

PRIDE SEASONING

Salt-N-Pepa, LeAnn Rimes to headline Milwaukee PrideFest.
REGIONAL GAZE Page 4



THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY

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Everyone is welcome at this prom

By Louis Weisberg
Staff writer

When Kyle Callen stepped onto the dance floor with another boy, the other kids at his high school homecoming party stared.

"A group of the more popular kids on the other side of the gym started pointing and laughing," he said. "I stopped and walked away, but it was very embarrassing."

Now Callen, who's co-president of Pride Alliance at UW-Waukesha, is helping to organize an event where no one will suffer the humiliation he felt that night, no matter whom they choose as a date or a dance partner. "Pride Prom 2011: Masquerade," scheduled to be held on April 30, will bring together students from local high schools and the university for a party where everyone is not only welcome but celebrated.

"One of the reasons we decided to do this is to provide an opportunity for gay teens or interracial couples or people who weren't part of the in-crowd or the clique in high school to take part in this rite of passage," said Lorra Ross, secretary of the organization.

"We do a lot of protesting and working toward equality but it's also nice to come together and celebrate our differences," said Pride Alliance member Paige Feldstein.

For many young people, prom night is a magical experience that fosters memories lasting a lifetime. But for LGBT youth it can be a traumatic experience that forces them to choose between conformity and authenticity, according to counselors who work with them.

A year ago, Mississippi high school student Constance McMillen became a hero when she insisted on wearing a tux to her prom and attending with her girlfriend. After school officials refused, she contacted the ACLU and sued.

McMillen won her legal case along with an outpouring of public support. Ellen DeGeneres presented her with a \$30,000 scholarship award and Glamour magazine named her one of its Women of the Year 2010.

But McMillen's story is far from the norm. The same month she made headlines for successfully fighting her

PROM page 17

IN THE SPHERE



The greening of the LGBT community

By Lisa Neff
Staff writer

Hilton Whitt has a saying, "The only good trash is talkin' trash."

He's thinking of putting the slogan on an organic T-shirt. "But," said the 34-year-old Los Angelino, "maybe it's too long for a slogan."

Whitt recycles, meticu-

lously tends a patio garden, buys from green-friendly companies and votes for pro-environment candidates. A survey of U.S. citizens suggests that Whitt, a member of a gay Sierra Club chapter, is like many others in a community that tends to display greener attitudes than the heterosexual com-

munity. The LGBT community, in growing numbers, is concerned not only with changing the climate of prejudice, but also global climate change.

"Trends we've witnessed over the past few years consistently highlight the awareness and commitment that LGBT people

tend to show environmental practices," said Bob Witeck of Witeck-Combs Communications consulting firm in Washington, D.C.

In late 2010, Witeck-Combs and the Harris Interactive research firm polled 2,352 adults on environmental decisions, **EARTH DAY** page 18

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LGBT news with a twist

WIGWAG

By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg



GAY PENGUINS BANNED

"And Tango Makes Three," a book about two male Chinstrap Penguins hatching and parenting a baby chick at New York's Central Park Zoo, tops the American Library Association's "List of the Most Frequently Challenged Books of 2010." The book has appeared on the ALA's most challenged books list for the past five years. Other titles that topped the challenged books list last year include "Twilight" by Stephenie Meyer and "Brave New World" by Aldous Huxley.

GAY CAVEMAN IS NEITHER

When archaeologists unearthed a male skeleton in Prague that had been buried in a manner usually reserved for women, they concluded he'd been transsexual or homosexual. The discovery was trumpeted by headlines proclaiming the discovery of the "first gay caveman." But a number of scholars have disputed the claim, among

them UW-Madison associate professor of anthropology John Hawks. "Dudes! I could be wrong, but I think that to have a 'gay caveman,' you need a skeleton that is both gay and a caveman," Hawks wrote on his blog. "And this ain't either!"

SLUR AT SPURS GAME

NBA Commissioner David Stern quickly announced a \$100,000 fine against L.A. Laker star Kobe Bryant, who shouted "fucking faggot" at a referee who called a technical foul against Bryant in an April 12 game against the San Antonio Spurs. Bryant later apologized, saying he regretted using hurtful words used by some to discriminate. Both the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation and the Human Rights Campaign had called for swift action from the NBA.

GOLLY, DOLLY AND MORE

Earlier this month, GLAAD held

a glamour-and-glitz gala to celebrate Hollywood achievements and connections. Dolly Parton, Colin Farrell, Sean Hayes, Allison Janney, Melissa Etheridge, Kirsten Dunst and Chaz Bono attended the L.A. event honoring Kristin Chenoweth, Robert Greenblatt, "Glee," "Modern Family" and more. Parton presented an award to Greenblatt, a TV exec who has presented "some of the most fair, accurate and inclusive LGBT images ever seen in primetime," according to GLAAD.

FOR NOM NO MORE

An operative with the National Organization for Marriage is now an opponent of NOM's singular mission to combat legalizing same-sex marriages, according to a Web report that went viral in mid-April. Louis Marinelli, a strategist for NOM, told blogger Jeremy Hooper that he came to a realization: "The lesbian and gay people whom I made a profession out of opposing became real people for me almost instantly.

For the first time I had empathy for them and remember asking myself what I was doing."



WHEN A KISS IS NOT JUST A KISS

Facebook removed a picture of two men smooching, prompting hundreds of people to post photographs of kissing same-sex couples on their own profile pages. Ironically, the picture that Facebook censored (shown here) was posted on a page to promote a "kiss-in" at a London bar. The event, staged to protest the ejection of two men for showing

affection there, drew more than 800 demonstrators who locked lips in front of the John Snow pub in Soho last week. After host Richard Metzger of the online blog Dangerous Minds posted the photo with a story about the protest on Facebook, he received an e-mail from "the Facebook team" calling it "sexually suggestive" and "abusive material."

UTTERING 'UTERUS'

Florida House Speaker Dean Cannon recently admonished a colleague, state Rep. Scott Randolph, for using the word "uterus" on the House floor. Randolph complained that the tisk-tisk from the speaker seemed outrageous, given that the legislature was considering an unprecedented 18 bills attacking reproductive freedoms this spring. And MoveOn.org responded with a "Uterus is not a dirty word" petition drive. Cannon later said he did not reprimand Randolph for using "uterus" but instead scolded the lawmaker for an unfocused speech.

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| Alliance School Milwaukee | Florentine Opera | LGBT Center of Southeastern Wisconsin | Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design | Sixteenth Street Community Health Center | Wisconsin Cream City Chorus |
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REGIONAL BRIEFS

MADISON YOUTH
VICTIM OF ANTI-
GAY ATTACK

A 17-year-old in Madison was charged with a hate crime for allegedly punching an 18-year-old on a bus after harassing him for being gay.

Jayvon Flemming was charged with battery to a public transit passenger as a hate crime. According to the complaint, he and two others ridiculed another young man about his sexual orientation before Flemming punched him as they left a public bus.

The victim, who was hit in the ear and the nose, was treated at a local hospital.

The Wisconsin State Journal reported Flemming had lived in the same foster home as the alleged victim in 2009.

The complaint quotes Flemming as telling police he had told the man that if he ever saw him outside the foster home, he was going to "hit him in the mouth."

According to the complaint, the alleged attack was caught on security video.

NUMBER OF
HIV CASES IN
WISCONSIN
DECLINES

The Wisconsin AIDS/HIV Program documented 376 new HIV cases in Wisconsin in its 2010 surveillance report, down from 443 in 2009.

Of the reported cases, 265 were among people who received their initial diagnosis in Wisconsin during 2010, and 111 were among people who were diagnosed elsewhere and moved to the state in 2010.

Although the overall number of infections diagnosed in the state was down from 300 in 2009, it was still higher than a decade ago. In 2001, 238 cases were reported.

New cases among African-Americans increased over last year.

As of Dec. 31, 2010, there were an estimated 6,295 people living with HIV in Wisconsin.

WIS. PASTOR
CHARGED WITH
BEATING INFANTS

The pastor and seven members of a small fundamentalist Christian church near Mazomanie have been arrested on charges of child abuse for beating infants as young as two months old with wooden rods.

Philip Caminiti, 53, pastor of Aleitheia Bible Church in Black Earth, and his brother, John Caminiti, 45, pleaded innocent to a dozen counts of child abuse. The alleged victims range in age from infancy to 6 years old, according to the Dane County Sheriff's office.

"During interviews with detectives, Phil expressed his belief that the Bible dictates the use of a rod over a hand to punish children. He stated that children only a few months old are 'worthy' of the rod and that by 'one and a half months,' a child is old enough to be spanked," according to the sheriff's office release.

The pastor told deputies that the Bible prescribes the punishment for infants who are "being emotional, grumpy or crying."

Six church members charged in the case also pleaded innocent. None of the children of people charged in the case has been removed from their parents' homes.



PHOTO: COURTESY

James Cappleman

CHICAGO
ELECTS 2ND GAY
ALDERMAN

On April 5, Chicago gained another gay alderman and Springfield, the capital city of Illinois, elected its first.

James Cappleman, an out social worker and community activist, defeated Molly Phelan by a margin of 55 to 45 in Chicago's heavily gay 46th Ward, which stretches along the lakefront from Lake View to Edgewater.

The win makes Cappleman the second openly gay alderman on the Chicago City Council, along with Ald. Tom Tunney (44th), who ran unopposed for reelection. Gay Chicago described the contest as bitter, with Phelan sending out a barrage of negative mailers attacking Cappleman for weeks.

In addition to becoming the city's second openly gay alderman, Cappleman appears poised to become the first Chicago alderman to take advantage of Illinois' civil union law. He and his partner of 18 years, Richard Thale, said during the campaign that they plan to enter into a civil union when the law takes effect June 1.

In Springfield, openly gay Cory Jobe, the deputy chief of staff to state comptroller Judy Baar Topinka, easily won election in that city's Ward 6. Topinka, who ran for governor against Rod Blagojevich, is a gay-supportive Republican.

Other out candidates who were successful in Illinois on April 5 were Richard Rykhus, who was elected to the Evanston school board, and Ray Johnson, who was re-elected as an Oak Park village trustee.

GAY STUDENT
SUES FORMER
MICH. OFFICIAL
FOR STALKING

An openly gay student assembly president at the University of Michigan has sued a former assistant state attorney general on charges of stalking and causing emotional distress.

Chris Armstrong filed suit against Andrew Shirvell in Washtenaw County Circuit Court, saying that Shirvell displayed a "bizarre personal obsession" with Armstrong through critical blog and Facebook posts in which

PHOTO: COURTESY
Salt-N-PepaSALT-N-PEPA,
LEANN RIMES
TO HEADLINE
PRIDEFEST

Rap duo Salt-N-Pepa will headline Milwaukee PrideFest, performing on the Miller Mainstage on June 11. It's the first time that organizers have chosen a rap act to headline the annual event.

Salt-N-Pepa, the first all-female rap crew, recorded the first rap song to be nominated for a Grammy. Their hit "Let's Talk About Sex" was re-written as "Let's Talk about AIDS" for a 1992 public service announcement. Proceeds from the song benefited the T.J. Martell Foundation for AIDS Research and The National Minority AIDS Council.

On June 12, PrideFest will present another first when country star LeAnn Rimes becomes the first major country music star to headline the event. Scheduled to open for Rimes is country star Chely Wright, who made international headlines when she came out last year.

Rimes has sold more than 37 million albums, won two Grammy Awards, three Academy of Country Music Awards and 12 Billboard Music Awards. Her hit singles include "Can't Fight the Moonlight," which topped the charts in 11 countries, and "How Do I Live," the second longest charting song ever on Billboard's Hot 100 chart.

Wright has released seven studio albums and charted more than 15 singles. Her previous eight albums have sold over 1,000,000 copies in the United States.

The 24th Annual Pridefest Milwaukee takes place June 10-12 on the Henry Maier Festival Grounds.

PHOTO: COURTESY
LeAnn Rimes

he claimed Armstrong was pushing a "radical homosexual agenda." Shirvell told The Associated Press he had no comment.

Armstrong is asking for more than \$25,000 in damages. Shirvell was removed

from his position for lying to investigators during a disciplinary hearing and for posting attacks against Armstrong online during work hours, according to a statement released last November by Michigan Attorney General Mike

Cox. Shirvell became a national lightning rod after appearing on CNN's "Anderson Cooper 360" to defend his attacks against Armstrong, whom he referred to as a Nazi and Satan's representative.

"I'm a Christian citizen exercising my First Amendment rights," Shirvell told Cooper.

MICHIGAN
GOP FAILS TO
BLOCK PARTNER
BENEFITS

Michigan Republicans failed to prevent the domestic partners of some state employees from receiving health insurance benefits.

The state senate passed a resolution in March to block the move. Republicans in the state house needed to follow suit with a two-thirds majority, but they failed to get the votes April 14.

The benefits, for both same-sex and opposite-sex partners of state employees, take effect Oct. 1. They were approved by the Michigan Civil Service Commission in January.

In 2004, Michigan voters amended the state's constitution to ban same-sex marriage and civil unions. Republicans said the commission "made an end-run around the constitution" in extending the partner benefits, which they claim are illegal under that law.

A right-wing group is suing

to overturn Wisconsin's domestic partner registry under a similar constitutional amendment.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Griffin

EX-MARINE
GUILTY OF
KILLING MAN
AFTER SEX

An ex-Marine who admitted killing a gay Indiana University professor two days after they had a sexual encounter was convicted of murder by a jury that found the slaying was intentional and not committed in the heat of anger.

Monroe County jurors found Michael Griffin guilty of murder late April 14 after 12 hours of deliberations. The 27-year-old faces a pris-

on sentence of 45 to 65 years in Don Belton's slaying. The Herald-Times reports that Griffin admitted to jurors that he killed Belton in December 2009 by stabbing him 22 times with a knife that had a 10-inch-long, double-edged blade.

Griffin had claimed Belton, an assistant English professor, had raped him on Dec. 25, 2009, after a day of heavy drinking at Belton's Bloomington home. He said he killed Belton two days later in a rage when he confronted him about the alleged assault and Belton insisted the sex was consensual and that he must have enjoyed it since he didn't resist.

Griffin, who was awarded the Purple Heart after being injured in the Iraq war, said he had considered Belton a friend only and had not wanted to have sex with him. He testified that Belton "overextended his bounds. He sexually assaulted me, whatever you want to call it. Rape."

Jurors had the option of finding Griffin guilty of murder — an intentional killing — or the lesser offense of voluntary manslaughter.

— From AP and WIG reports

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Triangle owner Harry 'James' Marr dead at 43

James Marr, 43, of Milwaukee, died March 31 in his sleep from a torn aorta.

James spent his youth in Provincetown, Mass., and New Mexico before moving to Milwaukee in 1991 to become a dance instructor. Over the next several years, he worked at C'est La Vie, Partners and In Between.

He raised money for Milwaukee AIDS Project (now ARCW) by doing drag and becoming a Possum Queen candidate. He performed as Lana St. James in Milwaukee and throughout Wisconsin for anyone with a cause, including the annual fundraiser MAP Fest.

In 1999, he began tending bar at Triangle, 135 E. National Ave., and he became the bar's owner/operator. In this position, his philanthropy, love of drag, and love of a good party came together and flourished.

Marr touched many in the community in small personal ways in addition to his more public giving. Sometimes it was as simple as opening his business to them and giving



PHOTO: COURTESY

James Marr

them a place to be comfortable. Sometimes it was a small loan. Often times it was listening and then giving some hard but correct advice.

Marr believed the gay community in Milwaukee should be as proud as the communities in New York, L.A. and Chicago.

Inspired by their parades, he commissioned a Pride flag half a block long, which has become a major element in Milwaukee's annual Pride parade. He shared his pride by taking the flag to march in the Pride parade in his

hometown of Provincetown. With his weekly drag shows, Marr gave a home to performers from all walks of life where they could practice and hone their craft.

Marr was an icon within the community, always there to help, giving time and effort to various charities and friends. His friends will, with heavy hearts, miss his quick wit and humor.

Marr enjoyed travel and art but most of all he enjoyed people and his community. Through Triangle, he expanded the community to include those on the outskirts or previously not included. Gay, straight, tranny, young, old, in between - all were equal in his eyes.

Marr is survived by his mother, Linda Michelle Knight of Albuquerque, Cape Cod and Milwaukee; his brother Michael Wayne Knight of Dubuque; his brother Cole Lee Knight of Albuquerque; Anthony R. Gonzalas, his father figure; Matilda, his beloved min-pin; and too many close friends to list, as well as uncles, aunts, nieces

and nephews in New Mexico, Cape Code, and California.

Marr will truly be missed

and leaves a hole in hearts and the community.

In lieu of flowers, donations

in James' name can be made to STD Specialties, 3251 N. Holton St., Milwaukee 53212.

Remembering my BFF

I had no idea how short forever was.

My longtime friend Harry "James" Marr died suddenly on March 31. We met many years ago in New Mexico and have lived in Milwaukee for the last 20 years. James had such a wide-ranging influence on so many people, but on a personal level he changed my life profoundly without even knowing it. I was lucky enough to be able to tell him how he changed mine before he died.

There are so many wonderful stories about James - I have a million, just ask. I hope people tell those stories over and over as the years go on, but I want to share how I met James and how it changed everything about my life.

Many people who know both of us wonder why we were so close, since we seemed so different. We chose different careers, different lovers, different hobbies and different daily lives. What people didn't see is that at our core, we were the same. That is the tie that binds.

The night I met James, I was barely 17. He was

much older and wiser at 22. We were both at the same party. He was tall, loud and having a good time. I was drawn to him and moved closer.

He was making fun of the right side of his chest, which was a little sunken from a birth defect. He was walking around covering his chest with a flyer showing a shirtless man with a perfect chest and asking people to feel his perfect chest. This was the '80s, and my friends and I had hair dyed all the colors of the rainbow and, of course, teased out as much as possible. He was yelling, "Somebody get me a comb! I need to fix these kids' hair!"

I was instantly intrigued with him. We talked all night until the sun came up. I had been raised by a conservative family and had learned what appropriate behavior was and what should be said out loud. I also knew what was expected of me and how my life was supposed to go. I had never met someone like James who spoke out loud what I was thinking in my head. I believed the way I thought was inap-

propriate and should be kept inside, and here was someone who let what was in his head come out of his mouth. It was funny and usually correct and it didn't spawn the negative reactions from others I had been told it would.

Quite the opposite, it brought people together socially in a way I hadn't seen before. It brought everyone to the same level. By highlighting his differences, he made people realize that their differences made them interesting and that nobody is better than anybody else.

From that day on, I learned that the thoughts in my head could come out. I could say how I felt. This extended to being who I was with no apologies. It was a freedom I had never known.

I am so grateful to James for leading by example and helping me discover this early in my life. That lesson has profoundly affected the person I am today. Because of James Marr, I have led a life of freedom!

Thank you, James and I'll see you on the other side.
Your BFF, Damien Rose

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Through silence, students speak against bullying

By Lisa Neff
Staff writer

Listen, organizers of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network urged on April 15.

Listen to the silence, which spoke volumes on the national Day of Silence observed on more than 7,500 school campuses.

"The Day of Silence is a symbolic representation of the silencing effect young people across the country experience every day because of anti-LGBT bully-

ing," said GLSEN executive director Eliza Byard, whose organization became the first DoS sponsor in 2001 and continues to assist thousands of students in organizing events.

"For far too long we, as a nation, have ignored the pervasive problem of anti-LGBT bullying," Byard added. "While we at GLSEN are working to improve the situation in schools for LGBT youth and those perceived to be LGBT, students across the country are coming together

on the Day of Silence to say it needs to get better now." The first Day of Silence took place at the University of Virginia in 1996, when students called attention to anti-LGBT bullying and harassment by taking a vow of silence.

DoS founder Maria Pulzetti was 18 when she organized the first nine-hour moratorium on speech as a non-violent, civil disobedience action.

Students still lead the organizing in the Day of Silence.

On April 15, an estimated 20,000 students at middle schools, high schools and college campuses continued the tradition of taking a vow of silence and distributing cards that read: "Please understand my reasons for not speaking today. I am participating in the Day of Silence, a national youth movement bringing attention to the silence faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and their allies. My deliberate silence echoes that silence, which is caused by anti-LGBT bullying, name-calling and harassment.

"I believe that ending the silence is the first step toward building awareness and making a commitment to address these injustices. Think about the voices you are not hearing today."

At some schools, many of which already host gay-straight alliances, students wore tape over their mouths and organized Breaking the Silence assemblies. One of the largest DoS events took place in Albany, N.Y., where hundreds of students gathered for a rally.

When the events were over, many students turned to



PHOTOS: CALLEN HARTY

UW-Madison students marched silently from campus to the Capitol on April 15 to stage a rally denouncing anti-LGBT bullying in schools and universities. Students from other UW system schools and other technical and community colleges across the state joined the march and rally.

social networking tools — Facebook and Twitter, especially — to broadcast their accomplishments.

On the DoS Facebook page, Jeremy Behr said Eastern High School in Lansing, Mich., had about 200 students participate.

At his Bowling Green, Ohio, high school, a proud Trazel Sanders said, "Out of 980 students ... 250 participated. ... Enough said."

Student Veronica Buresh posted, "Me and my friends stayed quiet for a long day. ... My friends broke the silence halfway through the day, but I managed to stay quiet and I

only said four words total by accident."

The 2011 DoS took place near the end of a school year that began with a series of gay suicides — the unrelated deaths of young, gay men who complained of taunts and intimidation at their schools in California, New Jersey, Minnesota, Wisconsin, New Hampshire and Indiana. Earlier this spring, the White House convened a conference to tackle bullying in schools that included a number of LGBT activists, including GLSEN representatives, as well as LGBT teens and parents.

This spring also brought the introduction or re-introduction of several safe schools bills in Congress.

Most recently U.S. Rep. Linda Sanchez, D-Calif., introduced the House version of the Safe Schools Improvement Act, which would require schools to implement comprehensive anti-bullying policies that address harassment based on race, religion, sexual orientation and gender identity.

"Bullying is not a harmless rite of passage for children," said Sanchez, who has more than 70 co-sponsors for her bill.



Angelo and Jes share a hug before the Day of Silence march.

Maria Cadenas leaving Cream City Foundation

After six years as executive director of Milwaukee's Cream City Foundation, Maria Cadenas is moving to California to become philanthropy manager for Driscoll's, a global corporation based in the Santa Cruz area.

Cadenas is a native Californian who moved to Milwaukee in 2000 after attending college in Beloit. She served as associate director of the ACLU of Wisconsin before joining Cream City, where she oversaw a new vision of philanthropy.

"We were bold enough to dare to dream of another way to be a catalyst for change, to shake expectations, to redefine what a foundation is — one accountable to and built by community," Cadenas said in a statement announcing her move.

Among her other achievements at Cream City, Cadenas coordinated a landmark study of LGBT youth homelessness in the Milwaukee area and



PHOTO: COURTESY

Maria Cadenas

people who are willing to do the hard work."

"We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Maria for her extraordinary contributions to Cream City Foundation," the organization's board said in a statement. "Maria has taken our 'baby' and nurtured and grown the foundation, while putting us on an unprecedented, national, cutting-edge programmatic path. Her efforts in executing the organization's bold and daring mission, being a partner to community leaders and donors in their philanthropy, guiding new grant-making models, launching a groundbreaking visibility campaign, and increasing LGBT philanthropy to new levels are a tribute not only to her talents but to her dedication to our community."

Griselda Aldrete is stepping down from Cream City Foundation's board of directors to serve as its interim executive director.

WUWM PRESENTS
Liane Hansen
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ANTI-GAY PROSSER WINS COURT RACE

A statewide canvass completed on April 15 gave Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice David Prosser a 7,316-vote victory over challenger JoAnne Kloppenburg. Kloppenburg had declared victory in the race on April 6, when unofficial results put her ahead by 213 votes. Those results changed, however, after Waukesha County Clerk Kathy Nickolaus, a political operative allied with both Prosser and Gov. Scott Walker, revealed that she'd neglected to report vote tallies from Brookfield, a right-wing Milwaukee suburb. Kloppenburg was a long shot to unseat the incumbent justice until outside interest groups, determined to make the race a referendum on Walker's union-busting bill, poured money into her campaign. Right-wing groups responded by spending even

more money for Prosser, with much of it coming in the final two days of the race. A total of \$5 million was spent on the contest, making it the most expensive judicial race in state history. Prosser benefitted from about \$1 million in advertising from two groups linked to Koch Industries - Citizens for a Strong America and Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce. In March, Prosser voted with the Supreme Court's conservative majority to overturn a lower court decision allowing a public challenge to a permit that gave Koch's Georgia Pacific plants more leeway in dumping phosphorus into Fox River waterways. Koch Industries has also been active around the country in enacting laws restricting union activity. Although Prosser has never married or had children, he has positioned himself as a "pro-family" judge and had

an anti-gay voting record during the years he served as a Republican legislator. Unlike Prosser, who embraced endorsements from Sarah Palin and other right-wing individuals and groups, Kloppenburg tried to appear politically neutral during the race. She refused to answer endorsement questionnaires from Fair Wisconsin, the state's LGBT advocacy organization, and pro-choice groups. But because she was seen as the anti-Walker candidate, Kloppenburg drew large margins in progressive Dane County and also won in western and southern border counties. Her 57 percent of the vote in Milwaukee County, however, was less than successful Democrats generally receive in statewide races. Prosser's margin of victory was less than .5 percent of the nearly 1.5 million votes cast, entitling Kloppenburg to a recount at state expense.

HOPPER, OLSEN TO FACE RECALLS Oshkosh Common Councilor Jessica King will seek to replace state Sen. Randy Hopper, R-Fond du Lac, in a recall election that has yet to be scheduled. King lost to Hopper by fewer than 200 votes in 2008. In early April, volunteers submitted more than 22,500 signatures to the Government Accountability Board to recall Hopper over his support for Gov. Scott Walker's elimination of government employees' collective bargaining rights. The marital problems of Hopper, a so-called "pro-family" conservative, could be a factor in the race. When pro-union protesters surrounded his Fond du Lac home in February, Hopper's wife emerged to tell them he'd moved in with his much-younger mistress in Madison and no longer lived there. She also told reporters that

she and her maid are supporting her husband's recall. A complaint filed against Hopper for living outside his district is currently under investigation by the Wisconsin Justice Department. Volunteers working to recall Sen. Luther Olsen, R-Ripon, also filed recall petitions in April. Signatures to recall Sen. Dan Kapanke, R-La Crosse, were submitted last month. Attempts are still underway to recall five additional Republican senators as well as eight Democrats who are being targeted for delaying a vote on the collective bargaining measure by hiding out in Illinois. So far no petitions have been filed against the Democrats.

OUT CANDIDATE LOSES DANE COUNTY CLERK BID Out Dane County Supervisor Kyle Richmond lost his bid to serve as interim Dane County Clerk. The county board voted April 14 to allow Acting Dane County Clerk Karen Peters to finish out the term of her predecessor, who retired in February. "Having Karen serving out the final two years will give some stability to the office going into a major presidential election," Supervisor Scott McDonell, District 1, told Madison reporters. Richmond filed papers in early February to run for the position, which oversees issuing marriage licenses and domestic partner certificates. The clerk is also in charge of coordinating county-wide elections and monitoring compliance with open meetings and records laws. The next election for county clerk is in November 2012, and Richmond has indicated he would seek the position then. -LW

Study: LGBT population at 8 million

By Lisa Neff Staff writer

BY THE NUMBERS

Estimated population of the LGBT community in the United States, according to a new study released earlier this month by the Williams Institute at the University of California-Los Angeles: L & G: 1.7 percent B: 1.8 percent T: .3 percent -LN.

The population identifying as gay and lesbian in the United States is about 4 million adults, according to a demographer who has long studied the issue, along with nuances of analyzing and calculating numbers about the gay community. Demographer Gary Gates of the Williams Institute on Sexual Orientation Law and Public Policy at the University of California-Los Angeles estimated that gays and lesbians represent about 1.7 percent of the adult U.S. population. The percentage was derived from studies that asked participants about their sexual orientation, and it was based on the number of people who identify as gay or lesbian, not the number who have engaged in same-sex activity. The estimate of people who have engaged or experimented in same-sex activity - heterosexuals, homosexuals and bisexuals - is about 19 million people or 8.2 percent of the population, according to Gates' paper, "How many people are lesbian,

about the same as the population of Texas. Other findings in Gates' study: There are slightly more adults who identify as bisexual than as lesbian or gay. Women are more likely to identify as bisexual than men. Nearly 25.6 million people, or 11 percent of the adult population, acknowledge some same-sex sexual attraction. For decades, pioneering sex researcher Alfred Kinsey's assessment that one in 10 men are "more or less exclusively homosexual" guided population estimates for the community. The population estimate, in more recent years using other research methods, has fluctuated: two in 10, three in 10, five in 10. But the numbers always have been subject to dispute, especially by pro-gay and anti-gay forces with political agendas. "Lots of Americans have no idea how many people are gay or lesbian," said Gates, in a statement issued along with his study. "A 2002 Gallup poll suggested that one in six Americans had no estimate, and those who did have an opinion put the figure at a whopping 20 percent." Gates, in discussing his findings, emphasized the need for more research and more pointed surveys. His eight-page paper drew conclusions about the LGBT population, but much of the writing was devoted to "challenges in measuring the LGBT community." "Assumptions about people are flimsy; numbers are solid," Gates said. "The reality of our political system is that you don't really count unless you are counted. So it's time to stop believing an old estimate and making an accurate count." Later in its cycle of reporting results from the 2010 census, the U.S. Census Bureau will release population numbers for households with same-sex couples. Such statistics, gay rights advocates have stressed, can be informational but tend to underestimate the population. The bureau is still considering whether to ask about sexual orientation in its ongoing American Community Survey, which provides an in-depth look at many aspects of the American population.



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{ Editorial }

Enemies of the earth

The root of the word "conservative" is *servare*, a Latin verb that means to make safe, save, preserve, guard, etc.

But conservatives in Madison and Washington have abandoned any pretense that they're interested in conserving the Earth. Instead, they're pushing through policies that would liberally squander the planet's resources in the pursuit of short-term financial gain for their big corporate sponsors.

The scope of Republicans' efforts to destroy environmental protections at the state and federal levels is shocking. On April 7, every Republican in the U.S. House of Representatives (except for five who did not vote) joined with 19 Democrats to approve a measure that would effectively nullify the EPA's authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from factories, oil and gas producers, power plants and other large polluters.

In fact, the measure would repeal the EPA's 2009 finding that climate change is a result of greenhouse gas emissions. Congress has never before overruled or repealed the EPA's scientific determination on a pollutant in the more than 40-year history of the Clean Air Act.

In Wisconsin, a coalition of environmental groups has branded Gov. Scott Walker's state budget "a serious attack on natural resource and public health protections."

The budget repeals state law requiring recycling programs and changes the recycling enforcement law to apply only to individuals, letting corporations off the hook. The budget removes incentives for green business development and farmland preservation.

The budget also guts much of Wisconsin's Clean Water Act. It liberalizes phosphorus-dumping rules and delays their implementation until 2013. This is a reward for the infamous Koch brothers, whose Georgia Pacific plants are responsible for 9 percent of the total phosphorus pollution in the lower Fox River. The Koch brothers have given millions to the Wisconsin GOP, especially Walker and Supreme Court Justice David Prosser.

If the governor's reckless assault on the environment goes forward unchallenged, Wisconsin could someday more resemble pollution-ravaged areas of China and Eastern Europe than the relatively pristine state that we know. Republicans like to invoke the "natural" order when it comes to disapproving of same-sex relationships, but they show nothing but disdain for nature when it interferes with their greed.



"OK, Mrs. Hickerdooper says the legalization of same-sex marriage is destroying her blissful 47-year union with Mr. Hickerdooper..."

{ Letters }

HEALTH CARE REFORM AND HIV

The health care reform law just celebrated its first birthday. The HIV/AIDS community, for the most part, has been supportive of the president's health care efforts. We've paid the price that comes with a government that does not embrace our sick. More than most, we felt a moral urgency to pass this legislation.

That doesn't mean, however, we blindly fight all efforts to change the law. As changes to the health care law are debated, we must take part.

HIV/AIDS patients have much at stake when it comes to changes to Medicare. Roughly 100,000 depend on the program for health coverage. Medicare soon will be the single largest source of federal financing for HIV/AIDS treatment.

Americans have taken tremendous strides in the fight against HIV/AIDS. But this battle is far from over. There still isn't a cure. And too many patients lack access to treatment. Tens of thousands languish on medication wait lists. ADAP has been abolished in some states.

Over the past 30 years, our greatest strength has been accountability. We always had

a way of fighting cuts or laws that discriminated against people with HIV/AIDS. If a door was blocked, we created a new entrance and walked through it, proudly.

There are portions of the president's legislation that actually threaten HIV/AIDS patients' well-being. At the top of that list is the establishment of the new Independent Payment Advisory Board, or IPAB.

Comprised of 15 presidential appointees, IPAB's purpose is to de-politicize Medicare cost-cutting. Starting in 2014, if Medicare is expected to exceed that year's preset spending target, the board will have the authority to recommend cuts to the program.

These recommendations will automatically become law unless Congress stops them by making equivalent cuts – and then passes them with a three-fifths supermajority. If not, there is no appeal process nor administrative review. IPAB represents a step back in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

While there are limits on what IPAB can do, it will have the power to adjust reimbursement rates for Medicare providers. In practice, that means cutting pay-

ments to doctors.

Such cuts will drive even more doctors from Medicare. Physicians faced with the prospect of losing money on every additional enrollee are already declining to take on new Medicare patients. Others have opted out Medicare entirely.

HIV/AIDS patients depend on specialized physicians. Each patient has a unique combination of anti-retrovirals they rely on to stay alive. If HIV/AIDS patients on Medicare lose access to the few doctors available to them with this expertise, we're literally endangering their lives.

IPAB is also empowered to restrict Medicare coverage of certain drugs and treatments. If IPAB decides that the biggest public insurance program, Medicare, will not pay for new, advanced treatments, firms won't have the capital they need to develop new research lines. New, life-saving HIV/AIDS treatments could be passed over.

HIV/AIDS patients and advocates have earned a place at the table. It's our right to pull back that chair and do what's necessary to protect three decades of advances.

David Mixner
Washington, D.C.

So they said

"It's an affront to my sexual orientation. And furthermore, it's just not true."
– UW-Madison chancellor Biddy Martin, offering a rebuttal to accusations she's "in bed with the governor."

"The lesbian and gay people whom I made a profession out of opposing became real people for me almost instantly. For the first time I had empathy for them and remember asking myself what I was doing."

– Louis Marinelli, a former top strategist for the National Organization for Marriage, explaining why he switched sides and became a supporter of civil marriage for gays.

"I get upset at bullies, and that's all they are, are bullies. It's bullying, trying to say your way is better, trying to say they are better."

– Lynda Carter, who played "Wonder Woman" on TV, standing up for the LGBT community. She was grand marshal of this year's Phoenix Pride Parade.

"We have homophobes in our party. That's disgusting to me. We're all human beings. We're all God's children."

– Former GOP Sen. Alan Simpson, speaking on MSNBC's "Hardball."

"Lady Gaga tries to continue to shock Catholics and Christians in general: She dresses as a nun. ... She swallows the rosary. She has now morphed into a caricature of herself."

– Catholic League president Bill Donohue, responding to Lady Gaga's new song "Judas."

"I want to encourage many people of all faiths to come forward and stand with me. Even if you don't believe in Jesus the way I do, he did teach love – not just tolerance, but acceptance. I'm lucky I had parents who adopted me at birth, conservative Southern Baptists, who said, 'You will love everyone the same.'"

– Kristin Chenoweth, accepting a Vanguard Award at the 22nd Annual GLAAD Media Awards in Los Angeles.

"One year ago, Mike Huckabee said terrible things about my community and me. He compared gay marriage to incest, polygamy and drug abuse. He said that gay couples should not be able to adopt: 'These are not puppies, raising children is not an experiment.' Who the hell is he to cast aspersions on others?"

– Openly gay GOP presidential candidate Fred Karger, taking on former Ark. Gov. Mike Huckabee, one of his Republican rivals.

"I have a great relationship with the blacks. I've always had a great relationship with the blacks."

– Anti-gay possible GOP presidential contender Donald Trump, speaking to an Albany, N.Y., radio station.

Directing anger into action

Last week the state of Delaware cleared a major hurdle toward becoming the seventh in the nation to legalize civil unions for same-sex couples. The state's legislature passed a bill by a 26-15 vote, followed by an eruption of applause. Delaware's Democratic governor of two years says he's looking forward to signing the bill into law.

Wisconsin is quickly moving in the opposite direction. This rapid descent is particularly troubling given that our state was the first to enact legislation protecting LGBT people from employment discrimination.

Wisconsin's government was not only taken over by Republicans in November – it was taken over by right-wing extremists. Unfortunately their extremism includes an open hostility toward equality. Some legislators now in the majority have blatantly anti-gay voting records. They

have voted against measures designed to discourage anti-gay bullying in schools and for measures to enshrine anti-gay bigotry into our Constitution. Even the newest members of the Republican majority have received top scores from anti-gay organizations because of their views.

Although he campaigned for governor on creating jobs, Scott Walker's first 100 days have shown no real focus on that subject. But one thing he managed to include in his first 100 days was to fire the lawyers defending the state's domestic partnership registry.

In coming months, we are likely to see additional attacks from Walker. For example, as he seeks to finance his tax cuts for the rich, many critical programs will face dramatic cuts and possible elimination. It's hard not to assume that funding for AIDS and other programs of interest to the LGBT community will suffer under his ax.

On the other hand, governors of neighboring states are moving in the direction of fairness. In January, Pat Quinn, the new Democratic governor of Illinois, signed a bill legally recognizing the civil unions of gay couples in that state. Last week, Minnesota's Mark Dayton became the first sitting governor of that state to attend OutFront Minnesota's LGBT Lobby Day. "I stand with you,"

he said during that event, going on to pledge support for full equality, which he described as consistent with "the founding principle of this country."

Opinion
CORY LIEBMANN

As neighboring states move forward, we move backward.

Instead of envying our neighbors, LGBT Wisconsinites must channel their disapproval of Walker into deliberate action. While he cannot be recalled until January, at least eight of his state senators are the targets of current recall efforts. Visit recalltherepublican8.com to find out more about those efforts and to learn you can help them.

If at least three of the Republican senators are replaced, it will go a long way toward slowing down Scott Walker's radical agenda. If we are able to accomplish such an unprecedented feat, our action and determination just might earn Wisconsin the envy of our neighbors and of other fair-minded people across the nation.

cause, though that cause was, I believe, one of the worst for which a people ever fought, and one for which there was the least excuse."

The Burns documentary, with eyewitness testimonies, stark photos and haunting music, is a great way to explore the war. It's available at libraries and online.

Two books I've read recently are "Manhunt" by James Swanson, a pulse-racing account of the chase to capture Lincoln assassin John Wilkes Booth, and "This Republic of Suffering" by Drew Gilpin Faust, a profound meditation on the country's response to mass deaths, from the development of embalming and refrigeration to the establishment of veteran cemeteries.

The New York Times is running an online series called "Disunion" from now until April 2015 with stories about how the war developed day by day over its four-year course. The juxtaposition of this series with current headlines of partisan rancor is sobering to say the least.

Telegraphy, newspapers and the new medium of photography conveyed reports and graphic images from the battlefields to people in the North and South. Fighting raged from Pennsylvania through Virginia and Tennessee down to Florida and across the Gulf

states to the Mississippi River and Texas. There were even skirmishes in Arizona and California.

In July 1863, two hard-won Union victories began to turn the tide of the war. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant captured Vicksburg, securing Union control of the Mississippi River, and Gen. Robert E. Lee's army was defeated at Gettysburg, blunting an invasion of the North. Fifty thousand men fell at Gettysburg. About the surrender of Gen. Lee in April 1865, Grant said: "I felt like anything rather than rejoicing at the downfall of a foe who had fought so long and valiantly, and had suffered so much for a

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Trusting God can mean ignoring God's followers

Religion

ANDREW WARNER

Last month the Wisconsin Gazette reported on two incidents of abuse and violence by Christians against LGBT people.

In Pennsylvania, a man claimed the Old Testament inspired him to stone an elderly gay man to death. From Iowa came news that a pastor engaged in sex with teenage boys to "cure" them of homosexuality.

The cases of these men are extreme, but they point to a dilemma many LGBT people face in practicing faith: too often religion becomes a bludgeon used against us, a justification for oppression.

Doubt in my faith comes not from the problem of rec-

onciling evolution with creation nor from the mystery of the resurrection. Other Christians make me doubt. They challenge my faith to think that LGBT rights would progress if fewer people went to church, synagogue or mosque.

Can we trust God when so many of God's followers use God's name to abuse others?

I wonder about that question heading into holy days for Jews and Christians. Jews observe Passover, an eight-day festival celebrating God's liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. At the same time, Christians remember the last days of Jesus, his death and miraculous resurrection. I turn to these sacred stories whenever God's followers cause me to doubt.

The Passover story began when God heard "the cries

of my people." God became aware of the degradation and oppression the Israelites faced every day in Egypt. A struggle for freedom ensued, which came to a head on the first night of Passover. God punished the Egyptians, allowing the slaves to escape to freedom.

On Passover, Jews imagine that they are in that first generation escaping slavery. This leads to hope: as God once liberated, God will liberate again. God heard our cries, God will hear us again. God hears when someone suffers, when a teen is attacked with pipes and bats, when a transgender person is bullied and threatened.

Just as Passover witnesses to God's commitment to liberation, so does Holy Week. On the Friday of Holy Week, Christians remember the death of Jesus on the cross,

a painful and public way that criminals were killed. Often this involves reading the last words of Jesus from the cross, words like, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

These are powerful words in themselves, but even more so because Jesus quoted from a Psalm, an ancient Israelite prayer written from the per-

spective of one unfairly persecuted. Jesus connected his own suffering with countless victims who went before him and all who came after. For those who see Jesus as the manifestation of God, Jesus' cry becomes God giving voice to voiceless people in every age.

I hear in the cry of Jesus on the cross the pain of men like

Murray Seidman, the elderly gay man stoned to death in Pennsylvania.

The sacred stories Jews and Christians celebrate this week remind me why God is trustworthy. God hears our cries. God gives voice to our pain.

God will liberate, even if that means saving us from some of God's followers.

Open & Affirming Congregations

To contribute a listing, please e-mail managingeditor@wisconsin-gazette.com.

MILWAUKEE

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 Place, 53212, 414-263-2111, www.milwaukeequakers.org

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, 12012 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa 53226, 414-258-0456, www.mtzionlutheran.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

Tippecanoe Church PCUSA-Living Waters Contemplative Life Center, 125 W. Saveland Ave., Bay View, 53207, 414-481-4680, www.tippechurch.org

Underwood Memorial Baptist Church, 1916 Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa 53213, www.underwoodchurch.org

Unitarian Church North, 13800 N. Port Washington Rd., 53097, 262-375-3890, www.ucnorth.org

Village Church, 130 E. Juneau Ave., 53202, 414-273-7617, www.villagechurchmilwaukee.org

Wauwatosa Presbyterian Church, 2366 N. 80th St., Wauwatosa, 53213, 414-774-5005, www.tosapres.com

MADISON

Beth'El Evangelical Lutheran Church, 101 Bethel Drive, P.O. Box 70, Poynette, WI 53955-0070

First United Methodist Church, 203 Wisconsin Ave., 53703-2105, 608-256-9061, www.wisconsinumc.org/madison-firstumc/

Plymouth Congregational UCC, 2401 Atwood Ave., 53704, 608-249-1537, www.pcucc.org

GREEN BAY

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

Hope United Church of Christ, 141 S. 12th Ave., Sturgeon Bay, 54235, 920-743-2701, www.hopechurchcdc.org, hopeucc@hopechurchcdc.org

FOX VALLEY

Fox Valley UU Fellowship, 2600 Philip Lane, Appleton, 54915, 920-731-0849, www.fvuuf.org

SS Cyril and Methodius United Independent Catholic Church, 3499 Oakridge Road, Neenah, 54956, 920-750-4465, www.uicchurch.homestead.com

KENOSHA/RACINE

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

OTHER

First Christian Church, 1909 Highland Ave., Janesville, 53548, 608-752-3847, www.fccjanesville.org

First Congregational UCC, 504 Washington Ave., Sauk City, 53583, 608-643-8387, firstucc@merr.com

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 421 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, 54701, 715-834-0690, www.uueauclair.com

Court strikes Arkansas adoption law

From AP and WiG reports

The Arkansas Supreme Court on April 7 rejected a voter-approved initiative barring gay couples and unmarried straight couples who live together from serving as adoptive or foster parents.

Associate Justice Robert L. Brown wrote for the court in a unanimous decision that the law, called Act 1, would encroach on adults' right to privacy in the bedroom.

"Act 1 directly and substantially burdens the privacy rights of 'opposite-sex and same-sex individuals' who engage in private, consensual sexual conduct in the bedroom by foreclosing their eligibility to foster or adopt children," Brown wrote.

The state supreme court's decision upheld a ruling by a Pulaski County Circuit Court judge who struck down the measure last year.

The law effectively banned gay and lesbian couples from adopting or fostering children because they can't legally marry in Arkansas. It also applied to unmarried heterosexual couples who live together.

Supporters of the law lashed out at the high court's decision, saying that it puts adults' rights ahead of the welfare of children.

"It was almost as if children were a piece of property rather than human beings," Arkansas Family Council President Jerry Cox told reporters. Cox and other proponents of the law argue that children are better off with married couples than in the homes of unmarried couples who live together.

Cox said the Family Council, a conservative group that gathered signatures to put the measure on the ballot in 2008, is considering taking a similar measure back to voters as a constitutional amendment.

Voters approved the measure in 2008 after the state Supreme Court overturned another policy preventing gays and lesbians from serving as foster parents in 2006.

The American Civil Liberties Union sued on behalf of a group of families, arguing that the law arbitrarily bans qualified couples from consideration when the state has too few foster and adoptive families.

The decision "means that children in group homes will have the opportunity to be in loving and safe homes," said Christine Sun, senior counsel with the ACLU's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender project.

Arkansas Gov. Mike Beebe echoed the ACLU's reaction and added that the state will keep the best interests of children in mind as it considers foster-care and adoption applications.

"By expanding the pool of potential applicants, today's supreme court decision will create more opportunities to match children with loving and supportive homes," Beebe said in a statement.

Following the court's decision, Stephanie Huffman and her partner Wendy Rickman, one of the couples represented by the ACLU, say they hope to adopt another child.

They had adopted a son with special needs in 2004, and were planning to adopt another child when the law took effect and stopped them.

Huffman praised the court's decision, saying the law violated her right to privacy.

"Whether you're homosexual or whether you're straight, the government doesn't have the right to invade that," she said.

A judge had struck down the law last April because he said it forced unmarried couples to choose between their relationships and becoming adoptive parents. The attorney general later asked the Supreme Court to reverse that decision, arguing that fostering or adopting a child is not a constitutionally protected right.

Similar bans are rare elsewhere in the country. Florida was the only state to completely bar gay adoption until a judge ruled the ban unconstitutional.

Utah bans unmarried straight or gay couples from adopting or fostering children, while Mississippi bans gay couples, but not single gays, from adopting.

In the coming weeks, a Virginia panel will decide whether to enact regulations proposed by a former governor that would prevent discrimination based on marital status in the adoption process. Gov. Bob McDonnell has said he is against the regulations.



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Right wing is changing the nation

By Ann Sanner
and Calvin Woodward

AP writers

State by state, Republicans are moving at light speed on a right-wing agenda they would have had no hope of achieving before the big election gains of November.

The dividends are apparent after only a few months in office, and they go well beyond the spending cuts forced on states by the projected budget deficits and Tea Party agitation. GOP governors and state legislators are bringing abortion restrictions into law from Virginia to Arizona, acting swiftly to expand gun rights north and south, pushing polling-station photo ID laws that lower Democratic voter turnout and taking on public sector unions anywhere they can.

Democrats find themselves cowed or outmaneuvered in statehouses where they once put up a fight. In many states, they are unable to do much except hope that voters will see these actions as an overreach by the Republicans they elected — an accidental revolution to be reversed down the road.

A veer to the right was in the cards ever since voters put the GOP in charge of 25 legislatures and 29 governors' offices in the 2010 elections. That is turning out to be every bit as key to shaping the nation's ideological direction as anything happening in Washington.

A close-up review of the first wave of legislative action by Associated Press statehouse reporters shows the striking degree to which the GOP has been able to break through

gridlock and achieve improbable ends. The historic and wildly contentious curbs on public-sector bargaining in Wisconsin, quickly followed by similar action in Ohio, were but a signal that the status quo is being challenged on multiple fronts in many places.

Immigration controls are motivating lawmakers far from borders, constitutional amendments against same-sex marriage are picking up steam, Michigan is shortening the period people can get jobless benefits and Indiana may soon have the broadest school voucher program in the United States.

At least 20 states are going after public-sector benefits, pay or bargaining rights.

In Virginia, right-wing Republicans used a deft legislative maneuver to enact a law that will close the state's 21 abortion clinics. In Missouri, a tax cut sought by business for 10 years has been given final legislative approval and Democrats are putting up little resistance.

In North Carolina, where Republicans won control of both legislative levers for the first time since 1870, the party has secured approval in at least one chamber for charter school expansion, limits on damages in medical malpractice suits and a bill that would create separate crimes for the death or injury of a fetus at any stage of development. Republicans have made unexpected progress in giving gun owners more rights to carry concealed pistols. North Carolina is also among nearly a dozen states where an initiative to require photo IDs at polls is

getting traction. Democrats and civil libertarians worry photo ID rules would suppress minority and legal immigrant voting.

Conservatives welcome the pace and breadth of it all.

"When you have one side that's been put out in the legislative wilderness, there's a lot of pent-up ideas that are going to move quickly," said Dallas Woodhouse, director of Americans for Prosperity in North Carolina.

In bellwether Ohio, new Republican Gov. John Kasich burst out of the gate with a plan, now law, to hand over job creation functions from the government to a nonprofit corporation whose board he chairs. Bills that would have met quick death under Democratic control have advanced under Republican majorities — none more apparent than the law to curtail the collective bargaining rights of more than 350,000 public workers.

So is a conservative tide sweeping the nation?

If so, historian Doris Kearns Goodwin says it's a tide that can wash out as fast as it rushed in.

Sitting in the State Room of the Statehouse in Columbus, Ohio, where she had come for a historical event, Goodwin said declining party loyalty has accelerated shifts in public opinion and swings of the pendulum. She recalled the Democratic statehouse gains of 2008, the year of Barack Obama.

"We thought in 2008, many pundits did, that that meant a progressive era was coming in; now everybody's talking about a conservative era in the states

and maybe in the nation," she said.

"When one whole party comes in, and they come in having been out before, there's that flush of victory that makes them think this is our time, whether they're Democrats or Republicans, to get through what we want to get through."

In South Carolina, where Republicans are fashioning further restrictions to one of the country's toughest immigration enforcement laws, Democrats have mostly dropped the delaying tactics they once used with relish. The Democratic opposition has vaporized in Tennessee, Kansas and Oklahoma.

In Montana, Republican leaders are struggling to keep their eye on the big picture — cutting spending, developing natural resources — while the swollen GOP freshman class peppers the debate with calls to nullify federal laws, create an armed citizen's militia, legalize spear hunting, force FBI agents to get a sheriff's OK before arresting anyone, and more.

"Stop scaring our constituents and stop letting us look like buffoons," veteran Republican lawmaker Walt McNutt told the aggressive newcomers.

Gov. Brian Schweitzer, not one of the Democrats to roll over, came up with a cattle brand that reads "VETO" and seems itching to use it. "Ain't nobody in the history of Montana has had so many danged ornery critters," he said.

For more news visit
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Delaware approves civil unions law

From AP and WiG reports

A bill to make Delaware the eighth state to allow civil unions or domestic partnerships for same-sex couples has cleared the legislature and Gov. Jack Markell said he looks forward to signing the measure into law.

House members debated for about three hours and rejected nine amendments before approving the bill last week on a 26-to-15 vote, prompting supporters in the balcony to erupt in cheers and applause. The senate approved the bill earlier in the month.

Opponents warned that the bill carries unintended consequences that will result in con-

fusion in family law courts and likely will lead to lawsuits over religious liberties for those opposed to same-sex unions.

"Mark my words, there will be litigation over this," said Douglas Napier, an attorney with the Alliance Defense Fund, a conservative religious rights organization.

With Markell's signature, the bill would take effect Jan. 1. The legislation gives gay couples the same rights and obligations of those who are married. But it makes clear that marriage is between a man and a woman. Five other states and the District of Columbia allow gay marriage.

"I think it's time for this bill

to be passed, and it's going to be good for so many Delawareans for years to come," said Markell, a Democrat. "I'm really pleased with it."

Supporters said the measure provides equal rights for homosexuals in committed relationships.

"We were all created with special, unique, beautiful differences," said chief house sponsor Rep. Melanie George, D-Bear. "Our government respects those differences."

Others argue it is a prelude to establishing gay marriage in the small state of about 885,000 people.

"Don't be deceived. This bill

is a precursor to same-sex marriage," Napier said.

Lawmakers voted mostly along party lines April 14, with Democrats in favor and Republicans voting for amendments opposed by the bill's proponents.

Eight of the nine amendments were offered by GOP lawmakers, including two similar to those that were rejected in the Senate. One would have authorized civil unions for opposite-sex couple but not those of the same sex. The other would have required that Delaware voters approve civil unions in a state-wide referendum before they could take effect.

The important thing is to feel accepted

PROM from page 1

school district, Derrick Martin, a gay teen from Cochran, Ga., was asked to leave home in the wake of publicity over his decision to take his boyfriend to the high school prom.

While alternative proms that welcome youth of different sexual orientations and gender identities have been around for nearly two decades, the UW-Waukesha prom will be a first for both the school and the famously conservative community that surrounds it.

Lisa Hager, who's a faculty co-adviser to the Pride Alliance group, said university officials have been supportive of the event. Members of Olla, a Latino campus organization, and the African-American Union are collaborating by providing

volunteers.

Representatives from the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center will also be present, hosting a table where they'll pass out information concerning youth outreach programs and other related resources.

"We're excited and nervous all at the same time," Hager said. "This is the first year that we've had this event, so we have no idea how many people are going to show up."

As WiG headed to press, 84 people had RSVP'ed yes on a Facebook page created for the event. More than 100 others had responded that they might attend.

Those who are headed to "Pride Prom 2011: Masquerade" still face the same concerns as their more traditional peers — who to ask and what to wear.

"We're asking people to be very creative and go crazy" with their outfits, Ross said. She's planning to wear a suit and a "Zorro-type mask."

Sophomore Samantha Harvey said she's creating a costume inspired by the band Duran Duran.

"I'm kind of going with a new wave suit thing," Harvey said. "I'm basically going to look like a pirate."

Callen said he's looking for a suit at Goodwill. For him, the most important thing is that guests feel accepted, the way he did the first time he attended Milwaukee PrideFest.

"It was an amazing experience to see same-sex couples walking around holding hands," he said. "We just want to make this (prom) a safe place where people feel like they belong and that they're normal."

DID YOU KNOW?

In Milwaukee, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin provides healthcare to nearly 33,000 patients.



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The modern environmental movement matured with the gay rights movement

EARTH DAY from page 1

opinions and identities. The survey included 347 people who identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual and/or transgender, and it took place as tar balls washed ashore on the Gulf Coast from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and as a federal fight over mountaintop coal mining escalated.

The survey found that 55 percent of LGBT citizens agreed they "personally care a great deal about the current state and future of the environment." Thirty-three percent of heterosexuals agreed with that statement.

Forty percent of LGBT people said they encourage others to be more environmentally friendly compared with 24 percent of heterosexuals.

Additionally, the survey found that while the percentage of heterosexuals who described themselves as "environmentally conscious" declined, the number of LGBT people attached to that label increased — from 38 percent in 2009 to 47 percent in 2010.

"Right now, environmental campaigns and policies are under fierce political attack, and the same fierce anti-science attitudes we find among some Americans appear to be favored by anti-gay groups, too," Witeck said. "Intuitively, I think gay people tend to invest more stock in basic science knowledge and welcome more clarity on Earth and climate science, not less, because we believe that human progress depends on it — including our own acceptance and self-knowledge."

Other findings in the survey:

- 27 percent of LGBT people and 19 percent of heterosexuals agreed with the statement "I am a conservationist."
- 33 percent of LGBT people and 17 percent of heterosexuals agreed with the statement "I am green."
- 48 percent of LGBT people and 25 percent of heterosexuals say environmental issues are "very important" in making consumer choices.
- 45 percent of LGBT people and 27 percent of heterosexuals say environmental issues are "very important" when voting

for political candidates.

Witeck said of the survey, "Across the board, the (gay) community gravitates toward the concept of stewardship and commitment to a 'green' future for all Americans."

A

The modern environmental movement matured in tandem with the modern gay civil rights movement. Consider: the first gay Pride celebration took place in June 1970 and the first Earth Day took place just months before, on April 22, 1970. Gay environmental activists who recall that era remember a political alignment — gay-friendly politicians tended also to be eco-friendly. In the decades that followed, LGBT organizations and environmental groups partnered on progressive causes, marches, demonstrations and legislation.

"The stars are aligned for common interests," said New Yorker Paul Gallo, a veteran gay rights activist and environmental activist who founded Climate Camp, a gay green group in Manhattan. "I think if you are for gay rights, you are probably for greening the planet. It's all about justice and doing the right thing, man."

In 2003, when the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the Sierra Club joined a progressive coalition opposing a pre-emptive war against Iraq, both groups came under fire from some — most notably conservative gay columnist Andrew Sullivan — for straying from task.

NGLTF responded, "NGLTF has long believed that a 'gay voice' in such national dialogue is important; that our community need not be limited to a GLBT-only sphere. ... After all, we're fighting for equality in society as a whole, and not just to remain in a GLBT-only world."

Such an approach still is promoted at NGLTF, as well as other LGBT groups, including the direct-action group GetEqual.

As its members push for civil rights legislation or the repeal of anti-gay measures, GetEqual gets active, with sit-ins and other non-violent demonstrations that have resulted in a number of arrests this past year.

"Actively working toward environmental sustainability is part of the ethos of GetEqual," said managing director Heather Cronk. "In fact, part of the pledge of non-violence that we require all action-takers to sign on to includes a pledge to pay close attention to and to minimize any impact on the environment that our actions might have."

Cronk said sometimes GetEqual takes another step — "strategizing about actions and tactics, we constantly monitor the impact we could have on the environment and often nix good actions because they were bad environmental choices."

The organization also has partnerships with environmental groups, including the grassroots environmental group 350.org, a group with volunteers in nearly 200 countries and the ability to mobilize mass campaigns.

"We think it's important to have allies across all parts of the progressive movement — certainly climate justice, but also immigration reform, choice groups, organized labor and many others," Cronk said. "All of us are stronger when we're working together."

A

Working together last year, Hilton Whitt and other gay environmentalists in California joined in the coalition pressing for Proposition 21, a ballot measure to raise money for state parks by establishing an \$18 surcharge for vehicle registrations.

"I worked on Prop 21 for the parks, and in 2008 I worked against Prop 8 because someday I'll want to get married," Whitt said.

Prop 21 failed in the 2010 election with a 57 percent "no" vote, but LGBT groups such as Gay and Lesbian Sierrans campaigned hard for the initiative.

Russ Hartman, chair of the San Francisco Bay chapter of the GLS, said the group collected 500 signatures to put the proposition on the ballot. "The LGBT community is very supportive of green issues," he said, adding, "Many of our members regularly volunteer with many other conservation-related organizations."



PHOTOS: RUSS HARTY

Members of the San Francisco Bay chapter of Gay and Lesbian Sierrans celebrate their 25th anniversary with a hike along the Point Reyes National Seashore.

Seven GLS chapters — six of them in California and one in Colorado — exist in affiliation with the national Sierra Club. The San Francisco chapter was the first, formed in 1986 to provide outdoor opportunities for LGBT people.

Twenty-five years ago, there were "very few organizations that openly welcomed LGBT folks, and virtually no outdoor organizations that were established exclu-

sively for LGBT members," Hartman said.

Today, he continued, "there is an LGBT organization for almost every outdoor activity one can name."

Many of those organizations will observe Earth Day on April 22.

The Gay and Lesbian Sierrans in San Francisco will celebrate with a camp-out in Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The next morning, the Sierrans will

help National Park Service staff in a habitat restoration project at the Presidio, a military outpost for more than 200 years and now a U.S. park with serpentine grasslands, wildflowers and more than 200 species of birds. Said Hartman, "LGBT people often value a sense of community more than other people, and so they are more likely to take an interest in their own natural community."

DID YOU KNOW?

The founder of Earth Day, first held in April 1970 and observed every year on April 22, is the late Gaylord Nelson, a Democrat from Wisconsin, who served as governor and as a U.S. senator from 1963 to 1981.

Nelson, who died in 2005, is considered a leading environmentalist of the 20th century. A congressional resolution in his honor states, "Gaylord Nelson called on Americans to hold their elected officials accountable for protecting their health and the natural environment on that first Earth Day, an action which launched the Environmental Decade, an unparalleled period of legislative and grassroots activity that resulted in passage of 28 major pieces of environmental legislation from 1970 to 1980, including the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act and the National Environmental Education Act."

The resolution also states, "In addition to his environmental leadership, Gaylord Nelson fought for civil rights, enlisted for the War on Poverty, challenged drug companies and tire manufacturers to protect consumers and stood up to Senator Joe McCarthy and the House Un-American Activities Committee to defend and protect civil liberties."

— L.N.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Gaylord Nelson

NATIONAL BRIEFS

GATES: LITTLE IMPACT FROM REPEAL

Defense Secretary Robert Gates recently reassured U.S. soldiers in Iraq that allowing gays to serve openly in the military will have little impact on the Armed Forces, an argument largely echoed by other top military leaders.

Visiting troops at Camp Liberty in Baghdad, Gates was asked when repeal of "don't ask, don't tell" would occur and what its effect would be.

"My guess is you won't see much change at all because the whole thrust of the training is you're supposed to go on treating everybody like you're supposed to be treating everybody now, with dignity, respect and discipline," Gates told the troops. "And the same kind of military discipline that applies to — and regulations that apply to heterosexual relationships — will apply in terms of homosexual relationships."

Meanwhile, in Washington, service leaders testified before the House Armed Services Committee on the implementation of the new policy.

NASHVILLE LAW APPLIES TO CONTRACTORS

The city of Nashville, Tenn., has passed an anti-discrimination ordinance to protect gays and lesbians who work for companies that contract with the city.

Supporters of the law are calling its passage a milestone moment for the Music City, which joins more than 100 communities across the country that have enacted similar measures.

The Tennesseean reported that the bill passed by the thinnest of margins.

TRANSGENDER MAN SUES OVER FIRING

A transgender man has sued the drug-treatment center where he worked, claiming it discriminated against him when it fired him from a job that only a man is allowed to do: watching men urinate.

Experts believe El'jai Devoureaux's case is the first in the United States where



PHOTO: COURTESY DOD/AIR FORCE MASTER SGT. JERRY MORRISON

Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates is transported by an Army UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter during a trip to Baghdad earlier this month. Gates met with U.S. and Iraqi leaders, troops.

a transgender employee has claimed an employer discriminated based on birth gender.

"As our society becomes appropriately more tolerant, I hope that there are more brave people that are willing to endure the collateral problems by drawing a line in the sand and saying they won't stand for discrimination," said Jim Walden, a lawyer representing Devoureaux.

MARYLAND PROTECTION MEASURE DIES

Advocates of increased protections for transgendered individuals will have to try again next year in Maryland.

The state senate voted 27-20 to send the proposal back to a Senate committee, effectively killing it on the last day of the 2011 session.

The proposal would have protected transgendered individuals from housing and employment discrimination.

NAVY: NO DISCHARGE FOR SAILOR FOUND IN ANOTHER'S BUNK

The Navy has dropped dismissal proceedings against a South Carolina-based sailor charged with unprofessional conduct after he was found in bed with another male sailor, a spokesman said.

Petty Officer Stephen Jones had contested his

discharge for dereliction of duty. His attorney Gary Myers and an advocacy group for gay service members have said the Navy wanted to get rid of him because he was suspected of being gay. However, Myers said last month, there was no proof and no admission of homosexuality or homosexual conduct.

JUDGE ALLOWS CANVASSING OUTSIDE TARGET

A judge ruled recently that a San Diego pro-gay marriage group can continue canvassing outside of Target stores in California, but the group's volunteers must stay 30 feet away from store entrances and canvass at just one entrance at a time.

The retail giant had sought an injunction barring the activists from every outlet in the state, alleging they harass customers by cornering them near store entrances to discuss gay marriage, solicit donations and collect signatures on petitions.

Canvass For A Cause director Tres Watson called the ruling a win for not only his organization, but also for free speech.

HOUSING EXEC DISCIPLINED FOR WORDS

A Sweetwater, Tenn., housing authority director was disciplined for using "sensitized, inflammatory words" to challenge a federal government proposal to expand anti-discrimination policies to include sexual orientation, the board's chairman said in statement this month.

Vicki Barnes, the director of the Sweetwater Housing Authority, wrote a January letter objecting to changing the definition of family that the authority uses.

She wrote that LGBT people have made a "personal and moral life style choice," adding, "Other groups who make a personal life style choice are drug users and sellers, gang members, prostitutes, cults and murderers. You are saying any group of persons can call themselves a family."

— from AP and WIG reports



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Kiss-in staged at London bar that ousted gay couple for kissing

More than 800 protesters staged a "kiss-in" outside a London pub where two gay men say they were thrown out for a casual kiss. The protest was originally set to take place inside the John Snow pub, but the bar's management closed early to avoid it.

The couple says they were asked to leave for "obscenity" after sharing what they described as a "hands-on-table" kiss at the bar in London's gay-friendly Soho neighborhood. Anger snowballed after Williams tweeted about the incident late April 13, and within 24 hours,

the story was on the front page of Britain's Guardian newspaper and the pair were describing their ordeal on national radio.

The John Snow's owners told the AP they had no comment on the controversy.

The kiss-in was organized by a 50-year-old manager named Paul Shetler, who said he first heard about the incident through Twitter. Shetler, who is originally from New York, said the incident "struck me as the kind of thing I would see in a small town in the States, not in the capital of the U.K."

But gay advocates said those kinds of snubs weren't uncommon, even in cosmopolitan areas such as Soho.

"You would be surprised," said Gary Nunn of U.K. gay

lobbying group Stonewall.

Attitudes toward homosexuality are generally relaxed in Britain, where civil partnerships are accorded the same legal standing as marriages and politicians of all stripes eagerly emphasize their gay-friendly credentials.

But controversies over homosexuality still creep into the news. Recently, a Christian couple was fined for refusing to allow a gay couple the use of a double room at their hotel in southern England, a case that drew national attention.

More dramatically, a gay man was stomped and kicked to death on Trafalgar Square in 2009 — a brutal hate crime that shocked the city.

"If that can happen in Trafalgar Square, meters



PHOTO: COURTESY
London's John Snow pub

from Soho, on a Saturday night, then this sort of thing can happen anywhere," Nunn said.

Neither Williams nor Bull returned requests for comment, but in a series of messages posted to the Web,

Williams expressed wonder at the speed with which the gay community had rallied to his defense.

April 13 "was my first 'The Power of Twitter' moment," he wrote. "Thank you very much everyone."

As to whether they'd be seeing each other again, Bull assured his Twitter followers that the two had "already arranged a second date before we even got to the pub!"

— from staff and AP reports

INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

POLL: ROMANIAN TEENS RAMPANTLY INTOLERANT

Teenagers in Romania are widely intolerant of Gypsies, gays, Jews and people with AIDS, according to a new poll that called the results "extremely worrisome."

The findings published April 12 came from a poll paid for by the Soros Foundation and conducted in November. The report says the results show a large number of Romanian teenagers could be described as racist and anti-Semitic.

Gays were rated as the least preferred neighbors, with three-quarters of those questioned saying they would not want gays living next door. That was followed by Gypsies and people with AIDS, which some two-thirds of respondents would not like to have as neighbors.

Romania decriminalized homosexuality in 2001 but prejudice remains, with the dominant Romanian Orthodox Church strongly opposing homosexuality. In

2007, police used tear gas and clashed with more than 100 protesters who attacked an annual gay rights parade with stones and fireworks.

The poll also showed that 42 percent are opposed to having a Muslim neighbor, and 34 percent opposed to a Jewish neighbor.

The findings showed that while children from more educated families were generally less intolerant, they were more intolerant of Gypsies, or Roma. In Romania, home to an estimated 1.5 million Roma, there is widespread prejudice against the minority.

NETHERLANDS MARKS DECADE OF MARRIAGE EQUALITY

The Netherlands celebrated the 10th anniversary of the world's first legal gay marriage on April 15 with a set of nuptials presided over by the mayor of Amsterdam at the city's Museum of History.

"I was not in office then, but I remember that as a citi-

zen of the Netherlands, as an Amsterdammer, it made me very proud," Mayor Eberhart van der Laan told AFP news.

On that occasion in 2001, the Netherlands became the first country to hold a legal same-sex marriage ceremony. Helene Faasen and Anne-Marie Thus walked down the aisle in traditional, flowing wedding gowns alongside three pairs of grooms.

Since then, nearly 15,000 gay and lesbian couples have wed in the nation — about 2 percent of the total number of marriages registered between 2001 and 2010, based on figures from the Central Statistics Bureau.

According to the Amsterdam-based COC, the world's oldest gay advocacy group, there are about a million LGBT people living in the Netherlands.

Nine other countries — Belgium, Spain, Canada, South Africa, Norway, Sweden, Portugal, Iceland and Argentina — have legalized gay marriage.

— AP

NOT UNKNOWN FOR LONG

WIGOUT! interviews Holcombe Waller

Interview

GREGG SHAPIRO

Out singer/songwriter and theatrical performance artist Holcombe Waller is about to become a more familiar name. He composed the score for the eagerly anticipated AIDS documentary "We Were Here." And his breathtaking new disc "Into The Dark Unknown" (Napoleon) was recently released.

Gregg Shapiro: **You were at Sundance for the premiere screening of "We Were Here." What was that like?**

Holcombe Waller: It was different than I expected. (Sundance) is very big, and it covers a lot of area. So, I spent a lot of time on buses and in cars getting between different theaters. It was a great experience. The film is extremely important and quite heavy. So the audiences, which were very full, totally full, were deeply impacted by the film and afterwards for the Q&A. It was really profound for me to also spend some time with the interviewees in the film and get to know them, because they're just incredible people.

"We Were Here" documents the early years of AIDS in San Francisco and its devastating impact. It's David Weissman's and Bill Weber's first

film since 2002's "The Cockettes." How did you come to work with them?

David called me last spring and told me about the project and just said, "I can't imagine anyone but you doing the music." He wanted the film to be almost completely silent (laughs). So he said the music that is there has to be exactly right. I'd say there's about 17 minutes of music in the film, there's about 90 minutes of film. He wanted the music to be completely non-sentimental. And he kept making this gesture with his hand, sort of like drawing a line horizontally in space. He wanted a kind of evenness, but at the same time he wanted it to be deeply emotionally facilitating, while not being at all manipulative. In other words kind of holding a space, and I guess he felt that my music did that.

Not that I'm counting, but seven years passed between the release of "Troubled Times" and "Into The Dark Unknown"

Six, technically. I moved to Portland, and that was when we put out "Troubled Times," and I actually had more than an album's worth of material probably less than a year later. But for some reason I had this other vision of what I wanted to do. I was in the process of branching out into performing arts, because I stumbled into a musical when I moved to Portland. ... And then I ended up connecting with Joe Goode, who was like

my idol in performing arts when I was in San Francisco. I ended up taking multiple performance workshops with him and then collaborating with him and his performance group, which was a really big deal for me.

I started developing performances that involved me dressing up like a clown and making huge amounts of video production, which is actually what I studied in college and hadn't really used since I graduated. And I had been approached by the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art, the local presenter equivalent to the Public Theater or something like that. They're amazing, and they helped me to get grants and commissions for the work that ended up being the follow-up to that crazy clown piece which was "Into the Dark Unknown: The Hope Chest."

So, all of this happened over the course of the first three years I was in Portland. In that time, I did have an album's worth of material, some of which is included in this new record; but I was really excited and enthusiastic about all the performing arts work I was doing. And so, all of the money and energy got funneled into that.

"Troubled Times" was more of a straightforward pop album, whereas "Into The Dark Unknown" is more of a concept album. It consists of both studio recording



PHOTO: COURTESY
Holcombe Waller
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and live recordings. Why did you choose to include both instead of re-recording them in the studio?

I did re-record them in the studio (laughs). Several times, mainly in 2009. And didn't have a lot of success with that. We have some really nice recordings. They certainly sound good, but there was something about the live interaction of elements with this material that just seemed to hold a certain magic. Particularly with the ensemble. These are classical players, they're not rock and pop players, and they simply do best when seated in a shoe-shaped semi-circle. Because those instruments were designed to interface at an overtone level. I think experienced ensemble players can perceive that when seated next to each other and hearing the ambient combination of the multiple instru-

ments bouncing around the room. But when you isolate the instruments in separate rooms and plug them into headphones that same effect is not occurring. It deeply affects the performance.

I just found out that none other than Boy George is going to be doing some touring and has a new CD coming out. And there's also been the reissue of George Michael's "Faith." As a 21st century out musician, do either of those names have special relevance to you?

Well, they both do, of course. More so for George Michael. Not at all because of anything to do with being out. I have to say, I don't feel like he's handled that very well.

That was very diplomatic of you.

For which I don't blame

him, but even today he keeps doing things and I'm like, "Jesus, George. It's time to see a psychoanalyst and just get over it." But I can sing you that record from beginning to end. And it has nothing to do with sexuality. I was aware that I was gay at the time, but I wasn't out because I was like 15 or 16. But it had more to do with the conciseness and completeness of the vision of that record is just amazing.

Yeah, it's pretty perfect.

Perfect. A perfect pop record that also conveyed a lot of feeling and yeah, we loved it. And, honestly, I learned to sing listening to George Michael. When I sang when I was younger I sang like he did, and I still can. And it's partly why Spin Magazine made the comparison (to me) "George Michael meets Jeff Buckley" back in 2001.

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When making art is an act of 'making do'

By Debra Brehmer

Contributing writer

British artist Samuel Williams, through e-mail, fax or a phone call, is transmitting daily instructions for the building of sculptures at inova/Kenilworth, 2155 N. Prospect. The show, "Samuel Williams: Instructions," opened on April 1 with an empty gallery. The first set of instructions arrived via e-mail that day and called for the making of a giant marble run. Here is an excerpt from the instructions:

"Go to a nearby sports shop and buy a dozen squash balls, all of the same type.

Bring them back to the gallery.

Have a cup of tea.

From the storeroom, gather up anything that can be used to make a track for these balls to roll along, including tools, tape and screws.

Start experimenting. Find ways to make tracks, and corners which the ball can go round. Find materials which will make good buffers at points where the ball is likely to fall off. Develop methods for raising the track up off the ground.

Tidy all of this away by 4:30 pm to await further instructions."

The resulting sculpture reflects the ad-hoc problem solving of the group that made it. A bucket, old plastic piping, ladders and cardboard become a surprisingly clever and functional thing that jigs across the wall and magically rounds a corner, via the artist's specifications. It's this "thingification," as coined by the artist, that makes these

daily exercises whimsical, interesting and politically pertinent.

The "make do" milieu of this project has settled over our educational and art institutions like a layer of dust – pervasive, ubiquitous. Shortly after last month's Madison budget rallies, London staged a protest on March 26, bringing an estimated 300,000 marchers to the city center. Severe cuts to public spending threaten life in Britain as they do in Wisconsin. The daily act of making sculptures out of found materials by volunteer crews via an artist whose host institution can't afford to fly him to Milwaukee frames the stress of the situation.

Like the Wizard of Oz, this unseen artist, who is completing his master's degree in sculpture at the Royal Academy of Art in London, concocts his daily assignment then pushes the "send" button to traverse the ocean. Williams feels present within the galleries as his voice and spirit translate into odd contraptions like a shopping cart equipped as a studio/suitcase or a desk drilled with holes.

The project relates to Williams' broader art practice of self-imposed limitations. "A limitation itself can be just another tool," he says.

One recent video work called "Sculpture Face" shows people receiving quick transformative gestures that turn them into works of art. He wraps one head in clear tape, drapes another with cloth, attaches cardboard tubes or pieces of toast to another.

Within this speedy delivery, Williams chases the elusive moment where a mundane thing or activity takes a turn toward becoming art. His sweetly simple exercises are fraught with defeat.

Williams' videos, as well as footage from the building of the inova projects, can be seen in the back screening area.

As of this writing, nine sculptures had been built. By the end of the show, there will be 38. Williams' ideas for projects are varied and often quite challenging. Curator Nicholas Frank seemed to take a deep breath as he checked the e-mail to see if the day's project had arrived. Indeed it had. Time to get to work. Williams presented the following instructions:

"You have ten minutes to choose four artworks by four different American artists from the early Twentieth Century, working between these dates: 1900-1925.

We need to cover Impressionism, Ruralism, Realism and Idealism.

Use the rest of the day to do the following:

Film yourself recreating each artwork in twenty seconds.

Aim to do the most faithful reconstruction that you can, rehearse and do multiple takes.

Film outside if you need to."

Sounds straightforward enough. But what the heck is "Ruralism"? From seemingly simple directives arise many questions. Even the most straightforward and well-considered instructions reveal the limitations of language. The entire back gal-

lery has been turned into a workroom for the production needs of these tasks.

Many of the one-a-day sculptures dip into history. One involved images of sculptures by Sol LeWitt (another master of instruction-based art) that needed to be reproduced with various colors of locally dug dirt turned into mud paint. The various modern movements that utilized

lowbrow or castoff materials, decentralized the role of the author, courted chance in denial of predictable outcomes and emphasized performative collaboration all feel close at hand here. Dada, Fluxus and Arte Provera have the same bi-polar, playful yet politically frustrated spirit of Williams' project.

"What if" is always a generative premise. The inova

show is compelling because it keeps asking that question, and, as an audience, we get to see what transpires as a narrow set of orders and time constraints open into nearly endless possibilities. You can follow this project and see all of the daily instructions on a blog, <http://instructions.samuel-williams.co.uk/#home>. But it's better to see the show in person.



PHOTO: COURTESY

"Samuel Williams: Instructions" is on display through June 19 at inova/Kenilworth, 2155 N. Prospect. Hours are Wednesday-Sunday noon-5 p.m. and Thursday until 8 p.m. The work above is from a prior installation.

Artwatch

KAT MURRELL

A pair of new exhibitions tell a tale of two art schools. One is big, cool, austere, intellectual. The other is crowded, colorful, boisterous, street-smart. Welcome to the future of art.

First, the **UWM Peck**

School of the Arts Spring MA/MFA Exhibition II. The show is on view in Inova/Arts Center, 2400 E. Kenwood Blvd., behind Mitchell Hall on the corner of Kenwood and Downer Avenue. It's a concentrated dose of work by four artists who, while completing grad school, already have a good deal of experience and international exposure behind them.

Melanie Pankau presents

crisp abstract paintings as a meditation on time and space. Sarah Holden combines metal and fabric in explorations of gender and power. Anna Helgeson's installation addresses identity and race. Mairin Hartt fixes our attention on tiny, glowing specimens of ink under glass that appear equal parts lab experiment and undersea landscape painting.

If the timbre of the exhibi-

tion sounds fairly conceptual and weighty, it is. What is interesting is how it contrasts with the **2011 senior exhibition at MIAD.**

This show sprawls over multiple floors of MIAD, 273 E. Erie St. Figures abound. There is a lot of drawing practiced here, as evidenced by the numerous portraits, illustrations and characters, often imbued with quirky witticisms, though combined

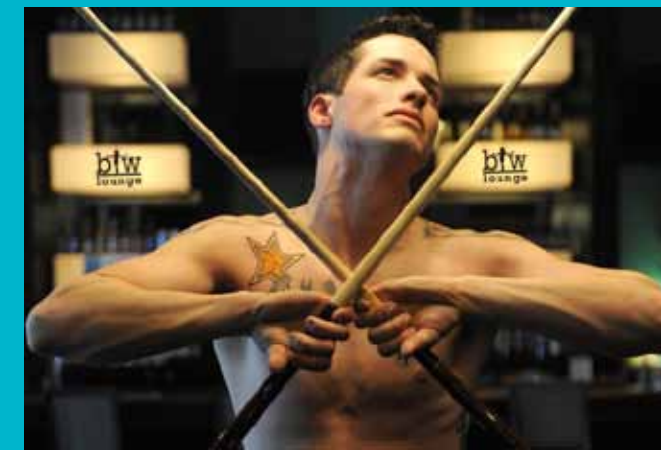
with an underlying sense of practicality. In many booths and display areas there is a feeling that each artist is keenly aware of the need to produce high quality work and to make it stand out among everything else (i.e., important things for getting a job).

Some standout pieces include Sarah Smith's gorgeous large-scale photographs of glam-and-drag models, seriously ready for a

place in Vogue. KT Schramm documents the college experience with photographs and text in a manner that is uncensored and frankly self-aware. Check out the "Museum of Time and Space" on the fourth floor, where satire meets modern artifact in objects like "Marian Apparition on a Grilled Cheese" and "A Bottle of Kate Gosselin's Tears."

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we put the 'b' in lgbt

Play explores forbidden love in Nazi Germany

Theater

JODY HIRSH

Set during World War II, the play "Aimée and Jaguar" chronicles the unlikely but true story of a passionate romantic relationship between two women in war-torn Berlin.

Originally a book by Erica Fischer, the story was turned into an acclaimed 1999 German language film directed by Max Fäberböck.

The stage version, adapted by playwright Lillian Groag, is more faithful to the source material. UWM Labworks, a series of student productions that are the culmination of semester-long performance classes, presents the play from April 27 to May 1.

The relationship at the heart of all three versions of "Aimée and Jaguar" is forbidden in many ways. Lilly Wurst (whose secret name is Aimée) is the love-starved wife of an absent Nazi soldier who has had her share

of sexual adventures with men. Not particularly politically engaged, she received the Maternal Bronze Cross for having four sons – four potential contributors to the German war effort.

Felice Schragenheim (Jaguar) is a well-educated poet who's 10 years Lilly's junior. A bohemian free spirit, she's also a Jewish underground activist.

"They didn't meet each other on Match.com," says director Joseph Hanreddy, who retired after 17 years as director of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater to run UW-Milwaukee's graduate fellowship for directors and designers.

"These two women were opposites in every way, yet they become entwined in a way that we can't possibly comprehend," Hanreddy says. "The play becomes a play about the nature of love – the selfishness and the selflessness, the need versus the chemistry of passion. The play isn't really about Nazis or Jews or lesbians – it is about love under heightened

and intense circumstances." Hanreddy says he was initially drawn to the play partly because of his friendship with the playwright. The play has been cut by about a third, and was "in progress" for most of the semester, creating a tighter, more compelling production, he says.

For actors Liz Faraglia (Felice) and Ashley Sevedge (Lilly), working on this play has been an intense learning opportunity, both in terms of learning their trade and in learning about the tragic history of hatred.

"This has been the first time I've had a lesbian role," Faraglia says. "Since I'm straight, I've had to focus on the character in new ways."

For Sevedge, the difficulty her character faced in talking about things that were generally unspoken was particularly compelling.

In 1940s Germany, "Lily has such a hard time coming up with even the words to express what she's feeling," Sevedge says. "Even words like 'normal' and 'different' meant something so different



PHOTO: COURTESY

"Aimée and Jaguar," produced by UWM Labworks, plays April 27 to May 1 at Kenilworth Studio 508, 1925 E. Kenilworth Place. Call 414-229-6688.

to them than they mean to us today."

Interestingly, even though lesbianism is the dramatic issue in their relationship early in the play, the Jewish issue becomes the primary danger by the end. Lily tells her mother that "love causes

great harm." Perhaps this is true in any age. But in a time of great danger it is particularly true.

"In actual circumstances, this play has nothing to do with us today," Hanreddy says. "With an increasing openness about gay issues,

it's hard for many people today to relate to the challenge of being gay in the closing days of WWII. It was a taboo subject. It was considered a deviant choice. In universal terms, however, the play is about love in all its mystery."

'Uncle Boonmee' hovers between life, death

Film

GREGG SHAPIRO

Don't expect to come away from "Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives" with a deeper meaning of life, either yours or Uncle Boonmee's. Leisurely paced, to say the least, this work from gay Thai filmmaker Apichatpong Weerasethakul received the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

Released from the hospital under the watchful eye of Laotian caregiver Jaai (Samud Kugasang), tamarind and

bee farmer Uncle Boonmee (Thanapat Saisaymar) is visited in his country home by sister-in-law Jen (Jenjira Pongpas) and nephew Tong (Sakda Kaewbuadee). They are joined abruptly at the dinner table by the ghost of Boonmee's wife and Jen's sister Huay (Natthakarn Aphaiwonk), as well as the Monkey Ghost of his son Boonsong, with the glowing red eyes.

In his final days, Boonmee comes to terms with the wrongs of his past, ranging from abandoning the search for Boonsong when he went missing to killing too many bugs and communists in his

lifetime. Karma is a bitch and Boonmee, who considers his kidney failure to be proof, has accepted that fact.

But he makes the most of the end, communing with his hired help in the fields and trekking into the woods and through a cave. This is where past life memories and mythology intersect, and where less-patient viewers might give up the ghost.

But for those willing to go with the flow, "Uncle Boonmee" can be visually dazzling (in the ugly Princess and talking catfish sequence, for instance), if ultimately puzzling.



PHOTO: COURTESY

"Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives" screens on May 8 at UWM Union Theatre in Milwaukee.

'Arthur' remake not as funny or gay as original

'ARTHUR'

Whether or not it was intentional, the original Dudley Moore version of "Arthur" (1981) had a built-in gay factor: Not only did it star Liza Minnelli, but it also earned out actor John Gielgud an Academy Award.

Not much about the "Arthur" remake is gay, unless you're a guy who's aroused by Russell Brand parading around in colorful briefs. The remake retains some elements from the original story about a rich, alcoholic, man-child's quest to hang on to his \$1 billion inheritance by marrying the toxic Susan (Jennifer Garner) instead of the poor Naomi (Mumblecore diva Greta Gerwig). "Arthur" gets a 21st-century tweaking, including the replacement of his butler (originally portrayed by the late Gielgud) with sassy nanny Hobson (Helen Mirren).

But the remake has many problems, including the rather cavalier handling of substance abuse issues. Worse, as a comedy it's not very funny. Brand, whose background is in stand-up, delivers his lines like a comedian, not an actor. Interestingly, the movie's most genuinely funny moment is when Arthur improvises song lyrics at Susan's bridal shower – a scene that benefits from Brand's comedic timing.

Fortunately, when "Arthur" – both the movie



PHOTO: COURTESY

Russell Brand adds color to "Arthur," now on screens throughout the state.

and the character – gets serious, Mirren is this there to provide the necessary dramatic touches. Although the laughs are less than plentiful, overall this project is not as dismal as it could have been. At least the "Arthur" remake/update doesn't have a Christopher Cross theme song.

'SCREAM 4'

Endlessly self-referential, while paying homage to the slew of slasher epics that preceded it, Wes Craven's "Scream 4" makes a point (get it?) of reminding us of

the first rule of remakes: Don't mess with the original. By employing virtually every trick in the "Scream" book, including the scary and threatening voice on the telephone, the masked murderer and a healthy dose of humor (there's a mildly inoffensive gay joke), "Scream 4" keeps the audience guessing as the body count mounts. By the time the identity of the killers is revealed (and one is disposed of by the other), you might think screenwriter Kevin Williamson would have exhausted all his tricks. But not only does he have a few more up his sleeve, he leaves plenty of room (and survivors) for the possibility of yet another "Scream"-quel.

'RIO'

Oscar nominee Jesse Eisenberg was born to provide the voice for Blu, the animated, pampered and seriously domesticated Blue Macaw in the 3D "Rio." Taken shortly after hatching from his colorful jungle home and shipped to Minnesota, Blu is found and adopted by young Linda (Sofia Scarpa Saldanha), who makes sure he is always nearby.

Still keeping him within reach, grown-up Linda (Leslie Mann) is a bookseller who takes Blu with her to work. Although he never learned to fly, Blu still has it better than most birds and is teased by Canada Geese Chloe and Alice (out actresses Wanda

Sykes and Jane Lynch, respectively).

But the arrival of Brazilian bird specialist Tulio (Rodrigo Santoro) in the bookstore threatens to clip their wings. It seems that Blu is one of two birds of his kind and

is in need in Rio to mate with the finicky Jewel (Anne Hathaway). Once Linda agrees to join Blu on his journey, the pair are in for the flight of their lives.

Director Carlos Saldanha (of "Ice Age" fame) makes

excellent use of the 3D visual effects, as well as the exotic (and animated) Brazilian setting. Memorable musical numbers also aid in making "Rio" one of the more entertaining cartoon features in recent memory.



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Hayford brings his songbook to Madison

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

If there is such a thing as an archeology of music, its primary researcher must be Chicago cabaret musician Justin Hayford. The out singer/pianist will unearth his latest findings over Mother's Day weekend during twin concerts at the Capitol Theater inside Madison's Overture Center for the Arts.

Hayford, 41, specializes in the Great American Songbook, loosely described as covering works from the 1930s and '40s. On May 7, Hayford will perform "It All Belongs to You: Unsung Cole Porter," featuring rare gems from the archives of the man who many feel was America's greatest songwriter. On May 8 – Mother's Day – Hayford will entertain audiences with "Songs Your Mother Should Have Taught You," a new program of obscure numbers that offer advice on topics from health to finances to sleeping habits.

Both cabaret-style con-

certs take place on the Capitol Theater stage and include a meal catered by Fresco, the Food Fight Inc. restaurant that sits atop the Overture Center. Featuring items such as pear Gorgonzola tarts, Champagne-poached prawns, beef tournedos and strawberry shortcake, Fresco's menu is as appetizing and fulfilling as Hayford's unfamiliar, but soon-to-be memorable repertoire.

"My interest in obscure songs began at the same time I developed an interest in singing in my late 20s," says Hayford, who was born in Rochester, N.Y., and comes from a musical family. "I went to cabaret shows to see what everyone else was singing, and it was all the same songs. Since I wasn't very confident in my ability to sing or play or – horror of horrors – do both at the same time, I needed some other 'hook' to make myself stand out."

Hayford's research found him combing various archives for forgotten songs, including the works of popular



ON STAGE

Justin Hayford comes to Madison with "It All Belongs to You: Unsung Cole Porter" on May 7 and "Songs Your Mother Should Have Taught You" on May 8. Both shows are at the Capitol Theater inside Madison's Overture Center for the Arts. The May 7 date is sold out, but tickets are available for both the 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. May 8 performances. Go to www.overturecenter.com.

tunesmiths such as Porter, Jerome Kern, Irving Berlin, Johnny Mercer, Harold Arlen and Dorothy Fields. Over

time, Hayford uncovered a wealth of materials, including some exceptional works that rarely see the light of day. Why some songs survive and some don't can be a mystery.

"Sometimes the answer is obvious," Hayford says. "Hugh Martin's 'I'm Not So Bright' was written for 'Look Ma, I'm Dancing,' a 1948 musical that bombed. And when a show bombs, the score tends to disappear."

Such was not the case, Hayford says, with Porter's "You Irritate Me So," from the musical "Let's Face It." The 1942 show was a hit, and yet that song, along with a host of others, disappeared. They lay waiting for years to be unearthed by enterprising entertainers like Hayford who, to paraphrase Porter, are looking to make all songs old new again.

"I'd say I have found the most obscure stuff among Cole Porter's and Irving Berlin's catalogues, largely because those two guys

were incredibly prolific," Hayford says. "But I also have an enormous soft spot for Rogers and Hart, in large part because Lorenz Hart wrote extraordinarily powerful lyrics when he really set his mind to it."

In addition to his musical career, Hayford works as a legal advocate with the AIDS Legal Council of Chicago. The musician represents PWAs both from a legal and advocacy perspective, acting on behalf of those too sick, scared or uninformed to handle their own challenges.

"I started working with the agency in 1991 because it was clear to me that one of the most important arenas in which to work towards social justice was the AIDS epidemic," Hayford says. "And that remains true today."

Hayford's AIDS advocacy career parallels the rise in his musical career, and the two successfully co-exist. Both started as departures

for the musician-activist, who once studied astrophysics at Northwestern University.

"Heck, I enjoy everything about my musical work," Hayford says. "I enjoy digging around to find songs. I enjoy practicing them for hours and hours. And I enjoy finally performing them for audiences."

Hayford also enjoys finding and promoting the works of obscure artists, such as Matt Dennis, a singer, big band leader, pianist, vocal coach and songwriter during the 1940s. Dennis used his less-than-strong voice to great effect, Hayford says, and his hits "Angel Eyes" and "Will You Still Be Mine" have become jazz standards.

"The first time I heard Matt Dennis, I was instantly struck by the ease with which he sang," Hayford says. "He seemed to be tossing everything off, yet knowing exactly how to make everything land. I've done my best to steal everything he's got."

DID YOU KNOW?

In Milwaukee, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin provides nearly 24,000 patient exams and 4,051 cervical cancer screenings. The group distributes more than 150,000 units of birth control (including emergency birth control) each year.

Looking behind the curtain of 'Gone with the Wind'

Theater

MICHAEL MUCKIAN

Isn't it obvious that tomorrow is another day?

It was to newspaperman Ben Hecht, who was hired by Hollywood producer David O. Selznick to rewrite a script based on a novel that Hecht disliked. In an attempt to save his high-profile, costly film version of that book, Selznick locked Hecht in his office with film director Victor Fleming until an acceptable version of the screenplay was completed.

As a result of their five-day marathon effort, "Gone With the Wind" went on to win 10 Academy Awards. The episode also became fodder for contemporary British playwright Ron Hutchinson, whose "Moonlight and Magnolias" imagines what occurred behind closed doors during those five days. Hutchinson's comedy with a conscience is the final seasonal offering from Madison's Forward Theater Company.

Recreating characters on stage who existed in real life required a different level of preparation, according to actor Mark Ulrich, who plays producer Selznick. But it's how well the character was known that drives audience expectations of accuracy.

"To play a person who actually existed requires the actor to do a lot of research," Ulrich says, "and to pray that the audience hasn't done quite as much research."

All three men were well

ON STAGE

Forward Theater's production of "Moonlight and Magnolias" runs April 28 to May 15 at The Playhouse at Madison's Overture Center for the Arts. Go to www.forwardtheater.com.

known in 1939 Hollywood, a time when large studios dominated the landscape. Actors and directors were contract workers, and producers drove the movie industry. In this setting, it was perfectly acceptable for Selznick to make big demands of his employees. He made Hecht and Fleming subsist on bananas and peanuts – the producer called this combo "brain food" – while they adapted the most popular novel of the day for film.

"In real life, the events of the play actually took place, but there's really no way to know what went on in the office while the three of them were together," says actor Jim Buske, who plays director Fleming. "You have to go with what the playwright put down on the page and work out the character relationships from that."

What playwright Hutchinson imagined was a comedic scenario of creating order from the chaos that was Sidney Howard's original script, while creating chaos in Selznick's otherwise orderly office. Throughout the two-hour production, the set becomes littered with crumpled typing paper, pea-

nut shells and banana peels.

The creative process often isn't pretty, and in this case it was awfully messy.

The characters also debate the various themes of both the novel and day. Hecht, played by actor Michael Herold, is initially appalled that he's being asked to write a love letter to the Confederacy. An ardent Zionist, Hecht would rather turn the tale on its ear and condemn the slavery in the story, using human oppression as a platform to call attention to the growing anti-Semitism in Europe and Hollywood.

However, the friendship between Hecht, who attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Selznick cements the relationship and carries the narrative. And Fleming, the "man's director" who Selznick pulled off another film – "The Wizard of Oz" – to save "Gone With the Wind" after firing the original director George Cukor, rounds out what becomes a highly comedic trio.

"In playing comedy, you have to be aware of the jokes and how to time the delivery of the lines," Herold says. "But you should always play the reality of the situation, and play it seriously. Humor comes from the characters' sincerity, and not from the actor asking for a laugh."

In the end, does it matter whether it's fact or fancy that drives "Moonlight and Magnolias" to its successful conclusion?

Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn as long as it's funny.

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This 'Lion' roars with great performances

Theater

HARRY CHERKINIAN

Family gatherings at the holidays can be a tricky business, especially if family members haven't seen each other for a while. For the holiday gathering that sparks playwright James Goldman's black comedy "The Lion in Winter," revenge ends up being the main course served.

It's Christmas Eve 1183 at King Henry II's palace in Chinon, France. His guests include imprisoned wife Eleanor of Aquitaine and their three quarreling sons — Richard (the Lionhearted), Geoffrey and John. But there's no festive holiday spirit to be found among these feisty, fighting relatives, much to the audience's amusement for two hours and 20 minutes.

Henry, who's managed to survive to the ripe old age of 50, has brought along his very young mistress Alais, 23. She's betrothed to Henry's old-

ON STAGE

"The Lion in Winter," produced as a collaboration between Milwaukee Chamber Theatre and Marquette University, runs through May 1 in the Cabot Theatre at the Broadway Theater Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800 or visit www.milwaukee-chambertheatre.com.

est son Richard, and Richard is secretly in love with her brother King Philip, which is one of the very few instances of true human emotion seen in "Lion." But in keeping with this emotional bloodbath, a fragile moment of vulnerability is skewered with betrayal.

Which of the three sons will succeed Henry as the next King of England? Will Henry annul his marriage to Eleanor and marry Alais? And will Eleanor ever be freed from her captivity (at Henry's hand) of 10 years — and counting?

While Goldman has based his story on fact, the interpretation and the blistering dialogue are pure — and delightful — fabrication. "Well, what family doesn't have its ups and downs?" quips a wry Eleanor, after a nasty fight.

Chamber Theatre is in its second of a three-year collaboration with area universities (last year's was "Picnic" with UW-Milwaukee). For "Lion," the group partnered with Marquette's Drama Department.

Student actors Alexandra Bonesho, J. Patrick Cahill and Joe Picchetti are among the seven-member ensemble, and three faculty designers were involved in the production: Debra Krajec (costumes), Chester Loeffler-Bell (lighting) and Stephen Hudson-Mairet (set).

Under C. Michael Wright's well-paced direction, Brian Mani's Henry is all bluster and bravado, with a sharp mind beneath the folds of his robes. But in her best work to date, Tracy Michelle Arnold is the exquisite jewel

in this production's crown. Her every mannerism and inflection is as tough as it is vulnerable. Her Eleanor still has some fight left but is tiring of the never-ending battles of the heart. Brava.

Marcus Truschinski is steady and solid as Richard, his undercurrent of moodiness ready to explode at any

opportunity. Lenny Banovez, as the forgotten middle son Geoffrey, maintains a fine balance as he moves back and forth between sides to suit his advantage. Of the student actors, Picchetti's King Philip fares best, exploring the depths of this enigmatic yet shrewd character, showcasing a youth-

ful naiveté as he exploits Richard's love for his personal gain.

"You've got the girl, the crown and the whole black, bloody business," Henry rages at Richard. "Isn't that enough?"

With this roaring "Lion," you eat what you kill. And enough is never enough.

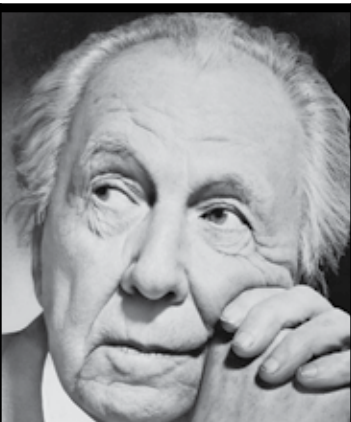


Lenny Banovez, J. Patrick Cahill, Tracy Michelle Arnold and Marcus Truschinski in "The Lion in Winter."

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DVDiva

GREGG SHAPIRO

'EXIT THROUGH THE GIFT SHOP'

In the tradition of modern art world docs such as "Beautiful Losers," Banksy's Oscar-nominated "Exit Through the Gift Shop" (Oscilloscope/Paranoid Pictures) is a visually dazzling experience. Narrated by Rhys Ifans, the film is set in a world where everything is a blank canvas, including billboards, street signs, subway cars, walls and freight trains.

Frenetic French filmmaker Thierry Guetta, who had a habit of obsessively filming everything, set out to make a doc about street artists while living in L.A. After filming his cousin, the street artist Space Invader, Guetta was introduced to the graffiti culture, which features artists who make their mark by any means necessary, including stickers, stencils and spray paint. Through Invader, Guetta met Monsieur Andre, Zeus and, ultimately, the legendary Shepard Fairey.

Guetta films Fairey at work, eventually becoming what Fairey described as an "accomplice." Through a series of introductions to other artists, Guetta eventually meets the elusive "art terrorist" Banksy, and his focus shifts from Fairey to Banksy.

But the truth of the matter is that Guetta has no intention of making a doc.



PHOTO: COURTESY

"Exit Through the Gift Shop"

He simply tosses his tapes unlabeled into a box and before you can say, "Anything you can do, I can do better," he transforms himself into the street artist Mister Brainwash. He goes on to mount a show more successful than anyone could have imagined.

Funny and fascinating, colorful and quirky, "Exit Through the Gift Shop" is an edge-of-your-seat doc for art lovers from all walks of life. DVD bonus features include deleted scenes, a film about Banksy titled "B movie" and more.

'OCEANS'

Narrated by Pierce Brosnan, the doc "Oceans" (Disneynature) asks about attempts to explain the difference between the ocean and the sea. Stunningly filmed, you can see, hear and practically taste the power of the ocean.

"Oceans" takes viewers up close to horseshoe crabs, turtles, jellyfish, dolphins, mobula rays, sea lions, cormorants, dugongs, massive and majestic whales,

great white sharks, "the exquisite blanket octopus" and other examples of the ocean's grace and bounty. But don't be lulled by the seeming tranquility. "Oceans" is full of graphic examples of the day-to-day violence that occurs beneath the surface. Whether it's orcas hunting young sea lions, a mantis shrimp kicking a crab's ass, baby turtles being snatched from the sand by frigate birds, a sailfish dining on other fish or a venomous stonefish, there is brutality among the beauty.

Still, "Oceans" is a sight to behold, with ribbon eels coming unraveled, acrobatic dolphins at play and resourceful sea otters at work. "Oceans" doesn't beat around the bush when it comes to its message about keeping the oceans healthy, protecting endangered species, preventing more pollution and the tragedy of overfishing and the use of nets. The two-disc Blu-ray/DVD combo back is awash in bonus materials.



PHOTO: COURTESY "Oceans"



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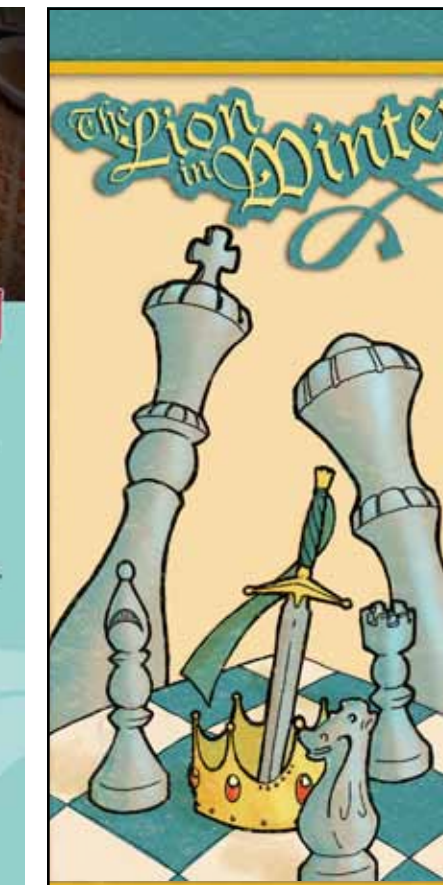
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The Lion in Winter

by James Goldman
April 14 - May 1

Which son will win the throne?
This classic black comedy serves up
a tasty slice of British history.

Directed by C. Michael Wright
Featuring Tracy Michelle Arnold,
Lenny Banovez, Alexandra Bonesho,
J. Patrick Cahill, Brian Mani,
Joe Picchetti & Marcus Truschinski

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Music
GREGG SHAPIRO

PATTI AUSTIN

Patti Austin had one of the biggest hits of the 1980s. Her "Baby, Come To Me" duet with James Ingram (linked to the popular soap "General Hospital") was inescapable for most of that decade. Gays of a certain generation also recall her 1984 disco hit "Rhythm of the Street." She's a first-rate vocalist in possession of a powerful set of pipes.

Austin's latest "Sound Advice" (Shanachie) is a diva-lover's delight. The dozen inspirational (but not too preachy)



tunes run the gamut from Des'ree's "You Gotta Be," Don McLean's "Vincent," Bill Withers' "Lean On Me" and The Jacksons' "Give It Up to The Rolling Stones' "You Can't Always Get What You Want," Wings' "Let 'Em In" and Depeche Mode's "Enjoy The Silence" (!).

'GLEE'

With each subsequent "Glee" soundtrack, the members of the New Directions glee club sound as if they're more interested in singing solos or duets than performing as a chorus. As has been the case in the past, "Glee: The Music, Volume 5" (Columbia), is an inspired mash-up/medley. But when actress-turned-singer Gwyneth Paltrow, who's fea-

tured on three songs (including covers of Stevie Nicks' Fleetwood Mac masterpiece "Landslide" and Prince's "Kiss") is the star attraction, it might be time to reevaluate.

ATCO

CDs featuring choral groups performing pop tunes are nothing new. From the unexpected success of The Langley Schools Music Project disc to the Young @ Heart Chorus to the a cappella groups heard on Ben Folds' University a cappella album, there is something fascinating about hearing all those voices singing well-known rock numbers in unison.

Atco, by Scala and the Kolacny Brothers, fits in well with the previously named acts. Under the guidance of



Kolacny brothers Stijn and Steven, Belgian choir Scala transforms songs by Metallica ("Nothing Else Matters"), Oasis ("Champagne Supernova"), U2 ("With or Without You"), Foo Fighters' "Everlong", Radiohead (a live version of "Creep") and Kings of Leon ("Use Somebody") into pleasant choral pieces.

'SUCKER PUNCH'

Various artists' movie soundtracks have often been the place to find interesting cover versions of popular songs. "Sucker Punch: Original Motion Picture Soundtrack" (WaterTower) is no exception. The music accompanying the latest from Zack Snyder ("300," "Watchmen") consists of remakes, includ-

ing Emily Browning's take on the Eurythmics' "Sweet Dreams Are Made of This," The Smiths' "Asleep" and The Pixies' "Where Is My Mind." There's also the return of Skunk Anansie (featuring out lead singer Skin) remaking Iggy Pop's "Search and Destroy" and teaming up with Björk for the Sucker Punch Remix of "Army of Me."

'PRISCILLA QUEEN OF THE DESERT'

It's essentially a jukebox musical (but what a jukebox!), as you can hear on "Priscilla Queen of the Desert: The Musical - Original Broadway Cast Recording" (Rhino). In addition to some of the songs heard in the movie,



such as "Go West," "I Love The Nightlife," "I Will Survive," "Shake Your Groove Thing," "A Fine Romance" and "Finally" (considered the "finale"), the enhanced and expanded musical includes unforgettable versions of "Girls Just Want to Have Fun," "It's Raining Men," "Like A Prayer," "Pop Muzik" and many others. Based on the recording, "Priscilla Queen of the Desert: The Musical" sounds like it's as campy as "Xanadu" and a hell of a lot more fun than "Mamma Mia!"

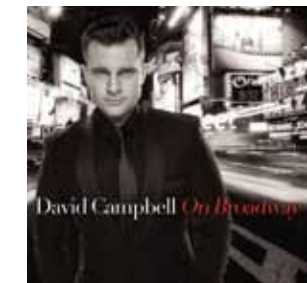
'AMERICAN IDIOT'

Easily the most legitimate rock musical to hit the stage since "Hedwig and the Angry Inch," "American Idiot" is based on the acclaimed and award-winning Green Day opus of

the same name (and enhanced by songs from the band's "21st Century Breakdown" follow-up). Green Day's songs make the transition well, as you can hear on "American Idiot: The Original Broadway Cast Recording" (Reprise), thanks to a talented cast, including John Gallagher, Jr., Stark Sands, Michael Esper, Mary Faber, Rebecca Naomi Jones, Tony Vincent and Christina Sajous, who strike a balance between the show's rock roots and the theatricality of Broadway.

'ON BROADWAY'

Don't expect to hear anything from "American Idiot" on "On Broadway" (Masterworks Broadway) by Aussie tenor David Campbell. With the exception of the "world premiere recording" of "Goodbye" from "Catch Me If



You Can" by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman (of "Hairspray" fame), Campbell plays it very safe. He does what he can to leave his mark on easily recognizable selections from "The Pajama Game" ("Hey There"), "Company" ("Being Alive"), "Les Miserables" ("Bring Him Home") and "Stop The World - I Want To Get Off" ("What Kind of Fool Am I?"), among others.

JANE KRAKOWSKI

From the sound of things, "30 Rock" star and Broadway diva Jane Krakowski wanted to have more fun with the material she selected for her live recording "The Laziest Gal in Town" (DRG). Recorded before an enthusiastic audience, Krakowski has her way with songs by Cole Porter (the title

track), Jerome Kern, Johnny Mercer and Marve Fisher (the "I'm Old Fashioned/Old Fashioned Girl" medley), Jule Styne ("Diamonds Are A Girl's Best Friend") and Irving Berlin ("Let's Face the Music and Dance") and more.



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KABOOM

Equal parts randy sex comedy and apocalyptic thriller, the new film from Gregg Araki (The Living End, The Doom Generation, Mysterious Skin) tells the story of Smith, an ambisexual 18 year-old cinema studies major, who stumbles upon a monstrous conspiracy.

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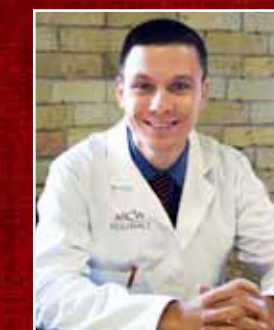
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APRIL 21, THURSDAY

"Square, A Stage Pornography," described as "an erotic comedy that explores the crisis unattached people face in their late 20s," runs through April 23 at Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second. Call 414-383-3727.

"The Bomb-Itty Of Errors," an ad-rap-tation of Shakespeare's "The Comedy Of Errors," continues its Milwaukee premiere through May 8 in the Stackner Cabaret at Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells. Call 414-224-9490.

"Les Misérables" runs through April 24 at Marcus Center For the Performing Arts. Call 414-273-2787.

"The Seafarer" is presented by Strollers Theatre through April 30 at Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin in Madison.

UWM-Milwaukee Peck School of the Arts Department of Art and Design presents its **Spring MA/MFA Exhibition II** through April 30 at Inova/Arts Center Gallery, 2400 E. Kenwood Blvd.

WhoopDeDoo Productions, Inc. announces the eighth anniversary edition of the Madison original production of "**Sweet Cannoli Nuptials!**" through May 15, at The Marquis Ballroom at The Pancake Cafe, 6220 Nesbitt in Fitchburg. Call 608-204-2883 for more info and reservations.



"Les Misérables"

APRIL 22, FRIDAY

Luigi Pirandello's "**Right You Are! (If You Think You Are!)**" runs through May 22 at Boulevard Theatre, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic. Call 414-744-5747 or visit www.boulevardtheatre.com.

Milwaukee Chamber Theatre presents "**The Lion In Winter**," produced in collaboration with Marquette University, through May 1 at Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800.

APRIL 23, SATURDAY

Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood in Madison, presents "**Stephanie Miller's Sexy Liberal Comedy Tour**" at 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. Call 608-241-2345.

Milwaukee Repertory Theater's **End-Of-Season Garage Sale** goes from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells. Call 414-224-9490.

Walker's Point Center for the Arts, 839 S. Fifth, presents "**Carlos Cortéz and Allied Artists**" prints based around the life and social commentary of Milwaukee-born artist Carlos Cortéz, through May 15. Call 414-672-2787 or visit www.wpcamilwaukee.org.

The Pixies bring their "Doolittle Tour" to The Eagles Ballroom/Club, 2401 W. Wisconsin, at 8 p.m. Call 414-342-RAVE.



WIGOUT ON THE TOWN

EDITED AND COMPILED BY GREGG SHAPIRO

APRIL 24, SUNDAY

"**Death Of A Salesman**" by Arthur Miller runs through May 8 in the Quadracci Powerhouse at Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells. Call 414-224-9490.



APRIL 26, TUESDAY

Kenilworth Square East, Studio 508, 1925 E. Kenilworth Place, hosts three hours and five floors of **live dance, music and theater performances, film screenings and much more**, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 414-229-4308.

Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, 400 W. College Ave. in Appleton, presents the **Appleton Strings Festival**. Call 920-730-3760.

APRIL 27, WEDNESDAY

Former Milwaukee Repertory Theatre artistic director Joseph Hanreddy directs "**Aimée and Jaguar**," chronicling a love affair between two women on opposite sides of war-torn Berlin in the final days of the Third Reich, through May 1 at Kenilworth Square East, Studio 508, 1925 E. Kenilworth Place. Call 414-229-4308.

APRIL 28, THURSDAY

Milwaukee Art Museum, the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation and Taliesin Preservation Inc., co-host a reception celebrating **Taliesin's 100th anniversary** featuring keynote speaker Robert Campbell, a leading voice in the field of architecture and critic for The Boston Globe, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in MAM's Lubar Auditorium, 700 N. Art Museum Drive.

The Tony Award-winning musical "**Memphis**" hits the big screen tonight, April 30, May 1 and May 3, at The Majestic, 770 N. Springdale in Waukesha; Menomonee Falls Cinemas 16, W180 N 9393 Premier Lane in Menomonee Falls; Sheboygan Cinemas 13, 3226 Kohler Memorial Drive in Sheboygan; and South Shore Cinemas 16, 7261 S. 13th in Oak Creek. It's the first time a musical (including an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at the show, which continues to play to sold-out houses) will be presented in movie theaters while concurrently running on Broadway.

APRIL 29, FRIDAY

Out at the Opera, Madison Opera's new affinity group for the LGBT community and friends, hosts an after-party following the opening night performance of "**La Traviata**," with the stage director and members of the cast at Fresco Rooftop Restaurant & Lounge, 227 State in Madison. Call 608-238-8085.

Tony Award nominee and "American Idol" finalist Constantine Maroulis stars in the Wisconsin premiere of "**Rock of Ages**" a musical packed with '80s hits, through May 1 at the Milwaukee Theatre, 500 W. Kilbourn Call 414-566-1375.

APRIL 30, SATURDAY

Cactus Club, 2496 S. Wentworth, presents hot queer band **Hunx and His Punx** at 8 p.m. Call 414-897-0663.

Out singer/songwriters **Holcombe Waller** and **Chris Pureka** perform at 8 p.m. at Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell. Call 414-276-7288.

Club ICON, 6305 120th Ave. in Kenosha, celebrates its 5th anniversary with a big shebang starting at 7 p.m. Call 262-857-3240 or visit www.club-icon.com.

MAY 1, SUNDAY

Chris Pureka performs at 7:30 p.m. at High Noon Saloon, 701 E. Washington in Madison. Call 608-268-1122.



"Kaboom"

MAY 5, THURSDAY

Winner of the inaugural Queer Palm awarded at the 2010 Cannes Film Festival, Gregg Araki's "**Kaboom**" is being screened at 7 p.m. in the UWM Union Theatre, UWM Student Union, 2nd level, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. Call 414-229-4070.

Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, 400 W. College Ave. in Appleton, presents "**Lewis Black: In God We Rust**" at 8 p.m. Call 920-730-3760.

Theatre Gigante presents "**Isadora and Nijinsky**" through May 8 at Studio 508, Kenilworth Square East, 1925 E. Kenilworth Place. Call 414- 229-4308.



Based on the musical, the movie "Memphis" opens April 28.

OUT & ABOUT



Got news? Tell us! managingeditor@wisconsinngazette.com

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Napalese, 1351 Cedar St., Green Bay, 920-432-9646.
SASS, 840 S. Broadway, Green Bay, 920-437-7277.
The Shelter Club, 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.
PJ's, 1601 Oregon St., Oshkosh, 920-385-0442.

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TempT, 324 E. Mason St., 414-221-0228.
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.
Two, 718 E. Burleigh St.
Walker's Pint, 818 S. Second St., 414-643-7468.
Woody's, 1579 S. Second St., 414-672-0806.

NORTHERN
Scooters, 411 Galloway St., 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.

SHEBOYGAN
Blue Lite, 1029 N. Eighth St., 920-457-1636.

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

Don't see your favorite LGBT hangout? To contribute or update a listing, e-mail managingeditor@wisconsinngazette.com.

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MEET SKITTLES

Skittles is a 5-year-old domestic short-hair who has been through a lot. He was living on the streets when a kind neighbor took him into her home. There he lived happily with two doggy pals and a cat friend. Unfortunately, Skittles and all of his family members, four- and two-legged, were rendered homeless. No longer able to care for him, Skittles' caretaker surrendered him to WHS in hopes of a brighter future for her furry friend. Today, Skittles waits patiently in his suite, hoping to meet his new family any day now. Are you meant for Skittles?

TIP OF THE WEEK:

While licensing your dog may be common practice, few people realize that licensing their cat is just as important. If your feline friend gets lost, a license tag provides enough identification for a happy reunion. Furthermore, an unlicensed kitty is an unlawful kitty. Milwaukee County and its municipalities require both cats and dogs over six months of age to be licensed within 30 days of adoption. Visit wihumane.org for more information.



Skittles, a 5-year-old domestic shorthair.

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MILWAUKEE

ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Cream City Chorus, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, 414-276-8787, www.creamcitychorus.org, info@creamcitychorus.org
Cream City Squares, 414-445-8080, www.iagscd.org/creamcity
Milwaukee Kings drag king troupe, www.miltownkings.com, miltownkings@yahoo.com
Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second St., 53204, 414-383-3727, www.milwaukeegayartscenter.org

Milwaukee/LGBT Film/Video Festival, www4.uwm.edu/psao/programs/film/lgbtfilm
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
Castaways, P.O. Box 1697, 53202, castawaysmke@yahoo.com

CONNEXUS, 2439 N. Holton St., 53212, 414-390-0444, www.diverseandresilient.org/connexus
Cream City Foundation, 759 N. Milwaukee St., Suite 212, 53202, 414-225-0244, www.creamcityfoundation.org
Diverse and Resilient, 2439 N. Holton St., 53212, 414-390-0444, www.diverseandresilient.org
Firebirds, P.O. Box 159, 53201
FORGE Social Support, P.O. Box 1272, 53201, 414-559-2123, www.forge-forward.org, info@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, gggwi.tripod.com
Lesbian Alliance, 252 E. Highland Ave., 53202, 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

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, 414-271-2656, www.mkelgbt.org
Milwaukee LGBT History Project, 414-224-0517, www.mkelgbthist.org

Milwaukee Pride Parade, P.O. Box 070177, 53207, www.prideparademke.org
PFLAG-Milwaukee, 252 E. Highland Ave., 53202, 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 Ave., 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., 414-390-0444
WanderWomyn Outdoors Group, debydoo2@yahoo.com
Washington Heights Rainbow Association, 414-217-1571, on Facebook
Wauwatosa Rainbow Association, tosarainbow@yahoo.com
Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf, 252 E. Highland Ave., 53202, www.wisrad.org
Wisconsin Rainbow Families, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, 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, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, 414-271-2656, www.centeradvocates.org
Equality Wisconsin, 2717 E. Hampshire Ave., 53211, 414-431-1306, www.equalitywi.org
Human Rights League, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, 414-445-5292, www.hrl-pac.org, hrlpac@yahoo.com

SPORTS

Front Runners/Front Walkers, 262-285-7645, ullwolf.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.milwaukeegayassoccer.org
Milwaukee Gay Volleyball League, www.milwaukeegayvolleyball.com
Saturday Softball Beer League, 2333 N. 56th St., 53210, www.ssbmilwaukee.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, 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

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, toooldforthis@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.madisonbtvolleyball.com
Madison Minotours Rugby Club, www.madisonminotours.com, madisonminotours@gmail.com

YOUTH/EDUCATION

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

FOX VALLEY
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, 233 E. College Ave., Appleton, 54911, 920-734-2233, www.harmonycafe.org, skenevan_gw@gwicc.org
Harmony Café, 1660 W. Mason St., Green Bay, 54303, 920-569-1593, www.harmonycafe.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
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
Valued Families, GLBT parent/child support group, Appleton, www.valuedfamilies.blogspot.com

RACINE/KENOSHA
COMMUNITY

LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin, 1456 Junction Ave., Racine, 53403, 262-664-4100, info@lgbtsewisc.org
PFLAG-Racine/Kenosha, at the LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin, 1456 Junction Ave., Racine, 53403, 262-664-4100, pflag@lgbtsewisc.org

SPORTS

Wisconsin Warriors, P.O. Box 334, Somers, 53171, 414-759-8823, wivarrriors.com, wivarrriors@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.thecentervc.org
LGBT Community Resource Center of the Seven Rivers Region, P.O. Box 3313, 303 Pearl St., La Crosse, 54602, 608-784-0452, www.7riverslgbt.org, r.st.sauver@7riverslgbt.org, lgbtcommunitycenter@yahoo.com
PFLAG Door County, Hope United Church of Christ, 141 S. 12th Ave., Sturgeon Bay, 54235, 920-743-8146, www.pflagdoorcounty.org
PFLAG of the Greater Oshkosh Area, First Congregational Church, 137 Algoma Blvd., 54901, www.oshkosh-pflag.org, pflagoshkosh@gmail.com
PFLAG La Crosse, LGBT Resource Center of the Seven Rivers Region, 303 Pearl St., 54602, 608-784-0452, www.7riverslgbt.org
PFLAG of Manitowoc County, St. James Episcopal Church, 434 N. 8th St., 54220, 920-323-9142, pflagmanitowocco@yahoo.com
PFLAG Stevens Point, 715-572-6922, www.pflagpoint.com
PFLAG Washburn, Washburn Public Library, 307 Washington Ave., 54891, 715-209-1100, http://community.pflag.org/pflagwashburn, nancyhanson1958@yahoo.com

WHAT'S GOING ON THIS WEEK?

Peruse daily events, meetings
and happenings and add your event.
www.wisconsin gazette.com/calendar

Got news? Tell us
managingeditor@wisconsin gazette.com.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

ONGOING

SAGE Office drop-in hours, 1-5 p.m. Monday and Thursday, Milwaukee.*
 LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin drop-in, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; 10 a.m.-4 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

1 p.m., Art Experience, SAGE Milwaukee.*
 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, 414-383-7593.

SATURDAY

9 a.m., Frontrunners/Walkers Milwaukee Run Walk, starting at the Water Tower at the east end of North Avenue in 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.*

SUNDAY

10:30 a.m., Al-Anon, Galano Club, Milwaukee.*
 10:30 a.m., AA Step/Topic meeting, 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, 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., second Monday, Outwards men's book club, 2710 N. Murray Ave., 53211, 414-963-9089, www.outwardsbooks.com.
 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.*
 7 p.m., second Tuesday, lesbian reading group at Outwards Books, 2710 N. Murray Ave., 53211, 414-963-9089, www.outwardsbooks.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, gildasclubmadison.org.
 6:30 p.m., third Wednesday, Wauwatosa Rainbow Association monthly meeting, tosarainbow@yahoo.com.
 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, PRIOR PAGE, FOR ADDRESS AND CONTACT INFORMATION.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

OUT AT THE OPERA

Out at the Opera, a new LGBT affinity group for Madison Opera fans, holds its inaugural event on April 29, following the opening night performance of "La Traviata." The opera's stage director and members of the cast will join the party at Fresco Rooftop Restaurant & Lounge, 227 State St. Tickets for the party include discounted admission to the performance. Call 608-238-8085 to purchase tickets or RSVP.

BOOK IT

OutReach Community Center in Madison reports that its bookshelves runneth over. If you're looking for LGBT-themed books at heavily discounted prices, head over to Outreach, 600 Williamson St., for a book sale from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on April 30 and May 1. Fiction, non-fiction and some videos are up for grabs.

OutReach program director Harry Straetz remains on medical leave while he recovers from brain surgery. WiG wishes him a speedy recovery.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

The LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin is looking for volunteers to work the Ironman competition in Racine July 16-17. The Center can earn up to \$500 by getting 20-30 people to volunteer on either of those days. Contact programs@lgbtsewisc.org for more information.

The center also is looking for regular volunteers to staff several positions, including drop-in coordinator, receptionists, marketing coordinator, fundraising, research and events development. E-mail info@lgbtsewisc.org for more information or complete the volunteer application located at www.lgbtsewisc.org.

EVENT SUPPORTS PRIDE ALIVE

Support Pride Alive by attending Spring Fling 2011, a black-tie-optional night of dancing, food and giveaways, on April 30. The evening begins with a champagne reception at 6:30 p.m. and continues with appetizers from Zaug's Catering at TC Dance Club (formerly Adagio), 1004 S. Olde Oneida #116 in Appleton. The event is followed by an after party at Rascals Bar & Grill, 702 E. Wisconsin Ave., in Appleton.

The fourth annual Pride Alive is scheduled for July 9 at Green Bay's Joannes Park. More than 3,000 people attended last year's event. For more information, go to newpride.org.

BLACK MEN ARE TOPIC OF PREVENTION PROGRAM

The Center for AIDS Intervention Research at the Medical College of Wisconsin

will sponsor a day-long conference in Milwaukee that will feature presentations and discussions by several of the country's leading research authorities in the field of HIV prevention among African-American gay and bisexual men. The conference, "Moving Forward: The Next Generation of HIV Prevention Programs for Black Men Who Have Sex with Men" is free and open to professionals, volunteers, and interested community members.

The conference takes place from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on May 16 at the Italian Community Center, 631 E. Chicago St., Milwaukee. Lunch will be provided, and the conference is approved for continuing education credit for physicians, psychologists, and allied health professionals. There is no charge for attending.

Attendees are requested to advance register by May 9, either online at www.mcw.edu/

cair/2011conference.htm or by contacting Kevin Brown at kdbrown@mcw.edu.

FLORENTINE CAMERATA HOSTS ARTIST SOCIAL ON MAY 8

The Florentine Opera Camerata hosts its next "Sunday Artist Social" at 7 p.m. on Sun., May 8. Get the inside scoop on "Venus & Adonis/Dido & Aeneas" from general director William Florescu and cast member Greer Davis, plus enjoy selections sung by the Florentine Opera Studio Artists.

The free event includes complimentary hors d'oeuvres from Miss Katie's Diner and a cash bar. RSVP to Scott Stewart at sstewart@florentineopera.org or 414-225-1958 by May 4.

—WiG
 Submit items for Community Briefs to managingeditor@wisconsin gazette.com



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