

HAPPY PRIDE!

For a schedule of Milwaukee PrideFest events, June 10 – 12, go to page 30.



THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY

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Rainbow follows tornado

By Lisa Neff
Staff writer

The rainbow. Look for it in Joplin, Mo., where two weeks after the deadliest single tornado in recorded national weather history, a community is recovering, rebuilding, re-energizing and reaffirming.

With rainbow flags raised, grills fired and DJs spinning, Pride, as scheduled, will go in Joplin's Schifferdecker Park on June 11.

"We want to move forward with Pride, we have to move forward," said Lee McDaniel, president and founder of the Joplin Pride Center. The nonprofit is organizing the LGBT celebration, now in its third year.

"The board was unanimous in its support of moving forward with Pride. The logistics were still in place. The ability to do it was still in place. And then also, but cer-

tainly not secondarily, there is the emotional need to have Pride."

Joplin, in the southwest corner of the state and home to about 50,000 people, developed after the Civil War as a mining town – first lead, then zinc. The legendary Route 66 cuts through the city. Bobby Troup's song goes, "Now you go through Saint Louie/Joplin, Missouri/And Oklahoma City is mighty pretty."

Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow also cut through the city, leaving a constable and detective dead as they fled.

The Joplin Convention and Visitors Bureau describes modern-day Joplin as "an ideal meeting and vacation spot. With all of the amenities of a large city and the down-home comfort of a small town, Joplin is the perfect combination of great service and friendly smiles."

On May 22, an EF-5 tornado with 200 mph winds destroyed much of Joplin's physical past – about 30 percent of the city – and threatened its future. The tornado, the deadliest since the National Weather Service began keeping records in 1950, ripped up entire neighborhoods, injured 900 people and killed at least 139 people. A week after the tornado, 100 people were still missing.

"We've had stories from earthquakes and tsunamis and other disasters of people being found two or three weeks later, and we are hopeful we'll have a story like that to tell," said Joplin Fire Chief Mitch Randles.

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LGBT PRIDE 2011

STARS & STRIPES

Events enliven LGBT Pride in Wisconsin

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

For Liz Roepke and her partner, PrideFest and the Milwaukee Pride Parade are opportunities to show their 7-year-old son that there are other families like his.

"He's always the only one in his class with two mommies," Roepke says.

"So PrideFest is really such a nice thing for him. He tells all his friends at school about it. It's such a nice, normal weekend for him where he's not the odd guy out."

Last year, more than 30,000 people attended Milwaukee PrideFest, the largest such celebration in the nation held on perma-

nent festival grounds. More than 6,000 people lined Second Street in Walker's Point for the Pride Parade. The two annual June events bring together all the stripes in Wisconsin's LGBT rainbow with community allies to celebrate Pride Month in a spirit of unity and celebration.

But Pride Month means different things to different people.

For drag entertainer Jarica Jordan, Pride is the time to remember those who pioneered the path to today's freedoms.

"It's kind of like celebrating the queen that came

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wisconsin Gazette.com

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LGBT news with a twist



By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg

BORN-AGAIN SHRINKAGE

Researchers at Duke University discovered that people claiming to be "born-again" Christians have smaller brains due to considerable shrinkage in the hippocampus. That's the area of the brain that helps to regulate emotion and memory, and shrinkage there is linked to mental health problems, dementia and Alzheimer's disease. The discovery was found by MRIs conducted over an 11-year period.

FEEL THE GLITTER

GOP presidential candidate Newt Gingrich and his wife Callista were hit with glittery confetti by a pro-gay protester May 17 during the couple's appearance at a book-signing in downtown Minneapolis. The man approached the Gingriches, dumped a cracker box full of colorful confetti on the pair and yelled, "Feel the rainbow, Newt! Stop the hate! Stop anti-gay politics!" Newt Gingrich was in

town to give a speech at an event sponsored by the anti-gay Minnesota Family Council.

UNKIND CUT?

San Francisco voters will be asked to vote Nov. 8 whether to ban male circumcision. Opponents of the practice gathered enough signatures to put a proposal outlawing the practice on the ballot for municipal elections in the fall. The proposal's backers claim the surgery is an act of male genital mutilation. The proposed law would not allow for religious exemptions for Jews and Muslims.

F****ING FOUL

Chicago Bulls center Joakim Noah committed a verbal foul during Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals. Noah called a fan a "fucking faggot." The NBA fined Noah \$50,000, half of the fine levied against L.A. Lakers star Kobe Bryant for a shouting

town to give a speech at an event sponsored by the anti-gay Minnesota Family Council.

COMIC TURN

Lisa Lampanelli, known as "Comedy's Loveable Queen of Mean," donated \$50,000 to the Gay Men's Health Crisis after her performance at a club in Topeka. The Kansas city is home base for the Westboro Baptist Church and its clan of anti-gay activists. Westboro dispatched about 50 demonstrators to protest Lampanelli's show. That turned out well for the GMHC in NYC. Lampanelli had pledged to donate \$1,000 for every demonstrator she ignored.

IT'S ELEMENTARY

Students in an Oakland, Calif., elementary school learned about transgender clownfish and single-sex species in the animal kingdom during classroom lessons in late May. The informative program is supported by the school district and Redwood

Heights Elementary School educators, but anti-gay conservatives with the Pacific Justice Institute complained about the gender-diversity lessons and offered to provide legal counsel to parents who might want to make more formal complaints.

URBAN BIGOT

Teen sensation Miley Cyrus is urging her 1 million Twitter followers to boycott Urban Outfitters because its CEO supports anti-gay extremist Rick Santorum, a former U.S. senator who's seeking the GOP presidential nomination. Cyrus recently tweeted: "If we allow gay marriage next thing u know people will be marrying gold fish" - Rick Santorum UO contributed \$13,000 to this mans campaign."

TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE

A new report from the U.S. Census Bureau suggests that "traditional marriage" results in a lot of divorces, followed by another

traditional marriage. The report showed that among people 15 and older, 15 percent married more than once, 12 percent had been married twice and 3 percent had been married three times or more. Could the multiple marriages of Newt Gingrich and Donald Trump have skewed the census?

FEEL THE BLING

For a man who's so intensely heterosexual that he can't wait for one marriage to end before bedding the next missus, Newt Gingrich certainly has a queer eye for the bling. The pro-family serial adulterer and GOP presidential candidate somehow managed to charge up \$500,000 on his revolving account at Tiffany & Co., a revelation that raised eyebrows - both bushy conservative eyebrows and the plucked gay variety. "Newt, you want to connect with the common man - you should have had your half million dollar jewelry charge account at Zales," advised Lady Bunny on her blog.

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Man tells police he planned to kill 'abortionists'

By Louis Weisberg
Staff writer

A man allegedly on a mission to kill workers at Planned Parenthood clinics in Madison and Milwaukee was arrested May 25 after accidentally firing a round from his handgun through the door of a motel room, according to a complaint filed in U.S. District Court in Madison.

The complaint says Ralph Lang, 63, was taken into custody after officers responded to a call alerting them that a gun had been fired at a Motel 6 in Madison. When asked why he had a gun, Lang replied, "To lay out abortionists because they are killing babies," the responding officer said in the complaint.

Lang told the officer he planned on going to a Madison Planned Parenthood clinic when it opened at 8 a.m. "to find out who the doctor was that was doing the abortions, and shoot him in the head," the initial complaint stated. He told the officer that he had visited the clinic last week for the same

purpose but didn't follow through with his intention due to "spiritual struggles."

After killing workers at the Madison clinic, Lang told officers he planned to do the same at an unspecified clinic in Milwaukee.

Police found a U.S. map in Lang's motel room with dots drawn on each state and handwritten words identifying them as "some abortion centers." Also on the map were the words, "Blessed Virgin Mary says Hell awaits any woman having an abortion."

Lang had previously been arrested at another Planned Parenthood clinic in 2007, when he told an officer, "the Bible states that anyone involved in abortion should be executed."

Lang lives alone in Marshfield, police said.

U.S. Attorney John Vaudreuil said prosecutors are working with the U.S. Department of Justice's civil rights division in Washington to possibly bring a felony charge against Lang for interfering with a person's use of a

program that receives federal funds. Vaudreuil said prosecutors could take the case to a grand jury in three weeks, the Wisconsin State Journal reported.

Meanwhile, Lang will probably be kept in custody because he poses a danger to the community.

Planned Parenthood's staff was shaken by news of the arrest but resolved to continue providing healthcare services to women in Wisconsin, said Teri Huyck, president of Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin. The group's clinics are the primary healthcare provider for thousands of women in the state.

The organization has been under assault in recent months by right-wing Republicans in Madison and Washington, D.C., who have tried to curtail its government funding. Huyck said the extremist political rhetoric "emboldens people like this man who have a propensity for violence."

"Instead of vilifying our work, I wish (critics would) support our effort avoid unintended pregnancy through programs that have been shown to work, like access to medically accurate sexuality education and access to affordable birth control," Huyck said. Despite the arrest, Planned



PHOTO: FLICKR

Ralph Lang's truck is covered with right-wing decals.

parenthood clinics were not closed in the state. "Our very committed and courageous staff does this work despite daily protesters intimidating them," Huyck said. "They're very brave and very caring of the women who need us the

most. The political environment that we work in makes our job stressful. We're really grateful to the law enforcement agencies that have been working with us to ensure our safety and the safety of the Wisconsin women who come to see us."

leagues before the vote. "I was raised in Minnesota. I'm a child of Minnesota." Democratic Gov. Mark Dayton has no power to block the question, which had previously been approved by the state's Senate.

CATHOLIC GROUP ENDS ADOPTION OVER CIVIL UNIONS LAW

A Catholic diocese in northern Illinois said it's ending its state-funded adoption and foster-care program rather than comply with a new law that would require it to place children with gay or unmarried couples. Officials said other dioceses would decide soon whether to follow suit.

Officials from the Rockford Diocese said they were forced to terminate state contracts worth \$7.5 million after lawmakers failed to pass an amendment exempting religious groups from provi-

put discrimination into the constitution. Such proposals invariably succeed at the polls, bolstered by expensive advertising campaigns financed by right-wing Christian groups and corporate interests. These campaigns typically spend millions of dollars to convince voters that same-sex marriage is a ploy to indoctrinate school children into a nefarious "homosexual agenda."

During the Minnesota House debate, out Rep. Karen Clark, a Minneapolis Democrat, described her 22-year committed relationship with her partner and said they'd considered getting married in Iowa, where gay marriage is legal, so her ailing father could see her marry.

"Please don't make me go off to Iowa," she told col-

MINN. TO PUT GAY MARRIAGE ON THE BALLOT

The Minnesota House voted May 21 for a proposal to amend the state's constitution to forbid marriage rights to gay and lesbian couples by defining "marriage" as only between a man and a woman.

After nearly six hours of emotional debate, mostly from opponents of the ban, the House voted 70-62 to approve putting the proposal on the statewide ballot next year for voters to decide. Four Republicans joined all but two Democrats in voting against it.

Minnesota state law

REGIONAL BRIEFS

already prohibits gay marriage, but supporters of the proposed amendment said it was necessary to prevent judges or future lawmakers from legalizing it. Critics said the plan is divisive and would

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Rob Zerban gets boost in challenge to Paul Ryan

By Louis Weisberg
Staff writer

A pro-equality Democrat who's challenging U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan next year received an unexpected boost from a congressional race in upstate New York. Republican Jane Corwin, who ran in support of Ryan's proposal to eliminate Medicare, lost a solid red House seat to a Democratic newcomer who ran opposed Ryan's plan.

The May 25 race was a special election called to fill the seat of former Rep. Chris Lee, who resigned in disgrace in February after revelations that he trolled Craigslist for hook-ups with women, female transgenders and transvestites. Lee, who is married and ran as a "pro-family" candidate, left office shortly after a woman leaked a shirtless photo Lee had e-mailed her.

The race to succeed Lee was considered a shoo-in for Corwin, a self-funded millionaire serving in the New York Assembly. The district, which includes Buffalo, is not only ruby red but also the home

of such GOP luminaries as Jack Kemp, Bill Paxon and Tom Reynolds.

Yet despite being outspent two to one, Democratic challenger Kathy Hochul found a simple winning formula – the mantra "Medicare, Medicare, Medicare."

Democrats in Wisconsin and across the nation immediately seized upon the implications of Hochul's stunning six-point victory, saying that it reveals how vulnerable Ryan's budget plan has left the Republican Party ahead of next year's presidential race.

Among those embracing this view is Rob Zerban, a former supervisor on the Kenosha County Board who hopes to unseat Ryan in Wisconsin's 1st Congressional District.

"It is clear that Rep. Paul Ryan's plan to end Medicare is the wrong choice for our families, and we will not stand for it," Zerban said in a statement following Corwin's defeat. "Voters in New York's 26th Congressional District rejected Paul Ryan's back-

ward vision of America that puts our seniors at risk. If New Yorkers don't want Medicare replaced with a voucher plan, you can be sure that families here in Wisconsin's First District will have something to say in the next election. Wisconsinites put our trust in Paul Ryan only to be sold out to special interests."

Ryan's plan would hand over Medicare to private, for-profit insurers who lack the bargaining power of the federal government to contain costs. They also lack the incentive, because they can simply raise premiums and co-pays for seniors to cover cost increases – or to make higher profits.

"What the health insurers are going to give seniors is a policy that doesn't cover anything," Zerban says.

In her advertising, Hochul estimated that Ryan's plan would cost the average senior an extra \$6,400 in healthcare costs annually. That message appears to have won the race.

In addition to revealing

a political backlash over Ryan's Medicare position, Hochul's victory demonstrated the waning power of anti-gay campaigns on the political right. Hochul supports LGBT equality in marriage and military service, while Corwin does not. The anti-gay National Organization for Marriage tried to gain traction with this issue among Republican voters in the 26th District – and failed. NOW donated money and volunteers for Corwin, who voted against same-sex marriage as a member of the New York Assembly.

Ryan's record is similar: His scorecard from the Human Rights Campaign for the 111th Congress was zero. Long before he became known as the anti-Medicare congressman, he was known as the anti-choice congressman, says Graeme Zielinski of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin.

Zerban, on the other hand, says he wants to leave behind Ryan's divisive brand of politics. He says he can win by

uniting 1st District voters in a spirit of fairness.

"Ryan just has to be stopped with his mean-spirited policies," Zerban says. "It's a very winnable district. Obama carried it. It's just a matter of getting the voters out to the polls."

It might specifically be a matter of getting senior voters to the polls. And like New York's 26th Congressional District, where 22 percent of voters are over the age of 65, Wisconsin's First District has an unusually large senior population.

"Imagine what they're going to do in a Democratic district with so many seniors once they understand Paul Ryan's plans to end Medicare and Medicaid," Zielinski says.

Zerban, 42, has a biography that should resonate with other voters as well in the primarily blue-collar district. He began working as a dishwasher in a local restaurant at age 15 and three years later was promoted to assistant manager. He went on to study at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde

Park, N.Y., which he calls "the Harvard for chefs."

Following Zerban's graduation in 1992, he worked at hotels and restaurants across the country. He's since established two successful food-service businesses, which now employ a total of 45 people.

Zerban was elected to the Kenosha County Board in 2008. As a member of the board, he worked on establishing a network of bike paths, helped to reduce the size of county government, voted to keep taxes low and worked on a smart-growth plan.

An avid sailor, Zerban earned a captain's license from the United States Coast Guard. He's an advocate for protecting Lake Michigan's waters and has served on the board of the League of Conservation Voters.

But Zerban predicts his race against Ryan in November 2012 will come down to the Medicare item in Ryan's budget. "That will be the driving force next year," he says.

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Getting your estate in order



Wealth management, retirement and legacy planning are challenges for everyone, but there are particular issues to consider in passing assets along to surviving partners, particularly for same-sex couples.

Your wishes most likely won't be fulfilled unless you have legal documents in place that clearly direct that your partner will inherit some or all of your assets.

Ordinarily, husbands and wives may pass any amount of assets to the surviving spouse without being subject to federal taxes. That doesn't apply to unmarried or same-sex couples under current laws. However, there are effective ways to achieve that outcome. More sophisticated planning is required if your estate – including life insurance benefits – exceeds \$2 million. That is why estate

planning is essential for same-sex couples with significant assets to preserve and direct.

It is important to think about whether, when one partner dies, there are essential legal documents in place to make sure the other partner inherits the intended assets. Take a close look at how your beneficiaries are named on important assets such as retirement plans. Many assets transfer to the beneficiaries named in the documents concerning those assets regardless of what your will says. Most people name beneficiaries when they establish a retire-

ment account. Changes in household and family circumstances may call for you to review this information.

When unmarried parents, including same-sex couples, adopt a child, it may be possible for both to file as head of household and pay less in taxes – unlike married couples. Establishing trusts for your children can help you provide them with financial security in case anything should happen to you or your partner.

Trusts can be an effective way to avoid probate, to pass your assets on as you intend, and to keep matters private. Your financial advisor can work with you, your accountant and your attorney to guide you through the estate planning process and to ensure your values and your view of the future are reflected in the legal documents your attorney puts in place on your behalf.

Both you and your partner should have up-to-date living wills to express your wishes for end-of-life care as well

as last wills and testaments. Unmarried couples also must consider having in place hospital visitation authorizations and healthcare proxies that allow your partner to make sensitive decisions on your behalf. You should have durable powers of attorney for finances and a domestic partnership agreement that spells out the contributions each of you makes to the relationship. Ask your attorney how to document your relationship most effectively.

Find a financial advisor you can trust to help shepherd you through the process. The Human Rights Campaign has given Wells Fargo Advisors a 100 percent grade for its fair-minded corporate policies and the equal treatment shown to all LGBT employees. Diversity Inc. magazine has named Wells Fargo & Company second on its list of "Top 10 Companies for LGBT Employees."

Kevin J. Smith is a financial advisor and vice president at Wells Fargo Advisors in Green Bay.



ED BURGESS DEAD AT 58

LGBT-rights advocate and noted Milwaukee choreographer Ed Burgess died unexpectedly on May 12. He was 58. Burgess moved to Milwaukee in the late 1980s to join the UWM Peck School of the Arts dance faculty. He served as chair of the dance department from 2003 until his death.

Burgess danced and choreographed for the Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Danceworks Performance Company, Milwaukee Ballet, Wild Space Dance Company and many other groups. In May, he performed in the Theatre Gigante production "Isadora and Nijinsky."

A memorial service was held on May 13 in the UWM Mainstage Theater.

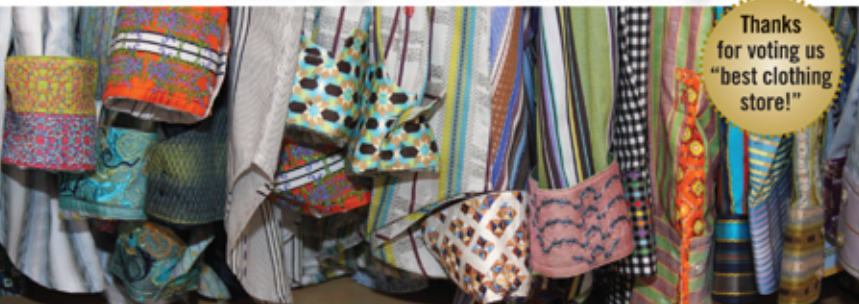
Burgess worked on establishing domestic partner benefits at UWM and was involved in the Diversity Leadership Council's work on the 2008 Campus Climate Survey. He was a collaborator on the Milwaukee LGBT Film & Video Festival and UWM LGBT Resource Center.

— L.W.

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Groups ask advertisers to drop Fox News

By Lisa Neff
Staff writer

Several LGBT civil rights groups are at the forefront of the Drop Fox campaign urging advertisers to take their money off the 24-hour news network that has a reputation for right-wing bias and intentionally misleading viewers on subjects as diverse as war, homosexuality and climate change.

The nonprofit Media Matters is responsible for initiating the Drop Fox campaign. MM selected the online travel and ticketing service Orbitz as its first targeted advertiser.

In mid-May, three LGBT groups – Courage Campaign, Equality Matters and the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation – signed onto the campaign focused on Orbitz. The groups endorsed a letter to company CEO Barney Harford that pointed

out the contrast between Orbitz' work with the LGBT community and its advertising support of Fox News.

Fox News, the groups noted:

- Gave former governor and presidential candidate Mike Huckabee his own show despite a history of comparing homosexuality to drug abuse, incest, pedophilia and necrophilia. Huckabee has repeatedly used his Fox platform to campaign against marriage equality.
- Presents host Bill O'Reilly, who repeatedly uses his prime time show to warn against the "dangers" of allowing gay people near children, to assert that same-sex marriage could lead to polygamy, nuptials with turtles, ducks or dolphins, and to claim that hate crimes legislation protects pedophiles.
- Perpetuates the claim

that repealing the "don't ask, don't tell" policy would diminish troop readiness and morale, despite multiple government and independent reports to the contrary.

"Companies, especially ones with strong track records of LGBT inclusion, should think twice before supporting Fox News' pervasive pattern of indefensible bias against our community," said GLAAD president Jarrett Barrios. "Orbitz is an industry leader in supporting our community and we urge them to send a message that Fox News' attacks are unacceptable."

Courage Campaign chair Rick Jacobs added, "Orbitz loves gay dollars and, we hope, LGBT people, but by funding homophobes and charlatans like hosts Bill O'Reilly and Mike Huckabee, Orbitz sends the



PHOTO: COURTESY

Fox News star Mike Huckabee has a history of comparing homosexuality to drug abuse, incest and pedophilia.

wrong message. Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people can go to plenty of other travel sites. We count on Orbitz to do the right thing and stop buying advertising on Fox News Channel so that LGBT people can continue to shop with Orbitz. The alternatives are clear."

Orbitz, responding to the campaign, touted its record of supporting the LGBT community and criticized the Drop Fox movement.

"This is a political organi-

zation that has been funded pretty extensively to go after one network, and we aren't going to engage in that fight," Orbitz spokesman Brian Hoyt told the Hollywood Reporter.

Hoyt also said, "We have a strict policy of tolerance and non-discrimination, and that means we don't favor one political side over another. Tolerance is a two-way street," he said. "We're going to advertise on conservative TV stations, liberal TV stations and – if there are any

out there – unbiased news broadcasts."

Trevor Thomas of Equality Matters expressed dismay at the company's response.

"I'm disappointed to see Orbitz dismiss our concerns as a mere political disagreement," Thomas said. "We're not talking about coming out against policies; from comparing homosexuality to necrophilia to equating same-sex marriage to marrying a duck, Fox has a history of mocking and belittling the LGBT community."

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Governor signs bill voiding Nashville law

From staff and wire reports

Supporters of a new Tennessee law prohibiting local governments from creating anti-discrimination laws stricter than the state's say it will shield businesses from unwanted regulations. Opponents contend it's blatantly discriminatory.

The measure, known as the Special Access to Discrimination Act and signed May 23 by Republican Gov. Bill Haslam, voids a Nashville ordinance barring companies that discriminate against gays and lesbians from doing business with the city.

Meanwhile, the legislature adjourned May 24 without final action on another controversial measure, the so-called "Don't Say Gay" bill.

That measure would amend state code to prohibit public middle and elementary school educators from providing any instruction or material that discusses sexual orientation other than heterosexuality. Discussions of human sexuality, the bill states, are more appropriate

for the home.

The senate, voting 19-11, passed a weakened version of the schools measure May 20.

However, the general assembly retired after passing a budget May 24, leaving its version of the bill still on the table.

The bills "remain a threat to safe schools in Tennessee," said Jonathan Cole, chair of the Tennessee Equality Project. Gay rights advocates said the legislation would interfere not only with what teachers say in the classroom but also impact how school officials deal with the bullying of a gay student.

The organization, based in Nashville, has launched the Gayathon campaign, encouraging people to say "gay" for equality, especially to say "gay" to Tennessee Sen. Stacey Campfield, the bill's sponsor for the past six years.

Under Tennessee law it is illegal to discriminate against a person because of race, creed, color, religion, sex, age



PHOTO: COURTESY

Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam (center) at the end of the legislative session.

or national origin.

The Nashville ordinance prohibited companies that discriminate because of sexual orientation or gender identity from receiving city contracts. It didn't apply to local governments' hiring policies for their own workers.

Haslam spokesman David Smith said the governor expressed concern about the state telling local governments what to do, "but he

also had concerns about local governments telling businesses what to do, especially the potential burden on small businesses."

Jim Brown, state director of the National Federation of Independent Business, said his group considered the "controversial nature of the bill" but decided to support it because they believe it will protect private employers from "patchwork regulations."

"Our view was there are states like California, Michigan and others that have really gone off on the deep end and they have all these patchwork regulations from different cities," Brown said. "I think the principle of the bill is to protect private employers from ... regulations that they don't want to operate under."

David Fowler, president of Family Action of Tennessee, a Christian conservative advocacy group, agreed.

"At a time when many families are struggling to find employment, the Legislature and the governor have done their part to help them by creating a better climate for job growth by preventing employers from being subjected to more and possibly inconsistent government regulation," he said.

However, Human Rights Campaign president Joe Solmonese and a number of businesses – including FedEx, AT&T, Whirlpool and Comcast – oppose the measure because they view it as

discriminatory.

He noted the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce at one time favored the measure, then changed its stance.

"Discrimination should have no place in the Volunteer State and the chamber's opposition to this law sent a strong signal that corporations are on the leading edge of positive change," Solmonese said. "In contrast, Gov. Haslam has put discrimination ahead of the state's values and even business interests by signing this horrible legislation."

The HRC head said Haslam was trying to "score cheap political points."

An amendment by Democratic Rep. Brenda Gilmore of Nashville to exclude Davidson County failed.

"This general assembly had talked so much about getting government out of the lives of individuals," she said. "And with this particular incident I think we just got right smack in the lives of individuals and their private lives."

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NATIONAL BRIEFS

LA. PANEL REJECTS GAY ADOPTION BILL

A Louisiana House committee recently rejected a New Orleans lawmaker's bill to allow two unmarried, same-sex adults to adopt a child together.

Democrat Helena Moreno said that public opinion has warmed to the idea of gay adoption since the bill failed last year. But the House Civil Law and Procedure Committee disagreed and shelved the proposal.

GLSEN NAMES EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network recently named Maryland teacher Rich Espey as its 2011 GLSEN Educator of the Year.

The award recognizes a "remarkable educator who has demonstrated a commitment to GLSEN's mission of ensuring safe schools for all students, regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity/expression."

Espey was chosen from among 100 educators nominated for the honor. He has taught middle school science for 23 years and since 2005 has been the sponsor of a middle school gay-straight alliance, directing student-based and teacher-based programs to promote safe schools.

SOFTWARE FIRM TO REMOVE LGBT BLOCK

Lightspeed Systems, which makes software used for website filtering in thousands of public schools, is removing a filter that blocked LGBT-related content.

The company made the announcement after the American Civil Liberties Union sent letters to school districts using the software as part of the organization's national "Don't Filter Me" initiative, which seeks to combat illegal censorship of pro-LGBT information on public school computer systems.

"Lightspeed Systems should be commended for responding quickly and responsibly to fix a problem that we have seen in school

districts across the county," said ACLU attorney Joshua Block. "Websites should not be singled out for special treatment by public schools simply because they contain LGBT content."

Lightspeed's filtering software included a category called "education.lifestyles" that blocked access to educational LGBT-related information that is not sexually explicit.

NOT GUILTY PLEA ENTERED IN WEBCAM CASE

A former Rutgers student accused of using a webcam to spy on his roommate's same-sex encounter has pleaded not guilty to 15 charges including bias intimidation, invasion of privacy and evidence tampering.

It was the first court appearance for 19-year-old Dharun Ravi, the main suspect in the crimes allegedly committed against Tyler Clementi. Clementi, a Rutgers freshman, killed himself days after the alleged spying. His death sparked a nationwide conversation about bullying against young gays.

Ravi was silent throughout the court appearance, which lasted less than 10 minutes. Clementi's parents and brother sat in the back of the courtroom for the brief hearing.

GAY OFFICER AWARDED MORE THAN \$1M

An openly gay police sergeant who said his supervisor subjected him to derogatory remarks was awarded \$1.1 million by a jury.

Sgt. Ronald Crump worked for the Los Angeles Police Department's media relations section in 2008 and 2009. While there, he said his supervisor, Lt. John Romero, made remarks about his sexuality, including that Crump was "the new Ruby minus the heels," a reference to a woman he succeeded in the unit.

Crump said that after he complained about the remarks through formal channels, his concerns were deemed to be unfounded. He ultimately was transferred to the city's Skid Row area, a move he said was punitive

and cost him future opportunities for promotion.

CLINTON ISSUES 'DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA' STATEMENT

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton issued a statement commemorating International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia.

The day is observed worldwide on May 17.

Clinton said, "In every part of the world, men and women are persecuted and attacked because of who they are or whom they love. Homophobia, transphobia and the brutal hostility associated with them are often rooted in a lack of understanding of what it actually means to be lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. So to combat this terrible scourge and break the cycle of fear and violence, we must work together to improve education and support those who stand up against laws that criminalize love and promote hate. As we mark the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia this May 17, let us resolve to redouble our efforts."

YALE ANNOUNCES RETURN OF ROTC

Yale University has agreed to bring back the ROTC for the first time in decades after Congress voted to allow gays to serve openly in the military.

Yale President Richard Levin and Navy Secretary Ray Mabus signed an agreement May 26 that established the Naval ROTC's formal presence at Yale for the first time since the early 1970s. Harvard University welcomed back the Reserve Officers Training Corp in March and Columbia University said it would sign an agreement allowing the ROTC back onto campus.

"The renewal of a formal relationship with Yale will serve to bring dozens of new and talented officers who will carry on Yale's tradition of service into the Navy and Marine Corps each year," Mabus said. "The presence of NROTC will enrich and strengthen both the military and the educational experi-

ence of all students."

The ROTC left prominent universities amid anti-Vietnam War sentiment. Colleges more recently kept it off campus because of the military's policy on gays, which they considered discriminatory. Congress repealed the "don't ask, don't tell" policy in December.

NOT GUILTY PLEA BY MAN IN CUSTODY CASE

A missionary charged with helping a woman get her child out of the United States as part of a high-profile lesbian custody case in Vermont pleaded not guilty.

Timothy David Miller, who was indicted May 12 for allegedly helping Lisa Miller abscond with her 9-year-old daughter Isabella, didn't attend his arraignment in federal court in Burlington. A public defender entered the not guilty plea for him.

Prosecutors said he helped Miller - who's unrelated to him - take Isabella to Nicaragua in 2009 as part of a custody dispute with former partner Janet Jenkins.

Timothy Miller, a

Mennonite missionary, is free on bail.

Lisa Miller and Jenkins were joined in a civil union in 2000 but broke up after having the child.

2 MEN ATTACKED IN PORTLAND

Portland, Ore., police said a bias crime detective has been assigned to the case of two men assaulted after they walked together holding hands.

Lt. Robert King said 23-year-old Brad Forkner and 25-year-old Christopher Rosevear were attacked by several young men May 21 as they walked on a trail near the Willamette River.

Police said Forkner was pushed and punched by several people before he could break away to call 911. The attackers also punched and kicked Rosevear. The assailants finally ran off when they heard Forkner calling police.

Portland Mayor Sam Adams, who is openly gay said, "Any two people in Portland should be able to take a walk, hand in hand, without fearing for their safety."

- from WIG and AP reports



Ribbon marks 30th anniversary of fighting AIDS

About 100 volunteers helped place a giant red ribbon on the slope of San Francisco's Twin Peaks to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the AIDS epidemic. The ribbon, visible for many miles when the San Francisco fog lifts and made of about 15,000 square feet of tarp, will remain on the hillside for about a month. How did the activists decide the anniversary date? On June 5, 1981, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued a notice of a rare pneumonia that struck five gay men in Los Angeles.

PHOTO: COURTESY

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\$3,000,000 Police Brutality Settlement

Curtis Harris received a \$3 million settlement from the city of Milwaukee. The settlement was approved by the City Common Council on October 13, 2009. This settlement was the result of a six year legal battle by the lawyers at Hupy and Abraham, S.C., and it was the largest such settlement in state history.

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{ Editorial }

Vote your Pride

The process of liberation is never linear. A step forward is often followed by a step sideways – or even backwards.

The faltering progress that LGBT Americans have won in the past four decades is about as good as it gets. While we're still some distance short of full social inclusion, we have arrived at a time and place when the question is no longer "if" but "when."

Some pundits said the tipping point came in a recent Gallup Poll that found a clear majority of Americans now approve of same-sex marriage. Fifty-three percent of those surveyed told pollsters that gay and lesbian relationships should be recognized in law as equally valid with traditional male-female marriages.

That number – 53 percent – represents a 9 percent leap in support since just last year. Before the poll, approval for same-sex marriages had hovered in the low 40s since 2004.

But the real tipping point came 42 years ago when a handful of angry customers at the Stonewall Inn in New York's Greenwich Village fought back against oppression. Their act of defiance inspired the LGBT civil rights movement, a movement we continue to celebrate every June as Pride month.

In Wisconsin, we have much to be proud of: We live in the first state to ban anti-gay discrimination and the first to elect an openly gay non-incumbent – Tammy Baldwin – to Congress. Every year we host PrideFest, a world-class LGBT festival that draws visitors from throughout the nation.

But Pride 2011 finds us a couple of steps backward from the previous year. Last November, Wisconsin voters put right-wing extremists in charge of state government. They're trying to roll back the small gains we've made in recent years, including the domestic partner registry that ensures us inheritance, medical decision-making and other rights in our relationships.

Fortunately, we have the chance to put the brakes on the extremists in July, when six anti-gay state senators face recall elections. The most effective way we can show our Pride this year is to work for the election of these senators' challengers and to work against the simultaneous effort by the extremists to recall three pro-equality Democrats.

Don't forget to show your Pride where it counts most – at the ballot box in July.



The first openly gay U.S. Navy Tactical Unit proudly displays its state-of-the-art Alternative Lifestyle Torpedoes (ALT).

{ Letters }

CREATING A SAFE AND TASTEFUL PARADE

The Milwaukee Pride Parade would like to take the opportunity to speak up about all the great things we have done in the past year to ensure that the Pride Parade is better, safer and more family-friendly than ever in 2011.

The Pride parade has had to overcome a lot of logistical problems in its seven years of operation, including uninsured vehicles in the parade, non-registered units joining the parade, alcohol on the route and nudity/graphic images in and on units. All of these things

are not just a safety concern but also are huge insurance liabilities and in some cases are outright illegal.

Each year we examine what worked, what didn't and what areas of our operation need improvement. This past year we focused on the family-friendly aspect of the Pride Parade. While realizing that the LGBT Community is inherently tied to sex and sex appeal, we think that a touch of class goes a long way and that there is a fine line between sexy and trashy.

For 2011 we have increased the awareness among our units that nudity is not only against our own rules but is also illegal on a public street

in the city of Milwaukee. We have also increased the amount of volunteers looking for rule violations among our units and have improved our action plans and protocols when something does go awry so that we can deal with the situation quickly, quietly and discreetly.

We look forward to seeing everyone able to attend the Pride Parade this year on Sunday, June 12 at 2 p.m. on Second Street between Greenfield Avenue and Seeboth Avenue. Remember to have fun, be safe and be proud this Pride.

The Milwaukee Pride Parade Board of Directors

Our mission

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

ON THE RECORD

"I've been misquoted as saying that I'm more female than male. Let me set the record straight – it's more half and half, and I love the fact that my feelings are akin to puella eternis (Latin for 'the eternal girl'). What better to be like than the stronger of the species?"

– Aerosmith frontman and "American Idol" judge Steven Tyler writing in his memoir, "Does the Noise in My Head Bother You?"

"I'd rather have a gay guy who can play than a straight guy who can't play. Any professional athlete who gets on TV or radio and says he never played with a gay guy is a stone-freakin' idiot."

– Retired NBA star Charles Barkley.

"I honestly believe if Rush Limbaugh and Glenn Beck announced that they were in favor of the Black Plague, you'd see every Republican primary candidate for president go along with it."

– Former U.S. Rep. Alan Grayson, D-Fla.

"I'm bewildered."

– Christian prophet Harold Camping emerging from his home the day after his failed rapture prediction. Camping had previously said gays were to blame for the impending doom that didn't occur.

"This affirmation of the importance of fair treatment for gay people is especially welcome because it is the first time any foreign leader has ever done this to a joint session of Congress."

– Out U.S. Rep. Barney Frank praising Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for condemning the anti-gay policies of Arab neighbors in a speech before Congress.

"I do not want 16-year-old boys but younger. Fourteen-year-olds are OK. Look for needy boys who have family issues."

– Italian priest Riccardo Seppia speaking to a Moroccan drug dealer in a tapped phone conversation recorded by police. Seppia's boss is Genoa Archbishop Angelo Bagnasco, the Vatican's top advisor on a newly released policy for dealing with pedophile priests. Seppia was arrested on drug and pedophilia charges.

"The time has come for us to fulfill the dreams that exploded into Sheridan Square 42 years ago to allow thousands of men and women to become full members of the American family, and to take the next step on the inspired journey our founding fathers first began."

– N.Y. Mayor Mike Bloomberg speaking out for marriage equality.

"If we allow gay marriage next thing u know people will be marrying gold fish" – Rick Santorum. UO contributed \$13,000 to this mans campaign."

– Miley Cyrus asking her 1 million followers to boycott Urban Outfitters in a Tweet. The corporation's chairman is a right-wing extremist who's given money to anti-gay Republican Rick Santorum.

How proud am I to be a lesbian?

I'm proud to be a lesbian because I love women.

I'm proud to be a lesbian in a world that fears difference, hates women and does everything possible to squelch our independence.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because I've survived all the hostility and homophobia thrown at me and managed to maintain my sanity (with only brief lapses).

I'm proud to be a lesbian because of our great literary legacy, from Sappho, Willa Cather and Gertrude Stein to Adrienne Rich, Audre Lorde and Sarah Waters.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because some of my best friends are queer.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because it helps build strong bodies 12 ways: chemically, physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually, philosophically, intellectually, sensually, sexually, orally, visually, viscerally.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because, in the immortal

Opinion
JAMAKAYA

words of Sue Fink, "Boys are thugs," and, in her equally immortal words, "Me-nawanna-weenie."

I'm proud to be a lesbian because of the solidarity I feel marching in LGBT Pride parades.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because of all my crazy, inspired lezzie friends.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because it's so damn subversive and because it gives me something to talk about when meeting new people.

"Hi, I'm Jamakaya, professional lesbian!"

I'm particularly proud to be a lesbian when I consider the alternative.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because heterosexuality, with its epidemic levels of woman-beating, child abuse

and incest, is an abomination!

I'm proud to be a lesbian because I love women's manners, values and priorities. Well, most women's.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because I love women's bodies, I love women's minds, and the combination of the two is most arousing!

I'm proud to be a lesbian because it bugs the hell out of men.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because I have more queens as friends than the average commoner.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because of its complexity.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because of its clarity.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because I wear only sensible shoes.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because Rachel Maddow and Tammy Baldwin are my sisters.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because I'm blessed with a gay sense of humor, our wonderful sense of irony that blossoms

into camp. Yes, you naysayers, lesbians DO have senses of humor. See next item.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because lesbians are the funniest people in the world: Wanda Sykes, Lily Tomlin, Ellen DeGeneres, Kate Clinton, etc.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because some of my best friends are unrepentant Revolting Hags.

I'm proud to be a lesbian because of the exciting culture-building and activism within our community – in the arts, religion, sports, healthcare, you name it!

I'm proud to be a lesbian because in the profound words of Carly Simon, "Nobody does it better."

I am so proud to be a lesbian that, given the choice, I wouldn't change it for anything because I love myself just the way I am. And so should you.

Happy Pride Month, everyone!

Be proud of our state's recent surge of activism

The slogan for the Milwaukee Pride Parade this year is "Filling the streets with pride." It is a great slogan and it seems particularly poignant in our state's current political climate.

Months ago we witnessed unprecedented activism in Wisconsin streets and inside our Capitol. The LGBT community should certainly take pride in the role it played in this activism both inside the Capitol and out.

Although the bulk of the protests across Wisconsin this year have focused on the extreme right-wing attack on working Wisconsinites, many of them included a strong LGBT presence. If you didn't actually see a Pride flag flying at a protest, you can be fairly certain that there were LGBT activists present and even helping to organize it. The Wisconsin labor movement has been a critical ally for equality in Wisconsin, so it is no surprise that many in

Opinion
CORY LIEBMANN

the LGBT community would take a strong stand for this devoted ally.

In the March 10 issue, the Wisconsin Gazette reported about several hundred LGBT Wisconsinites and their allies marching with Fair Wisconsin to show solidarity with union workers. At that time the executive director of Fair Wisconsin Katie Belanger told the crowd that the group supports Wisconsin labor because "our government should never be in the business of taking away people's rights." One person that marched with Fair Wisconsin commented, "If we let this happen, who knows where it would stop?"

Equality Wisconsin is another LGBT organization that has been very active in supporting the rights of

Wisconsin workers. From the beginning of the radical right-wing attack on labor, Equality Wisconsin effectively used its Facebook presence to organize and promote a variety of protests and other events. Equality Wisconsin has consistently reminded supporters that protecting collective bargaining rights includes the right to bargain for things like domestic partner benefits.

While LGBT activists have been filling the streets with pride during this year's protests, the entire community should also be filled with pride at the strong role that out LGBT state legislators are playing in fighting an extreme agenda in the Capitol. Who can forget the early showing of support for Wisconsin workers by out state Rep. Mark Pocan, D-Madison, when he displayed a "solidarity" sign to thousands of protestors through an open window in the Capitol? Pocan fiercely

defended the rights of workers and others inside the Assembly chamber.

Out state Rep. Tim Carpenter, D-Milwaukee, also took a leading role in the Legislature during the unprecedented attack on the rights of workers. He is a member of the now famous Wisconsin 14, the 14 Democratic senators who left the state to prevent Gov. Scott Walker from ramming his law eliminating workers' rights through the Legislature. By preventing the Senate from having a quorum, the senators gave the public a chance to weigh Walker's extremist agenda before it was a fait accompli.

Hopefully, the state's recent political battles will help to unite and supercharge the level of activism among LGBT citizens. There are many progressive battles to fight and the LGBT community must be fully engaged for them to succeed.

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PrideFest events connect spiritual communities

Religion ANDREW WARNER

"This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine." The African-American spiritual could be the anthem of the religious services taking place at PrideFest.

Our community will gather to let our light shine at the Friday evening interfaith prayer service, 6:30 p.m. on the Stonewall Stage, and also at the celebration of relationships at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday on the Stonewall Stage.

The Friday evening interfaith prayer service kicks off the PrideFest weekend, with more than a dozen clergy taking part in the service.

A large interfaith choir provides great music. The clergy and choir alone testify to the vibrancy and diversity of LGBT-inclusive congregations.

The Rev. Jamie Washam will preach. Her sermons at Underwood Memorial Baptist Church always inspire because of their combination of impassioned Baptist style and great progressive content.

Whether you have a faith community or just have faith questions, the interfaith

prayer service will fill you with pride.

Later in the weekend, clergy will gather on the Stonewall stage for a "Celebration of Our Relationships."

More than a marriage ceremony, the celebration allows couples the opportunity to bless their relationships at any stage of commitment.

The service also provides a public witness of the vitality and validity of same-sex relationships. (Clergy will also be available throughout the weekend for couples who wish to solemnize their relationship privately).

Jeffrey Montoya, PrideFest's religious director, knows the value that interfaith prayer opportunities represent. Raised Roman Catholic, Jeffrey served for several years in Catholic settings, including as chaplain at Cardinal Stritch University.

Conservative Catholics targeted Montoya for ridicule and abuse on blogs and other avenues because he's openly gay. Montoya left the Roman Catholic Church in frustration.

An exploration of various churches began for Montoya at a PrideFest interfaith service.

The list of churches involved became his "shopping list." The Universal

Anglican Church was one of the congregations listed. The Anglican worship felt close to a mass but the Universal Anglicans unabashedly accept and honor LGBT people.

The Universal Anglicans formed in 2005 as a liberal breakaway movement from the Episcopal Church. At its core, the movement commits to non-discrimination in the administration of the sacraments. At first the adjective "universal" started as a synonym for Catholic. But it evolved into an affirmation of universal salvation, that is, that all will be saved.

The Milwaukee congregation of Universal Anglicans went through a period of transition earlier this year but will resume worship this month on Sundays at the Marion Center for Non-Profits in Milwaukee.

On June 5, they will inaugurate a new style of worship called a "Christ and Light" gathering for people who want spirituality but not all the "churchy stuff." Montoya intends the gatherings to offer "spiritual tools to transform life and the world."

A more traditional mass service begins on June 19 in the Marion Center Chapel at 9:30 a.m.

PrideFest's religious services offer a chance to find

and share the spiritual light in our community. These services may lead to involvement in a church community, as they

did for Jeffrey Montoya. Or they may simply be an occasion to thank God for the diversity and energy in our

LGBT religious community. Come to the Stonewall Stage over PrideFest weekend to let your spiritual light shine.

Open & Affirming Congregations

MILWAUKEE

All Saints' Cathedral (Episcopal), 818 E. Juneau Ave., 53202, 414-271-7719, www.ascathedral.org

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.tippecanoe.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

Advent Lutheran Church ELCA, 7118 Old Sauk Rd., 53717, 608-836-1455, www.madisonchristiancommunity.org

Beth'El Evangelical Lutheran Church,

101 Bethel Drive, P.O. Box 70, Poynette, WI 53955-0070

Community of Hope UCC, 7118 Old Sauk Rd., 53717, 608-836-1455, www.madisonchristiancommunity.org

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, hopechurchcdc.org

Union Congregational United Church of Christ, 716 S. Madison St., 54301-3609, 920-437-9266, www.unionucc.com, office@unionucc.com

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

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Parties, arrests come with foreign Pride events

From WiG reports

More than 30 people, including gay military activist Dan Choi and Chicago queer activist Andy Thayer, were arrested May 28 in Moscow during the sixth attempt by LGBT Russians to hold a Pride parade in their capital.

According to the group Gay Russia, right-wing extremists clashed with activists gathered in front of the Kremlin, resulting in the arrests of 18 pro-gay and 14 anti-gay demonstrators. A police spokesman for Moscow City police said the gay group did not have permission to stage a parade.

"We have been asking for the last six years to gather. We are being deprived of a very simple right that is taken for granted in democratic countries," said Nikolai Alexeyev, head of Gay Russia and chief organizer of the Moscow Gay Pride Parade.

The clash in Moscow fol-

lowed close on the heels of 14 people being arrested in Krakow, Poland, for trying to disrupt that city's annual LGBT Pride march May 22.

About 150 right-wing youths attempted to break up the procession, prompting police to fire tear gas to disperse the mob.

To gay rights advocates in Krakow, however, the situation is improving. Seven years ago, marchers were pelted with stones and glass bottles.

Elsewhere, organizers canceled what would have been the first-ever Pride celebration in Montenegro because of an alleged lack of support from the government. The event was scheduled to take place May 31 in the capital Podgorica but lacked a commitment from the government for police protection, planners said.

Organizers said the Montenegro Pride could not take place without govern-

ment and police partnership because of hostility toward LGBT marchers.

A Montenegro government statement released May 17 asked Pride organizers to reconsider and pledged cooperation. The cancellation of the event was unwarranted, said the government, which is seeking to improve its human rights record as it pushes for entry into the European Union.

Meanwhile, organizers in other regions of the world were preparing for the Pride season and gayer celebrations:

- Gayfest in Bucharest, Romania, began on May 30 and will conclude on June 4 with a parade.

- Paris celebrates Pride in June with masquerade parties, street fairs, rallies and a large parade.

- Bordeaux, France, celebrates Pride throughout June with marathon 12-hour parties, followed by after-parties.

- Athens, Greece, will celebrate Pride on June 4 with a street fair and parade.

- About 30,000 people are expected to participate in the Zurich Pride Festival held June 2-5 in the Swiss city. The parade travels through the city's center.

- Israel's largest LGBT celebration, Tel Aviv Pride, will take place on June 10 and feature a parade and dance parties.

- Pride London's Festival Fortnight is June 18-July 3, with the parade on July 2. The festival is a two-week celebration of music, theater, dance, visual arts, sports, debate, film, fashion and literature.

- The Rainbow Parade in Vienna, Austria, traditionally circles the city's grand boulevards and draws 100,000 revelers. This year's parade is on June 18.

- One of Europe's largest LGBT celebrations is the Pride festival in Cologne, Germany, which is set for June 18-July 3.

- Sao Paulo's Pride cel-

ebration is June 23-27 and is considered the largest Pride in the world, with 4 million people participating in the Brazilian spectacle.

- Pride Toronto holds its big Pride celebration June 24-July 3. Toronto hosts the third-largest Pride festival in the world.

- Mexico City Pride is on June 25, with organizers planning a rally, carnival and parade.

- Dublin, Ireland, will host a Pride festival and grand parade. The celebration, June 17-June

26, also features a beach barbecue and fetish night.

- Montreal Pride Celebration is Aug. 9-14, with the parade set for Aug. 14.

- The Capital Pride Fest takes place in Ottawa, Canada, on Aug. 19.

Near the end of the year, InterPride, the nonprofit coalition of Pride committees and advocates, will hold its gala Pride event, Pride Around the World, in Brussels, Belgium.

SAVE THE DATE

WorldPride 2012 will take place in London June 23-July 8, with the big parade scheduled for July 7.

Organizers say they are planning a mammoth celebration, which falls between two other significant events - the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Summer Olympic Games.

"It will be a glorious year for our city," said London Pride chair Paul Birrell. "Pride London has grown over the years to be one of the UK's largest cultural events and this is a tremendous achievement for the LGBT community."

WorldPride 2014 will be held in Toronto.



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Pride Fest
THE BEST OF PRIDEFEST

By Gregg Shapiro Staff writer

Kudos to the organizers of the 2011 Milwaukee Pridefest. They have once again proven that they have their well-manicured fingers on the pulse of what's happening in pop culture and entertainment.

Take Oscar-winner, comedian and force of nature

Mo'Nique, for instance. She might seem like a bit of a surprise as the June 10 headliner on the Miller Lite Main Stage, but with her devoted LGBT following and longstanding support of the community, she's a perfect fit.

Salt-N-Pepa, headlining the MLMS on June 11, are officially on the comeback trail. In addition to recently appearing

on Oprah's final season, their trademark tune "Push It" was featured in the Spring rom-com "Something Borrowed," starring Kate Hudson, Ginnifer Goodwin and John Krasinski. Welcome back, divas!

And with her gossip rag scandals behind her, LeAnn Rimes (who made a splash in December 2010 when she performed with the

Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles) can get back to the business of belting out country and pop tunes, something she still does beautifully, on the MLMS on June 12.

Other Miller Lite Main Stage highlights include out artists Tret Fure, Ivri Lider and drag comedian Pam Ann on Saturday and SONiA and disappear fear and Chely

Wright on Sunday.

Pridefest's Rainbow Stage boasts an awesome array of queer talent. Saturday standouts include Katie Todd, Rachael Sage, Ariel Aparicio and the one and only Bitch.

On Sunday, the Rainbow Stage has performances by Martine Locke, Steve Reeder, the Heat Birds and the Brew City Bombshells Burlesque.

Notable acts at the Pump! Dance Pavilion include The Windy City Beauties (featuring Teri Yaki) on June 10, Chicago Gay Men's Chorus and the 2011 PrideFest Wisconsin Drag Show on June 11, and Milwaukee Men's Chorus and Furlisque on June 12.

Be proud Milwaukee. Wear sunscreen, stay hydrated. Enjoy Pridefest!

SPECIAL PRIDEFEST SUPPLEMENT

STELLA ACHIEVEMENT: An interview with Stella of the Heat Birds

Interview
GREGG SHAPIRO

When Stella, the out lead singer of the Heat Birds, sings, people stop in their tracks. She has that kind of voice. You want to get close to it, soak it in, tap into its aura. It's warm as a wool sweater, but cool as club soda on ice.

A voice like Stella's deserves musicians and material to match its level, and that's exactly what you get with the Heat Birds. The ensemble plays the kind of Americana swing music that brings listeners to their feet.

Gregg Shapiro: What's the significance of the name Heat Birds?

Stella: Tony (Esposito), the creator of the Heat Birds, came up with the band name (long before I joined the group). His grandmother used to comment on all the noise the cicadas would make during the summer time: "Listen to those damn heat birds making all that racket." (It's funny the way it worked out because we really do tend to get rowdy as the temperature warms up.

And how did you come up with the name Stella?

For the longest time I had

to believe I was someone else to perform my own songs. When I wrote the songs that I offered to the Heat Birds, it came from an unexposed side of me that I had only recently discovered. I felt liberated saying the things I had to say. So, I invented "Stella" to carry the load. The name comes from a combination of my idol Ella Fitzgerald with my real name (Stephanie).

How did the band members meet?

We met in the music department at Northeastern Illinois University. We all happened to be on the same career path with like mentalities about music performance. We found our way to each other through music classes and various music ensembles. The Heat Birds started about two to three years before I joined the lineup. I always wanted to be a Heat Bird from the first time I saw them perform at Gallery Cabaret on Halloween night 2006.

The Heat Birds put out a five-song EP in 2009 for which you wrote songs such as "Ballad of the Moon," "Meeka" and "Strumpet Strutt."

What comes first when you are writing a song – the music or the lyrics?

Generally, I write music

first. Then I find the words inside of the song and try to pull them out logically. (It) doesn't always work as quickly as I'd like it to, but I'm usually OK with my final product. Every song I ever wrote came together a different way, but the music or style was usually understood at the onset.

Where do you find inspiration?

(It) usually starts with some lady doing something that I find particularly attractive. However, I am inspired by the people I see in any given moment of any given day. The poet inside of me just takes over. I fall in love with the idea of something quickly, process the feelings, and toss it into a song.

"I'm Late" is said to be the Heat Birds' most popular song. Why do you think that is?

I think it's because contemporary American culture relates entirely too much to the idea of being perpetually late. I know I do.

Have the Heat Birds started working on a full-length disc?

Like any other six-member band, it's hard to get us all in the same place at the same time. However, we have all committed to setting aside



The Heat Birds perform at 4:45 p.m. on the Rainbow Stage at Pridefest on Sunday, June 12.

time this summer to fully realize the long-awaited Heat Birds album. When I say long-awaited, I mean I have wanted to do this for as long as I have been in the band. Hopefully it will work out this summer.

Speaking of this summer, the Heat

Birds are performing at PrideFest in Milwaukee. What does that mean to you?

Well, I'm originally from Milwaukee (Cudahy), so it means more than I can really say. For one, my Wisconsin family and friends willingly travel all of 15 minutes to see

me do what I do (laughs). My busy lifestyle, partnered with living in Chicago, separates me from all my familiar social norms. I get to bring a new piece of me home! Plus it's the biggest gay Pride in the Midwest. I get to be around all of my people in a safe fun environment!

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'Hide/Seek' co-curator hosts panel at MAM

By Debra Brehmer
Contributing writer

"Hide/Seek: Difference and Desire in American Portraiture," the first exhibition focused on gay relationships at a major American museum, came under fire from Republicans while on display at the National Portrait Gallery from Oct. 30, 2010, to Feb. 13.

The exhibit's co-curator Jonathan D. Katz came to Milwaukee on May 26 to present a history of the event and to lead a panel discussion of the issues it raised. The event nearly filled the auditorium at the Milwaukee Art Museum.

Katz's appearance was funded by philanthropist Joe Pabst, and MAM's chief curator Laurie Winters organized the panel, which included the Rev. Steven Peay, of Nashotah House Theological Seminary, Kali Murray, of Marquette Law School, and William

Rudolph, MAM's curator of American and decorative arts.

As Katz explained, the goal of "Hide/Seek" was to revise the historical record by reinstating the important issues of sexuality. He and co-curator David C. Ward went about this with extreme care, orchestrating a historical survey that lacked overt sexual content and included many straight artists dealing with same-sex desire. By building a fortress of academic research and fact, they hoped to avoid the obscenity/censorship issues that closed down the 1989 Mapplethorpe show.

But the religious right was not going to miss an opportunity to hack away at a perceived assault on moral issues. When they couldn't nail the show on the basis of obscenity, they snuck in the back door: Calling it anti-Christian, the Catholic League objected to a few

minutes of video by David Wojnarowicz that showed ants crawling on a crucifix. When threatened with a \$100 million loss of funding, Smithsonian secretary G. Wayne Clough promptly removed the video, leading to charges of censorship and protests by artists and institutions.

The National Portrait Gallery refused to post a sign in the exhibition stating that the video had been removed, turning an act of censorship into one of erasure.

Two artists, however, parked a rental truck in front of the NPG for the duration of the exhibition and showed the video daily.

Ironically, the controversy contributed to the great success of the show, which drew more visitors than any other in the history of the National Portrait Gallery, Katz said.

After presenting an overview of the exhibit's his-

tory, Katz showed the Wojnarowicz video and the panel discussion was launched. Setting a refreshingly empowered tone, panelist Murray said, "Transgression is part of a museum's mission."

Katz said museums have strayed far from that mission, however, most notably out of fear and the demand for crowd-pleasing shows. Museums have been frightened away from gay or "transgressive" content since the Mapplethorpe controversy.

Even after 25 years of gender revisionist scholarship, museums tend to avoid these issues. Increasingly controlled by a few powerful trustees and influenced by the need for corporate funding, museums often choose shows of wide appeal and narrow challenge - "bland pabulum" in Katz's words.

"A museum's role is in part

a place for controversy, yes, even dangerous and sensitive ideas should be discussed," Katz said.

Murray reiterated, "The museum's role should be about dialog and challenge."

"Hide/Seek" could not find a corporate sponsor and relied on individual sources of funding. No other museum in the country was interested in hosting the show. Since the controversy, however, the exhibit will now travel to Brooklyn and Tacoma, Wash.

By representing the informed Christian point of view, Peay was a great addition to the panel. Acknowledging that he didn't particularly like the video, he said nonetheless that it expressed pain through the traditional religious iconology of blood, money, suffering and sin.

"Is there sacrilege here?" he asked. "No."

Instead, he explained, it was an artist using age-old imagery of suffering to explore his own pain in reaction to the loss of his partner, his own illness and the AIDS epidemic.

Rudolph took issue with the idea that museums were steadfastly "dumbing down," but did acknowledge a directive toward "visitor needs." He commented on how visually tame "Hide/Seek" was, with only one "wiener" exposed.

Katz noted that there were several, and we certainly should not forget Frank O'Hara's penis, which was featured prominently in several works.

The audience laughed. This kind of banter might sound trivial in translation, but it holds significance. It may even have been the most important part of an evening rich with ideas and intellectual analysis.

Grillo's celebrated singing career still evolving

By Peggy Schulz
Contributing writer

Out Milwaukee jazz singer Jerry Grillo has a lot to be proud of this year.

In April, the Wisconsin Area Music Industry named him jazz artist of the year. He was chosen from a group of exceptionally talented nominees, including a Grammy Award winner.

While the awards are handed out annually, Grillo thinks his was an acknowledgment of his entire career. He has performed in Wisconsin as a solo artist and with a variety of bands for more than three decades.

Still, Grillo's life as a performer continues to evolve.

A June 19 event at the Warehouse, 818 S. Water St., features him in concert, performing songs from Broadway and the movies. It also includes a special feature at intermission - the premiere screening of the documentary film "Vintage Grillo ... Milwaukee."



Jerry Grillo

Born and raised in Hibbing,

Minn., Grillo attended the same high school as a more famous former resident of

the city - Bob Dylan. Grillo credits Hibbing High School as a major factor in his development as an artist.

Built in the early 1920s at a cost of nearly \$4 million, the school was financed largely by the owners of the mines that then constituted Hibbing's main economic base. The school district and the mine owners were determined to provide the highest quality of education, including the creative arts, to the children of the mine workers. The auditorium held a special place in Grillo's heart.

"The school's marble staircase when you first came in, the theater with its Belgian crystal chandeliers, which was modeled after one in New York, the organ ..." Grillo says, his voice trailing off wistfully. "The school figured into everybody who ever went there. It was so progressive."

"I grew up with a small-

town sensibility but a very sophisticated education," Grillo says. "My music teacher in 7th and 8th grade taught us all the operas. Think about that! I do often."

Before he even got to grade school, Grillo already was set on a creative path by his maternal grandmother. She took him to the movies every Saturday, from the age of two until he started elementary school. She also had movie magazines around the house, which Grillo lapped up readily.

"I was only about three years old, but I remember it clearly," Grillo says. "I was singing 'Three Coins in a Fountain,' in my back yard, throwing coins into a little plastic tub full of water."

A few years later, his cousin, who was taking piano lessons, began playing songs on the piano, often love songs, and Grillo would sing along.

Grillo's family wasn't completely supportive of his more creative leanings, however. Like most families in northern Minnesota's Iron Range, the Grillos were "a hockey family," he says. "But I wanted to be a figure skater. I wasn't allowed to take lessons."

After graduating from the University of Minnesota in Duluth, Grillo came to Wisconsin to teach. The emphasis on quality education in his hometown - and the entire state of Minnesota - figured into his decision. Grillo taught business in Milwaukee Public Schools for many years. He also performed in theater and sang in clubs, sometimes with cover bands, on the weekends, while teaching remained his "day job."

The documentary premiering on June 19 is a new twist in an already impressive career.

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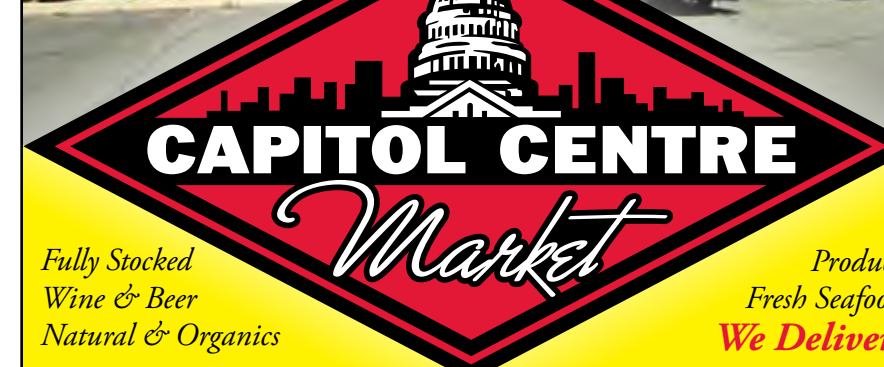
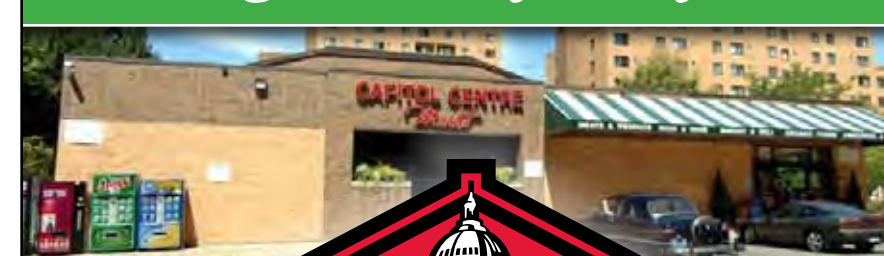
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PRIDE 2011

Standing in solidarity with our allies

Opinion
REP. MARK POCAN



Walker's first few months in office have brought together progressives of all walks.

As summer fast approaches and Pride celebrations pop up around the country, now is a good time to look back at the year that was and what lies ahead. This is also a good time to reflect on who stands with us, and who's against us.

One year ago, Wisconsin began to rebuild from a hateful constitutional amendment that excluded same-sex couples from marriage and civil unions in Wisconsin. We made great strides last legislative session at the Capitol to ensure LGBT couples in committed relationships were afforded 43 of the more than 200 legal protections opposite-sex couples

receive under state law. Most notably, those 43 protections include hospital visitation and survivor protections.

I am proud to have fought to make Wisconsin the first state in the nation to enact domestic partnerships despite having an existing constitutional amendment banning both marriage equality and civil unions. Wisconsin was also the

first state in the Midwest to legislatively enact protections for same-sex couples.

But almost immediately, Wisconsin Family Action filed a lawsuit claiming the legal protections violated the constitutional amendment. Shortly after that, Wisconsin Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen announced that he

would not defend our domestic partner protections. And recently, Gov. Scott Walker said he wouldn't stand with the LGBT community either. He said his administration would not continue the legal defense of our domestic partner protections.

While we know who isn't standing with us, it's important to recognize we aren't fighting this battle alone. Fair Wisconsin, the organization that boldly fought the marriage ban, hired lawyers to defend our domestic partner protections.

Walker's first few months in office, while terrible for Wisconsin, have brought progressives of all walks of life together. Walker's attack on workers' rights remind us that it was through collective bargaining that many unions were able to secure domestic partner benefits for

employees long before the state government acted. The bonds of solidarity forged during the collective bargaining fight fanned the flames of the current effort to recall six GOP state senators.

The regime of FitzWalkerstan could be coming to an end as those recalls get underway across the state. In Milwaukee County, Rep. Sandy Pasch will take on incumbent Sen. Alberta Darling. As you read this, I hope you will remember Pasch stood side-by-side with us in our fight for domestic partner benefits, and she took a strong stand on the floor of the Assembly this session against the Republicans' right-wing conservative priorities and Walker's self-serving agenda.

I hope the LGBT community stands with Pasch and others across the state who seek to help tip the

balance of the Senate and restore some sense of sanity to Wisconsin.

And then on to the big fight. We must work to recall Walker, as he has shown us whom he stands with. And it's not with us.

In the name of solidarity, I ask you to remember those brave individuals and organizations who have stood with us: the workers and unions that fought the hateful constitutional amendment; the elected officials who stood with us and voted with us when we needed them most; members of the broader progressive movement who are our allies.

Enjoy Pride and get ready to fight for our friends this summer and in the months ahead. Forward!

Out state Rep. Mark Pocan is a Democrat who serves Madison in the Wisconsin Assembly.

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From tragedy steps a hero – who happens to be gay

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The year has brought tragedy and triumph for Daniel Hernandez Jr.

When 2011 arrived, there was no inkling that a week later Hernandez – a speaker June 11 at PrideFest – would be caught in a mass shooting or that he would emerge from that tragedy to be hailed a hero honored by his president, his state and his communities.

At the start of the year, Hernandez, an openly gay 21-year-old political science major and student government leader at the University of Arizona, was building his skills, knowledge and resume as an intern in Arizona's 8th Congressional District, which is represented by Gabrielle Giffords. The college student already was a political veteran, having worked on Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign and Gifford's re-election

IF YOU GO...

Daniel Hernandez Jr. is set to participate in a panel discussion on the PrideFest Stonewall Stage at 5 p.m. on June 11. Also scheduled to speak is Wisconsin state Rep. JoCasta Zamarripa.

He was assisting at a "Congress on Your Corner" event at the Casa Adobes Safeway in Tucson on Jan. 8 when a gunman began firing.

Six people died that day and 13 others were injured, including Giffords, who was wounded by a bullet to the brain.

The suspect in the shooting, Jared Lee Loughner, recently was declared incompetent to stand trial. He'll spend four months in psychiatric treatment and then reappear in federal court for a judge to determine whether

he understands the case against him.

Loughner faces 49 federal charges, including the attempted assassination of a member of Congress.

Giffords, meanwhile, underwent surgery in mid-May to repair her skull. She continues what doctors have termed a remarkable recovery.

Many said she might not have reached the hospital alive on Jan. 8 had Hernandez not rushed to her as she lay wounded outside the Safeway.

In addition to knowing something about politics, Hernandez had training in first aid, which he learned in a certified nursing program.

Hernandez had been signing up people for meetings with Giffords when he heard gunshots. "I tuned everything out and started going into critical-thinking mode, which was that you need to get whoever's still alive some



Daniel Hernandez Jr., the intern who rushed to the aid of U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, appears with the president at a Jan. 12 memorial.

help until EMTs arrive," he told Time magazine days after the shooting.

He was the first to reach Giffords, who was slumped over on the ground. He raised her against his chest so she would not choke on her blood. Then he held his hand against her head wound to staunch the flow of blood until Safeway employees could bring some store smocks, which he applied to the wound.

In the ambulance on the way to the hospital, Hernandez held Giffords' hand as he tried to telephone her husband.

Days later, Hernandez joined President Barack Obama at a memorial service in Tucson, where both men received standing ovations from the 14,000-plus people gathered in the McKale Memorial Center.

In his remarks at the service, Hernandez said, "One thing that we have learned from this great tragedy is, we have come together. On Saturday, we all became Tucsonans. On Saturday, we all became Arizonans. And above all, we all became Americans."

When the president spoke, he said, "Our hearts are full of gratitude for those who

saved others. We are grateful to Daniel Hernandez, a volunteer in Gabby's office. And Daniel, I'm sorry. You may deny it, but we have decided you are a hero, because you ran through the chaos to minister to your boss and tended to her wounds and helped keep her alive."

The ovation at the memorial service was not the last for Hernandez, who again was recognized by the president during the State of the Union Address and who has become the subject of hundreds of news articles and television reports referring to him as heroic, mature, confident, articulate and compassionate.

On the Stonewall Stage on June 11, Hernandez is scheduled to join a panel with state Rep. JoCasta Zamarripa. Organizers expect a lively discussion about issues central to two communities that have celebrated and honored Hernandez this winter and spring – the LGBT and Hispanic communities.

Hernandez has received awards in recent months from the League of United Latin American Citizens, the U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute, the U.S. Hispanic Media Coalition, the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund,

the Human Rights Fund, the Equality Forum and the LGBT-focused Campus Pride. Representatives from these groups said Hernandez has been recognized for his heroism on Jan. 8, as well as his outstanding leadership as a proud gay, Hispanic young man.

"Daniel fully embodies the mission and values of Campus Pride and our Voice & Action National Leadership Award," said Campus Pride executive director Shane Windmeyer. "His leadership, integrity and humility have inspired many across the nation – simply by doing the right, just thing and being visible. In a time where we have national headlines about LGBT youth suicide, it is even more important to shine a light on young adult leaders like Daniel who give hope and inspire."

Hernandez has maintained that he is not a hero – that heroes are those who dedicate their lives to helping others.

Shane and others who have presented awards this year to Hernandez say the college student, already committed to a life of helping others, fits his own definition of hero. He's just too humble to say so.

PHOTO: AP/J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE



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2012

More men having cosmetic procedures

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

For every aging baby boomer like Donald Trump who doesn't care how he looks, there's a growing number of men who take pride in their appearance. Despite the recession, the American Society of Plastic Surgeons reported a 2 percent uptick last year in men undergoing cosmetic procedures – both surgical and non-invasive.

That translates into more than 1.1 million procedures performed on men in 2010.

The quest for chiseled bodies and youthful, flawless skin is largely the result of living in a society that's obsessed with looks and saturated with images of physical perfection, experts say. But, they add, it's also the consequence of a competitive job market that values health and vigor – an economic consideration the Donald apparently doesn't have to worry about.

"Men wear their resumes on their faces," says Dr. Grant Stevens, a board certified cosmetic surgeon who practices in Marina del Rey, Calif. "They want to keep their jobs, get a job after being laid off or just want to look younger and rested."

That helps to explain why facelifts recorded the largest increase (14 percent) of procedures performed on men in 2010, according to the ASPS. Surgery to pin back protruding ears recorded the second highest jump at 11 percent, Botox was third at 9 percent, and liposuction fourth at 7 percent.

"Older men want to look more competitive and be more hire-able," says Dr. Paul Loewenstein, a member of the American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons who practices in Brookfield.

Loewenstein says sometimes older men undergo procedures to look more youthful because "they're with a significant other who's a lot younger." And sometimes, they just "have a hang-up about a certain feature and just fixing that makes them feel better about themselves."

While liposuction landed

in fourth place in terms of an increase in numbers, it's the No. 1 cosmetic surgical procedure performed in the world, including for men, says Dr. John Yousif, who's also a board certified plastic surgeon and a clinical professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Yousif says liposuction is the most requested treatment among men who visit his practice.

Why? "With liposuction, you can contour the body, and it stays," Yousif says. "Even if you gain weight following liposuction, the distribution of it is going to be different."

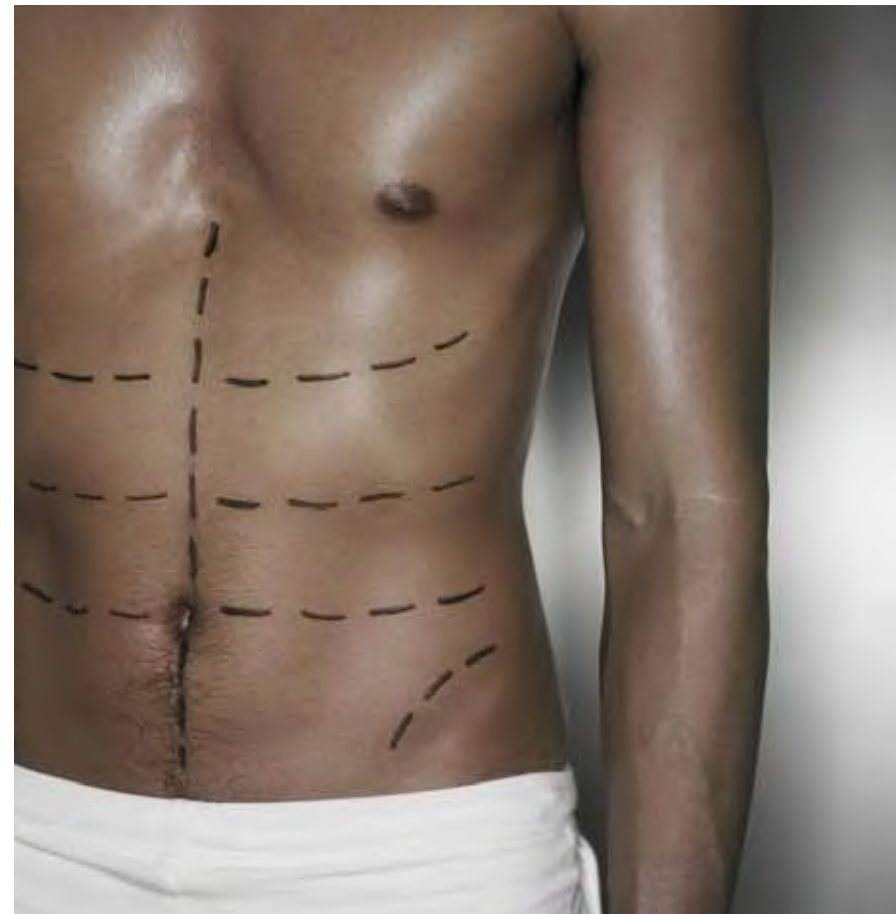
Yousif says men typically ask him to remove excess fat from their abdominal area above the waist. Liposuction involves inserting a small hollow tube called a cannula into an incision through which unwanted fat deposits are suctioned out. Although there's always a risk for infection with a surgical procedure, such complications are rare with liposuction.

Liposuction patients often experience bruising and swelling, and they sometimes have a loosening or bumpiness of the skin. But the latter problem can be lessened or eliminated by wearing a girdle-like compression garment for a couple of weeks after the procedure.

Men also receive liposuction to treat gynecomastia, or male breast enlargement, Yousif says. The condition can occur among boys at puberty or result from obesity or taking steroids for bodybuilding. It is one of the very few cosmetic procedures sometimes covered by health insurance.

Although there are no statistics on the sexual orientation of plastic surgery patients in the United States, a survey by the British Gay Times of 1,000 men found that about 22 percent said they'd had plastic surgery.

Australia also has reported increases in gay men opting for aesthetic surgery, ranging between 10 and 15 percent, according to published reports. Besides liposuction, upper and lower eyelid surgeries were common.



Doctors in larger U.S. cities have said that based on anecdotal evidence, a majority of their male patients, particularly their male liposuction patients, are gay men in search of the perfect gym body that's so pervasive in the gay media. This obsession has been documented in books such as "Chasing Adonis: Gay Men and the Pursuit of Perfection" by Tim Bergling, and it is the subject of documentary filmmaker Christopher Hines' "The Adonis Factor," which was recently featured on LOGO and is circulating in select film festivals. Hines' film suggests that gay men are beginning to see beauty as vehicle to power.

Yousif says that despite an uptick in the number of males – both gay and straight – who seek his services, there's a lingering stigma toward men undergoing cosmetic procedures. Men are less likely than women to talk about their procedures or give doctors permission to show their

before and after pictures to other patients, Yousif says.

A recent study by researchers at UCLA found that while 23 percent of men were interested in plastic surgery, only a fraction would actually act on it. Women are more than eight times more likely to act on their interest in cosmetic procedures than men are, the study found.

Most men who do have facelifts are between 30 and 70 years of age, according to industry literature. The frequent target areas for men are droopiness in the neck and heaviness in the jawl.

Men are actually better candidates for facelifts than women, because their skin typically is thicker and therefore less wrinkly to start with. But men also have more blood vessels in their faces, and it takes longer for their blood to clot before and after surgery. That means rest and downtime following surgery are essential.

Yousif is a pioneer in the facelift field who has

But it's no longer necessary to undergo a facelift in order to return a rested, youthful appearance to the face. Botox and fillers, which also are increasingly popular among males, can eliminate wrinkles and restore youthful facial contours with a few strategic injections. Although results are temporary – about four months in the case of Botox, up to a year or more with fillers such as Juvederm – these procedures are less expensive, require little to no downtime and rapid gratification.

Erin Lehto, a registered nurse who owns LaVita Laser Medical Spa in Elm Grove, has men from their mid 30s to mid 50s seek her services for Botox and fillers. She says men are generally better patients than women.

"The men are always happy. Women sometimes have unreal expectations," she says. "At the consultation you have to be really clear about what you can and cannot accomplish. I hand them a mirror and say, 'Tell me what's happening with your face and what you're trying to accomplish here.' If they have expectations beyond what I can reasonably do, I refer them for a facelift."

The tools for non-surgical enhancements are not only effective, but they're always improving. "We're doing some really creative, great things," Lehto says. "You can really make a big difference."

One of the latest non-surgical procedures offered in spas is the photofacial. "It's a similar to a laser treatment – it's intense pulse light," Lehto says. "It can remove brown spots from sun damage, minimize fine lines and eliminate broken capillaries."

But Lehto says the best beauty advice is to avoid skin damage by wearing sun block on the face when outdoors. "Not sunscreen, but sun block," she emphasizes.

"Avoid cigarettes – smoking ages the skin more than anything else except the sun," Loewenstein adds.

With summer finally here, that's free advice worth taking.

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PRIDE 2011

Fighting back against the GOP attack on privacy

Opinion
CHRISTY TAYLOR



Walker said the proudest moment in his career was trying to take Planned Parenthood's funding.

Chris Taylor is currently on leave as the public policy director for Planned Parenthood to run for a seat in the Assembly.

It is untenable that in 2011 the basic rights we have struggled for hundreds of years to acquire are under threat in Wisconsin.

The ideals of fairness and equality for everyone weave our communities together and make the fight for basic human dignity a common one. Yet Gov. Walker and Republican legislators are rolling the gains we have made back. With their attack on reproductive healthcare now in full swing, we also are starting to see the erosion of gains the LGBT community has recently made, including

the state's domestic partnership registry.

The bottom line is a fundamental hostility by the Walker administration and legislative Republicans to each individual's right of privacy.

Key U.S. Supreme Court decisions established an "area of protected freedom" within the set of rights specifically outlined in the U.S. constitution. Cases like *Griswold v. Connecticut* (1965) and *Roe*

v. Wade (1973) struck down state laws that prohibited access to birth control and abortion because of a protected privacy right.

In 1992, the Court issued another ringing endorsement of privacy rights in *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey*, stating "Our law affords constitu-

tional protection to personal decisions relating to marriage, procreation, contraception, family relationships, child rearing and education. Our cases recognize the right of the individual ... to be free from unwarranted governmental intrusion into matters so fundamentally affecting a person."

This line of privacy decisions came full circle in *Lawrence v. Texas*, a 2003 decision striking down a criminal sodomy law in Texas. In invalidating the law, the court cited the long line of reproductive rights cases that explicitly grant the right of each individual to be free of governmental intrusion in our personal lives.

Yet that is exactly where Walker and his legislative colleagues are going. As Walker acknowledged during a 2010 Wisconsin Right to Life convention, the proud-

est moment in his legislative career was trying to take away public family planning funding from Planned Parenthood. He repeatedly evaded the question of whether he supported access to birth control at all.

True to his word, Walker's budget didn't just cut off public money for Planned Parenthood, but entirely ended the state's decades-old family planning program. And now he and the Republican legislature have set their sights on ending the BadgerCare Plus family planning program, which brings in \$60 million federal dollars a year and saves the state \$140 million dollars annually.

Walker also is refusing to defend the state's domestic partner registry law. Considering that this registry was intended to end just some of the discriminatory practices LGBT fami-

lies encounter in daily life, Walker's point is loud and clear - lead a life where you make choices that are acceptable to him. Anything else is indefensible. Walker is making our private lives his public business.

We need advocates now more than ever who will fight to keep the government out of our personal lives. And we need legislators who know how to move pro-active policies while defeating discriminatory policies, even in the most challenging environments.

This is what I have done for the last eight years at Planned Parenthood. As a state representative, I will not rest until all adults have the absolute right to marry the person they love, decide if and when to have children, and create the family they choose. The role of the state is to protect these fundamental rights, not outlaw them.

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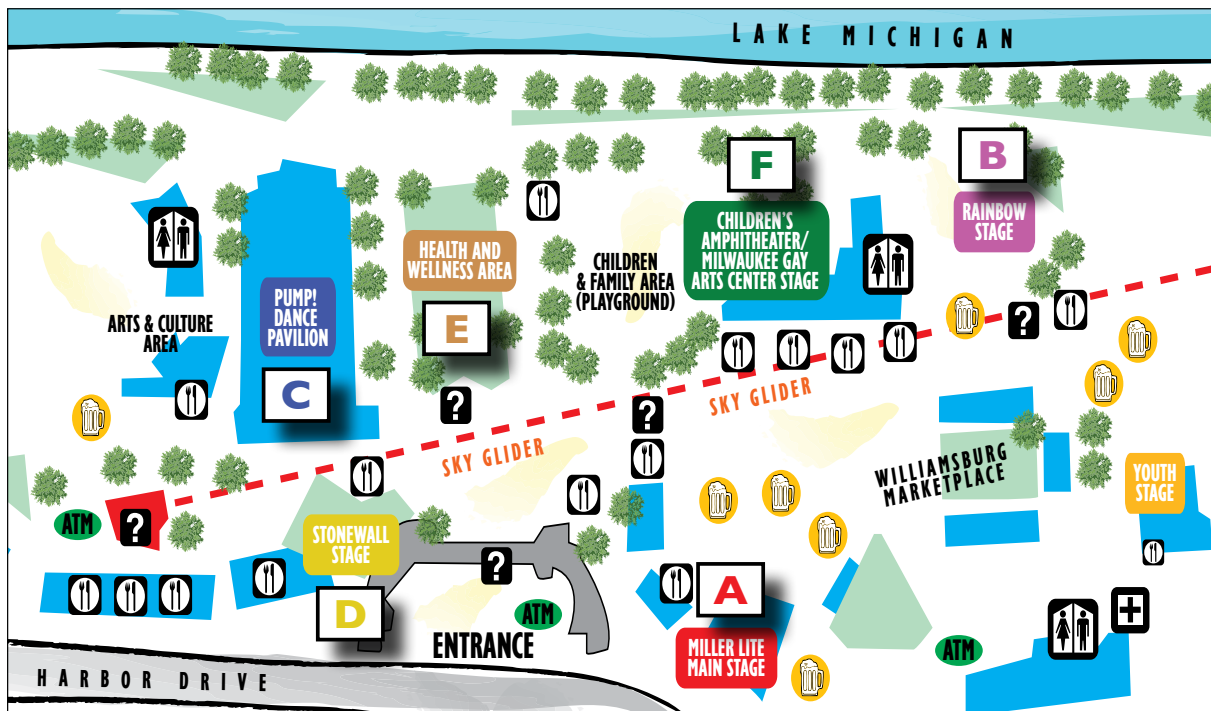
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Milwaukee Pridefest 2011 Schedule of Events

Friday, June 10 – Sunday, June 12 at Henry Maier Festival Park

FRIDAY JUNE 10

- 3 P.M.
- A** The Duke of Uke & His Novelty Orchestra, orchestra pop
- B** Süss, queer folk cabaret
- C** Fred Astaire Dance Demonstrations & Teaching
- 4 P.M.
- B** London Bridgez, spoken word
- 4:30 P.M.
- A** Ronnie Nyles & Tallulah Who, rock/alternative/pop
- C** Windy City Beauties, drag
- 5:45 P.M.
- B** Immigrant Punk, world music
- 6 P.M.
- C** DJ Kelly
- F** A Pride of Dancers – International Dance Extravaganza
- 6:30 P.M.
- D** PrideFest Prayer Service
- 7 P.M.
- B** Katie Quick, country
- A** Vassy, pop/soul/rock
- 7:30 P.M.
- C** DJs Teri Bristol & Psycho-Bitch
- F** Two And A Half Twinks: A Winning Musical Revue
- 8 P.M.
- A** OPENING CEREMONY
- 8:15 P.M.
- B** Catherine Holder, pop/soul
- 8:45 P.M.
- A** Windy City Beauties, drag
- 9 P.M.
- C** Sophia May
- F** Brian Myers, rhythm & blues
- 9:15 P.M.
- C** DJs Teri Bristol & Psycho-Bitch
- 9:30 P.M.
- B** Deven Green, comedy
- 10 P.M.
- A** HEADLINE SHOW featuring: Mo'Nique's RuPaul's Drag Race Opening Invasion! India Ferrah, drag Mimi Imfrust, drag Stacy Layne Matthews, drag



- Shangela, as "LaQuifa," drag comedy
- MONIQUE**
- 10:30 P.M.
- C** DJ Brett Locascio
- 11 P.M.
- B** Brew City Bombshells Burlesque
- C** XELLE, pop

SATURDAY JUNE 11

- NOON
- A** Tret Fure, aggressive folk
- C** Chicago Gay Men's Chorus
- 1:15 P.M.
- B** Katie Todd, alt/pop/rock
- A** Random Order, reggae/ska
- 2 P.M.
- C** 2011 Pridefest Drag Show
- 2:15 P.M.
- E** Women's Voices
- 2:30 P.M.
- A** Sister Funk, pop rock
- B** Ryan Cassata, pop punk
- 3:30 P.M.
- C** Windy City Beauties, drag

- LOCATIONS**
- A** Miller Lite Main Stage
 - B** Rainbow Stage
 - C** PUMPI! Dance Pavilion
 - D** Stonewall Stage
 - E** Health and Wellness Area
 - F** MGAC Stage

- 3:45 P.M.
- B** Barons of Tang, world/punk
- 4 P.M.
- A** Girl Next Door, party rock
- D** Alliance School Graduation
- 5 P.M.
- C** IML Fetish & Fantasy
- D** Latino Panel Discussion with State Rep. JoCasta Zamarripa and Daniel Hernandez
- B** Rachael Sage, art-pop
- 5:30 P.M.
- A** Ivri Lider, pop rock
- 6 P.M.
- C** DJ Plez
- F** A Pride of Dancers – International Dance Extravaganza
- 6:45 P.M.
- B** Vassy, pop/soul/rock
- 7 P.M.
- A** August Infinity, hard rock
- 7:30 P.M.
- C** DJ John Murges
- F** ComedySportz, improv
- 7:45 P.M.
- B** V.I.T.A.L. Emcee, hip-hop/rap
- 8 P.M.
- D** Milwaukee LGBT Film Festival Screenings
- 8:30 P.M.
- A** Pam Ann, comedy
- 8:45 P.M.
- B** Ariel Aparicio, indie rock
- C** LALA, dance/pop
- 9 P.M.
- C** DJ Dave Audé
- F** Brody Hess, music
- 9:30 P.M.
- FIREWORKS**
- 10 P.M.
- A** HEADLINE SHOW featuring: Feast of Fun with Marc Felion &

- Fausto Fernos
- Deven Green**, comedy
- Chris Crocker**, comedy
- Carmen Carrera**, drag
- XELLE**, pop
- SALT-N-PEPA**
- B** Bitch, folk /punk
- 10:30 P.M.
- C** Stacy Layne Matthews, drag

SUNDAY JUNE 12

- NOON
- A** Pulsation Band, pop
- B** Chris Bargmann, acoustic folk
- C** Milwaukee Men's Chorus
- 1 P.M.
- C** Honey LaBronx, drag comedy
- D** Guest Speaker State Rep. Sandy Pasch
- 1:15 P.M.
- B** Martine Locke, acoustic rock
- 2 P.M.
- A** Far From Falling, hard rock
- C** Furrlesque, male burlesque

- 2:15 P.M.
- E** Women's Voices
- 2:30 P.M.
- B** Steve Reeder, rock
- 3:15 P.M.
- A** SONiA & disappear fear, alternative folk
- C** Windy City Beauties, drag
- 3:30 P.M.
- B** Rachael Sage, art-pop
- 4:45 P.M.
- A** Ronnie Nyles & Tallulah Who, rock/alternative/pop
- B** The Heat Birds, folk
- 5 P.M.
- C** Andrew Christian Underwear Show
- 5:30 P.M.
- B** Pride Parade Awards
- D** Celebration of Our Relationships
- 6 P.M.
- B** Mr. Pride Latino & Miss Pride Latino
- C** DJ Daniel Borrero
- F** A Pride of Dancers – International Dance Extravaganza
- 7 P.M.
- A** HEADLINE SHOW featuring: Pandora Boxx, drag comedy
- LEANN RIMES** with special guest **CHELY WRIGHT**
- B** Purple Tongue, Latin alternative rock
- 7:30 P.M.
- F** "The Vagina Monologues"
- 8 P.M.
- B** Shelina, tropical/Latin house
- C** DJ Chris Cox
- D** Milwaukee LGBT Film Festival Screenings
- 9 P.M.
- B** Brew City Bombshells Burlesque
- 9:30 P.M.
- C** SK8, dance
- 10:20 P.M.
- C** Carmen Carrera, drag
- 10:30 P.M.
- C** Wynter Gordon, dance



So he puts the world's biggest cherry muffins up to his eyes like some buggy alien 🐼 and says, "TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER." Hmmm... What I then gently remind him: "He's sitting right in front of you, E.T." 🐼

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Majority milestone reached in marriage poll

By Lisa Neff
Staff writer

For years, gay civil rights advocates have emphasized that a majority cannot dictate discrimination against a minority. It's not likely any civil rights advocates will abandon that argument, but they may not have to make it as often.

New polling from the Princeton-based Gallup Inc. shows a majority of Americans support marriage equality and an even larger bloc support some form of partnership recognition.

With the latest Gallup survey, a majority of Americans now support hate crimes reform, anti-discrimination measures, allowing gays to serve openly in the military, the existence of gay-straight alliances in schools and same-sex marriage.

Representatives from the nation's largest LGBT groups called the new data a symbolic milestone.

"The verdict is in," said Joe Solmonese of the Human Rights Campaign. "The trend toward marriage equality is undeniable - and irreversible."

Marriage for committed, loving couples continues to be an important value for the American people."

Gallup found that 53 percent of those surveyed answered "should" when asked, "Do you think marriages between same-sex couples should or should not be recognized by the law as valid, with the same rights as traditional marriage?"

In 1996, 27 percent of those surveyed on the same question answered "should." The percentage edged up to 42 percent in 2004, dropped to 37 in 2005, rose to 46 percent in 2007, then dropped to 40 percent in 2008 before another upward trend.

The survey, conducted in early May, also found support for marriage equality increased 13 points among Democrats to 69 percent and 10 points among Independents to 59 percent. Polling among Republicans did not change from 2010 to 2011, and is at 28 percent in favor of same-sex marriage.

Support for marriage equality remains highest among

adults ages 18 to 34 and lowest among adults over 55. In the gender analysis, support for marriage equality is higher among women than men.

The Gallup poll confirms findings in opinion surveys this year by the Associated Press, CNN and the Washington Post.

"At the moment, those advocating changes in constitutions and laws to allow same-sex marriage in additional states can take heart in the apparent shift in national sentiment in their direction," Gallup stated.

A third new poll conducted by Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research also found that 52 percent of U.S. Christians oppose the Defense of Marriage Act passed in 1996 to ban federal recognition of same-sex marriages and allow states to refuse to recognize such bonds.

CLERGY ADD VOICES

On May 24, during HRC's Clergy Call for Justice and Equality, hundreds of clergy from across the country lobbied U.S. lawmakers for LGBT equality, emphasizing the results of the Greenberg survey conducted in mid-May.

"The old thought was that the more regularly people attended church, the less supportive they were of LGBT equality," said Sharon Groves, director of HRC's religion and faith program. "We still have much work to do, but as this new poll testifies, people of faith are leading the charge for fairness."



PHOTO: COURTESY HRC/LOUIE PALU/ZUMA PRESS
Hundreds of clergy gathered in the U.S. capital on May 24 to lobby lawmakers on LGBT equality issues. The Human Rights Campaign organized the Clergy Call for Justice and Equality. A recent survey showed that a majority of Christian Americans now opposes the Defense of Marriage Act and support civil rights laws protecting LGBT people in the workplace and in schools.

TAKE A GUESS

Gallup polling recently asked U.S. adults to take their best guess at what percentage of the population is gay or lesbian.

About 52 percent of those surveyed think one in five Americans are gay or lesbian.

Republicans estimated the gay-lesbian population at about 20 percent and Democrats' estimate was 28 percent.

Younger people and women estimated the gay population at close to 30 percent.

Various surveys of gays and lesbians indicate that the population is actually closer to 3-4 percent.



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- This kind of stress is known as Minority Stress and it is one of the leading risk factors for smoking among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people.

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Milwaukee PrideFest gets it right by the lake

Opinion
LISA NEFF

Growing up just on the other side of the border in Illinois, I spent summers rooting for the Chicago Cubs but enjoying Milwaukee's amenities – the zoo, the fair and Milwaukee County Stadium when I was of a kiddie age, and Summerfest, aka the Big Gig, when I was of a teen age. From Waukegan, Ill., the drive time is about the same to Milwaukee as to Chicago,

but there is a big difference in the nature of those drives. Traveling I-94 to Milwaukee was my parents' speed, and when I got my own car keys, it was my speed as well. I learned how to get to the Summerfest grounds long before I learned my way to Grant Park or Navy Pier in Chicago. My parents used to say of the drive and the amenities: Milwaukee sure got that right.

During the 1970s and 1980s, I attended more Summerfest shows than Dead concerts, which is saying a lot. I drank my first

wine cooler at Summerfest – because back then there was a disparity between the drinking ages that favored partying in the Dairy State. I was too young to see The Doors perform in 1972 or Johnny Cash in 1974, but I saw my first concert at Summerfest, and was in the audience for performances by the Grateful Dead, Loggins and Messina, Santana, Eric Clapton, the Go Go's, Los Lobos, the BoDeans (of course) and the Violent Femmes (of course).

I don't know when I became aware that the

Summerfest site was named Henry Maier Festival Park or that the site most appropriately was home to a series of heritage festivals. But I was living in Chicago and covering the Windy City's LGBT community when I learned that my beloved Milwaukee stomping grounds also was the site of Milwaukee's PrideFest celebration.

Milwaukee sure got that right, I thought.

Chicago's Pride parade is huge, culturally and politically significant, and a showcase for Boystown, the vital gay neighborhood on the North

Side not far from Wrigley Field. But something about Chicago Pride being in Boystown, being in a North Side pocket, made me feel that an event intended to promote our diverse, colorful, LGBT family was positioned as exclusive, male-centric and segregated from greater Chicago.

Why not promote Pride in the gay neighborhoods – and the number in Chicago exceeds one – but hold the big Pride celebration downtown in Grant Park, in the city's center?

Chicago, I thought and still

think, should look north to Milwaukee, to Maier Park, the epicenter of the city's cultural celebrations – PrideFest, Festa Italiana, Polish Fest, German Fest, Irish Fest, Mexican Fiesta, Indian Summer Festival and, yes, Summerfest, that 11-day Big Gig considered the world's largest music festival.

By the way, in a nostalgic nod to those yesteryears at Summerfest, I see Peter Frampton on the schedule this year. Wine coolers and Frampton by the lake. Milwaukee gets it right yet again.

For many, Pride is simply party time

PRIDE from page 1 before me," Jordan says.

"We wouldn't have Pride if it wasn't for Stonewall, and we wouldn't have had Stonewall without drag queens," she explains, referring to the June 1969 riots at New York City's Stonewall Inn that ignited the gay liberation movement.

"As they walk around with their cute sunglasses and trendy clothes and act gay, a lot of younger gays don't understand... that life wasn't always like this," Jordan says.

Jordan, who does stand-up routines and hosts events such as Pride Alive in Green

Bay, says she spends "a lot of time at the mic" telling audiences the history behind "why they can walk down the street now holding hands."

For LGBT ally Sandy Ploy, Pride is a time to "encourage everyone to be open-minded and let people live their own lives," she says.

"I want my friends to have the same rights and benefits that I have," she says. "They work just as hard as I do and pay their taxes. Pride Month is kind of an opportunity for the light to shine on this issue a little brighter and maybe for people to be a little more open about it."

Like Jordan, Ploy believes the concept of LGBT Pride should be embraced always, not just during the month of June.

"I'm not a scream-from-the-rooftops kind of supporter, but if someone said something (derogatory toward gays) within earshot, I'd step in and say something for the people I care about," Ploy says.

Of course, for many LGBT people, Pride is simply party time. As the largest such event in the Midwest, Milwaukee PrideFest has revelers from throughout the region to enjoy the music

and the crowds. Many LGBT people who attend the event say it's a validating experience to be in among such a large crowd where people like them are in the majority.

Out Chicago musician Scott Free says he attends Milwaukee PrideFest every year for not just for the party but specifically for the music – sometimes as a performer and always as a member of the audience.

"I think it's THE – all in capital letters – Pride festival in the country," Free says. "Milwaukee PrideFest has queer bands from around the country that I've heard of but never seen. Inevitably there's a line-up of people I've been wanting to see for some time, and there they are at Milwaukee PrideFest. The fact that it's on the Summerfest grounds and it's three days of heaven for queer music lovers makes it THE one."

In addition to the June Pride festivities in Milwaukee, many Wisconsinites attend the Chicago Pride Parade, which begins this year at noon on June 26 at Belmont Avenue and Halsted Street in the city's Boystown area. Twin Cities Pride, which is scheduled for June 25-26 at Minneapolis' Loring Park (www.tcpride.org), also is a popular Wisconsin destination during Pride Month.

Other cities in Wisconsin celebrate Pride later in the



PHOTO: COURTESY
Teresa Jackson and Liz Roepke attend PrideFest last year with their son.

summer, including:

Green Bay. Pride Alive takes place July 9 in Green Bay's Joannes Park. This year's master of ceremonies is Anita Buffet. For information, go to www.newpride.org.

Madison. Wisconsin Capitol Gay Pride in Madison is Aug. 20-21 at Willow Island at the 29-acre Alliant Energy Center. The festival includes a health and fitness area, GLBTQ history tent, various artists and performers, dancing to top DJs, and other entertainment. At 1 p.m. on Aug. 21, Wisconsin Capitol Pride Parade loops around Capitol Square and along State Street, followed by a

rally from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. For information, go to www.capitalpride.org.

La Crosse. La Crosse hosts a Pride celebration on Aug. 27, along the Mississippi River. The event is sponsored by the LGBT Resource Center for the 7 Rivers Region. For information, go to www.lacrossepride.us/pridecalendar.html.

Duluth-Superior. This event is held over the long Labor Day, Sept. 1-4, throughout the Twin Ports. Events include a bonfire on the shores of Lake Superior and musical acts on the Bayshore Stage. For information, go to www.dspride.com.



PHOTO: COURTESY
Scott Free, right, performs at PrideFest last year.

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The making of a king at Pride

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Who hasn't stood before a mirror with an index finger curled over the lip?

Possibly you thought, "I'd look good with a moustache." Or a soul patch. Or a package.

The Milwaukie Kings, Milwaukee's premier drag king troupe, can help draw that inner king out of the bathroom and onto the stage.

PrideFest turns over the Stonewall Stage to the kings at 2 p.m. June 12 for a session on creating a drag persona — expect a "dragmatic performance," suggests PrideFest publicity. The "gang of gender benders consists of kings, queenz, femmes and everything in between," the publicity adds.

The Milwaukee group dates to 2003. The troupe caught on so quickly with an audience that it performed

24 shows in its first year.

The kings have a reputation for racy and raucous, silly and sexy, profound and political, and more naughty than nice.

The Milwaukie Kings, which evolves with members coming and going, came together at a time when such troupes were gaining some fame in cities large and small across the country — from Albuquerque, N.M., to Washington, D.C. They were also connecting in regional and national events, the oldest being the San Francisco Drag King Contest.

"Going to San Francisco for the contest, for a drag king, is like going to Memphis' Death Week for an Elvis impersonator," said Tampa king Black Beard, who has attended both major events and performs at various venues on the Florida Gulf Coast.

On summer break from

college, Black Beard plans on attending multiple Pride events to catch drag king performers around the country.

"A couple of us are driving up north this week," Beard said. "And we might get to Milwaukee."

Beard offered some suggestions, with thanks to others who taught him, to those thinking about outing their kings:

• There are no rules. Some kings pack. Some kings don't. But if packing, try a sock — it is cheap and the size is right, contrary to what some guys claim. • Don't use plastic wrap for breast binding, because it is uncomfortably hot and becomes hard to breathe. Wear a baggy shirt, or try an Ace bandage.

• Play around with words to come up with a king name. Think about porn stars.

• Using an eyebrow pencil is easier than mascara to thicken the eyebrows.

• But mascara, using Kleenex to dab, is best for creating stubble.

• An eyebrow pencil can be used to draw facial hair, or

with some planning, save hair clippings and use spirit gum to attach small pieces to the face.

• Layer up the dress. That hides curves.

• Have fun.

• If you're having trouble finding your guy, think Elvis. There's a little bit of Elvis in all of us.



PHOTO: LARRY UTLEY

A group photo for the San Francisco Drag King Contest in 2010. This year's event takes place Aug. 5.

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TO HELP

Oklahomans for Equality, the LGBT center in Tulsa, Okla., established a disaster relief fund for the community in Joplin, Mo., where a major tornado hit May 22, killing at least 139 people. Funds will be used to help the Joplin LGBT community with disaster outreach. Go to www.okey.org/store/.

Disaster supplies needed in Joplin include over-the-counter medicines, bandages, garbage bags, storage bags, picnic supplies, bottled water, pens and paper, reading materials and non-perishable food, said Lee McDaniel, president of the Joplin Pride Center.

As WiG went to press, the LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin in Racine was organizing to assist with disaster relief needs. Go to www.lgbtsewis.org or call 262-664-4100.

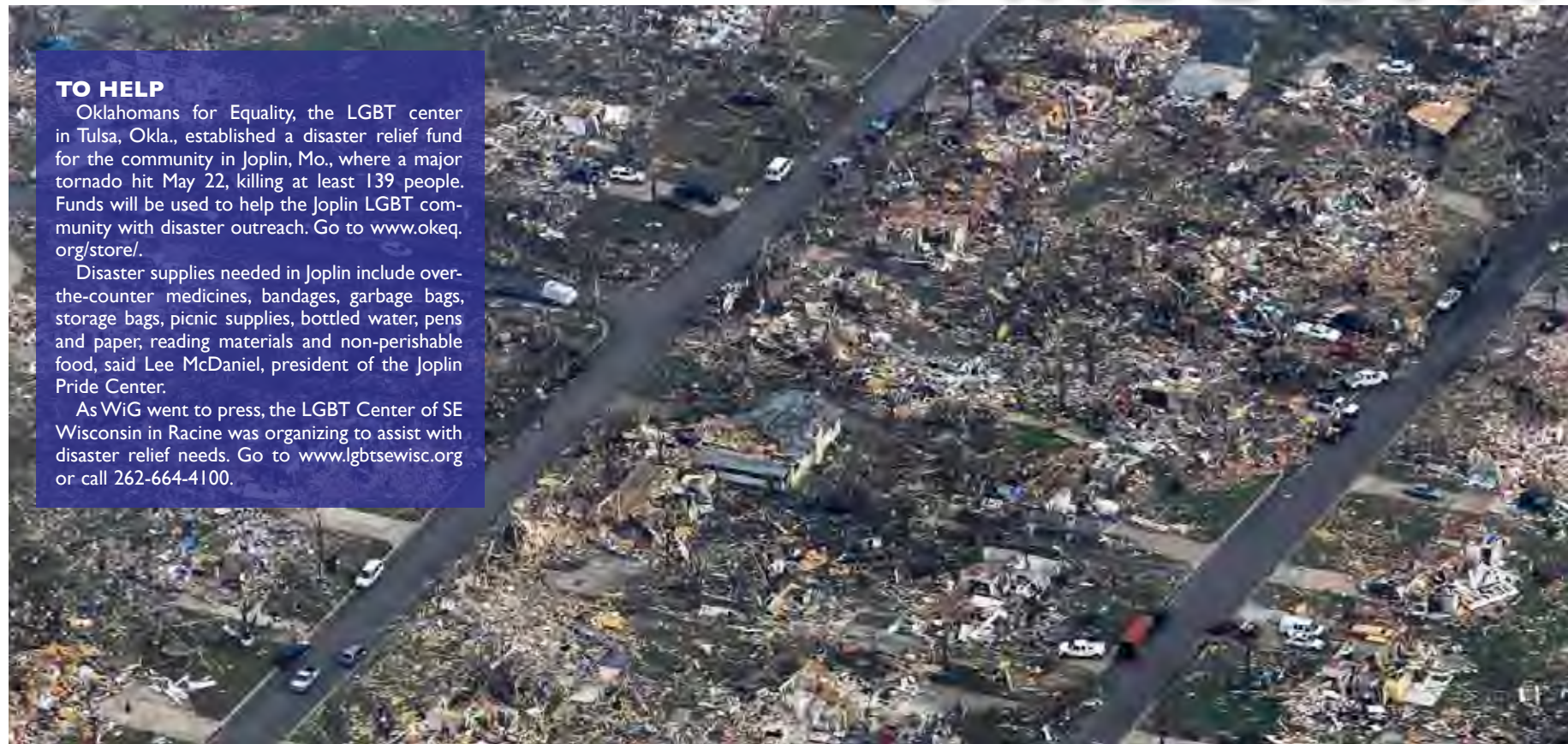


PHOTO: AP

An aerial view of the destruction in Joplin, Mo., a city recovering from the deadliest tornado since the U.S. Weather Service began keeping records.

The Metropolitan Community Church and the pastor's home were leveled

JOPLIN from page 1 When the tornado hit on the Sunday evening, worshippers at the gay-affirming Spirit of Christ Metropolitan Community Church were gathered for a prayer service. "We rode out the storm in the basement of the church," said a statement from Spirit. Two people were injured, but not seriously. The tornado leveled the church, as well as the home of pastor Steve Urie. Many others also endured

losses. "Members of our community lost homes, businesses, were injured," McDaniel said. "To my knowledge, no one close to the board or center died. But it took a couple of days for us to account for some people. It wasn't until Tuesday. That was a very tough time." Last week, Joplin's LGBT community joined in search-and-rescue missions, as well as salvage efforts. In jeans and work gloves, people climbed

mountains of debris to look for friends, family and neighbors. They helped strangers recover belongings. One of Joplin's two gay bars opened its doors early May 23 to provide coffee, dispense supplies and serve as a charging station for people whose homes lacked electricity. Several days later, the Pla-Mor lounge raised disaster relief dollars with a drag benefit that served as a prelude to the bar's Mr. and Miss Joplin Drag Show on June 10,

the eve of Pride in the Park. Pride in the Park is a small festival that's vital to the LGBT community, McDaniel said. Last year, about 250 people attended the event, which features music and food. "It is a great time for the community to come together and have a respite, a welcome break if only for a few hours," McDaniel said. "Pride is typically a celebration, and we need to celebrate the fact that life does go on. ... That we need to pull together,

see each other, reconnect. We need to hug each other." On May 26, volunteers from Joplin's LGBT community and from MCCs throughout the region, gathered to clean up the church lot. Volunteers were asked to arrive in boots and bring tools. They also were advised to get tetanus shots. Meanwhile, representatives from LGBT centers across the country responded with offers of aid. The center in Tulsa, Okla., established a

disaster-relief fund and began collecting online donations. In Wisconsin, Jolie McKenna of the LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin pledged to help collect supplies. Other centers were sending work crews to help the people of Joplin, McDaniel added. "We're very grateful," he said. "When the tornado struck, we were simply people with neighbors in need, families in need or were people who had needs ourselves. The reaction was not one of what color are you, how old are you, are you gay or straight." The Joplin Pride Center is sharing updates from the city with its local members and its growing base of national supporters on the Web and especially on Facebook, where the administrator of the center page shared a photo taken after the tornado showing a double rainbow across the sky between Joplin and Springfield, Mo. That double rainbow was widely reported last week from a community that is recovering, rebuilding, re-energizing and reaffirming — and proud.

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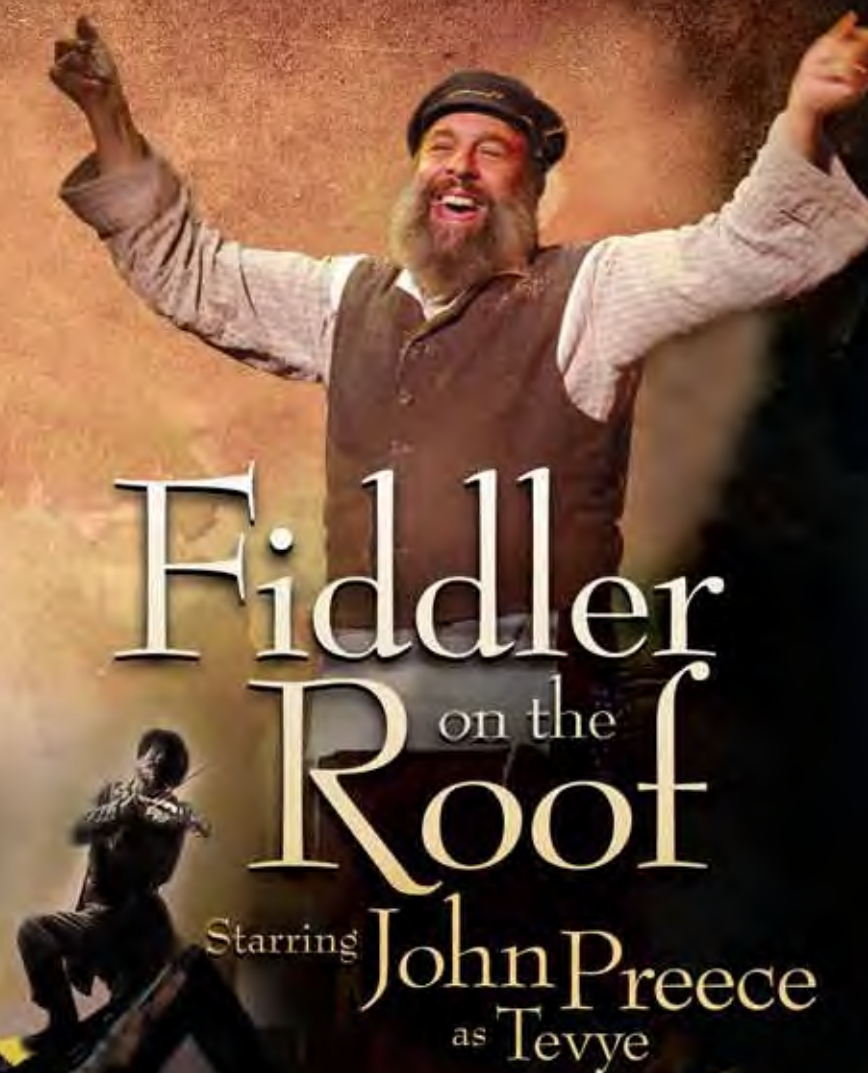
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Chicago History Museum presents LGBT exhibit

By **Gregg Shapiro**
Staff writer

Museum exhibits with LGBT themes have a history of being controversial. Remember the early 1990s Robert Mapplethorpe exhibit at the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati? Or, more recently, the kerfuffle surrounding "Hide/Seek" at the National Portrait Gallery, billed as the "first major exhibition to focus on sexual difference in the making of modern American portraiture"?

But with the landmark exhibit "Out In Chicago," at the Chicago History Museum, a segment of geographical LGBT history is given its due. Co-curated by CHM's Jill Austin and Jennifer Brier of University of Illinois-Chicago, "Out In Chicago" spans more than 150 years of the LGBT community's contributions to making the city what it is today.

Divided into four sections, "Out In Chicago" begins with the theme of gender and sexuality. The influx of social outsiders in the city's early days led to the passage of a municipal ordinance banning cross-dressing. Among the items featured in this section are both vintage and contemporary styles of dress, including a leather bar ensemble, a drag outfit, "work clothes" and a performance gown worn by gay veteran Travis. Oscar Wilde's visit to Chicago also is highlighted, as is Havelock Ellis' work on the subject of homosexuality.

In the "Step Into My Shoes" portion of this section of the exhibit, viewers' faces appear on top of the bodies of people such as Jane Heap (1883-1964), Albert Cashier, aka Jennie Hodges (1843-1915) and trans man Liam (born 1980).

"Are You Family?" is the second section. It deals with romantic friendships, paying special attention to Hull House founder Jane Addams and her relationship with Mary Rozet Smith. There is also a fascinating depiction

ON EXHIBIT

"Out In Chicago" runs through March 26, 2012, at the Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark. Call 312-642-4600 or visit www.chicagohs.org.

of the impact of the "nuclear family boom" on 20th century life and the disregard for and demolition of queer communities of the time. To counteract that unfortunate fact of history, a video segment, complete with a comfortable couch and television, presents 12 stories of LGBT homes and families.

The third section presents "drugstore libraries," pulp novels and books, newspapers and other publications geared toward the LGBT population. The Dill Pickle Club and the effects of segregation are also presented. A part of this section of the exhibition is designed

to look like a nightclub and highlights gay bars (such as Carol's Speakeasy and other discos and punk bars) and the city's history of bar raids. It also features a series of videos, including interviews with community legends Jim Flint (of The Baton), Chuck Renslow (of The Gold Coast), Marge Summit (of His 'n Hers) and David Boyer.

The final portion of "Out In Chicago" examines LGBT social and religious institutions, along with queer mobilization in Chicago.

The exhibition has a couple of omissions, particularly the scant attention given to Chicago's "designated" gay neighborhood along Halsted Street and the impact of HIV/AIDS. But overall "Out In Chicago" is a groundbreaking exhibit that has the power to fill the city's LGBT community with pride. It's an informative experience for viewers from all backgrounds and walks of life.

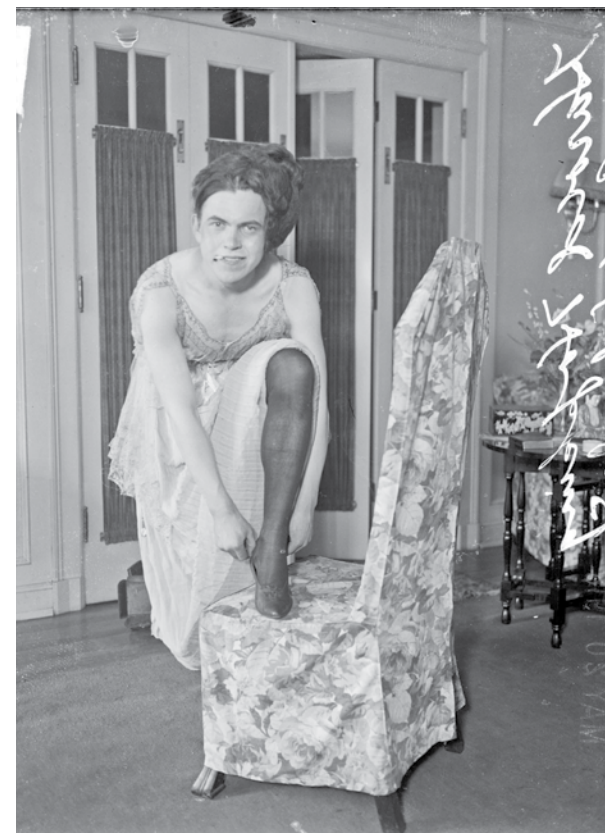


PHOTO: COURTESY

A photograph from the "Out in Chicago" exhibit.

Wisconsin
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Christopher Plummer and Ewan
McGregor star in "Beginners."



Film explores coming out late

Interview

GREGG SHAPIRO

The year 2011 is half over and "Beginners" (Focus), a film worthy of being considered one of the best of the year, has finally arrived.

Written and directed by visual artist and filmmaker Mike Mills ("Thumbsucker"), "Beginners" is an unforgettable movie, and lead actors Ewan McGregor and Christopher Plummer give what may well be the best performances of their respective careers. Hal (Plummer) and Oliver (McGregor) are a father and son whose relationship takes on a new and profound meaning when Hal comes out as gay in his 70s, following the death of his wife and Oliver's mother.

The film is unlike anything you've ever seen. Mills tells the story in an artistic and non-traditional way, moving

back and forth in time, from Oliver's close childhood relationship with his mother to an adult romantic relationship with actress Anna (Melanie Laurent) to the evolution of his relationship with Hal at the end of his father's life.

I spoke with Mills shortly before "Beginners" opened in theaters.

Gregg Shapiro: "Beginners" utilizes a non-linear storytelling method. Why did you choose that approach?

Mike Mills: A couple of reasons. I love films that are like that. I feel freer when I'm working in that mode. It's kind of like two lines – the present and the past. It's not just that there are two lines or two lines, but it's that there are two different modes of looking at it. It also suited where I was when I was writing it, in grief after my dad passed away. When you're in that time, it's so hard to stay in the present.

The past just keeps seeping up or crushing down or coming in from the side.

Was that the way you originally envisioned it?

Almost from the get-go it was like that. It was probably because when my dad came out, we started having all these amazing conversations about love and relationships that were much more real and messy. Much more engaged. He was way more engaged as my father. And, also, my mom had passed.

He was able to be his true self.

In weird ways. Obviously, he was more his true self. I don't believe my dad was bi. My dad was gay. He tried to push that part of himself totally away. Not just to hide from the world, but also from himself.

There's that great scene in the movie where the mother

talks about how she buried the Jewish part of herself and that he buried the gay part of himself when they got married in 1955.

Yeah, yeah. So when he came out we started having these intense conversations and arguments about love and relationships and what you can ask for and why they got married and what my problems were. The script really started in that two-way conversation – him about his life, and me about loves of my generation.

Christopher does a marvelous job of portraying the gay adolescent that occurs after someone comes out.

That was so my dad, too. My dad went from being 75 to being 16 right away. That's very much true. The gay adolescence is a big part of my experience in the film.

Then the son be-

comes parental.

Yes, and it's double because that's what happens when your parents get sick and you're taking care of them. And then especially the people of my parents' generation, they're so unwilling to admit they're sick or to slow down or be anything other than stoic.

Throughout "Beginners," Oliver and Anna experience complications with communication, beginning with Anna's laryngitis on the night they meet at the party, followed by a possible language barrier, as well issues involving depression.

While she doesn't talk at the party, they actually communicate quite a lot. They energetically create a strong bond, maybe because they can't talk, a connection starts. And those are two people who have learned strategies of how to be alone and self-sustaining. And that's not all good.

And they're trying to find how to be with (another person). That's definitely something that I know about personally. So many men and women, gay and straight, of my generation and younger, have that. They have a lack of faith about love (laughs). That's how I thought of it. And there are a lot of weird communication issues in the movie.

Speaking of communication – the relationship between Oliver and Hal's dog Arthur is wonderful, especially in the way they communicate with each other via Arthur's subtitled thoughts. ...

...The dog prompts something in you, but you're just playing. It became a weird way to get a back door into Oliver's thoughts. But dogs don't talk and that's what's wonderful about them. They have their own mystery and their difference. And I would hate to make them the same.

Summer art in social settings

By Kat Murrell

If the languid days of summer aren't showing up quite fast enough for you, there are a couple of current exhibitions designed to conjure up the pleasant months ahead. Both are on view at places for drinks and socializing, and each aims to be as comfy as a favorite hammock.

The relaxed and genteel Anaba Tea Room is on the lower level of The Garden Room, 2107 E. Capitol Drive. It is one of the best uses of a basement space for a restaurant in Milwaukee, as the center atrium is open to the glass greenhouse and rooftop garden, illuminating the room with curiously filtered light. Anaba holds regularly changing exhibitions, and the latest show features the breezy, nautical paintings of "Curt Crain: On the Water," on view through June 26.

Crain is described as an Impressionist artist, and though his other motifs include flowers and figure painting, this particular group shows Crain's affection for sailboats, water and almost anything connected with the lakefront. A few canvases capture the glistening lights of downtown and the Riverwalk area, as well as the tranquility of Bradford Beach. But, what Crain does most notably is take the focus of his painting out from the shore and into the domain of the sailor. This artist is not a landlubber. The stark horizon in the distance beckons as we turn our backs on dry land and head into the wind and waves.

Lest one imagine that sail-



"Chutes" by Curt Crain is currently on display at Anaba Tea Room.

PHOTO: COURTESY

ing on any given day is just like another, Crain dispels that notion with the variety of atmospheres and boating narratives he creates. Some pictures billow with brightly colored sailboats in close chase, such as "Chutes." The sails are full as boats speed forward, smooth and sleekly gliding. It's a picture of energy and control, but also suggests a painterly interest in the

architecture of boats. The tall masts cross the long horizon; the sails and hulls add counterpoints of curved grace.

Some of Crain's most interesting works emphasize the foundational elements of line and shape, particularly by slimming down the details. A few compositions explore the arrangement of a small, isolated boat, suspended in a watery world, alone and

waiting. One minimalist piece, called "Fox Point," is devoid of boats altogether, but offers a poignant view from a distance. It is as though we are out on the lake while the water and sky melt into washes of blue, and the land narrows to a point, sighing into the liquid depths.

Another exhibition specifically organized around images of warm weather

months is at Art Bar, 722 East Burleigh St., with "Summer in Wisconsin" through July 14. This group show, curated by proprietor Don Krause, is tightly cohesive in style and subject.

Though Art Bar is located in the heart of Riverwest, the exhibition is like a window to the Wisconsin countryside where happy cows roam, the grass is always

green and tranquility reigns among barnyard pals. Cows by multiple artists appear in this show, as though painting the patchy black and white backs of Holsteins against lush fields is just too much to resist. There are a few images of the Milwaukee lakefront as well, but this exhibition is largely a trip outside of the city environment.

The most interesting group is a series of works by Marie Myler, where six small paintings (including cows) are arranged around two square panels, each showing a woman outdoors in old-fashioned dress, busily hanging bright white laundry on a line to dry. The titles of the works, "Saturday" and "Wednesday," suggest a specific day and duty, but what year is this? There is a strange timelessness in this group of pictures, suggestive of an unseen and unchanging Wisconsin.

A sparky variation on traditional bucolic fare is found in Pamela Ruschman's "Chicken Ranch II." In these two small works, typically charming chickens poke around, but you can lift the painting by a string (to which a plastic egg is attached) to reveal a cheekier picture underneath.

Taken as a pair, the exhibitions at Anaba Tea Room and Art Bar offer summer motifs as warm and familiar as a favorite, dog-eared novel that has seen many trips to the beach. There are scant provocative or challenging gestures, but these works offer pleasant accompaniments to summertime socializing.

Artwatch

DEBRA BREMER

On June 3, the **Marshall (Arts) Building**, 207 E. Buffalo St., hosts another open house. All of the arts-related businesses are open for the event from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Many of the galleries are launching new exhibitions. There will be a cash bar,

snacks and music.

The Milwaukee Art Museum opens its China shows on June 9 with a 12-hour marathon of events for members. Three thousand years of Chinese culture go on view in four different exhibitions. Organized by the Peabody Essex Museum, the main show, **"The Emperor's Private Paradise,"** presents about 90 works created for a two-acre private retreat built within the

Forbidden City in 1771. It was the retirement home of China's extravagant monarch, the Qianlong Emperor, who ruled the last dynasty.

Qianlong was a contemporary of Louis XV, Catherine the Great and George Washington. His wonderfully named Palace of Tranquil Longevity in the Forbidden City was a walled paradise meant to inspire meditation and focus. The exhibition

is all about craftsmanship. Gold, lapis lazuli and jade seem endlessly spun into ornately sumptuous bowls, paintings and screens. Earthly paradise indeed.

The John Michael Kohler Arts Center in Sheboygan also opens a new round of shows this month. On June 26, **"Hiding Places: Memory in the Arts"** promises to be major undertaking that examines the ways in which we process and recall information.



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Gay guys get in the groove in new releases

Music

GREGG SHAPIRO

ARIEL APARICIO

Ariel Aparicio, a perennial favorite on LOGO's Click List, is known for his dazzling reinventions of popular '80s tunes such as "Pretty In Pink" and "People Who Died." He returns with the nine-track "Aerials" (Rock Ridge Music), a disc of original material. You can hear an updated '80s influence on "Love Left Bleeding," with its fierce bass line and rocking beat. The same holds true for "Tattered Heart," which sounds like it should be a hit for the dance crowd. When he slows it down, as he does on "Caroline," Aparicio demonstrates his versatility. (See an interview with Ariel at wisconsin-gazette.com.)

BRADY EARNHART

Out singer/songwriter/poet Brady Earnhart begins his third album "So Few Things" (City Salvage) on an unexpectedly jazzy

note with "Wild Nights," an Emily Dickinson poem set to music. An admirable effort, the song would have been a better way to close the disc, because it might be off-putting to listeners who know Earnhart for his flawless folk tunes. The good news is that redemption occurs quickly on the marvelous second track "Daniel." This is precisely the kind of folk-pop - with brass (!) - that we've come to treasure from Earnhart. And he doesn't disappoint with the stripped-down (you can't go wrong with an acoustic guitar and whistling) "Elkton," "It's Not Love," the lovely love songs "This Time" and "Lullaby," the sexy "Train" and the sly humor of "Getting' Up Guy."

TOM GOSS

"It's All Over," the opening track from gay singer/songwriter (and Kenosha native) Tom Goss' new album "Turn It Around" (tomgossmusic.com), gets the disc off to a righteous rock start. It's far from over after that. "Shady Dell" has an irresistible beat to accompany its illuminat-

ing lyrics, while "Spaces Unseen" and "Two Steps From You" are love songs unlike any you may have heard before. The buoyant title cut is as radio-friendly as the disc gets.

CHRIS RIFFLE

Chris Riffle has been busy. In 2010 he released his ironically titled second disc "Introducing ... Chris Riffle" (chrisriffle.com) and followed it up in 2011 with the five-song EP "I Am Not From Here" (chrisriffle.com). An NYC transplant, Riffle has a warm vocal style that effortlessly communicates the emotional energy of his songs. Working with a stellar cast of supporting musicians, including Ollabelle's Jimi Zhivago, the Mars Volta's Blake Fleming and Antony & the Johnsons' Julia Kent, Riffle's compositions are distinctively and stunningly brought to life. "Introducing" highlights include "Catch The Wind," "Younger Years," "Just Assume," "Walk Away" and "Light and Water." The standouts on the EP are the title track and "Downstream," both of



PHOTO: COURTESY
Ariel Aparicio performs on the Rainbow Stage at Milwaukee PrideFest on June 11.

which introduce a Casio into the instrumentation, and "February."

GARRIN BENFIELD

In response to the "age of tracks," Garrin Benfield's bare-bones song cycle "The Wave Organ Song" (garrin.com) consists of a baker's dozen guitar and vocal songs. This is a stripped-down, intimate and confident affair with

nothing to distract the listener from the music. Aside from the 13th song being a cover of Alex Chilton's "Thirteen," the remaining compositions are Benfield originals, including two collaborations. Highlights are "Moanin' Low," "No Compass," "Are You With Me" and "Mexico."

DANNY KATZ

Last but not least,

"Japanese Satellites" (dannykatzmusic.com) by Danny Katz uses humor to get the message across on songs such as "I'll Pretend," "Passover," "Limitation," "Breakfast" and "Magnificently Lonely." Katz also has a serious side, which comes through on "Sacramento," "Bushwick," "Modesto," "Taipei" and "Boston" (does anyone else see a pattern here?).

DVDiva

GREGG SHAPIRO

'THE KING'S SPEECH'

Unjustly overlooked for an Oscar for his magnificent performance in Tom Ford's "A Single Man" in 2009, Colin

Firth was rewarded the following year for his portrayal of stammering King George VI in Tom Hooper's "The King's Speech."

The film begins in 1925, when a jittery Prince Albert (Firth) has to read a message from his father King George V (Michael Gambon) at Wembley Stadium. The plot follows his transforma-

tion into a more comfortable public speaker, thanks to the help of his wife (a restrained Helena Bonham Carter) and speech therapist Lionel Logue (a fantastic Geoffrey Rush).

Deserving of its four Academy Awards, including best picture, best director and best original screenplay, "The King's Speech" is uplifting without being cloying,

heartwarming without being maudlin. It's a pleasure from start to finish.

DVD special features include director Tom Hooper's audio commentary, the real King George VI's speeches, a "making of" featurette and more.

'TOUGH LOVE'

Lisa Lampanelli, known

as "comedy's lovable queen of mean," recorded "Tough Love" live at The Rialto Square Theatre in Joliet, Ill. In this DVD, she performs her foul-mouthed and funny, racist and raucous, insulting but hilarious material in front of an audience that was "not as ugly" as she thought they'd be. No one is safe from her razor-sharp tongue, as any-

one who has seen her on a TV celebrity roast can attest.

Not just a comedian, but "an educator," Lampanelli likes audiences that get her. She has special affection for the gays (or corn-holers, as she calls them). After all, she says, without the gays, who would watch or run Bravo TV? And when it comes to interior design, she advises the audience to "never hire a bitch to do a homo's job." According to Lampanelli, "once you go fruit, your place will look cute."

But "Tough Love" is not all fun and gay games. Her George Takei bit runs out of steam. And while she incorporates some self-deprecating humor in her routine, poking fun at her size and her Italian ethnicity, Catholics remain unscathed, while she has no problem going after Jews.

DVD bonus material include a "too hot for Comedy Central joke" and deleted scenes.



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Madison's Bach Dancing hosts New Harvest fundraiser

By Michael Muckian
Contributing writer

Bach Dancing and Dynamite Society, the summer classical music ensemble in Madison that performs "chamber music with a bang," opens its 20th season on June 10 by giving the New Harvest Foundation a boost in its fundraising efforts for LGBT causes.

BDDS's opening concert at the Stoughton Opera House is preceded by cocktails and appetizers at 5:30 p.m., with a cake reception immediately following the 7:30 p.m. show. The after-show fundraiser takes place at the home of former New Harvest board member John Beutel. A \$50 ticket purchases admission to the show and reception, while \$35 gains admission to the concert only.

"Bach Dancing and Dynamite Society is a wonderful source of music and entertainment," says board member Kelly Chambers. "An opportunity to host a New Harvest Foundation fundraiser in conjunction with a BDDS show is a chance to highlight two great and diverse organizations in Wisconsin."

"Bach to the Future" is this year's whimsical theme for BDDS, which presents a series of six different performances through June 26. A group of 19 musicians will perform in various combinations — not only at the Stoughton Opera House, but also at The Playhouse at Madison's Overture Center and the Hillside School on Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin campus in Spring Green. The goal of the program is to make classical music fun, according to its principals.

"There's nothing about classical music that says that the players have to be serious or stodgy," says co-founder and performer Stephanie Jutt, principal flutist with the Madison Symphony Orchestra and faculty member at the UW-Madison School of Music. "We play all kinds of music, from the most lighthearted fluffy stuff

ON STAGE

Bach Dancing and Dynamite Society's June 10 "Bach Around the Clock" concert begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Stoughton Opera House. Additional information on BDDS can be found at www.bach-dancinganddynamite.org.

For information about the New Harvest Fundraiser, go to www.newharvestfoundation.org.

to the most serious and profound, but our habit of keeping a light touch on it all has served us well."

In 1992, Jutt helped found BDDS with pianist Jeffrey Sykes, music director for Madison's Opera for the Young and music faculty member at California State University-East Bay. BDDS attracts involvement from a revolving group of classical pros who have numbered more than 100 in the past 20 years.

The 2011 roster includes Parry Karp, UW-Madison's professor of cello and chamber music and a member of Pro Arte Quartet, violinist Suzanne Beia, a fellow PAQ member and co-concertmaster for both MSO and the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, and other accomplished musicians.

"Bach to the Future" acknowledges the group's homage to Johann Sebastian Bach, the master of Baroque composition and the group's namesake and unofficial mascot.

"We thought we'd indulge ourselves in a bounty of Baroque playing this year," says Jutt, a Stockton, Calif., native who began her career in the 1970s as a San Francisco street musician. "Our audiences love Bach and are always asking for more, so we will feature an important piece by Bach in every concert this year."

Other composers featured on this year's roster include Joseph Haydn, Carl

Philipp Emanuel Bach, Dmitri Shostakovich, César Franck, George Gershwin, Maurice Ravel, Camille Saint-Saëns, Ralph Vaughan Williams and others. Contemporary composer Ned Rorem and Paul Schoenfeld also have short works on the program.

For many audience members, the music, which is performed Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays throughout June, is only part of the draw. The concerts are accompanied by prize drawings, dramatic readings and other frivolity. The idea is to keep things light and entertaining as befits a summer concert season, but also to introduce new audiences to chamber music, which Jutt admits may be a dying art.

"Chamber music — or any classical music — is truly on the endangered list," Jutt says. "But once we get listeners in the door, they tend to love it and come back again and again."

BDDS's goal of enlightening people while serving a higher cause meshes well with the goals of New Harvest, which helps a variety of deserving organizations, says board member Michael Shultz.

"New Harvest Foundation is the only foundation in south-central Wisconsin that channels charitable contributions exclusively to organizations working to promote lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights, services, culture and community development," says Shultz, an autism consultant with the Madison Metropolitan School District. "Most contributors are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender, but we also receive support from straight, but not narrow families and friends."

New Harvest, established in 1984, has funded a variety of Madison-area arts groups, including Stage Q, the Madison Gay Men's Chorus, Perfect Harmony Men's Chorus, TAP-IT New Works, Inc., and others.

"We do what we do in order to give back," Shultz says.

APT season runs theatrical gamut

By Michael Muckian
Contributing writer

The Bard of Avon descends once again on Spring Green this summer, but William Shakespeare's works no longer dominate the schedule for American Players Theatre.

This year Shakespeare, on whose works APT built its considerable and well-deserved reputation, will share the stage with six other authors representing some of the greatest literature in the English language.

The trend toward diversification, with which APT began flirting five years after its founding in 1980, gained considerable steam in 2009, when the 1,100-seat outdoor amphitheater, now known as "Up the Hill," was joined by Touchstone, a modified indoor black box theater that enabled the company to perform more personal works in a more intimate 201-seat setting.

The addition of Touchstone also allowed APT to expand its summer schedule from five to eight productions. In addition, the company last year mounted a holiday production of O. Henry's "The Gift of the Magi" in late November and early December. The broadened schedule has opened more theatergoers to more dramatic and comedic experiences both under the moonlight and beneath the house-lights.

But it's still Shakespeare who will start the 2011 season Up the Hill. "The Taming of the Shrew," last performed by APT in 2002, pits the willful Kate against the wily Petruchio, who seeks to woo as well as tame her. But actor Tracey Michelle Arnold will paint one of Shakespeare's best-known characters not as a hellcat, but as a woman with both mind and heart, each tempered by honesty. Tim Ocel directs. "Shrew" runs through Oct. 2.

Gay playwright Noel Coward, a frequent visitor at Alfred Lunt's and Lynn Fontanne's Ten Chimneys in Genesee Depot during his lifetime, returns with the delightful "Blithe Spirit," the tale of a dead ex-wife's ghostly return during a cocktail party séance gone awry.

The fur flies with sophisticated humor in a production directed by APT artistic director David Frank. "Spirit" opens June 18, with its final performance Sept. 4.

Touchstone opens its 2011 season with the work of another gay playwright. Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie" will utilize the theater's intimate setting to effectively explore Williams' 1944 four-character memory play. The inimitable Sarah Day plays Amanda Wingfield, a former Southern belle abandoned by her husband and stuck with a shy daughter who relies on her collection of glass animals for company. The play, directed by Aaron Posner, is said to be Williams' most autobiographical work. "Menagerie" opens June 23, with its final performance Oct. 15.

Following closely on Williams' heels in Touchstone will be an adaptation of Fyodor Dostoyevsky's "Crime and Punishment," which examines the concept of who has the power over life and death. Actor Kenneth Albers directs the show, which opens June 26, with its final performance Oct. 16.

Early season openings end Up the Hill with Richard Brinsley Sheridan's "The Critic," a comedy about the hangers-on of an 18th century theatrical show that's rife with bon mots and punch lines. If everyone's a critic, then all should enjoy this rollicking behind-the-scenes look at theater. William Brown directs the production opening June 25 and ending Sept. 10.

Late summer takes a more serious turn Up the Hill with a theatrical adaptation of John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men." The now familiar tale of survival during the Great Depression pits faithful George and the slow-witted Lennie against increasingly more difficult odds in this tale of friendship and futility. Kate Buckley directs APT favorites Jim DeVita and Brian Mani in the title roles. "Mice" opens Aug. 6 with its final performance Oct. 1.

Shakespeare also anchors the August round of plays with "The Tempest," equal

parts of laughter, revenge and romance that roils like a stormy summer sky. Actor/director Kenneth Albers plays Prospero, the magician who anchors the comic tragedy, under James Bohnen's direction. "Tempest" opens Aug. 13, with its final performance Sept. 30.

Touchstone's final offering is poet Seamus Haney's "The Cure at Troy: A Version of Sophocles' Philocetes." David Franks directs this beautifully adapted version of Sophocles' fifth-century B.C. drama that blends universal themes with the lyricism of Haney's verse. "Troy" opens Aug. 14, with its final performance Sept. 25.



PHOTO: COURTESY
American Players Theatre's season runs from June 11 to Oct. 16. For more information, visit americanplayers.org.

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Sheboygan shines with culinary gems

Dining

MICHAEL MUCKIAN

Sheboygan's culinary legacy has always been the bratwurst, but over time the city has reached beyond the bun. Today the former industrial community, barely 58 miles north of Milwaukee as the seagull flies along Lake Michigan's shore, is home to an unexpected number of fine dining restaurants. City leaders hope these culinary outposts will help drive the resurgence of a dormant downtown.

Sheboygan is legally known as America's Bratwurst Capital, an honor of which it is proud and one that it celebrates the first weekend of each August. And the mammoth Miesfeld's Meat Market, a staple since 1941, still sells 1.8 million brats each year.

But the community of 51,000 people has found more exciting ways to dine out, and those options are

beginning to attract attention from well beyond the city limits.

Margaux Bistro & Wine Bar, 821 N. Eighth St., offers a continental menu long on substance and creativity. Chicago-born chef/owner Rob Hurrie cut his culinary teeth at the nearby American Club in Kohler, the state's only five-star resort. He mixes the knowledge he gained there with an appreciation for organic foods. The restaurant grows much of its own produce and herbs on a farm owned by Hurrie for just that purpose.

On the menu, bacon mac-and-cheese, made with white truffle oil and crisp prosciutto sits side by side with caramelized sea scallops, served with roasted fennel, creamed leeks and lemon carrot coulis. And the choices just get better from there.

The Margaux Wine School is part of the restaurant and will begin offering monthly classes again starting in the fall. Certified sommelier Jaelyn Stuart recently



The interior of Margaux.

PHOTO: COURTESY

earned top honors as Great Lakes regional winner in the Guild of Sommeliers competition. She will advance to the national competition in San Francisco in August. Stuart also teaches classes in Milwaukee and Chicago through the Milwaukee-based Midwest Wine School.

Located amid new development along the Sheboygan River, Lino Ritorante Italiano,

422 S. Pier Drive, raises the bar for Italian restaurants everywhere. Owner Lino Autiero and chef Marco Rossi bring new sophistication to traditional cuisine in the restaurant across the road from the enormous Blue Harbor Resort. The calamaretti fritti offers lightly breaded calamari superbly done, while the risotto with white truffle oil is succu-

lent and flavorful. And one couldn't rave enough about the grilled walleye with mussels in a light tomato-spinach broth, or the tender Osso Bucco served with another creamy risotto.

Located between these two restaurants are four eateries and an organic grocery store owned by chef Stefano Viglietti: Trattoria Stefano, 522 S. Eighth St., Il Ritrovo, 515 S. Eighth St., The Duke of Devon English Pub & Eatery, 739 Riverfront Drive and Field to Fork Café and Grocery, 511 S. Eighth St.) By all accounts, Viglietti, who abandoned a Chicago real estate career to cook, is the driving force behind Sheboygan's culinary renaissance.

Trattoria Stefano serves classic Italian dishes based on fare that Viglietti, a Sheboygan native, experienced during month-long childhood visits to Florence, Italy. Il Ritrovo is one of three Wisconsin restaurant members of the Associazione Verace Pizza Napoletana, the international group dedicated to

preserving and promoting Neapolitan-style pizza.

The Duke of Devon is an authentic English – not Irish – pub, and Field to Fork combines an Italian and organic market with a restaurant, both tethered by a devotion to local, sustainable food.

"I like to smell the bread baking, the coffee brewing and the smoke of a wood-fired oven," says Viglietti, who runs 10 miles a day to keep off the weight his devotion to food would inevitably cause him to gain. "I believe in the senses, because they make us who we are."

Field to Fork stocks everything from pastas from Italy to yellow organic tomatoes from Antigo – and highlights local producers. Viglietti makes sure he cooks with local produce as much as possible in his restaurants.

A sign on the grocery store wall says it all: "The shorter the distance from field to fork ... the better."

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Festive atmosphere, great moles make Cempazuchi worth a visit

Dining

RICK KARLIN

Cempazuchi is a bright and friendly double storefront with a festive vibe. Its slogan is "comida brava" which translates roughly to mean "wild food." If that's true I hope they never tame it.

At Cempazuchi, you'll find all the standards that folks love about Mexican-American restaurants. Big complimentary basket of chips with salsa? Check. All entrées served with beans and rice? Check. An assortment of meats and veggies available wrapped in or piled atop tortillas? Check. Pitchers of margaritas? Check.

Seven different moles? Wow! Yes, you'll find the standard Mexican-American fare, but you'll also find classic home-style Mexican dishes and upscale Mexican fine dining, including

inventive dishes that are so popular in Nueva Latina restaurants. The chips, for example, are pretty run-of-the-mill — it's the salsas that are notable. Whether you prefer the roasted tomato or the tomatillo-pumpkin seed is a matter of taste, as both have their strengths.

You might want to start your meal (or make a meal of) the soup. There's the classic tortilla soup, as well as a Yucatan version served with pickled habanero onions. Both are a steal at \$3 for a cup, \$5 for a bowl. In places like this, salads are usually boring — but again, Cempazuchi exceeds expectations. Whether it's a mixture of shredded jicama over tender greens with grapefruit and avocado slices or the entrée-sized combination of bacon, avocado, goat cheese, chicken strips, tomatoes, hard-boiled egg, tortilla strips, pumpkin seeds and grilled corn on a bed of romaine and red leaf lettuce, you're certain to be impressed with the greenery here.

I'm a big fan of torta, the Mexican version of a sub sandwich. The classic is available here with a choice of steak, chicken, pork or, my choice, tinga (a spicy blend of pork and chicken). The large sandwich, served with beans, grilled onions, lettuce, tomato and guacamole is only \$7.

Other versions include a variation on the Cubano or grilled cheese with avocado. The bean and cheese burrito was well prepared, if a bit unremarkable, but it was satisfying enough for those who like that sort of thing. We also tried the fish tacos, available with either cornmeal-crusted perch or grilled salmon. The perch was lost in the overly heavy coating of blue cornmeal. The salmon fared better and proved a better bargain, as each dish was priced \$10.

After 5 p.m. the dinner menu offers more exotic options, such as your choice of one of seven moles from Oaxaca served over turkey or a pre-Hispanic style

sauce of roasted pumpkin seeds, peanut, sesame seeds and chiles (known as Pipian) served over your choice of pork loin or chicken breast.

If there is a weak spot on the menu, it's in the cocktail section. The margarita I ordered was so weak that I suspected it was non-alcoholic. The same could be said for the specialty cocktail, the Paloma. A combination of Milagro reposado, Domaine Charbay ruby red grapefruit vodka and grapefruit soda, it was overly fizzy and had an unpleasant chemical aftertaste. Still, at only \$7 it's worth the experiment to try a few. I look forward to trying the white sangria on my next visit. And there will be one.

(Cempazuchi, 1205 E. Brady St., 414-291-5233, cempazuchi.com)

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'Midnight in Paris' shows Allen back to form

Film

GREGG SHAPIRO

"Midnight In Paris," Woody Allen's return to form (after a pair of missteps), begins in Paris at daylight. The beautiful shots wouldn't be out of place in Condé Nast Traveler.

Self-described "Hollywood hack" Gil (Owen Wilson) and his chilly fiancée Inez (Rachel McAdams) are in Paris with her stuffy, Republican parents John (Kurt Fuller) and Helen (Mimi Kennedy). Gil is smitten with the city and Inez is not. But when they run into Paul (Michael Sheen), a pedantic ex of Inez's, and his new girlfriend Carol (Nina Arianda), Inez brightens. Gil, on the other hand, practically shuts down.

Paul (the kind of pompous boob that Allen writes so well), is in town to present a lecture. He's the complete opposite of Gil. An unapologetic romantic, who idealizes the Paris of the 1920s, Gil is



PHOTO: COURTESY

A scene from Woody Allen's "Midnight in Paris."

at work on a novel about a nostalgia shop, which makes him an object of ridicule by Paul, Inez and her parents.

However, things take an unexpected turn for the better when, after wandering the streets of Paris all day, Gil finds himself lost at the stroke of midnight. Suddenly the streets are filled with vintage cars. When a classic Peugeot pulls up, Gil climbs in and is transported to a party at Jean Cocteau's, where he meets Zelda (Alison

Pill) and F. Scott Fitzgerald (Tom Hiddleston). In shock, but going with the flow, one minute Gil is watching Josephine Baker perform and the next he's talking to Ernest Hemingway (Corey Stoll), who offers to show Gil's manuscript to Gertrude Stein (Kathy Bates).

Once out on the street, however, he sees the bar revert to the laundromat that it is in the present day. But the next night Gil is intent on recreating

his experience with Inez by his side. Impatient Inez has no interest and leaves. Wouldn't you know it? Shortly after the stroke of midnight, the Peugeot arrives with Hemingway inside. Gil is whisked off to Gertrude and Alice's, where he meets Picasso (Marcial Di Fonzo Bo) and the painter's mistress Adriana (Marion Cotillard). Gil is smitten with Adriana.

And so "Midnight In Paris" goes, back and forth in time, from the present to the 1920s. In the past, Gil is thrilled by his interactions with Stein, Salvador Dali (Adrien Brody), Luis Bunuel, Man Ray, Djuna Barnes and others. He also finds himself falling in love with Adriana, who has her own fixation with the past — La Belle Epoque.

In the present, Gil is increasingly unhappy. His relationship with Inez is rapidly declining. The one saving grace is Gabrielle (Léa Seydoux), a young Parisian woman who has a "nostalgia shop" stall at a flea market. "Midnight In Paris" is not

as near perfect as "Vicky Cristina Barcelona." But it does find a way to meld many of the elements of Allen's best work for a completely delightful, humorous, picturesque and entertaining movie experience.

'TREE OF LIFE'

Opening with a quote from Job, "Tree of Life," Terence Malick's meditation on the ways of nature and grace, is the most pretentious film of 2011 — so far.

Where else will you find Brad Pitt as a mid-century father and dinosaurs from some 200 million years ago in the same movie? No kidding! Three stories are the interwoven branches in this overly long and self-indulgent cinematic miasma. A Texas family in the 1950s and 1960s, who put the wacko in Waco, consists of a strict and strictly unbalanced husband and father, Mr. O'Brien (Pitt) and his gentle and loving wife, Mrs. O'Brien (Jessica Chastain). They have three sons, including Jack (Hunter

McCracken). "The Tree of Life" is visually dazzling, something we've come to expect from Malick, who directed "Days of Heaven." The minimal dialogue in this cinematic tone poem increases the reliance on the visual. His depiction of creation, from prismatic light to cloud formations and volcanic eruptions, to bodies of water and plant life and beyond, borders on the Discovery Channel documentary level.

Malick also captures the innocence of the mid-20th century. His attention to detail is nearly impeccable, from the style of speech and the rambunctiousness of youth to the fashions and home décor of the era.

But if you want something more out of a movie than seemingly disconnected references to family relationships, parental cruelty, dinosaur interaction, a portrayal of creation, domestic uncertainty and hurt and healing, you'd be better off climbing another tree.

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JUNE 2, THURSDAY

StageQ presents **"Queer Shorts 6,"** the sixth installment of the popular shorts play-fest, through June 4 at the Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin in Madison. Call 608-204-0280.
 Carte Blanche Studios Theatre, 1024 S. Fifth, presents **"Titus Andronicus"** by William Shakespeare through June 19. Call 262-716-4689.
"Adding Machine-A Musical," based on the play "The Adding Machine" by Elmer Rice, runs through June 12 in the Cabot Theatre at Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800.
"Florentine at the Lake" returns to Alterra Café at the Lake, 1701 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive, in Milwaukee at 7 p.m. and again at 7 p.m. on June 16.
"Gotta Give 'em Hope," a dance theater piece inspired by the words and legacy of Harvey Milk and choreographed by Leonard Cruz, plays at 7:30 p.m. June 2-4 in the UWM Mainstage Theatre. A reception follows the June 3 performance, and selected choreographers host a 6:45 p.m. pre-performance talk each evening.



JUNE 3, FRIDAY

Youngblood Theatre Company presents **"An Apology for the Course and Outcome of Certain Events Delivered by Doctor John Fraztus on This His Final Evening"** through June 14 at The Fritzlaff Building, 143 W. St. Paul. Call 414-368-2375.
"Jersey Boys," the award-winning musical featuring the music of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, runs through June 19 at Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, 400 W. College Ave. in Appleton. Call 920-730-3760.
Bay View Gallery Night, an evening of exploring the Bay View community and great Milwaukee art talents, begins at 5 p.m. Included in the event are tours of local businesses and galleries, music, live art demonstrations and more. Go to www.bayviewgallerynight.com.

JUNE 4, SATURDAY

Musical duo **The Submarines** perform at 8 p.m. at Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth. Call 414-286-3663.



JUNE 6, MONDAY

Alan Heathcock, author of "Volt: Stories," is at Boswell Book Company, 2559 N. Downer, at 7 p.m. Call 414-332-1181.

JUNE 8, WEDNESDAY

Danielle Sosin, author of "The Long-Shining Waters," winner of the Milkweed National Fiction Prize, is at Boswell Book Company, 2559 N. Downer, at 7 p.m. Call 414-332-1181.
Chicago Chamber Musicians perform a concert featuring a piece by contemporary composer Peter Lieberson in the Hillside Theater at The Frank Lloyd Wright Visitor Center at Taliesin, 5607 County Road C (at the intersection of Highway 23 and County Road C) in Spring Green. Call 608-588-7900.

JUNE 9, THURSDAY

Club 5 Bar, 5 Applegate Court in Madison, presents **Foxy Veronica's Peach Pies Caberlesque Show** at 10:30 p.m. Call 608-277-9700.
 Boswell Book Company, 2559 N. Downer, welcomes **Dean Bakopoulos,** author of "My American Unhappiness," at 7 p.m. Call 414-332-1181.
 Theatre Gigante presents **Conor McPherson's "The Good Thief"** through June 11 at 8 p.m. at Paddy's Pub, 2339 N. Murray.

JUNE 10, FRIDAY

Milwaukee PrideFest, the crown jewel in the tiara of LGBT Wisconsin, begins tonight with headliner Mo'Nique and continues on the Summerfest Grounds through Sunday evening, June 12. Go www.pridefest.com or see the schedule in this issue of WIG.
 The theme of this year's **Pink Banana One-Act Festival** is "Higher Education," featuring plays about the college experience and learning outside of the classroom, at Tenth Street Theatre, 628 N. 10th, through June 18. Call 414-271-131 or visit www.pinkbananatheatre.com.
 Milwaukee Public Market, 400 N. Water, presents **Kate Levinson,** author of "Emotional Currency: A Woman's Guide to Building a Healthy Relationship with Money" at 6 p.m. in the second floor demonstration area.
 Milwaukee Chamber Theatre holds its annual gala **"Cheers to Chamber"** at 7 p.m. at the 234 Florida Building in Milwaukee's Fifth Ward. Call 414-276-8842.



JUNE 12, SUNDAY

The Milwaukee Pride Parade, the state's largest, steps off at 2 p.m. from Second Street and Greenfield Avenue in the city's Walker's Point neighborhood and travels north. Go to www.prideparademke.org.

JUNE 13, MONDAY

Cast and crew members from the Tony Award-winning musical **"Jersey Boys"** perform one night only at 8 p.m. to benefit Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS and the mission-based programs of the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center in the Kimberly-Clark Theater, 400 W. College Ave. in Appleton. Call 920-730-3760.
"Verse & Vino," the Boulevard Theatre's annual fundraiser, is a "mini block party" in three locations, including the Boulevard Theatre's lobby and performance space, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic, Mexican restaurant Riviera Maya and BYO Studio/Lounge. The party goes from 5:30-9:30pm. Call 414-744-5757.



JUNE 14, TUESDAY

The beloved musical **"Fiddler on the Roof"** runs through June 19 at Marcus Center For the Performing Arts, at the corner of Water and State. Call 414-273-2787.

JUNE 15, WEDNESDAY

Robert K. Elder, author of "The Movie that Changed My Life," is at Boswell Book Company, 2559 N. Downer, at 7 p.m. Call 414-332-1181.

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OUT & ABOUT



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Rascals Bar & Grill, 702 E. Wisconsin Ave., Appleton, 920-954-9262.
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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.

KENOSHA / RACINE
Club ICON, 6305 120th St. (off I-94), Kenosha, 262-857-3240.
Fierte, 5722 Third Ave., Kenosha, 262-764-9713.
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My Place, 3201 South Ave., 608-788-9073.
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MADISON
Cardinal Bar, 418 W. Wilson St., 608-257-2473.
Club 5, 5 Applegate Court, 608-277-9700.
Plan B, 924 Williamson St., 608-257-5262.
Shamrock, 117 W. Main St., 608-255-5029.
WOOF'S, 114 King St., 608-204-6222.

MILWAUKEE
Art Bar, 722 E. Burleigh St., 414-372-7880.
Ballgame, 196 S. Second St., 414-273-7474.
Boom & The Room, 625 S. Second St., 414-277-5040.
Boot Camp, 209 E. National Ave., 414-643-6900.
D.I.X., 739 S. First St., 414-231-9085.
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Harbor Room, 117 E. Greenfield Ave., 414-672-7988.
Hybrid, 707 E. Brady St., 414-810-1809.
Kruz, 354 E. National Ave., 414-272-KRUZ.
LaCage/ETC./Montage, 801 S. Second St., 414-383-8330.
Mona's, 1407 S. First St., 414-643-0377.
Nut Hut, 1500 W. Scott St., 414-647-2673.
Purr Nite Club, 3945 N. 35th St., 414-442-7007.
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.

MILWAUKEE (continued)
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.
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