

CAN'T TAKE HIS EYES OFF OF HIM

WIGOUT! has the gay backstage story of "Jersey Boys." **Page 25**



THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY

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NY says 'I do'

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

New York lawmakers, in legalizing marriage for same-sex couples, made the union "a little more perfect," openly lesbian New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn said June 24.

That Friday night, the New York Senate sent a marriage equality bill to Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who wasted no time in signing the legislation into law.

Same-sex couples can marry in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Iowa and the District of Columbia – and, in about a month, they can also marry in New York.

"This is a huge victory not just for LGBT New Yorkers, but for all New Yorkers and for our country," Quinn said.

Around the world, as many communities in major cities celebrated Pride over the weekend, passage of

the bill was heralded as a momentous development in the state where the modern LGBT civil rights movement began and in a nation about to celebrate independence, justice and liberty.

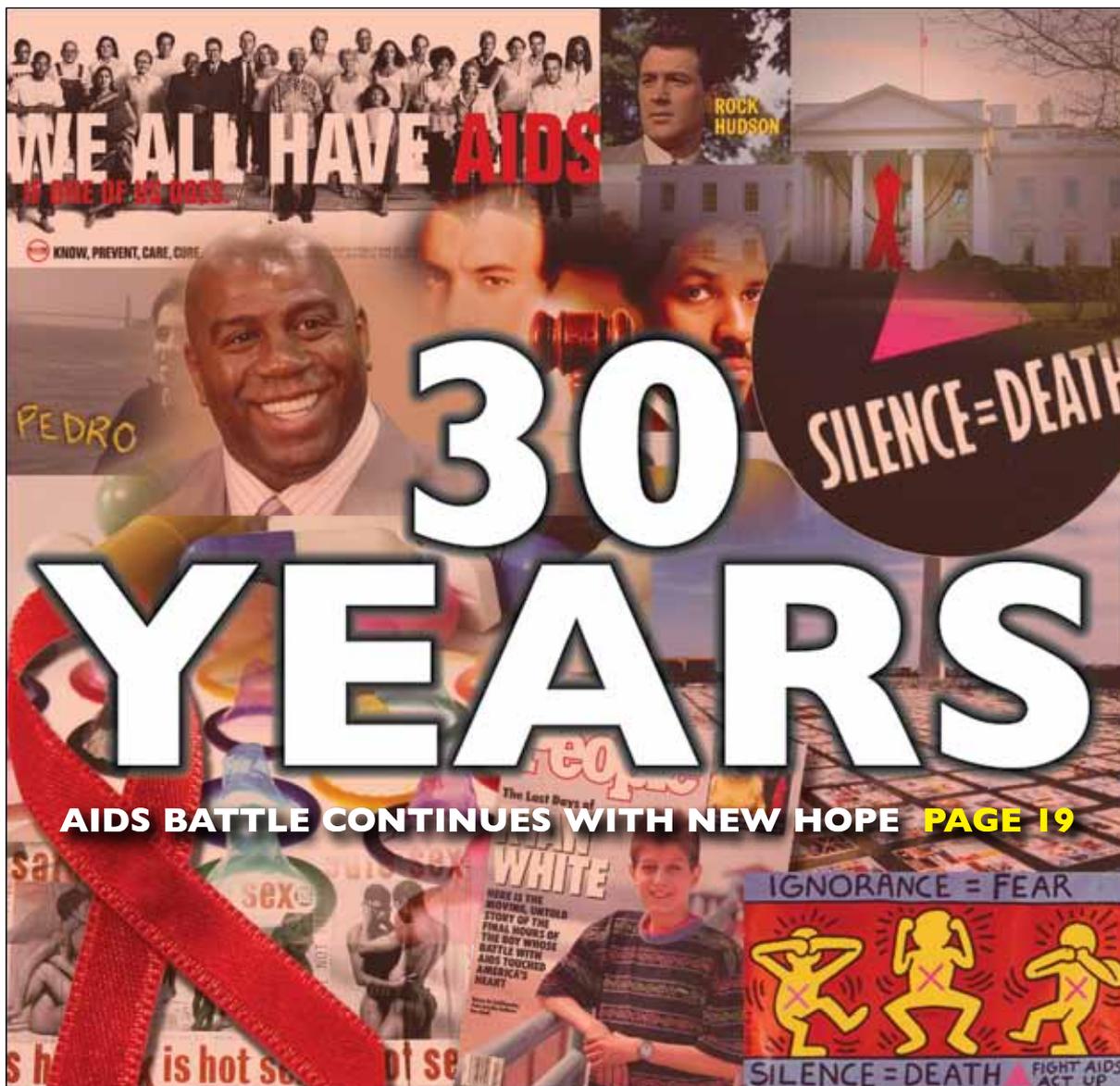
"At our founding, what made America different from every other country that existed before was a commitment to an ideal that had never been advanced – that all are created equal, endowed by their Creator with the rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," said New York Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman. "Our history as a nation has been one of striving to make those words ever more true. Today, our state rose to the challenge, and New York, once again, has carried on this great American tradition."

THE VOTE

The New York General Assembly passed the marriage equality bill 80-63 on June 15. But early last week, with the 2011 legislative session in overtime, there was no certainty the bill would reach the Senate floor, where it had the support of 29 Democratic senators, but still needed three GOP votes to pass.

The bill's Democratic shepherds were convinced they had two Republican votes and knew of two other "undecided" Republicans as of June 23, when closed-door negotiations began in earnest to craft an amendment providing additional protections

NEW YORK page 17



AIDS BATTLE CONTINUES WITH NEW HOPE **PAGE 19**

Judge upholds registry

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

In a strongly worded ruling, a Dane County Circuit Court judge upheld the constitutionality of the state's domestic partner registry.

The ruling came in a suit filed by the anti-gay group Wisconsin Family Action claiming that the registry law violates a constitutional amendment banning same-

sex marriage and civil unions in the state. Former Gov. Jim Doyle enacted the measure, which grants 41 legal protections to same-sex couples, including hospital visitation privileges and the right to take family medical leave to care for a sick or injured partner.

WFA argued that the registry created a relationship status "substantially similar

to that of marriage," which is prohibited under the 2006 constitutional ban adopted by voters.

Judge Daniel R. Moeser disagreed.

"The (registry) does not recognize domestic partnership in a way that even remotely resembles how the state recognizes marriage," Moeser wrote. "Moreover, domestic partners have far

fewer legal rights, duties and liabilities in comparison to the legal rights, duties and liabilities of spouses."

Moeser said that besides providing only a few of the 200 rights afforded by marriage under state law, registered partnerships differ greatly from marriage in the way they're legally established. For instance, either registered

REGISTRY page 7

This issue

inside and online at [wisconsinGazette.com](http://wisconsin Gazette.com)

News

- WIGWAG.....2
- Regional Gaze.....4
- International Gaze 12
- Editorial..... 14
- Faith Gaze..... 16

Features

- WIGOUT..... 25
- Art Gaze..... 26
- Theater..... 28
- On the Town..... 36
- Community Briefs..... 39

LESBIAN PASTOR PLEASSED WITH VERDICT **PAGE 4**

LGBT news with a twist



By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg

SOUTHWEST PILOT SUSPENDED FOR RANT

A Houston-based Southwest Airlines pilot was suspended after accidentally tying up air traffic control airwaves with a prolonged sexist, homophobic description of his flight attendant co-workers. During the March 25 rant, the pilot assessed the date-ability of his crew for his co-pilot. "There's 12 flight attendants. ... Eleven (expletive) over the top (expletive), (expletive) homosexuals and a granny," he said. The pilot didn't realize that his microphone was stuck and he was broadcasting his comments to other pilots and air traffic controllers.

WHICH COMMANDMENT IS THAT?

A lesbian couple says their evening at the ballpark was ruined when a security guard at Minneapolis' Target Field scolded them for what they called a "brief kiss." City Pages reported that the guard confronted Taylor

Campione and Kelsi Culpepper on May 27 during the Twins' home game against the Angels. After seeing them share a quick peck on the lips, the guard allegedly said to Campione, "I saw you kissing that girl, you can't do that."

"I can kiss whoever I want to," Campione said she replied. "Well, we don't play grab ass here," the guard answered, going on to explain that "here in the stadium, we adhere to the 10 Commandments."

"That ruined our entire evening," Campione told City Pages. "We were super upset, we felt super uncomfortable."

A spokesman for the Twins said the guard was reprimanded but continues to work at the stadium.

ALL THAT GLITTERS ... ISN'T GOLD

U.S. Rep. Michele Bachmann, one of the newer entries in the race for the GOP presidential nomination, got glittered recently. Bachmann had just wrapped up

a speech at the RightOnline conference in Minnesota when a woman stepped forward and tossed a handful of glitter at her. A gay rights activist took credit for the act, saying she was protesting Bachmann's "hateful and anti-gay rhetoric." Former-Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty and former U.S. Rep. Newt Gingrich, both presidential hopefuls, also have been showered - Pawlenty in pink confetti and Gingrich in glitter.

BRISTOL'S WORLD

Bristol Palin, daughter of Fox commentator and former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, has written her autobiography at the age of 20. The single mom, working with writer Nancy French and publisher William Morrow, authored, "Not Afraid of Life: My Journey So Far." Palin reflects on her childhood and the excitement of her mom's political campaigns but mostly on her troubled, defunct relationship with Levi Johnston, with whom she had a child. Palin writes that she got drunk on wine

coolers and lost her virginity to bad-boy Johnston, who "cheated on me about as frequently as he sharpened his hockey skates."

ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

In France in June, former Dior designer John Galliano went on trial on charges he hurled racial, anti-Semitic insults at several patrons of a Paris cafe. Galliano lost his job over the incident, which led to charges that he violated an act criminalizing "public insults based on origin, religious affiliation, race or ethnicity."

HERE AT HOME

Comic Tracy Morgan apologized again for anti-gay remarks spoken from The Ryman Auditorium stage in Nashville, Tenn., on June 3. The ex-"Saturday Night Live" player joked that if thought his son was gay he would "pull out a knife and stab" him. Faced with a barrage of criticism, Morgan apologized publicly and then returned to Nashville to apologize again. "I don't have a

hateful bone in my body," he said.



INSIDE CITY MARKET

Following our item in the last issue of WiG about being banned from Shorewood's City Market, we received a call from the eatery's owner inviting us to place the paper there after all. Jeffery Swanson blamed our banishment on a misunderstanding. So we're happy to announce that readers can finally find the paper there, because we really love the food and we're tired of having to boycott a great eatery that's only a couple of blocks from our office. Thanks to all of the readers who asked City Market to let us in.



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DeLong relieved by outcome of trial

By Louis Weisberg
Staff writer

"I could not have expected or hoped for anything better," the Rev. Amy DeLong said after being suspended for 20 days from the United Methodist Church ministry.

DeLong's June 23 suspension, which goes into effect on July 1, came following her conviction of performing a 2009 same-sex marriage ceremony in Menominee. UMC clergy are banned from performing such services.

DeLong had expected a harsher sentence at her church trial.

"I had resigned myself to not leaving (the trial) with my credential, and I woke up on Friday morning still reverend," DeLong said.

DeLong was found not guilty of a second charge of being a "self-avowed practicing homosexual," even though she has acknowledged being in a long-term relationship with her female partner.

DeLong's widely watched church trial, held at Peace United Methodist Church in Kaukauna, was the first of its kind in Wisconsin. Her suspension is the first Methodist-imposed penalty for blessing a same-sex union since the Rev. Greg Dell, pastor of Broadway United Methodist Church in Chicago, was suspended for a year in 1999 for blessing the union of two men.

DeLong, 44, who lives in Osceola, was ordered by the jury to use the time of her suspension for "spiritual discernment" and to write a document about her experiences to present to the United Methodist Church's annual conference in the summer of 2012.

The jury deliberated for eight hours before arriving at DeLong's sentence, underscoring how divided the denomination is on the issue. The Rev. Tom Lambrecht, who prosecuted the case after four other pastors



PHOTO: AP/THE POST-CRESCENT, SHARON CEKADA

The Rev. Amy DeLong, right, hugs friend Barb Werner of Madison as supporter Ed Hoar, left, stands by after DeLong's verdict was read at United Methodist Church in Kaukauna on June 23. DeLong, a gay minister, was suspended from the exercise of the functions of an ordained elder of Peace United Methodist Church for 20 days beginning July 1.

declined the job, had asked the jury to suspend DeLong from her ministerial duties until she signed a statement agreeing not to perform future same-sex weddings as long as the church bans them. DeLong had said during the trial that's something she would never do. She maintained that her ministerial duties did not require her to follow what she called "an unjust law."

"Only time will tell the depths of the impact of this trial but it all feels good now," DeLong said of her experience. "If good can come out of a bad situation like a trial, it has. What I had hoped has been accomplished. The jury did an exceptional job of dealing with the issues before them in a faithful and creative way."

But DeLong acknowledged

that the church has some way to go in reconciling complex social issues with scriptural teachings. "The church has to figure out how to deal with issues of conscience in a non-punitive way," she said. "How can we proceed as people of faith on a path that is more life-giving and less punitive?"

Throughout the trial, DeLong was surrounded by supporters, including the Rev. Lois McCullen Parr, who succeeded Dell at Broadway United Methodist Church in Chicago. Parr was one of 208 clergy in the Northern Illinois Conference who recently signed a pledge to bless unions for same-sex couples. The pastors have called on the global church to impose no more than a 24-hour suspension for clergy who defy the policy, the

Chicago Tribune reported. "We seek to be faithful as pastors to everybody," Parr told the Tribune.

"The sadness is we're here again," she said through tears. "The hope is that maybe this is the last church trial for this." Lambrecht is on the other side of the issue. Senior pastor of the Faith Community United Methodist Church in Greenville, he's a leader in a conservative movement within the UMC known as the Renewal and Reform Coalition. In 2005, he defended a Virginia pastor who was suspended from the ministry after denying church membership to a gay person.

Although Lambrecht avoided using anti-gay rhetoric during the trial, a troubling remark he made during his closing argument might

have backfired, DeLong said. Acknowledging that DeLong might have done the wrong thing for the right reason, he compared her action to that of a pastor stealing money from an offering plate to give to a food pantry. DeLong said people were outraged that she was being likened to a thief.

GLOBAL ISSUE

DeLong said homophobes in the UMC are groping for ways to maintain their sway in the face of increasing defections among clergy in the United States.

"In many ways, the conservative, anti-gay, homophobic agenda isn't finding a foothold in the U.S. any more," DeLong said. "There's been a very strong and concerted effort to find those grow-

'Only time will tell the depths of the impact of this trial but it all feels good now.'

ing parts of the church around the globe and export homophobia to them. We have gone to Africa and taught them some of the most heinous, absurd anti-gay things you'd ever want to hear and that has been very intentional by white conservatives in the U.S."

In fact, Lambrecht's Renewal and Reform Coalition came under fire at the denomination's 2008 general conference for providing free cell phones to African and Filipino delegates. Critics charged that the group was trying to influence delegates from poor and socially conservative countries to support their anti-gay agenda.

Erin Hawkins, who heads the church's commission on religion and race, told the United Methodist News Service that trying to manipulate people of color with gifts was an offense that smacked of colonialism.

"My hope is that the white leadership of the church would be mindful of the actions in light of the history of exploitation of people of color in this church," Hawkins said at the time. "I hope they would not willingly engage in any sort of behavior that would undermine the humanity of people of color whether they are in the United States or other countries. This action of giving cell phones to buy or manipulate people can be interpreted as a return to that sort of racist behavior."

Insurers to add new partner policies

By Louis Weisberg
Staff writer

In response to a lobbying campaign spearheaded by Equality Wisconsin, at least three health insurance companies plan to offer domestic partner policies for small businesses in the state (those with 50 employees or fewer). Jacquie Lindo, a community organizer for the group,

said the policies will close a gap in the state's insurance market. While domestic partner plans have been available for individuals and larger companies for some time, small businesses in the state have fallen through the cracks of coverage, she said.

United Healthcare will begin offering the policies in the third quarter of this year,

Lindo said, while Humana plans to introduce them in the winter of 2012.

Anthem has told EW that it will add the coverage before the end of 2012. Trilogy, a fourth provider contacted by EW, has not reached a decision, Lindo said.

Although some of the companies initially expressed reservations about offend-

ing their right-wing Christian customers, they were prevailed upon by a coalition of local businesses brought together by EW. Pro-equality state Sen. Chris Larson, D-Milwaukee, also lobbied.

A study showing domestic partner policies cost no more than other family plans "got me through the door of a lot of these insurance

companies," Lindo said.

The businesses involved in the campaign included Public Allies, Radio Milwaukee, Beans and Barley, Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee, Lakefront Brewery, ZBB Energy Corporation, Bronze Optical, and Voces De La Frontera.

"Domestic partnership coverage provides a wider

recognition that all people deserve equal benefit coverage, and this move shows a commitment by health insurance providers to having a broader, progressive vision," said Helen Brown of ZBB Energy. "As a small company this change will allow us to not only attract and retain staff, but also to provide equal benefits to all employees."

Pride Alive returns to Green Bay July 8-10

Pride Alive returns to Green Bay on July 8-10 with an expanded schedule of events that offers something for everyone, says event co-chair Andrew DeBaker.

The main event is Saturday, July 9, at Joannes Park. The festivities get underway with a noon opening ceremony featuring state Senate candidate Nancy Nusbbaum, who's challenging anti-gay Sen. Robert Cowles in this summer's recall election. The afternoon and evening entertainment includes local bands Speed Beaver, The

Charles Walker Band and Ronnie Nyles. Drag star Anita Buffet is master of ceremonies.

The event is free and open to the public.

Following the daytime program, a dance party called "Fever" rocks Shelter Club, 730 N. Quincy St. DJs Cody Domino and Multidimensional Fortitude will spin, and go-go dancers from Chicago will set the beat.

Fever is a new addition to Pride Alive, now in its fourth year. "It's really a response to what people asked for,"

DeBaker says.

On Sunday, July 10, the weekend closes with "Chez Bouché: A Dance-Comedy Review" at Riverside Ballroom, 1560 Main St.

About 3,300 people attended last year's Pride Alive, despite heavy rainfall. The annual event began in the wake of the 2006 anti-gay marriage amendment.

"In northeast Wisconsin, we decided that revitalizing Pride as sort of a focal point for the community was a great thing we could do," DeBaker

says. "Our tagline is community, diversity, equality. We're trying to show that we're still here five years after that horrible amendment. We're trying to show that we're a valuable part of the community. And because we're here, we demand equality."

"It's also a way to recharge our batteries a little bit to boost ourselves and take that energy and continue it in our daily lives for the rest of the year."

For a complete schedule, go to newpride.org.

— L.W. Green Bay celebrates with Pride Alive.



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COMPETENCY OF WOULD-BE ABORTION SHOOTER QUESTIONED

The attorney for a Marshfield man accused of planning an abortion clinic shooting is raising questions about the defendant's mental competency.

Federal defender Erika Bierma said she will file a motion for a competency exam for 63-year-old Ralph Lang.

Police detained Lang after responding to an incident in which his gun accidentally discharged while he was loading in a Madison motel room on May 25. Lang told police he planned to shoot a doctor and nurses at a nearby Planned Parenthood clinic the following day.

Lang was charged in Dane County Circuit Court with attempted first-degree intentional homicide.

FACEBOOK GROUP CALLS FOR BOYCOTT OF MICHIGAN TOWN

A new Facebook group is calling for a boycott of Holland, Mich., after its city council voted June 14 against adding sexual orientation to the town's anti-discrimination ordinance.

The measure would have outlawed the denial of housing and employment to people due to their sexual orientation. It failed 5-4 even though it included a loophole exempting religious organizations.

Holland and the neighboring town of Saugatuck are meccas for gay and lesbian vacationers from Chicago and Milwaukee, many of whom own second homes and businesses in the area.

But the region's politics and media are far to the right. The Family Research Council, which was designated a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center, has offices in Holland and deep roots there.

Less than a week after Holland

REGIONAL BRIEFS

voted down the gay rights measure, the school board in Saugatuck, Mich., voted 5-2 on June 20 to reject a video dealing with coming out.

The school district's sex education advisory committee wanted the video to become part of the eighth-grade sex-education curriculum as a way to help combat harassment and bullying.

Last year, a popular gay campground in Saugatuck was vandalized with gay hate graffiti. A swastika and the words "Fags don't belong" were spray-painted on a fence at Campit Outdoor Resort.

RAINBOW GLOWS OVER I-35 BRIDGE FOR TWIN CITIES PRIDE

The Interstate 35W bridge over the Mississippi River got a festive makeover for Twin Cities Pride during the weekend of June 24. The bridge's underpass was lit up in a rainbow to celebrate the area's LGBT community.

The city of Minneapolis, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Minnesota Department of Transportation and Outfront Minnesota worked together to illuminate the special lighting. MnDOT had to adjust 570 light fixtures on the bridge to rainbow colors, and another 48 light

fixtures made the bridge piers glow purple.

Although equality supporters saw validation in the special lighting effect, Chuck Derrill with the Minnesota Family Council said the symbol should serve as a different kind of reminder.

"We hope that when people see the lit-up bridge that they should be reminded that they will be able to vote on marriage in 2012, just like voters have done in 31 other states," he said, referring to a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage that will be determined by voters next year.

Thousands of low-income Planned Parenthood of Indiana patients have been left fending for themselves to pay for birth control, breast exams, Pap tests and other medical services while a court battle continues over a new state law that eliminated the organization's Medicaid funding.

Planned Parenthood began turning away Medicaid patients who couldn't pay for its medical services June 21, one day after private donations that had paid those patients' bills ran out.

A state law that took effect May 10 denied Planned Parenthood the Medicaid funds it uses to pay

for general health services it provides to low-income women at its 28 Indiana clinics. The group is seeking a preliminary injunction to block Indiana's law, and a ruling was expected by July 1.

As Planned Parenthood awaited the ruling, the group said about 9,300 Medicaid patients — both women and men enrolled in the state-federal health insurance program for low-income and disabled people — were facing "disrupted" medical services under the state's law.

The Obama administration said in a June 1 letter that the state's new Medicaid plan cutting funding for Planned Parenthood violated federal law. The Justice Department has filed a brief supporting Planned Parenthood's request for an injunction.

NEARLY 10,000 IN INDIANA LOSE HEALTH SERVICES

Local police say they're investigating as a hate crime an act of vandalism against a Ferndale, Mich., man and his boyfriend.

At about 1 a.m. on June 13, someone splashed red paint on the home and car of one of the victims in the Detroit suburb, Police Sgt. Patrick Jones told the Daily Tribune. The word "fag" was spray painted on his car in yellow paint.

The words "white fag" were scratched on the driver's side door of the other victim's car, Jones said. He estimated the cost of the vandalism at several thousand dollars.

"I consider it a hate crime," Jones said.

Ferndale was the scene of a spate of similar hate crimes in the 1990s and early 2000s. The crimes prompted the formation of a group called Friends and Neighbors of Ferndale.

The group disbanded about eight years ago after the hate crimes involving malicious destruction of property and threats abated, the Tribune reported.

— from AP and WIG Reports



PHOTO: COURTESY

The Interstate 35W bridge over the Mississippi River.

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Slashed tires fail to halt Chicago parade



PHOTO: FAUSTO FERNOS

The tires of 51 floats set to participate in the June 26 Chicago Gay Pride Parade were slashed in what appeared to be an act of anti-gay vandalism.

Chicago police spokesman Daniel Sullivan told The Associated Press that police received the report of slashed tires around 6 a.m. on floats being stored by a parade float business. The attack was the first of its kind in the parade's history.

But the float business managed to find more than 100 replacement tires, and the event went on largely as planned, drawing a record crowd estimated at 750,000 spectators. The recent adoption of a civil unions law in Illinois and the legalization of same-sex marriage in New York seemed to energize the event, which was led by Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

Some reports indicated the parade might have been cut short due to the inability of police to control such a large crowd.

— L.W.

'The legal status is very different'

REGISTRY from page 1 partner can terminate their relationship simply by informing the county clerk's office, whereas divorce involves division of property, child custody arrangements and other complex legal ramifications.

"The legal status is very, very different and that's a very crucial distinction," said attorney Christopher Clark of Lambda Legal. He litigated the case on behalf of Fair Wisconsin and five same-sex couples who became the lead defendants in the case after Gov. Scott Walker decided not to defend the registry law.

Clark said he was pleased, but not surprised by the decision.

"Obviously we're thrilled, but I have been arguing all along that I did not think this was a close case," Clark said. "I think this lawsuit bordered on the frivolous. There are

lots of states now that have some form of legal recognition for same-sex couples that are not like marriage. To suggest this was substantially similar to marriage was absurd."

In his ruling, Moeser noted that proponents of the 2006 ban on same-sex marriage had ensured voters it would not legally prohibit arrangements like the one they're now objecting to, Clark said.

Clark described Moeser's ruling as "well-reasoned and comprehensive," which is important to the future of the case. WFA has 45 days to appeal Moeser's decision, which executive director Julaine Appling says the group plans to do — all the way to the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Ironically Appling lives with a longtime female companion in a home the two own jointly in Watertown. Neither has ever married.

Fair Wisconsin will continue fighting for the registry, vowed executive director Katie Belanger.

"When we intervened in this case last year, we knew that it could be for several years and we are prepared," she said. "In the meantime, we are celebrating our victory with a very strong court decision. It's definitely the strongest decision we could have hoped for."

Out state Rep. Mark Pocan, D-Madison, said he applauded the decision "for rejecting this mean-spirited and unjust attack on same-sex couples."

"Hopefully, this will put the fears of not being able to visit your loved one in the hospital to rest," Pocan said. "Today, I call on Republicans to finally focus on job creation rather than divisive social policies that only result in further disenfranchising people."

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First same-sex census estimates released

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The first same-sex couple estimates derived from the 2010 biennial Census were released in June, offering snapshots of gay domesticity in seven states.

The earliest estimates, released by the Williams Institute, a think tank at UCLA School of Law, are for Alabama, California, Delaware, Hawaii, Kansas, Pennsylvania and Wyoming, with more state estimates to arrive as the data review

continues.

Same-sex couples can be counted in the Census Bureau's mandated 2010 survey because "Person 1" on a questionnaire could describe his or her relationship with another adult of the same sex in the household as "husband," "wife" or "unmarried partner." The questionnaire did not ask people to identify as LGBT.

The Williams Institute maintains that the Census figures "may reflect an undercount of same-sex couples"

because some couples may have been unwilling to identify themselves, even in an anonymous survey, and the survey would not reveal same-sex couples unless the relationships involved heads of household. Same-sex couples may also be mis-coded.

Still, the estimates are important resources in local, state and national discussions about LGBT people and equality issues, according to Williams Institute scholar Gary Gates.

The first 2010 Census

data on same-sex couples released by the Williams Institute shows 4,328 same-sex couples in Hawaii. About 23 percent of those couples are raising children. About 53 percent of the same-sex couples are women.

In Alabama, the data shows 11,259 same-sex couples — about 5.98 same-sex couples per 1,000 households in the state. An estimated 60 percent of same-sex couples are female, and 27 percent are raising children.

In Pennsylvania, the Census

count includes 33,602 same-sex couples, according to the Williams Institute. The majority are female, and about 20 percent are raising children.

The Delaware count shows 3,353 same-sex couples, the majority of them female and about 19 percent raising children.

In Kansas, the data shows 6,176 same-sex couples — about 5.55 same-sex couples per 1,000 households in the state. About 26 percent of the couples are raising children and 71 percent are

female.

The count in Wyoming includes 1,147 same-sex couples, with about 73 percent female and 28 percent raising children.

The numbers in California, with a much larger population than the other states, are 125,516 same-sex couples, about 53 percent of them female and 21 percent raising children. There are 9.98 same-sex couples per 1,000 households in the state, according to the Williams Institute report.

ACTIVIST GROUP APPLAUDS DISCIPLINE IN POOL DISPUTE

An employee at a public swimming pool in eastern Kentucky was suspended for a week without pay after telling two disabled gay men to leave, city of Hazard officials said in late June.

The suspended city employee, Kim Haynes, told investigators that the two men were engaged in an excessive display of affection June 10, and that he would have told any other couple to leave had he seen similar behavior. Haynes, however, also acknowledged

he said, "We don't tolerate that kind of activity around here" and cited the Bible in an argument with Laura Quillen, a member of the social service group Mending Hearts.

Dozens of people rallied at the pool in support of the gay men.

ARREST FOR NOOSE HUNG OUTSIDE GAY RIGHTS OFFICE

Police say a transient parolee was arrested on sus-

picion of a hate crime for hanging a noose in the doorway of a California gay rights organization in October.

Santa Ana police Cpl. Anthony Bertagna said that 45-year-old Marten Joseph Brandel was arrested when he showed up for a scheduled parole appointment in Irvine.

Bertagna told the Orange County Register detectives linked Brandel to the noose by DNA, but it took months to find him.

The black noose was found

hanging in the doorway at the Santa Ana office of Equality California in October.

Brandel was being held without bail because he's on parole for assaulting a police officer and drug violations.

ATTORNEY: TENN. LAW VOIDS ANTI-BULLYING POLICIES

A lawsuit filed in Nashville challenging a new state law says the legislation voids school board policies that

protect gay students from bullying and harassment.

The law prohibits local governments from creating anti-discrimination regulations that are stricter than the state's and repealed a Nashville city ordinance barring companies that discriminate against gays and lesbians from doing business with the city. Nashville's ordinance was broader than the state's anti-discrimination laws, which only cover race, creed, color, religion, sex, age or national origin.

Attorney Abby Rubenfeld, who represents three Nashville councilmembers and other residents of the city, filed the lawsuit after the bill was signed into law in May. She said the text of the statute is written broadly enough that it could render invalid anti-bullying and harassment policies enacted by school boards that include sexual orientation or gender identity.

"It doesn't just include ordinances, but any policy or any official actions by local governments," Rubenfeld said. "And school boards are part of local government."

— from AP and WiG Reports

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Liberals grouse about Obama at Netroots

From the AP

Liberal Democratic activists are grouching that President Barack Obama is just not that into them. They vented their frustration over the pace of change to a White House spokesman June 17 at a big weekend meeting.

White House communications director Dan Pfeiffer faced some tough questions about Obama's first-term at the annual Netroots Nation conference of liberal bloggers and activists.

In an interview on stage, Pfeiffer was pressed on the Obama administration's economic policies, implementation of the law repealing the ban on openly gay service members, and Obama's decision to extend tax cuts advanced by President George W. Bush.

"We were promised he would be our fierce advocate. And I don't think he has been fierce and I don't think he likes to advocate very much," said John Aravosis, an editor with AMERICAblog who writes about gay rights issues.

The concerns expressed raise the question of whether liberals, who always play important fundraising and volunteering roles for Democratic presidential candidates, will be energized when Obama runs for re-election next year or whether they will deny Obama a critical contingent of grassroots foot-soldiers. Any enthusiasm gap could work against Obama's re-election because the Republican base is determined to make Obama a one-term president.

Obama's advisers hope that

between now and November 2012 the president can persuade this critical part of his base to turn out in droves again, and the wooing by aides is well under way.

"I promise he is as frustrated as you are," Pfeiffer told about 2,400 activists attending the conference. He assured them they were "a very important part of the coalition that got him here."

Not that it feels that way for many liberals, who consider Obama's record a mixed bag at best when it comes to championing their causes.

They see him as being too willing to compromise with Republicans on such issues as dropping the proposed public option — a government-run plan to compete with private insurers — for the health insurance overhaul and extending Bush-era tax cuts for the wealthiest.

They're pleased he signed a law to repeal the ban on openly gay service members, but many feel that happened only after incessant pressure on the White House.

Others complain that Obama has embraced big business. They're unimpressed by Wall Street regulation changes and annoyed that Obama appointed General Electric chief executive Jeff Immelt to lead a presidential advisory council on jobs and competitiveness even as the company avoided paying federal taxes in 2010.

One panel at the conference reflected the rift: "What to Do When Your President Is Just Not That Into You." Moderator Joan McCarter jokingly called it "The 'pres-

ident isn't our boyfriend anymore' panel."

It's not as if liberals are likely to back someone else. Obama doesn't have a serious Democratic primary opponent, and liberal views are a sharp contrast with the extremist right-wing views of the current Republican Party presidential candidates.

"We have to hold this administration accountable, but we will get a choice between President Obama and our worst nightmare," said Lily Eskelsen, vice president of the National Education Association, a union representing teachers.

To a certain degree, there's a political upside for Obama if liberals are cranky: He may appear to be more a centrist candidate, and that may make him more attractive to the independent voters who often decide close elections.

Obama advisers acknowledge the base is frustrated, but they expect liberal voters to rally around the president in next year's election.

"While there is always more work we can do and we take absolutely nothing for granted and will work every single day, we have very good support from his base and are ready to build on that," said Obama campaign manager Jim Messina in a recent interview with The Associated Press.

Despite the complaining, liberals' impressions of Obama have not slipped in recent months. But they didn't improve, either, following the killing of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden, as happened among other ideological groups.

In the May AP-GfK poll, 62 percent of liberals rated Obama's presidency as outstanding or above average, statistically similar to August 2010. Among moderates and conservatives, however, Obama's ratings on this question ticked upward. Likewise, Obama's overall approval ratings among liberals have hovered around 80 percent for the past year in AP-GfK polling, with no discernible bump following the al-Qaida leader's death.

The reception Pfeiffer got when he was interviewed onstage by Kaili Joy Gray of the Daily Kos website underscored the tension between Obama and some liberals.

Questioned about the president's policies on the economy, gay rights and tax cuts, Pfeiffer argued that Obama has worked hard to get his agenda through a divided Congress during a time of hardship.

Pfeiffer said the White House would serve as a check against Republican efforts to undercut the gov-

ernment-run Medicare health insurance plan for the elderly, privatize Social Security and repeal the health care overhaul. Obama, he said, would work to bring wireless technology to rural areas, develop alternative energy sources and offer tax incentives for small business.

But the audience was clearly skeptical. The interview grew tense at times, and Pfeiffer was booed when he responded to a question about a 1996 Illinois legislative-race questionnaire in which Obama said he supported gay marriage. Pfeiffer said someone else had filled out the questionnaire and Obama was "evolving on the issue" along with the rest of the nation.

Gray also pushed Pfeiffer for details on whether the administration would offer a comprehensive job-creation bill. "With a 9.1 percent unemployment rate, why wouldn't we have a jobs bill?" she said icily.

Elsewhere at the conference, liberals questioned

the president's commitment to the DREAM Act, which would give a path to legal status for young people who were brought into the United States without documents as children and who either plan to attend college or join the military. It stalled in Congress.

Some activists want Obama to use his administrative powers to protect those who would be covered under the legislation from being deported. They complain about the Obama administration's deportation of nearly 400,000 immigrants in 2010 — a record — while noting his efforts to court Hispanics.

"Obama has the guts to deport our mothers, deport our fathers, deport our people and then come to us and say 'I want your vote?' Please," said Felipe Matos, a Miami immigration activist.

For all the griping, many liberals here appear resigned.

Said former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean, a one-time Democratic Party chair: "The alternative is in clear sight."

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Clinton hails NY vote

By Lisa Neff
Staff writer

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, celebrating LGBT Pride on June 27 in a State Department affair, hailed the recent vote to legalize same-sex marriage in New York as historic.

Passage of the legislation "gives such visibility and credibility to everything that so many of you have done over so many years" Clinton said in Washington, addressing an audience that included "a lot of familiar faces of people who have been on the frontlines for many years and have worked so diligently and smartly for the progress that we are seeing."

The State Department has held an annual Pride celebration each of the three years that Clinton has served as secretary.

During her remarks, Clinton spoke about civil rights, human rights, fairness and equality in the world.

"I've always believed that we would make progress because we were on the

right side of equality and justice," Clinton said. "Life is getting better for people in many places, and it will continue to get better thanks to our work. So I ask all of you to look for ways to support those who are on the frontlines of this movement, who are defending themselves and the people they care about with great courage and resilience. This is one of the most urgent and important human rights struggles of all times. It is not easy, but it is so rewarding."

The secretary spoke about several U.S. initiatives to promote LGBT equality and protect LGBT people in recent years, including in Slovakia, where the U.S. embassy worked with government leaders to protect Pride parade marchers, and in Honduras, where the embassy urged the government to investigate 30 anti-LGBT slayings in 2009 and 2010.

The progress of recent years is cause for celebration, Clinton said, but "we can-



PHOTO: COURTESY

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

not forget how much work lies ahead. Because let's just face the facts: LGBT people in many places continue to endure threats, harassment, violence – including sexual violence – in public and private. They continue to flee their homes and nations and seek asylum because they are persecuted for being who they are. They continue to be targeted for trying to build public support through Pride

activities such as parades." Change, she observed, comes with political diplomacy, but also personal disclosure and dialogue. "What we have long thought is becoming the case, and that is if we can convince people to speak out about their own personal experiences, particularly within their own families, it does begin to change the dialogue," Clinton said.



STUDY: OUT EQUALS JOB SATISFACTION

A study from the Center for Work-Life Policy links being closeted at work to lower productivity and diminished job satisfaction.

The paper, published in this summer's Harvard Business Review, reported:

- LGBT employees who are not out reported significantly greater feelings of being stalled in their careers and greater dissatisfaction with their rates of promotion.
- LGBT employees who are not out are 40 percent less likely to trust their employer than those who are out.
- LGBT employees who remain closeted are 13 percent more likely to leave their jobs within the next three years.

"Organizations that encourage all of their employees to bring their whole selves to work have the greatest innovation and growth," concluded Sylvia Ann Hewlett, who co-authored the paper.

— Lisa Neff

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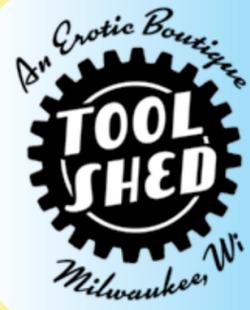
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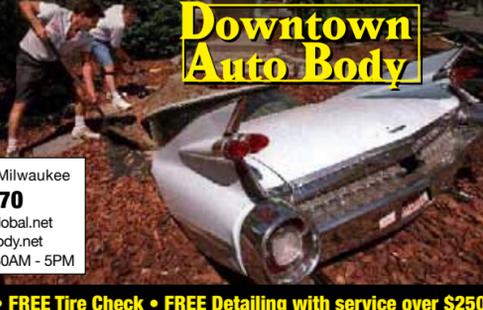
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UN backs gay rights for first time ever

From WiG and AP reports

The United Nations Human Rights Council endorsed the rights of LGBT people for the first time ever June 17, passing a resolution hailed as historic by the U.S. and other backers and decried by Russia and some African and Muslim countries.

The declaration was cautiously worded, expressing "grave concern" about abuses because of sexual orientation and commissioning a global report on discrimination against gays.

But activists called it an important shift on an issue that has divided the global body for decades, and they credited the Obama administration's push for gay rights at home and abroad.

"This represents a historic moment to highlight the human rights abuses and violations that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender

people face around the world based solely on who they are and whom they love," U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said in a statement.

Following tense negotiations, members of the Geneva-based U.N. Human Rights Council narrowly voted in favor of the declaration put forward by South Africa, with 23 votes in favor and 19 against.

Backers included the United States, the European Union, Brazil and other Latin American countries. Those against included Russia, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria and Pakistan. China, Burkina Faso and Zambia abstained, Kyrgyzstan didn't vote and Libya was suspended from the rights body earlier.

The resolution expressed "grave concern at acts of violence and discrimination, in all regions of the world,

committed against individuals because of their sexual orientation and gender identity."

More important, activists said, it established a formal U.N. process to document human rights abuses against gays, including discriminatory laws and acts of violence. According to Amnesty International, consensual same-sex relations are illegal in 76 countries and harassment and discrimination are common in many more.

"Today's resolution breaks the silence that has been maintained for far too long," said John Fisher of the gay rights advocacy group ARC International.

The White House in a statement strongly backed the declaration: "This marks a significant milestone in the long struggle for equality, and the beginning of a universal recognition that (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) per-

sons are endowed with the same inalienable rights - and entitled to the same protections - as all human beings."

The resolution calls for a panel discussion next spring with "constructive, informed and transparent dialogue on the issue of discriminatory laws and practices and acts of violence against" gays, lesbians and transgender people.

The prospect of having their laws scrutinized went too far for many of the council's 47 member states.

"We are seriously concerned at the attempt to introduce to the United Nations some notions that have no legal foundation," said Zamir Akram, Pakistan's envoy to the U.N., speaking on behalf of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

Nigeria claimed the proposal went against the wishes of most Africans. A diplomat from the northwest African

state of Mauritania called it "an attempt to replace the natural rights of a human being with an unnatural right."

Boris Dittrich of Human Rights Watch said it was important to persuade South Africa to take the lead on the resolution, so non-Western countries would be less able to claim the West was imposing its values.

At the same time, he noted that the U.N. has no enforcement mechanism to back up the resolution. "It's up to civil society to name and shame those governments that continue abuses," Dittrich said.

The Obama administration has been pushing for gay rights both domestically and internationally.

In March, the United States issued a nonbinding declaration in favor of gay rights that gained the support of more than 80 countries at the U.N.

In addition, Congress recently repealed the ban on gays openly serving in the military, and the Obama administration said it would no longer defend the constitutionality of the U.S. law that bars federal recognition of same-sex marriage.

Asked what good the U.N. resolution would do for gays and lesbians in countries that opposed the resolution, U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Daniel Baer said it was a signal "that there are many people in the international community who stand with them and who support them, and that change will come."

"It's a historic method of tyranny to make you feel that you are alone," he said. "One of the things that this resolution does for people everywhere, particularly LGBT people everywhere, is remind them that they are not alone."



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{ Editorial }

Sexual politics

Of all the absurdities hatched by Gov. Scott Walker and his right-wing henchmen, none is more confounding than their elimination of funding for Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin clinics.

The GOP has fomented animus toward PP by spreading the lie that it does nothing but perform abortions on the taxpayer dime. In fact, terminating dangerous or unwanted pregnancies represents only about 3 percent of PP's services in Wisconsin. None of the clinics that provide this service receive government funding.

But the group does provide an array of health services, including prenatal care, cancer screenings and STD services. It also provides birth control counseling to prevent unwanted pregnancies (and thus abortions) and offers preventive care to more than 12,000 uninsured women in small communities.

The Tea Party claims it wants to cut government spending. Wouldn't preventing STDs, cancer and unwanted pregnancies among women who can't afford healthcare be a great way to achieve that goal?

You bet! A 2008 Guttmacher Institute Analysis found that PP of Wisconsin helped to prevent more than 11,000 pregnancies that year alone, resulting in about \$139 million in medical savings.

So what's the problem? There's sex involved.

It seems that right-wing Republicans don't really want to save money so much as they want to enforce a bizarre religious view that holds sex is evil and women must be either virgins or whores. They want to punish women for having sexual desires by eliminating access to birth control, STD treatment and reproductive choice. They don't seem to realize that sex is natural and healthy. Here's a clue: It exists throughout the plant and animal kingdoms, where it is expressed in a diverse multitude of ways. Haven't they noticed that even the most right-wing moralists – in fact, especially the most right-wing moralists – can't seem to keep it zipped?

The right's costly and bizarre assault on women's health is an example of neuroses being acted out in the public policy arena.



"You'll have to excuse Billy. He has deeply held religious views."

{ Letters }

ALBERTA DARLING'S BAD JOKE

In a recent interview, state Sen. Alberta Darling said, "The positive thing is now we're going forward and especially in education."

Moving forward especially in education?

Moving forward by cutting \$1.6 billion from our public schools? Moving forward by decreasing funding for the UW system by \$250 million? Moving forward by slashing funding for our world-class technical schools by 30 percent? Is she serious?

As I'm out knocking on doors in Milwaukee, Menomonee Falls, Glendale, Germantown, Mequon,

Whitefish Bay, Shorewood and everywhere in between, everyone I speak with agrees that Wisconsin needs to get its fiscal house in order.

People I talk with agree that we must have a shared sacrifice and should not be balancing the budget on the backs of our children, seniors and most vulnerable neighbors.

So when Darling describes this as "the best budget" she's seen in her more than 20 years in the Legislature, claiming that it moves us forward, especially in education, one can only assume that she's kidding.

I can assure you, as a nurse and educator for the last 30 years, I am not kidding about

my dedication to our world-class schools, ensuring access to affordable health care for those who need it and supporting the quality of life and dignity of our seniors.

Sandy Pasch
State senate candidate

FACEBOOK JOKE

Remember when teachers, public employees, Planned Parenthood, NPR and PBS crashed the stock market, wiped out half our 401(k)s, took trillions in taxpayer-funded bailouts, spilled oil in the Gulf of Mexico, gave themselves billions in bonuses, and paid no taxes? Yeah, me neither. ... Pass it on.

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CONTRIBUTORS

Debra Brehmer, Will Fellows, Jody Hirsh, Rick Karlin, Cory Liebmann, Jamakaya, Mike Muckian, Kat Murrell, Peggy Schulz, Anne Siegel, Dan Wilson

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

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ON THE RECORD

"Marriage is the only relationship that actually mirrors a relationship with God – it's very unique in that way. ... If they pass this gay marriage bill ... what I know will happen if this does come forth is this will be the beginning of our country sliding toward ... anarchy. ... That will be the moment our society loses its grip with what is right."

– Former NY Giant David Tyree in an anti-equality video he produced for the National Organization for Marriage.

"On matters of freedom and equality, history has not remembered obstructionists kindly. Not on abolition. Not on women's suffrage. Not on workers' rights. Not on civil rights. And it will be no different on marriage rights."

– New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

"You get to the point where you evolve in your life where everything isn't black and white, good and bad, and you try to do the right thing. You might not like that. You might be very cynical about that. Well, fuck it, I don't care what you think. I'm trying to do the right thing. I'm tired of Republican-Democrat politics. They can take the job and shove it. I come from a blue-collar background. I'm trying to do the right thing, and that's where I'm going with this."

– Republican New York Sen. Roy McDonald telling his colleagues why he bucked party politics to support marriage equality.

"Seventeen months ago, I stood up here and made the biggest mistake of my legislative career. I made a decision based purely on political calculations not to vote in support of marriage equality. I failed in my responsibility as majority leader of this house of government to actually lead. I was wrong."

– New Jersey Senate President Stephen Sweeney addressing his colleagues on June 20.

"New York Republicans are responsible for passing gay marriage. The party will pay a grave price."

– Maggie Gallagher, director of the National Organization for Marriage, whose sole mission is to deny marriage equality.

"I can't stop crying. We did it kids."

– Lady Gaga tweeting her joy over New York's adoption of a same-sex marriage law

"I think some glitter brings some magic into the debate. But it has to be done strategically and backed up by effective messages."

– Michael Mitchell of Stonewall Democrats talking about the latest way of protesting anti-gay politicians – by showering them in glittery confetti.

"Alec! Now we can get married!"

– Steve Martin to Alec Baldwin on Twitter following the New York marriage vote.

"Ok. But if you play that ... banjo after eleven o'clock. ..."

– Baldwin's response to Martin.

My New York-induced crying jag

The legalization of same-sex marriage in New York reduced this usually tough old dyke to tears. Copious tears.

I knew that events were developing quickly, that a lot of money and influence and horse-trading and strong-arming were going on. But I was still stunned when the New York Legislature passed the bill and Gov. Andrew Cuomo immediately signed it just before midnight June 24.

I first learned about this on Rachel Maddow's show (who better to bring us that great news?) and then spent most of the night reading online updates at The New York Times and watching video clips on YouTube.

And I was blubbing like a baby the whole time.

The eve of Pride weekend in New York City, just days from the 42nd anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion! How perfect, how profound was that finish?

In my last column, I mentioned the brave pioneers of the Mattachine Society, the first organized group in the United States to publicly advocate for the human and

Opinion
JAMAKAYA

I ♥ NY

civil rights of homosexuals. It was 1951. It was a time when gay people could be imprisoned and institutionalized, subject to shock treatments and even lobotomy. That was only 60 years ago.

The progress we have made in a relatively short period of time is truly amazing.

I'm not a big flag waver, but this Fourth of July I will be thinking more than usual about the freedoms we enjoy in this country and marveling about the flexibility of a system that allows for such change and progress.

Cuomo is my new hero. He was only inaugurated

Jan. 1 of this year, and he made marriage equality one of the central goals of his administration. He continually addressed the issue with clarity and determination. It was not, he said, "a question of religion or culture but a question of legal rights and government policy. This is a matter of fairness and equality. When it comes to fighting for what's right, New Yorkers wrote the book, and marriage equality is the next chapter of our civil rights story."

Cuomo worked doggedly with legislative leaders, cajoled doubters, framed exemptions for religious organizations, organized influential allies and boosted the bill through the Republican-controlled state Senate by four votes. (A similar bill had actually lost by 14 votes in the Democratic-controlled Senate in December 2009.)

Popular NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg and former Police Commissioner William Bratton were pugnacious advocates. Wealthy gay and pro-gay businesspeople committed millions to support the marriage equal-

ity lobbying campaign and pledged millions more to Dem and GOP legislators who may face blowback from disapproving constituents.

There were compelling personal factors too. We know that people who have a family member or friend who is gay are more passionate about equality for LGBT folks. It turns out Cuomo's partner, Susan, has a gay brother. Bloomberg's niece, Rachel, is a lesbian. Bratton's sister is a lesbian who was married in Massachusetts last year. Surely, most of the legislators have loved ones who are gay.

Harvey Milk's words were so prescient: When we come out, we change the world.

So I've finally stopped crying. It was a good crying jag, flowing from a place of joy and hope. God knows, we will have plenty of challenges ahead, especially given the thugs who dominate Wisconsin's three branches of government. But New York was a great shot in the arm and proves that money, message and political engagement can bring about real change.

Let's all get to work here!

Lessons from the NY victory

New York has officially become the sixth state to enact a marriage equality law. This is an obvious victory on a number of levels. New York has the third largest population in the nation, so its action opens the door to full equality for many more people. Because New York does not require residency to obtain a marriage license, the new law impacts people beyond the state's borders.

We must remember that a winning political strategy helped deliver these results. As we celebrate the New York developments in Wisconsin, we should look at how that strategy worked.

The day after the historic vote, The New York Times ran an in-depth, behind-the-scenes report on how the marriage law was passed. The most prominent theme of the story was the strong and determined leadership

Opinion
CORY LIEBMANN

of Gov. Andrew Cuomo. He reportedly told people in very simple and direct terms, "I have to do this." He didn't just say the words, but rather he proceeded to take full charge and ownership of the actual effort.

Leveraging personal relationships proved critical very early in the effort. Cuomo's longtime companion has an openly gay brother, and one of the key Republican funders of the bill has a gay son. The personal and family relationships of some key legislators helped to eventually flip their votes on the marriage issue. Leveraging these personal connections clearly helped inspire the effort.

To their credit, all but one

of the Democrats in the New York Senate voted for the marriage equality bill. Because of the near-perfect solidarity among Democrats, the coalition only needed a handful of moderate Republicans to join them. That is when the well-timed use of corporate support for equality proved to be yet another key to the overall strategy. When one of the four Republican moderates who eventually voted for the bill was having a problem getting off the fence, a major employer in his district publicly endorsed the marriage bill. That endorsement plus a letter-writing campaign from people in his district helped to finally push him into voting for equality.

Another critical part of the effort included the use of many different groups joining together and collaborating as a single unit. Rather than constantly competing with each

other and doing their own thing, these groups resolved to play from the exact same book. They shared the same goals, the same timing and even the same name. That was quite an accomplishment, as the coalition included wealthy Republican donors, major corporations, labor unions and a wide variety of LGBT advocacy organizations. It seems that every element of the coalition focused on its specialty and employed it at just the right moment.

The story of New York's victory offers guidance into how we might adjust our advocacy efforts in Wisconsin. Obviously we are not operating in the same context or environment. But that doesn't mean we can't take away lessons to apply here at home.

Follow the news at www.wisconsin-gazette.com.

Celebrating freedom by expanding inclusion

Religion

ANDREW WARNER



For many years we lived with a disconnect. On LGBT issues we were ahead, but on accessibility we were behind.

Twenty years ago, Plymouth Church, where I serve as minister, declared itself "open and affirming," meaning LGBT people would be welcomed into all aspects of our community life.

In some ways 1991 seems like a completely different era. Serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer stalked our community, few dreamed of the possibility of same-sex marriage, anti-viral medications for HIV were unheard of and no one texted.

Of course, we were at war in Iraq; some things never change.

Plymouth became open and affirming a long time ago. Since then an entire generation has grown up with the acceptance of gays and lesbians as the norm.

While we publicly welcomed the LGBT community, in practice we found many more straight people came to the church because of it. As one recent straight couple said, "We don't know who our children will grow up to be, but we want them always welcome at their church home."

Yet even as Plymouth grew in its welcome of the LGBT community, many in the congregation were bothered by our lack of adequate accessibility. A ramp provided access

to the sanctuary but much of the rest of the building remained out of reach for those with mobility issues. For many years we lived with a disconnect: On LGBT issues we were ahead of American culture, but on accessibility we were behind the times.

Recently we developed plans to adapt our building to add an elevator and access-

ible bathrooms and to renovate the core of areas of the church. Thanks to the generosity of church members as well as many in the LGBT community, we raised \$1.4 million in pledges so that we can make Plymouth a more welcoming place.

Now we will extend the welcome we offer to the LGBT community to everyone, regardless of their ability to navigate stairs.

Amid the capital campaign for our building we celebrated our open and affirming anniversary. U.S. Rep. Gwen Moore gave a keynote address. Her words captured the way LGBT rights, handicap accessibility and many other social justice struggles share a common thread. Moore pointed to the great promise of the 14th Amendment to provide all people equal protection. Rooted in ending the evil of slavery, the amendment quickly moved beyond that to encompass broader issues. LGBT rights, accessibility for the disabled and immigration rights — all of these are about making the promise of the 14th Amendment come true.

Moore urged progressives to work to implement the entire vision of the 14th Amendment, to help create a world where all people receive equal protection.

This July 4 weekend I will celebrate those who came before me to make the world freer — people like the leaders

at Plymouth who opened our congregation to the LGBT community in 1991. I'll take

courage for the work that still needs to be done, like making our building accessible for

all. And I'll look forward to the day when all people truly share equal protection.

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.centralumcmlw.org

Congregation Shir Hadash, 414-297-9159, www.cshmlw.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.tippecanoechurch.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, hopeucc@hopechurchcdc.org

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

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, 920-809-3969, www.uicchurch.homestead.com, sscyrilandmethodius@yahoo.com

SS Cyril and Methodius United Independent Catholic Church, 3499 Oakridge Road, Neenah, 54956, 920-809-3969, www.uicchurch.homestead.com, sscyrilandmethodius@yahoo.com

KENOSHA/RACINE

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

Olympia Brown Unitarian Universalist Church, 625 College Ave., 53403, 262-634-0659, www.obuuc.org, mail@obuuc.org

OTHER

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

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

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

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

'Cuomo showed what leadership looks like'

NEW YORK from page 1 for religious institutions that teach homosexuality is sinful and might refuse wedding and marital services to same-sex couples.

Cuomo, who made marriage equality a cornerstone of his legislative agenda this year, pressed hard, behind the scenes and publicly. On June 17, urging passage, the state's top Democrat said, "This state has a proud tradition and a proud legacy as the progressive capital of the nation. We led the way, and it's time for New York to lead the way again."

As negotiations went on inside the capitol in Albany, demonstrations for and against passage of the bill took place outside, with equality activists chanting and lobbyists touting polls showing 58 percent of New York voters supporting the legislation. A similar bill had stalled at the conclusion of the session two years ago.

A breakthrough came June 24, when the bill reached the floor. The measure passed the GOP-controlled senate 33-29, with four Republicans and 29 Democrats voting "yes."

Cuomo signed the bill at about 11:55 p.m.

"Love conquers all," said Susan Sommer of New York-based Lambda Legal. "Today our state government rose above the political fray and did the right thing for New York families. Equality prevailed."

Chuck Wolfe of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, which is committed to electing openly LGBT candidates, praised out legislators "who have been at the center of this fight for years — the brave men and women who helped their colleagues understand our humanity. Their authentic voices helped change hearts, and their determined hearts helped change votes."

There also was praise for the four GOP senators who supported the bill and for the well-financed, well-coordinated campaign by LGBT nonprofits to move New York voters and lawmakers on the issue. There was particular praise for Cuomo, who basked in the adoration of hundreds of thousands of Pride celebrants June 26. Signs along New York's Pride parade route stated,

"Promise kept" and "Thank you, Gov. Cuomo."

"Gov. Cuomo has shown New York and the nation what leadership looks like," said Brian Ellner, the senior strategist in the state for the Human Rights Campaign. HRC deployed about 30 full-time field organizers to work for marriage in the state and estimated that work led about 150,000 constituents to encourage their representatives to support the bill.

Longtime activist Evan Wolfson, who has been at the forefront of the marriage fight since the earliest battle in Hawaii, predicted, "Now that we've made it here, we'll make it everywhere."

THE IMPACT

The Williams Institute, a California think tank, estimated the number of people potentially affected by the legislation's passage:

- An estimated 42,600 same-sex couples live in New York.
- About 7,200 same-sex couples in New York are raising about 14,000 children.
- With the governor's signature, the percentage of the U.S. population living in a state allowing same-sex marriages will more than double, from 5.1 percent to 11.4 percent.

Beyond New York, marriage equality proponents predict that the legalization of gay marriage in the state will influence those in other state capitols, on the courts, in the Congress and in the White House.

Their major goal is the voiding of the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act, which defines marriage as the union of a man and a woman for federal purposes and allows one state to refuse to recognize another state's legal same-sex marriage. New York same-sex couples may marry in a month, but they still will be denied access to about 1,200 federal rights and benefits.

"Constitutional rights belong to every individual, regardless of the state you inhabit," said Chad Griffin of the American Foundation for Equal Rights, the group behind the legal challenge to California's anti-gay Proposition 8. "This has

recently been affirmed with in the past year by federal courts in our nation's most prominent civil rights cases. ... We are beginning to see the dark walls of discrimination crumble."

The Justice Department announced earlier this year that it would not defend the section of DOMA withholding federal recognition of same-sex marriages, because the provision is unconstitutional. Congressional Republicans have since pledged to step in and defend DOMA in court.

President Barack Obama, speaking at a fundraiser in New York on June 23, reiterated his support for repealing DOMA.

But he did not respond to hecklers in the audience who urged him to publicly support marriage equality.

During the fundraiser at a Sheraton hotel, a woman shouted, "Marriage."

Obama said, "I heard that. Believe it or not I anticipated that" and then, after some clapping and a "where was I?" went back to his comments.

Later, regarding the upcoming vote on the New York marriage bill, Obama said, "Right now I understand there's a little debate right here in New York. ... New York is doing exactly what democracies are supposed to do" — debate and deliberate.

A heckler shouted, "Do you support...?" and others yelled, "Say yes to marriage" and "Support gay marriage."

A report from the press pool summarized, "Bottom line: Despite some heckling on gay marriage, which (the president) said he expected, he did not break any new ground on gay marriage — apparently his position is still evolving. He mentioned the N.Y. legislation pending in the state senate, stalled by Republican opposition, but did not endorse it, only said it was right for states to debate the issue."

The vote in New York, along with public opinion polls, suggests that the president is "falling behind the majority of Americans who see marriage equality as a key civil right for LGBT Americans," said Robin McGehee of GetEqual.

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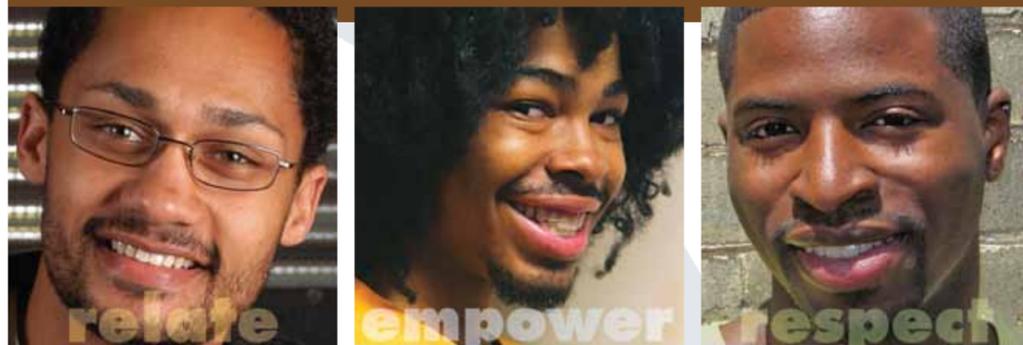
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- July 30th and 31st (9am until 4pm)

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www.diverseandresilient.org/BeABLE

Be ABLE

The purpose of **Be ABLE** is to reduce the risk of HIV infection by providing opportunities for gay and bisexual African American men between the ages of 21 and 35 to build social support through open conversations about racial and sexual identity.

Contact

Chris Allen, Diverse and Resilient
414.390.0444

If you have questions or would like more information regarding upcoming sessions.

More facts

- Higher rates of HIV infection among young gay and bisexual men appear to be related to stigma about being gay and lack of community support.
- Gay and bisexual men are the only group in the US in which **new HIV infections are increasing**.
- At some point in their lifetimes, 1 in 16 African American men **will be diagnosed with HIV infection**. For young African American gay and bisexual men in Milwaukee, that number becomes **1 in 3**.



Diverse & Resilient
2439 N. Holton St. Milwaukee, WI 53212
414.390.0444
www.diverseandresilient.org

30 YEARS OF AIDS

30 years of setbacks, progress mark AIDS battle

By Lisa Neff
Staff writer

In early 1981, health officials began hearing reports of young men in New York and California sick with a devastating pneumonia and a rare form of cancer.

On June 5, 1981, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, under the headline "Pneumocystis Pneumonia – Los Angeles," contained case reports for "five young men, all active homosexuals," all of them healthy until they suffered pneumonia, fever, coughs and skin lesions.

The announcement from the CDC was the first published report on what would come to be called Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome or AIDS. By the time the MMWR was released, two of the five men had died.

Several weeks later, The New York Times reported on a "rare cancer seen in 41 homosexuals." NYT report-

er Lawrence Altman wrote, "Doctors in New York and California have diagnosed among homosexual men 41 cases of a rare and often rapidly fatal form of cancer. Eight of the victims died less than 24 months after the diagnosis was made."

"The cause of the outbreak is unknown, and there is as yet no evidence of contagion. But the doctors who have made the diagnoses, mostly in New York City and the San Francisco Bay area, are alerting other physicians who treat large numbers of homosexual men to the problem in an effort to help identify more cases and to reduce the delay in offering chemotherapy treatment."

There wasn't panic across America, but there was fear in the gay neighborhoods of New York City, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago and other major cities. By year's end, 121 men had died of illnesses associated with AIDS.

Thirty years after that first CDC report and those first

deaths, 60 million have been infected and 25 million have died in the global AIDS pandemic.

A cure doesn't exist. Nor does a vaccine for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

But much has changed since those darkest days of the 1980s.

"Thirty years ago ... doctors released the first published report of AIDS. Since then, the disease has devastated our community and others across the world," said Joe Solmonese of the Human Rights Campaign in Washington. "But AIDS has also brought all of our communities together in ways we never expected."

Throughout much of June, marking the anniversary of the CDC report, federal officials and world leaders, doctors and scientists, activists and AIDS survivors reflected on the first days and the dark days, on the successes and the failures in fighting AIDS in America and worldwide.

In the research commu-

nity, there was much talk of improving the health of those living with HIV and AIDS, their lives lengthened by new drugs and treatments.

"We've come a long way on treatment and we're seeing some advances in prevention," said Kenneth Cole, chair of American Foundation for AIDS Research, the organization co-founded by Elizabeth Taylor in 1985. "But we're not yet where we need to be. We need to find a cure."

A cure, said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, is a difficult goal, but he wants "to pull out all the stops to go for it."

In the activist community, there was revitalized talk about acting up – to encourage everyone to get tested and know their HIV status, to continue an education campaign that counters the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS and to convince lawmakers that funding levels for research and care are

insufficient.

"Most people are stunned to learn that of our \$1 billion investment in taxpayer dollars, less than 4 percent goes toward finding a cure or functional cure to end this epidemic," said Frank Oldham Jr., National Association of People with HIV/AIDS president. "That must change."

In the medical community, physicians this past month focused on 30 years of advancements in detection, treatment, care and understanding.

"We know so much more than we did just 20 years ago," said Dr. Paul Castro. The Florida physician has specialized in HIV/AIDS for 25 years. "It was known as the gay plague, and I knew people in the health care industry, a lot of people, who were afraid to sit beside a gay man. But most of those people, they found compassion, learned about tolerance and became advocates for the gay community because

of the bravery of their AIDS patients."

"In terms of medicine," Castro said, "of course something eludes us – a cure, a vaccine."

In government, President Obama, the first lady, the health and human services secretary and the directors of the CDC and the Office of National AIDS Policy recom-

mitted the U.S. government to a comprehensive HIV/AIDS strategy – a roadmap for reducing new infections, improving care, reducing health disparities, expanding access to prevention and promoting a robust research agenda.

"As we remember people in our own lives we have lost and stand by those living with HIV/AIDS, we must also rededicate ourselves to finally ending this pandemic – in this country and around the world," Obama declared.

Find more coverage about the 30th Anniversary of AIDS on pages 20 – 22.

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30 YEARS OF AIDS

AIDS, a timeline

June 5, 1981: The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention publishes a report describing cases of a rare lung infection, *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia, in five young, previously healthy gay men in Los Angeles. This marks the first official reporting of what will become known as the AIDS epidemic.

July 3, 1981: The New York Times reports on cases of Kaposi's sarcoma affecting 41 gay men in New York and California.

Dec. 31, 1981: A cumulative total of 270 reported cases of severe immune deficiency among gay men is reported, and 121 of those individuals have died.

January 1982: The first U.S. HIV/AIDS clinic is established in San Francisco, followed by the establishment of the first East Coast clinic in New York City.

April 13, 1982: U.S. Rep. Henry Waxman convenes the first congressional hearings on HIV/AIDS. The CDC estimates that tens of thousands of people may be affected by the disease.



Sept. 24, 1982: The CDC uses the term "AIDS" – acquired immune deficiency syndrome – for the first time and releases the first case definition of AIDS: "a disease at least moderately predictive of a defect in cell-mediated immunity, occurring in a person with no known cause for diminished resistance to that disease."

February 1983: Dr. Robert Gallo of the National Cancer Institute suggests that a retrovirus probably causes AIDS.

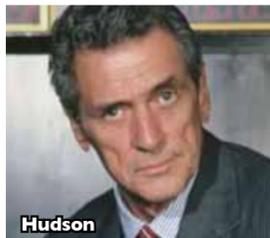
April 23, 1983: Gallo and colleagues at the National Cancer Institute find the cause of AIDS, the retrovirus HTLV-III. The secretary of health and human services announces the development of a diagnostic blood test to identify HTLV-III and expresses hope that a vaccine against AIDS will be produced within two years.

May 1983: Congress passes the first bill that includes funding specifically for AIDS research and treatment – \$12 million for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

July 25, 1983: San Francisco General Hospital opens the first dedicated AIDS ward in the country. It is fully occupied within days.

Sept. 9, 1983: The CDC identifies all major routes of HIV transmission – and rules out transmission by casual contact, food, water, air, or environmental surfaces.

October 1983: San Francisco officials order bathhouses closed due to high-risk sexual activity occurring in these venues. New York and Los Angeles follow suit.



Oct. 2, 1985: Actor Rock Hudson dies of AIDS-related illness. He leaves \$250,000 to help set up the American Foundation for AIDS Research, with Elizabeth Taylor as the founding national chair.

1986: San Francisco AIDS activist Cleve Jones creates the first panel of the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

Sept. 17, 1986: President Ronald Reagan mentions AIDS publicly for the first time, vowing in a letter to Congress to make AIDS a priority.

Oct. 22, 1986: U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop issues the Surgeon General's Report on AIDS. The report urges parents and schools to start frank, open discussions about AIDS and urges education and condom use.

March 19, 1987: The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approves the first antiretroviral drug, zidovudine or AZT.



March 1987: Playwright and AIDS activist Larry Kramer founds the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power or ACT UP in New York City.

July 1987: U.S. Congress adopts the Helms Amendment, which bans the use of federal funds for AIDS education materials that "promote or encourage, directly or indirectly, homosexual activities."



October 1987: The AIDS Memorial Quilt is displayed for the first time on the National Mall in Washington, DC. The display features 1,920 3' x 6' panels.

Oct. 11, 1988: ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) protests at FDA headquarters about the drug-approval process. Eight days later, the FDA announces new regulations to speed up drug approvals.

1989: The number of reported AIDS cases in the United States reaches 100,000.

Feb. 16, 1990: Pop artist Keith Haring dies of AIDS-related illness.

April 8, 1990: Ryan White dies of AIDS-related illness at the age of 18.

August 1990: Congress enacts the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act of 1990, which provides \$220.5 million in federal funds for HIV community-based care and treatment services in its first year.

1991: The Visual AIDS Artists Caucus launches the Red Ribbon Project to create a visual symbol to demonstrate compassion for people living with AIDS.

1992: AIDS becomes the leading cause of death for U.S. men ages 25 to 44.

1993: President Bill Clinton establishes the White House Office of National AIDS Policy.

Jan. 6, 1993: Ballet dancer Rudolf Nureyev dies of AIDS-related illness. A month later, tennis star Arthur Ashe dies.

1994: AIDS becomes the leading cause of death for all Americans ages 25 to 44.

Dec. 23, 1994: The FDA approves an oral HIV test, the first non-blood-based



antibody test for HIV.

June 1995: The FDA approves the first protease inhibitor. This ushers in a new era of highly active antiretroviral therapy.

1996: The number of new AIDS cases diagnosed in the U.S. declines for the first time since the beginning of the epidemic.

October 1996: The Quilt is displayed in its entirety for the last time. It covers the entire National Mall in Washington, D.C.

1997: The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports the first substantial decline in AIDS deaths in the United States.



Sept. 26, 1997: The FDA approves Combivir, a combination of two antiretroviral drugs in one tablet.

October 1998: Clinton declares AIDS to be a "severe and ongoing health crisis" in African-American and Hispanic communities in the United States.

1999: The World Health Organization announces that HIV/AIDS has become the fourth biggest killer worldwide and the No. 1 killer in Africa. WHO estimates that 33 million people are living with HIV worldwide and that 14 million have died of AIDS.

Jan. 27, 2000: Clinton announces the launch of the Millennium Vaccine Initiative to create incentives for developing and distributing vaccines against HIV, TB and malaria.

October 2000: Congress re-authorizes the Ryan White CARE Act for the second time.

2001: The CDC announces a new HIV

Prevention Strategic Plan to cut annual HIV infections in the U.S. by half within five years.

2002: Worldwide, 10 million young people, aged 15-24, and almost 3 million children under 15, are living with HIV.

2003: The CDC calculates that 27,000 of the estimated 40,000 new infections that occur each year in the United States result from transmission by individuals who do not know they are infected.

June 10, 2004: Leaders of the "Group of Eight" Summit call for the creation of a consortium of government and private-sector groups designed to coordinate and accelerate research efforts to find an effective HIV vaccine.

Sept. 22, 2006: The CDC releases revised HIV testing recommendations that call for routine HIV screening for all adults, aged 13-64, and yearly screening for those at high risk.

2007: The CDC reports that more than 565,000 people have died of AIDS in the U.S. since 1981.

Aug. 6, 2008: The CDC releases new domestic HIV incidence estimates that are substantially higher than previous estimates – 56,300 new infections per year vs. 40,000.

April 7, 2009: The Obama administration launches the Act Against AIDS campaign, a multiyear, multifaceted communication campaign designed to reduce HIV incidence in the United States.

**ACT
against
AIDS**

Jan. 4, 2010: The U.S. Government officially lifts the HIV travel and immigration ban enacted by President George H.W. Bush.

2011: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services launches the 12 Cities Project to support comprehensive HIV/AIDS planning and cross-agency response in the 12 U.S. jurisdictions that bear the highest AIDS burden in the country.

Sources: CDC, FDA, NIH, USAID, Kaiser Family Foundation

30 YEARS OF AIDS

Older AIDS survivors face challenges

By Lisa Leff

AP writer

Having survived the first and worst years of the AIDS epidemic, when he was losing three friends a day to the disease and undergoing every primitive, toxic treatment that then existed, Peter Greene is grateful to be alive.

But a quarter-century after his own diagnosis, the former Mr. Gay Colorado, now 56, wrestles with vision impairment, bone density loss and other debilitating health problems he once assumed he wouldn't grow old enough to see.

"I survived all the big things, but now there is a new host of things. Liver problems. Kidney disease. It's like you are a 50-year-old in an 80-year-old body," Greene, a San Francisco travel agent, said. "I'm just afraid that this is not, regardless of what my non-HIV positive friends say, the typical aging process."

Even when AIDS still was almost always fatal, researchers predicted that people infected with HIV would be more

prone to the cancers, neurological disorders and heart conditions that typically afflict the elderly. Thirty years after the first diagnoses, doctors are seeing these and other unanticipated signs of premature or "accelerated" aging in some long-term survivors.

Government-funded scientists are working to tease apart whether the memory loss, arthritis, renal failure and high blood pressure showing up in patients in their 40s and 50s are consequences of HIV, the drugs used to treat it or a cruel combination of both. With people over 50 expected to make up a majority of U.S. residents with the virus by 2015, there's urgency to unraveling the challenges faced by older patients, according to the National Institutes of Health.

In San Francisco, where already more than half of the 9,734 AIDS patients are in people 50 and over, University of California at San Francisco AIDS specialists are collaborating with geriatricians, pharmacists and nutritionists to

develop treatment guidelines designed to help veterans of the disease cope with getting frail a decade or two ahead of schedule and to remain independent for as long as possible.

Research so far suggests that HIV is not directly causing conditions that mimic old age, but hastens patients toward ailments to which they may have been genetically or environmentally predisposed. Plus, their immune systems are being weakened over time even when they are being successfully treated for AIDS, said Dr. Malcolm John, who directs the University of California at San Francisco's HIV clinic.

"That's probably true for a lot of these things. We aren't saying HIV's starting the problem, but it's added fuel on top," he said.

Stokes, a patient of John's who goes by only his last name, is a prime example. At 53, HIV-positive since 1985 and in substance abuse recovery for the last 11 years, he says he is happier than he ever has been. Yet the number of ailments

for which he is being treated would be more commonly found in someone 30 years his senior: a condition called Ramsay Hunt syndrome that causes facial paralysis, a rare cartilage disorder for which he has undergone four ear surgeries, bone death in the hip and shoulder, deterioration of his heart muscle, osteoporosis and memory loss.

At his therapy group for men with HIV, aging "comes up frequently," he said. "I say, 'Just think what we have come through to have a life today.'" At the same time, he acknowledges sometimes feeling self-conscious about his physical appearance and worries if "people are not attracted to me and unwilling to go the length of what it means to be with me, no matter how brilliant my mind or my zest for life."

Loneliness, financial worries and concerns about who will care for them and where can weigh on long-term AIDS survivors in the same way as all adults living in a society that

values youth, Charles Emlet, a social work professor at the University of Washington, Tacoma, said.

As they get older and sicker, many feel "doubly stigmatized," he said. Some people who have lived with the virus for a long time have been getting by on private disability benefits that will run out when they turn 65, forcing them to move to less expensive locations or to consider turning to estranged family members. Like soldiers from a distant war, many lost partners and their closest friends to AIDS.

Such emotional side effects, combined with the physical toll of managing chronic health problems, put older AIDS patients at risk for depression. At the same time, Emlet has uncovered evidence that a majority of long-term survivors also share another trait that typically comes with advanced age: the ability to draw strength from their difficult experiences.

"The older adults I've interviewed, many of them talk

about how much it means to them to give back, to do something positive with the years they never expected to have," he said.

Peter Greene can relate to that. At times, like the days he is so exhausted he can't get out of bed or the pain from his multiple maladies is too intense, he asks himself "the Carrie Bradshaw question – are we really lucky to still be alive?" Carrie Bradshaw was the character played by Sarah Jessica Parker in the "Sex and the City" TV shows and films.

As frightening and uncertain as this phase of AIDS is, he thinks he knows the answer.

"I've tried to make the time I have count, and really, now that I have the body of an 80-year-old, I probably have the wisdom of an 80-year-old as well, which counts for a lot," Greene said. "Everything becomes clear at the end of your life and in some ways, thinking you've been dying all these years, you get moments of clarity that I don't think everyone gets."

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30 YEARS OF AIDS

Case of AIDS cure leads to new hope

By Marilyn Marchione
AP medical writer

The 30-year anniversary of the outbreak of the AIDS epidemic brought with it fresh hope for something that many had come to think was impossible: finding a cure.

The example is Timothy Ray Brown of San Francisco, the first person in the world apparently cured of AIDS. His treatment isn't practical for wide use, but there are encouraging signs that other approaches might someday lead to a cure, or at least allow some people to control HIV without needing medication every day.

"I want to pull out all the stops to go for it," though cure is still a very difficult goal, said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

For now, the focus remains on preventing new infections. With recent progress on novel ways to do that and a partially effective vaccine, "we're starting to get the feel that we can really get our arms around this pandemic," Fauci said.

Nearly 30 million people have died of AIDS since the first five cases were recognized in Los Angeles in 1981. About 34 million people have HIV now, including more than

1 million in the United States.

About 2 million people die of the disease each year, mostly in poor countries that lack treatment. In the U.S. though, newly diagnosed patients have a life expectancy only a few months shorter than people without HIV. Modern drugs are much easier to take, and many patients get by on a single pill a day.

But it wasn't that way in 1995, when Brown, an American working as a translator in Berlin, learned he had HIV. He went on and off medicines because of side effects but was holding his own until 2006, when he was diagnosed with leukemia, a problem unrelated to HIV. Chemotherapy left him so sick he had to be put into a coma for his body to recover. "They didn't know if I'd survive that," Brown said.

Dr. Gero Huetter, a blood cancer expert at the University of Berlin, knew that a transplant of blood stem cells (doctors used to use bone marrow) was the best hope for curing Brown's cancer. But he aimed even higher.

"I remembered something I had read in a 1996 report from a study of people who were exposed to HIV but didn't get infected," Huetter said.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Timothy Ray Brown.

These people had gene mutations that provide natural resistance to the virus. About 1 percent of whites have them, and Huetter proposed searching for a person who also was a tissue match for Brown.

But transplants are grueling. Huetter would have to destroy Brown's diseased immune system with chemo and radiation, then transplant the donor's cells and hope they would take hold and grow. Many patients die from such attempts and Brown wasn't willing to risk it.

His mother, Sharon Brown of Seattle, agreed.

"Before I knew he had HIV I used to have nightmares about it," and gambling on a transplant to try to cure it didn't seem smart when the cancer seemed to be in

remission, she said.

Several months later, the return of leukemia changed their minds.

Brown discussed the transplant with his boss "and she said, 'Wow, this is amazing. Because you have leukemia, you could be cured of HIV.'"

A registry turned up more than 200 possible donors and Huetter started testing them for the HIV-resistance gene. He hit pay dirt at No. 61 — a German man living in the United States, around 25 years old.

Brown had the transplant in February 2007. A year later, his leukemia returned but HIV did not. He had a second transplant in March 2008 from the same donor.

Now 45, Brown needs no medicines, and his only health problems are from the mug-

ging he suffered two years ago as he returned home one night in Berlin. He moved back to the United States in December.

"He's now four years off his antiretroviral therapy and we have no evidence of HIV in any tissue or blood that we have tested," even in places where the virus can lie dormant for many years, Huetter said.

Brown's success inspired scientists to try a similar but less harsh tactic: modifying some of a patient's infection-fighting blood cells to contain the mutation and resist HIV. In theory, this would strengthen the immune system enough that people would no longer need to take HIV drugs to keep the virus suppressed.

Scientists recently tried this gene therapy in a couple dozen patients, including Matthew Sharp of suburban San Francisco. More than six months later, the number of his infection-fighting blood cells is "still significantly higher than baseline," he said.

It will take more time to know if gene therapy works and is safe. Experiments on dozens of patients are under way, including some in which patients go off their HIV medicines and doctors watch

to see if the modified cells control the virus.

The results so far on the cell counts "are all wonderful findings but they could all amount to nothing" unless HIV stays suppressed, said Dr. Jacob Lalezari, who is leading one of the studies as director of Quest Clinical Research in San Francisco.

The approach also is not practical for poor countries. "I wouldn't want people to think that gene therapy is going to be something you can do on 33 million people," Fauci said.

Other promising approaches to a cure try new ways to attack the dormant virus problem, he said. They hinge on getting people tested and into care as soon as they become infected.

Fauci's institute has boosted money for cure research, and the International AIDS Society, a professional organization for those who work in the field, has added finding a cure to its strategic plan.

"There are paths forward now" to a day when people with AIDS might be cured, said Dr. Michael Horberg, a member of President Obama's HIV/AIDS council and vice chairman of the HIV Medicine Association, doctors who treat the disease. "But it's not tomorrow, and it's not today."

A heartbreaking past, a hopeful future

Opinion
DOUG NELSON



It is difficult to look back 30 years to the beginning of the AIDS epidemic. It was a horrifying and heartbreaking time. I recall the frightening news in 1981 that several gay men in New York and California were stricken with unexplained cancer and pneumonia. Within a year, 452 gay men from 23 states were sick. Half of them had died.

Originally this mysterious disease was labeled Gay Related Immune Deficiency. Some called it the gay plague. It was destroying the immune systems of gay men across the country, causing rapid disease progression

and early death. Doctors were helpless with no life-saving treatments. Patients were terrified and endured overwhelming homophobia. I will never forget the painful, heartbreaking deaths.

No one then could imagine that 30 years later this mysterious disease would be a worldwide AIDS pan-

demical killing 25 million people with 33 million more diagnosed and living with HIV disease. We now know that gay men were not the victims of a gay plague but were the very first HIV patients at a time with no life-saving treatment options.

Today, while AIDS continues to threaten gay men and people from all walks of life, we are fortunate to have the knowledge to prevent and treat HIV. Condom use, clean needle exchange, counseling to reduce risk and outreach to educate at-risk youth, women and men from diverse cultures are the life-saving actions of HIV prevention that must be a never-ending commitment. In Wisconsin we are fortunate to have innovative

leadership from agencies like Diverse and Resilient and the LGBT Community Center of Milwaukee that is strengthening HIV-prevention strategies and working hard to save lives.

For the more than 8,000 people who are living with HIV in our state, our unique system of HIV health and social services make Wisconsin one of the best places to be. Leading the way is the ARCW Medical Center, Wisconsin's largest provider of HIV health care. The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel recently called the medical center "a role model of comprehensive care and one of the best examples of integrating health care and social services."

At ARCW an HIV patient can see a doctor, a dentist

and a mental health therapist for quality health care, a pharmacist for HIV medications and adherence counseling, a lawyer to resolve legal issues, a housing specialist for rent assistance, a case manager to secure entitlements and a nutritionist for healthy food from the food pantry. All of these services are available regardless of ability to pay.

Recently the National Committee for Quality Assurance recognized the ARCW Medical Center as a Patient Centered Medical Home, citing our commitment to high-quality care. While we are proud to be Wisconsin's largest provider of HIV health care, we are even prouder to be recognized for the high quality of health care we provide.

Nowhere in America can

HIV patients access as many health and social services in one place as they can at the ARCW Medical Center. We are deeply grateful for the strong and steadfast support of the LGBT community that has helped to make this wonderful resource possible.

Throughout 30 years of AIDS we have endured stigma, homophobia, terrifying illnesses and ultimately the loss of our loved ones. The heartaches from these losses never really end. Yet they are soothed by high hopes for a future in which HIV infection is prevented and HIV health care is successful in enabling all patients to live long and healthy lives.

Doug Nelson is president and CEO of AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin.

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PHOTO: JOAN MARCUS
Quinn VanAntwerp, Joseph Leo Bwarie, Matt Bailey, Steve Gouveia and the company of Jersey Boys.

BACK STORY

The gay backstage story of 'Jersey Boys'

By Michael Muckian
Contributing writer

Gay actor Jonathan Hadley, who plays music producer Bob Crewe in the touring production of "Jersey Boys" that opens July 20 at Milwaukee's Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, knows the most popular gay love song of all time. And he's chagrined by the fact that very few people – gay or straight – know that it's a gay love song.

Crewe is referred to in the musical as "the Fifth Season" because of the strong influence and hit songs he contributed to the creation and launch of the pop sensations The Four Seasons. In 1967 Crewe co-wrote "Can't Take My Eyes Off of You" with Bob Gaudio for lead singer Frankie Valli. The song went on to reach No. 2 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart, was a hit in 31 countries and has been covered by everyone from Andy Williams and Maureen McGovern to Lauryn Hill and the late actor Heath Ledger.

Although not out at the time he wrote the song,

Crewe has since admitted that he is bisexual, a fact corroborated in a souvenir book sold at each "Jersey Boys" performance. According to legend, Crewe was struggling over the lyrics to the song one night when he happened to look over at his young male lover lying in bed. It was then that the lyrics started to flow.

"I love that story," says Hadley, 46, who came out during his mid-20s as a young actor in New York. "Here you have arguably one of the best pop songs of all time, and no one knows that it's a gay song."

Hadley, a Charlotte, N.C., native, has been playing Crewe since 2007, two years after the Tony-winning musical opened on Broadway. Hadley has performed in the Broadway "Jersey Boys," as well as with both the Las Vegas company and the current touring production, which concluded a 12-performance run at Appleton's Fox Cities Performing Arts Center in June.

Crewe says he never gets tired of the show.

"This is probably the best so-called 'jukebox musical' to come out, and it's all due to the strong book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice," he says. "What's fascinating to me is that it's the only musical I've ever performed in that attracts straight guys."

"Jersey Boys" is the rags-to-riches story of four street kids who make it to the top based on their musical talent. "It's like a musical version of 'The Sopranos,' or something that Martin Scorsese might have directed," Crewe says, explaining the play's appeal to heterosexual men. "In Appleton, we received a wild response. People leaped to their feet before we even reached the climax of the final song, and it was usually guys that were leading it."

But some of the same elements that resonate with straights – along with Crewe's character – have also made "Jersey Boys" wildly popular with gay audiences.

Crewe is referred to in the play as "flamboyant" and has a male assistant – both

of which are 1960s code for a gay orientation. The fact that Crewe was so influential in the careers of The Four Seasons is something of gay success story, Hadley says.

"It's fascinating that you essentially had these four street thugs who accepted this obviously gay man based simply on his talent," Crewe says. "I like it because it's such a subversive way to show gays' influence on the arts."

Crewe's influence on the arts goes far beyond his work with The Four Seasons. The Newark, N.J., native, now 70, was a song-

writer, dancer, singer, manager and even male model during his youth. He wrote a string of hits for the Four Seasons, including "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Walk Like a Man" and "Rag Doll" – all of which capitalized on Valli's distinctive falsetto. He also composed songs as diverse as the instrumental "Music to Watch Girls Go By" and "Silhouettes," covered by Herman's Hermits. He provided the raw, muscular arrangement of "Devil With a Blue Dress On" that helped turn the formerly unknown Billy Lee & the Rivas into rockers Mitch

Ryder & the Detroit Wheels. But it is his work with the former New Jersey doo-wop group that made Crewe's career.

Hadley believes that, as a gay actor, he may understand and appreciate the nuances of Crewe's life a little better than a straight actor might. But in the end, he says, sexual orientation had little to do with Crewe's talent or influence in pop music.

"I've never met Bob, but I e-mail him every Nov. 12 on his birthday, and he e-mails me back," Hadley says. "I hope some day he shows up at one of our performances."



ON STAGE – "Jersey Boys" runs July 20-Aug. 14 at Milwaukee's Marcus Center for the Performing Arts. Go to marcuscenter.org.

The summer of China in Milwaukee

By Kat Murrell

Contributing writer

The Milwaukee Art Museum has launched its most ambitious slate of summer programming ever with the Summer of China. Not only is MAM hosting five new exhibitions, but even Mayor Tom Barrett is on board with an official proclamation welcoming the summer exhibits. The centerpiece is "The Emperor's Private Paradise: Treasures from the Forbidden City," but the remaining four exhibits add much character to the China extravaganza.

"Warriors, Beasts, and Spirits: Early Chinese Art from the James Conley Collection" offers some entertaining works. Some are even humorous, which is not an adjective usually associated with 2,000-year-old sculptures.

Many objects come from a funerary context, as they were interred with the deceased for use in the afterlife. And what is needed? Protection, for one thing. Works in the Schroeder Galleria feature a number of lokapalas, or guardian figures represented as armored warriors. Traces of bright paint are evident on many, but especially gripping are the expressions of these ancient tough guys. They grimace, they stare, they are not to be tussled with. They have an assertive beauty in their angular, sharp mouths and piercing eyes.

In the Baumgartner Galleria, figurative sculptures serve different purposes. The afterlife

is long, and a person could get bored. So, how about a little music to liven things up? Got it. Groups of musicians and dancers are created for pleasure and entertainment. One riotous trio stick out their tongues in merriment and abandon.

Animals also are part of the sculptural offerings – elegant horses and even a small baby bear who quizzically yawns and scratches his head. "Emerald Mountains: Modern Chinese Ink Painting from the Chu-tsing Li Collection," on view in the Koss Gallery, shows artists influenced by ancient traditions. Shanshui, or paintings featuring mountains and water, is a genre that has been practiced for more than 1,300 years. There is a great deal to see, as many of the paintings are meant to be approached as a visual excursion.

For a short primer on Chinese painting, take a few minutes to watch the video with Metropolitan Museum of Art curator Maxwell Hearn, who walks us through a 14th-century piece. It's a beautiful journey, highlighting the different nuances between Chinese and Western European approaches to landscape.

Then, peruse the details of line and form in this exhibition, where the vastness of mountain retreats are contained in the microcosm of a painting or revealed in book or scroll form. Other works represent the intersection of traditional ink painting and progressive modernist strains, such as the abstract



PHOTO: JOHN R. GLEMBIN
"Guardian Warrior Tang Dynasty" (618-906 CE) painted earthenware.

expressionism of the mid-20th century. A selection of fans from the 19th century round out the display of

visual image and poetry. Take your time.

The current contemporary art scene is most

obviously referenced in "On Site: Zhan Wang" and his "Artificial Rock, No. 43," a huge, stainless steel replica-

tion of a stone, glimmering under the vault of Windover Hall. If Jeff Koons was born in Beijing and inclined toward nature sculpture, he might have arrived at this piece. Zhan springs off the classical admiration for "scholars' rocks," stones looked to for their aesthetic and philosophical interest. He creates one of monumental proportions. We can explore the nooks and crannies, projections and recessions, but the glitziness of the stainless steel seems to keep us hovering on the surface, distracted by the novelty of reflection. We see more of what's around us – and ourselves – rather than sinking into depths of mental contemplation. Perhaps this is a metaphor for the contemporary condition – oversized and glamorized.

The last of the exhibitions is "Way of the Dragon: The Chinoiserie Style, 1710-1830." This selection of decorative art objects explores interpretations of Chinese culture and motifs, vis-a-vis the European world and marketplace. These are still very relevant issues, as our culture and economy are engaged with China on the world stage.

China is a country that can raise conflicting feelings. Corporations may tout relationships with this nation in the international marketplace, but many individuals have reservations about China's human rights policies. Still, the exhibitions offer a way of exploring a culture that may be somewhat unfamiliar, but undeniable in global importance.

Artwatch

DEBRA BREHMER

Summer is the time for outdoor frolic, but when the rainy days hit, seek shelter in the art museums and galleries.

Generally, July and August are the quiet art months, but Milwaukee never sleeps. "Seeing in Sequence"

just opened at the Haggerty Museum of Art on the Marquette campus, 13th Street and Clybourn.

The show, running through Aug. 7, presents a number of artists who have explored themes or ideas in a sequential way. Where else would you get to see Andy Warhol's Marilyn prints stacked up near woodblock prints from Hiroshige's "100 Famous Views of Edo"?

This series of scenes from

the city of Edo represents Hiroshige's last significant body of work. He started it in 1857 as he was retiring into the life of a Buddhist monk. Divided by seasonal themes, it is a reverent and patient meditation on nature and mankind. The contemporary painter Jennifer Bartlett takes Hiroshige's theme into the 20th century with her own four seasons suite of prints. These four-color screen prints, each repre-

sented one season, team with layers of images. Rather than peaceful or romantic meditations, Bartlett engages in the anxiety of time passing and the disharmonies of the turning, churning world.

The Museum of Wisconsin Art in West Bend is to be commended for presenting "Momenti Mori," an exhibition of photographs by Wisconsin's Paul Baker Prindle, opening July 27 and running through Sept. 25. Paul

Baker Prindle traveled the country photographing sites where gay murders occurred. His large-format (40 x 50 in.) prints show mundane places: a tree, the front of a building, the interior of a motel room. It is only after we read the text detailing the crimes that these places become ominous in their banality. This powerful body of work is being presented in the same city that recently refused to allow a Gay-Straight Alliance

at an area high school until it was legally forced to reconsider.

Also opening in the weeks ahead:

- "Summer in Wisconsin" (July 1), a survey of seasonally thematic work, at Tory Folliard.
- "Stay Still" (July 8, 5 to 9 p.m.), a group show about contemporary adaptations of the still life tradition, at Katie Gingrass Gallery.

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Peninsula Players gets Wilde

Theater

MICHAEL MUCKIAN

When actor Greg Vinkler dons drag and plays Lady Bracknell in Peninsula Players' production of Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest," he will be participating in one more grand theater tradition. This tradition, however, is not very old.

Since Wilde's "trivial comedy for serious people" premiered in 1895, it has featured a long line of actresses portraying the Lady Bracknell role, including Dame Edith Evans and Stockard Channing. But beginning about 1975, male actors also have played the character, says Vinkler, who also serves as artistic director for the summer stock company based in the Door County community of Fish Creek. Brian Bedford played Bracknell in Roundabout Theatre Co.'s revival of the play on Broadway earlier this year, earning a Tony Award nomination in the process.

Each male actor brings something different to the role,

Vinkler says.

"Some actors like to tip their hand, saying a few lines in a deeper voice as if they're sharing a joke with the audience," he explains. "I plan to play the role straight and would love it if the audience would forget that I'm a man during the performance."

The high farce focuses on two protagonists who take on false identities to escape their social obligations. They both assume the name "Ernest," which leads to a great deal of mistaken identity, creating the elements of humor that drive the narrative.

Wilde was criticized at the time for writing a play with no redeeming social message. However, the apparent lack of message may in itself be Wilde's commentary on the Victorian mores of the era, according to Kristine Thatcher, who is directing Peninsula Players' production.

"There is no doubt Wilde was skewering the vacuousness and hypocrisy of London's aristocracy at the time," said Thatcher, who worked with the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre in the 1970s and '80s and now heads Stormfield Theater in Lansing,

Mich. "But he did it in such a way as to make them laugh at themselves. Hopefully, some of them might have walked away from the play taking a little inventory of their own lives."

Part of the play's humor also comes through Wilde's inventive wordplay, Thatcher says. The dialogue crackles with clever inversions, delightful ironies and the lowest of puns. Knowing the Victorian parlance, social structure and customs can heighten the humor, but is not necessary to enjoy the play, she says.

"Just as with Shakespeare, in the hands of fine actors these differences in language still translate quite handily to our own culture today, and the actors can make the meaning quite clear," she says.

When "Earnest" premiered on Feb. 14, 1895 — St. Valentine's Day — at London's St. James's Theatre, Wilde was at the height of his career. But he was also at the end of his career. An ongoing feud with the Marquess of Queensbury, the father of Wilde's alleged lover Lord Alfred Douglas, came to a climax in court. Wilde was sentenced to two years hard labor for "gross indecency."

That experience, which yielded the treatise "De Profundis" and the poem "The Ballad of Reading Gaol," broke the author physically and spiritually. In 1900, five years after the premier of his greatest work, Wilde died destitute in Paris.

Some critics speculate that the word "earnest" became a code word meaning "gay" for Wilde. The several characters named Ernest, as well as those queried about being "earnest," are thought to reflect elements of London's gay culture at the time. But nothing conclusive has ever come of the speculation, Vinkler says.

"Oscar Wilde was an artist and craftsman and, artistically speaking, the play is a triumph of writing," Vinkler says. "I have no interest in making a statement or camping it up. It's a good play, and I want to do justice to it."

ON STAGE

Door County's Peninsula Players performs Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" July 6-24. Go to www.peninsulaplayers.com or call 920-868-3287.

The Owlman swoops in for art fair

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Clarence Cameron probably knows owls more intimately than anyone in Madison. But "The Owlman," as Cameron is known, is not an ornithologist, outdoorsman or avian veterinarian. In fact, he rarely leaves the house he occupies with Bob Lockhart, his domestic partner of nearly 50 years.

Cameron, 70, is a sculptor who specializes in owls. In fact, the Beloit native never carves anything else — and he doesn't want to.

"It's almost crazy," Cameron says. "I can be walking down the street, look at a pile of trash and see an owl in it. I have never tired of the bird."

Cameron began sculpting owls out of clay, then moved to soapstone and other materials. He also makes

owls out of bronze, pewter and copper. His small pewter owls sell for as little as \$5, while his soapstone carvings command as much as \$5,000-\$6,000.

Cameron estimates that

he's made well over 20,000 owls in various media in his long carving career, a number of which have landed in various wildlife art museums.

But he didn't always carve owls. During his two years as a UW-Madison student, he apprenticed at an area funeral home and then decided to study mortuary science in Milwaukee. That's the time when the artist first began working in clay. He loved the feel and texture of the material.

After graduation, Cameron did brief stints running a funeral home and serving as a physical therapy aid before opening the Double C Ceramic Shop on Madison's South Park Street in 1965. He sold the business in 1974 to concentrate full-time on clay sculpting.

Eventually Cameron abandoned clay for soapstone, a soft mineral suitable for carving that's also the source of talc.

The Owlman is hard-pressed to understand his fascination for his namesake bird, other than peo-

ple's appreciation for both his realistic and stylistic owl interpretations.

Despite having a house full of real parrots and tropical birds, he has never owned an owl.

"It's against the law to even have an owl feather in your possession in Wisconsin," Cameron says. "I have a friend who runs a raptor rehabilitation center in Illinois, so I have been able to hold a great many owls (there)."

The artist and his birds will occupy Booth 97 at Art Fair off the Square, an alternative outdoor event held in conjunction with Art Fair on the Square, the better known and longer-standing event sponsored by the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art.

The two fairs, held July 9-10, are located almost adjacent to each other, with Off the Square occupying the Monona Terrace Esplanade. Cameron, who exhibits every year, helped co-found Off the Square in 1982 to protest a developing trend by On the Square of not

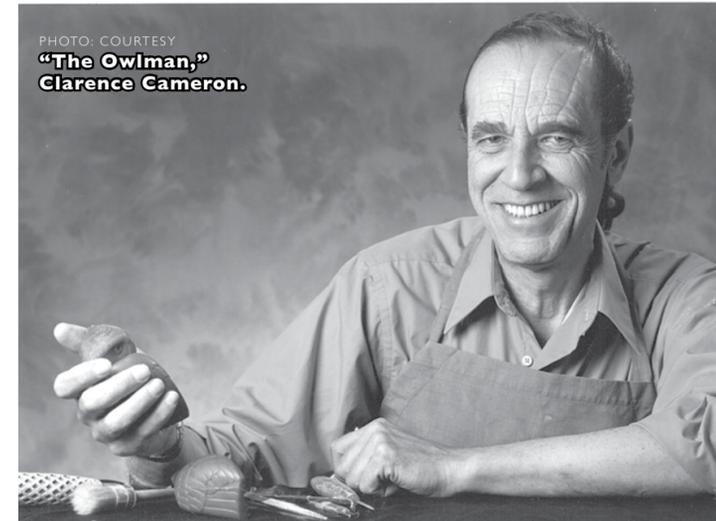


PHOTO: COURTESY
"The Owlman,"
Clarence Cameron.

accepting Wisconsin artists as exhibitors.

Off the Square is produced by the Wisconsin Alliance of Artists and Craftspeople, an organization of about 400 artists from Wisconsin.

WAAC anticipates that this year's Off the Square will attract about 140 Wisconsin

exhibitors.

Although he has exhibited at art fairs around the country, The Owlman sticks close to home these days, content to sell his work through www.owlman.com.

He spends a great deal of time in his basement workshop creating his namesake

bird out of a variety of materials. "I'd like to try wood carving," he says. "I have 10 basswood logs someone gave me, and that's the wood with which most carvers start."

He'd also like to sculpt one of his parrots, but that's not likely to happen unless it turns into an owl.

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Ellis' new album is 'right on time'

Interview
GREGG SHAPIRO

Just when you thought folk-singer/songwriter Ellis couldn't do anything more to delight her listeners, she releases "Right On Time" (Rubberneck). The title cut contains the perfect message for welcoming her newborn daughter into the world, and it shows that Ellis has a depth beyond her years. This is a CD that celebrates love of all kinds.

Gregg Shapiro: How have you evolved as a songwriter and performer in the 15 years since the release of "Soft Day"?

Ellis: Gosh, it's a great question. I think I've just grown up in many respects. I don't know if I'm quite grown-up yet (laughs). When you first start writing songs, it sort of seems more personal in some ways – or maybe less clear... Some of the things I'm singing and writing about are broader and less about my personal life, although as I'm saying that my songs are personal too.

"Right On Time" is also the title of the opening track. What made you want to give it such prominence?

This idea of being "on time" is a concept that I've been really wanting to remind myself about and embrace. For all of us, I think there's this strong push towards the future. We're really encouraged to see our lives now as being preparation for the future... It's really important to plan and prepare and all that, but at the same time as much as we plan, we really have no idea what the future holds...

This moment is exactly

where we're supposed to be. We're not supposed to be anywhere else. And everything prepares you for that next thing. I just think there's so much value and happiness... in being right here, in this moment, being here for what life has right now, and I think that's the best preparation for the future. It's like the more I can be in my life now, the better off I'm going to be in the future.

I really like the song "Comes Back To Me." I like the way it plays on the concept of having a short memory. Is that true of you?

Maybe because I jump from thing to thing a little bit in my mind, I tend to forget things a lot. Like the details of regular life tend to escape me. Sometimes I'll have to leave my house like two or three times in order to get everything I need. And I always make the joke that I should probably just leave the door unlocked (laughs) because I'm going to come back for something. And throughout life it feels like the same thing happens to me in different situations, whether I'm having a conversation with someone and I'm trying to remember the title of a book that I'm talking about or referencing, or the name of a band that I'm trying to think of.

How does that come into play when you're performing?

Oh my gosh, it's amazing that I can remember my songs. And sometimes I don't (laughs). But often I do. But those moments when I don't,

I have a lot of practice so it's not an emergency – it all works out (laughs). I've had to come to some sort of peace with that personality trait of mine – or I don't know if it's a personality thing or just an ability thing. But whatever it is, I used to be kind of frustrated with myself about that, really feeling like I should be able to remember certain details when I need them.

As we speak, you are sitting in a coffee house and I would think that a person who writes and performs a tune such as "Coffee Song" must be fairly serious about her beans.

I love coffee so much. I grew up with it as a beverage that we always took time out for. It sort of was the beverage to gather around – any serious conversation, any break, if it wasn't iced tea it was coffee.

Is that a caffeinated laugh in the song?

(Laughs) Probably so, because we actually did do a few coffee runs a day during the making of the record. It provides some of the energy anyway.

Have you already begun work on your next CD?

I'm always working on new songs and thinking about what to write about. I think the next project will probably be a live CD that incorporates some of the stories that I tell as well as some live performances. But definitely I have a handful of new songs that I feel like I can't wait to record in the studio...



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GREGG SHAPIRO

'LAST TANGO IN PARIS'

With its Francis Bacon opening-credits artwork and its Gato Barbieri score, not to mention riveting performances by Marlon Brando and Maria Schneider, Bernardo Bertolucci's "Last Tango In Paris" stands the test of time. Nearly 40 years since its release, the uncut version, now available on Blu-ray from 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment, may seem tamer today but it still has the power to shock.

Paul (Brando) is a middle-aged American whose wife committed suicide in the hotel owned by her family. Jeanne (Schneider) is a very young Parisian woman who meets Paul in an abandoned apartment. He's been wandering the streets, mourning in his fashion. Jeanne is looking for a place to rent with her filmmaker boyfriend Tom (Jeanne-Pierre Leaud). In the apartment, Jeanne's

busy opening windows, while Paul's avoiding the light like a vampire. After exchanging a few words, excluding their names (at his request), they have sex.

And so it begins. They meet regularly for a variety of sexual encounters, some kinkier than others (see the ones involving butter and fingernail clippers). Despite their best efforts, they begin to have feelings for each other. But that only complicates things, as Jeanne is engaged to Tom, who spends his time in Paris making a movie about Jeanne's life.

Not surprisingly, things begin to get ugly between them. As the title implies, this is something of a last dance (at least for one of them).

Brutal and passionate, Bertolucci (whose most recent film, "The Dreamers," involved bisexuality) helped define the cinema of the 1970s with this film. He influenced many young filmmakers.

'NEVER LET ME GO'

Equally shocking, but on a more subtle level, is Mark Romanek's film adaptation of Kazuo Ishiguro novel "Never

Let Me Go" Beginning in 1978, we meet Kathy (Izzy Meikle-Small), Tommy (Charlie Rowe) and Ruth (Ella Purnell), three "students" at Hailsham, who are under the strict supervision of headmistress Miss Emily (Charlotte Rampling).

The trio and their classmates, whose every move is monitored closely by doctors and the staff at Hailsham, have been bred to be organ donors. That's right. Once they "graduate" at 18 from Hailsham, they are relocated to various accommodations across England, where their organs will be harvested, sometimes up to four times, before they reach "completion" of their duties – and their lives.

In the early years, bonds are made. Kathy and Tommy become good friends, although it's clear that there might be something more below the surface. But the antagonistic Ruth doesn't waste any time in getting her claws into Tommy. By the time they are sent to live at The Cottages in 1985, Ruth (Keira Knightley), who can't be a heart donor because she hasn't got one, and the

socially awkward Tommy (Andrew Garfield) are officially an item. Kathy (Carey Mulligan) is relegated to third wheel and decides to become a "carer" for donors (which defers her own donor role for a few years). But soon their closely interwoven lives begin to unravel with velocity.

By 1994, Kathy is still working with donors. But

when she finds out that Ruth is nearing completion after only two organ donations, she arranges a reunion. Ruth, who is "a bit broken," is surprised, albeit pleased to see her. Ruth suggests that she, Kathy and Tony take a final trip together, which provides her with an opportunity to ask the two of them for forgiveness for keeping them apart.

In an effort to keep the

momentum of their reunion going after the death of Ruth, Kathy and Tommy concoct a plan to ask for a permanent deferral. Ominous and haunting, "Never Let Me Go" has a way of taking hold of a viewer and, well, not letting go. Blu-ray special features include the featurette "The Secrets of Never Let Me Go," Romanek's on-set photography and more.



Marlon Brando and Maria Schneider in "Last Tango In Paris."

PHOTO: COURTESY

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Dishing the divas

Music

GREGG SHAPIRO

BRITNEY SPEARS

Blame her parents, who pimped her out. Or blame the Disney machinery that molded her. Britney Spears has been making headlines, most of them not music-related or flattering, since her debut.

Spears' latest disc "Femme Fatale" cements her status as a product of studio wizardry rather than actual performance skills. From the selection of songwriting-by-committee compositions (including the pseudo disco of "Till the World Ends," the faux-urban suggestiveness of "Inside Out" and "How I Roll") to the lifeless and robotic vocals (will.i.am's "Big Fat Bass," for example), "Femme Fatale" is fatally flawed.

JENNIFER LOPEZ

Jennifer Lopez will do anything for our respect. Whether she's taking a stab at being a fashion icon, a serious actress or a judge on an over-rated TV talent show, she wants nothing more than to be valued for her talents. Whatever they may be.

And that's what makes her recording career so puzzling. Does she really need (or want) to be a singer? Look no further than her unlovable new album "Love?" for

the answers.

When Cher was strutting her stuff – in rocker chick or disco diva drag – well into her 40s and 50s, she came off as timeless. Lopez just sounds tampered with and tired. Buried under a production as slick and shiny as the CD booklet and as gauzy as the photos, Lopez gives her most phoned-in performance to date.

Check it out on the vocoder programmed "Good Hit," the un-hip hip-hop of "I'm Into You" (featuring the over-exposed Lil Wayne), the silly Latin disco of "Papi," the generic dance of "Invading My Mind" and "Villain." Lopez does manage to crawl out from under the rubble on "Until It Beats No More" and "Starting Over."

LADY GAGA

Let's be honest, gays, Gaga let us down.

Not that her unflagging support of the community isn't welcome and appreciated. After all, what did Britney ever do for us aside from appearing on an episode of "Will & Grace"?

But Lady Gaga's well-oiled hype machine blew more than a little bit of smoke up our asses. "Born This Way" – or could that be born again? – stalls shortly out of the gate. "Marry the Night" is an energetic club anthem complete with Gaga's trademark stutter. But the title cut suffers from sounding too familiar ("Express Yourself," anyone?), in spite of its uplift-

ing message.

In "Judas," Gaga cannibalizes herself. "Americano," "Hair" (rhymes with "prayer"), "Bloody Mary," "Heavy Metal Lover," "Electric Chapel" and "You and I" contain distracting and less-than-subtle religious references.

Still, songs such as "Bad Kids" and "Government Hooker" hold promise for what is yet to come from Our Lady of Gaga.

SADE

When Sade's domestic debut "Diamond Life" arrived in 1984, it was clear that Madonna was no longer the only one-named wonder winning over music lovers. On the strength of hit songs such as "Your Love Is King," "Smooth Operator" and "Hang on to Your Love," Sade sparkled and dazzled listeners with the promise of more. These treasures and others are all found on the splendid new double-disc compilation "The Ultimate Collection."

For the most part, Sade didn't disappoint following her auspicious debut. She kept the strong songs coming with "The Sweetest Taboo" and "Never as Good as The First Time" from 1985's aptly titled "Promise." Her 1988 release "Paradise" featured "Stronger Than Pride" and "No Ordinary Love." Then there was 1992's "Love Deluxe."

Eight years passed before Sade returned in 2000 with



PHOTO: COURTESY

Britney Spears performs July 9 at Milwaukee's Marcus Amphitheater.

the Bob Marley-esque "By Your Side" from "Lovers Rock." And then it was another 10 years before her next studio disc, "Soldier of Love," whose title track was possibly her most daring musical departure.

In addition to the nine aforementioned selections, "The Ultimate Collection" contains 19 more cuts, such as the unexpected Thin Lizzy cover "Still In Love With You" and a dreadful remix of "The Moon and the Sky," with the unnecessary Jay-Z, making this her most thorough anthology to date.

LUCINDA WILLIAMS

Country rock survivor Lucinda Williams is nothing if not prolific. Since her groundbreaking 1998 comeback disc "Car Wheels on a Gravel Road," she's recorded five more studio albums, including her latest "Blessed." She's never taken more than a few years off between releases.

The Williams of "Passionate Kisses" fame is probably a thing of the past. The closest we get to something almost upbeat occurs on fourth song of "Blessed" – "Seeing Black." For the most part this is a somber if occasionally uplifting CD, as you can hear on the exquisite album closer "Kiss Like Your Kiss," as well as "I Don't Know How You're Livin'," "Born to Be Loved" and "Convince Me."

MARIANNE FAITHFULL

Marianne Faithfull has long struck a balance between being an interpreter of other people's songs and a performer of her own compositions. Over the course of almost 20 studio recordings and 45 years, Faithfull has achieved legendary status.

Faithfull's latest disc "Horses and High Heels" maintains her standing. Produced by Hal Willner, who worked with Faithfull on previous discs, the 13 songs on "Horses and High Heels" won't disappoint for their sheer diversity and for the way Faithfull makes herself at home in whatever setting she's working.

Co-written originals such as "Eternity" and "Prussian Blue" rank among her best achievements as a songwriter. Faithfull's renditions of Jackie Lomax's "No Reasons" (which has more than a subtle suggestion of the Rolling Stones), Lesley Duncan's "Love Song" and Allen Toussaint's "Back in Baby's Arms" (on which guest backing vocalist Jenni Muldaur also shines brightly) find her at the peak of her interpretive skills.

PJ HARVEY

"Let England Shake," PJ Harvey's musical homage to her motherland, is one of the most riveting but as "I Don't Know How You're Livin'," "Born to Be Loved" and "Convince Me."

Soldiers fall "like lumps of meat" while flesh quivers "in the heat" in "The Words that Maketh Murder." The xylophone in the title track might almost distract you from the "fountain of death" and end of England's "dancing days." The brassy charge, a war cry if ever there was one, woven into the fabric of "The Glorious Land" is strangely exhilarating. But the chanting and Mellotron in "England" only serve to call attention to the people who "stagnate with time."

And yet, it's hard to turn away, especially from "Bitter Branches" and the stunning "Hanging in the Wire."

AVRIL LAVIGNE

On "Goodbye Lullaby," her fourth album and first in four years, prefab skate-pop chick Avril Lavigne sounds like she's trying to distance herself from the snarling brat of her previous discs. After all, she is a 27-year-old divorcee. So a song such as "Wish You Were Here," perhaps the most mature track on the disc, sounds like the most adult recording she's ever made.

But that doesn't last long, because in "Smile" she sings about being a "crazy bitch," blacking out and waking up with a new tattoo. She gets serious again on "Everybody Hurts" (not the R.E.M. song of the same name), as well as "Not Enough." And that's pretty much how it goes, a serious-to-silly seesaw.



PHOTO: GABRIEL COUTU DUMONT
Sade performs Aug. 5-7 at the United Center in Chicago.

WiG summer movie report card: From 'A' to 'D'

Film

GREGG SHAPIRO

'BEGINNERS'

Written and directed by Mike Mills ("Thumbsucker"), "Beginners" stays with you long after it has faded from the screen. Based on Mills' own experience with his late father, who came out as gay following the death of his wife, "Beginners" takes a non-traditional approach to telling a non-traditional story and succeeds on every level.

Oliver (Ewan McGregor), an artist with relationship issues, has already come to terms with his father Hal's coming out in his 70s when he learns that Hal is dying of cancer. Around the same time Oliver meets actress Anna (Mélanie Laurent), who could either be the best possible thing for him or the worst. It's well worth watching Oliver, Hal and Anna make their way through the challenging landscape. **A**

'MIDNIGHT IN PARIS'

Not as near-perfect as "Vicky Cristina Barcelona," Woody Allen's latest, "Midnight In Paris," finds a way to meld many of the elements of Allen's best work (the past, as in "Bullets Over Broadway," with modern romantic comedy, as in "Annie Hall") to create a delightful, humorous, picturesque and entertaining movie experience.

Beginning in Paris at day-

light, with beautiful shots that wouldn't be out of place in Condé Nast Traveler, Allen's return to form features self-described "Hollywood hack" Gil (Owen Wilson) and his chilly fiancée Inez (Rachel McAdams) in Paris with her stuffy, Republican parents. Gil is smitten with the city and Inez is not. Things take an unexpected turn when, after wandering the streets of Paris all day, Gil finds himself lost at the stroke of midnight as the modern cars on the street are replaced by vintage models. Gil climbs into a classic Peugeot and is transported to a party at Jean Cocteau's, where he meets Zelda (Alison Pill) and F. Scott Fitzgerald (Tom Hiddleston), and later finds himself talking to Ernest Hemingway (Corey Stoll), who offers to show Gil's novel manuscript to Gertrude Stein (Kathy Bates).

Out on the street, however, Gil is back in the present day. But the next night, Gil recreates his experience, whisked off to Gertrude and Alice's, where he meets Picasso (Marcel Di Fonzo Bo) and the painter's mistress Adriana (Marion Cotillard). And so "Midnight In Paris" goes, back and forth in time, from the present to the 1920s, making for a neat and sweet little package. **A-**

'SUPER 8'

If you're willing to overlook the formulaic nature of J. J. Abrams' summer blockbuster "Super 8" and fork over the extra bucks to see it in IMAX, then you might find yourself entertained. But, if a movie

that combines influences ranging from Stephen King's "Stand By Me" to Steven Spielberg's "E.T." and to Abrams' "Cloverfield" is too much for you, then you're probably better off seeing something else at the multiplex.

Beginning on a somber note at the funeral of Joe's (Joel Courtney) mother, who was killed in a factory mishap, "Super 8" doesn't linger long on the down side. Joe's best buddy Charles (Riley Griffiths) is a budding filmmaker, and with his Super 8 camera in hand, he goes forward with plans to make a zombie movie in the kids' Ohio hometown in the late 1970s.

Disobeying the wishes of his shut-down sheriff father Jack (Kyle Chandler), Joe meets up with his friends Cary (Ryan Lee), Preston (Zach Mills), Martin (Gabriel Basso) and Alice (Elle Fanning) to begin filming Charles' movie, well past his bedtime. But just as they are in the middle of a shot they witness their science teacher Dr. Woodward (Glynn Turman) drive his pick-up truck onto the train tracks and intentionally derail a freight train.

Pretty soon the military has arrived at the crash site and then strange things begin to happen. Metal objects and materials begin disappearing, as well as many of the town's dogs, not to mention a few of its citizens.

So as not to spoil the element of surprise, suffice it to say that Dr. Woodward has been connected to a mysterious alien force for several

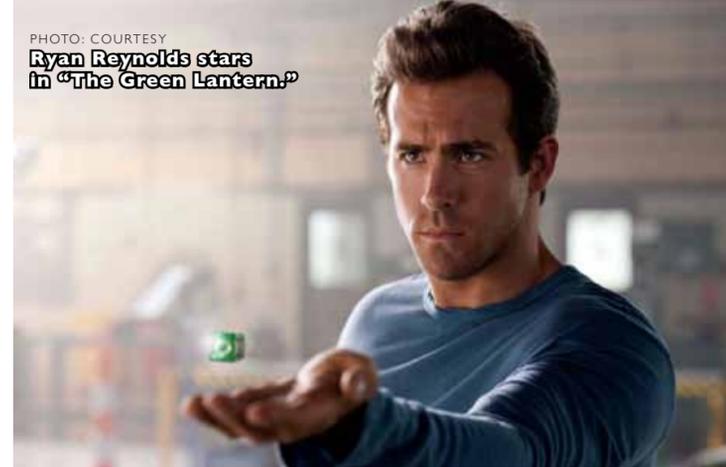


PHOTO: COURTESY
Ryan Reynolds stars
in "The Green Lantern."

years and the military secret-keeping machinery is in full effect. That is, until a bunch of kids uncovers the truth.

Fun, fast-paced, loud (although not as loud as "Thor") and surprisingly touching, "Super 8" is just that, super. **B+**

'CARS 2'

Of all the Disney/Pixar flix, the first "Cars" was completely lost on me. A blatant attempt to get the NASCAR crowd into the theater, gay men were not the target audience.

But with their sites set on expanding that fan-base, "Cars 2" not only touches on (or brushes past) acceptance but also goes international (London! Paris! Tokyo!). It shakes (not stirs) in some James Bond and ultimately goes gunning for big oil. Really? In a Disney/Pixar movie? Sadly, yes. Before you

know it there are enough bullets flying and explosions happening to make it feel like a Michael Bay movie. Looks like someone's been huffing gasoline. "Cars 2" = four flat tires. At least the vacation-themed "Toy Story" toons short was entertaining. **C-**

'THE GREEN LANTERN'

I'm not a comic book reader (although I am married to one), but I would hope that they are as offended by the inconsistent superhero movie franchise as I am. "Thor" "thucked" and the bilious "The Green Lantern" isn't much better. The most science fiction-like of the recent spate of comic book adaptations, "The Green Lantern" tells the tale of how hotshot pilot Hal (Ryan Reynolds) came to become one of the harnessers of

emerald energy, a member of the Green Lantern corps and a wearer of the ring.

Chosen by the ring itself, following the death of a corps member at the ruthless hands of escaped villain Parallax (voiced by Clancy Brown), Hal at first resists then takes his rightful place. But Parallax isn't Hal/The Green Lantern's only problem. He has to deal with competitive romantic interest Carol (Blake Lively), not to mention nebbishy scientific genius Hector (Peter Sarsgaard), who undergoes his own horrifying transformation when infected with a Parallax space virus.

Short on substance (and shirtless Reynolds) and long on less than special effects, the only thing green here is the money that will be raked in (or maybe lost) at the box office. **D**

Bosley misses as Milwaukee's Key West destination

Dining

RICK KARLIN

Michele and Jeff Green are the proprietors of this casual spot that aims to recreate the atmosphere of a laid-back Florida Keys restaurant. In this case, that means colorful art, music that would make Jimmy Buffet smile, lots of seafood and strong tropical drinks.

The ambience aims to make you feel like you are on a mini vacation just a

few minutes north of downtown Milwaukee. After one of the killer cocktails you may just be "wasting away in Margaritaville."

Have a few of those cocktails and a three-course meal and you might spend as much as airfare to Key West. I don't necessarily mind the price, as good seafood is expensive. Unfortunately, on a recent visit, the seafood at Bosley wasn't as good or as well-prepared as usual.

We began our meal with some of the tropical cocktails, rich piña colodas and a hurricane — both delicious

and potent. The appetizers we nibbled proved to be a mixed bag. The tempura fried green beans were delicious and addictive. Enveloped in a crunchy coating, the green beans retain enough snap to let you know they're freshly made, and the teriyaki-style sauce augments the dish perfectly.

The ceviche was not anywhere near as successful. A rather small mélange of mushy fish was swimming in enough overly sweet marinade to qualify as a soup. On the upside, the flour tortilla chips served with the dish

were delicious and perfectly cooked.

One of the nightly appetizer specials, described as soft shell crab on a bed of microgreens, was offered either tempura battered or sautéed. I opted for the sautéed version and was disappointed not only with the greasy, over-cooked crustacean but also with the spoon-sized mound of greens.

Entrées average \$25-\$30, and there's no doubt the quantity served is massive. But at such a price point, I expect a little more finesse — not only in food prepara-

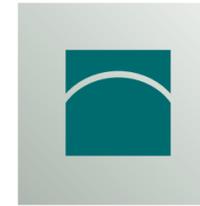
tion and presentation, but also in service. Shrimp and grits featured soggy grits, rich with cheese and just a few medium-sized grilled shrimp, which were over-cooked. It's a sad commentary when the best part of the dish is the sweet potato biscuit served on the side.

A seafood platter of fried calamari, scallops, clams, shrimp and soft shell crab, along with some hushpuppies, provided more than enough for two to share. The soft-shell crab was so over-battered as to be unrecognizable. The hush puppies

were cooked to the edge of burnt and the remaining seafood was both over-cooked and greasy. This so-called "Seafood Symphony" was less than harmonious.

I suspect that the majority of the preparation problems were due to cooking the fried dishes in oil that was not hot enough and serving seafood that was a little past its prime. We didn't linger over dessert or after-dinner drinks for obvious reasons.

(Bosley on Brady, 815 E. Brady St., 414-727-7975, bosleyonbrady.com)



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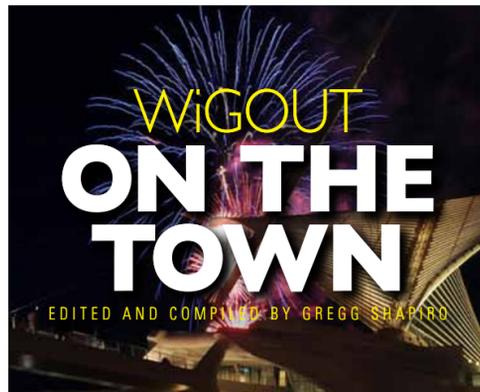
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Britney Spears on July 9



EDITED AND COMPILED BY GREGG SHAPIRO

JULY 7, THURSDAY

Florentine Opera presents Florentine at the Lake at 7 p.m. at Alterra Café at the Lake, 1701 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive. Summer Sounds presents Darele Bisquerra & Trio De Janeiro at Hubbard Park, 3565 N. Morris Blvd. along the Milwaukee River in Shorewood, at 6:30 p.m. Call 414-847-2700. If you really believe that she kissed a girl and liked it, then check out Katy Perry at the Marcus Amphitheater, 100 N. Harbor Drive, at 7:30 p.m. Visit www.summerfest.com.



Katy Perry

JULY 8, FRIDAY

Luminous out singer/songwriter Ellis (who, in fact, has kissed a girl or two) plays High Noon Saloon, 701A E. Washington in Madison, at 6 p.m. Call 608-268-1122.

JULY 9, SATURDAY

Britney Spears and special guest Nicki Minaj headline Summerfest at the Marcus Amphitheater, 100 N. Harbor Drive, at 7 p.m. Visit www.summerfest.com. A quartet of lesbian authors, including C.P. Rowlands, Anne Laughlin, Martha Miller and Chris Paynter, helps Outwards Books, 2710 N Murray, commemorate its 18th anniversary at 1 p.m. Call 414-963-9089. The second annual Bartell Theatre Awards are held - where else? - the Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin in Madison. Call 608-204-0280. "Popera" singer Josh Groban performs at the Resch Center, 1901 S. Oneida in Green Bay. Call 920-494-3401.

JUNE 30, THURSDAY

StageQ partners with OUT!Cast Theatre to bring the gay mystery comedy "It's Murder, Mary!" by Andrew Black and Patricia Milton to the upstairs Drury stage at the Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin in Madison, through July 2. Call 608-204-0280.

Peninsula Players Theatre, W4351 Peninsula Players Road in Fish Creek, presents the world premiere of Sean Grennan's comedy "Making God Laugh" through July 3. Call 920-868-3287.

Photographer Jessica Zalewski's first solo exhibition runs through Sept. 10 at Leenhouts Gallery, 1342 N. Astor. For more about the show and her work visit jessicazalosite.com. "New Work: Colin Dickson & Shane Walsh," an exhibition including paintings by Shane Walsh and site-specific installation by Colin Dickson, runs through July 16 at Walker's Point Center for the Arts, 839 S. Fifth St. Call 414-672-2787 or visit www.wpcamilwaukee.org.

Summer Sounds presents Streetlife with Warren Wiegatz at 6:30 p.m. at Hubbard Park, 3565 N. Morris Blvd., along the Milwaukee River in Shorewood. Call 414-847-2700.

JULY 1, FRIDAY

The musical "Church Basement Ladies," featuring an all-Milwaukee cast including Beth Mulkerron, Rhonda Rae Busch, Norman Moses, Kay Stiefel and Jenny Wanasek, runs through Aug. 7 in Vogel Hall at Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, at the corner of Water and State. Call 414-273-2787.

JULY 3, SUNDAY

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

JULY 5, TUESDAY

Theatre Z in association with NewARTS presents "Angels in America" by Tony Kushner through July 10 at Arketype, 612 Stuart in Green Bay. Call (920) 403-3950.



Tret Fure

JULY 11, MONDAY

Out music legend Tret Fure opens for Little Feat at 7:30 p.m. at the Barnymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood in Madison. Call 608-241-2345.

JULY 12, TUESDAY

The heavenly audience participation comedy "Late Nite Catechism" runs through July 23 at Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, 400 W. College Ave. in Appleton. Call 920-730-3760. Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart, author of "Made to Write," is at Boswell Book Company, 2559 N. Downer, at 7 p.m. Call 414-332-1181.

JULY 13, WEDNESDAY

Out singer/songwriters Liz Clark and Melineh Kurdian perform their rootsy, harmony-laden brand of folk-pop at 8 p.m. at Paradigm Coffee and Music, 1202 N. Eighth in Sheboygan. Call 920 457-5277. Boswell Book Company, 2559 N. Downer, presents Alice LaPlante, author of "Turn of Mind" at 7 p.m. Call 414-332-1181.



Liz Clark

Melineh Kurdian

JULY 14, THURSDAY

Outwards Books, 2710 N. Murray, welcomes bestselling Dreamspinner Press romance writer Andrew Grey and perennial favorite mystery writer Mark Zubro at 7 p.m. Call 414-963-9089. Summer Sounds presents Jackie Brown & The Boys at 6:30 p.m. at Hubbard Park, 3565 N. Morris Blvd., along the Milwaukee River in Shorewood. Call 414-847-2700.

OUT & ABOUT



STATEWIDE BAR AND ENTERTAINMENT VENUE LISTINGS

BELOIT / JANESVILLE Club Impulse, 132 W. Grand Ave., Beloit, 608-361-0000.

GREEN BAY / FOX VALLEY Rascals Bar & Grill, 702 E. Wisconsin Ave., Appleton, 920-954-9262.

Ravens, 215 E. College Ave., Appleton, 920-364-9599. Napalese, 1351 Cedar St., Green Bay, 920-432-9646. SASS, 840 S. Broadway, Green Bay, 920-437-7277. The Shelter 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. JoDee's, 2139 Racine St., Racine, 262-634-9804.

LACROSSE My Place, 3201 South Ave., 608-788-9073. Players, 300 Fourth St., 608-784-4200. Chances R, 417 Jay St., 608-782-5105.

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. Fluid, 819 S. Second St., 414-643-5843. 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. OZ, 320 Washington St., Wausau, 715-842-3225.

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

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

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

WiG'S TAIL-WAGGER COURTESY OF THE WISCONSIN HUMANE SOCIETY MEET OPIE Opie is a 3-year-old Anatolian shepherd mix weighing in at 65 pounds. He's big, bouncy and full of contagious enthusiasm. Excited and playful one minute then cuddly and affectionate the next, Opie has a bubbly personality sure to keep you laughing. He loves meeting new people and thrives on attention and praise, making him an excellent candidate for training classes. If you're looking for an active, lovable, goofy pal, then Opie's your guy. TIP OF THE WEEK: Tired of getting pummeled by Fido every time you greet him? Start by ignoring him entirely when he jumps on you. Once his paws touch you, fold your arms, turn your back, and look at the ceiling while using the cue "off." If he persists, leave the room, wait 30 seconds, then restart the process. Remember to reward him with lots of praise and a yummy treat when he keeps all four paws on the floor. Opie is a 3-year-old Anatolian shepherd mix.

When he asks. You should know. Get Tested. It's Free! We Provide: Hepatitis B Vaccinations for straight men and women. Anonymous or name associated HIV testing & counseling. STD testing and treatment for men. Hepatitis A & B Vaccinations for gay or bisexual men. Be sure to stop in at our booth at PrideFest this year! BEST'D CLINIC Hours: Mondays & Tuesdays • 6:00pm - 8:30pm 1240 East Brady St • Milw., • 414-272-2144 • contactus@bestd.org

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Got news? Tell us
managingeditor@wisconsinngazette.com.MILWAUKEE
ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Cream City Chorus, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, 414-276-8787, www.creamcitychorus.org, info@creamcitychorus.org

Cream City Squares, 414-445-8080, www.iagsdc.org/creamcity

Milwaukee Kings drag king troupe, www.miltownkings.com, miltownkings@yahoo.com

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, 703 S. Second St., 53204, 414-383-3727, www.milwaukeegayartscenter.org

Milwaukee/LGBT Film/Video Festival, www4.uwm.edu/psao/programs/film/lgbtfilm

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

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

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

COMMUNITY

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

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

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

Castaways, P.O. Box 1697, 53202, castawaysmc@yahoo.com

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

Cream City Foundation, 759 N. Milwaukee St., Suite 212, 53202, 414-225-0244, www.creamcityfoundation.org

Diverse and Resilient, 2439 N. Holton St., 53212, 414-390-0444, www.diverseandresilient.org

Firebirds, P.O. Box 159, 53201

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

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

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

Lesbian Alliance, 252 E. Highland Ave., 53202, 414-272-9442, www.lesbianalliance.org

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

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, 414-271-2656, www.mkelgbt.org

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

Milwaukee Pride Parade, P.O. Box 0091, 53201, 414-607-3793, www.prideparademke.org, paradecoordinator@prideparademke.org

PFLAG-Milwaukee, 252 E. Highland Ave., 53202, 414-299-9198, pflagmilwaukee@hotmail.com

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

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

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

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

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

Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence Brew City Sisters Abbey, brewcitysisters@yahoo.com, www.brewcitysisters.org

WanderWomyn Outdoors Group, debydoo2@yahoo.com

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

Wauwatosa Rainbow Association, tosarainbow@yahoo.com

Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf, 252 E. Highland Ave., 53202, www.wisrad.org

Wisconsin Rainbow Families, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, www.wirainbowfamilies.com, info@wirainbowfamilies.com

HEALTH

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

POLITICS

Center Advocates, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, 414-271-2656, www.centeradvocates.org

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

Human Rights League, 252 E. Highland Blvd., 53202, 414-445-5292, www.hrl-pac.org, hrlpac@yahoo.com

SPORTS

Front Runners/Front Walkers, 262-285-7645, ullrwoolf.com/frontrunnersmke, thbolt@milwpc.com

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

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

Milwaukee Gay Volleyball League, www.milwaukeegayvolleyball.com

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

YOUTH/EDUCATION

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

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

Gay Youth Milwaukee, P.O. Box 090441, 53209, 414-265-8500, gayyouthmilwaukee.tripod.com

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

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

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

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

MADISON

ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

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

COMMUNITY

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

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

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

POLITICS

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

SPORTS

Madison Gay Hockey Association, www.madisongayhockey.org

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

Madison Minotaurs Rugby Club, www.madisonminotaurs.com, madisonminotaurs@gmail.com

YOUTH/EDUCATION

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

FOX VALLEY

COMMUNITY

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

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

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

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

PFLAG-Appleton/Fox Cities, 740 Kensington Road, Neenah, 54956, 920-722-7145.

Rainbow Over Wisconsin, 702 E.

Wisconsin Ave., Appleton, WI 54911, www.rainbowoverwisconsin.org

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

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

Valued Families, GLBT parent/child support group, Appleton, www.valuedfamilies.blogspot.com

RACINE/KENOSHA
COMMUNITY

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

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

SPORTS

Wisconsin Warriors, P.O. Box 334, Somers, 53171, 414-759-8823, wivarrriors.com, wivarrriors@yahoo.com

YOUTH/EDUCATION

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

OTHER

Baraboo LGBT Community, barabooLGBTcommunity@gmail.com

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

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

PFLAG Door County, Hope United Church of Christ, 141 S. 12th Ave., Sturgeon Bay, 54235, 920-743-8146, www.pflagdoorcounty.org

PFLAG of the Greater Oshkosh Area, First Congregational Church, 137 Algoma Blvd., 54901, www.oshkosh-pflag.org, pflagoshkosh@gmail.com

PFLAG La Crosse, LGBT Resource Center of the Seven Rivers Region, 303 Pearl St., 54602, 608-784-0452, www.7riverslgbt.org

PFLAG of Manitowoc County, St. James Episcopal Church, 434 N. 8th St., 54220, 920-323-9142, pflagmanitowoc@yahoo.com

PFLAG Stevens Point, 715-572-6922, www.pflagpoint.com

PFLAG Washburn, Washburn Public Library, 307 Washington Ave., 54891, 715-209-1100, http://community.pflag.org/pflagwashburn, nancyhanson1958@yahoo.com

WHAT'S GOING ON THIS WEEK?
Peruse daily events and add your event.
www.wisconsinngazette.com/calendar

COMMUNITY EVENTS

ONGOING

1-5 p.m., Monday and Thursday, SAGE Office drop-in hours, Milwaukee.*

10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin drop-in, Racine.*

THURSDAY

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

6 p.m., third Thursdays, same-sex partners group, OutReach, Madison.*

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

7 p.m., third Thursdays, Lesbian Alliance movie night, LGBT Community Center, Milwaukee.*

7 p.m., Q2-LGBTQ Youth Group, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, Eau Claire.*

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

FRIDAY

1 p.m., Art Experience, SAGE Milwaukee.*

4-7 p.m., fourth Friday, Happy Hour with Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin, rotating location in Milwaukee/Madison, www.ppawi.org.

5:30 p.m., second and fourth Fridays, Pozitive Lite HIV/AIDS group, OutReach, Madison.*

6 p.m., second Fridays, Lesbian Alliance game night and potluck, LGBT Community Center, Milwaukee.*

6:30 p.m., Open Mic night, Harmony Cafe, Green Bay.*

7 p.m., AA, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.*

7 p.m., Gay Narcotics Anonymous, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.*

7 p.m., Drop-in night, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, Eau Claire.*

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

SATURDAY

9 a.m., Frontrunners/Walkers Milwaukee Run Walk, starting at the Water Tower at the east end of North Avenue in Milwaukee, 262-285-7645.

9 a.m., Frontrunners/Frontwalkers Madison, Wingra Park off Monroe St., Madison, 608-469-4882.

3 p.m., second and fourth Saturdays, Women4Women, OutReach, Madison.*

6 p.m., Rotating Activity Night each week, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, Eau Claire.*

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

SUNDAY

10:30 a.m., Al-Anon, Galano Club, Milwaukee.*

10:30 a.m., AA Step/Topic meeting, Galano Club, Milwaukee.*

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

7 p.m., AA The Big Book meeting, Galano Club, Milwaukee.*

5 p.m., OutThere LGBT youth group meeting, OutReach, Madison.*

5 p.m., third Sundays, PFLAG Milwaukee, Martin Luther Church, 9235 W. Bluemound Road, Wauwatosa.

7 p.m., second Sundays, Gay and Straight in Christ, Good Shepherd Catholic Church, N88 W17658 Christman Road, Menomonee Falls, 262-502-0437.

MONDAY

7 p.m., second Monday, Outwards men's book club, 2710 N. Murray Ave., 53211, 414-963-9089, www.outwardsbooks.com.

7 p.m., Spectrum-Social and networking LGBT group, Harmony Cafe, Appleton.*

7:30 p.m., AA Came to Believe, The Galano Club, Milwaukee.*

TUESDAY

12:30 p.m., third Tuesday, Retired Old/Older Lesbians (ROLLers), Madison. Info: 608-219-7751.

5:30 p.m., AA Over and Under 40; 7 p.m. AA The Blue Group, The Galano

Club, Milwaukee.*

6 p.m., third Tuesday, Fair Wisconsin Action Network of the Chippewa Valley, LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, Eau Claire.*

7 p.m., second Tuesday, lesbian reading group at Outwards Books, 2710 N. Murray Ave., 53211, 414-963-9089, www.outwardsbooks.com.

7 p.m., last Tuesday, Canasta night, SAGE Milwaukee.*

7 p.m., Spectrum GLBT and Allied social group for adults, Harmony Cafe, Appleton.*

7 p.m., Women's Voice Milwaukee rehearsal, 630-890-5984.

7 p.m., first Wednesday, LGBT cancer networking group, Gilda's Club, 7907 UW Health Court, Middleton, 608-828-8880, gildasclubmadison.org.

6:30 p.m., third Wednesday, Wauwatosa Rainbow Association monthly meeting, tosarainbow@yahoo.com.

7 p.m., first Wednesday, Bear Club 4 Men monthly meeting, Napalese Lounge, 1351 Cedar St., Green Bay, Info: bearclub4men@gmail.com.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Send community briefs to lweisberg@wisconsinngazette.com.

SAFE SPACE OPENS
IN ROCK COUNTY

OutReach of Madison is hosting a safe space in the Janesville area to support Rock County LGBT residents. Meeting times are 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday nights.

For the location of the meeting, contact Angie Rehling at angier@lgbt-outreach.org or call her at OutReach at 608-255-8582.

RAINBOW COMMUNITY
POT LUCK IN MILWAUKEE
JULY 16

The seventh annual Rainbow Community Pot Luck Picnic in Milwaukee is scheduled for noon to 4 p.m. on July 16 at the Washington Park Senior Center, 4420 W. Viet St.

Sponsors will provide burgers, brats, hot dogs, veggie burgers, buns, condiments and utensils.

People whose last names begin with the letters "A" to "G" are asked to bring desserts, including fruit, to serve six people or more.

For information, e-mail martha.barry@ywcamilw.org or call 414-267-3204.

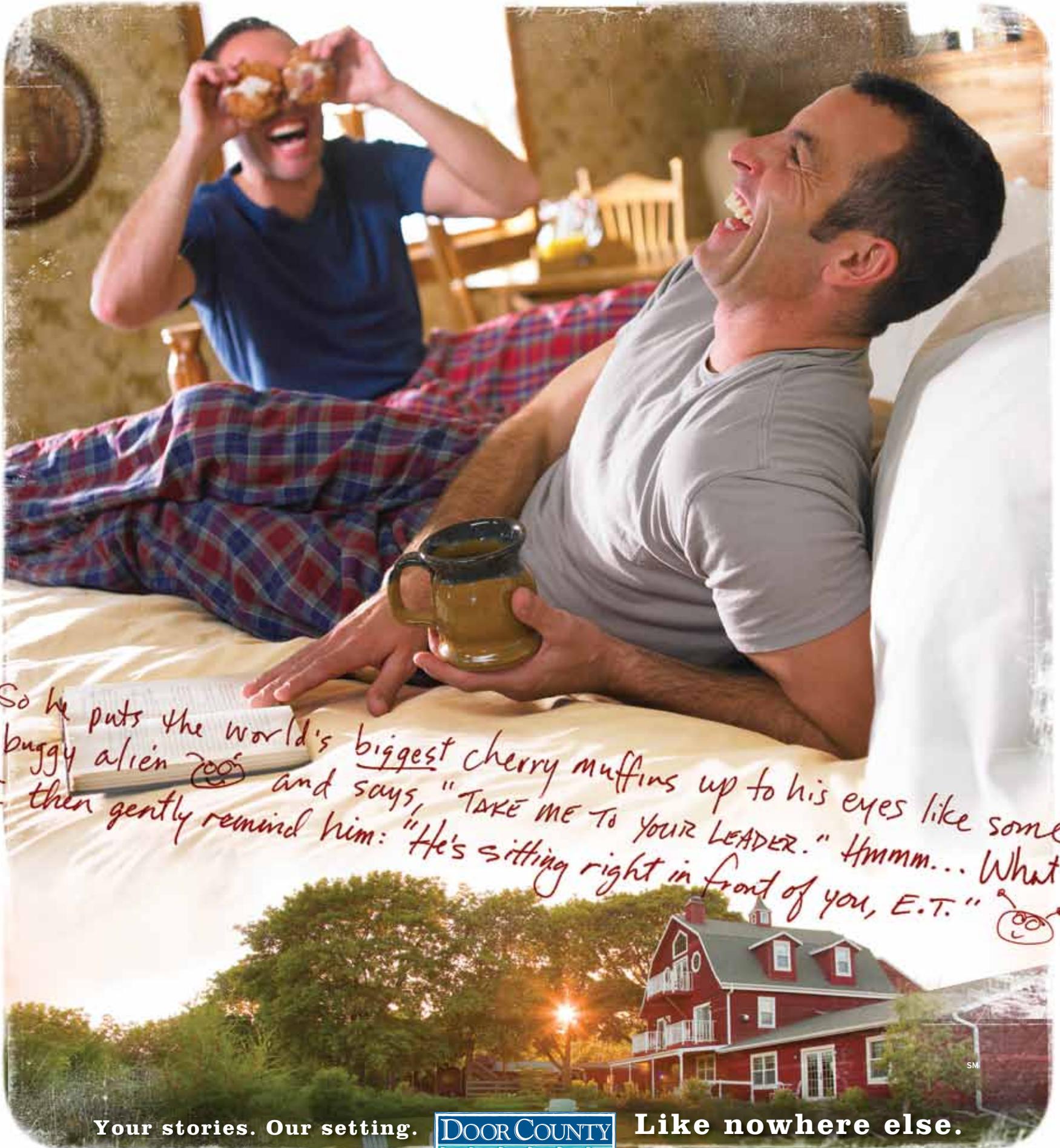
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So he puts the world's biggest cherry muffins up to his eyes like some buggo alien  and says, "TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER." Hmmm... What I then gently remind him: "He's sitting right in front of you, E.T." 

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