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SEASON CLASSICS

A preview of the 2010-11 classical music season in Milwaukee, page 17.



THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY

September 23, 2010 | Vol. 1, No. 23

Voters set the stage for Nov. 2 races

By Louis Weisberg
Staff writer

In an election season when upset victories by fringe-right candidates have dominated the news, Milwaukee County Supervisor Chris Larson bucked the trend by mounting a successful challenge from the left. An outspoken progressive, Larson took 61 percent of the vote Sept. 14 against moderate incumbent Jeff Plale in an expensive, nasty and closely watched Democratic primary in Wisconsin's 7th Senate District.

Larson now faces Republican Jeff Ripp at the polls Nov. 2 in a district that consistently votes Democratic. The district includes the East Side and Bay View neighborhoods of Milwaukee, which are believed to have the heaviest concentrations of gay residents in the state. In some

East Side precincts, Larson outpolled Plale by five to one.

The Larson-Plale race split the LGBT community, with Fair Wisconsin and HRL-PAC endorsing Plale based on his past cooperation on legislative issues. Doug Nelson, executive director of AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, also endorsed Plale, who was instrumental in securing a \$1.8-million grant for ARCW.

Wisconsin Gazette backed Larson.

"It's important to Fair Wisconsin that we support the people who have been in the Legislature and have taken the tough votes time and again," said Fair Wisconsin executive director Katie Belanger. "We were proud to support Sen. Plale, who has done just that. We look forward to working with Chris Larson, who is fantastic on LGBT issues and will continue to fight for fairness."

Plale became a pariah to progressive voters when he killed the Clean Energy Act by refusing to bring it up for a vote. In retaliation, he was assailed by a barrage of negative mailers that charged he was hostage to Big Oil and other anti-environmental interests. The Potawatomi tribe reportedly provided heavy financial support for the mailers.

"We've got a pretty good shot (now) of having a state senator who's independent of corporate lobbyists and big polluters," Larson told a cheering crowd during his victory party at Bay View's Primary page 14



PHOTO: ELLEN S. COOK

CROSSING THE FINISH LINE

Walkers cross the finish line of AIDS Walk Wisconsin. The Sept. 19 event raised \$261,024 for AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin and seven other beneficiaries. See story on page 7.

Senate stalls on military vote

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The Senate's most prominent war hero led the Republican campaign to block a Sept. 21 vote on lifting the policy prohibiting openly gay servicemembers in the Armed Forces.

U.S. Sen. John McCain, a prisoner of war in Vietnam, led his party in paralyzing action on a national defense authorization bill. The bill included amendments providing for the repeal of DADT and passage of the Dream Act, legislation that

would create a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants who arrived in the United States as children and enrolled in college or joined the Armed Forces.

The Senate likely won't take up repeal of DADT until after the mid-term elections.

"Time is the enemy here," said Aubrey Sarvis of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, an LGBT watchdog and legal rights group. "We now have no choice but to look to the lame-duck session, where DADT page 16

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BATTLE OVER JANESVILLE GAY BAR, page 5

LGBT news with a twist

WIGWAG

By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg

RECORD KISS

Matty Daley and Bobby Canciello have made the Guinness Book of World Records for longest continuous kiss. The two male friends locked lips for more than 33 hours on the campus of New Jersey College. They said their epic smooch, streamed live on towelrod.com, was performed as a public service to the world.

Per the rules laid out by Guinness, neither man ate, slept, sat or used the bathroom as they kissed. The use of adult diapers also is prohibited, making this kiss the ultimate challenge.

UNRECORDED KISS?

The between-innings "Kiss Cam" is a popular feature at Busch Stadium and other ballparks – the video board shows a couple, then waits for a smooch. Gay activists in St. Louis asked the Cardinals to show same-sex couples kissing their partners, too.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported that at least 200 gays and lesbians attended Busch Stadium on Sept. 18 as part of an "Out at the Ballpark" promotion organized by St. Louis Pride. The group asked

for some equal "Kiss Cam" time.

"Our stance is, we'll put you on the request list, no guarantees," responded Tony Simokaitis, director of scoreboard operations. But apparently, the same-sex kiss never happened, at least not in front of the cameras.

SERVED-UP

"Unmatched," a new documentary on ESPN, examines the off-court friendship and on-court rivalry between tennis champs Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova. They played one another more than 80 times – often for the big prizes on grass or clay. The media fed on the competitive nature of their game and helped manufacture their public images – America's blonde sweetheart vs. Czechoslovakia's bratty defector.

The hour-long film offers a more sophisticated and sensitive profile of the true pals, along with a lot of chuckles. Of the first

time she saw the 16-year-old Navratilova, Evert says, "I remember that she was fat. She was very emotional on the court, whining if she didn't feel she was playing well. But I remember thinking, if she loses weight, we're all in trouble." She lost weight.

SMASHED

A British judge in mid-September sentenced George Michael to eight weeks in jail for "drug driving." The pop singer also lost his license. Michael had pleaded guilty in August to being under the influence and possessing pot when he crashed a Range Rover into a north London store July 4. The judge said Michael was under the influence of "a dangerous and unpredictable mix" of drugs and cannabis when he crashed. Michael has had some prior encounters with the law – including an arrest in 1998 for lewd conduct in a public restroom.

SUED

The European Raelian Movement filed a lawsuit in London alleging that Pope Benedict XVI

has violated international human rights laws and perpetrated genocide by continuing to claim that condoms don't stop the spread of HIV. Previously leaders in the ERM have advocated the pope's arrest. The ERM is an atheistic movement founded, according to a news release, "upon the premise that there is no God. Raelians believe all life on Earth was created many thousands of years ago by extraterrestrial scientists, who were mistaken for gods by our ancestors."

SURVEYED

Booking a fall getaway? An international panel of travel journalists helped LOGO, the LGBT network owned by Viacom/MTV, deem Chicago a "Best U.S. Destination." Philadelphia also made the list, as did Las Vegas and San Francisco, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and Provincetown, Mass.

SUMMONED

The anti-gay Family Research Council put out the call for headliners at the Values Voter Summit in Washington, D.C. Who responded? Presidential GOP hopefuls

Mitt Romney, Mike Huckabee, Newt Gingrich and Mike Pense, Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachman, Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell and American Family Association issues director Bryan Fischer, who has said gays should be disqualified from holding public offices and "gay sex is a form of domestic terrorism." Not on the fall getaway list.

GLITTERY FAREWELL

A Las Vegas attraction featuring the pianos, jewelry and gowns of pianist and showman Liberace is closing down Oct. 17 due to costs.

Liberace Foundation board chair Jeffrey Koep said the volunteer board of the nonprofit foundation wants to take the collection of artifacts from Liberace's glittery 50-year career on tour; sell the museum commercial center several blocks east of the Las Vegas Strip, and reopen in a different place. The museum opened in April 1979. Liberace, a native of Milwaukee, died in 1987.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7 • PABST
NICK LOWE AND HIS BAND

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8 • PABST
WILLY PORTER

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8 • RIVERSIDE
BRIAN REGAN

OCTOBER 9 & 10 • RIVERSIDE
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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16 • TURNER
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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17 • RIVERSIDE
AMERICA'S GOT TALENT LIVE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20 • RIVERSIDE
JASON BONHAM'S LED ZEPPELIN EXPERIENCE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22 • TURNER
DR. DOG

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23 • PABST
AARON LEWIS OF STAIND

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24 • TURNER
BO BURNHAM

Advocates fight to save Appleton's diversity chief

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

The Appleton official charged with outreach to the city's multi-cultural communities, including the LGBT community, could fall victim to the budgetary axe as aldermen scramble to erase a \$2.5-million city deficit.

In a survey asking city council members which programs they believed could be cut, they indicated the diversity coordinator position is a top candidate. Supporters hope to change aldermanic minds by educating them about the essential role that the position, held by out lesbian Kathy Flores, plays in the quality of life and economic development of the city.

"I'm hopeful that the position will remain," said Ald. Jeffrey Jirschele (15th). "I think if we can paint the picture the right way, they'll see it."

Advocates for saving the position have created a Facebook page under the name Retain Appleton's Diversity Program. The page contains talking points about the program and urges constituents to contact their alderperson with the information prior to the Oct. 4 city council meeting.

Advocates contend that the program, which began in 1997 under a different name as part of the Appleton Police Department, is more important now than ever. All of Appleton's population growth over the next 20 years is projected to come from the city's African-American, Asian (particularly Hmong), Latino and Native-American communities.

Part of Flores' job is to build bridges among these communities and create an atmosphere of cross-cultural appreciation. She works with

the multi-cultural committees that advise the mayor's office, troubleshooting problems and raising diversity awareness, including LGBT awareness.

This year, Flores helped to promote Appleton's first Juneteenth celebration, which brought nearly 2,000 people of all races to the city's Houdini Plaza. The event, which marks the end of slavery in the United States, attracted major corporate sponsors.

Bola Delano-Oriaran, who serves on the mayor's African-American Advisory Committee, said the diversity coordinator is a valuable resource for helping to organize such events and programs. The coordinator has been successful also in working with the committees to take "a pro-active approach in addressing diversity issues," she said.

YOU CAN HELP

To find your alderperson in Appleton, phone 920-832-5823 or go to www.appleton.org and view "My Neighborhood." Type in your address, and you'll be given a home identification number. Click on that number and you'll see your home on the screen. Then click the "Government" tab.

"One of the reasons Appleton is a good place to live is that you rarely hear about incidents that deal with biases, stereotypes or discrimination," she said.

Shannon Kenevan, program team leader for Harmony Café, said that "just having the position in place sends the message that this is a welcoming and diverse community." He gives Flores high marks for her performance in the position.

"She's done phenomenally," Kenevan said. "She brings a real passion to the work. She has really tried to reach out to all the different communities and brought a lot of visibility to the position."

The diversity coordinator plays a key role in economic development by helping local companies recruit and retain a diverse workforce. If Kimberly Clark, for instance, was trying to recruit or transfer an African-American,

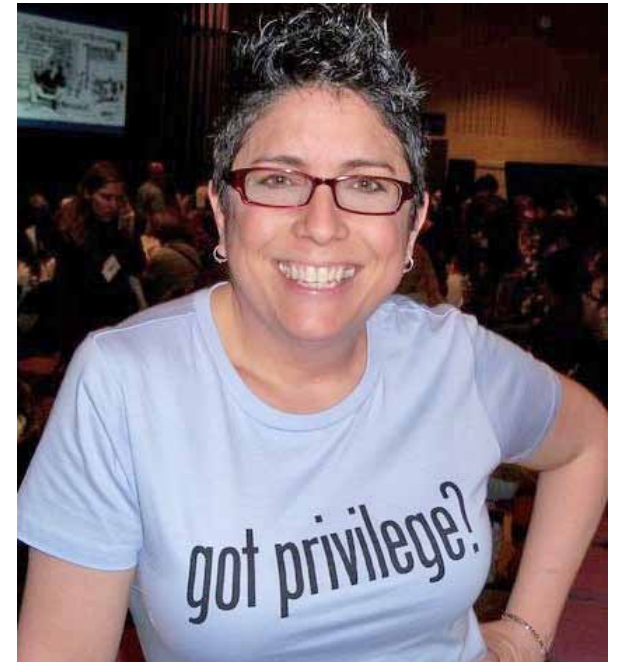


PHOTO: COURTESY

Appleton diversity coordinator **Kathy Flores.**

Latino/a or gay worker to Appleton, the company could turn to Flores for support. By connecting the worker with local community groups and amenities of interest to him or her, Flores could seal the deal by demonstrating that Appleton is a great place to live and work.

This has happened, local officials say.

By helping to foster the growth of a skilled and diverse labor force, the diversity coordinator also has helped attract new companies to the Fox Valley, Jirschele said. This is especially important as Appleton transitions away

from an industrially based economy.

"Talent comes in a variety of different packages, whether gay, black, Hispanic, white or Asian," Jirschele said. "We need to be open and we need to be welcoming. That goes along with urban growth. We have to realize that in (growing cities) we have a number of different cultures. We have to make sure we grow as a community by bringing all those communities together, and we need a focal person to bring them together."

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War of words imperils license for Janesville's only gay-friendly bar

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

The heated battle over a liquor license in Janesville has brought allegations of homophobia and unleashed a torrent of charges and countercharges between those seeking to maintain an LGBT-friendly bar in the city and those with an apparent vendetta against the license applicants.

The controversy surrounds the former site of Off the Wagon, which was the city's only predominantly gay and lesbian bar until it closed over the summer. Off the Wagon was housed in a building at 18-24 S. River St. owned by local businessman Kurt Miller of Integrity Quest and 4M Ventures LLC.

Miller evicted the bar's owner Robert Forbush for non-payment of rent and unscrupulous management practices, including allowing a straight swinger's club for married couples to operate in an upstairs space in violation of a local ordinance.

Miller is attempting to get a new liquor license issued to Macksforyou LLC, whose five partners include Mary McIntyre, who formerly managed Off the Wagon. Their goal is to open an LGBT-friendly bar called Club Haven and the Bridgeport Bar n Grill in the same location.

Forbush has lobbied the city's Alcohol Licensing Advisory Committee to deny the license, sending a letter to the committee's mem-

bers charging Miller with criminal activities. A police investigation concluded that the charges against Miller were unfounded, according to Janesville City Clerk Jean Wulf.

But the doubts raised by Forbush combined with the site's troubled history and at least one adamantly opposed ALAC member have thrown the license's fate into question.

Former Off the Wagon employee Christian Schmidt is attempting to rally public support for Club Haven. He's signed up several hundred supporters on Facebook and he's planning "a big gay rally" outside the ALAC meeting scheduled for Oct. 5, when the committee will consider the license again.

Schmidt said LGBT people in Janesville currently have no welcoming place to congregate. Since Off the Wagon closed, "there's nothing here," he said. "There's nothing to do."

Schmidt and other LGBT locals described Janesville as intensely homophobic, which they believe is behind the ALAC's reluctance to issue the license. They complained that the application process has been subjected to an unusual level of scrutiny as well as an unprecedented demand that the applicants produce a detailed business plan demonstrating the financial viability of the business proposed for the site.

Wulf acknowledged that the application process has

been uniquely rigorous but denied that homophobia is the cause. She said the ALAC has been frustrated by Miller's inability to find a viable tenant for the site.

"The owner keeps trying to find an applicant and it falls through," Wulf said. "Virtually in the last year and a half, every time we have an ALAC meeting, 50 percent of the time they're considering something that's going on at this location. That's why they wanted to make sure that the applicant has the wherewithal to open a business and make it a go. No other location in the city has had this history and turnover in applicants."

Miller countered that this is only the third applicant he's brought before the committee concerning the site.

Forbush, who moved to Eau Claire after Off the Wagon closed, said he'd like to see another LGBT bar in Janesville, as long as Miller isn't involved in it. He acknowledged his responsibility for the failure of Off the Wagon and said it was intentional.

"In front of witnesses, he told me to un-gay the place because he didn't want drag queen posters or advertisements on the front door of the building," Forbush said. "I felt that was discriminatory. That was why I decided I was no longer going to give him any money. I let the place go down ... because because he was homophobic and very destructive of my business."

But Miller dismissed the accusation. "If I was homophobic I wouldn't be trying to get this gay and lesbian group as my tenant," he said. "The bottom line is that (Forbush) was not running a legitimate business. He was not paying payroll, unemployment or worker's comp. He was running everything on a cash basis."

Former Off the Wagon employees echoed Miller's charges. "He didn't know how to run a bar, he didn't know how to operate a business," Schmidt said. "He did not pay his bills. He did not pay his rent."

Schmidt and McIntyre said Forbush also gave Off the Wagon a bad reputation due to his sexual solicitations of patrons — both gay and straight. "He would hand notes to people saying, 'I'll give you a thousand dollars if you'll go out into the parking lot with me,'" Schmidt said.

Forbush denied propositioning clients, but McIntyre

said she had saved notes he passed to people at the bar offering cash for sex. McIntyre said she was particularly upset when Forbush offered her straight son \$25 for oral sex.

Miller said Off the Wagon deteriorated further after Forbush introduced Humpday Meet and Greet events, which were held on Wednesdays. These were organized by Christine Anclam, who described them as G-rated get-togethers where straight swingers and wife swappers could meet.

"There was no kind of sexual interaction or anything on site," said Anclam, who, like Forbush, has relocated to Eau Claire. "It was like a coffee klatch party."

But in addition to the Wednesday meet-and-greets, Anclam also staged parties upstairs behind locked doors that were anything but innocent, according to former Off the Wagon employees who had to clean up after them.

Anclam denied that sex was involved at these events, but notices posted online suggest otherwise: "Grab a shot ... select a partner ... and suck and blow baby!!!" proclaimed a posting for the July 24 Leather N Lace Party at Off the Wagon.

The most vocal critic of Miller on the ALAC is William Truman, an unemployed truck driver who also sits on city council. Truman recently staged an unsuccessful bid for the Assembly in the Republican primary elections.

Some of Miller's supporters believe that Truman is angry with Miller for banning the swinger's parties from the site, a charge he loudly denied.

"I've never been in that bar," Truman said.

"Whatever they want to say, I guess they can say," he said, adding that he'd sue anyone who said what they said.

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**BASKETBALL STAR
FATALLY SHOT**

Former Oklahoma University basketball player Rosalind Ross was fatally shot Sept. 15 outside a Milwaukee restaurant.

Police said the 30-year-old Ross was killed while in the parking lot of Popeye's Chicken near North 62nd Street and West Silver Spring Drive. Police classified the shooting as a case of domestic violence.

Maliqa Willoughby, 27, was taken into custody on a charge of first-degree intentional homicide. The Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel reported that Ross' mother believes the woman was Ross' partner, who was upset about her daughter's plans to leave their 13-year relationship and take a job on the Oklahoma University coaching staff.

"They had been arguing for a week or more," Pamela Collins told MJS. She described the other woman as "overly possessive."

Ross played college ball at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M before going to Oklahoma University. She started all 36 games for OU's national runner-up team in 2002.

Ross was recruited by the WNBA, but knee problems ended her career.

More than 200 friends and family members gathered Sept. 18 for a basketball game in Ross' honor at Bradley Tech High School, where she'd been a star player.

**GAY WIS. TEEN
VICTIM OF SUICIDE**


PHOTO: AP/PAT SULLIVAN

In this March 30, 2002, file photo Oklahoma University basketball guard Rosalind Ross smiles during a news conference in San Antonio during the NCAA Women's National Final. The Milwaukee native was fatally shot Sept. 15 in a fast-food restaurant parking lot in what police say was a domestic dispute with her partner.

Cody J. Barker, 17, of Shiocton, Wis., took his life Sept. 13.

Barker attended Shiocton High School, where he was active in choir. In August he attended a seminar to help him start a gay/straight alliance at his school. He held a job at Fleet Farm in Appleton.

Maria Peeples, Barker's peer mentor through GSA for Safe Schools, said he was a passionate activist for all students, especially those "targeted or ostracized for

their sexual orientation or their gender identity and expression."

"He really cared about making schools a safe place for students," Peeples said. "That wasn't always his own experience with school."

According to a web posting, Barker loved history, James Bond movies and Lady Gaga. He was described as an "extremely selfless" young man who enjoyed spending time with his friends, tending his rose plants, biking and

reading.

"It's a terrible shock, not just because we love and miss Cody, but because it's a reminder that there's still so much work we still need to do," Peeples said.

Barker is survived by his parents, James and Darla Barker, sister Casey Barker and numerous family members and friends.

Funeral services were held at St. Denis Catholic Church.

**BENEFIT TO HELP
DEPORTED GAY
MILWAUKEEAN**

A benefit to raise money for Helaman Iquique's immigration battle will be held from 4 to 10 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 24, at The Wherehouse in Walker's Point.

Iquique was deported to Guatemala in January 2009 an hour before a judge granted a stay in his immigration case. He hasn't seen his partner of 10 years nor his extended family in Milwaukee since then.

Iquique escaped to the United States with his mother as a child. He was given a Social Security number and work permits for more than 22 years before INS officials suddenly arrested him at his job.

Money raised from the Oct. 24 benefit will help pay the substantial legal bills Iquique's partner Wade Twamley has incurred in his fight to bring Iquique home. Sponsors of the event include U.S. Rep. Gwen Moore, Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, BESTD Clinic, WiG and the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center.

The fundraiser will feature guest speakers and information booths in addition to lighter entertainment such as music, raffles, a silent auction and a free buffet. A \$10 donation is suggested at the door.

For more information, call 414-217-0766.

**MILWAUKEE
GROUP EXPLORES
NEW GAY CHORUS**

A steering committee has been formed to create

a new gay men's chorus in Milwaukee under the international fellowship of GALA Choruses. A town hall meeting will be held at noon Sept. 25. The meeting is open to members of Milwaukee's last gay men's chorus, as well as singers in Milwaukee's gay community who would like to learn more about joining the proposed group.

Topics discussed will include naming the new group, creating a sustainable business model and attending the GALA international festival in Denver 2012. An artistic director from a GALA choir with many years of service outside of Milwaukee will chair the meeting.

RSVP is required to attend. Contact Jason Jellison, vice chair, at 414-861-5526.

**ONE WISCONSIN
NOW SUES
RIGHT-WING
OFFICIAL**

One Wisconsin Now has filed a lawsuit against right-wing Juneau County District Attorney Scott Southworth for refusing to release an e-mail as required under the state's open records law.

Southworth briefly grabbed headlines this spring when he threatened to prosecute school teachers who followed the state's new sex education curriculum, which calls for instruction in contraceptive use and sexually transmitted diseases.

Southworth described the law, which went into effect when the current school year began, as "sexual assault ed," complaining that it amounted to the assault of minors.

One Wisconsin Now charged that Southworth produced some but not all of the e-mails it requested concerning his views on the new law. The group alleges that Southworth's action was politically motivated.

OWN is seeking a court order requiring Southworth to release all records and to pay its legal fees.

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AIDS Walk Wisconsin raises \$261 K

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

Nearly 2,000 walkers raised \$261,024 for the fight against AIDS Sept. 19, all while enjoying a scenic 3-mile stroll along Lake Michigan that began and ended at the Summerfest grounds. Their route was punctuated with rain showers, cheerleaders, frequent snacks and even a performance by belly dancers.

But AIDS Walk Wisconsin got underway on a somber note as family members of the late AIDS activist Michael Johnson recalled his fight against the disease for participants huddled under hoods and umbrellas. Johnson, of Milton, died July 1 at age 48.

Johnson and his wife Sherie Johnson discovered they were HIV-positive in 1991. Since then, they devoted their lives to raising aware-

ness of AIDS and lobbying for funding. It's estimated that Michael Johnson spoke to over a million young people around the country about HIV prevention.

"It's a bittersweet day for me," Sherie Johnson told the crowd. "Today, for the first time, I stand here without (Michael) by my side. But with the love and support of my family and friends, I do not stand alone."

"Walk today with a purpose, remembering my son and all the people you hold dear in your heart ... and never give up on miracles," said Martha Johnson, who recounted being called several times to her son's deathbed only to watch him recover.

Despite the emotion and enthusiasm that dominated the event, this year's walk yielded significantly less than the \$362,278 generated last

year, when Bon Iver's Justin Vernon served as honorary chair.

The lower return reflects growing apathy toward HIV/AIDS, particularly within the gay community and among younger people. Despite a 23-percent increase in new HIV infections in Wisconsin over the past two years, observers say participation at AIDS-related events is declining in the state.

This summer's ACT AIDS Ride, which benefits AIDS Network of Madison, brought in \$250,000 compared with \$300,000 generated by the 2009 ride.

In addition to the money raised by walkers seeking individual contributions through their personal and professional networks, ARCW's "Raising the Bar" fundraiser brought in \$16,200 for AIDS Walk. PJs Oshkosh raised the most money of the bars



PHOTO: ELLEN S. COOK

Volunteers cheer walkers along Milwaukee's lakefront.

participating in the program, ringing up a total of \$12,427 including a \$5,000 match-grant from the Johnson

Pabst LGBT Humanitarian Fund.

The second highest earner for "Raising the Bar" was

Ballgame, which raised \$1,750.

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Gay candidates for Congress draw interest, hope

By Michelle R. Smith

AP writer

Laure Rondeau, an 82-year-old Catholic, supports Providence, R.I., Mayor David Cicilline for Congress because he wants to get the troops out of Afghanistan and says Washington is losing sight of what's happening to regular people.

The sexual orientation of the openly gay mayor doesn't figure into her decision.

"That doesn't bother me at all," Rondeau says. "He's been a good mayor of Providence, and I think he'd do well in Congress."

Just three of the 535 members of Congress are openly gay, but two candidates hope to inch that number up to five this year: Cicilline, who is running to succeed fellow Democrat Patrick Kennedy, and Democrat Steve Pougnet, who's trying to knock Republican Mary Bono Mack out of her seat in

California.

The races have drawn interest from gay advocacy groups, which are excited about two candidates who could help push for legislation to institute hate crime protections, prevent discrimination and advocate for same-sex marriage rights.

"There are so few people on the Hill who can speak authentically about what these things mean in their own lives," said Denis Dison, spokesman for the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, a group that works to elect LGBT politicians. "We are vastly underrepresented."

Gay marriage is not the flashpoint in this mid-term election that it has been in the past. There are no statewide ballot measures on gay marriage this November, and polls have shown a growing acceptance of same-sex unions. Five states now allow gay marriage, includ-

ing Rhode Island's neighbors Massachusetts and Connecticut.

That has bolstered the hopes of advocates, who would like to see the number of openly gay members of Congress increase.

The Victory Fund and the Human Rights Campaign have poured money into both races. The California seat has also been targeted by the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee's "Red to Blue" program as one of the seats it sees as having the best chances of moving from Republican to Democrat, although analysts say it could still be tough in what's expected to be a Republican year.

The three openly gay members are all in the House: Barney Frank of Massachusetts, Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin and Jared Polis of Colorado. Polis said gay candidates must show they're looking out for everybody, the way Barack Obama did when he ran for president.

"He didn't win by being known as the black candidate. He won by being known as the candidate for all Americans," Polis said.

In Rhode Island, Cicilline was the best known and best-funded candidate in the Sept. 14 four-way Democratic primary, having raised more



PHOTO: COURTESY

Mayor David N. Cicilline joined members of the Providence Bicycle Coalition and hundreds of bike commuters at the annual Bike to Work Day in downtown Providence.

than \$1.3 million, about three times the amount of the nearest Democratic rival and of the leading Republican.

He had about \$450,000 in his account as of August, according to federal filings, after going on a TV ad spending spree with commercials on seniors and jobs – an important issue in Rhode Island, which had the fourth-worst unemployment rate in the country in July at 11.9 percent. The Republican candidate, state Rep. John Loughlin, had just \$67,000 in his campaign account. There have been no reliable polls in the race.

Cicilline, who is single, has been attacked by his opponents, but for his record as mayor, not his personal life.

"People are really focused on the issues that are important in their own lives, and what they think the individuals running for Congress can do to respond to the urgent challenges that their families are facing," Cicilline said in an interview. "I think the sexual orientation of candidates in this race, including mine, have been irrelevant to voters, and I think that's progress."

Both Cicilline and Pougnet support legalizing same-sex

marriage. Pougnet married his longtime partner in 2008, after same-sex marriage was legalized in California but before it was banned by the ballot initiative Proposition 8.

Since 2007, he's been mayor of Palm Springs, which has a large gay population, and he's mounting the most serious challenge yet to Bono Mack, who has for 12 years represented the 45th District in California's Inland Empire, a huge district that stretches from the Arizona border nearly to Los Angeles.

Pougnet had raised more than \$1.2 million as of the end of June to Bono Mack's \$1.7 million. Pougnet's first TV ad says Bono Mack "isn't getting the job done" on bread-and-butter issues such as jobs and foreclosures.

Bono Mack has ruffled members of the gay community for not opposing Proposition 8 and for voting against the repeal of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays in the military. Her campaign manager Ryan Mahoney says she supports leaving gay marriage up to the states and touts the support of groups such as the Log Cabin Republicans.

Jack Pitney, a professor of government at Claremont McKenna College in California, said the district has become more Democratic in recent years and Obama carried it in 2008, but otherwise vulnerable Republicans like Bono Mack may be OK in a year expected to be a good one for Republicans.



Diverse & Resilient

Diverse and Resilient, Inc. seeks to hire a skilled, enthusiastic, engaged team member for the full-time position of HIV Prevention Manager to advance health and prevent HIV disease in the Greater Milwaukee Area.

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Send resume and letter of interest to Rachel Federlin, Diverse and Resilient, 2439 N Holton St, Milwaukee, WI 53212 (rfederlin@diverseandresilient.org). Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis until the best candidate is selected. A competitive salary and benefit package offered.

Diverse and Resilient, Inc. is a statewide nonprofit organization whose mission is the healthy development of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people by helping groups and communities take action. An equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from women, people of color, people with disabilities, and LGBT people.

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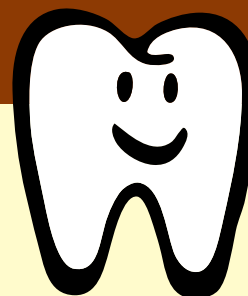
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Vote 2010: Election roundup

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The Human Rights Campaign is pumping added dollars into Minnesota before the Nov. 2 election, hoping to nurture a climate favorable to legalizing marriage for same-sex couples in the state.

HRC's interest in Minnesota intensified following the disclosure of a \$150,000 donation from Target Corp. to an anti-gay gubernatorial candidate, Republican Tom Emmer.

Target, hit with denunciations from its employees, customers and LGBT groups that had long praised the company's pro-gay employment policies, apologized for the donation, made possible under a U.S. Supreme Court ruling allowing businesses to spend company money on elections. But Target did not, as LGBT activists urged, ask for its money back.

So HRC has invested \$150,000 in the state to help counter the Target dollars. The money will be shared by a Democratic-backed political fund, a state gay rights organization and pro-gay state candidates.

And, said HRC director Joe Solmonese, there likely will be more money in the coming weeks.

PRIMARY AND PROPOSAL

Proponents of civil marriage for same-sex couples said Tim Kennedy's primary victory in a New York state senate race Sept. 14 could aid their fight in Albany.

Kennedy campaigned with financial and volunteer support from LGBT groups, including HRC's Campaign for New Marriage, Empire State Pride Agenda

and Fight Back New York.

Kennedy defeated incumbent William Stachowski, who has opposed marriage equality.

Two other pro-equality candidates – Charlie Ramos and Lynn Nunes – lost their primary races in the state.

CRIST'S CROSS-APPEAL

Florida Gov. Charlie Crist, who is running as an Independent in a U.S. Senate race against Democrat Kendrick Meek and Republican Marco Rubio, said earlier this month that he opposes the state's long-standing ban against gays adopting.

He also called for the end of the ban against openly gay servicemembers in the military and passage of federal legislation to help foreign partners of U.S. citizens remain in the country with their families.

Crist outlined his stances in a position paper that Equality Florida, a statewide LGBT civil rights group, called "the most comprehensive pro-LGBT equality stand of a sitting governor in Florida's history."

Meek, a U.S. representative with a solid pro-LGBT record, called Crist's announcement "too little too late."

ANTI-GAY PLAYBOOK

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation is calling on the mainstream press to spotlight election-related anti-gay defamation and to "scrutinize candidates who are denigrating our community in an attempt to gain political points."

GLAAD called attention to seven incidents in the mid-term election cycle, including:

- Michigan Republican Kim Meltzer's campaign mailer that depicted opponent Leon Drolet's face superimposed on a rainbow flag and two male figures holding hands. The mailer alleged that Drolet "would allow homosexual gross indecency in public places" and expose "our children to that filth."

- U.S. Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, telling an audience at a town hall forum that "gays and lesbians don't pay tithing, their religion is politics."

- Iowa Republican Jeremy

Walters, a candidate for the state house, writing on his Facebook page that to be gay "is not of God" and that gays should be "put to death, their blood shall be upon them."

—AP contributed to this report

PHOTO: COURTESY

U.S. Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, told an audience at a town hall forum that "gays and lesbians don't pay tithing, their religion is politics."



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Thanks for reading the
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{ Editorial }

Vote Democratic

The Wisconsin GOP has elected the most extremist candidates in memory. Don't expect any of them to support basic LGBT rights, let alone equality.

Even during normal election years, Republican primary candidates are hostage to the approval of far-right groups such as Wisconsin Family Action, whose adherents vote in huge numbers. This year, Republican candidates were driven even further to the right by the seething Tea Party movement.

Tea Partiers seek to eliminate nearly every government program except the military, including Social Security and Medicare, the Department of Education, and consumer/environmental protections. But they want government aggressively involved in tracking down illegal immigrants, prohibiting LGBT citizens from full participation in society and jailing women who terminate a pregnancy under any circumstances.

The Republican Party is a far more distinguished institution than the extremists who've hijacked it. The party once stood for fiscal restraint, limited (not small) government and individual freedom. As Log Cabin Republicans try valiantly to remind the GOP, theirs was once the party of Lincoln and the party that helped enact the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Republicans, not Democrats, embraced the early women's suffrage movement.

Today the Republican Party is a hodgepodge of conflicting philosophies united only by their extremist bent and shocking contempt for science, reason and facts. Republican zealots have branded President Barack Obama a socialist for enacting a national healthcare policy that's tamer than the one proposed by Richard Nixon in 1974. One can only imagine the charges of fascism they'd have leveled at Theodore Roosevelt for taking 230 million wilderness acres into government stewardship.

Sane Wisconsin Republicans should carefully vet their candidates before Nov. 2. Otherwise they could vote for a lieutenant governor (Rebecca Kleefisch) who says she'd govern according to the Bible. Or a U.S. Senator (Ron Johnson) who likes global warming and wants to drill in Lake Michigan.

Beneath the foam of right-wing lunacy that slimes the Republican slate there are a few once-respectable lawmakers. But now they're utterly useless, cringing in fear of their wild-eyed jailers.

This is a party bereft of both ideas and ideals. It offers nothing but a spiral toward Paleolithic anarchy. Please vote Democratic.



"Always the usher, never the bride."

{ Letters }

COLLECTION BASKET SUPPORTS PEDOPHILES

Catholics of the Milwaukee archdiocese will be amazed to find out that according to Archbishop Jerome Listeki, parishioners and donors have been paying for living and other expenses for at least nine priests removed from ministry for sexually assaulting children.

The information was part of an e-mail sent to priests and parish directors on the heels of the 19th child sex abuse civil fraud lawsuit filed involving the concealment and transfer of known sex offender clerics by archdiocesan officials.

Apparently, this use of church charitable funds to subsidize child molesters has been going on for years.

For years these nine offenders, who would have been immediately fired in any other job once their employer had determined they had assaulted children, have been

living with the financial peace of mind of Catholic money. Why?

All of these nine men have been judged guilty of child sex crimes by the archdiocese, many of them years ago.

The time it takes to remove a man permanently from the priesthood, what the church calls "laicization" (meaning to "return" to the "normal state" of being just a lay person), can take up to 10 years, a notoriously long, inefficient and secretive process.

Catholics have a right to know exactly, to the penny, how many millions of dollars have been spent of their charitable contributions to house, send to expensive "retreat/treatment" facilities such as St. Luke's in Maryland and elsewhere, and all other costs related to concealing, moving and reassigning sex offenders over the years or settling them quietly in communities, undetected.

Where are these nine child molesters living right

now? What is their criminal abuse history? Why haven't their files been released so Catholics can know exactly why they have been paying hundreds of thousands to make their lives comfortable and secure for so many years?

And today's announcement, to cut off nine offender priests of approximately \$10,000 a year each, might be a prudent legal move to distance the archdiocese potential for ongoing liability, but this amount really dwarfs in comparison to the believed millions of dollars spent over the years to pay for the legal fees of attorneys to fight victims and represent offenders and those who covered up for them.

What are those legal costs? That money as well can only come from one source: charitable contributions from Catholics.

John Pilmaier
SNAP WI co-director

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What they said



“At what point would we allow marrying inanimate objects? Could I marry this table or this clock? How about a dog? This is ridiculous. Biblically, again ... marriage is between one man and one woman.”

— Rebecca Kleefisch, the Republican nominee for Wisconsin lieutenant governor, speaking about same-sex marriage on WVCY.

“It speaks volumes to the lesbian and gay community how they are perceived by the Republican Party. It would be nice if Republicans that understand that gay people are human beings would stand up and say they don't agree with that. But I don't know how likely that is.”

— Montana Human Rights Network organizer Kim Abbott commenting on a plank in the state's GOP platform calling for the legalization of gay sex.

“Obama: Get your hand out of my pocket. I can stimulate myself.”

— A message scrawled on a sign carried by a Tea Party activist at the group's Sept. 12 Taxpayer March on Washington

“One of my first dates with a witch was on a satanic altar and I didn't know it. I mean, there was a little blood there and stuff like that. We went to a movie and then had a little picnic on a satanic altar.”

— Tea Party candidate and anti-masturbation crusader Christine O'Donnell, who scored an upset victory in Delaware's Republican primary for the U.S. Senate, speaking in 1999 on Bill Maher's “Politically Incorrect.” Maher is playing clips of O'Donnell every week until she agrees to appear on his new HBO show “Real Time.”

“This Atkins diet is getting out of control.”

— Comedian Jimmy Kimmel joking about the raw-meat dress worn by Lady Gaga at the VMA awards. Gaga won eight awards — the most ever.

“My life is in a great danger here, and if I go back to Saudi Arabia they will kill me openly in broad daylight.”

— A Los Angeles-based Saudi diplomat seeking asylum after officials of his country learned he's gay and has a female Jewish friend.

“I think we should just try to make heterosexual divorce illegal!”

— Gay filmmaker John Waters on marriage equality

“You and the radical homosexual community want to harass supporters of REAL marriage. I will work overtime to help ensure that your political aspirations are aborted right here in Iowa.”

— Steve Scheffler, Iowa Republican National Committeeman and president of the Iowa Christian Alliance, in a letter to Fred Karger, an openly gay Republican who's formed a presidential exploratory committee



Extremism hits new heights with Kleefisch

On Sept. 14, Republican primary voters chose what may be the most extreme ticket for governor and lieutenant governor in recent Wisconsin history.

We already know that the gubernatorial nominee, Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker, will say and do anything to win an election. This includes taking positions against the LGBT community in order to satisfy his extreme right-wing base.

Walker is a notoriously cynical politician who will adopt any position to further his career. But his running mate Rebecca Kleefisch, is a bona fide right-wing religious zealot.

It should be disconcerting enough that Republicans nominated someone with zero experience in governing or an ounce of credibility in public policy.

But it is even more troubling that they nominated someone so extreme. Predictably, Kleefisch singles

out the LGBT community as one of the targets of her extremism.

Kleefisch was endorsed in the primary by the Wisconsin Family Action Network, which is the same group that pushed the 2006 constitutional amendment against marriage equality. This is an organization that lobbied legislators against student bullying legislation because they were concerned LGBT organizations may have had input on it.

In response to a Wisconsin Family Action Network questionnaire, Kleefisch said she opposes the historic domestic partnership registry that was established last year, giving LGBT families 43 of the 200 rights that married couples receive. Some of those benefits include hospital visitation, the ability to take family medical leave and inheritance rights. Clearly if Kleefisch has her way, those rights would be ripped away. Kleefisch has also come

out against age-appropriate sex education. She believes solely in abstinence-only programs. Kleefisch has repeatedly stated that she wants her girls to hear about “the birds and the bees” from their parents and not from someone like openly gay state Rep. Mark Pocan.

Kleefisch says that she is “100 percent pro-life.” She is endorsed by Pro-Life Wisconsin, the state's most extreme group on this issue. Her endorsement means that Kleefisch stands against women's reproductive rights even in cases of rape and incest — and even when the mother's life is in danger.

And although declaring to be “pro-life,” Kleefisch rejects the potentially life-saving possibilities of embryonic stem cell science.

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported before the primary that Kleefisch plans on using her conservative Christian principles and interpretation of the Bible



when making decisions as a government official. In an interview on the notoriously anti-equality religious station WVCY, she declared that the state's domestic partner registry is not only biblically wrong but that it leads to a slippery slope. She then goes on to ask, “At what point would we allow marrying inanimate objects? Could I marry this table or this clock? How about a dog? This is ridiculous. Biblically, again marriage is between one man and one woman.”

Rebecca Kleefisch has been using the slogan, “Rebecca for real” during her campaign. Given her positions, the LGBT community and fair-minded Wisconsin voters should adjust it to this unfortunate reality: “Rebecca's too extreme ... for real.”

Setting the record straight on hate crimes

Two recent criminal cases in Milwaukee renewed debate about Wisconsin's hate crime statute.

One case involved the murder of Chanel Larkin, a transgender woman, whose assailant was charged with homicide but not with the hate crime penalty enhancer. The other was the case of Robert Anthony Malczewski, charged with reckless endangerment along with the hate crime penalty enhancer after admitting to police that he used a pellet gun to shoot at people he perceived as Mexicans.

From its passage in 1989, Wisconsin's hate crime statute has been misreported and misunderstood by the mainstream media and by talk show hosts and audiences who seem to think the law is used only against white people.

It is also sometimes ignored by those entrusted to enforce it. Milwaukee police are not always aware of and do not always take note of evidence indicating a possible hate crime has been committed. Prosecutors can-



not add the hate crime penalty enhancer if there is a lack of evidence. They are sometimes reluctant to do so in cases where the defendant is charged with serious felonies that could result in life or near-life sentences, because the extra penalty charge is deemed superfluous and adds an extra burden of proof.

For the record, the state statute (939.645) does not create a new category called “hate crime” but governs penalties for already existing crimes. It says fines and jail time can be increased if a person is convicted of a crime in which he or she “intentionally selects” the person or property “in whole or in part because of the actor's belief or perception regarding the race, religion, color, disability, sexual orientation, national origin or ancestry of that person or the owner or occupant of that property, whether or

not the actor's belief or perception was correct.”

Although the statute lists categories of victims, it is neutral in application. People are often surprised to learn that in the state's most famous case, a black man named Todd Mitchell was convicted of aggravated battery with the hate crime enhancer for attacking a teenager in Kenosha in 1989. Racial slurs against the white victim preceded the attack.

Civil rights laws are often misperceived in the same way. The state law that forbids discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations, for example, does not just protect gay people or black people. These are not “special rights.” Because categories like “race” and “sexual orientation” are all-inclusive, these laws protect everyone. That's why a lesbian was once sued by a straight woman for housing discrimination when the straight woman claimed she was a victim of sexual orientation bias.

The hate crime penalty statute was criticized by

some as an infringement of civil liberties for penalizing speech or thought. In an appeal related to the Todd Mitchell case, Wisconsin's Supreme Court found the law unconstitutional in 1992.

However, the Mitchell case went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court and, in 1993, the high court unanimously upheld the law. Chief Justice William Rehnquist ruled that judges have always had wide discretion in weighing various factors, especially motivation, in determining criminal penalties, and that the legislature was within its authority to mandate greater penalties for crimes motivated by hatred.

Rehnquist quoted the legal scholar Blackstone, whose work influenced American law: “It is but reasonable that among crimes of different natures those should be most severely punished which are the most destructive of the public safety and happiness.”

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Appeals for appeal in Prop 8 fail

By Lisa Neff
Staff writer

Christian right organizations mounted a massive campaign to urge California officeholders to formally appeal a federal judge's historic ruling that the state ban against same-sex marriage is unconstitutional.

But the appeals for a state-sponsored appeal failed.

The deadline for California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Attorney General Jerry Brown or Lt. Gov. Abel Maldonado to file an appeal of the August ruling from U.S. District Judge Vaughn Walker passed Sept. 13 without action from the state.

The state had declined to defend the marriage ban, a

state constitutional amendment known as Prop 8 that voters approved in 2008, at the district court level.

The legal fight, now before the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, likely will go forward, with proponents of Prop 8 defending the measure. A hearing is scheduled for December.

In the days before the Sept. 13 deadline, a number of Christian right groups called for state intervention on behalf of Prop 8 voters, with the Capital Resource Institute waging the most organized effort.

The entire membership of the California Assembly GOP Caucus also urged the state's top officeholders to file an

appeal. A letter from the caucus to the governor stated, "It does not matter whether we, the attorney general, or you supported or opposed Proposition 8, or whether we believe it should or should not be the law of California. The people of the state of California themselves decided this issue on November 4, 2008.

"More than 7 million Californians voted to approve that measure, and to reaffirm centuries of case and common law that marriage is a union between one man and one woman. The initiative was upheld by the California Supreme Court as a valid exercise of the people's initiative authority

under our state constitution. One unelected federal court judge cannot be allowed to void such a decision, let alone do so without recourse to appeal."

The GOP lawmakers accused Brown and Schwarzenegger of shirking their duties.

But the governor's counsel, Andrew Stroud, said Schwarzenegger, "like any litigant, has complete discretion over his own litigation strategy, including whether or not to appeal an order."

Brown's counsel wrote, "The attorney general's decision not to appeal in Perry v. Schwarzenegger from a judgment he agrees with is an ordinary and sound exercise



PHOTO: COURTESY/THOMAS HAWK

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

of the discretion secured by law to his office."

Schwarzenegger is nearing the end of his term and cannot seek re-election due to term limits.

Brown, who has consistently maintained that Prop 8 is unconstitutional, is the Democratic nominee for governor against Republican Meg Whitman.

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GLSEN UPDATES RESEARCH

The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network marked the culmination of 10 years of research documenting the experiences of LGBT students with the release, in mid-September, of its National School Climate Survey.

The survey of 7,261 middle and high school students found that at school nearly nine out of 10 LGBT students experienced harassment at school in the past year and nearly two-thirds felt unsafe because of their sexual orientation. Nearly a third of LGBT students skipped at least one day of school in the past month because of safety concerns.

An analysis of National School Climate Survey data over 10 years showed that since 1999 there has been a decreasing trend in the frequency of hearing homophobic remarks. However, LGBT students' experiences with more severe forms of bullying and harassment have remained relatively constant.

INAUGURAL GAY RIGHTS MARCH IN SAVANNAH DRAWS 500

About 500 marchers gathered in Savannah, Ga., to raise awareness for LGBT equality.

The city's inaugural Queer Power March was also a celebration of a federal court decision earlier in the week condemning the U.S. military's ban on openly

gay servicemembers. The Sept. 10 march ended in Ellis Square.

The march was part of several Pride events that took place in the city over the weekend. Supporters are also calling for Savannah city officials to allow benefits for domestic partners and to shed light on hate directed at gays.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA COMPANY UNIONIZES

Workers at a California medical marijuana company recently voted overwhelmingly to ratify their first-ever contract.

The 38 workers with Marjyn Investments in Oakland are now represented by Teamsters Local 70.

Marjyn is a management company retained by multiple cooperatives organized under California laws for the purpose of providing patient access to medical marijuana.

The workers are trimmers, gardeners and cloners. Cloners clone different strains of marijuana, depending on its medical needs, said Lou Marchetti, the business agent for Local 70, which organized the workers and negotiated the contract. Marjyn Investments provides medical marijuana used by patients suffering from cancer, HIV and other life threatening illnesses.

Rome Aloise, President of Joint Council 7 and Western Region vice president, praised the work of Local 70.

"The Local was approached by these workers to organize and Local 70 accomplished this goal very quickly," Aloise said. "The Teamsters will provide these workers with the best representation possible."

NEW GAY COLORADO JUSTICE SEES MIXED REACTION

Relief and skepticism both are greeting Colorado's next member of the state Supreme Court. Monica Marquez is the first Latina and the first openly gay jurist on the state's high court.

Democratic Gov. Bill Ritter named Marquez earlier this month to fill a vacancy on the seven-member court. Marquez



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U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis.

BALDWIN SEEKS HEALTH DATA

U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis., introduced legislation in mid-September that would allow the U.S. Health and Human Services Department to collect voluntary data on sexual orientation and gender identity in its programs and surveys.

"Currently, the federal government does not collect any information about the health and well-being of LGBT Americans," Baldwin said in a news release. "Consequently, our knowledge of the health of the LGBT community is drastically insufficient and our current health care system fails LGBT individuals on many levels."

BRIEFS

Briefs from 12

is currently deputy Colorado attorney general and is past president of the Colorado Gay Lesbian Bisexual and Transgender Bar Association.

Marquez didn't talk to reporters after being named to the court. But an openly gay state senator praised the choice as a groundbreaking sign of progress.

"There are barriers that are no longer there," said state Sen. Pat Steadman, D-Denver. "We've learned to see past certain traits of people and see them for their competency and their character."

But a conservative critic of the court complained that he suspects Marquez was not chosen because of her merits. Matt Arnold, director of the group Clear the Bench Colorado, said, "I think it is unfortunate that Gov. Ritter appears to have played more to special interests than judging the nominees on their merits. He bypassed the most qualified nominees in favor of something else. I hope that she surprises us. I really do."

Marquez, 41, is a Grand

Junction native who attended Stanford and Yale universities.

"It is not because Monica is a Latina or because she is gay," Ritter said. "I chose her because of her analytical ability and her keen intellect."

SURVEY SEEKS INFO FROM LGBT NEBRASKANS

Researchers in Omaha are conducting a community survey of LGBT Nebraskans.

Christopher Fisher, of the University of Nebraska Medical Center, says there is little research on Nebraska's LGBT residents, and the surveys will be used to determine that community's social, mental, physical and sexual health.

The researchers have surveyed 300 people so far, but are seeking 200 more participants.

Researchers at the University of Nebraska at Omaha are also working on the project.

SEBELIUS ADDRESSES AIDS CONFERENCE

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius committed herself to seeking more money to help HIV/AIDS groups overcome financial crisis to further research, treatment and

prevention work.

Sebelius detailed the government's commitment in a Sept. 13 address to the U.S. Conference on AIDS in Orlando.

"At a time when many of you are seeing your budgets frozen or cut, Americans are depending on you more than ever — for life-saving treatments, for preventive care, for the housing, nutrition, and child care assistance that can make such a big difference," she said.

She cited the department's announcement earlier this year of awarding \$25 million in additional funding to help states respond to demand for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program.

"But we understand that this is only part of the solution," Sebelius said. "That's why we've also requested an extra \$30 million for this program in the president's 2011 budget, and I urge you to help make sure Congress approves this critical funding. Ask them to approve this money this month before they leave town. We don't have any time to waste."

— from AP and WiG reports

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Turnout in Wisconsin was much higher in Republican primary races

Primary from page 1

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In the Democratic primary for Milwaukee sheriff, incumbent Dave Clarke beat back a strong challenge from MPD Lt. Chris Moews, who was endorsed by the Milwaukee County Democratic Party, WiG and other progressive interests and labor organizations. Fewer than 4,000 votes separated the unknown Moews from the high-profile Clarke, who tallied 53 percent of the vote.

Throughout Wisconsin, as in other states, voter turnout was much higher in Republican than in Democratic races, signaling possible trouble ahead for Democrats in November. A total of 614,321 Republican

votes were cast in the top race on the ticket – the race for governor – compared with 233,119 Democratic gubernatorial votes.

One factor affecting turnout in that race was the hotly contested primary on the Republican side. Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett faced only nominal opposition in his Democratic gubernatorial primary but on the Republican side, Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker was locked in a sometimes-fierce battle with former congressman Mark Neumann.

Barrett, who is pro-equality, received 80 percent of the vote, while Walker racked up a commanding 59 percent victory over Neumann. Both Walker and Neumann are strongly opposed to LGBT rights.

Democratic strategists tried to paint Walker as badly wounded by his primary

battle, but his victory margin was higher than expected and political observers expect the gubernatorial race to be both bruising and close. LGBT voters could prove pivotal in the contest.

In a victory that was applauded by the state's Democratic leadership, primary voters chose Assembly Leader Tom Nelson, who represents Appleton, as Barrett's running mate. Party leaders said Nelson brings to the ticket both geographic balance and successful campaign experience in a Republican district.

Nelson, who was endorsed by WiG, received an impressive 52 percent of the vote in a four-way race that included pro-LGBT candidates Henry Sanders and state Sen. Spencer Coggs. Fair Wisconsin and HRL-PAC declined to make an endorsement in the contest. In an opinion piece that appeared

in WiG, openly gay state Rep. Mark Pocan urged LGBT voters not to support Nelson.

Tea Party-backed multimillionaire Ron Johnson easily secured the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate and is expected to outspend Democratic pro-equality incumbent U.S. Sen. Russ Feingold by four-to-one in the general election.

"TV ads shouldn't decide this election," Feingold said in a statement following Johnson's victory. "The people of Wisconsin should decide this election, so let's give them the debates they deserve."

Feingold has accepted invitations to participate in six debates against Johnson, who dodged 12 debates during his primary race, according to Democrats.

Pro-equality state Sen. Julie Lassa, D-Stevens Point, took 85 percent of the vote in her primary race in the state's



PHOTO: COURTESY

Pro-equality state Sen. Julie Lassa will face Tea Party candidate Sean Duffy in the 7th Congressional District.

7th Congressional District. Lassa will face Sean Duffy, a former star of MTV's "The Real World," for the seat being vacated by Democrat

David Obey. Duffy was the first candidate in the 2010 election cycle to receive Sarah Palin's endorsement.

None of the Republican candidates running on Sept. 14 reached out to the state's LGBT voters or expressed support for any of the issues important to them. But Belanger said that overall Wisconsin had elected a strong slate of pro-equality Democrats going into the Nov. 2 general election.

"We're going to be redoubling our efforts to make sure that we maintain our pro-fairness majorities and elect a pro-equality governor so we can keep taking steps forward," Belanger said. "We have an opportunity to not only protect but expand our fairness majority. The LGBT community has so much at stake in this election that it's important that everybody get out and vote for pro-fairness candidates."

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G'Ville counters Dove World

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The world's attention turned to Gainesville, Fla., earlier this month when Dove World Outreach Center pastor Terry Jones seized an opportunity to promote his bigotry.

And Gainesville officials, led by gay Mayor Craig Lowe, sought to promote peace and tolerance.

"There will be those who seek to create anger instead of reason, but Gainesville values a sense of community that is inclusive rather than exclusive and thrives on the contributions of people of good will from a myriad of backgrounds," Lowe said.

Terry Jones's Dove World Outreach Center is a Christian fundamentalist church with a small following and a huge reputation. Jones became an international personality earlier this month, when he announced that he was organizing to burn the Quran on Sept. 11 to protest, in part, a proposal to build a mosque in the Ground Zero

neighborhood of Manhattan.

The event did not take place, but Gainesville, a progressive college town best known for Gator football and the invention of Gatorade, felt the heat.

"I heard people talking about Gainesville on the national call-in radio shows, and they made us sound like Florida crackers, like bigoted hicks," said Gainesville LGBT civil rights advocate Peter Harrington. "Gainesville is a pretty progressive little place. We have a gay mayor, you know."

The gay mayor also has been a target of Jones and Dove World.

When Lowe ran for office earlier this year, the church staged a demonstration urging "no promo homo."

The church staged another demonstration after Lowe's victory.

The new mayor, after that picket, said Dove World's actions were not an attack on him, but on the city.

Just prior to Sept. 11, when Jones' International Burn a

Quran Day was still a go, Lowe urged citizens and visitors to celebrate Gainesville's diversity and unite against Dove World's bigotry.

"I condemn the offensive behavior that has been directed at our Muslim neighbors and those of the Islamic faith worldwide," Lowe said. "The Dove World Outreach Center is a tiny fringe group and an embarrassment to our community. They are opposed to Gainesville's true character."

If Dove World eventually burns the Quran, Lowe said he wants citizens to stay away from the church, to be alert and on guard, to assist law enforcement in any way possible and to enjoy "the many activities our wonderful city has to offer."

And, if there is a burning of the holy book, Lowe said he also wants city staff to send Dove World the bill for any security costs.

We want to hear from you!
Write managingeditor@wisconsin Gazette.com.

Yahara Bay

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RED CARPET ACTIVISM

Lady Gaga, center, and a group of gay veterans arrive at the MTV Video Music Awards in Los Angeles Sept. 12. The singer has been one of the most outspoken critics of “don’t ask, don’t tell,” posting videos denouncing the policy on Youtube and delivering an address from Portland, Maine, Sept. 20, as the U.S. Senate was preparing to possibly vote on the policy.

PHOTO: MATT SAYLES/ASSOCIATED PRESS

While the focus was on the Senate vote, a federal judge ruled against ‘don’t ask’

DADT from I

we’ll have a slim shot. The Senate absolutely must schedule a vote in December, when cooler heads and common sense are more likely to prevail once mid-term elections are behind us.”

HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Momentum for a Senate vote on DADT built steadily over the first half of the year. Months ago, the House voted to repeal the 17-year-old policy. The president, who began 2010 with a call for repeal, had endorsed congressional efforts to lift DADT this year.

In the courts, a federal judge ruled DADT unconstitutional earlier this month. And, in the public arena, support for repeal grew to 80 percent.

So when Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., scheduled a vote on the defense bill for Sept. 21, gay rights advocates were optimistic that they had the yeas both to repeal DADT and to break any filibuster, which McCain had threatened for months.

Reid’s office put out a number of advance notices on the vote, including a message to one influential opponent of DADT — pop star Lady Gaga, who last week used the red carpet at the MTV Video Music Awards,

her Facebook and Web pages and her Twitter account to rally support for repeal.

A response to Gaga from Reid’s Twitter account read, “There is a vote on #DADT next week. Anyone qualified to serve this country should be allowed to do so.”

LATE DEVELOPMENTS

On Sept. 17, the majority leader decided to use a procedural privilege that would limit the amendments Republicans could offer to the defense bill, eroding moderate support for breaking the filibuster.

By early Sept. 21, a key moderate, Susan Collins, R-Maine, said she wanted to

vote to repeal DADT, but she couldn’t support Reid’s decision to limit Republican amendments.

Later that day, Democrats failed to get the 60 votes needed to overcome McCain’s filibuster. The tally was 56-43, with all 41 Republicans, as well as Arkansas Democrats Blanche Lincoln and Mark Pryor, voting against moving forward.

Reid vowed an eventual vote on DADT, as well as the Dream Act. “We’re going to vote,” he said. “It’s only a question of when.”

With the disappointment in D.C., activists returned to the federal judge’s ruling against DADT in the case first brought forward

six years ago by Log Cabin Republicans.

U.S. District Judge Virginia Phillips ruled Sept. 9 that DADT violates the First and Fifth Amendment rights of gays and lesbians and has a “direct and deleterious effect” on the Armed Forces.

LCR executive director R. Clarke Cooper called the ruling a victory for “all American servicemembers,” while Servicemembers United’s Alexander Nicholson, a party to the case, hailed the decision as “historic.”

The Justice Department, responsible for defending congressional acts, defended DADT before Phillips.

Following the Senate’s failure to vote on DADT, gay

rights activists urged Justice to allow the ruling to stand.

“We still have a fighting chance to repeal DADT through congressional action, but in the meantime, the best interests of our men and women in uniform — as well as the country — are served by doing everything we can do to get rid of this discriminatory law,” said Joe Solmonese of the Human Rights Campaign. “We expect the Justice Department to recognize the overwhelming evidence that proves DADT is unconstitutional.”

Additionally, calls for the president to issue an executive order protecting gay and lesbian servicemembers grew louder last week.

Classical season mixes novelty with tradition

By Harry Cherkinian
Contributing writer

As fall ushers in cooler weather, Milwaukee's fine arts programming heats up with a number of innovative offerings. Some of the highlights to look for from the end of September through December include:

The Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra presents a number of firsts this fall, beginning with "Firebird." Igor Stravinsky's first work with ballet master Sergei Diaghilev, "Firebird" became the first of Diaghilev's famed "ballets russes." Also on the bill is the new American concerto "Appalachian Waltz," by contemporary composer and double bassist Edgar Meyer, whose musical styles range from classical to "newgrass." This is a chance to hear the traditional with the contemporary in one fascinating evening. (Nov. 12-14, Marcus Center for the Performing Arts.)

The Milwaukee Ballet's work appeared early in the fall season at The Rep, with artistic director Michael Pink choreographing "Cabaret." Now Pink turns to Victor Hugo's "Notre Dame De Paris" to tell the story of Esmeralda, caught between her own desires and those of a higher order (the church). (Oct. 28-31, Marcus Center for the Performing Arts.)

The holidays wouldn't be quite the same without the ballet's beloved "Nutcracker." In recent years, Pink's production of Tchaikovsky's most famous ballet focuses on the fantasy and magic of the adventures of the young girl Clara and her valiant Nutcracker prince, as seen from the child's perspective. After all, isn't that what Christmas is all about? (Dec. 10-26, Marcus Center for the Performing Arts.)

If contemporary dance is what you're looking for,



PHOTO: COURTESY

The Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra in performance.

Danceworks has just the offering, perfectly timed for the current political climate. "Lying" (as in not telling the truth) takes center stage with the 13-year-old local dance troupe as it explores the truth about deceit in movement. New York-based guest artist Amii LeGendre joins the group for a very revealing evening. (Oct. 1-9, Danceworks Studio Theatre.)

The Florentine Opera opens its season with the world premiere of "Rio De Sangre," by Don Davis. In Spanish, with English translations projected above the stage, "Rio De Sangre" ("River of Blood") tells of a fictional South American country whose government is overthrown by a new dic-

tator, whose idealism gets in the way of what he can achieve. Director Paula Suozzi (Milwaukee Shakespeare) returns to the stage to direct this production, which presents music ranging from lilting arias to up-tempo salsa. (Oct. 22-24, Marcus Center for the Performing Arts.)

If operettas and dry British humor are more to your liking, head over to the Skylight Opera Theatre (emphasize the word "opera" here) to see the comedic Gilbert & Sullivan's "H.M.S. Pinafore." The operatta pokes fun at Victorian English politics, the military and people in power who are vastly unqualified. Sound familiar? (Nov. 19-Dec.19.)

Present Music celebrates

Thanksgiving with its annual concert, this year featuring the Milwaukee Children's Choir, the Milwaukee Choral Artists and the Present Music Ensemble. In addition, the Bucks Native American drumming and singing group performs. MCA's presentation is a work by British composer John Tavener, best known for his religious-themed compositions. (Nov. 21, Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist.)

Frankly Music, named after artistic director Frank Almond (concertmaster of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra), celebrates its seventh season of chamber music, opening with "Strings, Strauss and Tchaikovsky" (Sept. 27-28). The seven-piece

string ensemble performs Strauss' "Metamorphosen" and Tchaikovsky's "Souvenir." In November the group celebrates the music of Robert Schumann with Milwaukee favorite, pianist William Wolfram, on the program. (Wolfram and Almond work well together - their 2007 recording of the Brahms Sonatas has been critically acclaimed as the best recording of this work.) Schumann-ists can expect to hear "Marchenbilder, for viola and piano, Op. 113" and "Piano Quartet." (All fall performances at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music.)

For those looking for chamber music on the West Side, try Chamber Music Milwaukee, featuring

faculty members from the UW-Milwaukee Peck School of the Arts performing at the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts (Sept. 30). The evening's program features "Five Bagatelles, Op.23" by Gerald Finzi, with Toddy Levy (clarinet) and Jeannie Yu (piano); "Legende Pastorale, Op. 138" by Benjamin Godard, with Margaret Butler (oboe) and Jeannie Yu (piano); selections from "Musiques populaires bresiliennes" by Celso Machado, with Caen Thomason-Redus (flute) and Rene Izquierdo (guitar); and "Trio for Violin, Horn and Piano in E flat Major, Op. 40" by Johannes Brahms, with Ilana Setapen (violin), Greg Flint (horn) and Elena Abend (piano).

Exploring rooms of wonder at the Milwaukee Art Museum

By Kat Murrell

Contributing writer

It starts with a tree in a gallery, its slender bare branches softly aglow and surrounding the gleaming, polished surface of a tall cabinet. Located on the lower level of the Milwaukee Art Museum, the pairing of natural wood and finished product beckons visitors like a siren to "Loca Miraculi: Rooms of Wonder."

A collaboration between Wisconsin artist Martha Glowacki and curators of the Chipstone Foundation, "Loca Miraculi" is patterned on the concept of the Wunderkammer, which is to say a "room of wonder," also iterated as a cabinet of curiosity. The motivation for these displays, which typically brought together interesting specimens of the natural world or manmade artifacts, was to assemble a collection for intellectual interest as well as visual pleasure.

The Wunderkammer has its roots in aristocratic hobbies of the 16th century. The modern museum as a home for collected specimens – with an eye on cataloguing what things are, from whence they came and other associated data – is a close cousin. At the Milwaukee Art Museum, "Loca Miraculi" represents a sensitively aesthetic approach to the act of examining and experiencing.

This installation flows through three rooms, the first of which focuses attention on the notion of animal,

vegetable, mineral. Printed gallery guides are available as companions offering information on objects, but there is also great value in exploration through eyesight. Fossils and minerals sparkle with brilliant colors and subtle textures. Animals transformed through taxidermy, dyed black as coal, are mute and strangely formal. This space introduces the world through the lens of qualifying information – things that are natural, things that are artificial and things that lie somewhere in between.

The ceramics room is the largest of the three, organized around tall wood and glass cabinets. The resources of Chipstone Foundation combine centuries of ceramics with original works by Glowacki in the spirit of inquiry and exploration. Each cabinet reflects a different theme, harkening back to the tradition of organizing things by defining criteria, whether form or function, natural versus artificial.

These installations work on multiple levels, literally. There are multiple drawers in each cabinet – go ahead and open them. Permission to open drawers and explore, especially in the nostalgic context of these displays, might bring back pleasant childhood memories for anyone who's pawed through the mysterious cabinets at the grandparents' house; the exploration of unusual, unexpected objects brings a con-



PHOTO: KAT MURRELL

"Loca Miraculi," a collaborative installation by artist Martha Glowacki and curators of the Chipstone Foundation, is on long-term view at the Milwaukee Art Museum.

sistent sense of surprise.

Glowacki's installations in the drawers are addendums to the showpieces in the cabinets, and the relationships are fired up through this low-tech, interactive approach. In one display, a pineapple-

shaped teapot glistens under the gallery lights, and opening a drawer beneath reveals an entertaining image commissioned by King Charles I of England to commemorate the first pineapple grown in Britain. The royal gardener

kneels, proudly presenting his sovereign with the exotic specimen. Capturing this moment by the hand of an artist is another way of cataloguing information – the event is duly noted, though artistically fashioned.

The final section of the installation, optical devices and the china cabinet, offers optical oddities and some unusual historical ceramics. The variety in shape and decoration in these utilitarian objects is seemingly endless, but a tendency for things to reflect forms of nature becomes apparent.

While natural imitation features strongly throughout the installations, it is interesting to note where less rigorous detail is commented upon. The blue and white cabinet in the ceramics room reflects a centuries-old interest in Chinese ceramics and designs, but when these styles were adapted for a European market, authentic designs mutated into vague facsimiles instead of accurate copies. It's a contrast between the precision with which the natural world was catalogued, as the integrity of cultural aesthetics from one place to another was lost in translation.

The concentration of "Loca Miraculi: Rooms of Wonder" is on the process of seeing and a sense of exploring. Moving between cabinets and cases, opening drawers and peeking inside, slows down the viewer's progress, with good reason. Curiosity blossoms into a sense of wonder and wonderfulness in the rich variety of the world, both in its natural and artificial senses.

www.wisconsin-gazette.com

Artwatch

DEBRA BREHMER

Things that go bump in the night. That would be sculpture and that's what I am thinking about this week. The Alexander Calder and Contemporary Art show at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago left me with a revelation: We have moved far away from the natty categorical divisions of painting, sculpture, photography, craft, etc.,

and the ensuing mix-and-match mélange of current art practice allows for surprising and sometimes gloriously fresh juxtapositions.

However, the Calder show was a sculpture show harkening back to those old-fashioned categories. And indeed, I found homey comfort in the focus. (As I say this, I realize it could be argued that the essence of Calder's work was the blurring of two and three-dimensional distinctions. But that's for a longer discussion).

One huge space held

50 or more of the master's sculptures, mobiles and staybiles, while another huge space across the hall provided stylistic echoes from seven current artists. This is a great show in the thoughts it presses forward as it pits Calder's swooping lyrical restraint and his balancing of simple shapes with the equivocal contemporary gestures that utilize a heavier vocabulary of excess, refuse and recycled waste.

Jason Middlebrook's 4,000-pound mobile of scavenged wooden things hangs from

the hallway ceiling between the two rooms, reminding us that, yes, this is a show about mass, weight and balance. It closes Oct. 17. Go see it.

In Milwaukee, we have a new sculpture seated on the lakefront at the end of Capitol Drive in Shorewood. It is by Jaume Plensa, the Spanish artist who did the Crown Fountain in Chicago's Millennium Park. "Spillover II" is from his series of meditative, seated figures composed of steel letters that form an open "skin." You can see through the figure as it

sits on its concrete pedestal looking timelessly over the bluff at our grand lake.

I think it is a good choice for the location: not too imposing, peacefully relevant to the site and a marker for the park. While it is a shame to block even an inch of that vista, this sculpture might actually help us see the view better, just as the framing devices that the other Spaniard up the block, Santiago Calatrava, used in his windows help us notice details by gently guiding our sight lines.

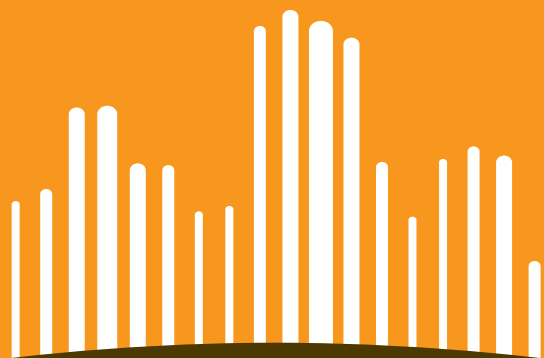
And last, the Milwaukee guerrilla group that promotes temporary sculpture will launch its new series of interventions with the real world between 27th and 35th streets on Capitol Drive beginning Oct. 2. There is a reception at 2 p.m. on Sat., Oct. 2, at Vanguard Sculpture, 3374 W. Hopkins and it is free. At 3:30 p.m. there is a tour of the projects with the artists, who include Marly Gisser, Sarah Luther, Colin Matthes, Marla Sanvick and Paula Schulze.

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Rep soars to new heights with first mainstage musical outing

Theater

HARRY CHERKINIAN

"People are people," says Sally Bowles, early on in "Cabaret." "I don't think people should apologize for anything they do."

Bowles' words overshadow the insulated decadence of "Cabaret" even as they foreshadow the menacing social turmoil of Weimar Germany that metastasized into the Third Reich. Set in Berlin in the early 1930s, this 1966 musical opens the season at the Milwaukee Repertory Theater and showcases new artistic director Mark Clements in his directorial debut there.

Based on this production, audiences have much to look forward to in this new era at The Rep. "Cabaret" is a tricky business to stage, moving from the forefront of doomed lovers' stories to

With her powerhouse voice, Kelley Faulkner is in full command, moving effortlessly from comedy to drama.

the labyrinthine back alleys of fanatical Nazi politics. In mounting the largest production yet on the Quadracci Powerhouse stage, Clements and choreographer Michael Pink, artistic director of the Milwaukee Ballet, deftly move a cast of 33 performers between these two worlds, entertaining us while remind-

ing us that nothing in life is ever free, including freedom itself.

For Bowles and the assorted characters who perform in and populate the Kit Kat Klub, life is literally a cabaret, on and off stage. These characters include the women dressed in men's suits and the twinkish, bare-chested boys in black leather and fur stoles, stealing glances and perhaps a kiss (or more). Their philosophy is live in the moment, drink your problems away (gin is Sally's preferred tonic) and never mind the intrusion of politics, prejudice or reality.

We are pulled into their narcotized bubble with the masterful performance of Lee E. Ernest as the Emcee. He seduces with bawdy playfulness and provocative costumes in numbers such as "Two Ladies," which underscores the growing menace "outside" pushing in (as embodied in the chilling refrains of "Tomorrow

"Cabaret" runs through Oct. 24 in The Rep's Quadracci Powerhouse Theater in the Patty & Jay Baker Theater Complex. Call 414-224-9490 or visit www.milwaukeeerep.com.

Belongs to Me").

Kelley Faulkner draws a sharp contrast as the British Bowles, sure of herself onstage while straining to mask her offstage vulnerability. With her powerhouse voice, Faulkner is in full command, moving effortlessly from the comic pitter-patter of "Don't Tell Mama" to the title song's range of emotions. She works well with and against the American, writer Clifford Bradshaw (Geoffrey Hemingway).

Other cast standouts include local actor/director Angela Iannone, Fred Rose, Linda Stephens and Jonathan Gillard Daily.

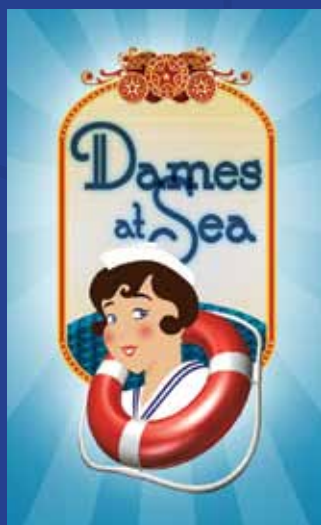
Linda Stephens and Jonathan Gillard Daily

PHOTO: MICHAEL BROSILOW



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Skylight's 'Dames at Sea' sails smoothly along

Theater

HARRY CHERKINIAN

"Dames at Sea" runs through Oct. 3 in the Cabot Theatre at the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800 or go to www.skylightopera.com.

Given the economic outlook these days, nostalgia never looked so good. In fact, it's staging its own comeback at the Skylight Opera Theatre, which kicked off its 51st-season opener with the gloriously funny parody, "Dames at Sea."

So, who's being parodied here? None other than Busby Berkeley and his visually spectacular movie musicals of the 1930s. Dancing girls in flashing costumes, moving in unison with fans or hula hoops, be it on land or in water, where boy meets

girl and gets girl happily ever after.

With "Dames," part of the retrospective appeal of the Skylight's production lies in its less-is-so-much-more approach. The seven-member acting ensemble fills the stage with a light heartedness and enthusiasm that gets the tongue-in-cheek playfulness just right while showcasing some well-executed song and dance numbers. That's due in large part to the small three-piece "orchestra" (keyboard, drums, percussion) under Jeff Schaeetzke's direction.

"Dames" director Bill Theisen and choreographer Pam Krieger evoke the innocent charm of old-fashioned song forms (the torch spoof "That Mister Man of Mine") and the sheer talent of classic tap dance steps amid two hours of laughs and memories of how things used to be.

It's easy to see just where the plot of "Dames" is headed: When a group of actors are forced to leave their theater on opening night, a dashing young sailor (who just happens to be a

The seven-member ensemble fills the stage with light-hearted enthusiasm.

talented songwriter in the making) offers up his battleship – without his captain's permission, of course. Add in the temperamental diva Mona Kent, who can't go on in the starring role, the sweet young Ruby fresh off the bus from Utah who can dance up a storm and the course is set.

Broskey more than fills the songwriting sailor role with his naïve, nice guy approach, which plays well with his romantic counterpart Ruby. Meghan Deese is perfectly cast as the sweetly naïve hooper, whether she's pining



PHOTO: COURTESY SKYLIGHT OPERA THEATRE

A scene from "Dames at Sea."

away for her new found love in "Sailor of My Dreams" or singing to her man in the chirpy, upbeat duet, "There's Something About You."

Christy Morton simply delights as the tempestuous Mona, a true comedienne in her own right and a

vocalist who hits the notes head-on amid some hilarious moments, like staying atop a piano in the torchy "Mister Man." The rest of the cast is equally good: Samantha Sostarich and Kelly Sina as a couple of "experienced" chorus girls, Scott Stratton

as Dick's eager sailor pal and, in a dual role, Mark David Kaplan as the tough theater manager and the ship's overly emotional captain.

With all of that, as another memorable song lyric goes, "Who could ask for anything more?"

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PHOTO: COURTESY

A scene from gay playwright Edward Albee's "Me, Myself and I," which plays through Oct. 31.

Broadway beckons with yet another gay season

A quick tour of theater marquees now on Broadway: "A Little Night Music," "The Addams Family," "Promises, Promises," "American Idiot," "Fela!" – and "Abraham Lincoln's Big Gay Dance Party."

Dance Party? Gay? Abraham Lincoln? (Only his really good friend Joshua Speed knew for sure.)

LGBT themes are alive and well (and in some cases, dancing the night away – after bar time, of course) in the Big Apple. Following are some choice theatrical recommendations if you're heading for NYC and looking for great shows that highlight LGBT themes.

What better way to start the Broadway season than with a new play by one of the theater's most respected out playwrights? Edward Albee's "Me, Myself & I" takes an absurdist

route with twins OTTO and otto and Mother (played by Elizabeth Ashley), who can't tell them apart. (Playwrights Horizons Mainstage Theater, scheduled to close Oct. 31.)

Another out playwright takes up the entire season at The Signature Theater Company with the first-ever NYC revival of Tony Kushner's two-part epic, "Angels In America." Signature will run both "Millennium Approaches" and "Perestroika" in repertory. For those who missed the original production, here's a chance to see this groundbreaking, Pulitzer Prize-winning work about the AIDS epidemic in the Reagan years. (Signature Theater Company, runs Oct. 28 through Jan. 30, 2011.)

For sheer classic comedy (with a Wisconsin tie-in), Moliere's "La Bête" (French for "the beast") stars former Milwaukeean-turned-international star Mark

Theater

HARRY CHERKINIAN

Rylance (he won a Tony Award for his hilarious performance in "Boeing Boeing") and out actor David Hyde Pierce (brother Niles in "Frasier") as a pair of rivals in the theater. Pierce plays the playwright snob and Rylance the clownish "beast." Joanna Lumley ("Absolutely Fabulous") also stars. Rylance began acting at UW-Milwaukee, where his father taught English. (Music Box Theater, runs Oct. 14 through Feb. 23, 2011.)

Speaking of "Frasier," Kelsey Grammer is currently onstage in the Tony Award-winning revival of "La Cage Aux Folles" as nightclub owner Georges. He's partnered with number one drag queen "Zaza," the excellent British actor Douglas Hodge,

who's won numerous awards for his portrayal. See this delightful duo before the replacements step in. (Longacre Theater, runs through Feb. 13, 2011.)

New actors often take over for others in long-running shows. One worth seeing is the current revival of Stephen Sondheim's "A Little Night Music." Theater celeb junkies get a two-for-one at this show, with Bernadette Peters and Elaine Stritch (taking over from Catherine Zeta-Jones and Angela Lansbury, respectively). Based on the Ingmar Bergman film "Smiles of a Summer Night," this production emphasizes the sometimes dark, unpredictable escapades of romantic couples. This is the show that launched the song "Send in the Clowns." Peters does this theater classic justice (and then some), making it as touching as it is timeless. (Walter Kerr Theater, open run.)

Broadway page 23

Broadway from 22

All the ensuing entanglements of romance can be found in this season's most highly anticipated show, "Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown," a musical based on gay filmmaker Pedro Almodovar's 1988 comedic paean to females troubled in love. Patti LuPone, Sheri Renee Scott, Laura Benanti (who won a Tony playing Gypsy Rose Lee in the 2009 revival of "Gypsy" starring LuPone) and the ever-dashing Brian Stokes Mitchell ("Kiss Me, Kate," "Ragtime") share the stage, with book and music by the duo who brought us the musical version of "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels." Director Bartlett Sher's ("Light in the Piazza" and "South Pacific") touch seems to turn to theatrical gold wherever he turns up. (Belasco Theater, previews begin Oct. 2 with a

Nov. 4 opening through Jan. 23, 2011.)

Other shows of note this fall:

"Priscilla Queen of the Desert" - The stage musical of the cult film opens in Toronto at the Princess of Wales Theater for a month run (Oct. 26-Nov. 28).

"Orlando" - Contemporary playwright Sara Ruhl adapts Virginia Woolf's gender-twisting tale, loosely based on Woolf's relationship with author and poet Vita Sackville-West. (Sept. 23-Oct. 17, Classic Stage Company.)

"Mrs. Warren's Profession" - Out actor Cherry Jones ("Doubt," TV's "24" series) plays the title character in this Shaw classic about a troubled mother-daughter relationship. The daughter is played by Sally Hawkins of "Happy-Go-Lucky." (American Airlines Theater, Oct. 3- Nov. 28.)

"The Pitman Painters" - "Billy Elliott" creator Lee Hall's London hit is a play this time around and once again,

the male sex appears in what seems to be the unlikeliest of places. This time, Hall trades in dancing shoes for paint palettes. Taken from William Weaver's book, the play is based on a true story of miners in the 1930s who invited a teacher to instruct them in art appreciation. The miners unearth their hidden artistic talents with amazing results. (Opens Sept. 28, The Samuel J. Friedman Theater.)

PHOTO: COURTESY
"Abraham Lincoln's
Big Gay Dance Party."



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Although he didn't officially come out until 2001, anyone with functioning gaydar picked up on the fact that Michael Stipe of R.E.M. was one of us. Though there was nothing overtly gay in R.E.M.'s lyrics (if you could decipher what Stipe was saying on those first few discs), they had an otherworldly quality – sort of a galactic gothic, if you will. This is particularly true of the attractively packaged, expanded double-disc reissue of 1985's "Fables of The Reconstruction." The set, which includes the CD booklet, a large poster and photo cards of the band, twanged a bit more than its predecessors on songs such as "Maps and Legends," "Green Grow The Rushes" and "Wendell Gee." The second disc features 14 of "The Athens Demos."

THE SHONDES

What Michael Stipe

(and the Indigo Girls and the B-52s) did for queer Southern musical identity, The Shondes are doing for Klezmer punk with a queer Park Slope accent. "My Dear One" (Fanatic), the quartet's second full-length disc, finds the foursome fiddling around (courtesy of Elija Oberman) with a minor key mood on a majority of the tunes, without forsaking the value of dancing. This is most evident on the tracks "Get Out," "The Coming Night" and "Make It Beautiful." A hora for your aura, perhaps?

SEMI PRECIOUS WEAPONS

Close associates of Lady Gaga (she played drums for them at Lollapalooza 2010), Semi Precious Weapons work the glam/gender-fuck end of the spectrum. Lead vocalist Justin Tranter transformed himself from singer/songwriter suburban kid-in-the-city to in-your-face rock god(dess) with the formation of SPW. On their sophomore album "You Love You" (Geffen/Streamline/Cherry

Tree), Tranter and company revisit a few songs from their overlooked 2008 Razor and Tie debut "We Love You," including the worthy "Magnetic Baby." Lovable new numbers include "Leave Your Pretty To Me" and "Statues of Ourselves."

OZOMATLI

Rock en Español band Ozomatli expands its horizons on "Fire Away" (Mercer Street). On the song "Gay Vatos In Love," Ozomatli addresses the group's gay hermanos with respect and affection. Add the irresistible dance jams "Elysian Persuasion" and "Nadas Por Free," and Ozomatli might tap into a new and appreciative fan-base.

ANTONY AND THE JOHNSONS

With the exception of the overly indulgent opening track, "Swanlight" (Secretly Canadian) by Antony and the Johnsons is one of the acclaimed band's most accessible efforts. From the sweet acoustic folk of "The Great

White Ocean" and the haunting piano-driven pop of "Ghost" to the deconstructed soul of "I'm In Love" and the gratitude anthem "Thank You For Your Love" (did you hear that brass?), "Swanlight" is a radiant and soaring album. Even more experimental fare, such as the Björk duet "Flétta," is less distracting than it could have been. Antony and the Johnsons' fans are also encouraged to check out Baby Dee's "A Book of Songs for Anne Marie" (Drag City).

LOVERS

If you didn't think it was possible for Portland's Lovers to maintain the momentum of their acclaimed 2008 "I Am The West" disc, then you were wrong. "Dark Light" (Badman) amps up the electro elements without sacrificing the band's uniquely personal perspective. An instantly enjoyable album, "Dark Light" highlights include unshakable opener "Barnacle," the punch of "Boxer," the acoustic approach of "Shepherd of the Stray Hearts" and the rewarding beats of "To Be A Dancer (I Am Alive)."



PHOTO: COURTESY

R.E.M.

ALSO LOOK FOR ...

But wait, there's more! With LGBT History Month just around the corner, there are plenty more discs by queer bands to make your observance complete, including "Let Loose The Horses" (Universal Republic) by The Rescues (featuring out vocalist Adrienne), the self-titled disc by the country-oriented Evangenitals (evangeni-

tals.com), the four-song EP "Salt" by The Locals (localsrock.com), the five-song EP "Rock Face" by Derek and the Darling (derekandthedarling.com), Hunter Valentine's "Lessons From the Late Night" (Tommy Boy) and "Indians and Clowns" (Buckin Savior) by Miriams Well (who are also from Portland).

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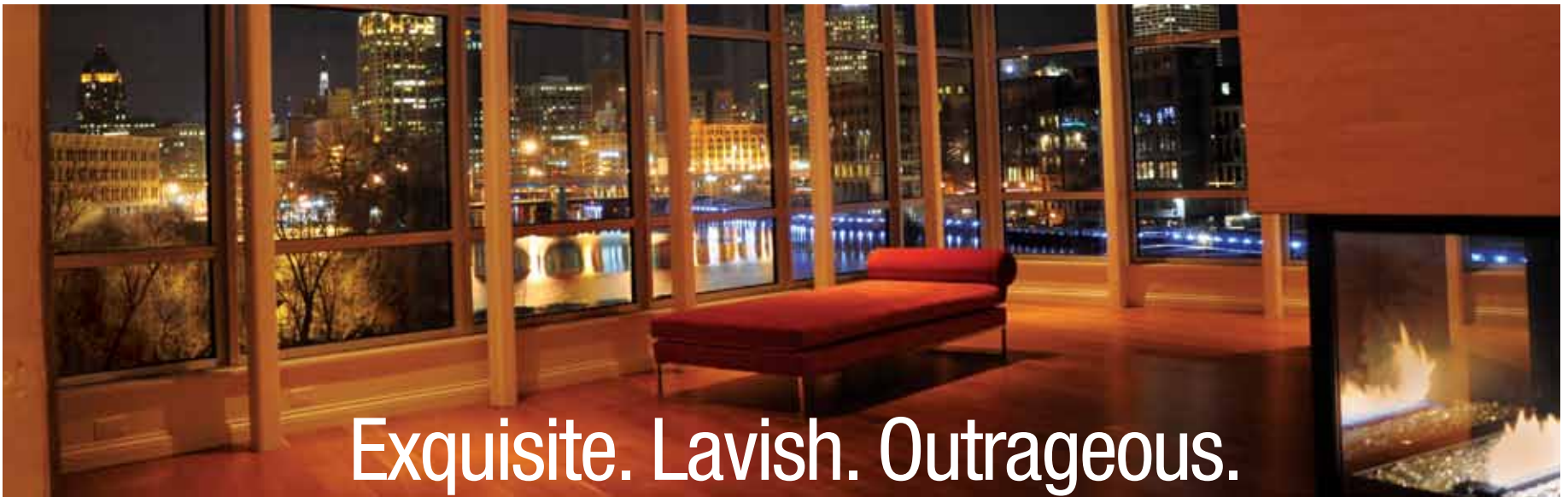
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SEPT. 23 THURSDAY

Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin in Madison, continues Stage Q's production of "Last Summer at Bluefish Cove" by the late lesbian playwright Jane Chambers, through Sunday. Call 608-661-9696.

"Southern Hospitality," a Southern-fried, laugh-out-loud farce, plays weekends through Sept. 26 at The Racine Theatre Guild, 2519 Northwestern (Highway 38) in Racine. Call 262-633-4218.

SEPT. 24, FRIDAY

Theatrical Tendencies presents the Milwaukee premiere of "Thrill Me - The Leopold and Loeb Story," Stephen Dolginoff's chilling musical based on the Chicago thrill-killings of 1924, at Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second, through Oct. 2. Call 414-383-3727.

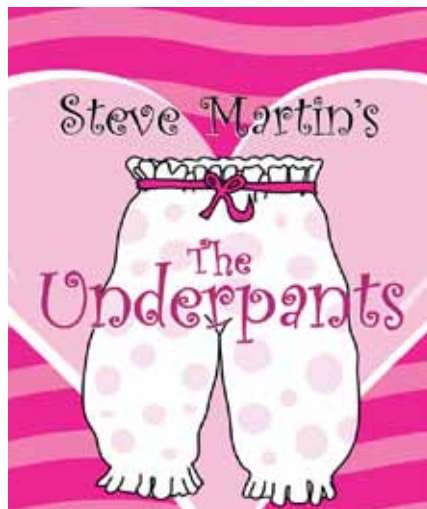
Carte Blanche Studios Theatre, 1024 S. Fifth, presents Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew" through Oct. 10. Call 262-716-4689.

Sunset Playhouse's production of Steve Martin's "The Underpants" runs through Oct. 3 in the Furlan Auditorium at Sunset Playhouse, 800 Elm Grove Road in Elm Grove. Call 262-782-4430.

Strollers Theatre presents the play "84 Charing Cross Road" through Oct. 2 at Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin in Madison.

"Invisible Boy," a new play about surviving childhood sexual abuse, written

and directed by Broom Street Theater artistic director Callen Harty, runs tonight through Oct. 31 at Broom Street Theater, 1119 Williamson in Madison. Call 608-244-8338.

**SEPT. 25, SATURDAY**

The hit musical "Hairspray" runs through Oct. 31 at The Fireside Theatre, 1131 Janesville (Business HWY 26 South) in Fort Atkinson. Call 800-477-9505.

"Dames At Sea" runs through Oct. 3 in the Cabot Theatre at Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800.

SEPT. 26, SUNDAY

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

WIGOUT ON THE TOWN

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SEPT. 27, MONDAY

Frankly Music presents "Strings, Strauss and Tchaikovsky" at 7 p.m. tonight and tomorrow night at Wisconsin Conservatory of Music Bader Recital Hall, 1584 N. Prospect. Call 414-940-8770.

SEPT. 28, TUESDAY

Three Strikes Productions and Charles "D" Productions presents The Divas Of BrewCity Benefit Show with Alexis Neome (Miss Gay BrewCity Wisconsin USofA 2010), Ms. Midwest Mystique 2010, Miss NightStar Milwaukee 2010 and Chakaya Monroe Scott (1st Alternate To Miss Gay BrewCity) at 10 p.m. sharp at Club 311, 311 E. Wisconsin.

Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells, presents Kander and Ebb's "Cabaret" in the Quadracci Powerhouse through Oct. 24. Call 414-224-9490.

SEPT. 30, THURSDAY

"Four Places" by Chicago playwright Joel Drake Johnson runs through Oct. 10 at the Tenth Street Theatre, 628 N. 10th. Call 414-278-0765.

Foxy Veronica's Peach Pies Caburlesque Show begins at 10:30 p.m. at Club 5 Bar, 5 Applegate Court in Madison. Call 608-277-9700.

OCT. 1, FRIDAY

Danceworks Performance Company presents "DPC is Lying!" tonight and tomorrow night at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. at Danceworks Studio Theatre, 1661 N. Water. Call 414-277-8480.

Wisconsin Book Festival presents Friday Night Festival Of Fiction featuring Gary Shteyngart, Lan Samantha Chang and more at 7 p.m. at Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood in Madison. Call 608-241-2345.

Madison Theatre Guild presents Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie" tonight through Oct. 16 at the Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin in Madison.

**John
McGivern,
Oct 2.**

**OCT. 2, SATURDAY**

The Racine Theatre Guild, 2519 Northwestern (Highway 38) in Racine, presents "John McGivern and Friends: Music and Stories," at 8 p.m. Call 262-633-4218

Farm Aid's 25th anniversary benefit concert features scheduled performers Willie Nelson, Neil Young, John Mellencamp, Dave Matthews, Kenny Chesney, Norah Jones, Jason Mraz, Jeff Tweedy, Band of Horses, BoDeans, Amos Lee and Robert Francis, at Miller Park.

OCT. 3, SUNDAY

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

**Norah Jones,
Oct 2.**





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Queer Zine Archive Project, 2935 N. Fratney St., 53202, www.qzap.org.

Shoreline Country Dancers, 2809 E. Oklahoma Ave., 53207, www.shoreline-milw.org, info@shoreline-milw.org.

Women's Voices Milwaukee, 630-890-5984, womensvoicesmke.viviti.com, womensvoicesmilwaukee@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY

Bay View Gays, 414-482-3796, www.bvgays.com.

Brew City Bears, P.O. Box 1035, 53201, 414-331-3744, www.bcb4men.info.

BWMT, 414-463-5359, www.nabwmt.org/milwaukee.

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CONNEXUS, 2439 N. Holton St., 53212, 414-390-0444, www.diverseandresilient.org/connexus.

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Firebirds, P.O. Box 159, 53201.

FORGE, P.O. Box 1272, 53201, 414-559-2123, www.forge-forward.org.

GAMMA Milwaukee, P.O. Box 1900, 53201, 414-530-1886, www.milwaukeegamma.com.

Gemini Gender Group, P.O. Box 44211, 53214, 414-297-9328, ggwi.tripod.com.

Lesbian Alliance, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-272-9442, www.lesbianalliance.org.

Lesbian Fund of the Women's Fund of Milwaukee, 414-290-7350, www.womensfund.com/who_we_are/lesbian_fund.

LOC/Women of Color, P.O. Box 93594, 53203, 414-263-1631.

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-271-2656, www.mkelglt.org.

Milwaukee LGBT History Project, 414-224-0517, www.mkelgbthist.org.

Milwaukee Pride Parade, P.O. Box 070177, 53207, www.prideparademke.org.

PFLAG-Milwaukee, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-299-9198, pflagmilwaukee@hotmail.com.

PrideFest, 414-272-3378, www.pridefest.com.

Queer Program, P.O. Box 090441, 53209, 414-265-8500, queerprgrm@aol.com.

SAGE Milwaukee, 1845 N. Farwell, Suite 220, 53202, 414-224-0517, www.sagemilwaukee.org.

Sapphic Adventures MKE, 414-628-1049, www.facebook.com/sapphicadventures.mke, sapphicadventuresmke@gmail.com.

SHEBA/Sisters Helping Each other Battle AIDS, 2349 N Holton St., 53212, 414-390-0444.

WanderWomyn Outdoors Group, debydoo2@yahoo.com.

Washington Heights Rainbow Association, 414-258-8834 www.washingtonheightsrainbow.org.

Wauwatosa Rainbow Association, tosarainbow@yahoo.com.

Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf, P.O. Box 353, Hartland, 53029, www.wiscrad.org.

Wisconsin Rainbow Families, 315 W. Court St., 53212, www.wirainbowfamilies.com, info@wirainbowfamilies.com.

HEALTH

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 510498, 53202, 414-273-1991, www.arcw.org, info@arcw.org.

Brady East STD (BESTD) Clinic, 1240 E. Brady St., 53202, 414-272-2144, www.bestd.org, bestd@execpc.com.

Galano Club, 315 Court St., Suite 201, 53213, 414-276-6936, www.galanoclub.org, mail@galanoclub.org.

Health Institute of Milwaukee, 1817 N. Martin Luther King Drive, Suite 3, 53212, 414-263-9999.

Milwaukee Women's Center, 611 N. Broadway, Suite 230, 53202, www.mwcinc.org.

Pathfinders, 1614 E. Kane Pl., 53202, 414-271-1560, www.pathfinders.org, info@tccmilw.org.

STD Specialties, Inc., 3251 N. Holton St., 53212, 414-264-8800, www.stdspecialties.org.

POLITICS

Center Advocates, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-271-2656, www.centeradvocates.org.

Equality Wisconsin, 2717 E. Hampshire Ave., 53211, 414-431-1306, www.equalitywi.org.

Human Rights League, 315 Court St., #9, 53212, 414-445-5292, www.hrl-pac.org, hrlpac@yahoo.com.

RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

Central United Methodist Church, 639 N. 25th St., 53233, 414-344-1600, www.centralumcmilw.org.

Congregation Shir Hadash, 414-297-9159, www.cshmilw.org.

Cross Lutheran Church, 1821 N. 16th St., 53205, 414-344-1746, www.crosslutheranmilwaukee.org.

Divine Word Lutheran Church, 5505 Lloyd St., 53208, 414-476-3189, divinewordlutheran.org.

First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee, 1342 N. Astor St., 53202, 414-273-5257, www.uumilwaukee.org.

Lake Park Lutheran Church, 2647 N. Stowell Ave., 53211, 414-962-9190, lakeparklutheran.com.

Metropolitan Community Church, 1239 W. Mineral St., 53204, 414-383-1100, www.milmcc.org.

Milwaukee Friends Meeting (Quakers), 3224 N. Gordon Pl., 53212, 414-263-2111, www.milwaukeequakers.org.

Plymouth Church, 2717 E. Hampshire Ave., 53211, 414-964-1513, www.plymouth-church.org.

St. James Episcopal Church, 833 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53233, 414-964-1513, www.stjamesmilwaukee.org.

SPORTS

Front Runners/Front Walkers, 414-443-0379, ullrullw.com/frontrunnersmke.thbolt@milwpc.com.

Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club, 3957 81st St., 53222, 414-616-3716, moenell@sbcglobal.net.

Milwaukee Gay Soccer League, 1012 E. Clark St., 53212, 414-405-5878, www.milwaukeeegaysoccer.org.

Milwaukee Gay Volleyball League, www.milwaukeegayvolleyball.com.

Saturday Softball Beer League, 2333 N. 56th St., 53210, www.ssbilmilwaukee.com.

YOUTH/EDUCATION

Alliance School, 850 W. Walnut St., 53205, 414-267-5400, www.allianceschool.org.

Alliance for LGBTQ Youth, 1212 S. 70th St., 53214, 414-453-1400, www.cssw.org.

Gay Youth Milwaukee, P.O. Box 090441, 53209, 414-265-8500, <http://gayyouthmilwaukee.tripod.com>.

Marquette Gay/Straight Alliance, 1442 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53233.

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

Project Q, 315 W. Court St., 53212, 414-223-3220.

UWM LGBT Resource Center, UWM Union WG 89, P.O. Box 413, 53201, 414-229-4116, www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/LGBT.

FOX VALLEY COMMUNITY

Harmony Café, 233 E. College Ave., Appleton, 54911, 920-734-2233, www.harmonycafe.org, skenevan_gw@gwicc.org.

PFLAG-Appleton/Fox Cities, 740 Kensington Road, Neenah, 54956, 920-722-7145. Rainbow Over Wisconsin, 702 E. Wisconsin Ave., Appleton, WI 54911, www.rainbowoverwisconsin.org.

GREEN BAY COMMUNITY

Argonauts of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 22096, Green Bay, 54305, www.argonautsll.org, info@argonautsll.org.

Bear Club 4 Men, P.O. Box 13463, Green Bay, 54307, www.bc4m.com.

Harmony Café, 1660 W. Mason St., Green Bay, 54303, 920-569-1593, www.harmonycafe.org.

Positive Voice, P.O. Box 1381, Green Bay, 54305, 920-435-4404, pvinc.org, info@pvinc.org.

Pride Alive, 920-471-3260, www.newpride.org, info@newpride.org.

RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

Angels of Hope MCC, P.O. Box 672, Green Bay, 54305, 920-983-7452, www.aohmcc.org, aohchurch@netnet.net.

MADISON ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Dairyland Cowboys and Cowgirls, Club 5, 5 Applegate Court, Madison, 53713, 608-277-9700, www.dcandc.org

COMMUNITY

OutReach, 600 Williamson St., Suite P1, Madison, 53703, 608-255-8582, www.lgbtoutreach.org, info@lgbtoutreach.org.

PFLAG-Madison, 4221 Venetian Ln., Madison 53718, 608-848-2333, pflagmadison@yahoo.com.

Gay / Bi Fathers Support Group, c/o Outreach, 600 Williamson St., Madison, 53703, tooldforthis@tds.net.

POLITICS

Fair Wisconsin, 122 State St., Suite 500, Madison, 53703, 608-441-0143, www.fairwisconsin.org, info@fairwisconsin.com.

SPORTS

Madison Gay Hockey Association, www.madisongayhockey.org.

Madison Gay Volleyball, 608-347-8907, www.madisonlbtvolleyball.com.

YOUTH/EDUCATION

GSA for Safe Schools, 301 S. Bedford St., Madison, 53703, 608-661-4141, www.gsaforsafeschools.org.

RACINE/KENOSHA COMMUNITY

LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin, 1456 Junction Ave., Racine, 53403, 262-664-4100, info@lgbtsewisc.org.

PFLAG-Racine/Kenosha, P.O. Box 580058, Pleasant Prairie, 53158, 262-694-2729, pflagkenosha@aol.com.

RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

Bradford Community Church-Unitarian Universalist, 5810 8th Ave., 53140, 262-656-0544, www.bradforduu.org.

SPORTS

Wisconsin Warriors, P.O. Box 334, Somers, 53171, 414-759-8823, [wiwarriors.com](http://www.wiwarriors.com), wivarriors@yahoo.com.

YOUTH/EDUCATION

Rainbow Alliance, UW-Parkside, Student Center, L108D, 262-595-2685, <http://www.uwp.edu/clubs/clubtemp.cfm?clubID=38>.

OTHER

LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, 1305 Woodland Ave., Eau Claire, 54701, 715-552-LGBT, www.thecentercv.org.

LGBT Community Resource Center Seven Rivers, P.O. Box 3313, 303 Pearl St., LaCrosse, 54602, 608-784-0452, www.7riverslgbt.org, r.st.sauver@7riverslgbt.org, lgbtcommunitycenter@yahoo.com.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

ONGOING

SAGE Office drop-in hours, 1-5 p.m. Monday and Thursday, Milwaukee.*
LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin drop-in hours, 4-8 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 2-6 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Racine.*

THURSDAY

2:30 p.m., first and third Thursdays, LGBT senior adults discussion, Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin St., Madison, ferington@charter.net.
6 p.m., third Thursdays, same-sex partners group, OutReach, Madison.*
6 p.m., Qgrads, UW Memorial Union Rathskeller, 800 Langdon St., Madison.
7 p.m., third Thursdays, Lesbian Alliance movie night, LGBT Community Center, Milwaukee.*
7 p.m., Q2-LGBTQ Youth Group, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, Eau Claire.*
7:30 p.m., Four Lakes Bears, Michelangelo's Coffee Shop, 114 State St., Madison, 608-251-5299.

FRIDAY

4-7 p.m., fourth Friday, Happy Hour with Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin, rotating location in Milwaukee/Madison, www.ppawi.org.
5:30 p.m., second and fourth Fridays, Pozitive Lite HIV/AIDS group, OutReach, Madison.*
6 p.m., second Fridays, Lesbian Alliance game night and potluck, LGBT Community Center, Milwaukee.*
6:30 p.m., Open Mic night, Harmony Cafe, Green Bay.*
7 p.m., AA, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.*
7 p.m., Gay Narcotics Anonymous, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.*
7 p.m., Drop-in night, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, Eau Claire.*
8:30 p.m., second and fourth Fridays, Shoreline Milwaukee line dancing and lessons, Hot Water, 818 S. Water St., Milwaukee, 414-383-75936.
9:30 p.m., first Friday, Milwaukee Guerilla Gay Bar takeover, location varies, www.mkegg.com.

SATURDAY

9 a.m., Frontrunners/Walkers Milwaukee Run Walk, starting at the Water Tower at the East end of North Avenue, Milwaukee, 262-285-7645.
9 a.m., Frontrunners/Frontwalkers Madison, Wingra Park off Monroe St., Madison, 608-469-4882.
3 p.m., second and fourth Saturdays, Women4Women, OutReach, Madison.*
6 p.m., Rotating Activity Night each week, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, Eau Claire.*
7-8:30 p.m., third Saturdays, BWMT (Black and White Men Together), general meeting.*
7:30 p.m., AA Spiritual Light, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.*
10:30 a.m., Al-Anon, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.*
10:30 a.m., AA Step/Topic meeting, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.*
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, Milwaukee.*
5 p.m., OutThere LGBT youth group meeting, OutReach, Madison.*
5 p.m., third Sundays, PFLAG Milwaukee, Martin Luther Church, 9235 W. Bluemound Road, Wauwatosa.
7 p.m., second Sundays, Gay and Straight in Christ, Good Shepherd Catholic Church, N88 W17658 Christman Road, Menomonee Falls, 262-502-0437.

MONDAY

7 p.m., Spectrum - Social and networking LGBT group, Harmony Cafe, Appleton.*
7:30 p.m., AA Came to Believe, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.*

TUESDAY

12:30 p.m., third Tuesday, Retired Old/Older Lesbians (ROLLers), Madison. Info: 608-219-7751.
5:30 p.m., AA Over and Under 40; 7 p.m. AA The Blue Group, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.*
6 p.m., third Tuesday, Fair Wisconsin Action Network of the Chippewa

Valley, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, Eau Claire.*
6:30 p.m., NORML weekly meeting, Berlin Public Library, 121 W. Park Ave., Berlin, www.northerwinorml.com.
7 p.m., last Tuesday, Canasta night, SAGE Milwaukee.*
7 p.m., Spectrum GLBT and Allied social group for adults, Harmony Cafe, Appleton.*
7 p.m., Women's Voice Milwaukee rehearsal, 630-890-5984.

WEDNESDAY

6 p.m., first Wednesday, LGBT cancer networking group, Gilda's Club, 7907 UW Health Court, Middleton, 608-828-8880, www.gildasclubmadison.org
6:30 p.m., third Wednesday, Wauwatosa Rainbow Association monthly meeting, tosarainbow@yahoo.com.
7 p.m., AA 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.*
7 p.m., first Wednesday, Bear Club 4 Men monthly meeting, Napalese Lounge, 1351 Cedar St., Green Bay, Info: bearclub4men@gmail.com.

*** SEE COMMUNITY LISTINGS, NEXT PAGE, FOR ADDRESS AND CONTACT INFORMATION.**

THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

THURSDAY

Sept. 23

6 p.m., Milwaukee Film Festival, runs through Oct. 3, screenings at various theaters throughout the city, full schedule available at milwaukee-film.org.

FRIDAY

Sept. 24

5 p.m., Rainbow Arts and Cultural Connection's TGIF party at BRANDED, the Iron Horse hotel, 500 W. Florida St., wly513@gmail.com.

5 p.m., MAM After Dark: Back to Skool, Milwaukee Art Museum, 700 N. Art Museum Drive, www.mam.org/afterdark.

5 p.m., OutReach Awards Banquet Dinner, Monona Terrace, One John Nolan Drive, Madison, 608-255-8582, www.lgbt Outreach.org, harrys@lgbt Outreach.org.

6 p.m., road trip to the twin cities and to Anothoth Community Farm with WanderWomyn, debydoo2@yahoo.com.

SATURDAY

Sept. 25

11 a.m.-7 p.m., Center Street Daze, Center St. between Humboldt Avenue and Holton Avenue, centerstreetfestival@gmail.

com.

Noon-5 p.m., Global Union world music festival, through Sept. 26, Humboldt Park, 3000 S. Howell Ave., Bay View, alvernopresents.alverno.edu.

3 p.m., Willy Street Fair with Women4Women, meet in front of Mother Fool's Coffee House, 1101 Williamson St., Madison, 608-255-8582, d41965@yahoo.com.

10 p.m., Brew City Bombshells Burlesque new members show, Stonefly Brewery, 735 E. Center St., brewcitybombshells@gmail.com.

SUNDAY

Sept. 26

Noon-3 p.m., family friendly BBQ with Sapphic Adventures Mke, Veterans Memorial Park, 1010 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive, e-mail with potluck commitments to sapphicadventuresmke@gmail.com.

Noon-10 p.m., potluck picnic with the LGBT Center of Southeast Wisconsin, Petrifying Springs Park, shelter #6, 761 Green Bay Road, Kenosha, 262-664-4100, www.lgbtsewisc.org.

1:30 p.m., Lynden Sculpture Garden tour with SAGE Milwaukee (adults of all ages welcome), 2145 W. Brown Deer Road, River Hills, 414-224-0517.

6-10 p.m., OutThere's Open Mic Night, OutReach 600 Williamson St., Madison, 608-255-8582, outtheremadisonwi@gmail.com.

THURSDAY

Sept. 30

2-4 p.m., older LGBT adult resources informational session presented by Care Wisconsin, Madison Senior Center, 330 Mifflin St., Madison, 608-255-8582, harrys@lgbt Outreach.org.

6 p.m., Diverse and Resilient's 15th Anniversary Party, Peck Welcome Center, Milwaukee County Zoo, 10001 W. Bluemound Road, 414-390-0444, www.diverseandresilient.org.

7 p.m., lesbian discussion group with Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee, LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St., debydoo2@yahoo.com.

7 p.m., Michele Norris at Alverno College, Pitman Theater, 3431 S. 39th St., 414-382-6044, alvernopresents.alverno.edu.

FRIDAY

Oct. 1

6 p.m., WMSE Food Slam, Grohmann Museum, 1000 N. Broadway, 414-277-2217, www.wmse.org.

SATURDAY

Oct. 2

8 p.m., Milwaukee Mandolin Orchestra's 110th Anniversary, Cedarburg Cultural Center, W62 N546 Washington Ave., Cedarburg, 262-375-3676, www.milmando.org.

WEDNESDAY

Oct. 6

7-9 p.m., workshop on female ejaculation and the g-spot with Deborah Sundahl, The Tool Shed, 2427 N. Murray Ave., 414-906-5304, www.toolshedtoys.com.



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STATEWIDE BAR AND ENTERTAINMENT VENUE LISTINGS

KENOSHA/RACINE

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

Fierte, 5722 Third Ave., Kenosha, 262-764-9713

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

MILWAUKEE

Art Bar, 722 Burlingame, 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. First 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

D.I.X., 739 S. 1st St., 414-231-9085

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

MADISON

Cardinal Bar, 418 W. Wilson St., 608-257-2473

Club 5, 5 Applegate Court, 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. Eighth 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 St., 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 St., Green Bay, 920-430-1301

Debs Spare Time, 1303 Harrison St., Oshkosh, 920-235-6577

PJS, 1601 Oregon St., Oshkosh

NORTHERN

Scooters, 411 Galloway Street, Eau Claire, 715-835-9959

JT's Bar and Grill, 1506 N. Third 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



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- Best national LGBT personality _____
- Best national male performer/entertainer _____
- Best national female performer/entertainer _____
- Best LGBT social group _____
- Best LGBT sports league in Wisconsin _____

DINING OUT

- Best fine-dining restaurant _____
- Best local restaurant _____
- Best ethnic restaurant _____
- Most romantic restaurant _____
- Best coffee shop _____
- Best pizza _____
- Best vegetarian food _____
- Best brunch _____

POLITICALLY SPEAKING

- Best LGBT politician _____
- Worst politician on LGBT issues _____
- Best LGBT ally political - organization _____
- Best LGBT ally political - individual _____
- Best LGBT community group _____
- Most homophobic group _____

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- Best non-LGBT publication _____
- Best TV station _____
- Best radio station _____
- Best movie theater _____
- Best movie of 2010 _____
- Best TV series _____
- Best book _____
- Best LGBT commercial _____
- Best LGBT website _____
- Best online dating site _____
- Best Wisconsin radio personality _____

LIFESTYLES

- Best performing arts group _____
- Best performing arts venue _____
- Best LGBT neighborhood _____
- Best green space _____
- Best LGBT event of the year _____
- Best veterinarian _____
- Best grocery store _____
- Best auto mechanic _____

KEEPING UP APPEARANCES

- Best clothing store _____
- Best stylist/salon _____
- Best place to work out _____

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- Best bookstore _____
- Best shopping district or mall _____
- Best florist _____
- Best garden center _____
- Dykiest vehicle make and model _____
- Gayest vehicle make and model _____
- Best Realtor _____