

## RAY'S WAY

The Indigo Girls' Amy Ray sheds light on the duo's latest release.

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THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY

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## Racine teacher files second complaint against school district

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Racine middle school teacher Halli N. Stewart says if her school district wants to protect students from bias and bullies, then it must also protect its teachers.

Stewart, 34, of Brookfield, has filed two complaints alleging discrimination based on sexual orientation with the equal rights division of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development.

A complaint filed in August 2010 alleges discrimination by an administrator at Mitchell Middle School, where Stewart teaches remedial reading. A second, more recent complaint alleges that Stewart suffered retaliation for filing the initial complaint against the Racine

Unified School District, the state's fourth largest.

In February, a state officer found probable cause that the discrimination took place.

That finding led to settlement talks between Stewart and district officials, but the sessions did not result in a final agreement or an admission of wrongdoing on the district's part.

"The district does not engage in nor does it condone discriminatory practices," said Stacy Tapp, communications director for the district. "The district did not discriminate against Halli Stewart."

If there is no settlement reached, the matter likely will be decided in a state hearing.

### IN THE SCHOOL

Central to Stewart's primary complaint is the allegation that then-assistant principal Leslie Jensen mistreated her because she's a lesbian.

Stewart was transferred to Mitchell in August 2009. "Almost immediately I sensed that this assistant principal had some kind of issue with me," she said.

Stewart said that in the spring of 2010, she complained to Jensen that a student had threatened her life and asked to have him removed from her classroom.

But Jensen refused, instead

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inside and online at wisconsin Gazette.com

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PHOTO: AP/FRANK FRANKLIN II

Jonathan Truong, right, his partner Ed Gowen, left, and their son Franklin Gowen Truong, 2, pose for a portrait at their home in the Brooklyn borough of New York. Adoption lawyers and agencies in New York say they're getting ready for a baby boom as same-sex couples emboldened by the state's new marriage law take the next step and adopt children.

## Adoptions soar among gay couples

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Despite laws that impede the practice, an ever-increasing number of gays and lesbians are adopting children, according to an extensive new survey from the New York-based Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute.

The number of gays and lesbians adopting children has nearly tripled in the last decade.

At least half of gay and lesbian parents are providing homes for boys and girls from foster care, and 60 percent are adopting transracially, according to the adoption institute, a nation-

al non-profit "devoted to improving adoption policy and practice."

The institute's 69-page survey — released in late October and titled "Expanding Resources of Children III: Research-Based Best Practices by Gays and Lesbians" — is based on four years of research and pro-

vides new insights into the perceptions, experiences and needs of gay and lesbian adoptive parents.

"We know the majority of adoption agencies readily work with gay and lesbian clients, and our research shows that most want guidance about how best to do

**ADOPTION** page 13

# LGBT news with a twist



By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg

### MAZEL TOV

Mario Cantone, who's best known for his role as Anthony in the HBO series and movie versions of "Sex and the City," has married his partner of 20 years, Jerry Dixon. The couple was pronounced husband and husband in a private ceremony presided over by Jay Bakker, son of the late Tammy Faye Bakker Messner.

cessfully prayed away the gay since then. "Forty years ago I was a different person," Linda Wall said. "I was a heavy pot smoker with... impaired judgment and made some bad choices. You do that out of college sometimes. Some people do, some people don't."

### NOM'S SHOPPED PHOTO

A new study of gay men shows that anal sex is the least common form of love-making activity between males. Researchers from George Mason University helped conduct the study, which received responses from 24,787 gay and bisexual men. Only 37.2 percent of respondents reported having anal sex during their last encounters. The most frequent sexual behavior reported was kissing - 74.5 percent.

The National Organization for Marriage was caught publishing a doctored photo of a 2008 rally in Columbus, Ohio, for Barack Obama. NOM's use of the photo made it appear as if the thousands who were cheering Obama were actually fired up by NOM president Brian Brown's current campaign to repeal New Hampshire's marriage equality bill. Goodasyou.org caught the fakery.

### SOME PEOPLE DON'T

A right-wing Christian seeking a House of Delegates seat from Appomattox, Va., acknowledges having an affair with a female student when she was a junior high teacher. But she said that she suc-

### GOT MILK'S PLAQUE?

San Francisco police in late October were investigating the disappearance of a plaque honoring slain San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk. The brass plaque was installed in the Castro's Harvey

Milk Plaza in the mid-1980s and is estimated to be worth \$10,000. Police theorized that the thieves stole the plaque - it measures 3 feet by 2 feet - to melt it for the brass.

### UNTRADITIONAL MARRIAGES

Three U.S. Marines were discharged for bad conduct after fraudulently claiming they were married to collect family housing allowances - \$1,200 a month to live off base. Cpl. Ashley Vice and her girlfriend Jaime Murphy pretended they were married to Cpl. Jeremiah Griffin and Cpl. Joseph Garner.

### COMPLICATED PLOT

Children's author Lauren Myracle is not a National Book Awards nominee - at least for today. Myracle is the author of "Shine," the acclaimed story of a gay boy brutally beaten. She was on the first list of five finalists in the young readers' category, then was informed that there had been a mistake and the nominated book was Franny Billingsley's "Chime" not "Shine." Hours later, Myracle was told she was added to an expand-

ed list of six nominees. But, two days later, the foundation informed Myracle that the list was back to five nominees - and she was not among them. That's just the Cliff Notes summary of the story.

### ROCK 'N' HOSPITAL

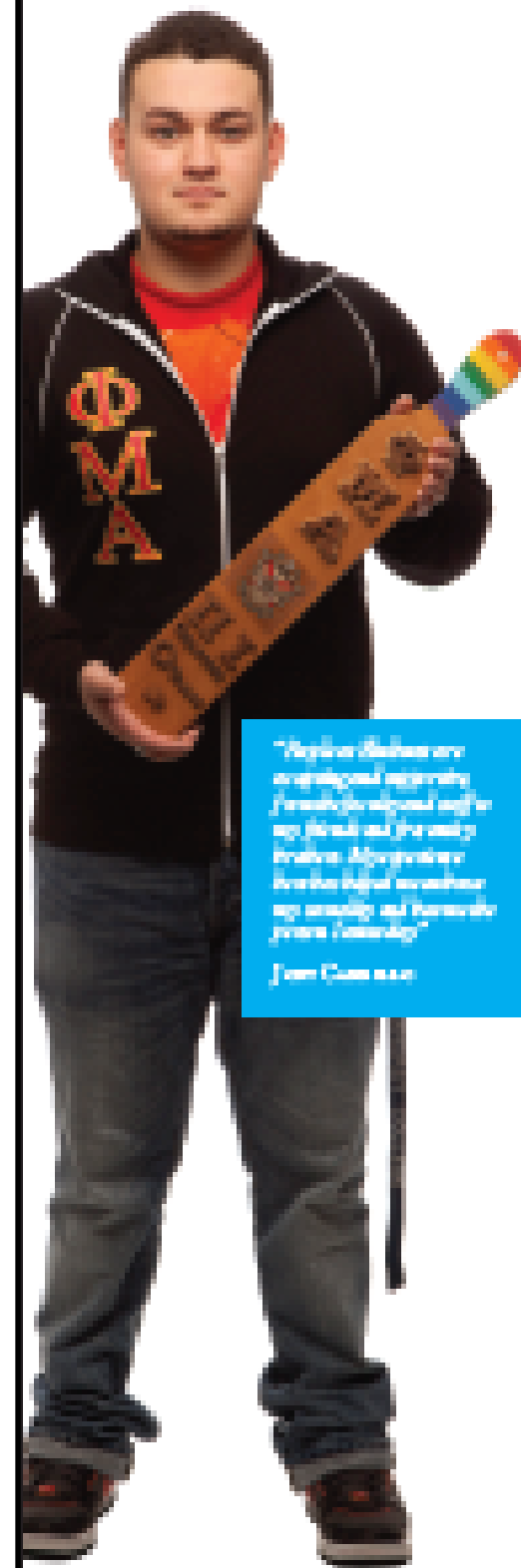
St. Joseph's Barrow Neurological Institute in Phoenix will name a

waiting room for Poison frontman Bret Michaels, who donated televisions and a sound system to create a "warm and hip" environment in the room. Michaels underwent treatment at the hospital in 2010 and earlier this year. WiGwag would be more comfortable in "The Bret Michaels Lounge" than "The Poison Room."



Two California high school students became one of the first lesbian couples crowned homecoming king and queen in the nation last month. Rebecca Arellano, a senior at Patrick Henry High School in San Diego, was made the school's first female homecoming king at a pep rally. The next night her girlfriend Haileigh Adams was made homecoming queen at the dance.

# You belong here



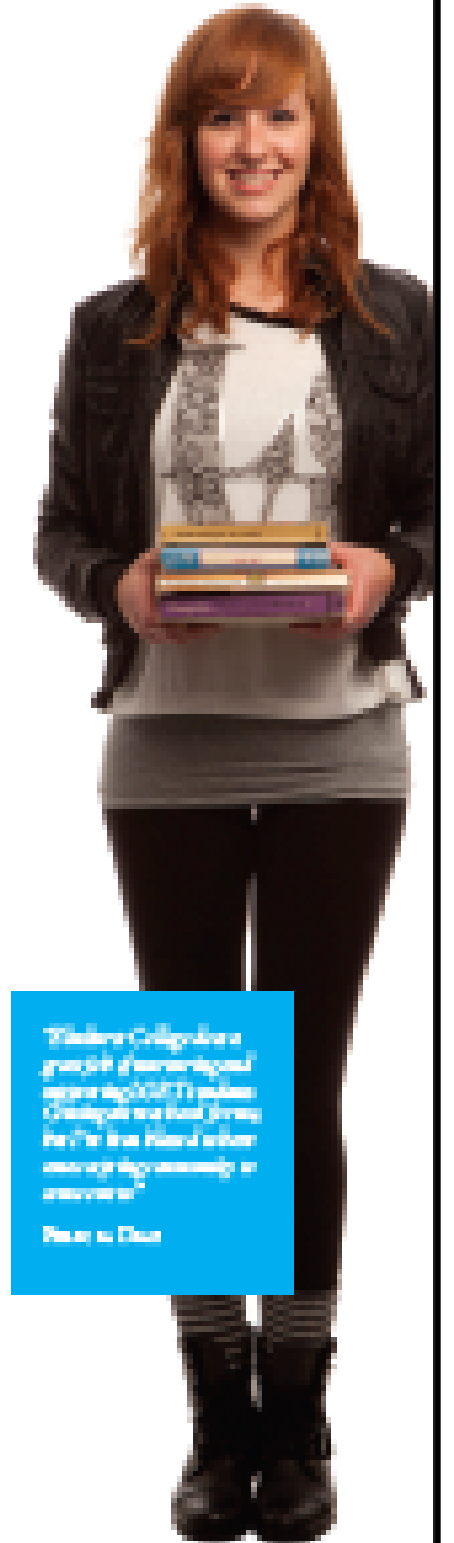
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"Phi Mu Alpha is a great organization for music educators. I have learned so much from my friends and I am proud to be a member. If you are interested in joining, please contact us at [www.phimua.org](http://www.phimua.org).



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# Victory gardens return to Wisconsin

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Out urban gardener Yves LaPierre will remember 2011 as the year he had trouble with his tomatoes.

"The tomatoes and Swiss chard were out of control this year, something I attribute to a new half compost/manure soil recommended for our raised beds," says LaPierre, an urban planner with Milwaukee's Department of City Development. "The Brussels sprouts did not work out, and this is most likely because the soil was too loose. Brussels sprouts like compacted soil to create those tasty little cabbages."

A native of Quebec, LaPierre has been urban gardening since he and partner Steve moved to Milwaukee's Riverwest neighborhood four years ago. Through his work as a city planner, LaPierre came in contact with the Victory Garden Initiative. As manager of the city's land bank, he's responsible for helping VGI and other urban agricultural groups make the best use possible of open urban spaces by using them to grow fresh food.

The program takes its name from the "victory gardens" that were popular during World War II as a means to increase the food supply

and support the war effort overseas. VGI's motto is, "This is a grassroots movement. Move grass, grow food."

"I have always been digging in the dirt and planting things," says LaPierre, who comes from a Canadian farming family. "I don't garden as part of VGI directly, but I do support their undertakings."

VGI is hosting the second annual "Fruity, Nutty Affair," a fundraising dinner scheduled for Nov. 11 at Best Place Tavern in the historic Pabst Brewery, 901 W. Juneau Ave., Milwaukee. Funds raised from the event will support the growth of the city's urban food forest, an initiative to plant fruit and nut trees throughout Milwaukee to provide free, fresh food to city residents.

"Victory Garden Initiative is a nonprofit organization that focuses on creating a more sustainable and socially just food system by empowering people to grow their own food," says Emily Whitcomb, VGI program director. "We envision Milwaukee as an abundant food forest full of harvestable fruit and nut trees."

VGI supports the planting of fruit and nut trees in public spaces that would be accessible to all residents.

By providing fresh produce, VGI hopes to offer residents a healthy, organic alternative that allows them to make better use of their food dollars in the face of a still-struggling local and global economy.

"We are especially interested in fruit and nut trees for the urban environment, because they take up relatively little space while producing lots of food," Whitcomb says. "People don't think about localizing a protein source like a hazelnut, and we are trying to change that."

The relatively young organization, based in Shorewood and headed by director Gretchen Mead, promotes the creation and empowerment of urban farmers and runs largely on the efforts of volunteers. VGI holds various fundraising initiatives throughout the year, and also earns income to support its work by installing gardens for first-time tillers. Volunteers will cut up the turf and till and treat the soil so that it is ready for planting. A single garden installation costs \$125, or a property owner can get two gardens installed for \$200.

Although heavily concentrated in the city of Milwaukee, VGI has helped urban gardeners from



PHOTO: COURTESY

VGI volunteers work at the Hide House Gardens in Bay View.

Glendale to Greenfield and from New Berlin to the North Shore. For those without their own property to till, VGI has established group gardens like the Hide House Gardens in Bay View, which hosts 100 individual plots on a half-acre of urban land, and Concordia Gardens, a 1.5-acre plot located at the corner of Palmer and Concordia streets.

The group also aligns with other organizations, such as Engineers Without Borders and the Urban Ecology Center, to help facilitate success among first-time food

growers.

VGI also maintains the Kilbourn Gardens in the Riverwest neighborhood near LaPierre's abundant home garden. "I walk through it all the time," he says. "It's a great addition to the city."

LaPierre allows that maintaining a successful garden is a year-round "labor of love" for him and his part-

ner. As both a social and nutritional initiative, however, it's always worth the effort, he adds.

"We grow our food for quality. An Aunt Ruby's German Green Tomato picked and eaten fresh off the vine is worth all the effort," he says. "Home gardening and VGI's initiatives are great for the body and the soul."

#### ON THE WEB

For more information on the Victory Garden Initiative and the second annual Fruity, Nutty Affair, go to [www.victorygardeninitiative.org](http://www.victorygardeninitiative.org).

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# LGBT Center's operations at odds with bylaws

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

Employees who work with minors at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center are required by grants to have background checks on file. But a routine audit of the organization's 2010 operations revealed that the center had failed to conduct a background check for one of the seven employees who fall into that category.

The glitch was not considered serious by Ritz Holman, LLP, the center's financial auditor. "We don't consider one out of seven to be pervasive," Andrew Holman, a principal in the firm, told WiG.

But it is part of a pattern at the center. An independent review of the center's financial filings conducted by WiG found numerous inconsistencies in operating policies and regular violation of the center's own bylaws.

Perhaps most obviously, the center has only seven board members when its bylaws call for at least nine. Since the bylaws were changed last November to allow only existing board members and not the center's membership to elect new members, the board has lost instead of gained members. At the time, executive director Maggi Cage said the change was necessary to facilitate the creation of a stronger, more professional board.

But there are many other internal conflicts as well, including inconsistent guidelines contained in the center's "Fiscal Policies and Internal Control Procedures," which were approved by the board of directors on March 17, 2010. For instance, the policy defines a capital acquisition as an asset of more than \$2,000 in one place, but in another place puts the value at \$500.

The policy also states in one place that "the Center shall not issue corporate credit cards to employees." But it then goes on to state, "For special or emergency

## A review of the center's disclosures revealed numerous inconsistencies in operating policies and violations of the center's own bylaws.

situations, the Center shall maintain one corporate credit card under the supervision of the Executive Director."

The policy further contradicts itself in another place by asserting: "In circumstances where the employee needs to use the corporate credit card for online purchases of program materials and/or supplies, the employee shall adhere to the following procedures...."

In other words, the policy first states that no corporate credit card will be issued, but then states that the corporate credit card can only be used in emergency situations. Later, the policy implies that any employee can use the credit card for routine online purchases as long as a check-request form is used.

Holman said his firm was not concerned about the corporate credit card policy, because it conducts a sampling of credit card transactions to detect errors. Misuse of credit cards is one of the most frequent ways that employees commit fraud.

"We look at the transactions rather than the policies," Holman said. "For the audit, we test a ton of them. The policies should be reviewed, but it's not an issue

for us, audit-wise, because we found everything we tested for. ... The issue is whether they have good documentation and they did."

Other experts agreed with Holman, saying that such inconsistencies abound in the nonprofit world, where small organizations are burdened with overly zealous regulations that are often beyond the capacity of a small staff to fulfill.

"The further away you get from those bylaws, the less time you are likely to spend looking at them," said Chuck McLean, vice president of research for GuideStar, the major information provider for the non-profit sector. "We find that smaller organizations are just not going to be quite as much of a stickler for various rules. But again, the bylaws are the bylaws. In a perfect world, if they have a problem with the bylaws, they would amend the bylaws."

Experts also told WiG that financial controls at the center are not compromised by the fact that Patrick Price holds the dual positions of philanthropy, or development, director and chief financial officer – meaning he's charged both with taking in the money and managing it. Or is he?

In different places on the center's 2010 IRS Form 990, both Price and Cage are identified as the center's CFO. In the document's list of officers and directors, Price is identified as CFO. But Schedule O, Part VI, Line 15B, states, "The Executive Director who also acts as the CFO is evaluated by the Board on an annual basis with written feedback from the board."

The center's operational inconsistencies even extend to the selection of an auditor. According to Article X of the center's bylaws, the board is charged with creating an audit committee in September of each year that oversees the selection of an accounting firm to conduct the annual audit. But the "Fiscal Policies and Internal

## Individual support for Milwaukee LGBT Center shows losses, gains

	2008	2009	2010
Donations	\$11,985	\$17,133	\$22,026
Planned Gifts	0	201,738	9,139
Workplace Giving	5,420	19,683	28,542
Memberships	8,586	8,230	6,145
Fundraising (Net)	33,746	31,070	15,068
<b>TOTAL GIVING</b>	<b>\$59,737</b>	<b>\$277,854</b>	<b>\$80,920</b>
Total Revenues	\$600,856	\$1,061,648	\$841,143

Source: Milwaukee LGBT Center financial audits

Control Procedures" give the finance committee responsibility for selecting an accounting firm. The members of the finance committee are never identified.

WiG contacted Cage as well as the board's co-presidents to seek clarification on these issues but received no response.

Cage did respond by e-mail to WiG's Oct. 20 story "Milwaukee LGBT

Center reports loss, lagging donations." She had declined requests to be interviewed or answer questions by e-mail in advance of that story's publication, as she did with this one.

In her e-mail, Cage contested the story's assertion that donations by private individuals to the center amounted to under 3 percent of the organization's income in 2010. She con-

tended the figure was actually 10 percent.

WiG chose to follow a strict definition of what constituted a donation – the amount listed on IRS filings under the heading "donations." But WiG also printed a chart (reprinted at left) showing all non-grant income reported to the IRS. Cage did not contest the information included in the chart.

Cage would not clarify what portion of the center's income came in the form of in-kind donations from people associated with the organization. WiG's intention was to show the level of support among members of the community who are unaffiliated with the center.

On the center's 2010 annual report, Cage and Price were listed as the highest individual donors to the center. Both appear in the category of those who contributed \$5,000 to \$9,999. WiG does not believe their contributions reflect broader community support, since they derive income from the center.

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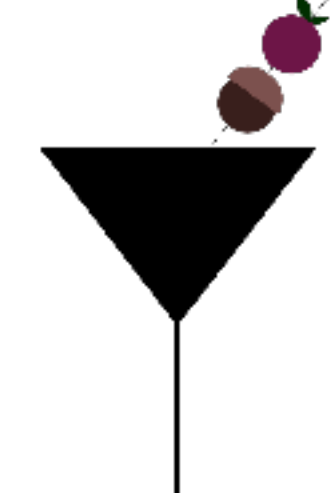
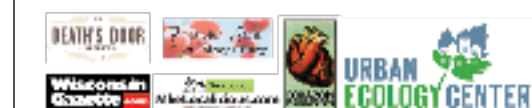
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# Change swirls inside the landmark Shorecrest

By Peggy Schulz

Contributing writer

When Anthony D'Amico took over the Savoy Room Piano Bar and Lounge two years ago, he began re-designing a hospitality venue with a long and varied history.

Notably, D'Amico put out a welcome mat for the East Side's large LGBT community through ads in WiG, as well as networking.

"We're trying to let the gay community know that we're gay friendly," D'Amico said. "We treat everyone very nice here, we're very nice and hospitable."

D'Amico came to the Savoy from a family deli and catering business, which he continues to run with his wife. Mama Angie's Italian Deli & Catering might well be the basis for many of the items on the Savoy's menu of Italian/American dishes, including some of the best, most reasonably priced veal entrées in town, according to D'Amico.

Located in the Shorecrest Hotel, 1962 N. Prospect Ave., the space currently occupied

by the Savoy has survived many incarnations in its landmark home — a nine-story building listed on the National Register of Historic Places for its Moroccan/Art Deco architectural style.

Snug's operated in the space for many years, starting in 1976. The space later was home to Beccofino, La Dolce Vita and Lou Bruno's.

Sally Papia, formerly the proprietor of a restaurant that bore her name, returned from a hiatus to open the original Savoy Room in 2002. She died in 2005, and the restaurant was closed until D'Amico refashioned it in its current form, opening in early 2010.

Late last month, an investment group led by Jim Cadd, one of the owners of the Astor Hotel, purchased the Shorecrest, leaving the Savoy's future in question. Since 1971, members of the Balistreri family had owned the building. Their family tree includes former Milwaukee Mafia chief Frank P. Balistreri, convicted along with sons Joseph and John, of extortion

in 1984.

The change in the Shorecrest's ownership comes after D'Amico spent considerable time and energy in creating a warm, welcoming place to enjoy good food and drink — and good music. As part of D'Amico's redesign of the Savoy Room, he brought in a grand piano. Two Friday nights each month, John Hefter performs on the grand piano and Madeline Dietrich is on bass, backing up singer Vickie Provencher.

Jerry Grillo, who regularly sang classic jazz at the Savoy location 12 years ago, is back for two shows — Nov. 12 and Nov. 26. A third show scheduled for Dec. 10 is up in the air, depending on the Shorecrest's now uncertain future.

Much like the Savoy, with its history of change and reincarnation, Grillo continues to grow as a jazz singer and to develop his fan base. He won the 2011 WAMI Award for Jazz Singer of the Year. He's excited about the opportunity to perform in such a beautiful environment



PHOTO: COURTESY

The historic Shorecrest Hotel, home of the Savoy Room, was sold recently.

as the Savoy.

"I've finally found my true voice," Grillo said. "I know now how to express myself — the words, the phrasing, the melody, jumping from octave to octave — it's like performing an artwork on stage. I've

finally learned, that's what a jazz singer is."

That's an apt metaphor for Grillo's scheduled dates at the Savoy Room, where beautiful artwork and Art Deco fixtures surround guests and performers. The

future for both the Savoy Room and Grillo continues to evolve.

Grillo's show "Songs From Broadway and the Movies" will be filmed live to DVD on Nov. 13 at the Wherehouse/Hot Water, 818 S. Water St.

## REGIONAL BRIEFS

### TIMES CINEMA TO SCREEN HOMELESS LGBT YOUTH FILM

"Out of Respect: A Story of Five," a critically acclaimed documentary about homeless LGBTQ youth in Milwaukee, is being screened at 7 p.m., Nov. 10, at Times Cinema, 5906 Vliet St., in Milwaukee's Washington Heights neighborhood.

Director Tess Gallun, a local filmmaker, will be on hand with LGBTQ youth for a discussion following the film. There also will be a 6 p.m. reception preceding the screening.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased in advance at [www.timescinema.com/schedule.php?venue=time](http://www.timescinema.com/schedule.php?venue=time). DVD copies will be available for a \$15 donation.

All proceeds will support an educational outreach campaign.

### DINE OUT WITH SAGE

SAGE Milwaukee is dining out at Mama Mia's Restaurant, 2615 W. Silver Spring Drive, at 1 p.m. on Nov. 20. It's part of the group's ongoing exploration of unique restaurants in the Milwaukee area.

To attend, call the SAGE Milwaukee office at 414-224-0517 by Nov. 18.

SAGE also hosts its 10th annual Rainbow Community Thanksgiving Potluck on Nov. 26, at Plymouth United Church of Christ, 2717 E. Hampshire Ave.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m., and dinner is served 5:30 p.m.

Attendees are asked to bring a dish to pass, if they're able. The sponsoring organizations will provide turkey, ham and vegetarian lasagna. Sponsors include Equality Wisconsin, Galano Club, Lesbian Alliance, Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church, Plymouth United Church of Christ and SAGE Milwaukee.

### FAIR WISCONSIN PAC ENDORSES JILL BILLINGS FOR ASSEMBLY

Fair Wisconsin PAC recently endorsed Jill Billings in the special election in Wisconsin State Assembly District 95 to replace now

state Sen. Jennifer Shilling.

"We are excited to support a strong candidate like Jill who will ensure that the 95th District continues to have pro-fairness representation in the Capitol," said Katie Belanger, executive director of the PAC. "Jill has shown a commitment to advancing equality in Wisconsin and we look forward to working with her in the legislature. Given the current political environment, we need pro-fairness leaders who will stand with us to help turn the tide and help defend the progress we have made toward LGBT equality in Wisconsin."

### FORGE RECEIVES MAJOR GRANT

FORGE, a 17-year-old organization headquartered in Milwaukee, has received a \$547,811, three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women.

The purpose of the grant is to increase the number of OVV-funded agencies that can provide culturally competent services to transgender victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence through the provision of technical assistance and training.

FORGE provides advocacy and support for transgender people, their significant others, friends, family members and allies.

The new award represents an expansion of FORGE's federally funded anti-violence projects that provide training and technical assistance to professionals serving transgender sexual assault providers and direct services to transgender sexual assault survivors.

For more information on any FORGE's services, publications, or projects, go to [www.forge-forward.org](http://www.forge-forward.org).

### GSAFE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

GSAFE, the Madison-based Gay Straight Alliance for Safe Schools, is seeking 10-20 people to help assemble a safe schools campaign mailing. Volunteers are needed to work from 5 to 7 p.m. on Nov. 10, and from 4 to 6 p.m. on Nov. 11. The mailing will take place at 301 S. Bedford

St., #1 in Madison.

Organizers promise to provide pizza and good conversation. Send e-mail to Kristen at [kristenp@gsaforsafeschools.com](mailto:kristenp@gsaforsafeschools.com) or call at 608-661-4141 for more information.

### CHRISTIAN RIGHT LAWMAKERS ATTACK TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION

State Senators Alberta Darling, Glenn Grothman, Luther Olsen and Leah Vukmir voted to pass through committee a measure to repeal the Healthy Youth Act (SB 237).

The law guarantees that youth receive information about both abstinence and birth control and parents receive notice when sex education is not provided.

The Christian-right attack on teen pregnancy prevention programs comes during a "special" legislative session that was called to take action to create new jobs in the state.

"It is troubling that an elected leader who is entrusted by the public to represent their interests, would instead actively work to reduce information about sex education to both our youth and their parents," said Tanya Atkinson, executive director of Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin. "Taxpayers deserve to know both the economic and health costs to repealing the Healthy Youth Act."

Statistics show that teen moms are more likely to drop out of high school, remain unmarried and live in poverty and on taxpayer-supported programs for the decade following their pregnancy. Babies born to teen mothers are nine times more likely to live in poverty and are more likely to have lower cognitive development, to be incarcerated and to have an adolescent pregnancy themselves.

Nationally, teen childbearing costs over \$10.9 billion a year. In Wisconsin, taxpayers spent \$168 million on teen births in 2008.

— Louis Weisberg

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

## We Are All Affected — We Are All Able



## Get involved. Join Be ABLE.

### Facts

- Did you know, the HIV infection rate is highest among young gay and bisexual men of color age 13 – 29?
- Gay and bisexual men are the only group in the US in which **new HIV infections are increasing.**
- In Milwaukee, 1 in 3 gay and bisexual African American men **will be diagnosed with HIV infection.**

### Act

- Join a **Be ABLE** group session **or** retreat.
- Always use condoms for anal sex.

### Join

**Be ABLE** holds weekend retreats and weekly group sessions where African American gay and bisexual men can discuss the different factors that may place them at risk for HIV and STDs.

### Contact

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# Religious extremists fight for control of government

The Associated Press

Are Christian extremists trying to take over government?

In the 1940s, an argument erupted among a group of American Christians far from the mainstream.

Pentecostals, the spirit-filled worshippers known mostly for speaking in tongues, were at a crossroads, divided over the extent of God's modern-day miracles. If God made apostles and prophets during the New Testament era, did he still create them today?

Most Pentecostals said no, and went on to build the movement's major denominations.

A minority disagreed — and amazingly, their obscure view is now in the crosshairs of a presidential race. Some critics, fearing that these little-known Christians want to control the U.S. government, suspect that Republican Rick Perry is their candidate.

The Texas governor opened the door to the discussion with a prayer rally he hosted in August, a week before he announced his run for president. Organizers of the Houston event, such as Lou Engle, leader of The Call prayer marathons, and Mike Bickle, founder of the International House of Prayer in Kansas City, had for several years been under the watch of mostly liberal writers alarmed by the preachers' rhetoric.

The end of the world is

an intense focus of many of the religious leaders involved in the rally. Engle has said that the tornado that leveled Joplin, Mo., last May was evidence of God's judgment on the country over abortion. Bickle views acceptance of same-sex marriage as a sign of the end times.

These preachers believe demons have taken hold of specific geographic areas, including the nation's capital. They also promote a philosophy of public engagement known as the "seven mountains," which urges Christians to gain influence in business, government, family, church, education, media and the arts as a way to spread righteousness and bring about God's kingdom on earth. The language seems close to dominionism, the belief that Christians have a God-given mandate to run the world.

Ever since Perry gave these leaders a broader platform, religion scholars and activists have been debating whether these church leaders represent a real threat, an apocalyptic vanguard maneuvering to establish a Houston government. The task of measuring their influence is complicated by the preachers' wide range of teaching and practice, and by the many different expressions of dominionism under various names.

MSNBC's Rachel Maddow warned that dominionists want to prepare the

world for Jesus' return by "infiltration and taking over politics and government." Michelle Goldberg, author of "Kingdom Coming: The Rise of Christian Nationalism," wrote at The Daily Beast, "We have not seen this sort of thing at the highest levels of the Republican Party before."

Randall Stephens, a professor at Eastern Nazarene College in Quincy, Mass., who researches Pentecostals and politics, called warnings of a conservative Christian plot an overreaction. "I think this is a rabbit hole people fall down and it has a whiff of conspiracy," Stephens said.

Anthea Butler, who has written extensively about dominionism with author Sarah Posner on the liberal website ReligionDispatches.org, considers the outlook troubling and worth examining, but cautioned against overstating its strength.

"I don't know if 'threat' is the right word. I think 'problem' is the better word," said Butler, a religion scholar at the University of Pennsylvania.

Perry has never said anything that would directly link him to dominionism. However, he fueled speculation about his views at the rally by quoting from Joel 2, a Bible book the preachers favor, which tells of a prayer assembly of spiritual warriors as the world ends.

On stage with the governor was Alice Patterson, author of "Bridging the Racial and

Political Divide: How Godly Politics Can Transform A Nation," who believes there is a "demonic structure behind the Democratic Party."

Robert Black, a Perry campaign spokesman, said the GOP governor is an evangelist who attends Lake Hills Church in Austin. In a recent appearance at Liberty University, founded by the late Rev. Jerry Falwell, Perry explained that he had turned to God in a time of need — a personal testimony common for born-again Christians.

"Gov. Perry believes that Americans of all faiths should be active in dictating the course of our country," Black wrote in an e-mail. "He supports our republican form of democracy and trusts the American people to decide who should lead it."

Critics have also questioned whether Michele Bachmann's religious and political views have crossed a line into dominionism. In a 2006 appearance in Minnesota, the year she was first elected to Congress, she prayed, "We are in the last days" and called separation of church and state "a myth." In the 1980s, Bachmann was a law student at Oral Roberts University, a Pentecostal school that emphasized the biblical basis of U.S. law. However, that approach is shared among a range of conservative Christians and is not the definitive marker of someone who thinks only Christians should govern.

Many evangelical leaders are incensed by the discussion. The allegation that Christians are plotting to build a theocracy has dogged Christian conservatives since the 1970s and '80s, when evangelicals stunned both Democrats and Republicans by emerging from political hibernation to regain their voice in public life.

Chuck Colson, the Watergate figure and founder of the Prison Fellowship ministries, said labels such as "dominionist" are epithets meant to discredit all Christian activists. David French, senior counsel at the American Center for Law and Justice, founded by the Rev. Pat Robertson, wrote an article in the National Review with the mocking headline, "I'm a Dominionist? I had no idea."

However, many religion scholars argue that some watered-down dominionist principles have long influenced conservative Christian activists, who hope to shape society according to a biblical worldview. (A true dominionist not only wants Christians to shape the world, but also run it.)

Bruce Barron, a Christian scholar and author of the 1992 book "Heaven on Earth? The Social & Political Agendas of Dominion Theology," wrote that many early leaders of the Christian right said they had been influenced by the social analysis of Rousas John Rushdoony, who

believed the nation was in a moral and cultural crisis and advocated replacing democracy with biblical law, mostly from the Old Testament. This way of thinking is known as Christian Reconstructionism.

By the late 1980s, many evangelical leaders felt that dominionist ideas had gained so much attention that they could no longer simply dismiss the teaching as fringe, Barron wrote. Among the critiques was a February 1987 cover story in Christianity Today, the prominent evangelical magazine founded by the Rev. Billy Graham, which quoted scholars saying that ignoring the stream of thinking is no longer an option. "They haven't been taken seriously enough," one scholar told the magazine.

More recently, C. Peter Wagner, an expert in church growth, has become a lightning rod for critics of dominionism, largely because of the extensive research of Talk2Action.org, a liberal investigative site, and one of its writers, Rachel Tabachnik.

Wagner is a former professor at Fuller Theological Seminary, a prominent evangelical school in Pasadena, Calif., who had noted the rapid spread of independent Pentecostal churches. In 1974, he dubbed the trend the New Apostolic Reformation, and eventually became a leader among these churches. He is now

continued

considered an apostle along with his wife Doris, who specializes in healing.

Wagner sharpened the Pentecostal focus on spiritual warfare, through books with titles such as, "Breaking Strangleholds in Your City (Prayer Warriors)." He trains people to use intense direct prayer and other strategies to fight demonic control of specific cities or regions. In addition, he promotes the "seven mountains" philosophy of placing Christians in positions of influence, but insists it is no stealth plan for a Christian-only government. Wagner said that most of the church leaders he works with believe that both major parties are under demonic influence — not just the Democrats — although some individual politicians are "kingdom-minded."

Church members are deeply frustrated about politicians promising to outlaw abortion and address other social issues, but never fulfilling this pledge, Wagner said. "There's nobody that I know — there may be some fringe people — who would even advocate a theocracy,"

Wagner said in a phone interview from Colorado Springs, Colo., where his ministries are based. "We honor those who have other kinds of faith."

Bickle, interviewed in Kansas City, Mo., said he knows Wagner but is not affiliated with him. Bickle called the apostle "a humble guy" who does not know Perry and would not advocate Christian control of society.

"He's got a team of loosely connected people — maybe 100 ministries — it's a small number. They are 'quote' telling people to go influence society. But some of their guys under them are using these hostile terms, like 'taking over society,'" said Bickle, who said he is not a dominionist.

"We want to influence things in our own microscopic way," Bickle said. "I wish we did have influence, but it's so minute."

Mel Robeck, a specialist in Pentecostalism at Fuller Theological Seminary, cautioned against concluding too much from the preachers at Perry's event. Robeck is a minister with the Assemblies

of God, one of the largest Pentecostal groups, which posts a 13-page theological statement on its website explaining why the denomination does not believe in contemporary apostles and prophets.

Robeck viewed the prayer rally as standard GOP outreach to religious conservatives who form the core of the Republican Party and sees Wagner as repackaging old, marginal ideas to create a new movement. Days after the Texas governor held the prayer marathon, the American Family Association, which financed the event, e-mailed participants asking for help registering conservative Christians ahead of the 2012 election.

"To see potential political leaders courting these people — what they're really doing is looking for the votes that they think these folks can deliver," Robeck said. "I don't know of any politician that can afford to miss any kind of church vote and they know that church leaders can often influence people."

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## Appeal filed after judge orders release of anti-gay petitions

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The ballot fight ended two years ago with a victory for LGBT civil rights advocates. By a 53 percent majority, voters in Washington defeated a 2009 ballot initiative seeking to repeal the state's domestic partnership law.

But the dispute continues over whether the public has a right to know the names of the people who put the referendum on the ballot.

U.S. District Court Judge Benjamin Settle on Oct. 17 upheld Washington's Public Records Act and ordered the release of the Referendum 71 petitions, the documents that the National Organization for Marriage and Protect Marriage Washington filed with the secretary of state in their quest to repeal the law that grants registered domestic partners some marriage benefits.

Days later, PMW filed an appeal, requiring the state to re-seal the petitions after releasing about 30 copies.

So the issue remains undecided.

NOM and MPW argue that the referendum petitions should not be released because people who signed the documents might be embarrassed or intimidated by opponents on the issue. A similar argument was used by marriage equality opponents to quash a broadcast of the federal trial of the anti-gay Proposition 8 ballot measure in California and to withhold Prop 8 campaign finance documents.

In the Washington case, Doe v. Reed, LGBT civil rights activists joined state officials and open government advocates in advocating the release of the records.

Washington Families Standing Together, the coalition that battled the ballot initiative, argued that the petitions should be released, in part so they could be reviewed to make sure there were sufficient legal signatures to put the question to a vote.

"These groups sponsor measures with an agenda of taking away rights and then sue with exaggerated tales of victimization in an effort to hide from public view and to take away the ability of those who stand up against them to protect themselves and their fellow citizens," said WAFST chair Anne Levinson.

Levinson called the court's ruling "a victory for all those who care about ensuring fair and legitimate elections. Had the court agreed that these ballot measure petitions could be kept secret because the referendum's sponsors were bothered by some who voiced opposition to their point of view, it would have set a terrible precedent for future elections."

The judge wrote that PMW asked for an exemption from the public records act based on "a few experiences of what (it) believes constitutes harassment or threats, the majority of which are only connected to R-71 by speculation."

Settle said if PMW's position was correct, then "anyone could prevail under such a

standard."

Washington Secretary of State Sam Reed said, "This is a victory for transparency and open disclosure in our state's referendum and initiative process. Voters of Washington want their government operating in open, transparent and accountable ways, and treating petitions as a public record is in keeping with that desire. When voters sign petitions, they are trying to change state law. We believe that changing state law should be open to public view."

Almost immediately after receiving Settle's ruling, the state released the petitions, which contained 138,000 signatures, to the AP and other major media.

PMW spokesman Gary Randall told the AP, "I believe there will certainly be harassment, and I pray to God there isn't more than that."

Several days later, after the weekend, PMW appealed Settle's ruling, forcing the state to suspend the release of additional copies of the petitions.

As of WiG press time, there were no reports of harassment of petition signers.

### ANTI-GAY DONORS LOSE CASE TO KEEP THEIR NAMES SECRET

Supporters of the 2008 ballot measure that outlawed same-sex marriages in California lost an effort to block their campaign finance records from public view because of feared donor harassment.

A federal judge in Sacramento ruled Oct. 20 against ProtectMarriage.com and the National Organization for Marriage in a nearly three-year-old lawsuit, saying the two groups failed to prove they should be exempted from the state's campaign disclosure laws.

The two groups raised most of the \$43.3 million spent in support of Proposition 8.

San Francisco Deputy City Attorney Mollie Lee said, "The winners here are really the voters of California. The First Amendment interest that the judge upheld in his ruling is the interest in having a robust democracy, an informed electorate and vigorous debate."

ProtectMarriage.com, a coalition of right-wing groups, sponsored and campaigned for the state constitutional amendment known as Proposition 8, which ultimately was approved by 52 percent of California voters and has been subject to continuing court challenges by same-sex marriage supporters. The National Organization for Marriage solicited donations that were used to qualify the measure for the November 2008 voters.

—AP

## Education bill bound for Senate floor

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

A bill to overhaul the No Child Left Behind Act is bound for the U.S. Senate floor with a provision requiring school districts receiving federal funding to prohibit bullying and harassment.

Left behind in the committee room, however, was a proposal from U.S. Sen. Bob Casey, D-Pa., that the legislation specifically prohibit bullying and harassment based on race, color, national

origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or religion.

The bill to overhaul the Elementary and Secondary Education Act — more commonly known as No Child Left Behind — passed out of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee by a vote of 15-7 on Oct. 20 following 10 months of negotiations.

U.S. Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, chairs the commit-

tee. He said the bill "will ensure that students graduate from school ready for college and careers and focus federal resources where they will be most effective. It will replace punitive sanctions and labels with supports for teaching and learning, increase flexibility for innovation on the local level, and distribute resources equitably to ensure a top-notch education for every American student."

Casey said that while he

was pleased with the committee vote, the measure needs more work.

The bill includes an amendment by Casey to support state efforts to improve instruction in the arts, foreign languages, history, civics, economics, financial literacy, health education, environmental education, physical education and social studies. It also includes Casey's proposal to require school districts with federal funding to implement student conduct

policies prohibiting bullying and harassment.

But lacking in the legislation are specific protections based on the Safe Schools Improvement Act that Casey introduced a year ago with support from the American Association of School Administrators, the National Education Association and numerous other education and human rights groups.

In October, which was National Bullying Prevention Month, the NEA urged

elected officials and school administrators to step up anti-bullying efforts.

According to NEA research, 98 percent of school employees believe it is their job to intervene when they see bullying happening in their school. More than half of those surveyed indicated they witnessed bullying two or more times in the last month.

Casey said last week he would push to amend the bill on the Senate floor.

### NATIONAL BRIEFS

#### LA. MAN SENTENCED FOR HATE CRIME

A Shreveport, La., man recently was sentenced to 23 years for a gay bashing.

William Payne was sentenced in late October in state district court, just days after pleading guilty to attacking a man with a pool cue inside a downtown Shreveport club in January.

Payne told the courtroom he was high and drunk the night he assaulted John Skaggs, leaving him with what prose-

cutors described as "horrific" facial injuries.

#### KAMENY HONORED IN DC

Several memorials are being planned for gay rights pioneer Frank Kameny, who died Oct. 11.

Also, the Smithsonian Institution recently held an opening for a special display of some of Kameny's picket signs.

Friends of Kameny organized a farewell viewing on Nov. 3 at the historic

Carnegie Library. A formal public memorial service and burial are being planned for a later date.

#### PRESIDENT PRESENTS MEDALS

Barack Obama presented Presidential Citizen Medals to 13 citizens in October, including a woman who championed changes in how hospitals treat same-sex

partners of patients.

A statement from the White House said the president honored Janice Langbehn of Lacey, Wash., for fighting for fair treatment for all.

Langbehn's partner was hospitalized after suffering a brain aneurysm in February 2007. Langbehn was not allowed to see her partner, who died alone. Langbehn

sued in federal court and her story attracted the attention of Obama, who later required visitation rights for same-sex couples at hospitals receiving Medicare or Medicaid funds.

#### PROSECUTOR NAMES MYSTERY MAN

Prosecutors in October gave up their battle to keep the name of the mystery man in the Rutgers University webcam spying case a secret and complied with a judge's

order to give the name to the suspect and his lawyer.

Dharun Ravi, lawyer Steven Altman and an investigator can know the man's name — but they're not allowed to reveal it to anyone, even in the course of their investigation.

Ravi, 19, is accused of using a webcam in September 2010 to spy on roommate Tyler Clementi's intimate encounter with the man identified only as M.B.

— from AP and WiG reports




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### District offered a settlement in exchange for silence

**TEACHER** from I accusing Stewart of fabricating the story to get back at the boy for using the word "faggot," she said.

Jensen, however, did act when a heterosexual teacher raised concerns about the same student.

Subsequently, Stewart began to identify a pattern of harassment. On a day when a highway accident made many commuters on the faculty late for class, Stewart said she was the only one to receive a reprimand from Jensen. When she took family medical leave to care for her partner, who had been diagnosed with breast cancer, Stewart said Jensen inquired about her absence and told other staff that Stewart had no right to take time off to care for a girlfriend.

Before she filed a complaint with the state, Stewart said she sought to resolve the issue within the district. She filed a harassment complaint in July 2010, but said no action was taken.

The district, in response to Stewart's initial complaint, stated that Jensen was

**'It's extremely important for gay students to know there is somebody in the school to talk to.'**

unaware of Stewart's sexual orientation when some of the incidents were alleged to have occurred. The district also said that Jensen investigated but could not substantiate Stewart's claim that the student in question had threatened her life.

Also, the district alleged that Stewart, an employee since August 2006, began an unauthorized investigation of how administrators handled disciplinary issues with a particular student and neglected her teaching duties.

The initial state review,

however, found "it appears the Complainant's internal complaints only triggered investigations of the Complainant, rather than attempts to eliminate anti-gay sentiment within the Respondent's school."

Equal rights officer Kelly Bocanegra wrote there is probable cause the district violated the state fair employment law by discriminating against Stewart because of her sexual orientation – and also because she opposed a discriminatory practice.

After the probable cause determination, Stewart and district officials "attempted to mediate the dispute with the help of an administrative law judge," said John Dipko of the WDW. "A settlement was not reached. The dispute is now awaiting hearing."

**DEAL-BREAKER**  
In discussing a settlement, the district offered to increase its anti-discrimination training.

"We have already taken steps to do this," Tapp said, also stating that the district adheres to its anti-discrimi-

nation policy, which includes sexual orientation.

A deal-breaker on the settlement was the district's requirement that Stewart sign a letter forbidding her from referring to her sexual orientation with students.

"We do not permit any staff to discuss sexual conduct in class," Tapp said.

To Stewart, the ultimatum was like a schoolhouse version of "don't ask, don't tell."

"I feel this is important," she said. "It's extremely important for gay students to know there is somebody in the school to talk to. That's why I refused to sign that statement. I didn't feel good about that."

Stewart also wants commitments from the district that Jensen, now a principal at a Racine elementary school, never again will be her supervisor and that the district will do more to protect teachers and students from bullying and bias.

"I love the part of my job that deals with kids," Stewart said. "I love every day coming into the classroom and working with the kids."



PHOTO: SCOTT ANDERSON © THE RACINE JOURNAL TIMES  
**Racine middle school teacher Halli N. Stewart**

### 'Nation's laws haven't kept pace with the changing reality of America's families'

**ADOPTION** from I that," said institute executive director Adam Pertman. "Our hope and belief is that by providing greater knowledge to professionals, policy-makers and the public, the result will be more families for the children who need them."

The adoption institute reported:

- About one-third of adoptions by lesbians and gays were "open," meaning the door was left open for children to develop future relationships with their birth families.
- Seventy-three percent of birth families initially had positive reactions toward the sexual orientation of the adoptive parents.
- Male couples more often than female couples reported having been chosen by birth families because of their sexual orientation. Men said that birthmothers expressed a desire to remain the child's only mother.
- More than 10 percent of the children adopted by gays and lesbians were 6 or older, a population gen-

erally perceived as more difficult to place.

• Lesbians and gays adopt at significant rates – more than 65,000 adopted children and 14,000 foster children in the United States are residing in homes headed by people who aren't straight.

• At least 60 percent of U.S. adoption agencies accept gays and lesbians as applicants.

• More than 50 percent of lesbian and gay parents adopted children from the child welfare system.

• More than 80 percent of lesbians and gays reported that they volunteered information about their sexual orientation with their adoption workers, and most workers responded in positively.

Several days after the adoption institute released its report, the Center for American Progress in Washington, D.C., issued another major research-based paper – "All Children Matter: How Legal and Social Inequalities Hurt LGBT Families."

That report concluded that 2 million children "have become collateral damage of decades of ideology, laws and policies designed to hurt lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Americans."

A coalition of LGBT leaders, policy experts and child advocates, including the Donaldson Adoption Institute, the Family Equality Council, the Movement Advancement Project, the Center for American Progress, the National Association of Social Workers, COLAGE and the Child Welfare League of America worked on the paper.

"Many Americans don't realize how anti-gay laws and policies hurt children," said Jeff Krehely of the Center for American Progress. "The Supreme Court of North Carolina just invalidated all second-parent adoptions, undermining family security and leaving children as legal strangers to the LGBT parents who have raised them since birth. Similarly, when states like Minnesota and North Carolina advance bal-

lot initiatives to deny marriage to same-sex couples, it can have serious consequences, such as denying children access to a parent's health insurance."

The report detailed how existing laws can deny children legal ties to both of their parents and separate children from their parents in cases of divorce or death of a parent. Existing laws can also deny children access to quality child care and early education and deny children Social Security survivor ben-

efits or inheritance.

"Our nation's laws and policies simply have not kept pace with the changing reality of America's families," said Ineke Mushovic of the Movement Advancement Project. "All Children Matter outlines common-sense recommendations that should be looked at very seriously by anyone claiming to fight for children's well-being. Many of these solutions would serve the needs not only of children with LGBT parents, but also those in

other families as well, such as children of unmarried heterosexual parents."

- Solutions include:
- Pass marriage equality laws, and repeal the Defense of Marriage Act.
  - Provide equal access to government-based protections for families.
  - Provide LGBT parents and their children with equal access to healthcare and health insurance.
  - Protect LGBT families with non-discrimination laws and anti-bullying policies.

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## { Editorial }

# Show Walker the exit, fast

Scott Walker won a close race for governor largely on a promise to create 250,000 new jobs by 2015. Now, only 10 months into his tenure, Walker's own administration has acknowledged that he's going to miss that mark by a long shot.

The Department of Revenue released a report on Oct. 28 that predicted the state would add only 136,000 jobs in the private sector between 2010 and 2014.

Through September, the state had added just 29,300 jobs since Walker took office in January. If Walker's job-creating pace were to continue, about 156,000 new jobs would be created in the state by 2015.

More frightening than the pace of job creation under Walker is the prospect of the kind of jobs the state will gain. Walker has not tried to hide the fact that his allegiance is to wealthy, out-of-state corporate interests rather than the state's working- and middle-class citizens. Corporate chiefs paid for his victory, and they are now lining his campaign coffers to fight his prospective recall election next year.

Those corporations want to extract as much of the state's resources as possible — and as cheaply as possible. This means paying workers the least they can get away with and having free rein to pollute our air and water. It means getting special tax status that minimizes their financial contribution to the state and being shielded from lawsuits that might result from their actions or their products.

Under the much-mocked mantra, "Wisconsin is open for business," Walker has given his corporate backers everything they desired. He has enacted the most reckless legislative agenda in the state's history.

In just a few months, Walker reversed the course of Wisconsin's progressive history, enacting laws that busted unions, lifted environmental protections, gave big tax breaks to the wealthy, limited product liability, made it harder to vote and slashed healthcare programs for working- and middle-class Wisconsinites.

The state's Republicans also have decimated education spending, ensuring that many of the next generation of Wisconsinites will be unprepared for anything beyond menial, low-paying work. They have nixed 21st-century industries such as high-speed rail and green energy, because those industries would have competed with the business interests of their corporate sponsors.

Instead of working to create quality jobs, Walker and his Republican cronies have focused on bizarre measures that will allow people to carry concealed weapons into government buildings and prevent insurance companies from covering women's reproductive health.

Walker has not opened Wisconsin for business, but he has sold out its values, its traditions and its resources for the short-term financial gain of a few and the political gain of the extreme. This is not what democracy looks like.

Wisconsinites have a unique opportunity to show Walker the Governor's Mansion's exit next year. A broad coalition of progressive groups has joined forces with the Democratic Party to gather enough signatures to force a recall election. They're knocking on doors, making phone calls, and fanning out across state to show this governor — and all future governors — that the people and resources of Wisconsin are not for sale to the highest corporate bidder.

Walker has done enough damage. We urge readers to join the movement to force him out of office as quickly as possible.



"Jesus's ideas sound compelling — but it might just be a front for a right-wing Christian agenda."

## { Feedback }

### A MESSAGE FOR SCOTT WALKER

As I write, Scott Walker and his rubberstamps in the Legislature are taking an ax to the foundations of Wisconsin's democracy to try to protect their own jobs. Just days before we begin collecting signatures to recall Walker, he and his fellow Republicans are attempting to add a new requirement that all recall petitions must be notarized.

Walker himself voted for the reforms that were put in place in 1999 removing the notary requirement.

Walker knows we have

the energy and the support needed to recall him. But rather than let your voice be heard, he's trying to put up roadblocks to impede the recall process and sully our democracy. Rest assured: They will not stop us.

Republicans and their powerful corporate special-interest backers know they can't stop our people-powered movement. That's why they are resorting to more dirty tricks.

In just 10 months, Walker has done everything he can to deny the rights of Wisconsinites at the ballot box. He passed an undemocratic voter ID bill. He signed

into law rules that give him power over the non-partisan board that regulates Wisconsin's elections. And now he is trying to change the recall petition process itself for his own benefit.

Show Scott Walker what democracy looks like. Make sure your voice is heard by signing a recall petition. Go to [recallwalkerhq.com](http://recallwalkerhq.com) to learn more about our historic effort to rid the state of leadership that is not of the people but of the privileged and politically connected.

Mike Tate  
Chair, Wisconsin  
Democratic Party

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## ON THE RECORD

"Why not take a portion of the millions of dollars you earned on your wedding and donate it to the Human Rights Campaign to help fight for marriage equality?"  
— THE "REAL WORD" STARS JILL GOLDSTEIN AND NIKKI WEISS-GOLDSTEIN writing to Kim Kardashian, who's divorcing basketball star Kris Humphries after 72 days of marriage. The lesbian couple alleges that Kardashian demeaned the institution of marriage by using it as a money-making publicity stunt that netted her a reported \$18 million.

"Dear Fox News, don't play our music on your evil fucking channel ever again. Thank you."  
— LGBT ALLY ADAM LEVINE of the group Maroon 5.

"Although people don't agree with me, I happen to think that it is a personal choice."  
— GOP PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE HERMAN CAIN telling CNN host Piers Morgan that he believes people choose to be gay.

"To rid the world of Osama bin Laden, Anwar al-Awlaki and Moammar Qaddafi within six months: If Obama were a Republican, he'd be on Mount Rushmore by now."  
— GAY PUNDIT ANDREW SULLIVAN.

"If a man were to masturbate while engaged in other forms of sexual intimacy with his wife, then he would not be doing so in a homosexual way. However, any man who does so without his wife in the room is bordering on homosexual activity, particularly if he's watching himself in a mirror and being turned on by his own male body."  
— HOMO-OBSSESSED PASTOR MARK DRISCOLL of Seattle's Mars Hill Church warning his flock about masturbatory practices that might compromise their eligibility for heaven.

"Your 11-year-old has broken her leg rather badly and needs to be in the hospital a few days, which would you prefer: A nurse who's proud of her lesbianism, who has rainbow identifiers on her work clothing, or a nurse who does not?"  
— MISSION AMERICA'S LINDA HARVEY warning Christian parents to keep their vulnerable kids away from LGBT healthcare professionals by putting a letter on file at hospitals requesting that their kids only be treated by straight nurses and doctors, unless it's an emergency.

"Gay men have better bodies, on the whole, That's No. 1, and No. 2: They care more about what they look like. Very seldom will you find a gay schlep."  
— JOAN RIVERS commenting on why there aren't more gay men camped out with the Occupy Wall Street protest.

"I'll tell you right now, if there was a gay fighter in UFC, I wish he would come out. I could care less if there's a gay fighter in the UFC. There probably is, and there's probably more than one."  
— ULTIMATE FIGHTING CHAMPIONSHIP PRESIDENT DANA WHITE responding to criticism that the UFC is a homophobic organization.

## Recalls bring out worst in GOP

Since Republicans took over state government they have gone about trying to permanently rig the state's entire electoral system in their favor. Apparently they are intent on misusing every tool at their disposal to ensure their continuing monopoly on political power in Wisconsin.

After forcing a radical agenda on the state, they clearly seem insecure about their future electoral prospects. Otherwise why would they try so blatantly to stack the electoral deck? They have established one of the strictest voter ID laws in the country — a law that disproportionately affects traditional Democratic voters, including the elderly, students, minorities and the poor.

They tried to wrestle rule-making authority away from the non-partisan Government Accountability Board. They tried to radically redistrict the state behind closed doors. They're trying



to split Wisconsin's electoral votes in presidential elections.

As if this long list of tampering wasn't enough, now right-wing Christian Sen. Mary Lazich, R-New Berlin, is trying to rush through even more disgraceful legislation.

The recall effort against Gov. Scott Walker is set to begin on Nov. 15, so perhaps we should have expected something like the newly proposed Lazich bills. One is a fairly transparent attempt to make Walker's recall all but impossible. In it, Lazich proposes that every recall petition must be formally notarized, which would at least slow down the recall effort.

The new law also would open an entirely new set of arguments that Republicans could use when they inevi-

tably file lawsuits challenging the coming recall against Walker. Ironically, Walker himself opposed one of the changes that Lazich has proposed to the law when he served as a state representative in 1999.

A new batch of Republican state senators also will likely face recalls next year, and Lazich is trying to fast-track yet another bill to help stifle that process. The gerrymandering and backroom redistricting that Republicans engaged in earlier this year was set to go into place starting with the November 2012 election. The redistricting was designed to make it easier for Republicans to win.

But now, facing more recall challenges, Republicans have decided they want to make the new Republican-friendly districts effective immediately. But they only want the effective date moved up for the state Senate, not the Assembly. Only extreme des-

peration or shocking arrogance can explain such a transparently brazen effort.

The legality of such an effort has already been called into question. GOP state Sen. Dale Schultz, R-Richland Center, recently announced that he would not vote for the legislation, which could prevent it from moving forward.

Regardless of the end result of these latest Republican abuses, it is the attempt that tells us everything that we need to know about today's Wisconsin GOP. The only thing that matters to them is winning, and they will do everything they can to keep the public from holding them fully accountable for their radical agenda at the ballot box.

One thing that has certainly been proven this year is that the threat of being held accountable through recall has truly brought out the absolute worst in Wisconsin Republicans.

## 'Occupy' protests need focus

I'm a big believer in military and in-your-face tactics to confront injustice. There's no reason to be polite in an era of mass joblessness, historic economic inequality and government inertia. Marches and occupations are vital means of protest. They trumpet the injustice afflicting people, build solidarity among the aggrieved, confront intransigent power structures and, in the short or long term, bring about change.

I'm thrilled with the Occupy Wall Street movement and how it has sparked activism throughout the country. Apart from corporate-funded Tea Party rallies, the people really affected by hard times have seemed eerily complacent, so the uptick in resistance is a huge step forward.

However, the inevitable police crackdowns are obscuring the movement's already vague goals. "Abolish Money" one sign read, rather wistfully. "We are the 99 percent!" a protester shouted as he was taken into custody.

Well, OK, but how about something a little more concrete? Like Congressional



passage of President Barack Obama's jobs bill? Or reenactment of the Glass-Steagall Act (repealed in 1999), which separated and regulated the financial transactions of investment and commercial banks? Or immediate relief for people hoodwinked into home loans with outrageous terms and rates of interest?

Mass sit-ins at the district or Washington offices of members of Congress would raise publicity and pressure for the first two demands, while similar disruptions would put a little fear of god into the worst of the bloodsucking mortgage lenders. Imagine, if instead of one nervous homeowner trying to negotiate a deal, he or she were joined by 200 neighbors — loud neighbors with signs, drums and banners! These scenarios make more sense to me than occupying outdoor public spaces for weeks on end with no discernible demands or exit

strategy.

Historically, the most successful occupations have been carefully targeted actions with specific demands, like the occupations of university offices in the 1960s to demand black studies programs, or the occupation of the federal building in San Francisco by people with disabilities to secure implementation of the Rehabilitation Act (passed in 1973 but enforced only after the rousing 28-day occupation in 1977).

Activists should also look beyond the "occupy" rubric to employ other tactics. Children's marches, which dramatized the plight of child labor and led to protective legislation a century ago, could be organized to expose our disgraceful rate of child poverty and demand restoration of safety-net programs. Corporate fat cats with golden parachute payouts and decadent lifestyles should be pilloried in every way possible through the various media and in real life. And can some queer out there please write some

fabulous chants or witty slogans? The current rhetoric is so uninspired.

Regarding police crackdowns: Expect more and don't be surprised by harsh tactics. Throughout U.S. history, police forces, state militias and private security firms have infiltrated groups and blackmailed, beaten or murdered people who dared to organize for their rights. In 1886, state militia shot and killed six workers and a child marching for the eight-hour workday in Milwaukee's Bay View. Civil rights workers were hosed, beaten and murdered, and the Ohio National Guard shot four students to death during anti-war protests at Kent State in 1970.

Charged to enforce the law, police protect the power structure. Post-9/11 security concerns along with new crowd-control tactics developed in the wake of angry protests at IMF and other world summits are shaping police responses to the Occupy movement.

We certainly have their attention. It's time to sharpen our message.

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## Charity moves good intentions into action

### Religion

ANDREW WARNER

Just as assuredly as leaves will fall, this season brings requests for donations: United Way, Community Shares, local nonprofits and faith communities. It seems everyone makes an appeal this time of year.

One could respond to these appeals by weighing the competing needs of the organizations: Which one most needs my donation to do its work? Or prioritizing one charity over another: Which is most important to me?

But giving to charity is about more than supporting the good work of a nonprofit organization. Charity is about our desire to be generous.

We not only ask what a charity will do but who we will be or become by virtue of giving. In brief, giving to charity changes us spiritually.

It starts with our self-identity. Our American culture encourages us to identify ourselves on the basis of brands. What neighborhood have we bought into with our house? What does our car say about us? What do we wear?

We live in a world of brands, of identities shaped by shopping.

A gift to a charity is part of basing our identity not on what we own, but instead on generosity. We become people whose wealth is measured not in what we acquire but in what we give away.

Such gifts move us away from a culture of things to a



PHOTO: COURTESY

new sense of connection to people in the past and those yet to come. Nearly 100 years ago, Fannie Wells Norris and her son Daniel Wells Norris gave my congregation the funds to build a gymnasium for the youth in our neighborhood. The gift reflected

the commitment of the family to serve youth who were homeless or in difficult situations. They also founded the Norris Center at Lad Lake.

All these years later, their gift continues to enrich the lives of youth. Every week my congregation partners with a

social service agency called Pathfinders to serve homeless and at-risk youth at the church.

The Norris' gift connected them to people they could never know, 100 years in the future. My own gifts to Pathfinders connect me back

to Fannie Wells Norris and Daniel Wells Norris.

But generosity is not just about the past and the future. It's also about the here and especially the now.

Dan Savage famously started the "It Gets Better" project, in which people make videos encouraging bullied LGBT people to know their lives will get better.

When we give to charity we move from saying "It gets better" to "I'll make it better." Charity moves us from wishing for change to ensuring that it happens. Giving to charity can transform how we see ourselves, connect us to those who came before us, and turn us into people who change the world.

This fall, amid all the charities asking for your help, find a way to say yes.

## OPEN & AFFIRMING CONGREGATIONS

### MILWAUKEE

**All Saints' Cathedral** (Episcopal), 818 E. Juneau Ave., 53202, 414-271-7719, [www.ascathedral.org](http://www.ascathedral.org)

**Central United Methodist Church**, 639 N. 25th St., 53233, 414-344-1600, [www.centralumcmilw.org](http://www.centralumcmilw.org)

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

**Cross Lutheran Church**, 1821 N. 16th St., 53205, 414-344-1746, [www.crosslutheranmilwaukee.org](http://www.crosslutheranmilwaukee.org)

**Divine Word Lutheran Church**, 5505 Lloyd St., 53208, 414-476-3189, [divinewordlutheran.org](http://divinewordlutheran.org)

**First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee**, 1342 N. Astor St., 53202, 414-273-5257, [www.uumilwaukee.org](http://www.uumilwaukee.org)

**Grace Lutheran Church (ELCA)**, 303 Green Bay Rd., Thiensville, 53092, 262-242-1174, [www.grace53092.org](http://www.grace53092.org)

**Lake Park Lutheran Church**, 2647 N. Stowell Ave., 53211, 414-962-9190, [lakeparklutheran.com](http://lakeparklutheran.com)

**Metropolitan Community Church**, 1239 W. Mineral St., 53204, 414-383-1100, [www.milccc.org](http://www.milccc.org)

**Milwaukee Friends Meeting (Quakers)**, 3224 N. Gordon Place, 53212, 414-263-2111, [www.milwaukeequakers.org](http://www.milwaukeequakers.org)

**Mt. Zion Lutheran Church**, 12012 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa 53226, 414-258-0456, [www.mtzionlutheran.org](http://www.mtzionlutheran.org)

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**, 3022 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53208, 414-342-5252, [www.oslcmilw.org](http://www.oslcmilw.org)

**Plymouth Church**, 2717 E. Hampshire Ave., 53211, 414-964-1513, [www.plymouth-church.org](http://www.plymouth-church.org)

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 2618 N. Hackett Ave., 53211, 414-962-0500, [www.stmarksmilwaukee.org](http://www.stmarksmilwaukee.org)

**St. James Episcopal Church**, 833 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53233, 414-964-1513, [www.stjamesmilwaukee.org](http://www.stjamesmilwaukee.org)

**Tippecanoe Church PCUSA-Living Waters Contemplative Life Center**, 125 W. Saveland Ave., Bay View, 53207, 414-481-4680, [www.tippechurch.org](http://www.tippechurch.org)

**Underwood Memorial Baptist Church**, 1916 Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa 53213, [www.underwoodchurch.org](http://www.underwoodchurch.org)

**Unitarian Church North**, 13800 N. Port Washington Rd., 53097, 262-375-3890, [www.ucnorth.org](http://www.ucnorth.org)

**Unitarian Universalist Church West**, 13001 W. North Ave., Brookfield, WI 53005, 262-782-3535 ext. 12, <http://uuocw.org>

**Universal Anglican Church – Christ Enlight**, Marion Center for Nonprofits, 3195 S. Superior St., 53207, 414-793-4828, [www.uacmilwaukee.org](http://www.uacmilwaukee.org)

**Village Church**, 130 E. Juneau Ave., 53202, 414-273-7617, [villagechurchmilwaukee.org](http://villagechurchmilwaukee.org)

**Wauwatosa Presbyterian Church**, 2366 N. 80th St., Wauwatosa, 53213, 414-774-5005, [www.tosapres.com](http://www.tosapres.com)

### MADISON

**Advent Lutheran Church ELCA**, 7118 Old Sauk Rd., 53717, 608-836-1455, [www.madisonchristiancommunity.org](http://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](http://www.madisonchristiancommunity.org)

**First United Methodist Church**, 203 Wisconsin Ave., 53703-2105, 608-256-9061, [www.wisconsinumc.org/madison-firstumc/](http://www.wisconsinumc.org/madison-firstumc/)

**James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation**, 2146 E. Johnson St., 53704, 608-242-8887, [www.jrucc.org](http://www.jrucc.org)

**Plymouth Congregational UCC**, 2401 Atwood Ave., 53704, 608-249-1537, [www.pucc.org](http://www.pucc.org)

### GREEN BAY

**Angels of Hope MCC**, P.O. Box 672, Green Bay, 54305, 920-983-7452, [www.aohmcc.org](http://www.aohmcc.org), [aohchurch@netnet.net](mailto:aohchurch@netnet.net)

**Hope United Church of Christ**, 141 S. 12th Ave., Sturgeon Bay,

54235, 920-743-2701, [www.hopechurchdc.org](http://www.hopechurchdc.org), [hopeucc@hopechurchdc.org](mailto:hopeucc@hopechurchdc.org)

**Union Congregational United Church of Christ**, 716 S. Madison St., 54301-3609, 920-437-9266, [www.unionucc.com](http://www.unionucc.com), [office@unionucc.com](mailto:office@unionucc.com)

### FOX VALLEY

**Fox Valley UU Fellowship**, 2600 Philip Lane, Appleton, 54915, 920-731-0849, [www.fvuuf.org](http://www.fvuuf.org)

**SS Cyril and Methodius United Independent Catholic Church**, 3499 Oakridge Road, Neenah, 54956, 920-809-3969, [www.uicchurch.homestead.com](http://www.uicchurch.homestead.com), [sscyrilandmethodius@yahoo.com](mailto:sscyrilandmethodius@yahoo.com)

### KENOSHA/RACINE

**Bradford Community Church-Unitarian Universalist**, 5810 Eighth Ave., 53140, 262-656-0544, [www.bradforduu.org](http://www.bradforduu.org)

**Olympia Brown Unitarian Universalist Church**, 625 College Ave., 53403, 262-634-0659, [www.obuuc.org](http://www.obuuc.org), [mail@obuuc.org](mailto:mail@obuuc.org)

### OTHER

**First Christian Church**, 1909 Highland Ave., Janesville, 53548, 608-752-3847, [www.fcjanesville.org](http://www.fcjanesville.org)

**First Congregational UCC**, 504 Washington Ave., Sauk City, 53583, 608-643-8387, [firstucc@merr.com](http://firstucc@merr.com)

**Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lakes**, 319 N. Broad St., Elkhorn, 53121, 262-723-7440, [www.uulakes.org](http://www.uulakes.org)

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation**, 421 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, 54701, 715-834-0690, [www.uueauclaire.com](http://www.uueauclaire.com)

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# Tips to keep Fido on the floor, off the guests



The Associated Press

The holidays often involve visits from family and friends, but unless your dog keeps all four on the floor, you might be the one in the doghouse.

Some people will be frightened by a dog that greets guests at the door by jumping up. Others may be allergic, frail or easily knocked off balance. A pawmark or doggy drool on guests' clothing is embarrassing, and while some visitors will say they love dogs and it's no big deal, others will be annoyed.

Diane Morgan, who includes jumping up in her book "Complete Guide to Dog Care" (Animal Planet and TFH Publications), says dogs can be trained not to jump at the door. But it takes time and patience. Tucker, a 50-pound Labradoodle, can "sit, shake, high-five, lay down, roll over, stay, heel, do all that stuff," said owner Mike Pentz, who lives in Columbus, Ohio. "The only time he doesn't listen is at the front door."

Pentz and his wife Yvonne worked with trainers using clickers, a leash, and commands to try to stop the

behavior, but nothing worked. Finally they resorted to putting him in the laundry room when company arrives. Now, Pentz says, when the bell rings, Tucker runs to the laundry room and "waits for me to close the door." Once guests have settled in, Tucker comes out, checks everyone out and lies down.

But Morgan doesn't recommend putting a dog in another room as a way to prevent jumping at the door, because it can lead to other problems like whining, scratching or barking. The goal, she said, is to refocus the pooch's attention. About 85 percent of dogs care about treats and 15 percent care about toys, so use what amuses your pet the most.

Here are some of Morgan's techniques:

- Have a treat or toy in your hand when you walk in the door. Instantly throw it on the floor. The dog will soon understand that the best way to get the treat is to look on the floor, not to jump up.
- Teach the dog to sit. Once he is still, throw a treat on the floor.
- Try walking in the door with a can or jar of pennies. "Shake it really hard. It

acts as a warning or signal to stay away."

- Put the dog on a short leash and keep him at your side. "Have people get down low to greet him."
- Walk in and ignore the dog. If you don't give him attention, he will stop. Morgan added this warning: "He may become frantic at first and try harder and might ruin your clothes." You may have to cross your arms and turn your back on the dog to be sure he gets the message.
- Last resort: When the dog jumps up, take him by his front legs and hold him like you are dancing. He will be real happy for about two seconds, then want down. Keep holding for several more seconds. Dogs don't like staying on their hind legs. With repetition, the dog will get the idea.

No matter what method you try, "it will only work if everybody in the house is involved," Morgan said. Take turns leaving the house and coming back, repeating the treat, the dance, the chilly reception or the noise, whatever you've chosen.

In addition, she said, before

guests arrive, "make sure your dog has access to toys and things he likes. Make sure he gets some healthy exercise before dinner. Wear him out. The more tired he is before guests arrive, the better behaved he will be after. Make sure he is bathed and clean. You don't want the dog to smell bad. And make sure his toenails are clipped in case he does jump."

There are also things you should not do, she said.

- "Never yell at them. Believe it or not, that's reward, getting attention."
- "Never shove them in the chest. It will hurt the dog. And big challenging dogs like malamutes will think you are playing and will push back."
- "Some people say step on their toes. No."
- "Never pet your dog on his hind legs. Petting there encourages them to jump up."

Morgan says you can use the same techniques to retrain dogs who greet guests by sniffing them in embarrassing places.

Once you've made progress breaking the dog's jumping habit, ask a friend to come over for a test run before your holiday party or big dinner.

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WIGOUT!

WISCONSIN GAZETTE ENTERTAINMENT

## Ray sheds light on Indigo Girls' latest album

By Gregg Shapiro  
Staff writer

Almost 25 years after Amy Ray and Emily Saliers released their first album under the Indigo Girls banner, they continue getting better. The out duo's new album "Beauty Queen Sister" ranks among their best work. Their trademark folk rock style is augmented by bluegrass and Irish music influences, making for a varied and gripping listening experience.

I spoke with Ray shortly before the disc was released in October.

Gregg Shapiro: **The moon figures prominently in four songs on "Beauty Queen Sister." Why do you think that is?**

Amy Ray: (Laughing) I have no idea. We didn't even notice, believe it or not, until after we were recording. We were like, "Uh-oh, there are a lot of moons in here. We're being very moony women." Maybe it's our age or something. We're waxing poetic.

**Something else that plays a significant role on the album is Luke Bulla's violin.**

We met him through Peter Collins when we did our holiday record. Peter heard him in Nashville playing at the Bluebird one night. He plays with Lyle Lovett, and he plays also in a band called WPA. He does the singer/songwriter thing, he sings too. But we met him for the holiday record. He's a blue grass player. He plays guitar, violin, mandolin, everything - you name it.

He's a great flat picker, too. But his violin playing is way beyond. Most of the stuff he did on the record is live, like "Yoke." I don't know how he accomplished it. He is special. He's a new addition. Also, the bass player Frank (Swart) plays with Patty Griffin a lot. We just happened on him and we were really lucky, because he had huge input on this record.

**Another interesting addition is the backing vocals by The Shadowboxers (Adam Hoffman, Matt Lipkins, Scott Schwartz) on the title cut and "We Get to Feel it All." How did you come to work together?**

They're friends of Emily's. She met them at Emory, our old alma mater. They all went there. They graduated from there last year. They were just these guys that started a band. She met one of them at a Seder and she said, "God, your voice is beautiful." He was singing at the Seder. They played guitar together later and he said, "I've got this band." And it all went from there and they opened for us. The band is quite amazing, and their voices are stunning.

**I heard the title track to "Beauty Queen Sister" was inspired in part by S.E. Hinton's "The Outsiders." Are you a voracious reader, and what are you currently reading?**

I am a voracious reader and so is Emily. She probably reads more than I do.

She's quick. I have stacks of books by my bed. You know what I just read that actually has been out for a while but I really got a lot out of it. It's a book called "Zeitoun." Dave Eggers wrote it and it's about a Muslim American family during Hurricane Katrina and what they went through. I was scared that it would be too hard, because it's such an upsetting thing, then I read it and it was told amazing. I read old history books. I like to read books that were written in weird times. Like a book from the 1930s about the Civil War to hear the differences and see what how they looked at it and the difference from now. I just read that biography of Cleopatra that Stacy Schiff wrote. One of my very favorite writers of all time is Louise Erdrich. If you read her last five books, you would just be blown away. She just gets better and more mature.

**Not surprisingly politics and social issues make an appearance on the album. With the presidential election a little more than a year away, what are your thoughts on the current state of the nation?**

I guess I feel they're so polarized. We all talk about how polarized that they are, but they really are. I don't know which came first - that the media told us it was and we became more polarized, or if the media is reacting to the fact that we really are. I don't like that. It bums me out. I'm patriotic in that way. I really believe



PHOTO: DAEMON RECORDS  
Amy Ray

it takes all different kinds of people and from all different parties to make things work with lots of different input and ideas and that we need to respect each other, the convictions that we have. If we can have ... civil discourse, I really believe we can do better and solve problems. I guess I'm kind of an idealist and that's not what's happening (laughs).

**Emily's wedding song "Able To Sing" made me wonder if you have written or**

**been asked to write a song for a same-sex wedding or civil union?**

I've never been asked to write a song for a civil union. I have been asked to sing at some, but it's never worked out. Emily has written a song. Her dear friend got married to another woman, and she wrote a song for that, and it's quite a nice song. But no one will ever hear it because it was a gift. But I haven't done that actually. That would be hard. I think it's hard to write a song on command for that

kind of thing.

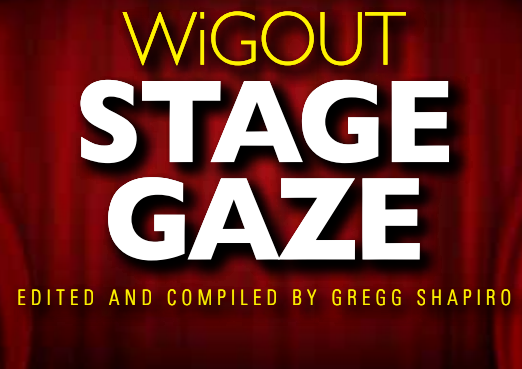
**Are you aware of existing Indigo Girls songs that have been used for that purpose?**

Everybody says they use "Power of Two." That's the most used song, straight or gay marriages.

### ON STAGE

Indigo Girls play the Barrymore Theatre in Madison on Nov. 10.

SPOTLIGHTING THE BEST ON AREA STAGES



Florentine Opera Company performs Puccini's "Turandot" at Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, at the corner of Water and State, Nov. 4 and Nov. 6. Call 414-273-2787.

StageQ presents the world premiere of "Ghost of a Chance," a fast-paced comedy with mistaken identities, ghostly possession and quirky characters by Carol Mullen, directed by Tara Ayres. "Ghost" is at Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin in Madison, through Nov. 5. Call 608-204-0280.

"Guys & Does," musical comedy by Wisconsin natives Frederick Heide, Lee Becker and Paul Libman, is at Tenth Street Theatre, 628 N. 10th St., through Nov. 6. Call 414-271-1371.

Renaissance Theaterworks presents Don Nigro's "Gorgons" at Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Directed by Drew Brhel, this production has received strong reviews for stars Marcella Kearns and Jennifer Rupp, who play two over-the-hill movie stars teaming up for a B-grade horror flick. Call 414-291-7800.

"Ti-Jean and His Brothers," by Caribbean playwright, poet and scholar Derek Walcott, is at Hemsley Theatre, 821 University in Madison, through Nov. 12. Call 608-265-ARTS (2787).



"Leaving Iowa" is at La Crosse Community Theatre, 118 Fifth Ave. N. in downtown La Crosse, through Nov. 13. Call 608-784-9292.

"The Nerd," a farce written by the late Larry Shue, is at Soulstice Theatre, 3770 S. Pennsylvania, Suite 2 in St. Francis, through Nov. 19.

Carte Blanche presents the Milwaukee premiere of the "hit" "Reefer Madness! The Musical" at 1024 S. Fifth, Nov. 4-20. 262-716-4689.

"Million Dollar Quartet" is a Tony Award-winning jukebox musical about the historic night that Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins and Jerry Lee Lewis gathered together at Sun Studios in



Memphis. "Quartet" is at Marcus Center For the Performing Arts, corner of Water and State in Milwaukee, Nov.15-20. Call 414-273-2787.

The 25th anniversary production of the beloved musical "Les Miserables," based on the novel by Victor Hugo, is at Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, 400 W. College Ave. in Appleton, Nov. 15-20. Call 920-730-3760.

"The Gift of the Magi," an original musical based on O. Henry's classic tale of love and generosity, is presented in the intimate, indoor Touchstone Theatre at American Players Theatre, 5950 Golf Course Road in Spring Green, Nov. 20-Dec. 18. Call 608-588-2361.

"The Importance of Being Earnest" is at Boulevard Theatre, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic, through Dec. 3. This production is a modern dress interpretation of Oscar Wilde's play, directed by Mark Bucher. Call 414-744-5747.

Forward Theater Co. presents "The Farnsworth Invention," a play by Oscar-winning writer Aaron Sorkin about the invention of television, Nov. 3-20. Forward Theater performs at Madison's Overture Center for the Arts. Call 608-258-4141.



Artwatch  
KAT MURRELL

Everyone seems to know a few things about Vincent van Gogh: He painted "The Starry Night," he cut off part of his ear, and he committed suicide. There is no questioning the first statement — it's an absolute fact. But when it comes to the com-

plicated lives of artists, history is filled with myths ripe for endless investigation and revision (just ask Leonardo da Vinci). Van Gogh, who sold only one painting in his lifetime, achieved posthumous acclaim for his art and much attention for the made-for-television drama of his personal life. But two of the oft-cited van Gogh stories are fading under the scrutiny of new theories.

In 2009, two German

art historians proposed the scenario van Gogh's pal, the sword-wielding bohemian Paul Gauguin, actually did the number on his ear. More recently and with greater fanfare, a new book is making waves with the premise that van Gogh did not commit suicide, but was accidentally shot by a tormenting little bully.

This intriguing, well-supported, and plausible claim is the climax of "Van Gogh:

The Life," by Steven Naifeh and Gregory White Smith. This hefty tome recounts the artist's life from his birth in the Netherlands to burial in a small town north of Paris.

While the provocative new ending is garnering the most attention, the rest of the book should not be overlooked. The authors orchestrate evocative descriptions of his life, work and the society he lived in, interspersed with poignant quotes from

the extensive correspondence between van Gogh and his family members, including his endlessly supportive brother, Theo. It is biography, it is art history, it is effortlessly readable and rich in detail.

While contemplating the life and death of van Gogh, check out Walker's Point Center for the Arts, 839 S. Fifth St., and Latino Arts, 1028 S. Ninth St., as they host their annual **Dia**

de los Muertos displays. The decorated altars honor, commemorate, and celebrate the lives of the dead, replete with dancing skeletons and colorful flowers. To learn more, attend the free lecture, "History and Traditions of Day of the Dead," at 6 p.m. on Nov. 10 at Latino Arts (RSVP requested: 414-384-3100).

Follow WiG at [www.wisconsin Gazette.com](http://www.wisconsin Gazette.com).

# The men behind 'Million Dollar Quartet'

## Theater

MICHAEL MUCKIAN

On Dec. 4, 1956, Memphis record producer Sam Phillips hosted a spontaneous recording session with four artists at his Sun Studio that changed popular music history. That fateful meeting has been recreated as "Million Dollar Quartet," the show that opens the Time Warner Cable Broadway series and runs Nov. 15-20 at Milwaukee's Marcus Center for the Performing Arts.

Phillips' studio, a tiny Union Avenue storefront that has since become a mecca for music lovers worldwide, was home to a small rhythm and blues and country label when a young truck driver named Elvis Presley walked in on July 18, 1953. He paid \$3.98 to record an acetate of "My Happiness" as a belated birthday gift for his mother.

Phillips, who had been looking for "a white man with a Negro sound," decided Presley might be the talent he needed to introduce the black R&B music of Sun artists such as B.B. King, Howlin' Wolf and Junior Brown to white audiences. Phillips' Sun label went on to record Presley's first commercial releases.

Fast forward to that December day in 1956. Carl Perkins, composer of "Blue Suede Shoes," was cutting

some material with a relatively unknown Jerry Lee Lewis on piano when Presley showed up. Now a sensation and an RCA recording artist just four months following his first appearance on "The Ed Sullivan Show," Presley was paying Phillips a visit in the recording booth. Sun country artist Johnny Cash, equally unexpected, showed up to hear Perkins lay down his tracks and the four musicians wound up in an impromptu jam session.

An editor from the Memphis Press-Scimitar, invited to the studio, described the session as "the million dollar quartet." The rest is musical history.

"When people watch this show, it takes them back if they lived through those times," says Cody Slaughter, the actor who portrays the young Elvis Presley. "If you're younger, you finally begin to understand why these four men changed the world."

Derek Keeling, who plays the young Johnny Cash, agrees. "Their impact was monumental and is still heard today," he says. "The real story is how Sam Phillips taught these men to just be themselves and let the music come out of them naturally. Their unique sounds are what made them all so special and famous."

Exploring the sounds of the musicians is what the show "Million Dollar Quartet" is all about. Authors Colin



PHOTO: COURTESY

"Million Dollar Quartet" opens the Time Warner Cable Broadway series and runs Nov. 15-20 at Milwaukee's Marcus Center for the Performing Arts.

Escott and Floyd Mutrux have re-imagined what might have happened during that special session, turning it into a greatest hits concert for the ages.

As Carl Perkins, Lee Ferris performs "Matchbox," a revamped blues track that the real Perkins had come to the studio to record in 1956, as well as the familiar tunes "See You Later, Alligator" and "Who Do You Love," which was a hit for George Thoroughgood and The Destroyers. As Jerry Lee

Lewis, Martin Kaye covers The Killer's seminal favorites "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On" and "Great Balls of Fire."

As Cash, Keeling performs "Folsom Prison Blues" and "I Walk the Line" among others, and Slaughter's Elvis delivers "That's All Right," "Long Tall Sally" and, of course, "Hound Dog."

And that's just the beginning of the music.

The storyline for "Million Dollar Quartet" also includes insights into the performers. The actors agree that

and wanted to record more gospel music. Slaughter, meanwhile, learned just how manipulated Presley was by other people and how lost he felt among the forces that were propelling his career.

"Elvis was pushed and pulled by everyone, and he often wondered whether he made the right decisions in life," Slaughter says. "But when he was home around Mr. Phillips, his family and his friends, he felt free. He had a lot going on in his head, and I try and bring that to the stage."

Part of making "Million Dollar Quartet" a hit is making the characters real, accessible and familiar. Keeling worked very hard to do that with his Johnny Cash, incorporating characteristics that fans of the Man in Black will recognize.

"Among my favorite 'Cashisms' is the way he says 'you' and 'way,'" Keeling says. "He really chews those vowels and he loves to use dipthongs."

stepping into such famous personas is much different than developing fictional characters.

"Unlike other roles, you lack the freedom to create something of your own," Keeling says. "We are required to capture the essence of these men without doing a parody. I watched hours of video and listened to countless recordings to get Cash's speech patterns and mannerisms down."

Keeling also learned that Cash was deeply religious

ON STAGE

"Million Dollar Quartet" opens Nov. 15 at Uihlein Hall in Milwaukee's Marcus Center for the Performing Arts and runs through Nov. 20. For more information, visit [marcuscenter.org](http://marcuscenter.org).

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# Stackner Cabaret's 'Song Man Dance Man' recalls the joy that's entertainment

## Theater

MICHAEL MUCKIAN



PHOTO: COURTESY

Jon Peterson.

Jon Peterson felt the joy in entertainment slipping away, as talent gave way to contemporary, negative social expression. To remedy that, the English entertainer decided to bring back to life seven of the greatest entertainers who ever lived, to remind people of what they are in danger of losing.

"Song Man Dance Man," Peterson's one-man homage to some of the great performers of the past, opens in the Milwaukee Rep's Stackner Cabaret on Nov. 4. Over the next two months the energetic 50-year-old will re-introduce audiences to the talents of George M. Cohan, Fred Astaire, Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor, Sammy Davis Jr., Bobby Darin and Anthony Newley.

### A one-man homage to some of the great performers of the past.

each song and dance man define his career. Think of it as a musical history lesson that begins with vaudeville, segues to the great MGM movie musicals and settles with quirky pop-song cross-overs of the 1960s.

"I chose these performers specifically because each man was responsible for inspiring that spark of joy at his moment and in his time," Peterson says. "This show isn't just a musical revue, it's more of a journey, an experience."

The 110-minute performance will highlight 25 separate numbers that helped

ter singers or better dancers, each filled the role in such a way as to create the image of an indelible and well-defined persona based on music and movement.

"People ask, 'Why not Song AND Dance Man,' but there was more to them than that," he says. "The sum total of their gifts was that they sang when they danced, or danced when they sang. Anthony Newley wasn't a dancer, but he inhabited his songs so physically that it became a thing of beauty."

The show's playlist is a "greatest hits" roster from multiple decades. It's also long on signature tunes, from Cohan's "You're a Grand Old Flag" and Kelly's "Singin' in the Rain" to Darin's "Mack the Knife" and Davis's "Candyman." The mix works better than some people might expect, Peterson says, because there is a great deal of connective tissue among the performers, each of

whom appears to be part of a greater musical whole that connects all of them at the level of the song.

"I discovered quite a few things about these guys," Peterson says. "Astaire knew and admired Cohan, and he collaborated with Kelly and O'Connor. And O'Connor knew and worked with Darrin, who was friends with Davis, who performed the work of Newley. They were all part of one big living organism of creativity."

Reviews of past performances cite as highlights the singing and dancing abilities of Peterson, who was a New York Drama Desk nominee for his performance in "George M. Cohan Tonight!" Peterson has portrayed a variety of other roles on stage, including Frank N. Furter in "The Rocky Horror Show" and the Emcee in "Cabaret."

In "Song Man Dance Man" Peterson says he doesn't

do impressions of his chosen performers, but instead attempts to embody them and take on the characteristics that made them who they were. Some were easier than others.

"I suppose Anthony Newley is easier for me because we're both English, and the subtle differences in the sense of humor to American humor are right there for me, but they all pose challenges," he says. "I just don't want to see any of these amazing people slip from our collective conscience."

#### ON STAGE

Jon Peterson's "Song Man Dance Man" runs Nov. 4-Jan. 8 at the Milwaukee Rep's Stackner Cabaret. For details, go to [www.milwaukeekeerep.com](http://www.milwaukeekeerep.com).

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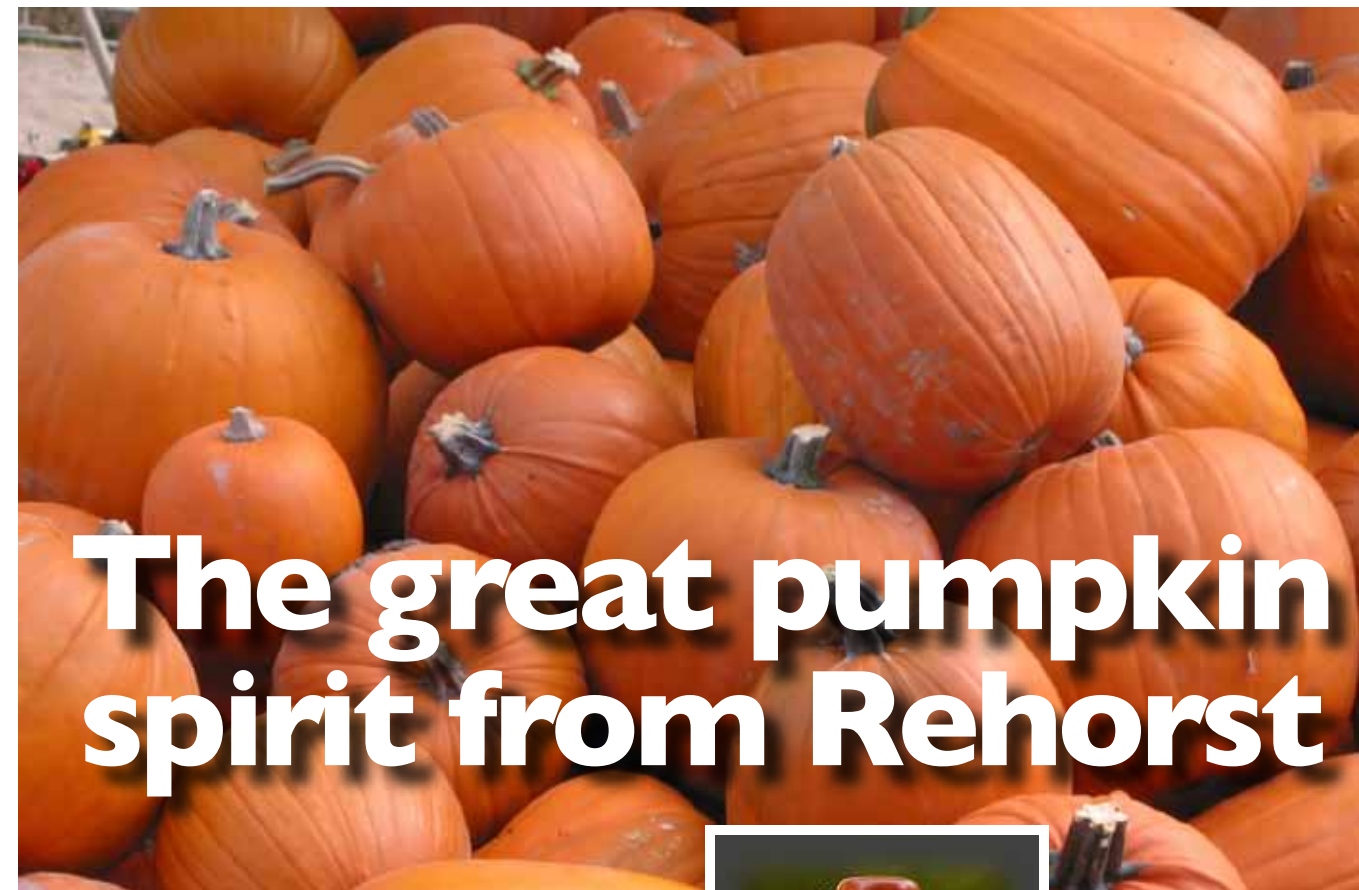
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# The great pumpkin spirit from Rehorst

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

In Guy Rehorst's world, "pumpkin spirit" can be quite intoxicating.

Pumpkin Seasonal Spirit is the name of the annual autumn libation from Great Lakes Distillery, the craft distillery Rehorst founded in 2004 that's currently located in Milwaukee's Walker's Point neighborhood at 616 W. Virginia St. This year's batch, distilled each fall from the Pumpkin Lager produced by Milwaukee's Lakefront Brewery, is the best one yet, the distiller says.

The idea came to Rehorst and Lakefront owner Russ Klich four years ago, when a group of brewery and distillery employees were sitting around the brewery's tasting room, located in a former city waterworks pumping station on the Milwaukee River. Rehorst expressed interest in distilling one of Lakefront's beers and, since it was fall at the time, Pumpkin Lager came to mind.

The origin of the beer, first brewed two years after the craft brewery opened in 1987, came from a beer recipe attributed to Thomas Jefferson, according to the brewery's website. Pumpkin Lager — a blend of pumpkin, cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves — is one of Lakefront's most popular seasonals.

Lakefront brews a special batch of the beer without the hops, which would add bitterness to the brew, just for the distillery to

use. This year's batch has resulted in 1,490 bottles, priced at \$35 each. The batch is likely to sell out by year's end, Rehorst says.

"All our spirits start with a beer or wine base, from which we distill the final product," says Rehorst, a former high-tech entrepreneur who recognized early the growing trend toward craft distilling. "Lakefront delivers its Pumpkin Lager as a completed beer and we take it from there."

All the elements that make the beer popular also are highlighted in the spirit, which weighs in at 90 proof (45 percent alcohol) compared to the beer's 6 percent alcohol by volume. Last year's batch, reviewed by the Beverage Tasting Institute, received 89 points, a Silver Award and a rating of "highly recommended" when compared to similar brands.

To quote BTI, the spirit has "burnished golden yellow color; bright, sweet aromas of clove, nutmeg, candied ginger, fruitcake, and pumpkin custard with a dry-ish medium-to-full body and a spicy dusty clove gum and pumpkin cheesecake finish. Very nice."

Pumpkin Seasonal Spirit joins Great Lakes' growing spirits line, which also includes the recently released Kinnickinnic Whiskey. The whiskey, Great Lakes' first, is also a first in that it cross-blends contents from two different distilleries, a corporate secret about which master distiller Doug MacKenzie will share little information.

"Cross-distillery blends are not



common here in the U.S., but are very common in Scotland. In fact, the term 'blended scotch' is typically a blend of single malts from different distilleries," MacKenzie explains. "All we're going to say is that the bourbon comes from one of the large distilleries in Kentucky."

The whiskey, released earlier this year, has already met with an enthusiastic response. Rehorst Premium Milwaukee Vodka, the distillery's first product, emerged as the top premium brand in southeast Wisconsin. The vodka won a silver medal in the 2007 San Francisco World Spirits Competition and has been ranked as exceptional by BevX.com, an online beverage and lifestyle magazine.

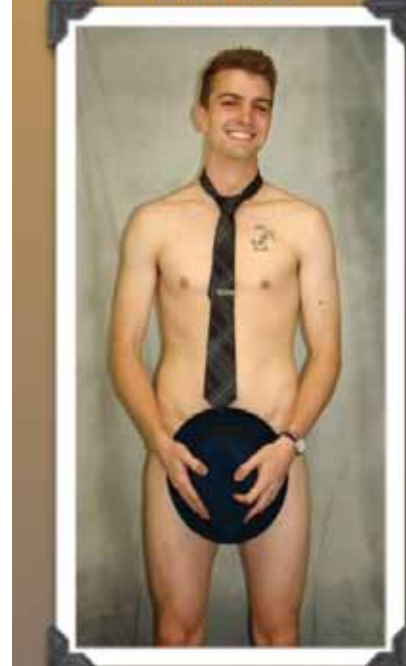
Rehorst Premium Milwaukee Gin, with its unusual botanical blend that includes ginseng and basil, has followed a similar trajectory, getting a nod from BevX and earning double gold in the 2008 San Francisco competition. And last year the distillery's Amerique Absinthe — both the Verte and Rouge varieties — took home gold medals from the Beverage Tasting Institute.

Pumpkin Seasonal Spirit celebrated its release with a party late last month. While Rehorst says the distillery had no Halloween festivities planned for its tasting room, which will soon expand to accommodate more samplers, the spirit will be available for revelers in many area bars.

"Walker's Point is the social center of Milwaukee's gay community and we're available in many of the bars in the neighborhood," he said.

For more information and drink recipes, go to [www.greatlakesdistillery.com](http://www.greatlakesdistillery.com).

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**COLOR CORRECTION**  
Due to a system glitch, WiG printed "Two Dancers," the Degas painting above, in reversed colors in the Oct. 20 issue. The painting is currently on view at Milwaukee Art Museum as part of the exhibit "Impressionism: Masterworks on Paper."

# In concert with Bette, Cyndi

**DVDiva**  
GREGG SHAPIRO

Two new live-concert DVDs have arrived to give everyone the opportunity to fully experience Bette Midler and Cyndi Lauper in all of their talents.

The all-singing, all-dancing "The Showgirl Must Go On," Bette Midler's triumphant return to The Colosseum at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, features the "fucking goddess" backed up by a 13-piece band, The Caesar Salad Girls dancers and her trademark vocal trio – the staggering Harlettes. The "people's diva" performs more than an hour's worth of "hits, glitz and tits" in front of 4,500 of her closest friends. And that includes you.

The performer, who opened the door for large-breasted, trash-talking singers, alternates between telling stories and regaling the audience with her Soph jokes. She



PHOTO: COURTESY  
**The divine**  
Bette Midler

performs uplifting renditions of some of her most beloved songs, including "The Rose," "From a Distance," "Wind Beneath My Wings," "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy," "Do You Wanna Dance" and "Friends."

The Divine Miss M proves that she's still one of the world's greatest entertainers.

The concert documentary DVD/CD set "To Memphis, With Love" begins with Cyndi Lauper talking about her introduction to the blues and her memories of dancing wildly to her mom's blues records when she was a kid.

As a teen, Lauper went into the city to see blues artists

performing live. As an adult, Fats Waller came to her in a dream and told her to do the old blues songs and interpret them in her way, like (Janis) "Joplin did in hers."

Interwoven with backstage and rehearsal clips shot in black and white, the concert performance was filmed in color at The Warehouse in Memphis on Dec. 2, 2010. It manages to capture Lauper's trademark energy. Whether she's strewn across the grand piano or dancing barefoot, she always is riveting.

In addition to an array of blues standards, Lauper rewards fans with her own

tunes, including "She Bop," "Change of Heart," "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" and "Who Let in the Rain."

Featuring a crack band of musicians that includes Allen Toussaint and Charlie Musselwhite, as well as special guests Tracy Nelson (who duets with Lauper on "Down So Low") and Jonny Lang, Lauper sounds like she was born to sing these songs.

But as was the case with her 2010 album "Memphis Blues" (from which nine of the 11 tracks are presented in live versions), you have to really love the blues to get the full effect.

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PHOTO: COURTESY  
**'Puss In Boots'**

## 'Puss' is the cat's meow

**Film**  
GREGG SHAPIRO

### 'PUSS IN BOOTS'

Known by many names and dressed in his trademark feathered hat, the outlaw Puss in Boots, voiced by Antonio Banderas, is a bad kitty on a mission to clear his name. Just a humble gato in search of his next meal, Puss believes that the magic beans in Jack (Billy Bob Thornton) and Jill's (Amy Sedaris) possession hold the key to his future.

But when he goes to steal the beans, Puss discovers that Kitty Softpaws, voiced by Selma Hayek, has the same idea. The Casanova of the cat world, Puss plans to romance Kitty, but his childhood friend turned arch-enemy Humpty Alexander Dumpty (Zach Galifianakis) is standing in the way.

Although a prequel, "Puss In Boots" has its own purrsonality. Bolstered by clever writing, including many laugh-out-loud sequences, and intelligent use of 3D technology, "Puss" feels vaguely familiar and formulaic in the manner of many kids' movies. But for animated characters, Puss and Kitty demonstrate remarkable chemistry.

If gay (or straight) moms and dads (or aunts and uncles) are looking for something to take the young 'uns to that won't bore them silly, "Puss In Boots" is the cat's meow.

### 'THE INTERRUPTERS'

This documentary by

"Hoop Dreams" director Steve James returns to Chicago's inner city to explore the senseless violence there.

James focuses on three so-called "violence interrupters," volunteers with the anti-urban-violence coalition CeaseFire. The film opens with a confrontation outside the CeaseFire office in Chicago's Englewood neighborhood. The confrontation demonstrates how the cycle of carnage erupts and escalates, fueled by the thinking that grievances justify violence.

Ameena Matthews, daughter of legendary gang leader Jeff Fort and an ex-gang enforcer herself, is the first violence interrupter profiled. She takes a troubled teen under her wing, refusing to give up on her.

Cobe Williams, 38, who served 12 years for drug trafficking and attempted

murder, is the second interrupter featured in the film. He works with Letoya Oliver, the mother of two current gang members and a son serving time in prison.

Eddie Bocanegra, who served 14 years – half of his life – for a murder he committed as a teenager, is the third interrupter.

What makes "The Interrupters" particularly poignant is the way it weaves the headline-grabbing murder of Derrion Albert into the fabric of the story. That tragedy called unprecedented attention to the epidemic of inner-city violence.

Ultimately, "The Interrupters" provides a message of hope amid the desperation. It looks at the impact people can have on the lives of others while also changing the direction of their own lives.



PHOTO: COURTESY

UWM's Union Theatre, 2200 E. Kenwood, second level, screens "The Interrupters" on Nov. 17. Times Cinema, 5906 W. Vliet, screens the documentary at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Nov. 27.

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**Music**  
GREGG SHAPIRO

**THE CIVIL WARS**

A stripped-down, country-influenced duo, The Civil Wars (Joy Williams and John Paul White) harmonize in a heavenly manner on their full-length studio debut "Barton Hollow." Whether they're taking turns on lead vocals or blending their voices, The Civil Wars have an emotional intimacy that's



PHOTO: COURTESY

The Civil Wars performs on Nov. 8 in Milwaukee at Turner Hall.

hard to miss. Songs such as "Poison & Wine," "20 Years" and "I've Got This Friend" speak directly to the heart. "Barton Hollow" is a powerful and strongly recommended recording.

**THE SECRET SISTERS**

Southern songbirds and siblings The Secret Sisters (Laura and Lydia Rogers) harmonize gloriously on their self-titled Universal Republic debut disc. Whether resurrecting the duo classic "Something Stupid," dig-

ging up the vintage obscurity "I've Got a Feeling" or paying homage to country forefathers such as Hank Williams with "Why Don't You Love Me," the sisters alternately simmer and sizzle. Originals such as "Tennessee Me" and "Waste the Day" also speak volumes about the gals' writing talents.

**THE BLACK KEYS**

As duos go, The Black Keys make as much good noise as The White Stripes. The bluesy soul of their 15 songs on "Brothers" stirs up a false sense of nostalgia that's reflected on the retro-looking album cover. While many of the songs are referential, they're also modern and original compositions. Standouts include "Everlasting Light," "The Only One," "Ten Cent Pistol" and "Sinister Kid."

**OVER THE RHINE**

Twenty years after releasing a major-label debut, the duo Over The Rhine is still putting a Rust Belt spin on Americana. Joe Henry is the right producer for the pair's latest project, "The Long Surrender." The album opens with Greg Leisz's distinc-

tive mandolin work on "The Laugh of Recognition," while Karin Bergquist plaintively implores, "Come on, Boys." As you might guess from its title, "Sharpest Blade" is cut with drama. OTR is a literate twosome, and "Rave On" is based on a poem of the same name by B.H. Fairchild. "Infamous Love Song" offers more indication of the duo's poetic leanings. Yes, that's Lucinda Williams on the song "Undamned," a fitting guest duet partner if ever there was one. "The King Knows How," "There's a Bluebird in My Heart" and "All My Favorite People" sound like homages to Tom Waits.

**CAT'S EYES**

Cat's Eyes self-titled debut is something to purr about. The unlikely mingling of the talents of The Horrors' vocalist Faris Badwan and Canadian opera singer/musician Rachel Zeffira has yielded 10 hauntingly hip tunes. As theme songs go, the titular track is nothing to hiss at. "Best Person I Know," a praiseworthy song of praise, is followed by the darkly gorgeous "I'm Not Stupid." Equally stunning are "The



PHOTO: COURTESY

Panic! at the Disco performs on Nov. 8 in Milwaukee at The Rave.

Lull" and "I Knew it Was Over." A strong '60s influence can be heard on "Over You," "Face in the Crowd," "Not a Friend" and "Bandit."

**PANIC! AT THE DISCO**

Reduced to a duo on "Vices & Virtues," Panic! at the Disco still knows how to make an emo ruckus. Even if you don't dig emo, there's something appealing about the way these dudes weave an infectious dance

beat into such songs as "Let's Kill Tonight," "Hurricane" and "Ready to Go (Get Me Out of My Mind)." Yet they manage to accomplish this without sacrificing any post-adolescent angst. The guys refresh their palette with the lovely acoustic ballad "Always" and the retro pop of "Sarah Smiles."

**AN HORSE**

Out musician Kate Cooper and Damien Cox of An Horse have picked up the pace a bit on "Dressed Sharply," the opening cut on "Walls." You might mistake them for a mixed-gender Tegan and Sara. In fact, the whole musical mood of the disc is somewhat brighter, as you can hear on galloping tracks such as the title cut, "Airport Death" and "Trains and Tracks."

**COTTON JONES**

Beach House isn't the only male/female Maryland duo mining a modern psychedelic vein. On "Tall Hours in the Glowstream," Cotton Jones taps into a similar musical mindset. But unlike Beach House, Cotton Jones adds a country gospel element to the sound – most notably on "Somehow to Keep it Going," "Man Climbs Out of the Winter" and "No Things I Need (Like Some Time Again)."

**THE RAVEONETTES**

On "Raven in the Grave," The Raveonettes continue to rev their garage/goth sound. It comes through loud and clear on the tracks "Recharge & Revolt," "Forget That You're Young," "Let Me On Out" and "Ignite."

**Books**  
GREGG SHAPIRO

Set for release in early 2012, "Why Are Faggots So Afraid of Faggots?" features contributors as D. Travers Scott, Thomas Glave, Horehound Stillpoint and Tommi Avicollini Mecca. (AK Press, 2011, \$17.95).

Johnny Townsend's "Let The Faggots Burn: The Upstairs Lounge Fire" recounts the tragic 1973 Gay Pride Day fire in New Orleans' French Quarter that claimed the lives of 32 people. (Booklocker.com, 2011, \$17.95).

**POETIC JUSTICE**

"Dear Prudence: New and Selected Poems by David Trinidad" consists of three decades of out poet Trinidad's greatest hits from 1975-2007 and 40 new poems. (Turtle Point Press, 2011, \$19).

Edited by out poet Julie R. Enzer, "Milk and Honey: A Celebration of Jewish Lesbian Poetry" features poems by Ellen Bass, Robin Becker, Marilyn Hacker, Bonnie Morris, Joan

Nestle, Achy Obejas and others. (A Midsummer Night's Press, 2011, \$14.95).

"The Literary Party: Growing Up Gay and Amish in America" by gay poet James Schwartz, examines what it's like to be gay in an Amish community. (inGroup Press, 2011, \$12.95)

The fourth collection of poetry by Devin Johnston, "Traveler" is rich in language and everyday life subjects. (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2011, \$23).

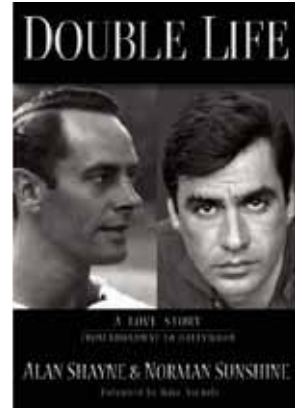
**SCREEN SCENE**

Former actor, casting director and producer Alan Shayne and artist and "What Becomes A Legend Most?" ad man Norman Sunshine share their story in "Double Life: A Love Story from Broadway to Hollywood." (Magnus Books, 2011, \$24.95).

Ageless, Oscar-nominated movie star Dyan Cannon writes about her tumultuous marriage to silver screen legend Cary Grant in "Dear Cary: My Life With Cary Grant." (itbooks, 2011, \$25.99).

**PICTURE THIS**

The 2011 recipient of



the Lambda Literary Award in the gay erotica category, "Teleny and Camille," by Jon Macy, is a graphic novel based on Oscar Wilde's "Teleny." (Northwest Press, 2011, \$29.99).

Illustrated by Jen Hill, "The Boy With Pink Hair," which emphasizes self-acceptance and individuality, is gay gossip blogger Perez Hilton's entry into the children's book arena. (Celebra/Penguin, 2011, \$17.99).

"A + E 4Ever," a graphic novel by I. Meray, "goes where few books have ventured, into genderqueer life" via "tough-talking dyke" Eulalie and androgynous Asher. (Lethe Press, 2011, \$18)



Interviews with Amy Ray, Ani DiFranco, Björk and activist Shelby Knox. (Seal Press, 2011, \$17).

**THE OPPOSITE OF FICTION**

Award-winning gay humorist David Rakoff, author of "Fraud" and "Don't Get Too Comfortable," returns with the delightfully dark "Half Empty." (Anchor, 2010/2011, \$14.95).

Writer, activist and Third Wave feminist Jennifer Baumgardner's new book "F'em!: Goo Goo, GaGa and Some Thoughts on Balls" includes essays and



interviews with Amy Ray, Ani DiFranco, Björk and activist Shelby Knox. (Seal Press, 2011, \$17).

In "At Home with Myself: Stories from the Hills of Turkey Hollow," David Mixner focuses on his return to nature at the age of 60 and looks back on his 40-year career of protest and politics. (Magnus, 2011, \$18).

The title of "Conversations and Cosmopolitans: Awkward Moments, Mixed Drinks, and How a Mother and Son Finally Shared Who They Really Are," by Robert and Jane Rave, is a touching memoir of the relationship

between a mother and her gay son. (St. Martin's Griffin, 2011, \$14.99).

"Alibis: Essays on Elsewhere" is a series of linked personal essays about time, place, identity and more, by André Aciman, author of the gay-themed novel "Call Me by Your Name." (Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 2011, \$25).

"The Deaths of the Author: Reading and Writing in Time," by Jane Gallop, includes references to gay men and queer people as well as much citing of the late literary theorist Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick. (Duke University Press, 2011, \$21.95).

Arriving at the end of DADT, "Our Time: Breaking the Silence of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell'" is a collection of four dozen personal stories edited by Air Force officer Josh Seefried. (The Penguin Press, 2011, \$24.95).

Hanne Blank includes lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and trans people in the revised edition of "Big Big Love: A Sex and Relationship Guide for People of Size (and Those Who Love Them)." (Celestial Arts, 2000/2011, \$15.99).

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# Wisconsin Press publishes Windy City queers

By Gregg Shapiro  
Staff writer

In the summer of 2010, a call went out for submissions to an anthology of writing by queer Chicagoans. Now, a little over a year later, the University of Wisconsin Press has published "Windy City Queer: LGBTQ Dispatches from the Third Coast," edited by Kathie Bergquist. It includes poetry and prose by more than 30 Chicago writers – from Carol Anshaw to Mark Zubro. (Disclosure: Gregg Shapiro's poem "78" appears in the book.)

I spoke with Bergquist about the anthology in September.

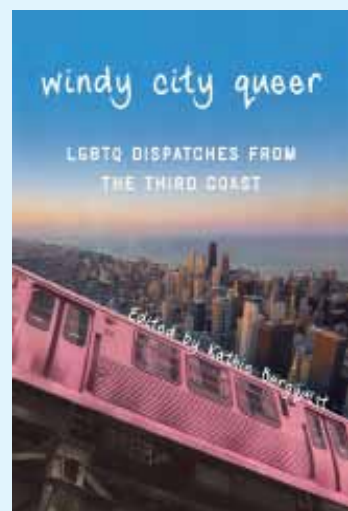
Gregg Shapiro: **How did "Windy City Queer" come about?**

Kathie Bergquist: As a community, queer writers from Chicago have such a huge vibrant scene, with some really significant, impacting queer writers who live here. But it has never been recognized as a unique and distinctive literary culture. That always bothered me, and when something bothers me then I start to figure out what I can do about it.

Then, last summer, it came to my attention that there was an anthology based on queer writers from Portland. And I said, "Portland?" I have nothing against Portland – and (the book) won the Lambda (Literary) Award. But I said, "That's it, this (Chicago) collection has to be done." Conveniently it happened in the summer when I wasn't teaching, and it also happened when I was trying to work on revisions for a novel I've been writing. What could be a better way to put off revising my novel than to suddenly take on this project? It was a product of both necessity and procrastination.

**Do you think working in Chicago bookstores, such as Women & Children First and Unbridged, had an impact on you in terms of the LGBT Chicago literary scene?**

Oh, yeah, a huge impact. Just in terms of familiarity with authors, abstract familiarity with their work and literal meeting of people, becoming friends and building relationships with so many



writers in the Chicago area. I did an open call submission for this book, and through that I met a lot of great writers whose work I was completely unfamiliar with, but I could have practically filled a book just with the people I know personally. That came from being a book seller, a part of the community, because that's when you meet and interface and interact with these other people.

**IN LOCAL BOOKSTORES**

"Windy City Queer" editor Kathie Bergquist and five of the contributors – Sheree Greer, Allison Gruber, j. Adams Oaks, Gregg Shapiro and Mark Zubro – are taking part in a book launch/reading at 7 p.m. Nov. 11 at A Room of One's Own, 307 W. Johnson, in Madison (608- 257-7888); and at 7 p.m., Nov. 12, at Outwords Books, 2710 N. Murray, Milwaukee (414-963-9089).

**Would it be fair to say that "Windy City Queer" combined with your previous book "A Field Guide to Gay and Lesbian Chicago" show your affection for and connection to Chicago?**

That's very fair to say. ... I really, really love Chicago. I moved here in 1988, when I was 19, and so I've spent more of my life in Chicago than I have in Minneapolis, my birthplace. Although I am a proud Viking, my first impulse would be to call myself a Chicagoan, if somebody asked. But that said, I have been having a long-term affair with Paris. I lived there for over a year, and I would go back there if the opportunity arose for me to make that my permanent home.

**Who do you see as the target audience for the book?**

What's really great about this collection is the strength of the contributions, of the individual writers. There's a really nice mix of well-established, award-winning literary voices, but also people you may have never heard of – new emerging talent. So I hope that people who like to discover and find out who the new people are to watch out for will pick it up. I hope people who are attracted to the big names will become introduced to these other writers as a result. Anybody who loves Chicago, who has any connection to the city, anybody who loves great stories and poetry, with a little bit of an edge, will like and enjoy this.

NOV. 3, THURSDAY

The exhibit "Cleopatra: The Search for the Last Queen of Egypt" features nearly 150 artifacts from Cleopatra's time. The search continues at the Milwaukee Public Museum, 800 W. Wells.

Shorewood High School, 1701 E. Capitol Drive, presents Moises Kaufman's **The Laramie Project** tonight, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students and are available one hour prior to show.

NOV. 4, FRIDAY

**The Intergalactic Nemesis**, a live-action graphic novel with technicolor images, voice actors and foley artists, immerses the audience in an alien invasion adventure beginning at 7 p.m. at the Overture Center for the Arts, 201 State in Madison. Call 608-258-4141.



Stephen Petronio Dance Company

NOV. 5, SATURDAY

Stephen Petronio Dance Company performs "Underland," set to the music of indie-rock sensation Nick Cave, at 8 p.m. in the Pitman Theatre on the campus of Alverno College, 3400 S. 43rd. Call 414-382-6044.

The Racine Theatre Guild, 2519 Northwestern (Highway 38) in Racine, presents comedian **Pat Hazell** at 8 p.m. Call 262-633-4218.

Greymatter, 207 E. Buffalo, Ste. 222, presents work by artists **Mike McGovern**, **Cherie Tymkiw** and **Christina McGregor**, who explore the intersections of personal, cultural, and political concerns in mixed media and printmaking. The exhibit continues Saturdays 12-5 p.m. and by appointment, through Nov. 12. Call 414-687-2598 or visit greymattergallery.com.

**New Photo Expression 2011**, a show of new photography by eight Milwaukee photographers, runs through Nov. 12 at Blustein Brondino Fine Art in the Marshall Building, 207 E. Buffalo, Suite 212. Call 800-737-3715 or go to www.blustein-brondino.com.



NOV. 6, SUNDAY

Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood in Madison, welcomes Lola's main man **Ray Davies** with special guests **The 88** at 7:30 p.m. Call 608-241-2345.

NOV. 8, TUESDAY

Join the **Lesbian Reading Group** at Outwords Books, 2710 N. Murray, for a discussion of "Redemption," the debut novel from De Jay, at 7 p.m. Call 414-963-9089.

**Savion Glover** and two of his protégés pay homage to legendary jazz greats and tappers, including Gregory Hines, Count Basie, John Coltrane and Thelonus Monk at 7:30 p.m. in Uihlein Hall at the Marcus Center For the Performing Arts, at the corner of Water and State. Call 414-273-2787.

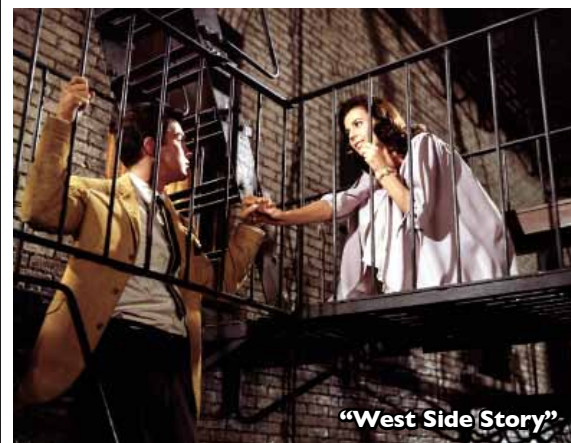


Savion Glover

NOV. 9, WEDNESDAY

One of the most acclaimed movie musicals of all time returns to the big screen with the "West Side Story" 50th Anniversary Event at 7 p.m. at the Cinemark Tinseltown, 7101 70th Ct. in Kenosha. Call 262-942-8530.

The Pabst, 144 E. Wells, presents Lola's main man **Ray Davies** of The Kinks at 7:30 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.



"West Side Story"

NOV. 10, THURSDAY

Beloved out duo **Indigo Girls** performs at 7:30 p.m. at the Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood in Madison. Call 608-241-2345. Rosebud Cinema Drafthouse, 6823 W. North, hosts a fundraising screening of UWM Professor Tess Gallun's "Out of Respect: A Story of Five." Call 414-350-1868.

Always fascinating singer/songwriter **Rachael Yamagata** performs at 8 p.m. at Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth. Call 414-286-3663.



Indigo Girls

NOV. 11, FRIDAY

Rosebud Cinema Drafthouse, 6823 W. North, presents 20th anniversary screenings of "My Own Private Idaho," tonight through Sunday. Call 414-350-1868.

The brilliant and thrilling **tUnE-yArDs** performs at 8 p.m. at Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth. Call 414-286-3663.

Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood in Madison, presents "The Power of Eleven," an all-star musical evening, at 8 p.m. Call 608-241-2345.

The one and only **Paul Simon** performs at 7 p.m. at The Riverside, 116 W. Wisconsin. Call 414-286-3663.

NOV. 12, SATURDAY

Outwords Books, 2710 N. Murray, hosts a 7 p.m. book launch and reading for "Windy City Queer," with editor Kathie Bergquist and featured readers Sheree Greer, Allison Gruber, j. Adams Oaks, Gregg Shapiro and Mark Zubro. Call 414-963-9089.

**Jerry Grillo** and **John Heffer** perform at 7 p.m. at the Savoy Restaurant in the Shorecrest Hotel, 1962 N. Prospect. Call 414-270-1070.

**The Jacky Terrasson Trio** performs at Wehr Hall on the campus of Alverno College, 4100 W. Morgan, at 8 p.m. Call 414-382-6044.

NOV. 13, SUNDAY

The Wherehouse/Hot Water presents "Jerry Grillo Sings Broadway and the Movies" at 6 p.m. at The Wherehouse, 818 S. Water. Call 414-271-0711.

NOV. 14, MONDAY

At 7 p.m., join the **Outwords Men's Book Club** to discuss "Bertram Cope's Year" by Henry Fuller at Outwords Books, 2710 N. Murray. Call 414-963-9089.



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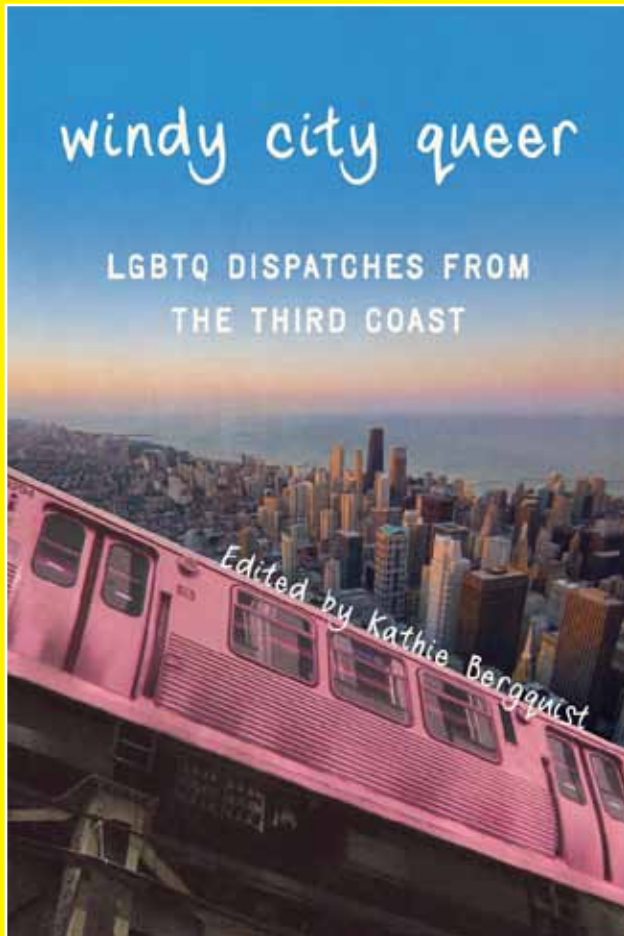
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**Kathie Bergquist**

contributors

**Sheree Greer • Allison Gruber**  
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