

STEAMING JOE

“True Blood” superhunk Joe Mangienello takes WiG behind the scenes of “Magic Mike,” the new male stripper movie.

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THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY



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PHOTO: iStockphoto LP



Sporting chance

40 years ago, Title IX plunged women into the race. Are they winning?

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

“Ay batter. Ay batter. Ay batter, batter, batter, swing!” The 10-year-old shouted from a seat on the third-base line at the minor league

ballgame.

The Pedro Martinez replica glove Alexis Cohen punched in anticipation of catching a fly ball gave her away – she’s a pitcher.

“Matter of fact,” dad Dan Cohen

said, “Lexi is probably the best in the league.”

Forty years ago, before Title IX, his statement would not have been matter of fact. There weren’t many options for a 10-year-old girl

to play ball.

Title IX, a portion of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, ensures equal access in federally funded education programs. The measure states, “No person in the

United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program

TITLE IX page 14

Drink pink!



Rosé wines
are back
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Despite Vatican, nuns' tour targets Ryan budget

By David Pitta

AP writer

A group of Roman Catholic nuns are on a U.S. bus tour protesting the federal budget proposed by U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan, D-Janesville.

The nuns said they're not reacting to recent Vatican criticisms of socially active sisters. They said they felt called to show how Republican policies are affecting low-income families.

Network, a Washington-based Catholic social justice group, organized the tour. A critical Vatican report singled out the group, saying it and other nun-led organizations have focused too much on economic injustice while failing to promote the church's teachings on abortion and same-sex marriage. The Vatican asked U.S. bishops to look at Network's ties to another group of nuns it is

reorganizing because of what the church calls “serious doctrinal problems.”

But Sister Simone Campbell, Network's executive director, said her group's purpose is not to defy the Vatican but rather to influence the congressional debate over Ryan's budget.

The tour kicked off with a rally that had the feel of a political event. About 20 supporters brought flowers

and balloons and sang, “Alleluia,” as the nuns boarded a modern tour bus decorated with bright-colored graphics. Fourteen nuns were scheduled to rotate on and off the bus during the nine-state tour, slated to end in Washington on July 2.

While the nuns said they aren't opposing any specific Republican candidate, they stopped at the offices of several closely tied to the bud-

get process, including Ryan's. The mandate to crack down on socially active nuns upset some church parishioners who turned out to support the nuns.

“They want to bully these nuns and shut them down and tell them: ‘Get back in your place, ladies.’ No, it's not going to be that way anymore,” said Mary Ann McCoy, of Des Moines, who attends

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LGBT news with a twist

WIGWAG

By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg

**HEALTHY WIFE?**

Popular faith-healing televangelist Benny Hinn says he decided to reconcile with his ex-wife after realizing her bizarre behavior was due to a prescription drug addiction, reports the Christian Post. Suzanne Hinn filed for divorce from the dapper, diminutive preacher in February 2010. Hinn's worldwide Miracle Crusades have stirred international controversy due to his claims of healing his followers of AIDS, cancer, blindness, death and severe physical injuries. In his statement, Hinn did not address why his wife had turned to prescriptions rather than his faith-healing powers.

VAGINAS COME OUT

A Michigan state lawmaker who was barred from speaking in the state's House for saying the word "vagina" during a debate over abortion participated in performing "The Vagina Monologues" on the Statehouse steps as an act of protest. Playwright Eve Ensler directed the performance by Democratic state Rep. Lisa Brown, 10 other lawmakers

and several actresses. Billed on Facebook as the "Vaginas Take Back the Capitol," the event included political signs and chants of "Vagina! Vagina!"

"These women stood for our rights," Ensler said to applause. "The vaginas are out. We are here to stay."

MISSING LIKE A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK

Drag queen Sharon Needles might be persona non grata in Milwaukee, but she's a hit in Pittsburgh. The winner of "RuPaul's Drag Race" was officially honored by that city – even receiving a kiss on the cheek from one city councilman. Needles, who is 30-year-old Aaron Coady in real life, fell afoul of Milwaukee PrideFest for failing to attend a scheduled meet and greet on June 10. Disappointed fans who'd paid \$50 for the privilege of mingling with the drag star received a full refund.

CRIST'S TRYSTS

Documents obtained as part of an investigation of former Republican Party of Florida chair Jim Greer contain allegations that former Gov. Charlie Crist paid off two men to conceal gay affairs. Crist was a Republican when he served as governor, but he ran as an independent for the U.S. Senate in 2010. At the time of the campaign, Greer already was under scrutiny and Crist was denying any knowledge of Greer's alleged use of party funds to pay personal expenses. Now a Florida Department of Law Enforcement report details communication between a Greer attorney and John Morgan, whose firm employs Crist. The attorney was asking Morgan to schedule a deposition to ask Crist about allegedly paying two men to leave the state to cover up affairs, attempting to kiss Greer at a hotel in California, "drunken escapades" and attempting to "run people over while intoxicated and operating a golf cart."

HALF-BAKED 'CAKE BOSS' PULLED

An episode of "Cake Boss" was pulled from TLC's broadcast cycle after a protest waged by a guest star. Carmen Carrera, a contestant on "RuPaul's Drag Race," was invited to appear on "Cake Boss" by boss Buddy Valastro to prank "Cousin Anthony" Bellifemine. Carrera says she agreed because she thought she had an educational opportunity. Instead, she said, Valastro mocked her and the transgender community. In the edited episode, she flirted with Bellifemine, who asked for her number. She kissed Bellifemine on the cheek and Valastro shouted, "That's a man, baby." What happened on the set is not what is shown in the edited TV episode, complained Carrera. Valastro and TLC apologized.

:-) FOR APPLE

When Apple releases its newest operating system for the iPhone later this year, it will include new emoji – the expressive kin to emoticons. And the

expanded family will include same-sex couples.

TRIPPED UP

A man who argued in a West Hollywood, Calif., bar with Bristol Palin is suing her for defamation, alleging she used a video of the incident without his permission to promote "Bristol Palin: Life's a Tripp." The suit stems from a confrontation between Palin and Stephen Hanks at the Saddle Ranch Chop. Palin has said she was accosted by a man who "hurled nasty insults" at her mother, former VP nominee Sarah Palin. Hanks said he was at the bar when Palin was taping her show and that people did shout insults. He claims she approached him and said, "in a condescending and demeaning tone, that she believed plaintiff did not like her mother because 'you are a homosexual.' She further stated that she could 'tell' that plaintiff was 'a homosexual' by the way he looked." Hanks said he realized later that he was being filmed but that he never signed a release.

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Foe says Paul Ryan's local popularity is fading

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan is often mentioned as a running mate for likely GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney. But while there are many reasons why Romney might choose Ryan for the national ticket, the spokeswoman for his Democratic congressional opponent says Ryan has become a lightning rod at home, where she contends his popularity is slipping.

"One of the biggest things that we've heard as we're going around the district is that people ... don't like the fact he's been in Congress for 14 years and our district has literally nothing to show for it," said Beth Pramme, communications director for Rob Zerban for Congress. Democrats consider Zerban the first serious challenger Ryan

has faced since he began representing the state's First Congressional District in 1999 at the age of 28.

Ryan "sat there and did nothing following the loss of both a Chrysler and GM plant in the district," Pramme said. "He's not helping to bring jobs or anything back to the district. He says government shouldn't pick winners and losers but that's exactly what his budget does."

According to Pramme, the winners under Ryan's proposed budget are "multimillionaires who are going to get big tax breaks, big oil and big pharma companies." Among the losers, she said, are students who will lose their Pell grants and seniors who will see their Medicare costs rise by \$6,000 per year.

Prone to speaking in bar graphs as he warns of "a

gathering storm" of debt that will challenge America's way of life, Ryan has mastered the ability to paint a smile on ideas that generations of politicians have found treacherous. He depicts his efforts to scale back federal programs such as food stamps as a means of empowering the downtrodden. He believes government assistance has lulled Americans into complacency, eliminating their drive to succeed on their own and prosper.

Opening Medicare to more private competition, he argues, is about preventing an all-out program collapse that would devastate future retirees.

"He puts on a good face for some pretty awful policies," said former Wisconsin Democratic Party Chairman Jim Wineke. "He's a master politician."



PHOTO: COURTESY OF ROB ZERBAN FOR CONGRESS

Rob Zerban, right, meets with prospective voters.

The state's First Congressional District is a "true swing district," according to Pramme. It includes all of Kenosha and Racine, and most of Walworth County, except for Whitewater. Heavy with both factories and farms, it's typically carried by Democratic presidential candidates, but the GOP redrew its boundaries last year to skew more Republican by incorporating a larger portion of Waukesha County.

It's unclear what effect the new boundaries will have on the 2012 congressional race.

Pramme tried to minimize the impact. Voter turnout for Tom Barrett in the June 5 recall election was higher than it was in 2010 in most areas of the district, except for Waukesha, she said. Pramme added that Zerban's events in the district are drawing standing-room crowds, as well as video-camera-wielding staff members from Ryan's campaign.

Those cameras indicate how seriously Ryan regards Zerban as a threat, she said.

Ryan will remain the First Congressional District's Republican nominee even if Romney does choose him as running mate. Pundits say there are plenty of reasons why Romney might make that choice.

Not only is Ryan the GOP's leading voice on the

budget – and a major cheerleader for what progressives call "the deficit bogeyman" – he's also from a swing state and is the rare member of the Republican establishment who's beloved by the Tea Party.

Although Pramme dismisses Ryan's vaunted reputation as a boy economic genius as a hollow public relations ploy, conservatives eat it up.

"If you look at the reason we do have the deficits we do, it's the Bush tax cuts that Ryan supported," Pramme said. "Paul Ryan supported two unfunded wars. When you actually look at what he does, you see that he has zero credibility on deficit reduction issues. ... From what we see in the district, people are starting to understand that now."

But the global economic crisis and the rise of the Tea Party, with its focused attention on government spending and debt, have made Ryan's budget plans a GOP litmus test – and Romney has embraced them.

It was Ryan, not Gov. Scott Walker, whom Romney chose to appear at his side during a recent visit to a fabric mill in the congressman's hometown of Janesville, where the economy is still reeling from the closing of a GM assembly plant a few years ago.

In March, Romney praised

Ryan's latest proposal to slice trillions from the federal budget, and Ryan reciprocated soon after with an endorsement of Romney's White House bid.

Picking Ryan as Romney's running mate would be read as a full embrace of his budget ideas. But would Ryan return Romney's interest?

Ryan is being typically coy concerning a potential spot on the Romney ticket. "If that bridge ever came, I would consider crossing it," he told The Associated Press in an interview earlier this month, adding, "I really don't have tremendous political ambition. I have policy ambition."

During President George W. Bush's second term, Ryan pulled his name from consideration for the White House budget director post. He said he didn't think there was the will in Congress, to address the budget changes he believes are needed to avert a crippling debt crisis.

More recently, Ryan resisted a call to chase retiring Democratic Sen. Herb Kohl's U.S. Senate seat. "I didn't want to walk away from the conversation I started and the fight I'm in," he said.

By remaining in the House, Ryan can keep an intense focus as budget chairman on his signature issue – something he might not be able to do in a Romney administration.



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PHOTO: AP

Sister Simone Campbell, executive director of Network, speaks during a stop in Ames, Iowa, on June 18, the first day of a nine-state Nuns on the Bus tour.

Bishops declined comment on the tour

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St. Ambrose Cathedral.

She said the Vatican and bishops speaking so harshly of nuns has split the church.

"They're women of courage," McCoy said. "Back in the Old Testament they talked about prophets. A prophet is somebody who speaks for God and these are the things that God talked about — injustice, the poor, the marginalized, women. Jesus was the greatest prophet when he went out and he shook things up a lot. Well, I think the sisters are walking the walk and talking the talk and that's what's important to us."

While the Vatican has criticized Network, church officials have not ordered the full-scale overhaul of it

that's underway with another group, the Leadership Conference of Women Religious. After a two-year investigation, the Vatican concluded the conference had undermined Roman Catholic teaching with radical feminist themes and taken positions that undermined Catholic teaching on the all-male priesthood, marriage and homosexuality. Three U.S. bishops, including Seattle Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, have been given five years to reorganize that group.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops did not immediately comment.

Campbell said if the Vatican would talk to her, she'd explain that Network was continuing the work on economic injustice that has been

its focus for 40 years.

Ryan's spokeswoman did not mention the nuns when she responded to a request for comment. Instead, she sent several Internet links to interviews and opinion pieces Ryan has written on the budget. A piece published April 25 in the National Catholic Register is posted on the congressman's website.

"Our budget ends welfare for those who don't need it, but strengthens welfare programs for those who do. Government safety-net programs have been stretched to the breaking point, failing the very citizens who need help the most," Ryan wrote. "Relying on distant government bureaucracies to lead this effort just hasn't worked."



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Feds continue push for equal LGBT health care

From WIG reports

The number of American hospitals striving to treat LGBT patients equally and respectfully is on the rise, according to a report released on June 19 by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation.

HRC joined U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius at Howard University Hospital in Washington, D.C., to release the annual survey, along with a report on 2011 accomplishments on LGBT issues at HHS.

"Just a few short years ago the health care industry wasn't having conversations about LGBT health care equality," said HRC president Chad Griffin. "Now, thanks to advocacy by the LGBT community and some standout leaders, growing numbers

of health care providers are making an explicit commitment to treat all patients with dignity and respect. The health care industry is beginning to heed the call for fairness and compassion."

The HRC report contains the Healthcare Equality Index, an annual review of 407 health care facilities in the United States. More than 90 percent of participants in the survey explicitly prohibit discrimination against LGBT patients and 76 percent ban discrimination against transgender patients.

Additionally, about 75 percent of respondents have a written policy explicitly granting equal visitation rights to same-sex couples and same-sex parents. This represents a significant increase since 2011, when HHS issued rules requiring

all hospitals that receive federal Medicare and Medicaid funding – nearly every hospital in America – to protect the visitation rights of LGBT people.

"I commend the LGBT and health care communities for the progress made and I am proud to be part of an administration that has a historic record of accomplishment for the LGBT community," said Sebelius. "We will continue to take action to ensure that LGBT Americans get equal treatment in health care settings and that all patients are treated with the dignity they deserve."

Studies, including a 2011 Institute of Medicine report, have shown that the LGBT community faces disparities in health care and many LGBT Americans fear that they'll experience bias from

providers.

The report Sebelius released described steps HHS took this past year to improve health care for LGBT people, including continued implementation of the Affordable Care Act, which has improved access to health coverage and preventive services, such as mammograms and HIV testing, without co-pays or deductibles.

Looking ahead, Sebelius said the ACA would provide more coverage options through an expanded Medicaid program and insurance exchanges, which cannot discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

HHS also relaunched stopbullying.gov, created an LGBT youth suicide task force and awarded funding to the Fen-

'We will continue to take action to ensure LGBT Americans get equal treatment.'

way Institute in Boston to create national programs promoting sensitive and quality LGBT care.

ON DEADLINE

As Wig went to press, the Supreme Court was expected to release its decision on the Affordable Care Act. Follow the news at www.wisconsin-gazette.com.



PHOTO: HRC

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius says she's proud to be part of an administration that supports equality.



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FDA delays decision on HIV prevention drug

Federal health regulators have delayed a decision on whether to approve the first pill shown to prevent HIV infection, the drug's manufacturer says.

Gilead Sciences says that the Food and Drug Administration will take three more months to review its application for Truvada.

In May, a panel of experts recommended approval of the daily pill for healthy people who are at high risk of contracting HIV, including gay and bisexual men. The vote was nonbinding, though the FDA often follows the group's advice.

Gilead said it submitted updated information on its planned safety materials for patients and doctors using the drug. The FDA typically extends its reviews after receiving such information.

The FDA is now expected to rule by Sept. 14, the company said in a statement.

Gilead Sciences Inc., based in Foster City, Calif., has marketed Truvada since 2004 as a treatment for people who are infected with the virus. The medication is a combination of two older HIV drugs, Emtriva and Viread.

Truvada made headlines in 2010, when government researchers showed it could prevent people from contracting HIV when used as a prophylactic measure. A three-year study found that daily doses cut the risk of infection in healthy gay and bisexual men by 42 percent, when accompanied by the use of condoms and counseling. Last year another study found that Truvada reduced infection by 75 percent in heterosexual couples in which one partner was infected with HIV and the other was not.

An estimated 1.2 million Americans have HIV. Gay and bisexual men account for the

majority of cases – nearly two-thirds.

Because Truvada is on the market to manage HIV, some doctors already prescribe it for prevention. FDA approval would allow Gilead Sciences to formally market the drug for that use.

But Truvada's groundbreaking preventive ability has exposed stark disagreements on prevention. While Truvada's supporters say the drug is an important new option to stop the spread of AIDS, critics worry that the drug could give users a false sense of security and encourage risky behavior.

Groups such as the AIDS Healthcare Foundation have asked the FDA to reject the new application, saying it could reduce use of condoms, the most consistently reliable prevention against HIV.

Hearing puts ENDA back on Senate's radar

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

For the first time in three years, a Senate committee heard testimony on legislation to protect LGBT workers. But there's been no commitment from Democratic leadership on when or if the long-pending bill might be marked up for a vote.

The Employment Non-Discrimination Act has been introduced and re-introduced in Congress since 1994. In its earliest form, the legislation sought to ban bias in the workplace based on sexual orientation. The current bill also would ban bias based on gender identity.

On June 12 in the Dirksen Senate Office Building, the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions held its first hearing on ENDA in three years.

"It's time to make clear that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Americans are first-class citizens," said committee chairman Tom Harkin, a Democrat from Iowa. "They are full and welcome members of our American family and they deserve the same civil rights protections as all other Americans."

Five witnesses delivered testimony — M.V. Lee Badgett, Kylar W. Broadus, Ken Charles and Samuel R. Bagenstos spoke in support of ENDA and Craig Parshal spoke in opposition.

Badgett works at the Williams Institute for Sexual Orientation Law and Public Policy at the University of California-Los Angeles and the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. She testified to decades of research documenting the discrimination LGBT people face in the workplace, and she offered evidence that ENDA would diminish that discrimination.

"Our nation's employers and employees would be better off with an LGBT workforce that no longer fears discrimination," she said. "The research overwhelmingly demonstrates that passing the Employment Non-Discrimination Act would benefit both employees and employers."

Twenty-nine states lack laws banning bias based on

sexual orientation, and 34 states lack protections for transgender workers.

"It is imperative that Congress pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act so that transgender people like me are able to live our lives and provide for our families without fear of discrimination," said Broadus, founder of the Missouri-based Trans People of Color Coalition and now the first openly transgender person to testify before a Senate committee.

Broadus, a lawyer and professor, told senators that he was "constructively discharged" about six months after coming out about his gender transition at work 20 years ago.

He testified: "While my supervisors could tolerate a somewhat masculine-appearing black woman, they were not prepared to deal with my transition to being a black man. With growing despair, I watched my professional connections, support and goodwill evaporate, along with my prospects of remaining employed. I was harassed until I was forced to leave. I received harassing telephone calls hourly from my supervisor some days. I received assignments after hours that were due by 9 a.m. the next morning. The stress was overwhelming. I ended up taking a stress leave for several weeks. I thought upon my return perhaps things would settle down. I was back less than a week from stress leave and knew that it wasn't going to settle down. I was forbidden from talking to certain people and my activities were heavily monitored. I was forced out and unemployed for about a year before finally obtaining full-time employment."

Broadus also reviewed survey numbers showing that 90 percent of transgender Americans experience harassment and discrimination at work and 26 percent had lost a job due to discrimination.

Charles, a vice president with General Mills in Minneapolis, testified that diversity and inclusion — and ENDA — are good for business.

"When you combine

diversity, which we define simply as difference, with a culture that acknowledges, respects, and values all of our differences and similarities, good things happen," he said. "We find ourselves able to connect with our consumers, customers and communities. We reap new ideas and innovation. And we recruit and retain the talent to win now and in the future."

Charles said General Mills was honored to represent "corporate America" and push for the non-discrimination bill.

Parshal, an attorney with

the National Religious Broadcasters Association in Manassas, Va., was the only witness scheduled by Republicans on the committee. He said, "As it stands now in the form of Senate Bill 811, (ENDA) would impose a substantial, unconstitutional burden on religious organizations. Furthermore, it would interfere with their ability to effectively pursue their missions."

Days after the hearing, with no indication on when the legislation might be voted upon in the Senate, activists focused on pushing for an executive order to at least

protect LGBT people working under federal contracts. On June 26, LGBT rights demonstrators gathered outside an Obama for America fundraiser in Miami.

"Losing a job in this tough economy might mean foreclosure or homelessness to many. The ENDA executive order will protect 25 percent of the American workforce who work for federal contractors," said Felipe Matos of GetEqual. "This is why we have been hard at work in the last few weeks."

'Supervisors could tolerate a somewhat masculine-appearing black woman, but were not prepared to deal with my transition.'

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Obama praised for immigration policy

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

In the face of Congress' deferred action on the DREAM Act, President Barack Obama signed an executive order in June allowing for a major initiative to protect young undocumented immigrants from being deported.

Talking with reporters in the Rose Garden on June 15, the president said, "It is the right thing to do. It makes no sense to expel talented young people ... who for all intents and purposes are Americans."

Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano announced the initiative earlier that day, saying that certain young people brought to the United States as children who do not present a risk to national security or public safety and who meet certain other criteria will not be deported. Instead, they will receive a two-year deferment and can apply for work authorization.

"Our nation's immigration laws must be enforced in a firm and sensible manner," Napolitano said. "But they are not designed to be blindly enforced without consideration given to the individual circumstances of each case. Nor are they designed to remove productive young people to countries where they may not have lived or even speak the language. Discretion, which is used in so many other areas, is especially justified here."

The policy outlined in Napolitano's memorandum on "exercising prosecutorial discretion with respect to individuals who came to the United States as children" provides for the government to make decisions on a case by case basis, but the basic criteria for deferred action on deportation are that an individual came to the United States before turning 16; lived in the United States continuously for five years before June 2012; is in school, has graduated from high school, has a GED or an honorable discharge from military service; has not been convicted of a felony or significant misdemeanor; and is not over 30 years old.

"For a year and a half after the DREAM Act was filibustered, I have been standing with others and saying to the president 'yes you can' prevent the deportation of DREAMers and now he and the secretary clearly agree and are taking proper action," said U.S. Rep. Luis Gutierrez, D-Ill. Gutierrez, in the year and a half since the DREAM Act was filibustered, has repeatedly called for the president to act on the issue. He was even arrested for demonstrating outside the White House.

On June 15, he said he was overjoyed.

"DREAMers who came here at a young age have grown up believing that our country would eventually embrace them as much as they have embraced this country and now that is coming true, at least on a provisional basis," the congressman said. "No group of young immigrants has fought harder or more bravely for their place in our country than the DREAMers and we have all taken a lesson from their tenacity and leadership."

One such DREAMer is Janeth Zorrilla, an undocumented student at St. Thomas More High School in Milwaukee and a leader of Youth Empowered in the Struggle, the student arm of the local Voces de la Frontera.

After learning of the new policy, Zorrilla said, "Being able to apply for a work permit is an amazing opportunity for me. Now I can contribute to my family and save up for my college tuition."

Voces de la Frontera's executive director Christine Neumann-Ortiz called the action from the White House "a victory for America as much as for the young people who have given their talent and dreams to achieve a more just society."

Leaders in the LGBT civil rights community also applauded the initiative. Rea Carey of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force called it a "monumental and inspiring step."

"It shows true leadership," she said. "It is heartening to know that hundreds of thousands of young people will no longer have to live in daily fear of being forced out of the country, away from the life and dreams they have built. Our country will be better for it."

Rachel B. Tiven of Immigration Equality added, "The young people who will be positively impacted are our classmates, our colleagues, our friends. They are America's up-and-comers: future entrepreneurs, scientists, and public servants. I can't wait to see their vibrant potential realized."

Napolitano said the initiative went into force immediately, but DHS is still working out the details of the program.

"I was told the government needs at least 60 days to put things in place," said Gutierrez.

He added about the new policy, "This could protect 800,000 or more young immigrants with roots here right now, and will be seen in the immigrant and Latino community as a very significant down payment on broader reform."

LGBT civil rights leaders say broader reform must include the repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act, which defines marriage for federal purposes, including immigration, as the union of a man and a woman.

"The new policy does not change the legal landscape for most LGBT immigrants," Espinoza-Madrigan said. "Binational same-sex couples are still unfairly denied the opportunity, afforded to different-sex couples, to request immigration protection and relief for a foreign-born spouse. DOMA is unconstitutional and should be repealed. We need comprehensive immigration reform that inclusive of LGBT immigrants and their families."

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usbank

{ Editorial }

Mixed month on immigration

We applaud the U.S. Supreme Court for striking down key elements of Arizona's draconian, unapologetically racist immigration bill, dubbed the "Show Me Your Papers" law. Senate Bill 1070 has become a cause célèbre among the Tea Party crowd and other Americans who are terrified over the inevitable loss of the nation's white majority status. The court's ruling takes some, though not all, of the wind out of their sails.

The High Court blunted the edge of the "Show Me Your Papers" law by declaring several provisions of it unconstitutional for overstepping federal authority. Specifically, the court struck down provisions authorizing law enforcement authorities to make warrant-less arrests of people they suspect could be deported; making it a state crime for unauthorized immigrants to be caught without documentation; and forbidding undocumented immigrants from applying for or performing work.

The SCOTUS ruling came just days after President Obama signed an executive order protecting young undocumented immigrants from deportation – a major development that challenged congressional inaction on the DREAM Act (see page 8).

Unfortunately, the court let stand the section of Senate Bill 1070 allowing state and local police to check the immigration status of people who are stopped or detained for other reasons if there is "reasonable suspicion" that they are in the country illegally. This highly subjective provision is an open invitation to racial stereotyping and harassment by rogue police officers. It damages the ability of police to develop the cooperative relationships with immigrant communities that are essential to combating and solving crime.

While immigration rights groups, including Voces de la Frontera, expressed serious reservations about the upholding of that provision, they declared the ruling an overall victory. Conservatives also declared victory, but the political advantage clearly went to President Obama, whose administration pursued the lawsuit and who continues to hold a large lead among Hispanic voters.

Voces de Frontera used the occasion of the ruling to praise Wisconsin leaders for declining to enact an Arizona-style bill. Scott Walker had vowed to do so during his 2010 campaign for governor, and Republican leaders in the Legislature introduced such a law last year. But after Arizona State Senate President Russell Pearce lost his seat in a recall election last November over his authorship of SB1070, the Wisconsin GOP quickly dropped the measure.

An embarrassing gaffe in Alabama, which enacted a "Show Me Your Papers" law, demonstrated just how disastrous such measures can be. Alabama police arrested high-level German and Japanese executives from carmakers the state had lobbied to bring there for failing to produce immigration papers. So much for being "open for business."

It is ironic that such legal battles even exist in the United States, which is a nation founded by and for immigrants. Except for Native Americans, who were nearly wiped out through a carefully orchestrated government program of genocide, every citizen of this country is either an immigrant or a descendant of immigrants. They are the people who built this nation into the envy of the world, and they continue to exemplify its promise.

BY THE NUMBERS

Estimated annual government subsidy
of religion in the U.S.

\$71B Total subsidy

\$2.2B Faith-based initiatives subsidy

\$35.3B Federal income tax subsidy

\$26.2B Property tax subsidy

\$41B Investment tax subsidy

SOURCE: COUNCIL FOR SECULAR HUMANISM. DOES NOT INCLUDE LOCAL INCOME AND PROPERTY TAX, SALES TAX, DONOR TAX EXEMPTIONS, BUSINESS INCOME TAX SUBSIDY.

{ Letters }

AN ALL-WHITE SUMMERFEST?

I was waiting with bated breath for the Summerfest Marcus Amphitheater lineup. Would it be Jennifer Lopez with Wisin & Yandel? The-Dream performing with Fabolous? Don Omar or Prince Royce?

To my amazement we've gone backward to a point that never existed before this new Summerfest management: This year's Marcus Amphitheater lineup is all-white entertainment.

This is an urban city in 2012 where the majority is minorities. Latinos and blacks make up 51 percent of the population in Milwaukee, and yet Summerfest officials managed to secure all-white entertainment. They left out young people of color as well.

Summerfest is supposed to

be Milwaukee's music festival, but little by little, it's been fading from that mission.

I was raised going to Summerfest during a time when it was "the world's largest music festival" and it reflected "the world" over.

It began for me at age 11, when my cousins Lola and James took my brothers and sisters and me to see The Ohio Players and we stood on the wooden benches, grass and dirt in between on the lakefront. Everybody – black, Latino, Asian, American Indian, white – everybody came together to jam with them. Those were the times!

And since then I've made it a point to go to the smaller stages and I've had the pleasure to see, hear, and sing along with El Gran Combo, Mint Condition, Wil-

lie Colon, LL Cool J, Anthony Hamilton, Los Lonely Boys, Frankie Beverly & Maze, Santana, and Musiq Soulchild for a mere \$15 (or less, depending on the year).

This year, however, has me extremely disappointed, mad even.

I want to know what's going through the minds of those who selected the bands? Do we as a community have any power whatsoever to add or change who performs this year? Is there no tribute to Donna Summer and Whitney Houston? How can Summerfest, the world's largest music festival, get away with an all-white lineup in the 21st century. We have made so many strides to move forward in this country, but this musical move is taking 10 steps backward.


Carmen Alicia Murguía

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ON THE RECORD



“Half of these people who are trying to regulate vaginas, they can't even say the word.”

— PLAYWRIGHT EVE ENSLER, author of “The Vagina Monologues,”

after Michigan Republicans barred a lawmaker from speaking on the floor of the state House because she used the word “vagina.”

“On and off the field, Ryan Braun's leadership and commitment have been a winning combination. We are excited and honored to have him bring his passion for excellence and will to win to the fight against AIDS and AIDS Walk Wisconsin.”

— AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin president and CEO MIKE GIFFORD announcing that Brewers player Ryan Braun will serve as honorary chair of AIDS Walk Wisconsin 2012.

“No American should ever live under a cloud of suspicion just because of what they look like.”

— PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA responding to the U.S. Supreme Court decision on Arizona's “Show Me Your Papers” immigration law.

“Prod r trying 2 write musical now about my life with my music/ I was there and know the stories that no one knows but me!”

— Cher telling her Twitter fans that a Broadway musical about her life is in the works and that she will help write the script.

“Adele had professed her love and he did the same. She had known he was bisexual but, in the rush of romance, felt they could make it work. Four hours after laying their emotional cards on the table, the boy ran off with one of Adele's gay friends!”

—Author MARK SHAPIRO writing in an unauthorized biography of singing sensation Adele about the cause of the heartbreak that inspired the songs on her first album.

“I don't understand why everyone isn't in favor of gay marriage. It's just stupid. If Kim Kardashian can get married for about 70 days, two people of the same sex who love each other should be allowed to do the same.”

— ELDRIDGE SHANNON, a 19-year-old bisexual from Evanston, Ill., telling a reporter at the Chicago Pride Parade why same-sex couples should be allowed to marry.

“It is regrettable that homosexual rights activists and those who are promoting the recognition of ‘same-sex marriage’ have misappropriated the rhetoric of the Civil Rights Movement.”

— THE WORDING OF A RESOLUTION passed by Southern Baptists asserting that gay rights are not civil rights.

“I'm now throwing myself down the steepest hill of my life.”

— CHAMPION SKIER ANJA PAERSON officially coming out on Swedish Radio.



Turing is a gay hero



In the midst of recent Pride celebrations, I was struck by a small item in one of those birthday notices that pop up online. This one noted that June 23 marked the centenary of the birth of Alan Turing, the British math whiz often touted as the “father” of computer science.

Alan Turing was a gay man whose story should be more well known. He is a prime example of why we march to assert our pride, why we fight to change society, and why we will never go back.

Turing was an extraordinarily gifted man who not only laid the foundation of digital computing in the 1930s but also helped defeat the Nazis by decrypting their secret Enigma code during World War II. He wrote many influential papers on algorithms and cryptography that this math idiot couldn't

begin to explain to you. Turing's groundbreaking work won him prestigious awards and appointments, including a knighthood for his war service, before he was 40.

By all rights, the world should have looked forward to another 40 years of amazing ideas and discoveries by this brilliant scientist, but it was not to be. Turing committed suicide in 1954 at the age of 41. His death was preceded by the kind of perversion of justice that was all too common and that untold numbers of gay, lesbian and transgender people suffered in decades and centuries past.

In 1952, Turing befriended a man who spent a night with him at his home. Days later, this man returned and stole some things from Turing's house. Turing called the police to report the crime but was given the third degree about his relationship with the crook. In the process he was forced to admit that he and the man had had sexual relations.

Turing was charged and

convicted of “gross indecency” under Section 11 of the Criminal Amendment Act of 1885. This is the same law under which Oscar Wilde was convicted and sent to prison and to an early grave 57 years earlier.

Turing was forced to choose prison or probation with chemical castration (on the dubious theory that it would curb his illegal desires). He chose to take one year of estrogen injections, which was humiliating but endurable. What likely broke his spirit was the withdrawal of his security clearance and his banishment from the government's cryptographic service which he had done so much to build. He was shunned by professional colleagues and subjected to public derision.

Today, Turing's accomplishments are widely recognized. There are statues of him all over England. The government has apologized for its treatment of him. Time magazine included him among the 100 most influential people of the 20th century. A Tur-

ing Award is bestowed annually for advances in computer technology. A plaque on his statue in Manchester carries the legend: “Father of Computer Science, Mathematician, Logician, Wartime Code-breaker, Victim of Prejudice.”

We have our own martyrs in more recent times, like Harvey Milk and Matthew Shepard. Although we've made great progress in a relatively short period, we should not forget the terrible oppression gay people experienced throughout history and that some continue to experience today: imprisonment, castration, exorcism, electroshock treatment, aversion therapy, rejection by families, loss of employment, shame, slurs, beatings, murder, suicide.

It's for Alan and Oscar and Harvey and Matthew and all those despised for their very natures that we demand our rights and say: “No, never again!”

Join the WiG community on Facebook.

No-show was a drag



Due to her recent victory on “RuPaul's Drag Race,” Sharon Needles was one of the most requested personalities for PrideFest 2012. We worked with Producer Entertainment Group, her managing company, to negotiate appearances, costs and associated riders.

Unfortunately, things did not happen as they were planned and contracted. Needles was supposed to host the entire evening at the Dance Arena, but she danced two numbers and said nothing. PrideFest, on the other hand, went to great lengths to accommodate her. When she requested changes for her performance at the last minute, including props, dance routines and scheduling changes, our volunteers raced to fulfill her demands.



Sharon Needles

At the request of the managing company, PrideFest also offered to host a meet and greet with Needles. For a \$50 fee, fans paid for festival admission, entrance to the PumpWorks Dance Arena VIP platform and an 11:30 p.m. meeting with Needles. Her fans considered this an extreme honor and privilege.

Unfortunately, Needles and her manager did not appear as scheduled for the meet and greet, and we were

forced to cancel the event for a variety of legal reasons. City of Milwaukee permit regulations require PrideFest and all festivals to end their performances and close the grounds by midnight.

PrideFest has never received an explanation from Needles, her production company, her manager or her stage producer concerning her behavior or her absence. PrideFest personnel repeatedly made her aware of her obligation, and she and her manager were present on the grounds until 12:45 a.m.

Because PrideFest appreciates each and every one of our guests, I made the executive decision to refund \$50 to everyone who paid to mingle with Needles. I personally met, paid and apologized to all the guests who were affected.

We chose to bring Needles to PrideFest's 25th anniversary to create a memorable experience for our fans. Our negotiations were done

in the best interests of our community and in good faith that the performer and her manager would deliver on all obligations.

We are outraged by the lack of respect Needles showed for her fans, our organization and all personnel involved. PrideFest demands that Needles and her producer apologize for her conduct in writing so that we can deliver it to those who were stood up.

Every year, we bring you the nation's largest showcase of LGBT entertainment and show-stopping headliners. With so much high-quality talent available to choose from in your world, we hope our community chooses to support only performers who respect and support them in return.

We promise you this type of disrespect for our community will never be tolerated at PrideFest Milwaukee.

Scott Gunkel is president of PrideFest Inc.

Momentum builds at Milwaukee LGBT Center

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

Dramatic changes at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center continue to brighten its financial outlook, say the group's new leaders.

In the past several months, volunteers, many of whom were involved in establishing the center in the late 1990s, have revamped the board, created new operational policies and renegotiated the center's lease arrangement to more favorable terms.

Helping to fortify the center's finances is a two-year, \$50,000 grant from the Helen Bader Foundation to expand the administrative staff. Grants awarded to nonprofits typically cover only specific programmatic costs and cannot be used to pay for agency overhead. The Bader Foundation grant is particularly valuable, because it can be used for basic operational expenses.

"The Helen Bader Foundation's support comes at a critical time for the center,

and it will strengthen the Center's capacity to continue providing vital programming to the community," said board co-president Paul Williams.

Officials outlined plans for the group's future in May at a town hall meeting attended by more than 100 enthusiastic supporters. Nearly 20 additional people viewed the meeting live on the Web.

The town hall meeting was the first since January, when more than 150 people jammed the center's community room to learn about the group's dire financial situation in the wake of former executive director Maggi Cage's departure. At that time, the public was on hand largely to air grievances, but the May 17 town hall meeting was dominated by reports of positive momentum and expressions of support.

"The most impressive thing is that despite everything, the center has forged on," interim executive director Karen Gotzler told

attendees.

People attending the meeting contributed \$3,250, including more than \$300 from online viewers. That amount was matched by a \$3,000 challenge grant from the Johnson & Pabst Humanity Fund of the Greater Milwaukee Foundation.

Among the positive news announced at the meeting was a new lease arrangement with landlord Siegel-Gallagher, the real estate company that manages the downtown building where the center is housed. The organization formerly had a 10-year lease on four floors in the building at a monthly cost of \$20,000. Under the new terms, the center has a one-year lease on two floors of the building at a monthly cost of \$9,500.

The entrance to the center has moved from 252 E. Highland Ave. to 1110 N. Market St.

Williams praised Siegel-Gallagher for its support and flexibility. He said the new lease arrangement gives the

The Bader Foundation grant strengthens the center's capacity for the future.

group breathing time to critically assess its space requirements and determine an optimal long-term location.

Officials also announced that a new finance committee overseen by treasurer Peter Larson is renegotiating the center's debt. Although revenue from program grants has fallen, overhead has been reduced by an even greater percentage. Overhead was cut by \$17,000 between March and May alone, Larson said.

With the identification of new income sources, center officials said they projected the possibility of returning to the black in October.

Since the May meeting, the center has also received a \$5,000 grant from the Non-profit Management Fund to hire a consultant to write a fundraising plan. More than \$16,000 was raised for the center at the community's annual "challenge party," held this year on June 15 at the home of Mike Laska.

Since the January meeting, board membership has increased from four to 14, with new members offering a range of specialized skills in such areas as fundraising, communications, technology, strategic planning, human resources and youth programming. Anne David has joined the staff as program manager for the center's Anti-Violence and Counsel-



PHOTO: COURTESY

People packed the community room in January.

ing Services.

"One of the great things about this process is how many people have stepped up to say, 'What can I do to help,'" said board co-president Jennifer Morales.

Officers in the organization also announced that they're in the process of revamping the group's bylaws. Perhaps the most anticipated change is the method of selecting board members. Cage prompted a membership defection when she ushered through a new plan under which only existing board members could elect new members. Critics said this gave Cage virtual control over the center.

The new board has proposed reinstating the previous policy for allowing at least half of the directors to be elected directly by members. Center officials say this gives more power to members to revise bylaws and call special meetings. The new policy and other bylaw changes are expected to be enacted at the next board

meeting in July.

"We were so pleased with the outpouring of support and the wonderful energy that community members brought to the meeting," Williams said. "We want to build upon the many positive developments of the past several months and fully renew the center based on the community's interests and needs."

The center's next annual meeting will be sometime in the fall. Meanwhile, the center is seeking input from community members as part of a process of evaluating counseling needs. This survey is available online through July 18.

FOR MORE

On the Web: www.mkelgbt.org.

A 2011 annual report can be viewed and downloaded at [www.mkelgbt.org/_data/documents/2011_LGBT_Annual_ReportFinal\[1\].pdf](http://www.mkelgbt.org/_data/documents/2011_LGBT_Annual_ReportFinal[1].pdf).

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ON THE CALENDAR

The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, in partnership with the Cream City Foundation and the Victory Garden Initiative, is sponsoring a unique way to meet new people while performing community service. From 9 a.m. to noon on July 21, "LGBT Weed Dating" at Concordia Gardens pairs volunteer weeders for about 10-minute intervals, offering them a chance to learn whether they click without the pressure of traditional speed dating events. A \$10 donation is requested.



NATIONAL GAZE

Got news? Tell us
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Dems seek to lift gay blood donor ban

By Lisa Neff
Staff writer

The Blood Center of Wisconsin is inviting people to call "1-877-BE-A-HERO" to schedule appointments to donate. In the exchange, the nonprofit says the blood donor gets to save three lives and scores a free ticket to Summerfest.

But a federal ban adopted in 1983 – a crisis time when scientists, physicians, policymakers and activists still had much to learn about HIV/AIDS – continues to prevent gay and bisexual men from rolling up their sleeves and donating a pint.

In mid-June, U.S. Sen. John Kerry and U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley renewed their call for an end to the blanket ban, which prohibits any man who's had sex with another man since 1977 from donating

blood.

Kerry, D-Mass., and Quigley, D-Ill., wrote a letter to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services urging action aimed at ending the ban and supporting a pilot study to develop alternative criteria for gay and bisexual donors.

HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius confirmed a plan for such a study this spring.

Also this spring, HHS published a notice in the Federal Register stating that the "increased effectiveness of donor testing for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), syphilis and other infectious agents has greatly enhanced blood safety. As a result, questions have been raised about the need to continue an indefinite deferral of all MSM (men who have

sex with men) and whether there could be blood donation by MSM who may not be at increased risk."

Kerry said the pilot study, and a reliance on science should "pave the way to get this policy off the books."

The letter he and Quigley wrote was signed by 60 other lawmakers, including Wisconsin's Gwen Moore. It states, "We have seen vast advances in blood screening technology, policy changes in other nations and staunch opposition from the nation's blood banks who have called the current ban 'medically and scientifically unwarranted.'"

"Still, healthy gay and bisexual men continue to be banned for life, while the FDA allows a man who has had sex with an HIV-positive woman to give blood after waiting only one year."

The current donor policy is 'indefensible' when 'we face serious blood shortages.'

The lawmakers described the donor policy as "inconsistent and indefensible," turning away "healthy, willing donors, even when we face serious blood shortages."

In a press statement, Quigley argued that "outdated and discriminatory policies like this must evolve to match advancements in science and technology."

Two years ago, an HHS



PHOTO: REP. MIKE QUIGLEY/Flickr


U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley, D-Ill.

advisory committee described the blanket ban as "suboptimal," but declined in a 9-6 vote to recommend repeal of the ban because "currently available scientific data are inadequate to support change to a specific alternative policy."

Quigley and Kerry also co-


authored a letter calling for an end to the ban the same month the advisory committee made its decision.

"We've been working on this a long time," Kerry said recently, adding that he's confident the end of the ban is relatively near.



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Title IX likened to the Magna Carta for women, opening doors and protecting rights

TITLE IX from page 1

or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

Title IX is just 37 words, but in 40 years the law has forged colossal change – for kids like Alexis Cohen and parents like Dan Cohen, for teams, schools, communities, states, the nation, the world.

“When reflecting on great moments of 20th century civil rights history, certainly 1972 and the enactment of Title IX was a defining point,” said NCAA president Mark Emmert.

He likened Title IX to the Magna Carta for women, adding, “It provides for women what had previously been denied – opportunity. Because of Title IX, my daughter has more opportunities than my wife had available. And my granddaughter, more than my daughter.”

Billie Jean King, the tennis legend and pioneering equality activist, said succinctly, “Those 37 words mean everything.”

On June 20, King joined

athletes, coaches, policymakers, policy-enforcers and politicians for a White House Council on Women and Girls celebration of Title IX at 40. The kind of superlatives that sportscasters use to describe an unparalleled season – a Triple Crown win or a Grand Slam victory – were applied to federal legislation. Monumental. Pivotal. Epic. Legendary. Heroic. Breakthrough.

Title IX, overseen by the Education and Justice departments, applies to athletics and academics and protects students from elementary school through college. But there’s no question that much of the focus has been on athletic opportunities for females.

“When Title IX came around, it just opened so many doors for people,” said Pat Summitt, former head basketball coach of the Tennessee Lady Vols and recent recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

BEFORE TITLE IX

When Summitt was growing up, sports opportunities

for girls and women were limited – they were more on the sandlot than in the stadium. Summitt’s family had to move to a new city when she was in high school because her hometown school lacked a girl’s basketball team.

King said when she attended college in California in the 1960s, sports scholarships for women were scarce. Nearby, Stan Smith was going to school on a full scholarship. So was Arthur Ashe. King, already considered one of the best in her sport, had no scholarship and was working two full-time jobs to get by.

“But I thought I was living large,” she said.

Glance at Wikipedia’s sports highlights for 1971 or 1972. King’s name appears in both – in 1972, she won the French and U.S. opens and Wimbledon. But overall, the lists contain more mentions of horses in sport than women in sport.

In 1971, there were 294,016 girls in high school sports, according to the

Women’s Sports Foundation, the nonprofit that King founded.

In higher education, there were 31,852 women playing on college teams, and women’s sports programs received about 2 percent of overall athletic budgets.

HITTING A HOMER

Today, there are 3.06 million girls playing high school sports and 166,800 women playing on college teams. Female participation in high school sports has increased 1,000 percent since 1972.

“I’ll never forget when Title IX passed, because it’s so important to all of us,” King said.

Title IX became law on June 23, 1972, with Richard Nixon’s signature on the Education Amendments Act of 1972.

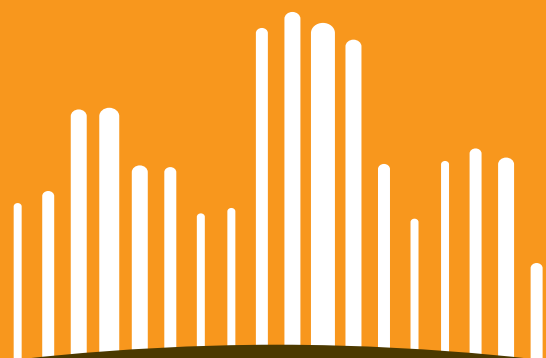
In the U.S. House, Edith Green and Patsy Mink had pushed for the legislation, which developed out of hearings that focused not on athletics but on hiring and firing

TITLE IX next page



PHOTO: WOMEN'S SPORTS FOUNDATION

Billie Jean King, a pioneer in equality for women and a champion on the tennis court.



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TITLE IX from prior page

practices in higher education, on career opportunities and degrees. Back then, women earned just 9 percent of all medical degrees and 7 percent of law degrees.

In the Senate, the measure's sponsor was ERA champion Birch Bayh of Indiana, who said from the floor, "While the impact of this amendment would be far-reaching, it is not a panacea. It is, however, an important first step in the effort to provide for the women of America something that is rightfully theirs — an equal chance to attend the schools of their choice, to develop the skills they want, and to apply those skills with the knowledge that they will have a fair chance to secure the jobs of their choice with equal pay for equal work."

Earlier in June, Bayh observed the Title IX anniversary at the White House and at a WNBA game in Indianapolis, when the Indiana Fever trounced the Connecticut Sun.

"We tend to think of Title IX in terms of numbers," Bayh said. "To me, this whole business of Title IX is much more than numbers. It's about individual citizens, individual young women — and not so young women and a few liberal men — who have been willing to stand up and be counted, willing to make a difference."

"The law is only 37 words ... but it has a big punch," Bayh said.

IN THE RING

Title IX's results are impressive, if mixed.

Two in five girls play high school sports today; in 1972 the ratio was one in 27.

A 2008 study showed women's collegiate sports having grown to 9,101 teams — 8.65 teams per school.

The number of girls playing what were long considered boys' sports has soared. In 1973-74, there were an estimated 96 girls playing ice hockey. In 2009-10, that number was more than 8,000.

Women receive about \$617 million a year in scholarships compared with \$100,000 in 1972.

Women's soccer was born after Title IX, along with the sport's biggest names. So was



PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA

Former U.S. Sen. Birch Bayh sponsored the Title IX amendment.

the WNBA. And women's participation and success at the Olympic level has rocketed.

Post-Title IX research shows that females who've played team sports have higher levels of self-esteem, and girls who play in high school are less likely to use drugs or get pregnant and more likely to get better grades, graduate from high school and go on to college.

Laurel J. Richie, the president of the WNBA and former vice president of the Girl Scouts of America, was involved in two sports in the days before Title IX — synchronized swimming and cheerleading.

"That is a testament to the world before Title IX," she said. "That's what girls did."

Thinking about the athletic pursuits of her nieces, Richie said young girls see no boundaries — they play what they want to play.

Shoni Schimmel, a fearless point guard for the University of Louisville, was born 20 years after passage of Title IX. Unlike Summitt, she didn't have to move around to find a place to play — instead she had to choose the best of multiple opportunities offered.

The law's legacy, said Schimmel, is that girls like her are growing up "knowing you can do it, you can go out there and achieve your dreams."

GOING THE DISTANCE

Still, work remains, said Tom Perez, an assistant attorney general for civil rights with the U.S. Justice Department. The legacy issue — gender inequity — remains a challenge, and there also

are "emerging issues" to confront.

"We have a lot of cases that involve harassment, including, now, same-sex harassment," Perez said.

Earlier this year, Minnesota's Anoka-Hennepin School District settled a Title IX complaint over anti-LGBT bullying and harassment that represented a renewed effort by the Obama administration to combat sex-based harassment.

"The school system was not responding adequately," Perez said of the case.

More recently, the Education Department's civil rights office ordered a Texas school to revise its Title IX policies after it punished a girl who reported a campus rape by placing her in a disciplinary program with her attacker.

"We can use Title IX to respond," Perez said, noting that the law is intended to protect students' right to an education without harassment or assault.

The White House also recently announced efforts to assess gaps in school enrollment and graduation rates and new guidelines to help schools comply with Title IX rules for science, technology, math and engineering.

"This is an extraordinary milestone to celebrate, but it can't just be about celebration," Cecilia Muñoz, director of the White House Domestic Policy Council said. "It must be about looking ahead."

And the "legacy issues," as Perez characterized them, remain.

In 1972-73, 12 times more boys than girls played high school sports. In 2010, with boys' participation at a record level, they still outnumbered girls, although by only 29 percent.

A 2005-06 study found women make up 55 percent of the student population at NCAA schools but less than 45 percent of the athlete population.

And research suggests a needed focus at elementary schools, because if a girl doesn't participate in sports by age 10 there's only a 10 percent chance she'll be involved in athletics at age 25.

So the Education Department and the courts continue to field student, parent and educator complaints under Title IX.

Earlier this year, the department's Chicago office began investigating a complaint against five Wisconsin school districts — Kettle Moraine, Oconomowoc, Mukwonago, Waukesha and Elmbrook — for alleged noncompliance with Title IX. The complaint claimed significant disparities in athletic opportunities and a failure to expand opportunities for girls.

Letters from the Education Department, obtained in a freedom of information request by Lake County Publications, said the districts allegedly failed "Title IX's three-part participation test." In 2006 and 2009, the Education Department also investigated Title IX complaints against the Arrowhead Union High School District.

While the text of Title IX is straightforward, the application, enforcement, legal disputes, claims and counter-claims get complicated.

"The statutory language has stayed the same, but the specifics as to what it requires, that's largely been the product of rule-making by the Office of Civil Rights and common law," explained

Matt Mitten, director of the National Sports Institute at Marquette University Law School. Marquette offers the nation's most comprehensive sports law program and the institute is the only one of its kind.

Traditionally, the complaints related to Title IX are against school districts for failure to comply.

But Title IX also has challengers. Much of their criticism is that Title IX harms boys and men by forcing schools to eliminate opportunities for them and shift resources to girls. And much of their focus has been on the "three-prong test," especially the first prong, which critics say establishes gender quotas that lead to the dismantling of programs for males.

Groups such as the Women's Sports Foundation, however, say overall opportunities for males continue to grow and that schools that eliminate opportunities for males to comply are not acting in the spirit of the law.

Offering a law professor's perspective, Mitten said, "A school can choose to reduce opportunities for boys to

make things more proportionate and that's something schools have done. ... That is legal under existing law. But it's not preferred."

In the best of worlds, schools create rather than reduce opportunities, and everybody gets a sporting chance, according to Title IX advocates.

"I think Title IX has changed the face of high school and college sports," Mitten said. "There are many more athletic opportunities for females, which is very, very good. After all, why do schools offer athletics? Education."

"Sports promote health and teach life skills, the value of team work, perseverance, common objectives, how to be humble in victory, how to handle the disappointment which comes from defeat. That's what Title IX was designed to do. It's an important part of the education process."

Back at the minor league baseball game, Alexis Cohen hoped to avoid a lesson in defeat and, in between "ay batter, batter" got an education from her dad on curve balls.

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REGIONAL BRIEFS



PHOTO: ChicagoPride.com

CHICAGO PRIDE PARADE WATCHED ONLINE

Chicago's LGBT Pride Parade on June 24 took place on the city's North Side and San Francisco's took place the same day on Market Street.

But the audiences for both were global with coverage of the parades streamed to audiences on the Web.

San Francisco parade orga-

nizers worked with Clear Channel Media and Entertainment San Francisco.

In Chicago, Gay Chicago TV and ChicagoPride.com partnered to present the parade from start to finish.

WIS. MAN ALLOWED TO DISTRIBUTE BIBLES AT PRIDE

A last-minute court injunction allowed a Wisconsin man to give away Bibles at the Twin Cities Pride Festival.

Organizers had restricted Brian Johnson to a booth outside the festival. His request for an injunction against the restriction was denied by a federal judge about two weeks ago.

Johnson's attorneys filed an emergency appeal and asked the court for a quick decision.

The U.S. Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals granted a temporary injunction that allowed the Hayward taxidermist and his family full access to the park on June

24. Johnson's attorney, Jonathan Scruggs, told the Star Tribune they will go back to court to argue that Johnson have access to future Pride Festivals.

Johnson's lawsuit says festival organizers banned him from the property after 2009 following an exchange about his views on homosexuality.

COOK COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY OPPOSES MARRIAGE BAN

Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez says Illinois' ban on gay marriage is unconstitutional.

And Cook County Clerk David Orr, a longtime supporter of same-sex marriage, agrees. Orr's office is a defendant in two lawsuits – one filed by the American Civil Liberties Union and one filed by Lambda Legal – that challenge the marriage ban.

The state offers civil unions to same-sex couples, but the legal groups, on behalf of 25

same-sex couples, argue that withholding marriage licenses from gays violates the equal protection and due process clauses of the Illinois Constitution.

On June 14, Alvarez' office issued a statement agreeing with the plaintiffs. But opponents of anti-gay marriage likely will intervene.

GENERAL MILLS OPPOSES ANTI-GAY AMENDMENT IN MINNESOTA

General Mills opposes a proposed Minnesota constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage. It is the largest company in the state to come out against the measure so far.

"We value diversity. We value inclusion. We always have and we always will," wrote Ken Charles, vice president of global diversity and inclusion for General Mills, in a public blog post on the company's website.

Minnesota for Marriage, the main group pushing for

the amendment's passage, accused General Mills of "pandering to a small but powerful interest group."

NAACP LEADER RESIGNS OVER GAY MARRIAGE

The president of the Iowa/Nebraska Conference of the NAACP has resigned over the national NAACP board resolution to support marriage equality.

KCCI-TV in Des Moines reported that the Rev. Keith Ratliff Sr. resigned from the NAACP and as president of the state conference.

Ratliff, of Maple Street Missionary Baptist Church in Des Moines, has long opposed gay-marriage. He said he was struggling with the group's endorsement made during a leadership retreat in Miami in May and was uncertain about his future with the NAACP.

The Iowa/Nebraska Conference includes Ames, Burlington, Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Des Moines and Sioux City in Iowa and Nebraska

branches in Lincoln and Omaha.

FOUR SHOT OUTSIDE GAY 90S BAR IN MINNEAPOLIS

Four people are recovering from gunshot wounds following a shooting outside a popular gay entertainment complex in Minneapolis.

Police told KARE-TV that two men armed with guns opened fire after arguing at a nearby apartment building around 2 a.m., injuring three people standing outside the Gay 90s. Three people were shot during the incident, which occurred while the streets were filled with people leaving the bar. A gunman was shot by police while fleeing the scene.

Observers said the incident is the latest in a series of violent clashes in the area. A woman required 100 stitches to her face after being struck with a wine glass at the Gay 90s bar in April.

— L.N.

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Olympic committee pressured to speak out on gay rights

By David Crary

AP writer

Despite broad worldwide gains for gay rights, homosexuality remains criminalized in many countries — and activists hope the global stage of the Olympics can be a springboard for change.

Specifically, activists are asking why the International Olympic Committee — with a credo of “sport for all” — welcomes in its ranks scores of nations that ban gay sex. For the IOC, which has taken actions in the past to combat racism and sexism, it’s a new civil rights challenge likely to linger long after the upcoming Summer Games in London.

“The IOC needs to come out of the closet,” said prominent British human rights lawyer Mark Stephens. “Sport for all means all — irrespective of color, gender or sexual orientation. It’s a matter of human dignity.”

Stephens, in recent a public lecture and an opinion piece

in the Guardian newspaper, has called on the IOC to ban the roughly 75 countries — mostly from Africa, the Caribbean and the Islamic world — that outlaw homosexual activity. That demand has been embraced by Peter Tatchell, a leading British gay-rights campaigner, and has prompted several human rights organizations to say the IOC should at least speak out, even if a ban at this stage is unrealistic.

“The games would be badly depopulated if you exclude every government with a bad human rights record,” said Marianne Mollmann, a policy adviser with Amnesty International. “But we certainly feel the IOC should be more vocal about these issues.”

Along with proposing a ban, Stephens has urged still-in-the-closet gay and lesbian athletes to come out during the games, which start July 27. He says those who don’t feel safe in their home coun-

tries should apply for asylum while in Britain.

Emmanuelle Moreau, IOC spokeswoman, asked about the appeals, noted that the Olympic Charter “clearly states that any form of discrimination with regard to a country or a person on grounds of race, religion, politics, gender or otherwise is incompatible with belonging to the Olympic Movement.”

But Moreau gave no indication if the IOC would do anything to raise the issue.

“It’s absolute cowardice on the part of the IOC,” said John Amaechi, who came out as gay after ending a career in the NBA.

Amaechi, who runs a consulting firm in the U.K., has been serving on the diversity board of the London Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games. The committee, known as LOCOG, made diversity and inclusion a cornerstone of its bid to host the games.

Amaechi commends



AP PHOTO/ALASTAIR GRANT, FILE

LOCOG for seeking to include gays, lesbians and transgender people on its staff, in its volunteer corps and among its small-business contractors. But he’s dismayed at the IOC’s hesitance

to speak out on global gay-rights issues.

“They’re abdicating the responsibility that comes with the power they have,” he said, drawing a contrast with the IOC’s hard-

line stance in 1964 when it expelled South Africa over its apartheid policies.

“Where is that bold, progressive Olympic movement

OLYMPICS next page

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OLYMPICS from prior page

that sees great injustice in the world and says, "Whatever the risk, we won't let people who violate our tenets join us," Amaechi said.

He depicted the IOC executive committee as "a bunch of older, straight men who still giggle when there's mention of sexual orientation."

The gay-rights issue is likely to entangle the IOC long past London.

Russia, host of the 2014 Winter Games, has a checkered record on gay rights, and a regional court has upheld officials' rejection of a proposed "Pride House" to welcome gays and lesbians at the games.

Boris Dittrich, director of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights Program at Human Rights Watch, said the IOC should be trying to convince individual countries with anti-gay laws that they need to be more tolerant.

Olympics aside, it's an exciting time for gay-rights activists in both Britain and the United States as Prime Minister David Cameron and President Barack Obama each have thrown their support behind efforts to legalize same-sex marriage.

Yet even in those countries, and their Western partners, sports-related prejudice against gays persists. Australian diver Matthew Mitcham, a 2008 gold medalist in Beijing, is one of a tiny group of openly gay athletes expected to compete in London.

Sports leagues in Britain and elsewhere in Europe have been trying to combat anti-gay bias. In North America, there has never been a male athlete in the top four major league sports — baseball, football, basketball and hockey — who's come out as gay during his career.

Jim Buzinski of OutSports.com, which tracks the role of gays in sports, believes progress is being made as more straight athletes support the idea of gays competing openly and as anti-gay slurs become increasingly taboo.

As for the IOC, Buzinski described its current leadership as "a lost cause."

"It's an issue I don't think these people feel comfortable talking about," he said. "It's a group that's going to be one of the last to change."

In London, spectators and athletes likely will glimpse some of the many rainbow-flag gay Pride pins that LOCOG has issued as part of its efforts to show solidarity with the gay community. LOCOG has also trained its volunteers on dealing with gays and lesbians.

A workbook describes a complaint from a spectator made uncomfortable by two men holding hands next to him. Among multiple-choice answers for volunteers are the options to tell him to "stop being a homophobic idiot" or "politely ask the couple to stop holding hands." The third answer is: "You explain that there is a huge diversity of people at the London 2012 Games, which includes gay, lesbian and bisexual individuals and couples."

Nonetheless, some British activists are displeased.

Tatchell said he had been meeting with the London organizers to seek an extensive LGBT role in the games, and described the results as "a huge disappointment."

MILWAUKEE BREWER RYAN BRAUN NAMED HONORARY AIDS WALK CHAIR

Ryan Braun, the Milwaukee Brewers' all-star left fielder and the National League's reigning most valuable player, will serve as honorary chair of AIDS Walk Wisconsin 2012.

"I am honored to be a part of AIDS Walk Wisconsin 2012," Braun said in a statement. "AIDS is still impacting too many of our friends, family members and neighbors. I am proud to do whatever I can to help raise awareness and generate support to strengthen the fight against AIDS."

Last year's honorary chair was Packer Craig Matthews. The state's largest AIDS fundraiser, AIDS Walk Wisconsin has raised more than \$10.5 million over the past 22 years. Proceeds support HIV prevention, care and treatment services in the state.

"In 2011, reported new HIV infections in Wisconsin were up 18 percent over the previous year," said ARCW president and CEO Michael J. Gifford. "With Ryan's strong support, we know we can raise the funds needed to help curb new infections while making sure everyone with HIV gets the health care and medications they need to live a long, healthy life."

Gifford said there are 6,584 people confirmed to be living with HIV in Wisconsin. Additionally, there are about 1,700 people in Wisconsin who have HIV but do not know it because they have not been tested.

ARCW also announced that MillerCoors is the event's presenting sponsor and the Brewers Community Foundation is grand sponsor.

AIDS Walk Wisconsin will kick off Oct. 6 at the Summerfest Grounds in Milwaukee.

For more information about the event, including reg-



PHOTO: CREAMCITYCABLES.COM

Brewers All-Star Ryan Braun.

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— Louis Weisberg



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NATIONAL BRIEFS



PHOTO: PLANNED PARENTHOOD

A person dressed as a package of birth control pills is greeting Mitt Romney along the campaign trail to protest the GOP candidate's opposition to the president's birth control coverage provision. Sponsored by the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, "Pillamina" highlights the fact that birth control is "an economic issue for women – period," said the organization's president Cecile Richards.

PRIDE CELEBRATED AT WHITE HOUSE

President Barack Obama hosted a celebration of LGBT Pride Month at the White House on June 15.

The event took place in the East Room, with a military band playing smooth jazz as guests arrived. The attendees – numbering about 500 – included LGBT civil rights leaders, servicemembers, students, politicians and, according to a report from the press pool, Broadway stars.

The pool reported "attendees favored conservative suits."

The president, in his remarks, focused on the promises made during his first campaign for the office. One of them, he said, was "we would see progress. And together, that's what we're witnessing."

He promised to be both a friend and an advocate as long as he has the "privilege of being the president."

Pride celebrations also took place in federal departments, including at the Pentagon.

BOY SCOUTS BOARD MEMBER, WALL STREET CEO OPPOSES GAY BAN

A prominent member of the Boy Scouts of America's national board is calling for an end to the group's ban on gay scouts and leaders. James Turley, BSA board member and CEO of Ernst & Young, endorsed a resolution calling for repeal of the ban.

In a statement first reported by CNBC, Turley said, "As CEO, I know that having an inclusive culture produces the best results, is the right thing for our people and makes us a better organization. I am proud to be a leader on this issue. I support the meaningful work of the Boy Scouts in preparing young people for adventure, leadership, learning and service, however the membership policy is not one I would personally endorse.

"I intend to continue to work from within the BSA board to actively encourage dialogue and sustainable progress."

WITNESS FOR PROP 8 CHANGES MIND

The key witness for upholding the anti-gay Proposition 8 in California has had a change

of mind.

David Blankenhorn, founder of the Institute for American Values, originally testified at the federal trial in favor of the California constitutional amendment. But in a June 22 op-ed in The New York Times, he came out in support of marriage equality.

Responding, Chad Griffin of the Human Rights Campaign said, "What David Blankenhorn has shown the world is that through careful deliberation and a deepening understanding of LGBT people, one can only draw the conclusion that the answer is full equality."

ROMNEY GETS GOPROUD'S ENDORSEMENT

The board for GOProud, a group of gay and straight conservatives and libertarians, has endorsed Republican Mitt Romney for president.

Lisa De Pasquale, the interim chair of the GOProud board, said, "GOProud is prepared to commit significant resources to help make Mitt Romney the next president of the United States."

De Pasquale described the board's vote as enthusiastic, but it was not unanimous. Two members, including a GOProud co-founder, voted against the endorsement.

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS SAY GAY RIGHTS NOT CIVIL RIGHTS

Southern Baptists passed a resolution opposing the concept that same-sex marriage is a civil rights issue.

The thousands of delegates attending the denomination's annual meeting in New Orleans were nearly unanimous in their support for the resolution, which says marriage is "the exclusive union of one man and one woman"

"It is regrettable that homosexual rights activists and those who are promoting the recognition of 'same-sex marriage' have misappropriated the rhetoric of the Civil Rights Movement," the resolution states.

Another resolution that passed on June 20 calls for the Justice Department to cease efforts to overturn DOMA.

-L.N.

Wisconsin
Gazette .com

WIGOUT!

WISCONSIN GAZETTE ENTERTAINMENT

Steaming Joe

Superhunk Joe Manganiello goes behind the scenes of 'Magic Mike'

Interview

GREGG SHAPIRO

Actor Joe Manganiello actually IS that stunning in person. That long, perfectly sculpted torso and Greek-god chiseled face that have enraptured fans of "True Blood" are not computer generated. Up close and personal, the broad-shouldered, 6'5" hunk is every inch as hot as the meticulously scruffy werewolf Alcide, whom he portrays on the hit HBO series.

But Manganiello also is smart and has an appealing sense of humor. The increasingly busy actor was in Chicago to promote Steven Soderbergh's just-released male stripper film "Magic Mike," which is loosely based on the real-life, pre-stardom stripping career of actor Tatum Channing. Manganiello plays exotic dancer Big Dick Richie.

Gregg Shapiro: What made you want to play Big Dick Richie?

Joe Manganiello: Besides the name (laughs)? And the legacy that would come along with the name? I read the script and it was like scene-stealing moment after scene-stealing moment – between the fireman suit, the gold body paint, the silhouette routine, the penis pump. Then, of course, Steven Soderbergh, Chan, (Matthew) McConaughey and my drama school classmate Matt Bomer. It was a slam-dunk.

The audience's first

glimpse of you is backstage, seated at a sewing machine, working on your costume.

I'm sewing my gold thong.

Was that your first time with a sewing machine?

We had a home ec class in junior high, so I knew my way around a sewing machine.

Which of Richie's costumes did you like best?

The gold body paint was epic. It took a good solid hour, with five people applying this makeup to every crevice. ... It was me as this gold statue come to life, just mauling a floor full of women, knocking tables over, jumping on things. It was a Dionysian orgy, and I rubbed up on everybody. I think it stayed on me pretty well, which is kind of freaky to think about, actually.

What was involved in researching your role?

A really good longtime friend of mine was a male stripper in Dallas during the '90s at a club called La Bare. He was actually responsible for coming up with the fireman routine there. I took him out to lunch, we hung out. I had heard some of his stories before, but never with the amount of interest that I had now, obviously. I bought him lunch and took notes and laughed hysterically and got a really good feel for (what he did). Plus I've worked in clubs since I was 16 years old, so I know that life, I know those people.

Were you that tall at 16?

Yes.

So you were able to pass for older.

Yeah. Seagram's hired me to be Captain Morgan for \$25 an hour when I was 16. They didn't really question it. We got me a fake ID from somebody who was 10 years older just to make sure I was covered. Interestingly enough, I was actually in Chicago when I was 21. I got a job that summer working for Finlandia Vodka. We wound up here (in Chicago) promoting Finlandia during the Pride festival. I was wearing a tuxedo and they sent me in with a tray of Finlandia vodka drinks into a bar – I don't know if it's still here – called the Manhole.

It's now called Hydrate.

I ended up veering right into a backroom with a metal spider-web (laughs), at 21, man! That was educational, I'll just say that.

Did you learn anything about the male stripper world that you didn't know before?

I think the differences and similarities between male and female strip clubs was fascinating. Men are threatening to women, where women aren't threatening to men. So if women aren't threatening to men, let them do whatever they want. You go to the male strip club, and women are screaming, grabbing, groping, backstage, under the table, in the parking lot. ... You don't really need security, because every one of the guys is their own security. It's go for it, do your thing. I think that's why a lot of the guys are into it. For



THEMENOFBONTEMPS.COM

the women that it's probably more about the money; for the guys it's more about the good time.

The money doesn't hurt.

Oh, sure, but these guys aren't thinking about tomorrow. It's enough to keep going, as long as there's drink and drugs. It's the Lost Boys. I think the costumes, presenting themselves as female fantasies, and the nature of the theatrics, it's more fun.

Steven Soderbergh elevates "Magic Mike" above your typical movie about strippers.

He's a very intuitive filmmaker. He trusts his gut. It's

possible because he's his own cameraman; he sees it in his head. What that allows him to do is observe what's going on in front of him and make judgment calls based upon, "Is what I'm seeing more interesting than maybe what we were going to shoot? If so, then maybe we should shoot that." Everything in the locker room (scene) came out of us messing around, waiting for Steven to set up the shot. He'd say, "Let's shoot that. This is great, this is funny." It just so happened that the casting was right, and there was this great group of guys who played off of each other really well. It added a whole other movie within the movie that wasn't there.

Your old friend Matt Bomer, who plays Ken in the movie, recently came out as gay. Will that increase the movie's appeal to gays, or do you think the subject matter alone is enough?

I think Matt's a brilliant actor. Matt's one of the best-looking guys on the planet, and he's one of the best actors on the planet. I think that's the draw. I certainly think this movie appeals to that demographic (laughs), regardless.

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No magic in 'Mike's' strip act

Reel Advice

GREGG SHAPIRO

"Magic Mike," a movie about male strippers set in Tampa, Fla., has artful pretensions. Directed by Steven Soderbergh and starring Channing Tatum as the titular stripper and Joe Manganiello as Big Dick Richie, "Magic Mike" struts the line between comedy and drama, while tastefully grinding its pelvis in the face of the viewer.

When we first meet Mike (Tatum), he's on his way to a construction site. But he's as much a construction worker as David Hodo of the Village People. At the site he recruits The Kid (Alex Pettyfer) as the latest member of his strip troupe. He lures The Kid to a club filled with available young women, then uses him as bait for potential g-string stuffers.

Once at the strip club, however, everything changes. After a brief locker-room initiation (not as erotic as it sounds), The Kid finds himself working for club owner and troupe leader Dallas (Matthew McConaughey at his



PHOTO: COURTESY

sleaziest), doing odd jobs (none preceded by hand or blow). In a "42nd Street"-style turn of events, The Kid gets his big break and wows the crowd of horny suburban domestic goddesses.

But there are complications. The Kid's protective (and responsible) older sister Paige (Cody Horn) doesn't approve of Mike or her brother's new career. And Mike finds himself hopelessly attracted to Paige, although he never manages to say the right things to her. The Kid gets tangled up in a drug-dealing intrigue. Dallas makes big plans to relocate the club to Miami, but some of the dancers'

questionable behavior threatens the move.

The worst thing that can be said about "Magic Mike," aside from the fact that it is lacking in magic, is that for a movie about male strippers, it's shockingly unsexy. Tatum is a first-rate dancer, and he's a joy to gaze upon, but his acting skills leave something to be desired. As for McConaughey, it's a wonder there's any scenery left after he's on screen.

With the exception of Pettyfer, Horn and Olivia Munn (as Mike's bi-gal-pal Joanna), the rest of the cast, including the gorgeous and newly out actor Matt Bomer, aren't given enough to do.

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Under the Streetlamp phenom to rock Mequon

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Singer Michael Cunio loves his work and his enthusiasm is distinctly palpable.

"We look at each other when we're on stage and think, 'Holy shit! This is our job!'" the out former rock singer exclaims. "We're clocked in. Can you believe this?"

Cunio is a former member of the Chicago cast of "Jersey Boys," the smash musical about the lives of the Four Seasons. When the show closed in 2010, Cunio and fellow former cast members Michael Ingersoll, Christopher Kale Jones and Shonn Wiley decided to keep the spirit alive by forming Under the Streetlamp, a group dedicated to performing music from "American Radio Songbook" of the 1950s and '60s.

Now in its third year, Streetlamp has taken the country by storm, gaining nearly instantaneous recognition thanks to a PBS special aired in 2011 that was repeat-

ed June 6 on Milwaukee Public Television. The group will next be seen locally in a live performance on July 13 at Mequon's Gathering on the Green, the Milwaukee suburb's summer outdoor music series.

"We thought we could ride on the coattails of 'Jersey Boys' for awhile, but we had no idea how quickly this would take off," says Cunio, a Seattle native.

The music of the Four Seasons factors into Streetlamp's playlist, but so does a wealth of other material – from the Beatles to the Beach Boys, from Van Morrison to James Brown. Some numbers dip back to the 1930s or reach to the 1980s, but most have been mined from what many think was the golden age of pop radio music.

"Public response to 'Jersey Boys' helped us see that there was a hunger for this music," Cunio says. "We see multiple generations in our audience and know that we are stewards of this music

and need to be true to its spirit."

Streetlamp benefits immensely from having four lead singers with the capabilities to harmonize and back each other up. Cunio describes himself as the group's rocker, and would happily perform Led Zepelin's "When the Levee Breaks" if he thought it would fit into Streetlamp's repertoire. Instead, he takes the lead on the group's rhythm-and-blues numbers, including the Isley Brothers' "Twist and Shout," James Brown's "It's a Man's World" and the Etta James torcher "At Last."

Ingersoll leans toward R&B, but also has a rockabilly bravado that brings out Johnny Cash and Roy Orbison covers. "Pretty Woman" is the Dayton, Ohio, native's signature tune. Jones draws on a Christian music background and turns his tenor voice to ballads, while Wiley is the group's choreographer and tap dancer. He also performs some of the earliest



PHOTO: COURTESY

The Under the Streetlamp quartet includes out performer Michael Cunio, second from right.

music on Streetlamp's playlist.

In addition to the obligatory Four Seasons medley, Gathering on the Green audience members can expect some early rock 'n' roll ("I Wonder," "Blue Moon"), some feel-good numbers ("Happy Together," "I Get Around," "I'm a Believer"), early soul tunes ("Nowhere to Run," "Get Ready") and maybe even the Beatles' "Hey Jude," the ultimate audience sing-along number. But then all the songs turn into sing-alongs, Cunio says.

"There is no 'fourth wall' in our show," he explains. "We encourage people to sing along."

In addition to being

consummate performers,

Streetlamp members also are crusaders for various social causes. Their partnership with PBS has enabled them to raise funds for public television stations nationwide, including Milwaukee Public Television. The group has also raised funds for Broadway Cares/Equity, Fight AIDS, the National Parkinson's Foundation and other groups. Within the last two years Streetlamp has contributed more than \$3 million to causes and charities, Cunio says.

The group travels with a guitarist, bassist, percussionist and pianist and hires three local horn players in cities where they appear. The

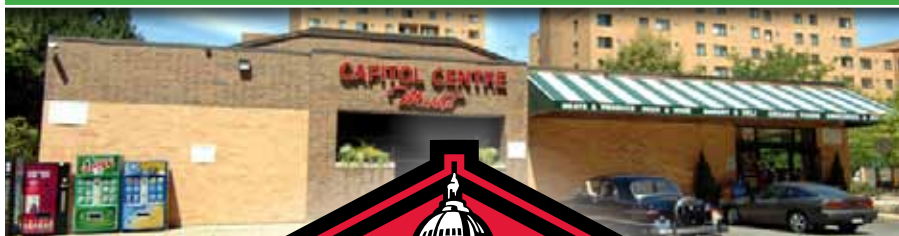
Mequon show should be very much like the others that have led to the group's growing following.

"The audience can expect to be out of their seats, jumping and dancing, singing along and laughing their faces off," Cunio says. "We think of ourselves as less of a concert and more of a party."

FOR MORE

On July 14, Gathering on the Green will feature "Music from the Movies" with guest star Kate Shindle from the Broadway cast of "Legally Blonde." Details for both performances can be found at www.gatheringonthegreen.org.

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Aspiring Milwaukee filmmaker sinks his teeth into learning experience with 'Vampire' short

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Count Dracula will be stalking the woods and trails of Milwaukee's Schlitz Audubon Nature Center next month, but it won't be the tuxedo, opera cape and pointy canines that will give him away. He'll have a professional film crew in tow.

This Dracula is at the center of a project by Collaborative Cinema, an educational initiative sponsored by Milwaukee Film, the nonprofit organization responsible for the Milwaukee Film Festival.

"The Vampire Formerly Known as Dracula," written by Milwaukee High School for the Arts freshman Ian Walls, is Collaborative Cinema's seventh annual production. The initiative matches emerging filmmakers with professional film crews each summer to produce short films as a way of promoting filmmaking education, says

Milwaukee Film education director Susan Kerns.

"We work with high school students and adults on screenwriting, we make music videos with young people and we make one short film every year as part of our summer film shoot," Kerns says. "For the summer shoot, we work with emerging professional and student filmmakers at various stages of their careers as an opportunity for them to bridge to the next level."

The 11-page "Vampire" script, one of the top five scoring screenplays submitted for consideration, chronicles a lonely Count Dracula, adrift in America and falling behind the new "Twilight"-era breed of sexy young bloodsuckers. It takes the help of a blasé, would-be victim to get the 200-year-old count in step with the times. The theme attracted Nate Schardin, a freelance video-

grapher and part-time restaurant cook who was tapped to direct this year's short.

"The story has a great sense of humor that I felt mirrors my own," says Schardin, who has been involved with Collaborative Cinema since 2007 as a junior at Nicolet High School. He has studied videography at MATC, attended Milwaukee Film screenwriting workshops and worked in some capacity on nearly every Collaborative Cinema production.

This was the first year that Collaborative Cinema has allowed an emerging filmmaker like Schardin to direct, Kerns says.

"Nate pitched a great film," she explains. "He'd clearly done a lot of research and had a lot of terrific ideas for the film, so we chose his project."

The short script has three locations: Dracula's apart-

'Vampire' will premiere at the 2012 festival.

ment, a city bus stop and the woods. The Audubon Center agreed to allow the forest scenes to be filmed there, and a bus stop at the eastern-most end of Silver Spring Drive also was chosen as the street location.

The apartment and cast have yet to be chosen, Schardin says.

While the students work for the experience, professional crew members are paid, although at a reduced rate. Productions costs vary and a typical crew consists of anywhere from 30 to 50 people.

"There is no such thing as an average cost to produce

a film anymore," Kerns says. "There is such a range of equipment that short films can be made very inexpensively and very expensively. It totally depends on the kind of film you want to make and where you want to screen it."

The Collaborative Cinema program is funded by the Richard and Ethyl Herzfeld Foundation, the Mary L. Nohl Fund and the Milwaukee Arts Board, part of the Wisconsin Arts Board. The program also relies on in-kind donations from North American Camera, which provides state-of-the-art equipment, and Independent Studios, which provides post-production editing, sound design and other services.

Once finished, "Vampire" will receive its world premiere as part of "The Milwaukee Show" at the 2012 Milwaukee Film Festival, scheduled for Sept. 27-Oct.

11 at various venues around the city. Previous years' Collaborative Cinema shorts have gone on to be shown at other state film festivals.

The 2011 film "Memento Mori," about a traveling showman who steals people's souls with his magic camera, is currently winning prizes on the film festival circuit, Kerns says.

If Schardin has his way, "The Vampire Formerly Known as Dracula" will follow the same path, providing much-needed exposure for the emerging filmmaker.

"Despite my other jobs, I still think of myself as a full-time filmmaker," Schardin says, "because I am always thinking about and planning the next project."

FOR MORE INFO

Go to Milwaukee Film's Collaborative Cinema, visit <http://milwaukee-film.org/content/collaborativecinema>.



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On another note

DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE

Death Cab for Cutie reached the pinnacle of prettiness with 2003's "Transatlanticism" and 2005's "Plans." "Codes and Keys," on which DCFC loses some of its foothold, gets off to a lovely start with "Home Is a Fire" and keeps the flame burning on the title tune, "Unobstructed Views," "Underneath the Sycamore" and "Stay Young, Go Dancing." But "Codes and

Keys" is lacking in something new, and instead finds the band safely plying its trade without taking unnecessary chances.

fun.

On "Some Nights," fun. lives up to its name, slicing into a different side of the pretty pop pie, topping it with a generous dollop of whipped nostalgia. The Queen influence is front and center, beginning with



PHOTO: NEWBEATSMEDIA.COM

Death Cab for Cutie plays Summerfest in Milwaukee on July 5.

Music

GREGG SHAPIRO

the "Some Nights Intro" and continuing through the title track and hit single "We Are Young" (on which they are joined by Janelle Monae). But that doesn't mean fun. gets lost in the shuffle. On the contrary, the group firmly establishes its identity on "We Are Young," "It Gets Better," "All Alone" and "One Foot," making "Some Nights" a thoroughly satisfying album.

VACATIONER

Vacationer, aka Kenny Vasoli, is joined by an assortment of musicians for the 11-track disc "Gone." The subtly beat-powered opener "Everyone Knows" makes for even more hip-swaying cuts, such as "Good As New" and the aptly titled "Trip." Like fun., Vacationer incorporates a hip-hop vibe throughout, most audibly on "No Rules" and "Farther," while "Dreamlike" lives up to its title.



PHOTO: TARINA WESTLUND

Portland Cello Project.

LOST IN THE TREES

Lost in the Trees' fittingly mournful "A Church That Fits Our Needs" is a 12-song cycle about the life and death of the mother of LITT's Ari Picker. The work is both tragic and triumphant. LITT remains true to its "orchestral folk" roots, incorporating percussion and stringed instruments to create a timeless effect, as immediate as it is nostalgic. Dramatic without being draining, each song is as strong on its own as the whole is woven together. Standouts include "Red," "Icy River," "Garden," "An Artist's Song" and "Vines."

PORTLAND CELLO PROJECT

String ensembles interpreting contemporary tunes

are nothing new. The Section Quartet did it with songs by The Postal Service, Radiohead and David Bowie, to name a few, while 2Cellos did the same for songs by U2, Nine Inch Nails, Kings of Leon and others. Portland Cello Project shifts its gaze to hip-hop, with covers of songs by Lil Wayne ("She Will"), Jay-Z and Kanye West ("That's My Bitch"), Outkast ("Hey Ya!") and Talib Kweli ("Get By"), finding beauty in unexpected places.

BEACH HOUSE

Boldly wearing their Cocteau Twins-influences on their polka-dotted sleeves, Beach House continues to blossom on the Baltimore duo's fourth full-length CD "Bloom." Victoria Legrand's lyrics are more comprehensible than

Elizabeth Fraser's, and her voice is more earthy than ethereal. But songs such as "Myth" and "Wild" sound as though they could have been discovered tucked away in a Cocteau Twins vault. That's not to say that Beach House gets swept away. Their mark is as strong as ever on "The Hours" and "On the Sea."

FLEET FOXES

Modern pop music doesn't get much prettier than the Americana-inflected music of Seattle sextet Fleet Foxes. "Helplessness Blues," the band's second full-length disc, is a glorious recording that could have been released 45 years ago. The 12 songs, especially "Battery Kinzie," "Montezuma," "The Cascades" and "Grown Ocean," sound fresh and familiar at the same time.



PHOTO: COURTESY

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PHOTO: OPENWALLS.COM

Drink pink

Rosé wines making a comeback

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

With apologies to the Bard of Avon, a rosé by any other name would indeed taste as sweet. But it also might be crisp, with a hint of acidity – or dry, leaving the palate cleansed and refreshed.

Shakespeare, of course, was talking about the flower in his oft-quoted line from “Romeo and Juliet.” In this case, however, the subject is rosés, the bright pink wines whose color range and flavor palate fall neatly between straw-colored, acidic whites and inky, robust reds.

The right wine for any season is always the one you enjoy the most, but a chilled rosé, tipped from a delicate stem, is a brighter and often more flavorful alternative to another tired round of chardonnay – oaked or otherwise.

Rosés – called “rosado” in Spain, “rosato” in Italy, and even “blush” in the marketing-conscious United States – are produced from red wine grapes whose skin is left macerated with the juice after crushing. Contact with the skin creates the color, which can range from a pale rosé to an almost vibrant hot-pink hue, depending on the grape used and the length of exposure.

Most red grape varieties have been used to produce rosés, the most popular of which may be Grenache. But vintners regularly try their hand with Pinot Noir, Malbec, Zinfandel, Tempranillo and other varieties because of the unique flavors and characteristics they bring. Flavors range from bone dry (more European in style) to almost sweet (most prevalent in the United States), with countless iterations in between.

The burst of bland “white Zinfandels” in the 1970s did little to enhance the legitimacy of rosés. But they’re coming back as more vintners realize their potential, and more wine drinkers discover the delightful alternatives now available.

Here are some suggestions from the 2011 vintage for your next summer outing:

- El Coto de Rioja Rosado (\$10) fills the glass with a lively pink hue. This Spanish rosé, equal blends of Tempranillo and Grenache (Grenache) grapes, pours with herbal notes on the nose and juicy, almost cherry overtones refresh the palate.

- Michel Torino Malbec Rosé (\$12) captures the essence of one of the great red wine grapes, reintroducing it to the summer crowd. The Argentine wine, aged five months in oak, is more fruit-forward and boasts a deep pink coloration. Strawberry and bubble gum flavors slide across the palate with a white pepper finish that echoes the wine’s spicy nose.

- Biohof Pratsch Rosé (\$12) proves that even the Austrians can be pretty in pink. Produced from a blend of the local varieties Sankt Laurent, Blauburger, Zweigelt and Pinot Noir grapes, the sunrise-pale pink wine is dry on the palate with peach, pear and strawberry flavors offset by a crisp acidity that makes it a natural with food.

- The Acrobat Rosé of Pinot Noir (\$13) offers some of the best of what Oregon’s favorite wine grape has to offer. There is richness to the pale pink color and a surprisingly viscous mouth-feel on entry. The wine has the aroma of watermelon and spice, with a pleasing flavor palate of raspberry, pomegranate and coriander.

- Filmmaker-turned-vintner Francis Ford Coppola pulled out all stops in producing his Sofia Monterey County Rosé (\$16), named for his filmmaker daughter. Blended from 80 percent Syrah and 20 percent Grenache grapes, the wine arrives packaged in an elegant, curvaceous bottle and boasts a dramatically rich pink hue. A nose that suggests lavender and candied orange peel gives way to a palate of cherries and strawberries, with a touch of anise at the edges. The dry finish makes it a leader among other wines of its type.

So this summer, drink pink and open yourself up to a new category of wines.

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GREGG SHAPIRO

CAPTURING ROSS' COMMITMENT, TALENT

Available on DVD for the first time and arriving just shy of the 30th anniversary of the landmark concert, "Diana Ross: Live in Central Park" is a testament to the diva's professionalism and persistence. The concert was to be televised live worldwide from the great lawn of New York's Central Park on July 21, 1983. But Mother Nature had other plans. As the concert began, the wind whipped Ross' long hair around her head and into her face. Forty-five or so minutes into the show, the skies darkened and the gentle rain turned torrential.

A consummate performer, Ross, dressed in an orange-sequined body suit (and waterproof makeup, appar-

ently), soldiered on for as long as she could. But concerned for the audience's safety, she stopped the show and promised to return the next day (weather permitting) to do the whole thing over again.

The DVD gives the viewer the option to watch the "complete rain-shortened" concert, and it's worth seeing for the perspective it provides. But the DVD's main attraction is the July 22 concert, when glorious weather conditions compensated for the previous night's fiasco and set the stage for a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Ross doesn't disappoint for a moment. Taking the stage in a form-fitting purple sequined body-suit (the first of a handful of costumes), she launches into an energetic and emotional concert



PHOTO: COURTESY

"Live in Central Park."

that includes solo hits new and old, songs from her days as a Supreme and a range of covers ("Family" from "Dreamgirls," "Maniac" from "Flashdance," Stevie Wonder's "Ribbon in the Sky" and Michael Jackson's "Beat It"). Also included are songs from her films – "Home" (from "The Wiz"), "God Bless The Child" (from "Lady Sings the Blues") and the "Theme from Mahogany."

Don't be surprised if you find yourself on your

feet at the end, giving Ross the standing ovation she deserved. Among the DVD bonus features is director Steve Binder's commentary.

THE B-52S, AS IF YOU WERE THERE

As anyone who has ever been to a B-52s concert can attest, you haven't fully experienced the little band from Athens, Ga., until you've seen it perform live. The B-52s' "With the Wild Crowd: Live in Athens, GA," the expanded DVD companion to the band's 2011 CD of the same name, goes a long way toward conveying the group's unique stage energy.

Filed in February 2011 at the Classic Center in Athens, more than 30 years after the B-52s' first live gig, "With the Wild Crowd" features songs from throughout the B's career. Special attention is given to material from the band's most recent studio release, 2007's "Funplex."

Throughout the concert, it's difficult to say who's hav-



PHOTO: COURTESY

The B-52s.

ing more fun – the band or the audience. Even if you weren't there in person, the DVD makes you feel like part of the show.

The DVD bonus feature, an interview with Kate Pier-son, Fred Schneider, Keith

Strickland and Cindy Wilson, is a revelatory delight. The four trace the history of their band, paying special tribute to Cindy's brother and co-founding member Ricky Wilson, who died in the mid-1980s.

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JUNE 28, THURSDAY

The **37th National Women's Music Festival** begins at 7 p.m. at the Marriott Madison West, 1313 John Q. Hammons Dr. in Middleton. The line-up includes One Fine Day, Sistah Ngoma, Nervous But Excited and Ladies Must Swing. Visit wiaonline.org for more info.

Jazz in the Park presents **D'Calleson** in Cathedral Square Park, 825 N. Jefferson in Milwaukee, at 6 p.m.

The world's first (and only) science fiction football musical comedy, "**Packer Fans from Outer Space**," runs through July 22 in Vogel Hall at Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, at the corner of Water and State. Call 414-273-2787.

Returning for its 9th season, the musical comedy "**Belgians in Heaven**," set in southern Door County's Belgian-American farming district, runs through Aug. 24 at The Amphitheatre in Peninsula State Park in Fish Creek.

The Tony Award-winning play "**War Horse**" runs through June 30 at Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, 400 W. College Ave. in Appleton. Call 920-730-3760.



Holly Near

JUNE 29, FRIDAY

The **37th National Women's Music Festival** begins at noon at the Marriott Madison West, 1313 John Q. Hammons Dr. in Middleton. Performers include Leela and Ellie Grace, Chris Collier and Summer Osborne. Visit wiaonline.org for more info.

American Folklore Theatre in Door County presents the world premiere of "**Victory Farm**," set in World War II Door County, through Aug. 25 at The Amphitheatre in Peninsula State Park in Fish Creek.

The **37th National Women's Music Festival** returns at 7 p.m. at the Marriott Madison West, 1313 John Q. Hammons Dr. in Middleton. Featured performers include Holly Near and Sugarbeach.

The world premiere of "**Hero**," a new musical by Wisconsin native Aaron Thielen and Michael Mahler, runs through Aug. 19 at The Marriott Theatre, 10 Marriott Dr., in Lincolnshire, Ill. Call 847-634-0200.

Colbie Caillat and Gavin DeGraw perform at 7 p.m. in the Pavilion at Ravinia Festival, 200-231 Ravinia Park Rd., in Highland Park, Ill. Call 847-266-5100.

JUNE 30, SATURDAY

The **37th National Women's Music Festival** returns to the stage at noon and again at 7 p.m. at the Marriott Madison West, 1313 John Q. Hammons Dr. in Middleton. The evening line-up



includes a special performance of the late composer Kay Gardner's "A Rainbow Path," Big Bad Gina and Toshi Reagon.

The **Rock the Ark** concert series at Noah's Ark Waterpark in the Wisconsin Dells presents 5th Gear, a country music band from southern Wisconsin, performing on the Wave Stage from 2 to 4 p.m. Visit noahsarkwaterpark.com.

Sarah McLachlan performs at 7:30 p.m. in the Pavilion at Ravinia Festival, 200-231 Ravinia Park Rd., in Highland Park, Ill. Call 847-266-5100.

JULY 1, SUNDAY

The **37th National Women's Music Festival's** schedule, beginning at 11:30 a.m., includes Festival Choruses, WIA's Got Talent and comedians Dana Goldberg and Julie Goldman. Visit wiaonline.org for more info.

"**Cheeseheads, The Musical**," a "modern day dairy-tale with a lotto heart," set at Schnaybel's Famous Cheese, a family-owned factory set in Sheboygan, runs through Aug. 25 at The Amphitheatre in Peninsula State Park in Fish Creek.

JULY 2, MONDAY

"**Miller & Shellabarger: Hiding in the Light**," the collaborative work of husband and husband artists Dutes Miller and Stan Shellabarger of Chicago, runs through July 15, at Inova/Kenilworth, 2155 N. Prospect.

JULY 4, WEDNESDAY

Celebrate safely and responsibly!

JULY 5, THURSDAY

Jazz in the Park presents **WE Six** at 6 p.m. in Cathedral Square Park, 825 N. Jefferson.

ARTkets, an opportunity for the public to engage with Milwaukee's creative markets, is at Grand Avenue Mall on Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Aug. 23. Admission is free. Go to the Grand Ave Mall main entrance, Old World 3rd St. & Wisconsin Ave., across from the Blue Building and around the fountain area at 275 W. Wisconsin Ave.



Taliesen

JULY 6, FRIDAY

An exhibit inspired by three book collaborations by photographer **James Caulfield** and architectural writer **Patrick F. Cannon** runs through Oct. 31 at The Frank Lloyd Wright® Visitor Center at Taliesen, 5607 Cty. Rd. C (at the intersection of Highway 23 and County Road C) in Spring Green. Call 608-588-7900.

JULY 7, SATURDAY

The **Rock the Ark** concert series at Noah's Ark Waterpark in the Wisconsin Dells presents Texas 55, a band from southeastern Wisconsin, performing on the Wave Stage, from 2 to 4 p.m. Visit noahsarkwaterpark.com.

JULY 8, SUNDAY

Ravinia Festival, 200-231 Ravinia Park Rd., in Highland Park, Ill., presents "**An Evening with Idina Menzel**" at 8 p.m. in the Pavilion. Call (847) 266-5100.

JULY 10, TUESDAY

Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood in Madison, presents "**An Evening with Billy Bragg**" at 8 p.m. Call 608-241-2345.

An Evening with **Natalie Merchant** begins at 8 p.m. in the Pavilion at Ravinia Festival, 200-231 Ravinia Park Rd., in Highland Park, Ill. Call (847) 266-5100.

JULY 11, WEDNESDAY

Boswell Book Company, 2559 N. Downer, welcomes Green Bay native **Patrick Somerville**, author of "This Bright River," and **Dean Bakopoulos**, author of "My American Unhappiness," at 7 p.m. Call 414-332-1181.

JULY 12, THURSDAY

Alterra Cafe at the Lake, 1701 N. Lincoln Memorial Dr., presents **Florentine (Opera) at the Lake** at 7 p.m.

Danceworks Studio Theatre, 1661 N. Water, presents **Juliana May: Combustible Gate**, featuring "Gutter Gate" and "Commentary=Not thing," tonight and tomorrow night at 8 p.m. Call 414-277-8480.

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