor benefits because their relation-



**U.S. Rep. Linda Sanchez, D-Calif., plans to introduce legislation to end discrimination in Social Security benefits.**

ships are not recognized by the Social Security system."

"Same-sex couples are being systematically short-changed by unfair Social Security policies, costing our

**'A heartbeat away' from living in her car.**

families \$2 billion in the past decade alone," Carey said. "The shock of this inequity comes at one of the most vulnerable times in our lives: when we lose our partner. Social Security was created to protect all Americans in their later years, but this hasn't been the case for our families."

The rally came a week after Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa signed a resolution introduced by Koretz and Councilmember Bill Rosendahl calling on the federal government to end discrimination in Social Security benefits.

West Hollywood's council passed a similar resolution.

Jean said the rally was the beginning of a national campaign.



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# ENDA's momentum picks up

**By Lisa Neff**  
Staff writer

The U.S. House of Representatives may vote on the long-pending Employment Non-Discrimination Act this spring.

There is a Capitol Hill buzz about the bill to ban workplace bias based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

A vote in the House Education and Labor Committee is expected in the next several weeks, followed soon after by a vote on the House floor.

"ENDA has been delayed time and time again, but now it looks like it will be up for a vote very soon," said Rea Carey, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

The District of Columbia and 12 states, including Wisconsin, prohibit discrimi-

nation based on gender identity and sexual orientation. Nine states prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.

But protections for LGBT people do not exist in many mountain states of the West and in the South.

"Right now people can be fired in 29 states for being lesbian, gay or bisexual and in 38 states for being transgender. It's wrong — dead wrong," Carey said. "There's no excuse for this kind of backwards discrimination in this day and age. ENDA can't wait."

LGBT activists have called for a federal anti-discrimination law for decades. On May 14, 1974, U.S. Reps. Bella Abzug and Ed Koch introduced legislation that would have amended the U.S. Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include "sexual orientation."

Activists and lawmakers took a new course in the early 1990s, working to enact legislation aimed at protecting gays and lesbians in the workplace. Gerry Studds introduced the first version of ENDA in 1994. Lawmakers have introduced ENDA in every session but the 109th since 1994.

ENDA, modeled on Title VII of the Civil Rights Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, would protect LGBT workers from discrimination based on irrational prejudice. The bill explicitly prohibits preferential treatment and quotas, and does not permit disparate-impact suits. In addition, it exempts small businesses, religious organizations and the military.

In the 111th Congress, U.S. Reps. Barney Frank, D-Mass., and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen,

R-Fla., are ENDA's sponsors in the House. Senate sponsors are Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., and Susan Collins, R-Maine.

Last September, the House Education and Labor Committee held a full committee hearing on the legislation.

The Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions also held a hearing on the bill last fall.

Now state and national LGBT groups, including NGLTF and the Human Rights Campaign, are building a citizen's lobbying campaign, urging constituents to ask the representatives and senators to support ENDA.

"This legislation is being fought tooth and nail by the right wing, so no supporter of equality can afford to be silent," Carey said.

HRC president Joe Solmonese said, "Every bit of



PHOTO: COURTESY

**U.S. Rep. Barney Frank is sponsoring ENDA in the U.S. House.**

pressure we can place on key representatives will count."

As of WiG press time, a

House committee vote had not been placed on the legislative calendar.

# Bill would prohibit teaching about homosexuality

A bill that would prohibit Tennessee educators from teaching students about gay relationships is headed for summer school.

A House subcommittee recently referred the proposal from Republican Rep. Stacey Campfield of Knoxville to the state board of education for study by the House Education K-12 Subcommittee during the summer recess.

Hedy Weinberg, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Tennessee, said the subcommittee made a "wise decision," because she believes Campfield's legislation would have infringed on discussions of other school issues, such as bullying.

"This was a bad bill," Weinberg said. "It was challenging academic freedom."

The proposal sought to

prohibit the "teaching of ... human sexuality other than heterosexuality in public school grades K-8."

Campfield said the state should "stay neutral" and leave it up to parents whether they want to talk about anything other than heterosexuality.

"All this is saying is that we're not going to take positions on these issues," Campfield said.

Bruce Opie, legislative director for the Tennessee Department of Education, said current state curriculum doesn't address "any type of sexual preference."

Meanwhile, Tennessee Education Association lobby-


ist Jerry Winters said public schools are being attacked for something that's not happening.

"I don't appreciate the intent of this bill," he said.

A companion bill is in the Senate Education Committee,

where it is expected to remain this session.

—From WiG and AP reports



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## INTERNATIONAL GAZE

Wisconsin  
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## Even after death, abuse against gays continues

By Rukmini Callimachi  
AP Writer

Even death cannot stop the violence against gays in this corner of the world.

Madiye Diallo's body had been in the ground for only a few hours when the mob descended with shovels on the weedy cemetery in Senegal. They yanked out the corpse, spit on its torso, dragged it away and dumped it in front of the home of Diallo's elderly parents.

The scene of May 2, 2009, was filmed on a cell phone and the video sold at the market. It passed from phone to phone, sowing panic among gay men who say they now feel like hunted animals.

"I locked myself inside my room and didn't come out for days," says a 31-year-old gay friend of Diallo's, who is living with HIV. "I'm afraid of what will happen to me after I die. Will my parents be able to bury me?"

A wave of intense homophobia is washing across Africa, where homosexuality is illegal in at least 37 countries.

In the last year alone, gay men have been arrested in Kenya, Malawi, Sierra Leone and Nigeria. In Uganda, lawmakers are considering a bill that would sentence gays to life in prison and include capital punishment for "repeat offenders." And in South Africa, gangs have carried out so-called "corrective" rapes on lesbians.

"Across many parts of Africa, we've seen a rise in homophobic violence," says London-based gay-rights activist Peter Tatchell, whose organization tracks abuse against gays and lesbians in Africa. "It's been steadily building for the last 10 years but has got markedly worse in the last year."

To the long list of abuse meted out to suspected

homosexuals in Africa, Senegal has added a new form of degradation — the desecration of their dead bodies.

In the past two years, at least four men rumored to be gay have been exhumed by angry mobs in cemeteries in Senegal. The violence is especially shocking because Senegal, unlike other countries in the region, is considered a model of tolerance.

"It's jarring to see this happen in Senegal," says Ryan Thoreson, a fellow at the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission who has been researching the rise of homophobia here. "When something like this happens in an established democracy, it's alarming."

Even though homosexuality is illegal in Senegal, colonial documents indicate the country has long had a clandestine gay community. In many towns, they were

tacitly accepted, says Cheikh Ibrahima Niang, a professor of social anthropology at Senegal's largest university. In fact, the visibility of gays in Senegal may have helped to prompt the backlash.

The backlash dates from at least February 2008, when a Senegalese tabloid published photographs of a clandestine gay wedding in a suburb of Dakar, the capital. The wedding was held inside a rented banquet hall and was attended by dozens of gay men, some of whom snapped pictures that included the gay couple exchanging rings and sharing slices of cake.

The day after the tabloid published the photographs, police began rounding up men suspected of being homosexual. Some were beaten in captivity and forced to turn over the names of other gay men, according to research by the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission.

Gays immediately went into hiding and those who could fled to neighboring countries, including Gambia to the south, according to the New York-based commission. Gambia's erratic president declared that gays who had entered his country had 24 hours to leave or face decapitation. Many returned to Senegal, where they lived

on the run, moving from safe-house to safehouse.

In March 2008, Senegal hosted an international summit of Muslim nations, which prompted a nationwide crackdown on behaviors

**'I'm afraid of what will happen to me after I die. Will my parents be able to bury me?'**

deemed un-Islamic, including homosexuality.

The crackdown also coincided with spiraling food prices. Niang says leaders saw an easy way to reach constituents through the inflammatory topic of homosexuality.

"They found a way to explain the difficulties people are facing as a deviation from religious life," says Niang. "So if people are poor, it's because there are prostitutes in the street. If they don't have enough to eat, it's because there are homosexuals."

Imams began using Friday sermons to preach against homosexuality.

"During the time of the Prophet, anytime two men were found together, they were taken to the top of a mountain and thrown off," says Massamba Diop, the imam of a mosque in Pikine and the head of Jamra, an Islamic lobby linked to a political party in Senegal's parliament.

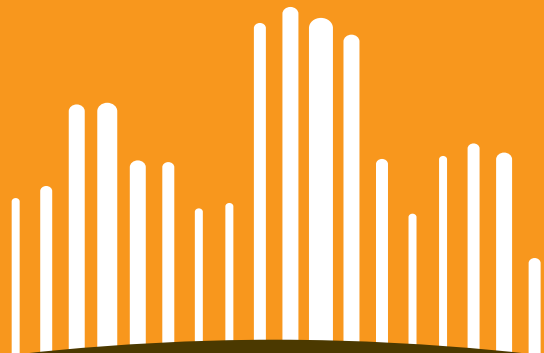
"If they didn't die when they hit the ground, then rocks would be thrown on them until they were killed," says Diop, whose mosque is so packed during Friday prayers that people bring their own carpets and line up outside on the asphalt.

Sermons like Diop's were carried on the mosque's loudspeakers as well as in Senegal's more than 30 newspapers and magazines.

Around this time, in May 2008, a middle-aged man called Serigne Mbaye fell ill and died in a suburb of Dakar.

His children tried to bury him in his village but were turned back from the cemetery because of widespread rumors that he was gay. His sons drove his body around trying to find a cemetery that would accept him. They were finally forced to

Senegal page 15



# 88NINE

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# INTERNATIONAL GAZE



## 88 GAY COUPLES MARRY IN MEXICO CITY

Mexico City officials say 88 same-sex couples have gotten married in Mexico's capital since a law allowing such unions took effect last month.

A statement from Mexico City's government says 50 of the couples were men and 38 women.

It said that 37 more gay couples were scheduled to be married between April and June.

In December, Mexico City's legislature passed the first law in Latin America explicitly giving gay marriages in the federal district the same status as heterosexual ones. The legislation also allows same-sex couples to adopt children.

The law took effect March 4 over criticism by the Roman Catholic Church and a campaign against the measure by President Felipe Calderon's conservative National Action Party.

## NEW MACEDONIAN RIGHTS LAW FAILS TO PROTECT GAYS

Macedonia has approved a new rights law but ignored appeals from the EU and rights groups to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation.

A total of 62 conservative lawmakers in the 120-seat parliament voted for the anti-discrimination law, which covers gender, religion and ethnicity. The opposition walked out in protest demanding that protection be extended to lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender people.

EU mission head in Macedonia Erwan Fouere urged the conservatives to reconsider.

Fouere said the law "must ... put in effect the fight against discrimination of all parties."

## PHILIPPINES GAY PARTY ACCEPTED

The Philippine Supreme



PHOTO: COURTESY

**Danton Remoto, an English professor at the Jesuit-run Ateneo de Manila University and the head of Ang Ladlad in the Philippines.**

Court recently overturned a decision barring a gay rights group from contesting national elections in May and recognized it as a legitimate

political party for the first time.

Voting 13-2, the court threw out decisions by the Elections Commission deny-

ing accreditation to Ang Ladlad (Out of the Closet) on grounds that it tolerates immorality and offends Christians and Muslims.

The justices said the party had complied with all legal requirements, and that there is no law against homosexuality.

"I felt vindicated," said the group's leader, Danton Remoto, an English professor at the Jesuit-run Ateneo de Manila University. He said that Ang Ladlad had struggled for recognition and accreditation for the past seven years.

## GAY-THEMED FILM CHALLENGES BOUNDARIES IN MALAYSIA

Malaysia's first gay-themed movie could hit cinemas within months, its producer said, after government censors eased restrictions that have stifled the film industry here for decades.

Although the Malay-language movie - "Dalam

Botol" or "In A Bottle" - won't have explicit sex or even kissing, its screening would be a huge step forward for freedom of popular media in this Muslim-majority country that many fear is coming under the influence of Islamic conservatism.

"We are taking a risk," Raja Azmi, a longtime movie producer, said in an interview this week. "I'm very nervous. We still don't know if the censors will allow our movie to be shown in the end."

Raja Azmi submitted a preliminary script last year to the Home Ministry's Film Censorship Board, which verbally approved it after advising her not to shoot scenes of men kissing or being in bed together.

Censors also told her to change the original title: "Anu Dalam Botol," or "Penis in a Bottle."

-from Wig and AP reports

# 'People have done horrible things'

Senegal from 14

bury him on the side of a road, using their own hands to dig a hole, according to media reports.

The grave was too shallow and the wind blew away the dirt. When the decomposing body was later discovered, Mbaye's children were arrested and charged with improperly burying their father.

In the town of Kaolack three months later, residents exhumed the grave of another man believed to be gay. In November 2008, residents in Pikine removed a corpse from a mosque of another suspected homosexual and left it on the side of the road.

The grave-robbing has shocked even hardened gay activists, such as Nigerian Davis Mac-Iyalla.

"People have done horrible things (in Nigeria). I have seen people spit on coffins and people

spit on graves," he said. "But it stopped there."

Among the people who appeared in the photograph published from the gay wedding was a young man in his 30s from Thies. He was an activist and a leader of a gay organization called And Ligay, meaning "Working together," which he ran out of his parents' house.

He was HIV-positive and on medication.

When the tabloid published

the photograph, Diallo went into hiding, according to a close friend who asked not to be identified because he too is gay. Unable to go to the doctor, Diallo stopped taking his anti-retrovirals. By the spring of 2009, he was so ill that his family checked him into a Catholic hospital in downtown Thies, says the friend.

He was in a coma when he died at 5:50 a.m. on May 2, 2009, according to the hospital's records.

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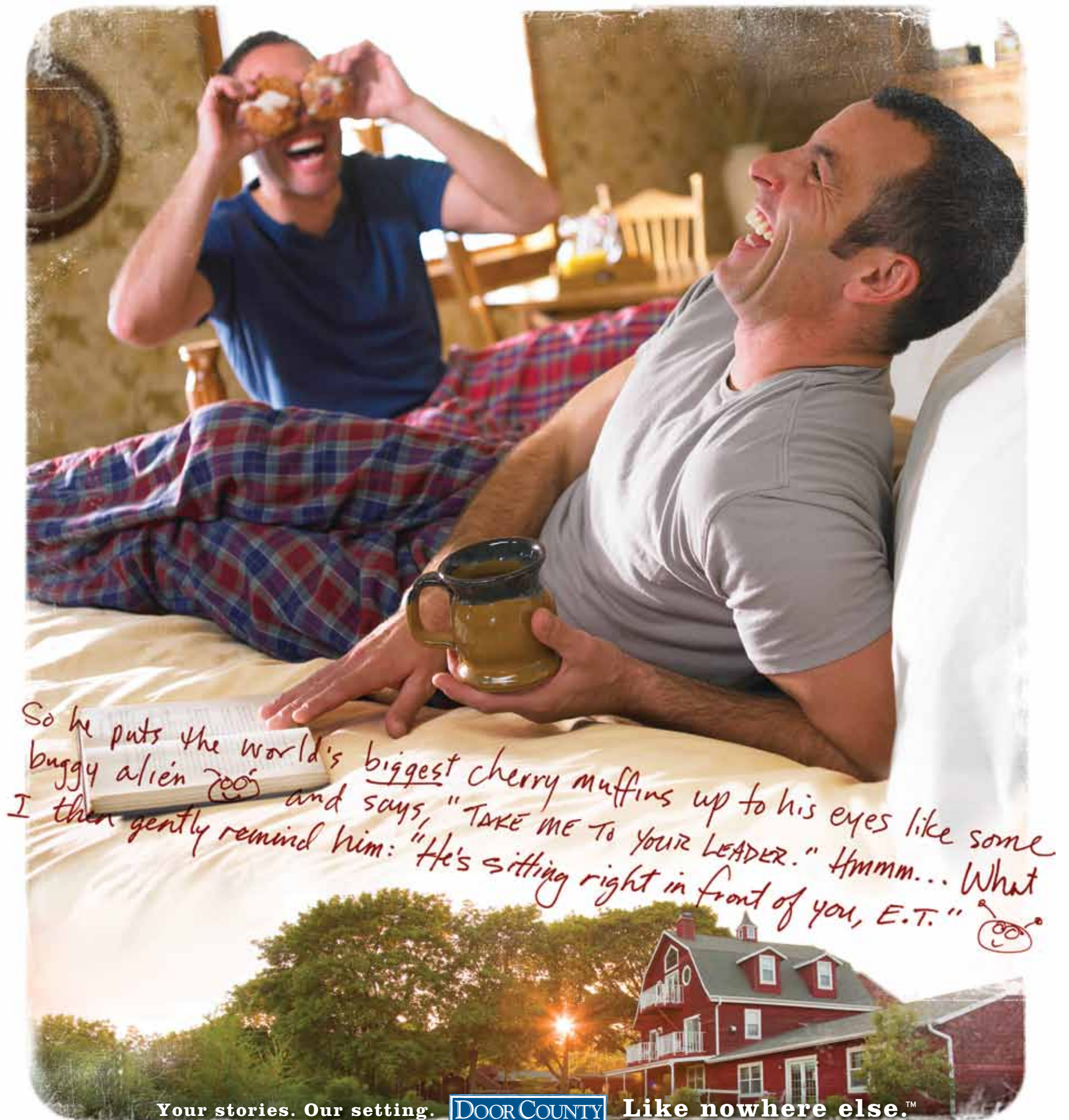
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# WIGOUT!

WISCONSIN GAZETTE ENTERTAINMENT

## Go, Jónsi, go

An interview with  
Jón 'Jónsi' Thor Birgisson

By Gregg Shapiro

**A**s front man of the groundbreaking Icelandic band Sigur Rós, the openly gay Jónsi (pronounced Yónsi) provided warmth and an ethereal quality to the band's lushly chilly songs. It's hard to imagine what Sigur Rós would sound like absent Jónsi, but on "Go" (XL Recordings), his solo debut disc, we get the chance to hear him without his long-time band. His primary collaborator is openly gay orchestral pop artist Nico Muhly, who assists Jónsi in giving "Go" a fresh and original style.

Alternately wildly rhythmic and sumptuous, "Go" gives Jónsi room to stretch out in new and exciting directions. His fans would be wise to follow. Now, go!

**GS:** Can your solo disc be interpreted as the end of Sigur Rós?

**J:** I'm going to be touring my solo album this year. And I'm going to keep on working in Sigur Rós, writing and recording songs. Hopefully there's going to be a new Sigur Rós album in 2011.

**GS:** Congratulations on writing the closing theme for the movie "How to Train Your Dragon." What would it mean to you if the song were nominated for an Academy Award next year?

**J:** I don't know. I think it would be really cool (laughs).

**GS:** There is a radiant effervescence to some of the songs on "Go," such as "Go Do," "Animal Arithmetic" and "Around Us." Is that a reflection of your state of mind at the time?

**J:** Yeah, I think so. ... I wanted to push these songs in any way possible. "Go Do,"

for example, was written on ukulele, which sounds kind of weird when I listen to it now (laughs). There are so many layers on the song, so many instruments. I think I was pushing for more and more stuff to put on the songs. I wanted them to be energetic.

**GS:** Do you think it could be a reflection of your own personal and creative growth?

**J:** Yeah, it could be, actually. I'm kind of taking a big step by myself by releasing this solo album and finally releasing these songs by myself. I've been creating for many, many years.

**GS:** You collaborated with your partner Alex Somers on "Go," and you've also collaborated with him before. How does being in a relationship affect creative collaboration?

**J:** It's actually quite healthy. I like it. Alex is this amazing person who really inspires me. We have kind of the same taste in everything, like music, movies and books and clothes and food. We fit well together. It's really good for me. We support each other and help each other with songwriting.

**GS:** What happens when you disagree on things?

**J:** We just bicker a little bit and try to convince each other that you are right. But then somebody just gives in (laughs).

**GS:** The woman-focused music festival Lilith is being revived this summer. A number of years ago, there was talk of a gay version of Lilith, with Pet Shop Boys, Soft Cell, Rufus Wainwright and Magnetic Fields. If they were to try to revive it, is that something in which you might participate?

Interview  
WIGOUT



**Jónsi performs at The Pabst, 144 E. Wells, on April 26. Call 414-286-3663.**

**J:** Yeah, maybe. That sounds really cool, actually.

**GS:** Lastly, Latin pop star Ricky Martin recently came out

as gay. What do you think of that?

**J:** I'm happy for him that he's comfortable with his

being gay. I think it's still amazing today that it still is a big deal to be gay and coming out of the closet is such

a big deal. I think that in this day and age that this is still a problem is quite amazing, actually.

# Lines and Language

## Current art shows worth road trips

By **Kat Murrell**

Contributing writer

April is the cruelest month, tempting us with promises of warm sun, soft breezes and thoughts of leisure and vacation. But alas, although the full-blown joys of summer are still weeks away, there are plenty of options for a quick out-of-town excursion to take in some current exhibitions.

### THE MUSEUM OF WISCONSIN ART, WEST BEND

Located about an hour from downtown Milwaukee, the Museum of Wisconsin Art in West Bend is home to a permanent collection of Wisconsin art and changing exhibitions usually featuring contemporary artists. On view through May 30 is "Truman Lowe: Limn."

To "limn" can have multiple discreet meanings; on one hand, it is to draw or paint on the surface of something, but it is also to delineate by means of outlining clearly.

The artist, Truman Lowe, is curator of contemporary art at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American

Indian and a professor of art at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He was born in Wisconsin and is of Winnebago heritage. About his work, he says, "If I do anything, I simplify things. Maybe too much."

This simplification is readily apparent in the set of nine pieces called "Limn Series." Clear lines and marks on small papers become like meditative morsels on form. His diminutive works are haiku-like in their charm. If you're in a rush, these may not seep in strongly, but a gentle and patient viewing reveals these small drawings to be like topographies of landscape, and as varied as fingerprints.

The notions of drawing expressed in the exhibition title are most fully realized in "Canoe," which quite literally is a drawing in willow wood. The structure develops in supple wood lines that exist between two-dimensional description and three-dimensional volume in the play of light and shadow on the wall. It's a subject that unifies Lowe's cultural heritage with his contemporary interest in form, infused with a simple

physical beauty.

Museum of Wisconsin Art, 300 S. 6th Ave., West Bend, 262-334-9638, <http://www.wisconsinart.org/>

### THE JOHN MICHAEL KOHLER ART CENTER, SHEBOYGAN

Words are complicated. The John Michael Kohler Art Center in Sheboygan takes on the unruliness of language in "Beyond Words: A Series of Exhibitions" that runs through May 30.

Three shows roll together in the gallery space, and altogether about 25 contemporary artists are showcased, with media ranging from painting to video to room-sized installations.

The written word is all around us more than at any other time during human history. We're bombarded by texts and e-mails and tweets, the latter of which the Library of Congress has just announced plans to archive. The subjects of these communications are often spontaneous responses to what we're doing and thinking, both important and inane – but the personal perspective

unifies them both.

This perspective is the central focus to a number of pieces, such as Jennifer Dalton's "The Reappraisal" from 2009. Dalton systematically cataloged all of her possessions, wrote her own appraisals in terms of monetary value, and then had a professional do the same. One can envy the organizational tenacity of this project, but it is also esoteric and exhausting. It seems to echo the current voyeuristic fascination of objects, possessions and lifestyles.

Art and self-reflexive experience are writ large in Heather Willems' "Writing the Making." The installation consists of two massive scrolls unfurled from the ceiling, each about 40 feet by 9 feet. Willems spent up to 16 hours a day during eight weeks writing stream-of-consciousness style on these scrolls, creating a physical manifestation of that voice we usually only hear in our head.

And this is what that voice looks like. It's overwhelming in scale and scope, and is like drowning in a torrent of words. The volume



### Mary Kelly and Ray Barrie's "Love Songs: Multi-Story House" (2007)

of thoughts pouring forth – both important and inane – seems something like a handwritten account of Twitter traffic. Language becomes art, and art becomes artifact.

One of the most interesting pieces on view is Mary Kelly and Ray Barrie's "Love Songs: Multi-Story House" (2007). It's a small house built in the gallery space, and, yes, walk on in. From inside and out, carved statements reveal fragments of conversation on the feminist movement of the 1960s-1970s. It's a powerful

reflection on identity, a fight for justice and equality, and, interestingly, cultural diversity as the speakers' heritages are rooted in various places, such as Germany, Saudi Arabia, and Spain. It's an installation that envelops the viewer in this conversation and broadens the union of art and language in a powerful way that goes beyond the experience of the individual.

John Michael Kohler Art Center, 608 New York Ave., Sheboygan, 920-458-6144, <http://www.jmkac.org/>

## Artwatch

BY DEBRA BREHMER

Gallery Night on April 16, opened the flood gates of new shows in Milwaukee.

As this quarterly evening of art grazing has steadily grown, it seems that every hair salon, restaurant, shoe-shine shop, bank and law firm is climbing on the bandwagon. As a gallery owner, I could be snobby about this and tell everyone to stick to their own business. But the craziness of the night and the diversity of the art is all part of the fun. So, let the art run wild. Let it flood the streets and brothels. Let it dance in the rain and pour forth from

the gutters. Let us be showered with the good and the bad, the confusing and the self-indulgent, the ecstatic and the moribund. Diversity provides richness, but we never seem to learn that lesson fully.

With that said, here is one show that stood out from the crowd and another brief recommendation.

### Redline Milwaukee

1422 N. Fourth St.,  
414-491-9088

Rebecca Shoenecker graduated from the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design in 2002 and then earned an MFA at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Whoever said grad school doesn't make you strong is wrong. This young artist is

a whirling dervish of inter-media.

The large exhibition space at Redline (Milwaukee's newest non-profit art center) almost swallows up Shoenecker's work, but there's a gentle narrative thread to guide us along. Very clean, illustrational gouache paintings on paper are interspersed with stitched vintage fabric compositions and cut paper collages. All of these figurative odds and ends are pieces of a larger whole, which is the animated video in the first gallery area.

Shoenecker has invented a creation myth, loosely tied to ancient Egypt but swirled through her own gender blender. In the Egyptian creation myth, the first god stands on the first form (a

mound of silt by the Nile), which has emerged from dark nothingness. He then does what all good gods do when they are alone: He masturbates. From this act springs the world.

In Shoenecker's version, it is a woman god who discovers her own anatomy. From her resulting orgasm, a most interesting array of stuff spills forth from her vagina. The charm of the cut-paper characters and storybook video animation works well with her somewhat graphic imagery. There is a sustained and labor-intensive dignity to Shoenecker's overall enterprise that seems increasingly rare in today's fly-by, fast-food art world. Through June 19.



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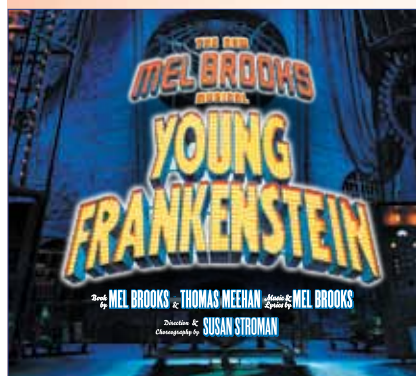
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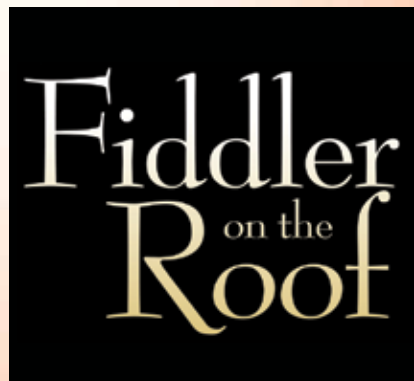
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PHOTO: MARK FROHNA

Mary MacDonald Kerr, Laura Gray and Linda Stephens in "The Sweetest Swing in Baseball"

## 'Sweetest Swing' sheds light on vulnerability

### Theater

By Harry Cherkinian

"Everything's white," says C. Michael Wright, pointing to the set model for his new show "The Sweetest Swing in Baseball," now playing at Milwaukee Chamber Theater. He goes on to explain the symbolism of the all-white art gallery and how it contrasts with the pastels of the mental institution, which plays a key role in the production. Wright is clearly proud of the design and the carefully thought-out meaning in the use of space and color.

Wright, who is MCT's producing artistic director, as well as the director of "Baseball," says that doing a play about baseball at the start of baseball season was coincidental. "I like a theme every season, and for our 35th anniversary season I wanted to celebrate artists," he says.

MCT's last production, "Duet for One," featured a musician (as well as Wright's return to the stage as an actor). "Baseball," by contemporary playwright Rebecca Gilman, deals with painting: Artist Dana Fielding is so obsessed with what others think of her, both personally and professionally, that she's driven to attempt sui-

cide. Dana pretends that she's baseball legend Darryl Strawberry, and she paints like the troubled sports star in order to force her insurance company to keep her there.

"This (script) spoke to me in a very personal way," Wright says. "As artists, we have highs and lows, and it's hard to have a sense of self and self-esteem. We're so fragile."

"The Sweetest Swing" gives the audience a glimpse into the vulnerable, dark side of public fame, adoration - and scrutiny. In these respects, there are parallels between the artist and the athlete, and Wright's goal is to point out their effects on human fragility. "Anyone can blog today. Everybody's a critic," he says. "Artists need to pick who to listen to and remain true to their artistic vision."

Dana and fellow patient Michael, who's an alcoholic and gay, find a way to reinvent themselves as they attempt to work through their issues.

Playwright Gilman is deliberate in her message of how defenseless and susceptible various populations are to the comments and actions of others. Through their states of "brokenness," Dana and Michael find that they can once again become whole by redefining who they are - separately and together.

Wright says that having audiences contemplate what

### ON STAGE

"The Sweetest Swing in Baseball" runs through May 2 in the Cabot Theater at the Broadway Theater Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800 or visit [www.milwaukeechambertheatre.com](http://www.milwaukeechambertheatre.com).

they've just seen in "Baseball" in terms of their own actions makes it an ideal theater experience.

"It's so much about an artist's life, and it's also so much about a public figure's life," Wright says. "I want to get people thinking about what happens when we talk about another human being's life. We're all so vulnerable."

# Perfect Harmony chorus offers diverse musical range

**By Harry Cherkinian**

*Contributing writer*

Perfect Harmony Men's Chorus has plenty to sing about these days. As the leading gay men's chorus in Madison, the group will celebrate its 15th anniversary next year and most likely release its second CD of recorded music, this one geared toward the holidays.

"We've had so many requests," says artistic director Ken Fortney. "We're going to try and get that in given all that we're doing."

Perfect Harmony is indeed doing a lot these days, including an upcoming concert May 22 on the UW-Madison campus. The group currently has 30 members, ranging in age from 20s to late 50s. Over its 15 years, 125 singers have been involved with the chorus.

PHMC was founded as a result of the HIV/AIDS crisis, and its toll on the Madison community. This gay chorus is actually Madison's third. "The first two choruses

died along with their directors in the late '80 and early '90s," Fortney says. "We're a continuation of what they started."

Fortney got involved in the first rehearsal of PHMC in September 1996. By July 1997 he was the accompanist and assistant music director.

## ON STAGE

Perfect Harmony performs "Broadway Our Way" at 7 p.m. May 22 at Mills Hall, UW-Madison Humanities Building, 455 N. Park St. (at University Avenue). Call 608-445-6767 or visit [www.perfectharmonychorus.org](http://www.perfectharmonychorus.org).

When the founding director died of HIV/AIDS in the summer of 1998, Fortney moved into administration before being named artistic director in 2003.

Volunteerism is an integral part of PHMC's suc-

cess. Jason Jellison, the first Milwaukee resident to be a full-time member of the group, commutes to Madison. He's a soloist and marketing volunteer.

Jellison is proud of the group's diverse musical range. "(We've) stacked every genre a choir can," he says. "Unlike many, many other choruses, the span of music the group does it tremendous."

Case in point: The group performed original commissions in honor of its 10th anniversary. Craig Carnahan composed music to a poem by Charles Dickens, "Things That Never Die," and Elizabeth Alexander set a Garrison Keillor quote to music entitled, "Tomorrow, God Willing." The group also performed a 600-year-old poem by William Shakespeare.

While these selections are far from mainstream, show tune aficionados will get to hear some of their favorite selections at the May 22 performance, which is titled "Broadway Our Way."



COURTESY PHOTO

**Perfect Harmony Men's Chorus has plenty to sing about these days.**

Included are popular songs from such Broadway shows as "Wicked," "Jersey Boys" and "Hairspray," as well as a number of Stephen Sondheim shows ("Company," "Merrily We Roll Along," "Into the

Woods" and "Sunday in the Park with George").

For PHMC, the musical creativity is just as important as the desire to reach all types of audiences.

"It (shows) our willing-

ness to step outside of what the stereotypical box would be for a gay men's chorus," Fortney says. "We do a wider range of music. We're in a smaller community, so we need to serve everybody."

**"A merry road map to fun!" - Milwaukee Journal Sentinel**

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by Roger Bean

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# TV's 'Ugly Betty' broke ground for Latinos, gays

By Laura Wides-Munoz

AP writer

During its four-year run, television's "Ugly Betty" skewered the New York fashion world, nabbing celebrity cameos from the likes of Lindsay Lohan, Shakira and Isaac Mizrahi.

It turned America Ferrera, who played the plucky but style-challenged Betty Suarez, into a household name. And it landed a prestigious Peabody Award.

As the credits rolled on the wacky dramedy's last episode April 14, Latino, gay rights groups and fans lamented more than the loss of Betty's cringe-inducing outfits and the melodrama of the Meade family — owners of the show's fictional fashion magazine Mode.

The hour-long show was also among the rare network programs to tackle such controversial issues as gay teens, body image and illegal immigration.

The show contrasted Betty's career at Mode with

her working class, Mexican immigrant family, including her widower father Ignacio, her impulsive older sister Hilda and her theater-loving, fashion expert nephew Justin, who came out as gay in this last season.

"Having this family at the center of the show made it normal to watch a Latino family in a non-stereotypical way," Ferrera said in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

Lisa Navarrete, a vice president for the National Council of La Raza, said the show's absence will leave a void.

"You don't have a lot of Latino-themed shows on TV, so when we lose 'Ugly Betty,' we will have a major loss," she said.

The brainchild of producer Silvio Horta and actress and producer Salma Hayek, "Ugly Betty" was based on a Colombian telenovela that became so popular it was copied in Mexico, Germany and elsewhere.

Most groundbreaking was the show's handling of its

gay and transgender characters, said Jarett Barrios, president of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. Although initially played for laughs,

"Ugly Betty" provided a sympathetic portrait of Meade scion Alex who transforms into the stunning Alexis.

And it followed the bumpy love life of Mode's gay fashion assistant Marc St. James.

But most of all, it showed how Betty's family accepted without fanfare Justin's love for musicals and the latest fashion trends, a tacit acceptance of his sexuality.

Then, in this final season, Justin got his first kiss with a boy.

Barrios said too often gay characters are depicted on TV as adults without families.

"A gay teen is also a son, a nephew, a grandson," he said. "As a man who is both Latino and gay (and a father), I liked the show because it depicted really my own experience and that of so many others in the United States."

**In this final season, Justin got his first kiss with a boy.**

Barrios said the show paved the way for network depictions of gay teens and families in shows such as "Glee," "Brothers & Sisters," and "Modern Family."

"There are certain things that people just don't expect anyone on television to talk about and whenever we dared to go there, it would make some people uncomfortable. But the only way to really make an impact and to inspire people to think is to venture into risky territory," Ferrera said.

For news updates visit [www.wisconsin Gazette.com](http://www.wisconsin Gazette.com).



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# Sophie B. Hawkins answers 10 questions

## Take 10

By Gregg Shapiro

1. You are currently writing a musical for Kristin Chenoweth. What was the first Broadway musical you ever saw?

SBH: The first Broadway musical I ever saw was "Fiddler On The Roof" in sixth-grade. The first musical I ever saw was Gilbert and Sullivan's "Pirates Of Penzance."

2. If you and Kristin had a thumb-wrestling match, who would win?

SBH: I think I would win

because I practiced thumb wrestling a lot as a kid. She was probably practicing singing and dancing.

3. Kristin has appeared on the TV show "Glee." If the kids in "Glee" were to do a Sophie B. Hawkins song, what should it be?

SBH: I wish the kids on "Glee" would sing "Heart And Soul Of A Woman" from my upcoming album "Dream Street & Chance."

4. You collaborated with Mary Steenburgen on the song "Gone Baby" from your upcoming album. What is your favorite Mary Steenburgen movie?

SBH: "The Butcher's Wife."

5. What does the "B" in

Sophie B. Hawkins stand for? SBH: The "B" stands for Ballantine.

6. You are mother to young son Dashiell. What would be on the menu for the greatest Mother's Day breakfast ever?

SBH: Strong coffee on the beach in Kauai.

7. You wanted to be a weather person when you were a child. What's your favorite season and your favorite climate?

SBH: My favorite season is autumn, and I love all climates. I love cold, snowy winters and hot, humid summers. I'm an adaptive person, and because I grew up on the East Coast, I romanticize that climate most.

### ON STAGE

Sophie B. Hawkins performs April 29 at Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi Bingo Casino, 1721 W. Canal, in Milwaukee. Call 414-847-7922.

But the truth is, I love to be where I am, and I fall in love with a lot of places.

8. After your show at Potawatomi, are you most likely to be found playing the slots or at the blackjack table?

SBH: I don't gamble, with money. All I want after the

show is a glass of red wine and some good conversation with Milwaukeeans. There is so much to discuss. If there's no good red wine, I love hot cocoa.

9. There has long been speculation about the object of Carly Simon's song "You're So Vain." To whom were you singing in your hit 1992 hit "Damn, I Wish I Was Your Lover"?

SBH: Before I answer that question, I haven't heard there was any speculation about the object of my desire in "Damn."

10. 1992 was almost 20 years ago. Sophie, where does the time go?

SBH: I know, it feels like yesterday, but you know what? I feel I'm in the perfect place



**Sophie B. Hawkins says she's in the perfect place right now.**

right now, just like then, and the road makes sense.

## Rise, fall, rise of Verace

The first bullet that hit Gianni Versace also fatally wounded a mourning dove.

That is the kind of detail readers get from Wall Street Journal reporter and author Deborah Ball in her riveting "House of Versace: The Untold Story of Genius, Murder and Survival," a new non-fiction work from Random House/Crown Publishing that must be on some desks in Hollywood.

Ball knows her job well — how to research, interview, report and write. For "House" she conducted 220 interviews with friends, family, former lovers, co-workers, rivals and business partners of the Versaces, as well as reviewed three decades of financial records, historical footage of runway shows, police reports and public records in Milan and Calabria, New York and Miami. Prior to writing the book, she worked in Milan and Rome.

"House of Versace" begins right where a reader wants, with the end of Gianni Versace's life and the prince's funeral that sister Donatella demanded and designed.

Versace's death, the hunt for spree-killer Andrew Cunanan and the funeral,

## Books

By Lisa Neff

to be followed weeks later by the funeral for Princess Diana, dominated the news in the summer of 1997.

But Ball delivers details that either never made it into newsprint or were buried deep in the stories.

Ball writes, "The house of Versace produced the funeral as if it were the ultimate fashion show — which it was. Staffers sent invitations to the house's favorite stars, who were then booked at the Four Seasons, the five-star hotel next door to Versace's headquarters...."

"Around the clock, they churned out sober outfits for the female members of the Versace family, as well as for VIPs such as Princess Diana and Naomi Campbell. Assistants then laid out the outfits — complete with handbags, black lace veils and shoes — in their hotel suites."

Remember the image of a grieving Elton John at the funeral, with boyfriend David Furnish on his left and Princess Diana on his right? If not, it's among the collected photos in "The House of Versace." Ball writes, "Front and center was Elton John, his pudgy frame swathed in a dark Versace jacket with a Chinese-style high collar. With his single earring and pageboy haircut, he resembled an aging schoolboy. ...

David, fresh-faced in an open-necked white shirt and dark jacket, sat alongside Elton, protectively patting the arm of his lover."

Hooked?

After the opening chapter, Ball takes up the lesser-known but powerful legend of the humble beginnings of a poor, gay, ambitious young man from Southern Italy in the 1950s. As she weaves the rags-to-riches story and charts the slow construction of the house of Versace, Ball writes of celebrity courtship, fashion feuds, supermodel fits, sibling rivalries and a life of opulent and sometimes sordid extravagance.

Soon enough — because Ball's book reads fast, as if the author expects readers to be as fickle as fashion critics, and maybe we are — the narrative returns to that hot, clear morning in South Beach when a restless 50-year-old Versace took a stroll to the popular News Cafe for coffee and the latest issues of the New Yorker, People, Vogue, Entertainment Weekly and a Spanish-language Newsweek.

When he returned to his mansion, Versace was unaware that Cunanan, with his .40-caliber Taurus handgun, had climbed the stairs behind him.

Here, "House of Versace" becomes a true-crime tale — one a bedtime reader won't leave until sleep simply overcomes — the tale of Cunanan's cross-country crime spree and the national manhunt that involved mul-

tiples law enforcement agencies from the federal to state to local level.

The final chapters of the book are the least enthralling — "the survival" chapters

referenced in the title that explore the family fight to carry on the Versace business, if not exactly Gianni Versace's style. With the most charismatic and sym-

pathetic character in the "House" gone, those final chapters come across like a movie that missed its ending.

I guess the same has been said of the house of Versace.

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# Runs in the family

## JAKOB DYLAN

Did Jakob Dylan have any choice about becoming a musician like his father Bob? Was it written in his DNA?

Success didn't come immediately for Jakob and his band The Wallflowers, but they didn't have to wait long. T-Bone Burnett produced their second album, 1996's "Bringing Down The Horse," providing them with their first hits, including "One Headlight" and "6th Avenue Heartache." Even though the three albums that followed were decent, they didn't provide hits on the same level.

The Wallflowers' retrospective "Collection 1996-2005" (Interscope) collects 14 of their most popular tunes and tosses in a couple of previously unreleased tracks for good measure.

Jakob Dylan's first solo album, "Seeing Things," was a more stripped-down effort, closer in spirit and energy to his father's work. But it's with his second album "Women + Country" (Columbia), on which he reunites with Burnett, that he truly comes

## Music

By Gregg Shapiro

into his own. Living up to the album's title twang, Dylan is joined by powerhouse vocalists Neko Case and Kelly Hogan, insurgent country divas of the highest order. They sweeten songs such as "Nothing But The Whole Wide World," "Down On Your Own Shield" and "Holy Rollers For Love."

Additionally, Dylan tries on some new musical hats, including the gritty Tom Waits-in-New-Orleans of "Lend A Hand" and the Leonard Cohen ring of "Everybody's Hurting."

## JUSTIN TOWNES EARLE

Even more than Jakob Dylan, Justin Townes Earle sounds remarkably like his father Steve on "Midnight at The Movies," the title tune to his new Bloodshot Records release. Like his father, Justin has a knack for capturing a

mood and tapping the emotional nerve on that song, as well as on "Mama's Eyes," "Someday I'll Be Forgiven For This" and "Here We Go Again." He can also cut loose, as he does "Black Eyed Suzy," "Halfway To Jackson" and "Walk Out." And his read of The Replacements' "Can't Hardly Wait" digs up the song's country roots. Earle's 2008 disc "The Good Life" (Bloodshot) is also strongly recommended.

## PEARL ADAY

Pearl Aday (daughter of Marvin, a.k.a. Meat Loaf) screams that she's a "rock child" with such conviction on the song of the same name that we have little choice but to take her at her word. The wife of Scott Ian of Anthrax, Aday mines the metal on the album "Little White Immaculate Fox" (Megaforce) by her band Pearl. Inheriting a powerful voice from her father, Aday can play it cool ("Mama," "My Heart Isn't In It") or bring it to a boil ("Love Pyre," "Whore") at a moment's notice. A cover of

Tina Turner's "Nutbush City Limits" allows Pearl to exhibit her good taste.

## SLOAN WAINWRIGHT AND JEN CHAPIN

Singer/songwriter Sloan Wainwright is the kid sister of Loudon Wainwright III. She is also the aunt of Rufus and Martha Wainwright.

On "Rediscovery" (Derby Disc Music), she turns her attention and gorgeous voice to the songs of others, performing 10 cover tunes. Among the highlights are her renditions of Nick Drake's "Time of No Reply," Neil Young's "After the Goldrush," George Harrison's "All Things Must Pass," Dylan's "Every Grain of Sand," John Lennon's "Love" and a mind-blowing reading of Marvin Gaye's "Mercy Me (The Ecology)."

Another impressive set of covers are rendered by Jen Chapin (daughter of Harry & Rosetta Trio on "Light of Mine" (jenchapin.com). The CD/DVD package features Chapin's breathtaking interpretations of Radiohead's "Backdrifts," Springsteen's "American Skin (41 Shots)," Bowie's "Starman," Sly & the



**Jakob Dylan performs April 28 at The Pabst, 144 E. Wells, in Milwaukee. Call 414-286-3663.**

Family Stone's "Everybody Is A Star," Joni's "Sunny Sunday" and Stevie Wonder's "You Haven't Done Nothin'," along with a couple of Chapin originals.

## JULIAN LENNON AND DHANI HARRISON

Julian Lennon was the first of the Beatles' offspring to release an album. "Valotte," released in 1984, was a critical and commercial success ("Too Late For Goodbyes" was a hit single and he earned a Grammy nomination).

But Lennon's subsequent albums were not as well received. "The Secret Value of Daydreaming" from 1986,

"Mr. Jordan" (on which he sounds like he's channeling David Bowie) from 1989 and "Help Yourself" from 1991 are all newly reissued on Noble Rot. Of the three, "Help Yourself" is the sound of Lennon finally becoming his own artist, without forgetting his roots (listen to "Saltwater").

When George Harrison's son Dhani isn't working on projects related to the Beatles or his father, he finds time to make his own music with his band thenewno2. The group's album "You Are Here" (thenewno2.com) has a Radiohead-meets-Bowie sound that is at once foreign and familiar.

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MARC PETROCCI. PHOTO: JESSICA KAMINSKI





"The Joneses"

## Film

By Gregg Shapiro

### "DATE NIGHT"

(20th Century Fox)

In many ways, "Date Night" could have gone as wrong as the titular evening does in the movie. We've seen it happen before, most recently in big-fish-out-of-water fare such as "Did You Hear About The Morgans?" with Sarah Jessica Parker and Hugh Grant.

But it's to the credit of comedic co-stars Tina Fey and Steve Carell that this flick clicks. Their comic chemistry warms the screen.

Resigned to their roles as suburban New Jersey dwellers with a couple of undisciplined children, tax lawyer Phil Foster (Carell) and real estate agent Claire Foster (Fey) do what they can to keep the spark in their marriage. Date night in Manhattan is one of the ways.

Showing up at a trendy hot spot without a reservation, where they are dissed by the host, the Fosters get even by taking a reservation for the Tripplehornes. Little do they know that the identities of the Tripplehornes will take them to places they never imagined.

The first place is the alley behind the restaurant, escorted by a pair of goons inquiring about a stolen flash drive belonging to a ruthless mobster (an uncredited Ray Liotta). Escaping from the clutches of the thugs, Phil and Claire head to the police station to file a report with

Detective Arroyo (Taraji P. Henson), only to discover that the goons they evaded are actually cops Armstrong (Jimmi Simpson) and Collins (Common). On the run, again, Phil and Claire meet up with government tech whiz Holbrooke (a shirtless and fit Mark Wahlberg), a former real estate client of Claire's, who kindly offers some assistance.

Eventually they find the "Tripplehornes" (not their real name), Taste (James Franco) and Whippet (Mila Kunis), who reveal to them the contents of the flash drive and then pass it off to them as they evacuate the premises. From there, "Date Night" turns into a fright night of car chases and crashes, sleazy strip clubs, sexually freaky politicians and return visits to Holbrooke (yum!). Ultimately, the date night-mare misadventures provide just the fix the Fosters needed for their marriage. But watching them get there is more than half the fun.

### "THE JONESES"

(Echo Lake)

Keeping up with the Joneses is harder than you think, especially when they are a pre-fab clan planted in an upscale suburban neighborhood by a faceless consumer corporation to "do some damage." But that's precisely what happens when the Jones family — father Steven (David Duchovny), mother Kate (Demi Moore), son Mick (Ben Hollingsworth) and daughter Jenn (Amber Heard) — moves into one of the biggest houses on a block full of newly constructed mansions.

Under the watchful eye of KC (Lauren Hutton), the family parades around in high-priced duds, drives an array of shiny new Audis, adorns themselves with expensive jewelry and has a home decorated in the latest in design trends, complete with all of the cutting-edge toys and gadgets technology has to offer. All they have to do is maintain the façade (in spite of the fact that Steven and Kate sleep in separate bedrooms and Jenn wants to bed Steven) and get their well-to-do neighbors to take note of their goods and go out and spend, spend, spend.

All goes well until, little by little, the cracks begin to show. Less well-off neighbors Larry (Gary Cole) and Summer (Glenne Headley) do their damndest to keep up until tragedy strikes. High-schooler Jenn is sleeping with a married man. Mick misinterprets signals from a classmate and ends up getting beaten up pretty badly, leading to his coming out as gay. And in spite of making every effort to keep a professional distance between herself and Steven (a failed golf pro and car salesman), because she is his superior, Kate realizes she has feelings for him, threatening the style of living to which she has become accustomed.

At turns funny and serious, writer/director Derrick Borte's "The Joneses" does a respectable job of commenting on consumer culture and its negative impact on society. Moore and Duchovny are pleasant to watch together and bring a level of glamour to the movie, while supporting players Headley and Cole prove that they can hold their own.



SM

## Milwaukee LGBT Community Center

### BREAST CANCER CAN AFFECT ANY BODY

Protect yourself by increasing your breast health awareness and by learning which breast screening tests are recommended for you, and getting referred for appropriate services. Breast cancer can develop in any type or amount of breast tissue. *When you should start breast cancer screening depends upon your level of risk.* Find out how breast cancer screening could help you protect your health by contacting Claudia Kabler-Babbitt at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center at 414-292-3061 or [ckb@mkelgbt.org](mailto:ckb@mkelgbt.org).



The LGBT Breast Health Program is funded by a grant from the Southeast Wisconsin Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen for the Cure®.

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## On stage

By Gregg Shapiro

**\* Denotes LGBT performer or venue**

### April 22, Thursday

\*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Noche De Divas, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire" runs through May 8 at Carte Blanche Studios Theatre, 1024 S. Fifth. Call 262-716-4689.

Trans-Siberian Orchestra plays The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin, at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

"Almost, Maine" runs through May 9 at Overture Center for the Arts, 201 State in Madison. Call 608-258-4141.

The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison, presents Blackwell Beauties with Fuck Knights and The Cloth Sea at 10 p.m. Call 608-819-8777. High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison, has Red Sparowes and Caspian at 9 p.m. Call 608-268-1122.

### April 23, Friday

\*Renaissance Theaterworks' "American Fiesta" by Steven Tomlinson, directed by Jenny Wanasek and featuring John McGivern, runs through May 23 at Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800.

\*Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood in Madison, presents a duo performance by the Indigo Girls at 8 p.m. Call 608-241-2345.

\*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Divas Night, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

Anoushka Shankar performs at 8 p.m. at The Pabst, 144 E. Wells. Call 414-286-3663.

The Pub Theater presents "Bye Bye Liver: The Milwaukee Drinking Play," featuring a cast of some of Milwaukee's finest comedy and sketch artists, Fridays and Saturdays at 9 p.m. at Mi-Key's Skylight Room, 811 N. Jefferson. Call 414-312-4388.

The Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi

Bingo Casino, 1721 W. Canal, presents Daryl Stuermer: Genesis Rewired at 9 p.m. Call 414-847-7922.

Greg Koch Trio plays Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, at 8 p.m. Call 414-276-7288.

Grace Weber Band performs at 8 p.m. at Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth. Call 414-286-3663.

The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison, has Flight with The Record Low and Surgeons in Heat at 10 p.m. Call 608-819-8777.

High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison, hosts An Evening with Ben Kaufmann & Adam Aijala of Yonder Mountain String Band at 9:30 p.m. Call 608-268-1122.

Majestic, 115 King in Madison, presents F. Stokes with Psalm One and Vinnie Toma at 8 p.m. Call 608-251-2582.

### April 24, Saturday

\*Gay singer/songwriter Scott Malcolm performs at Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second, at 8 p.m. Call 414-383-3727.

\*The MadKings present Kingstock IV at 8 p.m. at the Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood in Madison. Call 608-241-2345.

\*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Noche De Divas, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

Florentine Opera's studio artists appear in "Opera Scene Showcase," with staged scenes from Puccini, Rossini, Leoncavallo, Verdi, Bizet and Copland, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wayne and Kristine Lueders Florentine Opera Center, 926 E. Burleigh. Call 414-291-5700 ext. 224.

Comedian/actor Demetri Martin (from Ang Lee's "Taking Woodstock") comes to The Pabst, 144 E. Wells, at 7 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

Philip Gatewood Band performs at 8 p.m. at Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell. Call 414-276-7288

Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth, presents Amos Lee at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

Adam's Great Race is at Bay View Brew Haus, 2535 S. Kinnickinnic, at 9 p.m. Call 414-481-8060.

Mark Knopfler, of Dire Straits, plays The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin, at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

The Annex, 1206 Regent

in Madison, welcomes Lovehammers at 9:30 p.m.

High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison, presents White Rabbits and Here We Go Magic at 9:30 p.m. Call 608-268-1122.

Martin Sexton performs at 9 p.m. at the Majestic, 115 King in Madison. Call 608-251-2582.

### April 25, Sunday

\*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Divas Night, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

\*Club 5 Bar, 5 Applegate Court in Madison, presents a live female impersonator show, at 10 p.m. Call 608-277-9700.

Festival City Symphony presents "I Like Tchaik" at 8 p.m. at The Pabst, 144 E. Wells. Call 414-286-3663.

The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison, welcomes Sugar Glyder with Waste Of A Jason and Jacob Green at 8 p.m. Call 608-819-8777.

Majestic, 115 King in Madison, has Amos Lee and Tift Merritt at 7:30 p.m. Call 608-251-2582.

### April 26, Monday

\*Out Sigur Rós front man Jón Jónsi Thor Birgisson performs at 8 p.m. at The Pabst, 144 E. Wells. Call 414-286-3663.

High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison, presents Free Energy and Jesse Malin at 8 p.m. Call 608-268-1122.

### April 27, Tuesday

The Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi Bingo Casino, 1721 W. Canal, hosts Queensryche Cabaret at 8 p.m. tonight and tomorrow night. Call 414-847-7922.

Ott performs at 9 p.m. at the Majestic, 115 King in Madison. Call 608-251-2582.

### April 28, Wednesday

The Pabst, 144 E. Wells, presents Jakob Dylan and Three Legs featuring Neko Case and Kelly Hogan at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

Boulevard Theatre, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic, presents the Midwest premiere of Patricia Durante & Betsy Tuxill's play "It's Your Mother!" through May 9. Call 414-744-5747 or visit www.boulevardtheatre.com.

At 7 p.m., the Too Fast For Love Tour with 3OH!3, Cobra Starship, Travie McCoy

and The Lazarus Project and Fight Dragons, arrives at The Rave, 2401 W. Wisconsin. Call 414-342-RAVE.

The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison, welcomes Jasper Rude with Edens Empire at 10 p.m. Call 608-819-8777.

Yeasayer performs at 9 p.m. at the Majestic, 115 King in Madison. Call 608-251-2582.

### April 29, Thursday

\*The Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi Bingo Casino, 1721 W. Canal, presents the one and only Sophie B. Hawkins at 8 p.m. Call 414-847-7922.

\*Harbor Room, 117 E. Greenfield, presents The Historical Mystery Band with Jerry Grillo at 8 p.m. Call 414-672-7988.

\*Out singer/songwriter Chris Pureka plays Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, with Peasant, at 8 p.m. Call 414-276-7288.

\*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Noche De Divas, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

Comedian and late-night TV host Craig Ferguson is at The Pabst, 144 E. Wells, at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

"Reefer Madness, The Musical" runs through May 2 at Off The Wall Theatre, 127 E. Wells. Call 414-327-3552.

Milwaukee Chamber Theater's production of "The Sweetest Swing in Baseball" runs through May 2 at Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800.

The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin, welcomes NOFX at 7:30 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison, has Future Rock and Kinetix at 9 p.m. Call 608-268-1122.

Majestic, 115 King in Madison, welcomes Los Campesinos! with Cymbals Eat Guitars at 9 p.m. Call 608-251-2582.

### April 30, Friday

\*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Divas Night, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

Public Image Limited PiL, with John Lydon a.k.a. Rotten, performs at 8 p.m. at The Pabst, 144 E. Wells. Call 414-286-3663.

It's not just another Frantic



**Jerry Grillo and The Historical Mystery Band are at Harbor Room, 117 E. Greenfield, April 29.**

Friday when the Bangles play The Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi Bingo Casino, 1721 W. Canal, at 8 p.m. Call 414-847-7922.

Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, presents Aaron Williams and The Hoodoo and Hounds Tooth at 8 p.m. Call 414-276-7288.

Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth, has Kings Go Forth at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

Majestic, 115 King in Madison, welcomes Steel Magnolia with Pat Watters at 7 p.m. Call 608-251-2582.

### May 1, Saturday

\*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Noche De Divas, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

Brother Ali plays Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth, at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, has 2MorroW EvRAfteR at 8 p.m. Call 414-276-7288.

Dead Man's Carnival performs at 9 p.m. at Bay View Brew Haus, 2535 S. Kinnickinnic. Call 414-481-8060.

The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison, presents Ten Ten with National Overdrive, Green Sweater Society, Transient, Fortune and Glory at 10 p.m. Call 608-819-8777.

Majestic, 115 King in Madison, welcomes DJ Rekha at 9 p.m. Call 608-251-2582.

### May 2, Sunday

\*Out singer/songwriter Chris Pureka plays High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison, with Peasant, at 8 p.m. Call 608-268-1122.

\*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Divas Night, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

\*Club 5 Bar, 5 Applegate Court in Madison, hosts a live female impersonator show at 10 p.m. Call 608-277-9700.

Shelby Lynne and Findlay Brown Band are at Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth, at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

The Rave, 2401 W. Wisconsin, has Owl City, Lights and Paper Route. Call 414-342-RAVE.

### May 3, Monday

Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth, presents Apples in Stereo at 8 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison, welcomes Weedeater and The Antiprism at 8 p.m. Call 608-268-1122.

### May 4, Tuesday

Country diva Wynonna performs at 7:30 p.m. at The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin. Call 414-286-3663.

### May 5, Wednesday

The Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi Bingo Casino, 1721 W. Canal, presents Rick Springfield through May 8 at 8 p.m. Call 414-847-7922.

The Frequency, 121 W. Main in Madison, welcomes Everybody Was In The French Resistance...Now! at 9 p.m. Call 608-819-8777.

### May 6, Thursday

\*RSVP Productions presents "Fresh Brewed-tales from the coffee bar" by Henry Meyerson through May 8 at 7:30 p.m. at Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second. Call 414-383-3727.

\*Katie Todd Band plays Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, at 8 p.m. Call 414-276-7288.

\*Tropical Night Club, 626 S. Fifth, hosts Noche De Divas, with a show beginning at 11 p.m. Call 414-630-6055 or 414-460-6277.

## DVDs

By Gregg Shapiro

**"ADAM"**

(Fox Searchlight)

The titular character of the non-traditional love story "Adam" (hot Hugh Dancy) is an electronics engineer at toy company called Replay Inc. He has just lost his father, with whom he shared an apartment in New York. Adam possesses nearly infinite knowledge of outer space, but what he doesn't have are social skills. We see this firsthand when Adam, who has Asperger's Disorder, meets schoolteacher Beth (Rose Byrne), his new neighbor.

A romantic attraction develops between the two, and soon we are watching the latest in a series of unconventional love stories, including 2009's "Away We Go" and "(500) Days of Summer." Beth's father Marty (Peter Gallagher, whose eyebrows are under control, even if his acting isn't) points out that Adam's "not prime relationship material," but he's one

to talk. He's a financier who's about to be indicted and is getting busted for being unfaithful to his wife.

The interesting story of Adam and Beth almost gets derailed by the one about her family, but in the end it triumphs. DVD bonus features include a writer/director commentary, an alternate ending, alternate and deleted scenes and more.

**"LITTLE ASHES"**

(EI/Regent)

A breeze was blowing through Spain in 1922, signaling the socio-political changes to come. At the student residence in Madrid, poet Federico Garcia Lorca (Javier Beltrán) and future filmmaker Luis Buñuel (Matthew McNulty) befriend eccentric new arrival Salvador Dali (Robert Pattinson). "Little Ashes" is Paul Morrison's cinematic depiction of their tempestuous association.

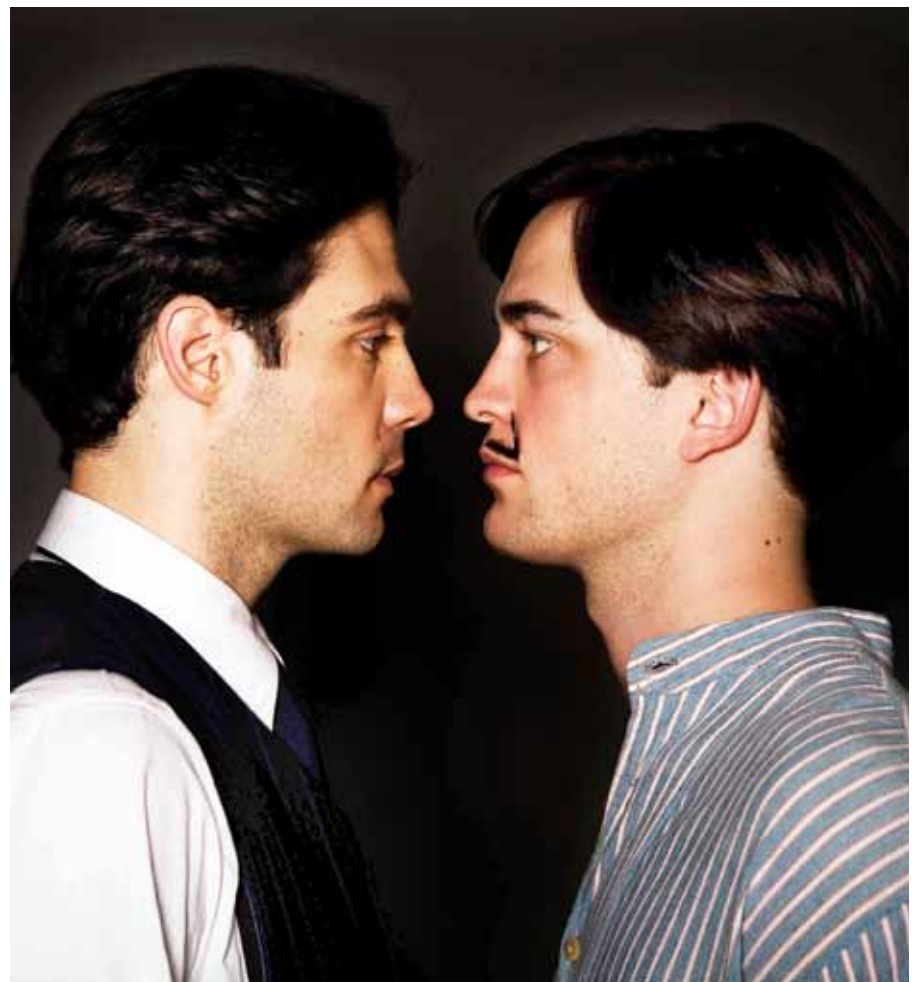
Bisexual Lorca is immediately drawn to Dali, and the feeling is obviously mutual, although the socially awkward Dali is unsure how to proceed. Meanwhile the virulently homophobic Buñuel is both intrigued and repelled

by Dali.

The chameleon-like Dali soon transforms himself into a more acceptable member of the student body, as well as a genuine object of desire. As the relationship between Lorca and Dali develops, Buñuel grows more suspicious and begins to distance himself from the pair. He also finds a way to come between them by encouraging Dali to abandon provincial Madrid for Paris.

Dali's departure almost destroys Lorca, but the duo is reunited a few more times, including when Lorca travels to Paris and meets Gala (Arly Jover), Dali's wife (who encourages her husband's fluid sexuality). Tragically, Lorca's outspokenness in terms of his politics eventually catches up with him, cutting his promising life short.

Pattinson, star of the "Twilight" series, shines here. His depiction of Dali contains just the right flourishes of surrealism. Beltrán is also exceptional, effortlessly capturing the poetic sensitivity necessary to honor Lorca's legacy. DVD bonus features include interviews with the cast and director.



Matthew McNulty and Robert Pattinson in "Little Ashes"

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# COMMUNITY LISTINGS

## MILWAUKEE

### Arts/entertainment

Cream City Squares, 414-445-8080.

Men's Voices Milwaukee Chorus, Plymouth Church, 2717 E. Hampshire St., Shorewood, 414-964-1513.

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second St., 414-383-3727.

Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival, 414-229-4758, [www4.uwm.edu/psoa/programs/film/lgbtfilm](http://www4.uwm.edu/psoa/programs/film/lgbtfilm).

Queer Program, P.O. Box 090441, Milwaukee, 53209, 414-265-8500.

Queer Zine Archive Project, 2935 N. Fratney St.

Shoreline Country Dancers, 818 S. Water St. (Hot Water Bar), [www.shoreline-milw.org](http://www.shoreline-milw.org).

Wisconsin Cream City Chorus, 315 W. Court St., Suite 101, 414-276-8787.

### Community

Bay View Gays, 414-482-3796, [www.bvgays.com](http://www.bvgays.com).

BWMT Milwaukee (Black & White Men Together), P.O. Box 1091475, Milwaukee, 53209, 414-463-5359.

CONNEXUS/African American LGBT Social and Educational Program, 2439 N. Holton, Milwaukee, WI 53212, 414-390-0444.

Cream City Foundation, 759 N. Milwaukee St., Suite 212, 414-225-0244.

Equality Wisconsin, 2717 E. Hampshire, Milwaukee, 53211, 414-431-1306, [www.equalitywi.org](http://www.equalitywi.org).

Firebirds, P.O. Box 159, Milwaukee, 53201.

FORGE, PO Box 1272, Milwaukee, WI 53201, [www.forge-forward.org](http://www.forge-forward.org).

GAMMA-Milwaukee, P.O. Box 1900, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1900, 414-530-1886, [www.milwaukeegamma.com](http://www.milwaukeegamma.com)  
G/L Community Center,

904 S. 1st St., 414-643-1652.  
G/L Community Trust Fund, P.O. Box 1686, Milwaukee, WI 53201, 414-643-1652.

Gemini Gender Group, P.O. Box 44211, Milwaukee, WI 53214.

Lesbian Alliance, 315 W. Court St., 414-272-9442.

Lesbian Fund of the Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee, 316 N. Milwaukee Street, Suite 215, 414-290-7350, [www.womensfund.com](http://www.womensfund.com).

LOC/Women of color, P.O. Box 93594, Milwaukee, WI 53203, 414-263-1631.

Log Cabin Republicans, P.O. Box 199, Milwaukee, 53201, 414-755-1954.

Milwaukee Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Community Center, 315 W. Court St., Suite 101, 414-271-2656, [www.mkelgbt.org](http://www.mkelgbt.org).

Milwaukee LGBT History Project, 414-224-0517, [www.mkelgbthist.org](http://www.mkelgbthist.org).

PFLAG-Milwaukee, 315 W. Court St., 414-299-9198.

Pridefest, 315 W. Court St., Suite 203, 414-272-3378, [www.pridefest.com](http://www.pridefest.com).

Pride Parade, [www.prideparademke.com](http://www.prideparademke.com).

SAGE Milwaukee, 1845 N. Farwell Ave., Suite 220, 414-224-0517.

SHEBA/Sisters Helping Each other Battle AIDS, 2439 N. Holton, Milwaukee, WI 53212, 414-390-0444.

WanderWomyn Outdoors Group, [debydoo2@yahoo.com](mailto:debydoo2@yahoo.com).

Washington Heights Rainbow Association, 414-217-1571, on Facebook.

Wisconsin Rainbow Families, 315 W. Court St., Room 112, [info@wirainbowfamilies.com](mailto:info@wirainbowfamilies.com).

### Health

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, 820 N. Plankinton Ave., 414-273-1991.

BEST D Clinic, 1240 E. Brady St., 414-272-2144.

Diverse and Resilient, 2439 N. Holton St., 414-390-0444, [www.diverseandresilient.org](http://www.diverseandresilient.org).

Galano Club, 315 W. Court Street, Suite 201-A, 414-276-6936.

Health Institute of Milwaukee, 1817 N. Martin Luther King Drive, Suite 3, 414-263-9999.

Milwaukee Women's Center, 611 N. Broadway, Suite 230, 414-272-6199.

STD Specialties Clinic, 3251 N. Holton St., Milwaukee, 414-264-8800, [www.stdspecialties.org](http://www.stdspecialties.org).

Walker's Point Community Clinic, 611 W. National Ave., Suite 400, 414-384-1400.

### Religion/spirituality

Central United Methodist Church, 639 N. 25th St., 414-344-1600.

Congregation Shir Hadash, 414-297-9159, [www.cshmilw.org](http://www.cshmilw.org).

Cross Lutheran Church,

1821 N. 16th St., 414-344-1746.

Divine Word Lutheran Church, 5505 W. Lloyd St., 414-476-3189.

First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee, 1342 N. Astor St., 414-273-5257.

Lake Park Lutheran Church, 2647 N. Stowell Ave., 414-962-9190.

Metropolitan Community Church, 1239 W. Mineral St., 414-383-1100.

Milwaukee Friends Meeting (Quakers), 3224 N. Gordon Place.

Plymouth Church, 2717 E. Hampshire Ave., Milwaukee, 414-964-1513.

St. James Episcopal Church, 833 W. Wisconsin Ave., 414-271-1340.

### Sports

Front Runners/Front Walkers, 414-443-0379.

Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club, 414-616-3716.

Milwaukee Gay Soccer League, 1012 E. Clarke St., 414-405-5878, [www.milwaukeegayssoccer.org](http://www.milwaukeegayssoccer.org).

Milwaukee Gay Volleyball League, [milwaukeegayvolleyball.com](http://milwaukeegayvolleyball.com).

Saturday Softball Beer League, 2333 N. 56th St., 414-350-7147, [www.ssblmilwaukee.com](http://www.ssblmilwaukee.com).

### Youth/education

Alliance School, 850 W. Walnut St., 414-227-2550, [www.allianceschool.org](http://www.allianceschool.org).

Alliance for LGBTQ Youth, 1212 S. 70th St., 414-453-1400, [www.cssw.org](http://www.cssw.org).

Gay Youth Milwaukee, P.O. Box 090441, Milwaukee, WI 53209, 414-265-8500.

LGBT Resource Center a UWM, U.W.-M. Student Union, P.O. Box 413, Milwaukee, 53201, 414-229-4116.

Marquette U G/L Alumni, P.O. Box 92722, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

Marquette Univ. Gay/Straight Alliance, 1442 W. Wisconsin Ave.

Project Q, 315 W. Court St., Suite 101, 414-223-3220.  
Rainbow Alliance at



UWM, 220 E. Kenwood Ave., 414-229-6555.

UWM LGBT Resource Center, UWM Union WG89, [www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/LGBT](http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/LGBT).

## KENOSHA

### Religion/spirituality

Bradford Community Church-Unitarian Universalist, 5810 8th Ave., 262-656-0544.

## MADISON

### Arts/entertainment

Dairyland Cowboys and Cowgirls, Club 5, 5 Applegate Court, 608-277-9700.

### Community

OutReach, 600 Williamson St., 608-255-8582, [www.lgbt-toutreach.org](http://www.lgbt-toutreach.org).

### Politics

Fair Wisconsin, 122 State, Suite 500, 608-441-0143, [www.actionwisconsin.com](http://www.actionwisconsin.com).

### Sports

Madison Gay Hockey Association, [www.madison-gayhockey.org/](http://www.madison-gayhockey.org/)  
Madison Volleyball Group, 608-251-8716

## RACINE

### Community

LGBT Center of Southeast Wisconsin, 1456 Junction Ave., 262-664-4100, [www.lgbtsewisc.org](http://www.lgbtsewisc.org).



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# Calendar

WHAT'S GOING ON?

## ONGOING

Mondays, Wednesdays-Saturdays, the LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin, 1456 Junction Ave., Racine, holds drop-in hours. Info: [www.lgbtsewisc.org](http://www.lgbtsewisc.org), 262-664-4100.

## THURSDAY

2:30 p.m., first and third Thursdays, LGBT senior adults discussion, Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin St., Madison. Info: [ferington@charter.net](mailto:ferington@charter.net).

6 p.m., third Thursdays, same-sex parents group, OutReach, 600 Williamson St., Madison. Info: 608-255-8582, [www.lgb-toutreach.org](http://www.lgb-toutreach.org).

7 p.m., third Thursdays, Lesbian Alliance movie night,

LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee. Info: 414-272-9442

7 p.m., AA Living Sober; 7 p.m., Crystal Meth Anonymous, The Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., No. 201, Milwaukee. Info: 414-276-6936, [galanoclub.org](http://galanoclub.org).

6 p.m., QGrads, UW Memorial Union Rathskeller, 800 Langdon St., Madison.

7:30 p.m., Four Lakes Bears, Michelangelo's Coffee Shop, 114 State St., Madison. Info: 608-251-5299.

## FRIDAY

5:30 p.m., second and fourth Fridays, Pozitive Lite HIV/AIDS group, OutReach, 600 Williamson St., Madison. Info: 608-255-8582,

6 p.m., second Fridays, Lesbian Alliance game night and potluck, LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee. Info: 414-272-9442;

7 p.m., AA, The Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., No. 201, Milwaukee. Info: 414-276-6936.

7 p.m., Gay Narcotics Anonymous, 315 W. Court St., Second Fl., Milwaukee. Info: 414-276-6936.

8:30 p.m., second and fourth Fridays, Shoreline Milwaukee line dancing and lessons, Hot Water, 818 S. Water St., Milwaukee. Info: 414-383-7593,

## SATURDAY

9 a.m., Frontrunners/Walkers Milwaukee Run Walk, starting at the Water Tower at the East end

of North Avenue, Milwaukee. Info: 262-285-7645.

9 a.m., Frontrunners/Frontwalkers Madison, Wingra Park off Monroe Street, Madison. Info: 469-4882

6 p.m., AA The Women's Light Meeting; 7:30 p.m., Spiritual Light, The Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., No. 201, Milwaukee. Info: 414-276-6936,

7-8:30 p.m., BWMT (Black and White Men Together), general meeting third Saturday each month.

## SUNDAY

1 p.m., Cream City Squares dances, Lake Park Lutheran Church 2647 N. Stowell, Milwaukee.

7 p.m., AA The Big Book

Meeting, The Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., No. 201, Milwaukee, 414-276-6936.

5 p.m., OutThere LGBT youth group meeting, OutReach-Gateway Mall, 600 Williamson St., Madison, 608-255-8582.

5 p.m., PFLAG Milwaukee, 3rd Sunday each month, Martin Luther Church, 9235 W. Bluemound Road, Wauwatosa.

## MONDAY

7:30 p.m., AA Came to Believe, The Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., No. 201, Milwaukee. Info: 414-276-6936

## TUESDAY

12:30 p.m., third Thursday,

Retired Old/Older Lesbians (ROLLers), Madison, 608-219-7751.

5 p.m., AA Over 40, and 7 p.m., AA The Blue Group, The Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., No. 201, Milwaukee, 414-276-6936, [galanoclub.org](http://galanoclub.org).

7 p.m., Spectrum GLBT and allied social group for adults Harmony Cafe-Green 1660 W. Mason St.

## WEDNESDAY

7 p.m., AA 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, The Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., No. 201, Milwaukee. Info: 414-276-6936, [galanoclub.org](http://galanoclub.org).

Send listings to [eadams@wisconsin-gazette.com](mailto:eadams@wisconsin-gazette.com).

## THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

### THURSDAY

**April 22**

7-9 p.m., youth group, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, 510 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, 715-552-LGBT.

### FRIDAY

**April 23**

7-9 p.m., Academy Awards movie night, LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee, 414-272-9442.

### SATURDAY

**April 24**

3:45-5 p.m., LGBT writers group, Mo's Cafe, 5537 Sixth Ave., Kenosha.

6-9 p.m., book club favorite book night, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, 510 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, 715-552-LGBT.

10 a.m., book sale, OutReach, 600 Williamson St., Suite P-1, Madison, [www.lgbt-outreach.org](http://www.lgbt-outreach.org).

### SUNDAY

**April 25**

7 p.m., card party, SAGE, 1845 N. Farwell Ave., Milwaukee, 414-

224-0517.

10 a.m., book sale, OutReach, 600 Williamson St., Suite P-1, Madison, [www.lgbt-outreach.org](http://www.lgbt-outreach.org).

### MONDAY

**April 26**

7:30-8:30 p.m., gender identity support group, Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second St., Milwaukee, 414-383-3727.

7-9 p.m., Spectrum, Harmony Cafe, 233 E. College Ave., Appleton, 920-734-2233.

### TUESDAY

**April 27**

1:30-3 p.m., "They Did What? Let's talk about Relationships!" at UWM LGBT Center, Milwaukee, Union Room 260, [uwmevent@uwm.edu](mailto:uwmevent@uwm.edu)

6-8 p.m., GLBT partnership, Harmony Cafe, 233 E. College Ave., Appleton, 920-734-2233.

### WEDNESDAY

**April 28**

6:30 p.m., Film Screening Patrik I.5, OutReach, 600 Williamson St., Suite P-1, Madison, [www.lgbt-outreach.org](http://www.lgbt-outreach.org).

### THURSDAY

**April 29**

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., gay & lesbian psychology with Kevin Nada, UWM Multicultural Student Lounge, Union W198, Milwaukee, [uwmevent@uwm.edu](mailto:uwmevent@uwm.edu).

2-3 p.m., LGBT people and body image, UWM Union Room 220, Milwaukee, [uwmevent@uwm.edu](mailto:uwmevent@uwm.edu).

7-9 p.m., youth

group, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, 510 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, 715-552-LGBT.

### SATURDAY

**May 1**

6-9 p.m., game night, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, 510 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, 715-552-LGBT.

6-7 p.m., FTM/SOFFA social

support group, Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee, [www.mkelgbt.org](http://www.mkelgbt.org).

7:30-9 p.m., "Sexing it up," with Laura Stuart from Tool Shed, Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee, [www.mkelgbt.org](http://www.mkelgbt.org).

### MONDAY

**May 3**

6:30-8 p.m., Financial Literacy 1011 looks at tenant/landlord rights, Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee.

### TUESDAY

**May 4**

4-7 p.m., Allies and Advocates, UWM LGBT Resource Center, Milwaukee, contact Maikue Vang [vangm@uwm.edu](mailto:vangm@uwm.edu).

www.wisconsin-gazette.com

These days our economy is in flux and we all feel a bit uneasy about the future. Here at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, we are also thinking about our future and the best way to ensure that our service to the LGBT community continues for many generations to come.

A dozen years ago, a group of dedicated individuals came together to found and fund the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center with the commitment to improve the quality of life for LGBT people in Milwaukee. This vision still empowers us today.

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center

But what of our mission and vision in the next 12 years? The next 24 years? And beyond? Without your help and foresight will our LGBT community still have its own unique home?

Please consider making a bequest to the Milwaukee LGBT Community. We stand on the shoulders of the founders who have come before us; please keep their vision alive.

For more information about making a bequest, contact Patrick Price, Director of Philanthropy, at 414-292-3065 or [pprice@mkelgbt.org](mailto:pprice@mkelgbt.org).

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# CLASSIFIEDS

## APARTMENTS

Approx 1200 sq ft apt in a Milwaukee bungalow. Near 60th and Burleigh. Deck, Hardwood floors, built-ins and off-street parking 700/mo.

1002 So. 58th St, West Allis, Lg 2 bd with HW floors and LR/DR with carpet & builtins, Private entrance, balcony, garage, storage, laundry hook up, fenced back yard, patio, eat-in kitchen. \$6+25/mo+deposit 414-778-2222/414-526-8562

Apartments available in popular Brady street area building. Rent includes heat, water, cooking gas. Studios are \$525/month and two-bedroom are \$775. On site W/D and storage locker. Call Sharon at 414-241-4606.

## Best Downtown Location

Shoreland Manor, 1029 E. Knapp St., downtown High-Rise, 1 block from lake front bike trail, center of East Town night life, 1 bdrms starting at \$630/mo, includes internet & cable, options to customize your space, call Greg at 414-759-1154 for your personal showing, www.eastmore.com

## Help Wanted

Bob had a job. Bob lost his job. Want Bob's Job? Call Larry at 503-

995-4057

## U.S. Census Workers

Earn good pay working for the US Census Bureau! For Milwaukee County residents, office jobs pay at least \$11.25 an hour and field positions pay at least \$15 an hour. Weekly pay & paid training. Temporary, part-time & full-time, work with flexible hours. Help your community have a successful census. Call the toll-free jobs line at: 1-866-861-2010 to schedule the required 30 minute basic skills test at a time and location convenient to you. More information, including a practice test, is available at [www.2010censusjobs.gov](http://www.2010censusjobs.gov)

Professional, experienced Executive Assistant seeking employment as a Personal or Executive Assistant. Private or Professional. Full-time preferred, but amenable to part-time. Open to other job opportunities. For a copy of resume, please inquire via email. Age: 34 Experience: 7 years (both Small Business and Corporate)

## Services

## MASSAGE THERAPY

Massage therapy service provided at your home. Relaxation, deep tissue

and sports massage. Claude Gagnon, Wisconsin Certified Massage Therapist #839-46 18 years of experience 414-460-7762

## DOG WALKER

Dog walker and pet/house sitter with more than 25 years of experience. Contact me at [olivia.merrillbaum.com](mailto:olivia.merrillbaum.com) or [olivia@merrillbaum.com](mailto:olivia@merrillbaum.com).

## Swimming Pool and Spa

Swimming Pool & Spa Service Racine & Kenosha Area 262-857-7470

## Computers

PC Medic Milwaukee Mobile PC repair We also do Virus Removal, Upgrades and Custom Computer Builds. Call Kevin @ 414-788-2383

## SEEKING

## HOUSE BOI WANTED

SGWM with a limited disability looking for a house "boi" for lack of a better term. I need a guy to clean, do some minor cooking & run errands when necessary. I occasionally need a lift, so a car would be helpful. You wouldn't have to live in full time. Seeking SGWM, age 24-34, for this position. It is not a difficult job. If you live in rent would be minimal. Reimbursed

for gas \$. Please send stats and what your plan is for the next 5 years with contact info. Must have references & a phone of your own. Perfect for college or grad student. All the comforts of home. Send to: [hummelcreche@netzero.net](mailto:hummelcreche@netzero.net)

netzero.net

## BWMT

Black and White Men Together (BWMT) invites men of all races, ethnic backgrounds, and ages together for

socializing! Join us at 7 pm, on the 3rd Saturday of each month at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. Dinner outings, and other group activities. For more information: [www.nabwmt.org/milwaukee](http://www.nabwmt.org/milwaukee)

# WiG'S TAIL-WAGGER

COURTESY OF THE WISCONSIN HUMANE SOCIETY



Suki

## SEE HER TODAY!

A gorgeous cat with a sweet personality, Suki is a 10-year-old domestic shorthair available for adoption at the Wisconsin Humane Society. Suki has a lovely brown tabby coat and long whiskers. Meet Suki today at WHS, located at 45th and Wisconsin Avenue in Milwaukee.

Tango's Tip: Dress your dog in Neverland gear for a dog and family-friendly party inspired by Nana the dog from Milwaukee Ballet's Peter Pan April 24 from 3:30-5 p.m. at WHS. Activities include a canine costume contest, buried treasure dig, tunnel to Neverland, bobbing for crocodiles and more! Register now at [www.wihumane.org](http://www.wihumane.org).

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# OUT & ABOUT

Got a listing to ad? Tell us [managingeditor@wisconsin-gazette.com](mailto:managingeditor@wisconsin-gazette.com).

## STATEWIDE BAR AND ENTERTAINMENT VENUE LISTINGS

### KENOSHA/RACINE

**Club ICON**, 6305 120th St. (off I-94), Kenosha, 262-857-3240

**JoDee's**, 2139 Racine St., Racine, 262-634-9804

### MILWAUKEE

**Art Bar**, 722 Burleigh, 414-372-7880

**Ballgame**, 196 S. Second St., 414-273-7474

**Boom & The Room**, 625 S. Second St, 414-277-5040

**Boot Camp**, 209 E. National Ave., 414-643-6900

**City Lights Chill & Grill**, 111 W. Howard Ave, 414-481-1441

**Fluid**, 819 S. Second St., 414-643-5843

**Harbor Room**, 117 E. Greenfield, 414-672-7988

**Hybrid**, 707 E. Brady St., 414-810-1809

**JACK**, 200 E. Washington St., 414-389-3596

**Kruz**, 354 E. National Ave., 414-272-KRUZ

**LaCage**, 801 S. Second St., 414-383-8330

**Mona's**, 1407 S. 1st St., 414-643-0377

**Nut Hut**, 1500 W. Scott, 414-647-2673

**Pump**, (Sundays at Decibel), 1905 E. North Ave., 414-272-3337

**This Is It**, 418 E. Wells St., 414-278-9192

**Triangle**, 135 E. National Ave., 414-383-9412

**Tropical Niteclub**, 626 S. Fifth St., 414-460-6277

**Walker's Pint**, 818 S. Second St, 414-643-7468

**Woody's**, 1579 S Second St., 414-672-0806

### MADISON

**Club 5**, 5 Applegate Ct. 608-277-9700

**Plan B**, 924 Williamson St., 608-257-5262

**Shamrock**, 117 W Main St., 608-255-5029

**WOOF'S**, 114 King St., 608-204-6222

### BELOIT/JANESVILLE

**Impulse**, 132 W. Grand Ave., Beloit, 608-361-0000

**Off The Wagon**, 18-24 S River St.,

Janesville  
608-359-3209

### LACROSSE

**My Place**, 3201 South Ave., 608-788-9073

**Players**, 300 Fourth St, 608-784-4200

**Chances R**, 417 Jay St., 608-782-5105

### WISCONSIN DELLS

**Captain Dix Rainbow Valley Resort**, 4124 River Road, 866- 553-1818

### SHEBOYGAN

**Blue Lite**, 1029 N. 8th St., 920-457-1636

### FOX VALLEY

**Rascals Bar & Grill**, 702 E. Wisconsin, Appleton, 920-954-9262

**Ravens**, 215 E. College Ave., Appleton, 920-364-9599

**Napalese**, 1351 Cedar Street, Green Bay, 920-432-9646

**SASS**, 840 S. Broadway, Green Bay, 920-437-7277

**The Shelter**, 730 N. Quincy St., Green Bay, 920-432-2662

**XS Niteclub**, 1106 Main Street, Green Bay, 920-430-1301

**Debs Spare Time**, 1303 Harrison St., Oshkosh, 920-235-6577

### NORTHERN

**Scooters**, 411 Galloway Street, Eau Claire, 715-835-9959

**JT's Bar and Grill**, 1506 N. 3 rd St., Superior, 715--394-2580

**The Flame**, 1612 Tower Ave., Superior, 715-395-0101

**The Main** 1217 Tower Ave., Superior, 715-392-1756  
OZ, 320 Washington St, Wausau, 715-842-3225



Don't see your favorite LGBT hangout? To get considered for a listing on Out & About, e-mail [managingeditor@wisconsin-gazette.com](mailto:managingeditor@wisconsin-gazette.com).



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# Scott Campbell Presents



**\$159,900 – ST. FRANCIS** Many updates and views of Lake Michigan. Living room with gas fireplace and Pergo hardwood floors. Full size, in-unit, washer and dryer. Private terrace, private club house, plus gym and walking paths along the lake. Tons of storage and underground parking.



**\$195,000 – EAST SIDE MILWAUKEE** Split-level condo on upper East Side close to Lake Park and Downer. Remolded granite-and-maple kitchen. Two full baths and hardwood floors throughout. Bright and sunny. One car garage. Seller will entertain all reasonable offers!



**\$299,900 – MEQUON** Spectacular updated ranch with open concept living room and natural fireplace. Large bedrooms w/hardwood floors. New master bath has oversized ceramic tile shower stall. Lower-level rec room with natural fireplace. Beautiful landscaping with many patios.



**\$399,500 – BREWER'S HILL** Rare downtown side-by-side townhome, 10-foot ceilings, maple hardwood floors, built-in china cabinet and marble gas fireplace. Maple kitchen w/granite counter tops, open dining area, fabulous master bedroom with a marble gas fireplace. Spectacular marble master bath, finished lower-level.



**\$439,900 – FOX POINT** Wonderful Fox Point location and many updated features, including granite counters and large fireplace with natural stone. Hardwood floors on main floor. Second-story addition includes oversized master bedroom, vaulted ceilings and balcony. Large upstairs office and beautiful landscaping with slate patio.



**\$572,500 – GRAFTON** Gracious carefree living on the banks of the Milwaukee River. Three-story condo townhouse with granite, wide moldings, hardwood floors, luxury baths and stainless appliances, as well as a private in-unit elevator option. Three bedroom, three and a half bath unit with a two-car attached garage.



**\$644,900 – MEQUON** Spectacular details and finishes, updated kitchen and master bathroom – right on the golf course fairways. New oversized custom deck with hot tub, three-seasons room, living room and family room with natural fireplace, dramatic ceiling height, formal dining room, hardwood floors.



**\$680,000 – MEQUON** Elegant home with view of golf course and woods. Three-car garage, two-story great room with natural fireplace, wet bar, vaulted dining room, cherry-paneled library, three-car garage. Updated master suite. Hardwood floors in kitchen and dining room. Exercise room. Motivated owner.



**\$749,000 – MEQUON** Totally renovated colonial on a private, park-like lot on a cul de sac. Nine-foot ceilings, maple flooring, granite-and-stainless kitchen. Living Room/Library has built-in bookcase and natural fireplace. Fifth bedroom used as guest suite. Lots of extras, multi-level decks and even a foot bridge.



**\$869,900 – FOX POINT** Log home with hand-hewn beam construction. Four full-size bedrooms & three bathrooms with great views of Lake Michigan. Massive fieldstone fireplace, wide-planked hardwood floors, screened porch. Oversized three-car garage. Current owner has owned the home for 60 years.



**\$994,500 – MEQUON** Estate on 14.5 wooded acres. Renovated from top to bottom in 2004. 1,000-foot winding asphalt driveway. Spectacular granite kitchen. Newly added vaulted ceiling, tiled sun room, hardwood floors, new cedar siding. Master bedroom with travertine marble bath. Additional barn features future office loft.



**\$995,000 – FOX POINT** Spectacular contemporary, completely renovated. New kitchen, bathrooms. Maple hardwood floors, viking appliances, zebra wood cabinets, white-slab marble counters, Duravit bath fixtures. High-end bathrooms with glass tile walls. Lower-level theater room w/ wet bar. Beautiful private lot, great location.



**\$1,344,000 – OKAUCHEE LAKE** Luxury living with spectacular lake views from all rooms. Massive great room opens to kitchen. Lots of granite and marble finishes. Oversized master bedroom with walk-in closet. Beautiful terraced yard, boat house, patio with hot tub. Owner is a custom builder.



**\$2,295,900 – MEQUON** "Maison Cheverny." This eight-plus acre French colonial estate has approx 10,000 sq ft and 3 finished floors. Brick, stucco and limestone exterior. Marble 30x18 foyer, flared cherry staircase. Formal dining room w/Brazilian floors, kitchen with cherry cabinets, granite island & gas fireplace.



**\$2,799,000 – OCONOMOWOC** Spectacular lakeside residence with meticulous attention to detail. Inside features 10-foot ceilings, extensive millwork details, five-inch ponderosa pine floors throughout. Several fireplaces, coffered kitchen ceilings, Sub Zero and Viking. "Hampton" style architectural masterpiece!



**\$2,995,900 – 29.6 ACRES!** Private Mequon estate. Dramatic interior spaces & lush private grounds featuring your own nine-hole golf course, lighted tennis court & outdoor in-ground pool. Separate one-bedroom guest house, private gated entrance. Dramatic two-story marble foyer, grand detail finishes throughout.



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