

## DECK THE HALLS

WiGOUT's special holiday section offers a guide to holiday hosting, special gifts, festive libations, shopping for equality and more!

page 17



THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY



## Why buying local is hot

**By Michael Muckian**

*Contributing writer*

As a small-business owner, Colin Murray anticipates a bright holiday season. The president of Dane Buy Local, he knows other locally owned businesses in Madison share his optimism.

Different By Design Today, the Madison-based business

that Murray owns with his partner Michael Anderson, creates original works of art from repurposed materials, such as wallpaper, paint and other supplies left over from the couple's decorating business. Now seven years old, the business has attracted a following through appearances at art fairs around

the Midwest. Murray believes the visibility his company has gained will help boost holiday sales.

Other small-business owners in Wisconsin anticipate similar success this season, thanks to consumers' increasing awareness of the value of "shopping small" and buying from locally owned

businesses. It's something that not only helps local merchants succeed, but also has a significant economic and social impact on the community.

"Local begets local," says John McLaughlin, owner of The Brass Rooster, a men's hat and accessories shop

**LOCAL** page 12

## High Court to take up marriage equality

**By Lisa Neff**

*Staff writer*

Following this year's gains for marriage equality, the coming year could prove transformative as the High Court takes up two high-profile marriage cases.

One of the cases, perhaps the best known LGBT rights case pending in U.S. courts, involves a California constitutional amendment defining marriage as the union of a man and a woman. The other case involves a constitutional challenge to the U.S. Defense of Marriage Act barring the federal government from recognizing gay marriages.

The arguments likely will draw as much attention as this year's court hearings on the U.S. Affordable Care Act and Arizona's anti-immigration law.

The justices met privately Nov. 30 to decide how to handle the series of lawsuits on federal and state laws

barring gays and lesbians from equal access to civil marriage. They apparently didn't reach a decision, because they revisited the cases at a second conference meeting on Dec. 7.

Later that day, the court issued an order list that showed the justices will hear *Hollingsworth v. Perry*, the case challenging the constitutionality of California's Proposition 8, and *U.S. v. Windsor*, one of a number of challenges to DOMA.

"These big steps in the Supreme Court cap a transformative year in which we paved the pathway for President Obama's support, led the campaign to secure a freedom to marry plank in the Democratic Party platform and won the freedom to marry at the ballot in Maine, Maryland and Washington, while defeating an anti-marriage amendment in Minnesota," said Evan Wolfson of Freedom to Marry, a national LGBT rights group.

**COURT** page 14

## TYING THE KNOT IN WASHINGTON

Same-sex couples line up for marriage licenses in the Evergreen State, with Maine and Maryland to follow.

page 4



# News with a twist



**MISS BUMBUM 2012 Brasil**

## PRIZE TUCHUS

Carine Felizardo, 25, recently was crowned 2012 Miss Bumbum – Portuguese slang for buttocks. A panel of 10 judges agreed that Felizardo had Brazil's best-shaped booty. AP reported that Felizardo, wearing a gold sash and a white string bikini, told the contest audience, "Working out at the gym for 10 years has paid off. ... I feel fully realized. I really did not expect to win. It is a dream come true." She won a cash prize of about \$2,500.

## SAME-DAY HYPOCRISY

Gov. Scott Walker, R, has advocated in the past to

end same-day voter registration because it appears to favor Democrats. But he accompanied his college-age son to a Wauwatosa polling place to register and vote on Aug. 14 – the same day of the GOP Senate primary. A witness said the governor was with Matt D. Walker, a freshman at Marquette University, when he registered to vote just blocks from the Walker home. The elder Walker was thrown out of Marquette for violating student election rules.

## BEAM UP HIS HAIR, SCOTTY

Out actor George Takei lunched with Donald Trump recently to discuss same-sex marriage. Takei, who was a cast member of the original "Star Trek," had a "lively and engaging" chat with the Donald at the Trump Tower Grill. The thrice-married Trump, who toyed with the prospect of seeking the Republican presidential



## WIGWAG

nomination, has been critical of marriage equality in the past, saying he's a "traditionalist."

## RECORD-SETTING TESTING DAY

London's G-A-Y Bar broke its own Guinness World Record for the highest number of HIV tests to be carried out on World AIDS Day. On Dec. 1, 745 people were tested at the bar over an eight-hour period, eclipsing the prior record of 467 tests, set in 2011.

## DRAG PERMITTED ON DRAG CRUISE

When Al and Chuck Travel announced the cruise "Drag Stars At Sea: Caribbean Adventure – Revenge of the Wench," the response was so overwhelming that a Carnival ship had to be booked in order to accommodate all

the travelers. But then Carnival threw a wet boa over the event by disseminating an email asserting that passengers could dress in drag only in the main theater and not offstage amid the cruise line's "family friendly atmosphere." A backlash ensued, prompting Carnival to apologize and change course.

## 'ONE MILLION' SCROOGES

One Million Moms, which raised a ruckus earlier this year over JC Penney enlisting Ellen DeGeneres as a spokesperson, is objecting to the retailer's new holiday ad. The commercial features DeGeneres and several elves talking in a diner. "Since April, JC Penney's has not aired Ellen DeGeneres in one of their commercials until now," One Million Moms complained in an email to subscribers, who number nowhere near 1 million. "They have decided

By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg

to ignore our complaints so we will avoid them at all costs." The group is affiliated with the far-right American Family Association.

## BAD TOILET HUMOR

A firefighter in Pompano Beach, Fla., was terminated after placing toilet paper imprinted with the president's face in his station's restroom. It was Clint Pierce's third instance of posting political paraphernalia on city property and a violation of a direct order to cease and desist from such behavior.

## SAVING FACE

Eric Hartsburg of Michigan City, Ind., said he was removing the red-and-blue "R" from his face now that the presidential election has ended. Hartsburg was paid \$15,000 from a Republican fan of Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan to tattoo the campaign's logo under his

right eye. Weeks after the election, Hartsburg told the press, "Now to me it represents not a losing campaign, but a sore losing campaign." He said he felt snubbed by the Romney campaign, which never contacted him about the promotional stunt.

## SUSPENSION OF LOVE

A Detroit-area school teacher was suspended for playing a song about being gay to her eighth-grade performing arts class. According to Susan Johnson, her principal and assistant superintendent were upset after a student complained that she'd played the song "Same Love," in which rapper Ben Maclemore addresses the dangers of hate and stereotypes by showing the struggles of a gay man from birth to death. The song features the refrain, "I can't change, even if I wanted to."

YOU'RE LOCAL.  
WE'RE LOCAL.  
SO BUY LOCAL!



**BILTRITE**<sup>TM</sup>

FURNITURE • LEATHER • MATTRESSES

Locally & Family Owned Since 1928

**LOW PRICE GUARANTEE!**

Just 7 Money-Saving Minutes West of the Airport!

5430 W. Layton Ave.  
Greenfield, WI 53220

414-238-2020

BiltRiteFurniture.com

Weekdays 10-8 | Sat 10-5 | Sun 11-5

SPECIAL HOURS: Sun. Dec. 23 10 to 6

CLOSED Dec. 24 & 25



**FLOOR SAMPLE & CLEARANCE SALE**

Guaranteed Christmas Delivery if You Purchase In Stock Items by Thurs. Dec. 20th!

EXTRA BONUS DISCOUNT!

**12% OFF**

The lowest sale price on thousands of items

EVEN ON SPECIAL ORDERS!

Plus **12 Months No Interest**

Including affordable better quality furniture & mattresses.

Lounge Chair  
33"W x 39"D x 37"H  
**INTRODUCTORY PRICE \$975**

81" Sofa  
**INTRODUCTORY PRICE \$1355**

**100% GENUINE LEATHER USA MADE**

58" Loveseat  
**INTRODUCTORY PRICE \$1295**

Ottoman  
**INTRODUCTORY PRICE \$555**

WE OFFER A FREE IN STORE INTERIOR DESIGN SERVICE.

Special Orders in 35-45 Days.  
9 Leathers in a Variety of Colors for One Low Price!

Available as a Sleeper.

INTRODUCTORY PRICES ARE FINAL PRICES.

\* 12% Discount not valid on Tempur-Pedic, icomfort, iseries and clearance items. 12 Months OAC Minimum purchases of \$1499 or more with minimum monthly payments required. 50% deposit required on special orders. Sales tax and delivery charge collected at time of purchase. Prior purchases excluded. Cannot be combined with any other offer, discount, coupon or balance. See store for details. Sale Ends December 23rd, 2012.

©BRF

# Acceptance Journeys

## Imagine

### IMAGINE MORE

## More

**What if** you felt comfortable being yourself with your family?

**What if** no one ever used the word lifestyle when talking about your life?

**What if** your relationships were valued by your loved ones as much as they are by you?

**What if** you didn't worry about what people thought about your sexuality?

**What if** your family respected you just as you are?

**Imagine even more.**



Tiffany and D'Marco



Joyce and Autry Faye

Discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people contributes to our different levels of physical and mental health problems. The stress of social exclusion hurts us as a community and as individuals.

Things can get better for each of us. **But we must imagine more.**

Acceptance Journeys is a project of Diverse and Resilient, Inc. The end of anti-gay and anti-transgender oppression is key to our health and well-being. Imagine more.

[www.journey2accept.org](http://www.journey2accept.org)



Diverse & Resilient

2439 N. Holton St. Milwaukee, WI 53212

414.390.0444

[www.diverseandresilient.org](http://www.diverseandresilient.org)

# Imagine

# Marriage equality wins lead to nationwide vows

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

For many same-sex couples in Washington State, long engagements – decades-long in some cases – ended with a rush to a local clerk's office on Dec. 6 for a marriage license and then a march to city halls, courthouses and houses of worship to say "I do."

Gay couples began marrying in Washington on Dec. 9, a little over a month after a majority of voters upheld the 2012 legislation legalizing same-sex marriage.

On Dec. 29, same-sex couples will begin marrying in Maine. And, on Jan. 1, gay couples will begin marrying in Maryland. Voters in both of those states also approved the legalization of same-sex marriage on Nov. 6.

"It's a time for joy and celebration," said David Farmer, communications director for Mainers United for Marriage.

The marriage rush in the Evergreen State began at 12:01 a.m. on Dec. 6, the earliest possible minute that same-sex couples could obtain marriage licenses. Jane Abbott Lighty, 77, and Pete-e Petersen, 85, of West Seattle, were the first same-sex couple to receive a license in King County, Wash., and possibly the state.

"We waited a long time. We've been together 35 years, never thinking we'd get a legal marriage. Now I feel so joyous I can't hardly stand it," said Petersen, who met Lighty on a blind date in Sacramento, Calif.

The women stood beside King County Executive Dow Constantine as he offered remarks about the advance of civil rights in the city of Seattle, the county and the state before signing their license.

"The big story is that we're taking another step forward as a county, as a state, as a society, as a nation," said Constantine, who created a party atmosphere on the plaza outside the county building, where hundreds of other couples lined up for more than 400 licenses. A choir spontaneously formed to sing "Chapel of Love" and supporters appeared with Champagne, wedding cake, red roses and fireworks.

King County set a record for licenses issued, and Clark County, at the state's southern border, saw the second highest number of applicants, in part due to residents

of Oregon seeking licenses. About 800 same-sex couples obtained licenses between 12:01 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 6, but in the eight counties where a majority of voters opposed marriage equality, no gay couples turned out for marriage licenses.

Washington has a three-day waiting period after marriage licenses are issued. So for many, Dec. 7 and Dec. 8 were spent finalizing wedding preparations for 12:01 a.m. Dec. 9, when government offices in King and Thurston counties opened on a special day at a special hour for couples to take their vows. At the Thurston County Courthouse five couples were married shortly after midnight, including partners of 10 years Jonathon Bashford, 31, and Matthew Wiltse, 29, both of Olympia. "We weren't going to wait one second longer," Wiltse said.

Marriage equality activists also were making preparations.

With the victories in Washington, Maine

and Maryland, as well as the defeat of an anti-gay marriage initiative in Minnesota, LGBT civil rights advocates are looking to the next campaigns.

Activists are organizing in Minnesota, where more than 500 marriage equality advocates recently gathered for a strategy session on the issue and agreed that they need to broaden support in the legislature, and in New Jersey, where Gov. Chris Christie, R, vetoed a marriage equality bill earlier this year.

Another likely battleground is Illinois, where same-sex couples have filed two lawsuits demanding the freedom to marry and where openly gay Democratic lawmakers are sponsoring a bill to legalize gay marriage. An exit poll on Election Day in the state found a majority of voters support gay marriage.

Other exit polling on Election Day in Maine, Maryland, Minnesota and Washington found a voting bloc for marriage equality after

**AFTER 35 YEARS OF LOVE AND COMMITMENT, EMBRACING THE CHANCE TO FINALLY MAKE IT LEGAL**

PHOTO: AP/ELAINE THOMPSON

Jane Abbott Lighty, left, and Pete-e Petersen raise their right hands as they take an oath while receiving the first marriage license for a same-sex couple in King County, Wash., on Dec. 6 in Seattle. Behind Lighty and Petersen are Brendon K. Taga, left, and Jesse Page. King County Executive Dow Constantine began issuing the licenses immediately upon certification of the November election that passed Referendum 74, in which voters threw their support behind a marriage equality law passed by state lawmakers.



## ARRESTED?

CALL

**mastantuono** SM

LAW OFFICE s.c.

**Local. Recognized. Respected.**

**Sexual Conduct • DWI • Assault • Indecent Exposure  
Drugs • Theft • Internet Solicitation • Pornography**



**414.276.8662**

**MilwaukeeCriminalLawyers.com**

years of losses at the polls.

"Our adversaries tried to use marriage equality to whip up their anti-equality base and divide the American people," said Chad Griffin of the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest LGBT civil rights group. "It didn't work. ... Elected officials and decision-makers would be well-served by reviewing this research because it suggests a new, pro-equality American majority is here to stay."

HRC's analysis found:

- In Maine, support for marriage equality climbed 12 points since the last ballot initiative in 2009, with support among Catholic voters up 11 percent, support among independents up 14 percent and support among seniors up 3 percent.

- In Washington, 54 percent of voters backed marriage equality, with support among independents up 16 percent since the 2009 vote on domestic partnerships.

- In Maryland, polling showed growing support among African-American voters for marriage equality, including 57 percent of African-American voters in Baltimore County and nearly 50 percent in Prince George's County.

- In Minnesota, young voters and Democrats formed the base of the campaign against the proposed anti-gay constitutional amendment. But data shows that 44 percent of voters ages 50-64 and 23 percent of Mitt Romney-Paul Ryan voters were against the amendment.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

**RAYS WINE & SPIRITS**  
 89th & W. North Ave.  
 (Only 2 Minutes from Mayfair Mall)  
 Open Mon-Sat 9-9 & Sun 10-5  
 414-258-9821  
 www.rayswine.com



# WINE SPECTATOR TOP 100 WINE SALE!

Rank	Wine	Score	Price
2	<b>Ray's Exclusive!</b> Chateau De Saint Cosme Gigondas 2010 ..... 95 ..... \$40.99 Limit 2 bottles per customer	95	\$40.99
3	<b>Ray's Exclusive!</b> Two Hands Shiraz Barossa Valley Bella's Garden 2010 ..... 95 ..... \$68.99 Limit 2 bottles per customer	95	\$68.99
9	<b>Ray's Exclusive!</b> Ciacci Piccolomini d' Aragona, Brunello di Montalcino 2007 ..... 94 ..... \$59.99	94	\$59.99
14	<b>Ray's Exclusive!</b> Maysara Pinot Noir McMinnville Estate Cuvee 2009 ..... 94 ..... \$31.99	94	\$31.99
16	Le Vieux Donjon Chateaufneuf du Pape 2010 ..... 96 ..... \$79.99	96	\$79.99
18	Argyle Extended Tirage Willamette Valley 2002 . 96 ..... \$69.99	96	\$69.99
28	Calera Pinot Noir Central Coast Thirty-Fifth Anniversary 2010 ..... 93 ..... \$23.99	93	\$23.99
30	Schild Shiraz Barossa 2010 ..... 92 ..... \$19.99	92	\$19.99
37	Schloss Vollrads Riesling Spatlese Rheingau 2010 93 ..... \$29.99	93	\$29.99
41	Folonari Chianti 2010 .... 90 ..... \$8.99	90	\$8.99
53	<b>Ray's Exclusive!</b> Greywacke Sauvignon Blanc Marlborough 2011 ..... 92 ..... \$19.99	92	\$19.99
56	Pewsey Vale Riesling Eden Valley Dry 2011 .... 91 ..... \$15.99	91	\$15.99
57	Palacios Bierzo Petalos 2010 ..... 91 ..... \$21.99	91	\$21.99
58	Perrin & Fils Vinsobres Les Cornuds 2010 ..... 91 ..... \$21.99	91	\$21.99

Rank	Wine	Score	Price
59	Astrolabe Sauvignon, Blanc Marlborough Province 2011 ..... 91 ..... \$18.99	91	\$18.99
64	Domaine Lafond Tavel Rosé Roc-Epine 2011 ..... 90 ..... \$16.99	90	\$16.99
65	Nikolaihof Gruner Veltliner Troocken Wachau 2010 ... 92 ..... \$26.99	92	\$26.99
68	Casa Lapostolle, Cabernet Sauvignon Cuvee Alexandre 2010 ... 92 ..... \$21.99	92	\$21.99
71	Waterbrook Merlot Columbia Valley Reserve 2009 ..... 91 ..... \$19.99	91	\$19.99
72	Turley Zinfandel Paso Robles Pesenti Vineyard 2010 .. 93 ..... \$34.99 Limit 1 bottle per customer	93	\$34.99
74	Iron Horse Brut Green Valley Russian River Classic 2007 ..... 93 ..... \$37.99	93	\$37.99
75	Marques de Caceres Rioja Reserva 2005 ..... 91 ..... \$19.99	91	\$19.99
79	Evening Land Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills 7 Springs 2010 ..... 93 ..... \$44.99	93	\$44.99
82	Emilio Lustau Amontillado Sherry, Los Arcos Solera, Reserva NV ..... 90 ..... \$15.99	90	\$15.99
83	Morgan Pinot Noir Santa Lucia Highlands Twelve Clones 2010 ..... 92 ..... \$29.99	92	\$29.99
84	Piper-Heidsieck Brut Champagne NV ..... 93 ..... \$29.99	93	\$29.99
90	Skouras Moscofilero Peloponnese 2011 ..... 90 ..... \$14.99	90	\$14.99
92	Altamura Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon 2009 ..... 94 ..... \$79.99	94	\$79.99
95	Veramonte Primus The Blend 2009 ..... 90 ..... \$18.99	90	\$18.99



facebook.com/rayswine  
 twitter.com/rayswine

**YOUR TOP 100 SUPER STORE!**

# Gay couples marry at West Point

Cadet Chapel, the landmark Gothic church that is a center for spiritual life at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., hosted its first same-sex wedding on Dec. 1.

Penelope Gnesin and Brenda Sue Fulton, a West Point graduate, exchanged vows in the regal church in an afternoon ceremony, attended by about 250 guests and conducted by a senior Army chaplain.

The two have been together for 17 years. They had a civil commitment ceremony that didn't carry any legal force in 1999 and had long hoped to formally marry. The way was cleared last year, when New York legalized same-sex marriage and President Barack Obama lifted the "don't ask, don't tell" policy prohibiting openly gay people from serving in the military.

The brides live in New Jersey and would have preferred to have the wedding there, but the state doesn't allow gay marriage.

"We just couldn't wait any longer," Fulton told The Associated Press.

Cadet Chapel was a more-than-adequate

second choice, she said.

"It has a tremendous history, and it is beautiful. That's where I first heard and said the cadet prayer," Fulton said, referring to the invocation that says, "Make us to choose the harder right instead of the easier wrong, and never to be content with a half-truth when the whole can be won."

The ceremony was the second same-sex wedding at West Point. The weekend before, two of Fulton's friends, a young lieutenant and her partner, were married in another campus landmark, the small Old Cadet Chapel in West Point's cemetery.

Fulton graduated from West Point in 1980, a member of the first class to include women. She served with the Army Signal Corps in Germany and rose to the rank of captain, but left the service in 1986 partly because she wanted to be open about her sexual orientation. Obama appointed her last year to the U.S. Military Academy's Board of Visitors.

Fulton said the only hassle involved in arranging her ceremony came when she was

initially told that none of West Point's chaplains was authorized to perform his or her denomination to perform same-sex weddings.

Luckily, Fulton said, they were able to call on a friend, Army Chaplain Col. J. Wesley Smith. He is the senior Army chaplain at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware, where he presides over the solemn ceremonies held when the bodies of soldiers killed in action overseas return to U.S. soil.

The couple added other military trappings to their wedding, including a tradition called the saber arch, where officers or cadets hold their swords aloft over the newlyweds as they emerge from the church.

— from *The Associated Press*



PHOTO: AP PHOTO/OUTSERVE-SLDN, JEFF SHENG

**Brenda Sue Fulton, left, and Penelope Gnesin hold hands while exchanging vows at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. Dec. 1. Their ceremony marks the first time a same-sex couple had a wedding in the Cadet Chapel.**

# New trial date set for Harrell's alleged killer

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The Milwaukee man accused of fatally shooting beloved Milwaukee activist Desiree Marie Harrell on Jan. 2, 2012, is set to go on

trial weeks after the one-year anniversary of the crime.

Raymond Earl Baker, 35, is charged with first-degree intentional homicide and faces up to life in prison if convicted.

A jury trial, after numerous delays in the case, is set for Jan. 28, 2013. A pre-trial hearing was set for Dec. 13, after WiG went to press.

On Jan. 2, Milwaukee police responded to a call about gunshots fired in the 3800 block of North 24th Street. There, officers found Harrell, a popular 43-year-old activist in the LGBT community, slumped over in the front seat of her Buick Regal. She had been shot eight times.

On Jan. 4, some 200 friends and family gathered at the crime scene in the North Side neighborhood for a candlelight vigil and to share memories of a woman described as a lover, big sister, mentor, protector and friend.

The next day, a homicide charge was filed against Baker, who initially went to Milwaukee Police Department district headquarters with two other women to provide with an alibi for the time of the shooting.

Finding inconsistencies in the stories, police arrested Baker, who allegedly confessed to

killing Harrell because she was his wife's lover and had been harassing him. The defendant, according to police records, said he was concluding a drug deal when he noticed Harrell in her car. He allegedly approached Harrell and, after a brief conversation, shot her with a .40-caliber Glock that he then hid in a garbage can.

In mid-January, Baker pleaded not guilty and the lengthy process of preparing for a trial — or negotiating a plea agreement — began.

In mid-May, Baker changed his plea to guilty but a court record stated, "Parties CANNOT stipulate to the complaint as a factual basis to sustain defendant's plea. COURT DOES NOT ACCEPT DEFENDANT'S PLEA."

Later that month, Baker entered a third plea — not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect — and he was ordered to undergo a psychiatric evaluation.

Join the WiG community on Facebook and Twitter.

**PORCARO**  **PORCARO**  
A Whole New Experience In Car Buying  **MITSUBISHI**

**\$50,000**  
Holiday Cash Bonus Giveaway

Win \$100, \$150, \$200, \$250, \$500 or \$1000



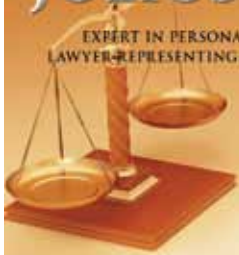
**Great selection of Vehicles - New & Used.**  
**Rebates & Discounts up to \$9000**

Purchase any new or used vehicle from Porcaro Ford & Mitsubishi and select an envelope from our Holiday Cash Bonus Giveaway. You could win up to \$1000 cash. Everyone Wins! Offer valid, limited and subject to the applicable. Bonus Cash Offer ends December 31, 2012. \$50,000 maximum total given and is distributed at time of purchase.


6001 Washington Ave, Racine, WI 53406 / (262) 886-5200 / driveracine.com

**ATTORNEY**  
**JULIUS ANDRIUSIS**


EXPERT IN PERSONAL INJURY CASES AND CRIMINAL DEFENSE  
LAWYER-REPRESENTING THE LGBT COMMUNITY IN CASES INCLUDING:



**OWI & CAR ACCIDENTS**  
**DISORDERLY CONDUCT**  
**RESTRAINING ORDERS**  
**DRUG POSSESSION**  
**SEXUAL ASSAULT**  
**INTERNET CRIME**



611 W. NATIONAL AVE. STE 101 MILWAUKEE, WI 53204  
OFFICE: 414-831-7929 FAX: 414-831-7919 CELL: 414-526-0597



# Milwaukee, Madison score high for LGBT-friendly policies and programs

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

A new index scores cities – 137 of them – on LGBT policies and programs and gives perfect marks to 11.

Two cities in Wisconsin – Milwaukee and Madison – rank above average.

The first Municipal Equality Index, released by the Human Rights Campaign, Equality Federation Institute and Gay and Lesbian Leadership Institute in late November, shows 11 cities with perfect scores. Those cities – “from both coasts and in between, of varying sizes, and not all in states with favorable laws for LGBT people” – are:

- Long Beach, Calif.
- Los Angeles
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- Boston
- Cambridge, Mass.
- St. Louis
- New York City
- Portland, Ore.
- Philadelphia
- Seattle

“Local and state-level advocacy ensures our voices are heard in public squares across the country,” HRC president Chad Griffin stated with the release of the results.

The index includes scores for Madison, which received 95 out of 100 points, and Milwaukee, which received 85 points. Those ratings prompted praise from representatives of Wisconsin LGBT groups, as well as calls to reach a perfect issue.

Katie Belanger of Fair Wisconsin said those who worked to expand domestic partnership benefits in the public and private sectors helped the cities earn the good marks.

She added that the index is “an important tool for measuring this progress and educating fair-minded community leaders and elected officials how to create more inclusive communities across Wisconsin.”

“It’s clear that Wisconsin’s major municipalities are leading the way among our nation’s cities, but there is still more work to be done,” said Jason Rae of the Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce.

The indexers used 47 criteria under six categories to rate the cities: Non-discrimination laws, relationship recognition, employment practices, and the inclusiveness of city services, law enforcement and municipal leadership.

The researchers looked at municipalities in every state, including the 50 state capitals, the 50 most populous cities in the country, and 25 large, 25 mid-size, and 25 small municipalities



PHOTO: VISITMILWAUKEE.ORG

**Milwaukee scored 85 points out of 100 – above average – in a new index rating municipalities for LGBT policies and programs.**

policies with high proportions of same-sex couples.

A quarter of the cities scored above 80 points, nearly a third of cities scored between 40 and 60 points, just under a quarter of the cities scored less than 20 points, eight cities

scored less than 10 points and three scored zero.

The cities with zero ratings are Jefferson City, Mo.; Montgomery, Ala.; and Frankfurt, Ky. – all chosen for review because they are state capitals.



## ARE YOU POSITIVE?

...you're getting all the services you need from your pharmacy?

- + Wisconsin's leading HIV pharmacists serving you
- + Personal counseling on your medications
- + Financial assistance to help you with your payments
- + Home delivery of your medications



ARCW Pharmacists: Nick Olson, PharmD; Rick Fons, RPh; and Jason Jenders, PharmD



**A full service HIV Pharmacy created just for you.**

To enroll call 414-223-6820  
820 North Plankinton Ave • Milwaukee  
OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30-5:30



**Habush Habush & Rottier S.C.®**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

*Over 75 Years of Helping Wisconsin's Injured*

*Wisconsin's largest Personal Injury Law Firm with 13 offices throughout the State.*

Appleton	Green Bay	Kenosha	Lake Geneva
Madison	Milwaukee	Racine	Rhineland
Stevens Point	Waukesha	Wausau	West Bend

Just click for help



**Habush.com**

**1-800-2-HABUSH**  
(1-800-242-2874)

*No Fees or Costs Unless We Are Successful*

## { Editorial }

**Walker's massive economic failure**

Scott Walker was elected governor on the promise that he'd create 250,000 jobs in Wisconsin by 2015.

But Walker's impact on job growth in Wisconsin has been disastrous. Under his tenure, Wisconsin has lagged consistently behind the rest of the region. The state has lost 31,027 jobs since Walker and GOP majorities came into office – the second worst job creation record in the nation (behind New Jersey).

As we reach Walker's mid-term, let's review how he brought us to this point. Walker began his gubernatorial tenure by turning down \$800 million in federal stimulus money to bring high-speed rail to Wisconsin. That action cost jobs and infrastructure improvements that would have contributed to long-term growth.

In turning down the money, Walker appeased his tea party base, which opposes all government spending. His excuse to everyone else was that eventually the state would have to pick up a portion of the rail's operating costs. He failed to consider, however, the jobs and economic activity it would have generated, including contributions to the tax base.

In response to Walker's action, the Spanish train-manufacturing company Talgo abandoned a facility in the Milwaukee area that was projected to add up to 600 jobs. Talgo is now suing the state for breach of contract and the company refuses to turn over new trains that have already cost the state \$42 million.

Walker's economic management has only gone downhill from there. Huge cuts to public sector employment have significantly reduced state and local governments' budget shortfalls as intended, but they've also had a crippling ripple effect throughout the state's economy, lowering the tax base and causing tremendous suffering.

In a move that was praised by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and corporate-right groups, Walker dismantled the Department of Commerce and created the Wisconsin Economic Development Council, a public-private sector partnership that was supposed to give loans to promising businesses in Wisconsin to help them grow. Walker staffed the council with unqualified cronies with no background in the field.

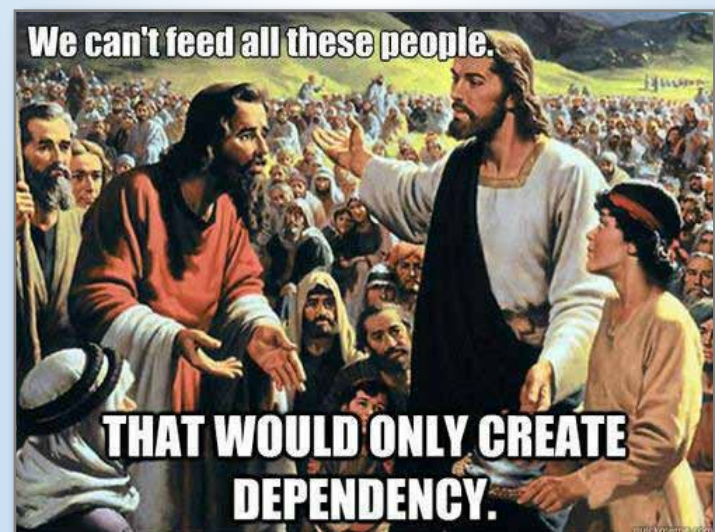
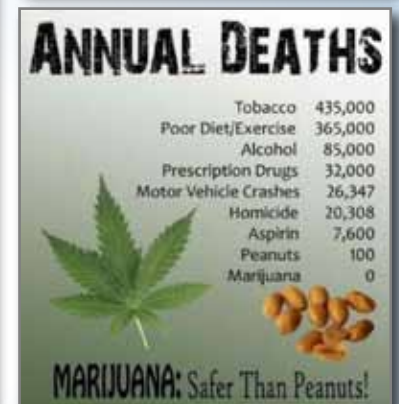
WEDC's mismanagement and complete lack of public oversight has so far resulted in \$9 million in defaulted loans and the unexplained disappearance of \$56 million. That money came from gas taxes, the federal mortgage settlement that was paid to the state and other public funding sources. WEDC has also been charged with bid-rigging schemes to give no-strings handouts to Walker's political supporters and cronies. He's fine with spending public money as long as it's given to his friends without any accountability.

Corporate right donations have successfully propagandized the public to believe Walker's policies have been an economic success, even as Wisconsin recorded a net job loss from January to November 2012. Republicans, who now once again have total control over state government, are currently focusing their efforts on devising strategies to make it more difficult for traditional Democratic voters to cast ballots and for women to have access to reproductive medical care.

With gerrymandered legislative districts that ensure Republicans control of the state for the next decade, progressives are going to have to work on educating the public in order to minimize further deterioration of the state's economy.

**WiG's WEB PICKS**

Some of our favorite recent humor, editorial and otherwise, from the Web.



**Wisconsin  
Gazette .com**

The Wisconsin Gazette is published every other week and distributed throughout the Milwaukee area, Madison, Racine, Kenosha, and 40 other cities statewide.

To have WiG delivered to your address, contact [rwright@wisconsin-gazette.com](mailto:rwright@wisconsin-gazette.com) or call 414-961-3240, ext. 101

WiG Publishing, LLC. © 2012

Please recirculate and recycle this publication.

**CEO/PRINCIPAL**

Leonard Sobczak

**PUBLISHER/  
EDITOR IN CHIEF**

Louis Weisberg  
[lweisberg@wisconsin-gazette.com](mailto:lweisberg@wisconsin-gazette.com)

**NATIONAL NEWS EDITOR**

Lisa Neff  
[lmneff@wisconsin-gazette.com](mailto:lmneff@wisconsin-gazette.com)

**GRAPHIC DESIGNERS**

Laura Gronek, Maureen M. Kane

**SALES REP**

Mike Reynolds  
[mreynolds@wisconsin-gazette.com](mailto:mreynolds@wisconsin-gazette.com)

**MARKETING ASSISTANT**

Kaitlyn Weisensel  
[kweisensel@wisconsin-gazette.com](mailto:kweisensel@wisconsin-gazette.com)

**NATIONAL  
ADVERTISING**

Rivendell Media, 212-242-6863

**DISTRIBUTION  
MANAGER**

Robert Wright  
[rwright@wisconsin-gazette.com](mailto:rwright@wisconsin-gazette.com)

**OFFICE ASSISTANT**

Anita Gielow

**CONTRIBUTORS**

Jason Burns, Debra Brehmer, Mike Muckian, Kat Murrell, Jamakaya, Jody Hirsh, Gregg Shapiro



## ON THE RECORD



“The Republican Party, the strategists, the consultants, they firmly believe that early voting is bad for Republican Party candidates. It’s done for one reason and one reason only...‘We’ve got to cut down on early voting because early voting is not good for us.’”

– JIM GREER, the former head of the Florida Republican Party, admitting that a law shortening the early voting period in the state was deliberately designed to suppress voting among groups that tend to support Democrats. Greer was forced to resign after allegedly stealing money from the GOP.

“I have all kinds of natural feelings in my life and it doesn’t necessarily mean that I should act on every feeling. Sometimes I get angry and I feel like punching a guy in the nose. It doesn’t mean I act on it. Sometimes I feel attracted to women who are not my wife. I don’t act on it. Just because I have a feeling doesn’t make it right. Not everything natural is good for me. Arsenic is natural.”

– Anti-gay pastor RICK WARREN telling CNN’s Piers Morgan that gay sex is as natural as poison.

“Abraham Lincoln only served one term in Congress, too.”

– Former tea party Congressman ALLEN WEST, R-Fla., comparing himself to Abraham Lincoln in an interview with NPR. West served only one term before he was defeated by Democrat Patrick Murphy. Among his many bizarre statements, West, who is black, contended that taxes on tanning salons are racist.

“Let’s stop the insanity by suspending the right to vote of any American who is on welfare. No American on welfare should have the right to vote for tax increases on those Americans who are working and paying taxes to support them. That’s insane.”

– Rocker TED NUGENT sharing his political insight in the Washington Times.

“The police department believes that, under state law, you may responsibly get baked, order some pizzas and enjoy a ‘Lord of the Rings’ marathon in the privacy of your own home, if you want to.”

– Seattle Police Department spokesman JONAH SPANGENTHAL-LEE stating his department’s policy on the Dec. 6, the first day that marijuana use became legal in Washington.

“Twenty-two percent of Americans say their primary news source is Fox News. It’s divided our country in a way that we haven’t been divided probably since the Civil War, and it’s empowered large corporations to get certain kinds of politicians and ideologues who are in the U.S. Congress elected – the tea party ideologues who control the Republican Party.”

– ROBERT F. KENNEDY JR. telling HuffPost Live that he believes conservative media outlets are damaging the country.



## Toasts and roasts for 2012

## Opinion

JAMAKAYA

A large whiskey sour, very sour, for openly gay actor Rupert Everett, who told the London Sunday Times Magazine: “I can’t think of anything worse than being brought up by two gay dads.”

Well I can, Rupert. How about self-hating comments by aging queens?

Let’s all share a fond farewell toast under a sparkling disco ball to Donna Summer, whose pulsing music of the 1970s and ‘80s was the soundtrack of many of our lives. From hypnotically sexy songs to brassy power ballads to the feminist anthem “She Works Hard for the Money,” Donna did it all. The styles and innovations she and her producers brought to dance music have influenced every generation since. What an amazing performer!

Savor a fine glass of your favorite wine while marveling at the contributions of lesbian writer Adrienne Rich, who died in March. Her

multiple volumes of award-winning poetry explored the depths of love and loss. Her prose defined feminism, lesbianism, heterosexism and many more ideas that have become axiomatic to those coming of age in the 21st century. Rich was America’s Virginia Woolf. Her writing and ethics deserve study and emulation.

A rainbow-colored tropical toddy is due for President Cristina Fernandez of Argentina. A few years ago, she successfully lobbied for and signed a bill legalizing same-sex marriage in her conservative, Catholic country. In 2012, Fernandez signed a law easing legal and medical requirements for changes in gender identity. She personally handed out new identification cards to transgender people. Viva Argentina!

Please join me in spiking the preferred drinks of global warming deniers, amateur rape theorists, Texas governors and right-wing radio hosts with unique ingredients that permanently freeze their vocal chords. The beverages will be offered free of charge as a public service.

## A fond farewell toast to Donna Summer.

The thousands of Texans, Alabamans and others demanding secession from the United States in the wake of President Barack Obama’s re-election deserve their own special toast or, in this case, roast. That they would promote such division in the year we are marking the 150th anniversaries of the battles of Shiloh, Antietam and Fredericksburg is especially offensive. I say we take a hint from Scrooge and boil them in their own pudding.

Three rounds of whatever she wants to Sen.-elect Tammy Baldwin. For Wisconsin’s LGBT community her win was an especially sweet victory. But, like Herb Kohl before her, she promises to represent all Wisconsinites. I’m confident Baldwin’s combination of common sense and compassion will make us all proud.

A glass of sparkling fruit punch is in order for Ellen DeGeneres, this year’s recipient of the Mark Twain Prize. Her sly, gentle wit and “aw shucks” manner have won the hearts of Americans. She’s done another great public service (with a little help from Lily Tomlin, Kate Clinton and Wanda Sykes) by discrediting the old notion that lesbians have no sense of humor.

Pour some pitchers of hometown Sprecher beers for Carl Bogner and the folks who brought us this year’s Milwaukee Gay and Lesbian Film Festival. Opening night at the Oriental Theater was one of the most memorable events of the year.

Everyone who crowded the theater laughed uproariously and teared up unashamedly during the delightfully bawdy and heartfelt lesbian road movie “Cloudburst.”

Finally, raise a toast of appreciation to Karen Gotzler, whose energy, patience, skill and integrity have led the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center back from the brink and into a more stable and productive future.

## Looking toward the next glass ceiling

## Opinion

JASON BURNS

By now I am sure that everyone knows Tammy Baldwin is the first openly LGBT person elected to the U.S. Senate, and that she’s the first woman ever elected to the U.S. Senate from Wisconsin. What’s next for our community politically?

Two weeks ago I attended the LGBT Leaders Conference in Long Beach, Calif. The conference, hosted by the Victory Fund, was a gathering of high-ranking LGBT leaders from around the world, but I want to talk about just one of them – Heather Mizeur. Currently a member of the Maryland General Assembly, Mizeur recently announced her intention to run for governor. If she wins, she would be

the first out person elected governor in our nation’s history. She would also be the first woman elected governor of Maryland.

Since returning from California, I have been talking nonstop about Mizeur to everyone willing to listen – about her chances of winning and why it’s not too early for us to start thinking about 2014. I think she can win, and it’s not because of some complex political strategy or a massive war chest. It’s because she listens intently. When you engage her in a conversation, she isn’t looking past you or scanning the room for that big donor she must talk to before the night is over. She’s there, in that moment, with you.

Mizeur wouldn’t be the first openly gay governor. That distinction is held by Jim McGreevey, the infamous New Jersey chief

executive who resigned in 2004 after coming out and admitting to an extramarital affair with a male staff member.

Now, almost nine years later, this country has come full circle. In today’s politics, sexual orientation doesn’t matter, as proven by the 2012 elections. Tommy Thompson never personally spoke about Baldwin’s orientation, but when a senior campaign aide sent an email to donors about it, it hurt his campaign.

In Arizona, my friend Kyrsten Sinema became the first openly bisexual person elected to Congress. The only time her orientation came up was in her Democratic primary. One of her opponents commented: “Don’t vote for her, she can’t win because she’s bisexual.”

Sinema not only won the primary, she won the general election.

## Heather Mizeur recently announced her intention to run for governor of Maryland.

America is an amazing country. More and more LGBT individuals are being elected at all levels, and not because they are LGBT, but because their constituents believe they are the best person to address our nation’s future. It might be only a month after the elections, but I am already making my first endorsement for 2014: Heather Mizeur for governor of Maryland.

# Pay-for-play limits public transit funding

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

When it comes to getting where she has to go, Jamecca Cohee, 30, relies on the Milwaukee County Public Transit System for “everything, every day – Monday through Sunday,” she says.

The inner-city mother of three uses the bus for getting to work, shopping and taking her kids to school. Public transportation also takes her family to medical appointments, to visit relatives and to church.

In recent years, Cohee and other public transit riders have contended with continual rate increases, ever-longer wait times between buses and decreasing passenger safety. Every two years when biennial state budget talks draw near, they face threats of yet higher rates and further service reductions.

On Dec. 3, Cohee participated in a “community listening session” on Milwaukee’s public transit crisis, held at the Washington Park Senior Center. The event’s purpose was “to provide a place for people who rely on public transportation to be able to demonstrate why they rely on it,” says Jennifer Epps-Addison, economic justice director of Citizen Action of Wisconsin. Her group is one of many that have joined forces to get the Assembly to create a funding mechanism for safe, reliable and affordable public trans-

portation for people who can’t drive – a group composed mostly of the poor, elderly and disabled.

The event was titled “Still Fighting for a Seat on the Bus,” a reference to Rosa Parks’ history-changing refusal to give up her bus seat to a white man in Alabama on Dec. 1, 1955. Advocates say public transit users are still victims of racism, because they are largely people of color whose transportation needs are wholly overlooked by lawmakers. At the same time, leaders of both parties in Madison lavish public funding on highway construction, much of which is demonstrably unnecessary.

The ACLU of Wisconsin, one of the event’s sponsors, also is part of a lawsuit filed in August to force the state to reconsider spending \$1.7 billion on the reconstruction of Milwaukee’s so-called “Zoo Interchange” while slashing budgets for mass transit and road maintenance, such as filling in potholes.

“When our government makes decisions that disproportionately impact a certain group of people, particularly by race, we have to go through the courts to shine light on that,” says Stacy Harbaugh, communication director for the ACLU of Wisconsin. “Our tax dollars are for all of us to use, but Milwaukee is taking money away from the people who need it the most.”

The ACLU and Midwest Environmental Advocates contend that WisDot overlooked federal laws mandating that the allocation of federal transportation dollars must take into account a proposed project’s impact on the environment as well as on communities of color – neither of which WisDot did in its Zoo Interchange planning, Epps-Addison says. (Typically, 75 to 90 percent of interstate road funding comes from the federal government.)

The Zoo Interchange improvements will benefit commuters to the lily-white – and blood red – suburb of Waukesha. Although that fast-growing area is home to many new jobs, it is almost impenetrable for people who don’t drive – and the majority of people who live there aim to keep it that way, according to public transit advocates. It’s not by chance that the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, a quasi-governmental organization, is headquartered and holds its public meetings in Waukesha.

The suit was filed on behalf of MICAH and the Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin.

But the Zoo Interchange case is only one of many highway projects that suck money away from public transportation funding. Only about 6.5 percent of the state’s annual transportation dollars were allocated for public transit under the 2011-13 biennial

budget, and Republicans want to push that number even lower, according to Steve Hiniker, executive director of 1000 Friends of Wisconsin. He estimated that only \$212 million of the \$3.3 billion allocated for transportation in the state this year went to public transit.

Many drivers believe that public transportation should have to pay for itself, arguing that their gas taxes pay for the roads they use. But that’s just a myth perpetrated by Big Oil and highway builders. In 2009, a national commission estimated that fuel taxes and other user fees accounted for less than 60 percent of transportation system revenue.

The majority of funding for public transit, as well as highway and airport costs, comes from property and other taxes from the general fund that people are forced to pay into whether they drive, fly or take the bus.

## POLITICS DRIVES ROADS

Although Wisconsin highways appear to be among the least congested in the nation, fast travel times have failed to slake state lawmakers’ thirst for road building. In fact, even though highway traffic leveled off in 2004 – and is projected to remain near constant through 2023 – proposals for new roads and highway improvements con-

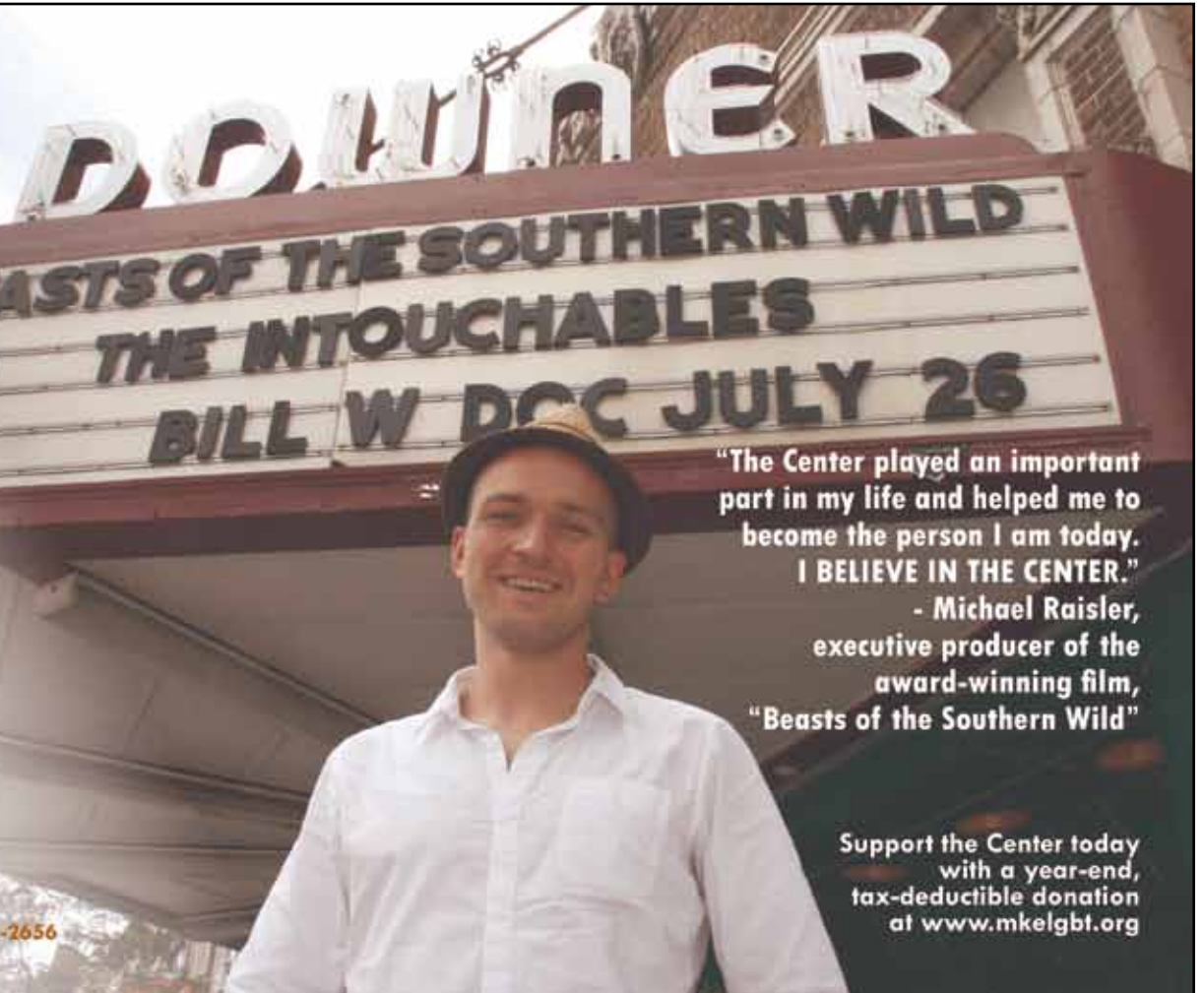
**TRANSIT** see next page

## Milwaukee LGBT Community Center

Helps Hometown  
Boy Make Good

**MIKE LGBT**  
COMMUNITY CENTER  
Be yourself

1110 N. Market Street / Milwaukee WI 53202 / 414-271-2656



“The Center played an important part in my life and helped me to become the person I am today. I BELIEVE IN THE CENTER.”

- Michael Raisler,  
executive producer of the  
award-winning film,  
“Beasts of the Southern Wild”

Support the Center today  
with a year-end,  
tax-deductible donation  
at [www.mkelgbt.org](http://www.mkelgbt.org)

**TRANSIT** from prior page

tinue to multiply. The reason is that massive amounts of public money are at stake, and highway builders pay lawmakers on both sides of the political aisle handsomely for the chance to stuff some of that money in their pockets. U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan's family and countless other politically connected families have become millionaires giving legislators money in exchange for lucrative road-building projects, whether those projects are needed or not.

"The people who build the highways have taken complete control of the state highway budget," Hiniker says. "They're essentially the highest paid state employees."

Hiniker describes the state's highway builders as a perpetual bipartisan lobbying machine. "In Wisconsin, the road builders have the strongest lock of any state that I've seen," he says.

He says the scenario works like this: Road builders get rich off projects paid for by taxpayers. The builders then use their taxpayer-generated wealth to lobby and contribute to elected officials, who in turn reward them with more projects.

"The taxpayers are subsidizing the political contributions that road builders give to candidates who promise them more money to build more roads," Hiniker summarizes.

Wisconsin ranks 13th in the nation on highway spending per capita – or 24 percent above the national average, according to the Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group. The actual need for building a particular highway project in Wisconsin is only a secondary consideration. The more pressing concern for lawmakers is the projected payout, according to public transit advocates.

As a result, Wisconsin is laced with "highways to nowhere." For instance, there's the \$25 million interchange project in a cornfield 30 miles west of Milwaukee to provide easier access to a failed development called "Pabst Farms." The development was never built due to the real estate crash, but that didn't stop Gov. Scott Walker from pushing funding forward shortly after turning down the \$800 million high-speed rail project.

There's a proposed \$140 million project to widen Highway 23 in a rural area between Plymouth and Fond du Lac that would shorten drive times by no more than four minutes for the relatively small number of users, according to traffic studies. That project is currently on hold due to a lawsuit.

Despite the waste such projects represent, they are inevitably backed by local newspapers and positioned by local leaders as job creators. In reality, the lion's share of jobs created by such projects goes to out-of-state planners, vendors and workers, analysts say.

**TRANSIT ADVOCACY**

Until recently, public transit riders had few champions and, in a political system in which money commands attention, almost no influence. Milwaukee residents like Cohee simply can't compete with the rich special interests that drive the planning process.

Milwaukee has no regional transit authority to raise money and conduct local public

transportation planning.

But the groups that organized the Dec. 3 listening session have joined with other grassroots progressive groups to change the power dynamic. They already flexed their muscle dramatically in the 2012 general election. Cohee was part of a program called "Ride and Register," in which she and other transit users registered voters on the bus. They also asked their fellow riders to volunteer to fight for public transit funding and to get people to the polls.

Epps-Addison says the project yielded 700 rides to the polls on Election Day and created a base of supporters to lobby lawmakers on public transit funding. The project was a partnership between Citizens Action and the Transit Riders Union.

Gary Goyke, a lobbyist for the Wisconsin Urban and Rural Transit Association, says that public transit advocates are "in a better position" this year than last, when it took some last-minute creative funding by Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele to save Milwaukee from 30-percent cuts in mass transit. As a result, in 2013 there will be no fare increases or route cuts in Milwaukee County.

"We are determined," Goyke says. "We are not going to give up."

**GOOD FOR BUSINESS**

Goyke says Walker has created a transportation commission that understands the benefits of public transit for the business sector and "is acknowledging that it erred in the past and is not going to take public transit out of the transportation fund" – as Walker sought to do in the last budget. Goyke says he's encouraged by the selection of Mark Gottlieb, a Milwaukeean, as secretary of the Department of Transportation.

In their efforts, public transportation advocates hope to benefit from the passion of new and recently elected representatives from Milwaukee, including Goyke's son Evan Goyke. Chris Larson, the new Senate minority leader, and others introduced a bill last January called the Workforce Mobility Act.

"Of the 140,000 rides provided daily by the Milwaukee County Transit Systems, 39 percent are commuters traveling to and from work – and for many this is their only feasible transit option," Larson said. "The demand for viable transportation options is clearly there and we owe it to our workers and local businesses to provide the necessary support to our public transit infrastructure."

While unpopular with the current leaders in Madison, public transit is widely recognized as the wave of the future across the country – and around the globe. Nationally, transit trips have far outpaced the growth of auto miles since 1995, according to the Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group.

Public transit is simply more sensible, its advocates say. According to their statistics, it saves 3.4 billion gallons of oil each year in the United States, prevents 541 million hours of traffic delay and reduces global warming pollution by 26 million tons.

"Ultimately, it's the demographics that will change things," says WisPRIG execu-



PHOTO: COURTESY MCTS

**Public transit in Milwaukee narrowly escaped the ax thanks to a creative, last-minute funding strategy by County Executive Chris Abele.**

tive director Bruce Speight. "The demand for transit is exploding. If you build an infrastructure that is unfriendly to young people and old people, they will leave. Right now (Republican leaders) are building an infrastructure for the white middle class in the suburbs – for a disappearing status quo.


"The state of Wisconsin went for Obama

and Baldwin. More votes were cast for Democrats than Republicans in state races ... despite unprecedented voter suppression. The Republicans are holding on now through gerrymandering, but unless they get real with their policies, they're not going to be able to hold on to their seats even in a gerrymandered state."

# GRUBER LAW OFFICES, LLC

**"One call...  
that's all!"**

## Car Accidents Personal Injuries



*No fees or costs unless successful*  
*Home and hospital visits available*

"WE'LL COME TO YOU"

## 414-276-6666

1-877-276-HURT

www.gruber-law.com

100 East Wisconsin Avenue • Suite 1650  
Milwaukee WI 53202

Shepherd  
**Best of  
Milwaukee**  
**2010  
WINNER**  
Personal Injury Lawyers

## Call it social activism or conscientious consumerism, local buying brings benefits

**LOCAL** from page one

located in Milwaukee's Bay View neighborhood. "By shopping local you are acting like an owner, helping shape the neighborhood you want by helping local businesses pay their bills."

### BEYOND THE PROFIT MARGIN

Why buy local? The social and economic benefits are many according to Local First Milwaukee, an organization like Madison's Dane Buy Local that supports locally owned businesses. Some of the best reasons, according to Local First, include:

**Buy local and support yourself.** Studies show that locally owned businesses purchase their goods and services locally, meaning more money stays in the community.

**Increase support for community groups.** Nonprofit organizations receive an average 250 percent more support from local business owners than

they do from large businesses headquartered elsewhere. For instance, BiltRite Furniture, a locally owned fourth-generation family business, partnered with United Way this year to conduct a food drive that continues through Dec. 23.

"Milwaukee has supported our store for 84 years, and we look for ways to support the community that's supported us," says Rachel Arbit, who recently became BiltRite's first director of development – a position created specifically to find ways to support the community.

**Keep your community unique.** One-of-a-kind businesses are an integral part of a community's distinctive character, helping tailor its personality to the needs of the local population.

**Reduce environmental impact.** Locally owned businesses make more local purchases, requiring less transportation and leaving a smaller carbon footprint. They also tend to set up shop in town or city centers,

reducing urban sprawl, habitat loss and pollution.

**Create more good jobs.** Small, local businesses are the largest employers nationally and provide the highest number of new jobs.

**Get better service.** Local businesses often hire people with a better product understanding and people who take more time getting to know customers.

**Invest in the community.** Local businesses are owned by local people who have a greater personal investment in their community's future.

**Put your taxes to good use.** Local businesses in town centers require comparatively little public sector infrastructure investment and make more efficient use of existing public services compared to nationally owned stores entering the community.

**Buy what you want, not what someone wants you to buy.** Local businesses select products based on local preferences,

rather than national buying patterns. It's the best way to ensure innovation and low prices over the longterm. "A local business understands Milwaukee's needs, which are not the same as every other place in the nation," Arbit says.

**Encourage local prosperity.** A growing body of economic research shows that in an increasingly homogenized world, entrepreneurs and skilled workers are more likely to invest and settle in communities that preserve their one-of-a-kind businesses and distinctive character.

"We can all accept the fact that dollars stay local when spent at locally owned businesses," says Chuck Bauer who with partner Chuck Beckwith, owns The Soap Opera, a retailer of body care products located on Madison's State Street. "But we also can offer a depth and breadth of products from more than 100 different vendors because we know that's what our clientele wants."

In addition to keeping dollars at home, unique locally owned businesses also can draw customers from outside the area, bolstering their community's financial well-being. The Garden Room/Anaba Tea Room, a retail garden supply business that also operates a restaurant in Shorewood, is seeing greater growth from customers outside its neighborhood, according to general manager Doug McDonald.

"We see approximately 36,000 customers per year, with 60 percent of them coming from outside the 53211 ZIP code area," McDonald says. "Local to us is Milwaukee County, but we see many customers from the greater southeastern Wisconsin area and beyond."

Maintaining any business's financial vitality means expanding its reach, something The Garden Room/Anaba Tea Room has mastered by presenting a unique retail profile, McDonald adds.

### THE IMPACT

Estimates differ based on various studies and the cities in which they were conducted, but all point to the basic



KEEP RECYCLING YOUR DOLLAR AT HOME

truth that locally owned businesses are economically and socially better for the communities in which they operate. Statistics collected by Dane Buy Local, the country's largest buy-local organization – with more than 600 members – show an impressive financial footprint that small businesses in Dane County leave on the local economy.

"Madison has always been incredibly supportive of local business," says Murray, who has been president of Dane Buy Local for three years. "But even we were surprised by the economic impact our members are having."

In 2011, according to a recent study, Dane Buy Local member businesses employed 4,277 full-time employee equivalents. That number jumped by 467 last year, meaning employment growth among small locally owned businesses increased 11 percent in 2011.

Those same small businesses last year paid salaries totaling \$85.4 million and contributed state and local taxes totaling \$9.1 million. In addition, member businesses donated 178,330 person-hours supporting charitable and not-for-profit organizations, and contributed \$2.4 million to those organizations.

For every \$100 spent at a locally owned store, \$73 remains in the community, while non-locally owned businesses leave behind just \$43 in the community, said Dane Buy Local surveyors, citing a similar study done in Grand Rapids, Mich. When asked how important local business ownership is to customers, member businesses said it ranked 8.2 on a 10-point scale.

Buy Local Milwaukee found that locally owned busi-

nesses in Milwaukee County recirculate 44.1 percent of revenue to the community, compared with 13.6 percent by national chains. Restaurant figures increase those numbers slightly to 52.5 percent of revenues recirculated by locally owned restaurants versus 30.4 percent recirculated by chains.

"I re-spend the money that comes into my shop back into other local shops," says Brass Rooster's McLaughlin. "If I have to expand and hire someone, I will hire from the community, and then that person will spend his or her money here. It is an endless cycle."

The spending cycle gained momentum Nov. 24 when consumers spent \$5.5 billion nationwide on Small Business Saturday. The shopping day followed the traditional Black Friday, but was devoted to shopping small, locally owned businesses. Retail expenditures for the post-Thanksgiving holiday weekend totaled \$59.1 billion, according to the National Retail Federation, meaning local enterprises captured slightly more than 10 percent of all dollars spent.

"We saw an 18 percent increase in sales over last year for both Garden Room and Anaba Tea Room during the 'Shop Small' weekend," says McDonald. "This is the first year we promoted a Small Business Saturday sale, and I definitely think it contributed to the increases in traffic and purchases."

Whether you call it social activism or conscientious consumerism, buying local is gaining traction among shoppers who realize their purchasing decisions affect more than a business' profit margins. By making the right buying decisions, consumers can have a say in the future of their community and its economic wellbeing.

a place to lounge...

a place for friends...

RUBIN'S HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE...

a place to recharge...

that accent piece...

a place to refuel...

your satellite office...

**rubin's**  
contemporary furniture

MADISON | MILWAUKEE | MONONA

224 E Chicago Street | 414-278-8100  
www.rubinsfurniture.com

FIND US ON  
TWITTER!  
@wigazette

# Who we love should not determine how long we live. *But it does.*



## Diverse and Resilient is doing something about that.

**In Wisconsin, LGBT people have shorter lives with more illness because of discrimination.** We are more likely to miss school and work because of fear and rejection, become homeless, and be misinformed about our health. We are more likely to use tobacco products, abuse substances, experience depression, contemplate suicide, have HIV disease and syphilis, and risk community and partner violence.

**But we are also resilient people,** bouncing back and figuring out how to live

successful lives. Since 2002, Diverse and Resilient has introduced ten evidence-based programs that address our health where we work, learn, live, love, and play.

**Diverse and Resilient has grown** from a staff of three to team of 18 with more than 100 trained community health promoters from ages 16 to 68. Federal and state support, local foundations, corporations, and numerous individuals have made our work possible. In 2013 still more will be done, and you can be part of the action.

**Three generous donors—all gay men—have provided a challenge to you:**

To make a year end contribution to Diverse and Resilient, go to **[diverseandresilient.org/give](http://diverseandresilient.org/give)**.

*New gifts up to \$500 will be matched by our donors.*

*Diverse and Resilient is committed to the healthy development of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in Wisconsin. We envision a state where we thrive and live satisfying lives.*



Diverse and Resilient, Inc.  
2439 N. Holton Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212  
414.390.0444 | [diverseandresilient.org](http://diverseandresilient.org)

## The cases to be considered could affect hundreds of thousands of gay couples

**COURT** from page one

"The U.S. Supreme Court," Wolfson said, "set the clock ticking on the important work we need to do to secure our next wave of wins in 2013."

### PROP 8

The American Foundation for Equal Rights is leading the campaign to overturn Prop 8 in *Hollingsworth v. Perry*, which was filed on May 22, 2009, in U.S. District Court on behalf of two same-sex couples – Kris Perry and Sandy Stier, and Paul Katami and Jeff Zarrillo.

On Feb. 7, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit upheld an August 2010 decision of the district court that found Proposition 8 unconstitutional. The appeals court said, "Proposition 8 serves no purpose, and has no effect, other than to lessen the status and human dignity of gays and lesbians in California, and to officially reclassify their relationships and families as inferior to those of opposite-sex couples. The Constitution simply does not allow for laws of this sort."

That decision led the losing defendants in the case – the groups that campaigned for Prop 8 – to ask the Supreme Court for a review. Had the justices not heard the case, gay marriages probably would have resumed in California this winter. Now LGBT civil rights advocates are hoping a High Court hearing and victory will dismantle the California amendment – and perhaps those in 30 other states.

AFER lead co-counsel

David Boies said on Dec. 7, "Fourteen times the Supreme Court has stated the freedom to marry is one of the most fundamental rights – if not the most fundamental right – of all Americans. As we have said from the very beginning of this case, the denial of that fundamental right seriously harms gay and lesbian Americans and the children they are raising. It serves no legitimate state interest. We are ready to defend our victories before the Supreme Court, where we will urge the Justices to reaffirm our Constitution's central promises of liberty, equality and human dignity."

### WINDSOR

The Windsor case deals with Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act, which establishes a federal definition of marriage as the union of a man and a woman.

The American Civil Liberties Union and several partners filed the case on behalf of Edith "Edie" Windsor, whose wife, Thea Spyer, died in 2009. The women, lifelong New Yorkers, had been a couple since 1965 and married in 2007, when they finally could.

When Spyer died, the federal government treated Spyer and Windsor, now 83, as legal strangers. Windsor received a \$363,000 federal estate tax bill that would have been \$0 if she had been a straight widow.

Windsor challenged DOMA, winning in two lower courts.

On Dec. 7, after learning that *U.S. v. Windsor* was on the order list, Windsor said,

"When Thea and I met nearly 50 years ago, we never could have dreamed that the story of our life together would be before the Supreme Court as an example of why gay married couples should be treated equally and not like second-class citizens. While Thea is no longer alive, I know how proud she would have been to see this day. The truth is, I never expected any less from my country."

Responding to the announcement that the justices would review Windsor, Kevin Cathcart of Lambda Legal said, "This is big!"

He added, "This outrageous law has been hurting same-sex couples and their families for 16 years. It's time for DOMA to go."

The other DOMA cases include *Office of Personnel Management v. Golinski*, Massachusetts v. Dept. of Health and Human Services, *Office of Personnel Management v. Pedersen* and *Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group of the U.S. House of Representatives v. Gill*. At WiG press time, the status of those cases was unclear.

But decisions in the Windsor and Prop 8 cases will have enormous consequences.

"The cases that the Supreme Court is considering ... could potentially affect hundreds of thousands of same-sex couples and their families in the United States," said David Codell, a researcher working with the Williams Institute at the UCLA School of Law.

As many as 80,000 married, same-sex couples currently are denied more than 1,000 benefits – includ-



PHOTO: AP/RICHARD DREW

**Edith Windsor sued the federal government after being forced to pay \$363,053 in federal estate taxes when her wife Thea Spyer died. Heterosexual couples are exempt from the tax. Windsor's case is one of two involving same-sex marriage that the Supreme Court will hear in 2013.**

ing Social Security benefits, family and medical leave, immigration rights and veterans pensions – because of the Defense of Marriage Act, according to Williams Institute data. There are an estimated 645,000 same-sex couples in the United States, and 20 percent of them live in states where marriage is legal.

In California, the institute estimates there are 100,000 same-sex couples, about 27 percent of them raising children without the support and security that comes with legal marriage.

In New Jersey, where

Republican Gov. Chris Christie vetoed a marriage equality bill earlier this year, Steven Goldstein of Garden State Equality, an LGBT civil rights group, summed up the situation: "This is one of the highest stakes developments in the civil rights history of our nation. The U.S. Supreme Court may now legalize marriage equality throughout the land, or rule against us, including against restoring marriage equality in California."

After losing at the lower-court levels, the opponents of same-sex marriage also were encouraged that the justices took two cases on

the issue.

"We believe that it is significant that the Supreme Court has taken the Prop 8 case," said John Eastman of the National Organization for Marriage, one of the largest funders of anti-gay marriage initiatives along with the Catholic Church. "We believe it is a strong signal that the court will reverse the lower courts and uphold Proposition 8. That is the right outcome based on the law and based on the principle that voters hold the ultimate power over basic policy judgments and their decisions are entitled to respect."

Covering the LGBT community in Milwaukee, Racine and Kenosha for over 5 years!



Tim Raasch Insurance Agency  
6211 Durand Ave, Suite 203  
Racine, WI 53406-4956  
Office 262-898-1150  
www.timraasch.com



WE MAKE YOU WANT TO SMILE!

Call Us Today!



DeWAN DENTAL WELLNESS  
Michael DeWan D.D.S., S.C.  
2445 N. Farwell Ave.  
414.962.5915  
www.dewandental.com



**HAI RYS HAIR BAR**

**Bad Hair?** **Let Hairys whip it into shape!**

**20% OFF ANY SERVICE WITH THIS AD**

2385 S. KINNICKINNIC AVE. BAY VIEW, WI 414.486.9299

Same goals. Different challenges.  
Financial planning for domestic partners.

**The Paladin Group**  
Donald Paynter, First Vice President-Investments  
Susan M. Davis, Wealth Strategy Associate  
411 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1700, Milwaukee, WI 53202  
414-289-3846 800-333-6004  
donald.paynter@ubs.com susan.m.davis@ubs.com

[www.ubs.com/financialservicesinc](http://www.ubs.com/financialservicesinc)



UBS Financial Services Inc. is a subsidiary of UBS AG. ©2010 UBS Financial Services Inc. All rights reserved. Member S.I. PC.

**SPECIALIZING IN**

Group Health Insurance and Benefit Plans, Individual Health Plans, Dental, Life & Disability Domestic Partnership Benefits

Serving Milwaukee and the LGBT Community for over 20 years

**Call or email for a Customized Quote**



John M. Tomlinson  
Mid-State Insurance  
(414) 254-9964  
(262) 241-0550  
JohnT@midstateins.com  
WIHealthInsure.com



**Quality sex toys & gifts**  
for people of all genders!

- Friendly, knowledgeable staff
- Comfortable atmosphere
- LGBT-owned and operated

2427 N Murray Ave, Milwaukee • 414-906-5304

[www.toolshedtoys.com](http://www.toolshedtoys.com)

A growing group of professionals and small business owners offering networking opportunities, professional development, and philanthropic support of the LGBT community.  
[www.QShareBusiness.com](http://www.QShareBusiness.com) | 414.225.0244

**Join Today!**



**QShare**

Milwaukee's LGBT Professional Network  
[www.QShareBusiness.com](http://www.QShareBusiness.com)



**TWO MEN AND A TRUCK®**  
"Movers Who Care."

Residential • Commercial • Insured  
Local, Statewide & Interstate  
Free Estimates • Packing Supplies & Services

BROWN DEER WEST ALLIS FRANKLIN  
(414) 354-5164 (414) 257-2700 (414) 421-2099

US DOT 1278501 [www.twomenandatruck.com](http://www.twomenandatruck.com)

Each franchise independently owned and operated



**Melhouse Bistro** features hand-crafted grilled cheese sandwiches made with the finest Wisconsin cheeses and fresh-baked artisan breads. Our gourmet flavors combinations are a culinary adventure, bringing warmth, comfort and absolute bliss together, that will bring you back again.

1857 E. Kenilworth Place, Milwaukee, WI 53202  
414.271.MELT (6358) [WWW.MELHOUSEBISTRO.COM](http://WWW.MELHOUSEBISTRO.COM)

**MMK Design**

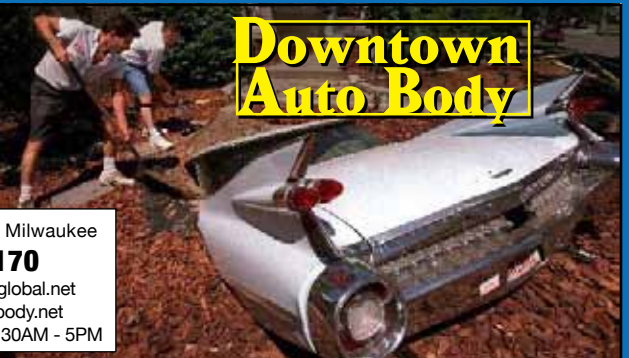
- Affordable graphic design and illustration
- Expert Adobe software instruction
- 2009 Community Shares Business Humanitarian Award winner
- Over 16 years serving the community



[www.mmkdesign.com](http://www.mmkdesign.com)  
2821 N. 4th Street #532, Milwaukee, WI 53212  
414.688.9635 [maureen@mmkdesign.com](mailto:maureen@mmkdesign.com)

- Professional & Honest
- Repair & Painting
- Over 30 Years in Business
- Free Estimates

3425 N. Holton Street • Milwaukee  
**414-964-7170**  
email: [downtwnab@sbcglobal.net](mailto:downtwnab@sbcglobal.net)  
[www.downtownautobody.net](http://www.downtownautobody.net)  
Monday-Friday • OPEN 8:30AM - 5PM



**FREE Top Off of Fluids • FREE Tire Check • FREE Detailing with service over \$250**

## REGIONAL BRIEFS

**FOLEY & LARDNER BECOMES  
FOUNDING MEMBER OF LGBT  
CHAMBER**

Foley & Lardner LLP, Wisconsin's oldest law firm, has joined the Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce as a "gold founding member."

"We are excited to welcome Foley & Lardner as a member of the Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce," said Jason Rae, executive director. "Foley & Lardner understands the importance of being in an inclusive and supportive work environment, and they know the value that LGBT employees bring to their firm."

Foley & Lardner LLP was founded in 1842 and has 2,181 employees worldwide – 726 in Wisconsin.

The chamber of commerce offers state-wide networking opportunities and promotes business development within the LGBT community. For more, go to [www.wislgbtchamber.com](http://www.wislgbtchamber.com).

**JUDGE: JOHN DOE  
INVESTIGATION CONTINUES**

The judge overseeing the investigation into people who worked for Gov. Scott Walker when he was the Milwaukee County executive said on Nov. 28 that the probe is not complete and remains open.

Walker had said on Nov. 27 that he hoped the so-called "John Doe" investigation would

end as early as this week. He made the comments in response to a question at a meeting of the Dairy Business Association.

But retired Waukesha County Judge Neal Nettesheim told The Associated Press in a telephone interview that anyone guessing that the probe was ending was engaging in "pure conjecture."

"The John Doe is not completed," Nettesheim said. "It is still open."

The investigation into Walker's former aides and associates during his time as Milwaukee County executive began in May 2010, six months before he was elected governor. Six people have been charged with crimes including misconduct in office and theft – with four so far sentenced. But Walker has not yet been charged or accused of any wrongdoing.

**MARRIAGE EQUALITY  
GAINING SUPPORT IN  
MICHIGAN**

A Michigan State University poll has found an increase in support for same-sex marriage in Michigan, with 56 percent of adults questioned saying they support marriage equality.

Michigan State economics professor Charles Ballard directs the quarterly State of the State Survey, which questions Michiganders about a variety of subjects. He says the increase in state support for same-sex marriage mirrors trends around the country,

The telephone poll of 1,015 Michigan adults was conducted June 12–Aug. 13, and the results have a margin of sampling error of 3 percentage points.

Opposition to gay marriage stood at 39 percent in this year's poll. Two years ago, 51 percent said they opposed gay marriage, while 48 percent supported it.

**MILWAUKEE CENTER  
HOSTING HOLIGAY**

The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center offers holiday cheer with HoliGay, a celebration beginning at 7 p.m. on Dec. 14 at the center, 1100 N. Market St.

The party includes food, music and live entertainment. There is no charge, but donations will be accepted.

For more, call 414-271-2656.

**LANG WILL WAIT  
ON MEDICAL  
MARIJUANA VOTE  
IN ILLINOIS**

Illinois State Rep. Lou Lang has decided not to call his medical marijuana legislation until later this month.

The Skokie Democrat said he's not certain he has the 60 votes he needs for passage.

Lang believes marijuana should be available

in limited amounts for people with specific illnesses who get pain relief from the drug.

It's the tightest such measure in the nation. Eighteen states allow medical marijuana use.

**GAY COUPLES LOBBY  
ILLINOIS LAWMAKERS ON  
MARRIAGE**

The plaintiffs in Illinois lawsuits demanding the legalization of same-sex marriage in the state lobbied lawmakers on the issue in early December.

House Bill 5710 – the Religious Freedom and Marriage Fairness Act – would do just that. It could be voted on by the Illinois General Assembly in January.

"We want our lawmakers to know how important this is to our family," said Anne Dickey, who has sued the state for the right to marry her partner. "Every day, our child feels different from his friends because Laura and I aren't allowed to get married. Whether it is through the courts or the Legislature, we need the freedom to marry."

– from WiG reports



**INTEGRITY  
EXPERIENCE  
RESULTS**

Automobile Accidents ■ Civil Rights  
Fires & Explosions ■ Medical Malpractice  
Nursing Home/Elder Abuse  
Truck Accidents ■ Wrongful Death

**Mark L. Thomsen**  
Attorney at Law

**CANNON & DUNPHY**  
Wisconsin Personal Injury Attorneys  
with a Reputation for Winning™

595 N. Barker Rd. ■ Brookfield, WI 53008  
(262) 782-2700 Office (262) 796-3703 Direct

Savvy opticians

Brilliant service

Are you ready to have fun?

**The perfect frame  
is just the beginning**

1568 N. FARWELL AVE. | MILWAUKEE | 414-221-7055 | BRONZEOPTICAL.COM  
Visit our website for special-offer coupons and more.

**BRONZE  
OPTICAL**

FABULOUS  
AND  
AFFORDABLE  
EYEWEAR

LOCAL FIRST  
MILWAUKEE

QShare Proud sponsor Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival

**CHRISTINA'S CARPET CARE**  
*No Hidden Charges — Ever!*  
*Senior Discounts Available*

— VALUABLE COUPON —

**2 Rooms & Hallway  
Only \$73<sup>86</sup> plus tax & travel**

*Save over \$30! Standard room size  
is 120 sq. feet. Hallway up to 15 ft.*

**(414) 281-4491**  
E-Mail: [Scrapd@wi.rr.com](mailto:Scrapd@wi.rr.com)

See us on  
**Angies list.**



*In this section:*

**Ho-ho-hosting**

*page 18*

**Equality buying**

*page 19*

**Holiday  
pet safety**

*page 22*

**Fair Trade gifts**

*page 23*

**Christmas punches**

*page 25*



# From cocktails to coat racks: Holiday Hosting 101

By Cedar Burnett

AP writer

Not everyone has the “fabulous” gene. For the mere mortal hosts among us, holiday party planning can whip up stress and anxiety: Is my house inviting? Do I have enough chairs? What about food?

If the thought of entertaining sends you to the nearest fainting couch, relax — we’ve compiled advice from some of the best party experts around.

## SETTING THE MOOD

“Parties give us the chance to suspend what’s going on in our lives and give us space to be merry,” says Danielle Rollins, the Atlanta-based author of the new “Soiree: Entertaining with Style” (Rizzoli).

The best way to create that space, she says, is to build tradition into your party and make it something people can look forward to year after year. Decide on a theme or an anchor activity — gingerbread decorating, caroling, ugly holiday sweaters — and specify a dress code on the invitation.

“It’s fun to have an excuse to dress up,” Rollins says. “You’ll build excitement around the event if guests know what to expect.”

Decor should echo the theme and reinforce the style of party you want to have. But don’t feel you have to stick with a traditional holiday color palette or decorations. “Thanksgiving doesn’t have to mean orange

and Christmas doesn’t have to mean red and green,” says Rollins.

Lyric Turner, the owner of Red House Staging and Interiors in Washington, D.C., suggests introducing a warm color palette — burgundy, chocolate brown and purple — through accent pillows, throws or curtains to create a festive look in an unexpected way.

“If you are going to bring in red and green elements to your decorating, keep the rest of your space neutral. A cacophony of color is too much,” says Turner.

## SETTING THE STAGE

Whether your party is large or small, deciding where to put the guests can be tricky. Many people make the mistake of removing all the furniture for a cocktail party, says Rollins, but it’s important to have places to sit.

“Your living space should be structured for conversation,” Turner says. She recommends creating seating clusters around the house. “Anywhere you have a little extra room — an entryway, an office — you can group a few chairs around a small table.”

Rollins emphasizes the need for tables and stools spread throughout the gathering spaces.

“Pretend you’re a drink,” she says. “Where will you go?”

Too much furniture, however, can feel



PHOTO: COURTESY

**Decor should echo the theme and reinforce the style of party you want.**

claustrophobic.

“You’re adding a lot with holiday decor,” she adds. “If you’re not taking anything out, you’re just adding clutter.”

## SETTING THE LIGHTS

The right lighting makes your home (and your guests) look their best. Our experts agreed that overhead lighting has no place at a party. That creates deep shadows that make guests’ faces look older. Instead, place lamps on multiple levels throughout your rooms, dim the lights and add candles wherever you can.

As a rule of thumb, the darker it is, the better your guests will look.

“Avoid candles by the bar and the buffet, though,” Rollins cautions. Even if your guests are flammers, you don’t want them going up in flames.

She also suggests skipping scented candles because they compete with the scent of the food.

And while lighting should be low in conversation areas, keep bathrooms and food areas better lit.

## SETTING THE TABLE

Food can make or break a party, but Rollins insists, “It’s not about what you’re serving, it’s how it’s displayed.”

For buffets, she suggests using smaller dishes and refilling them frequently.

Push the dining table against the wall to create more space for mingling around the food, Turner recommends.

And a signature cocktail adds a festive touch and can streamline bar mess and bar

costs.

For dinner parties, Mindy Weiss, a Los Angeles-based party planner, suggests setting the table the evening before the party.

Personalized place cards are a thoughtful touch and can be tailored to any theme. “My guests were given ‘I’m thankful for’ nametags one Thanksgiving,” Rollins says. “As I made my toast, I said, ‘I am thankful for all of you gathered with me today to celebrate the blessings we have.’ And I asked each guest to reflect on what they were thankful for.”

## DETAILS, DETAILS

It’s the small touches that really bring your party to the next level. Turner recommends wowing guests with a spa-like bathroom: “Remove all your junk and replace it with a sprig of pine, a candle, new hand soap and lotion.”

Provide a stack of rolled hand towels so guests don’t have to share the same (increasingly damp) towel, Turner suggests.

As for where to hang coats, Rollins recommends a rolling coat rack in a bedroom. “It’s so much nicer than just throwing them on the bed,” she says.

She also recommends being prepared for winter weather: “Keep salt and shovels on hand,” she cautions. “And make sure driveways and entryways are well lit.”

Above all, make guests feel welcome. Get the cleaning and chores out of the way before they get there, and “open your door to welcome your guests looking like you didn’t lift a finger all day,” Weiss says. “If you time things right, then you should be able to offer your guests a cocktail and conversation.”



**Stein's Jewelers**

**Christmas Sale on Now !!**

Customize your Commitment Rings  
Diamonds, Bracelets, Necklaces

Free gift with purchase

715 W. Wisconsin Ave. 414-272-2356  
[www.steinsjewelers.com](http://www.steinsjewelers.com)

“Trusted by Milwaukeeans since 1933”

**Now: Better access for  
[wisconsin Gazette.com](http://wisconsin Gazette.com)  
on your smartphone & tablet.**

# Guide, app help consumers leverage LGBT dollars



PHOTO: COURTESY BEST BUY

**Best Buy rated a perfect 100 in the Human Rights Campaign's "Buying for Workplace Equality" guide.**

**By Lisa Neff**

*Staff writer*

Back unions? Support fair trade? Go organic? Check the labels and packaging.

Shop local? That can be as simple as stepping outside the apartment.

But patronizing businesses that support LGBT equality? That's more complicated, which is why the Human Rights Campaign produces an annual "Buying for Workplace Equality" guide that consumers will find on the organization's website, [www.hrc.org](http://www.hrc.org), as well as in app stores.

The guide won't help consumers find the friendliest small businesses; the best tools for that are recommendations from community members, groups and publications – and the rainbow flag sticker on the door.

But the guide can assist consumers headed for department stores, the outlet malls and shopping centers.

"With Buying for Workplace Equality, we hope to harness the LGBT community's \$790 billion in buying power by providing you with the most accurate review of a business's workplace policies toward LGBT employees," says HRC staffer Liz Cooper. "Whether you are buying a cup of coffee, renovating your home, or looking for the perfect gift, by supporting businesses that support workplace equality you send a powerful message that LGBT inclusion is good for the bottom line."

The guide scores companies and then

offers easy to read color-coded ratings – green for those that score the best on equality, yellow for the middle-range scores and red for the lowest scores.

Looking for a shoe? Nike is color-coded green with a score of 100 percent, while Brown Shoe, which produces the Avia brand, is color-coded red with a score of 35.

The guide contains scores for general retail, home and garden, banking and finance, apparel and accessories, restaurants, oil and gas, health and beauty, entertainment, travel and leisure, technology, pet care, fun and games, automotive, shipping, publishing, insurance and health care.

High-scoring, large retailers include: Barnes & Noble, Best Buy, eBay, GameStop, Limited, Office Depot, Sears, Staples, Supervalu, Target, TJX, Walgreens, Amazon.com, Crate and Barrel, Costco, Hallmark Cards, REI, Kroger, Safeway and Williams-Sonoma.

Low-scoring large retailers include: Dollar General, H-E-B, True Value, BJ's, Brown Shoe, Ann Taylor, Bed Bath & Beyond, Dillard's, Dollar Tree, Family Dollar, Lowe's, RadioShack, Trader Joe's, Wawa, Meijer, Aaron's, Ace Hardware, Bass Pro, Belk, Big Lots, Children's Place, Dick's Sporting Goods, Jo-Ann Stores, Kohl's, Michaels, Pier 1, Sally Beauty, The Container Store, The Pantry, Weis, Winn-Dixie, Zales, A&P, Brooks Brothers, Discount Tires, Harris Teeter, HSN, Liberty Interactive, O'Reilly Automotive, Publix Super Markets, Rent-A-Center, Sheetz and 84 Lumber.

## TEXTING FOR EQUALITY

You're standing in a store aisle trying to choose between brands. The products are similar. The prices are about the same. But what about the manufacturer's records on LGBT issues? The newest tool for the "Buying for Workplace Equality" campaign is the ability to get ratings via text messages. Consumers can text SHOP to 30644 and then send a company or product name to get a rating. Handy.



**POTAWATOMI**

BINGO • CASINO™

PAYSBIG.COM | MILWAUKEE

MAKE A SURE BET – KNOW YOUR LIMIT.

1721 WEST CANAL STREET • MILWAUKEE, WI 53233 • 1-800-PAYSBIG • PAYSBIG.COM • OPEN 24/7 • MUST BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD TO ENTER CASINO;  
18 TO PLAY BINGO • WINNERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL TAXES • MANAGEMENT RESERVES ALL RIGHTS

GAMBLING PROBLEM? CALL 1-800-426-2535

©2012 FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI COMMUNITY, WISCONSIN

# Items in '12 Days of Christmas' now top \$107K

By Kevin Begos

AP writer

Add seven swans, six geese and five golden rings to the list of Christmas gifts that cost more than they did a year ago.

And if you get all 364 items repeated throughout "The Twelve Days of Christmas"

carol, you'll pay 6.1 percent more this year, according to the so-called Christmas Price Index that PNC Wealth Management updates annually.

That comes to \$107,300.

The \$15 partridge is the cheapest item, and swans the most expensive, at \$1,000 each.

"The rise is larger than expected considering the modest economic growth we've had," said Jim Dunigan, managing executive of investments for PNC. He noted the government's Consumer Price Index rose just 2 percent in the 12 months before September.

Thrifty shoppers may find some reasons for cheer. Six items mentioned in the song haven't gone up in price: maids-a-milking, ladies dancing, lords-a-leaping, calling birds, turtle doves and the partridge. The eight maids-a-milking still cost just \$58 because the minimum wage hasn't risen.

Twelve drummers drumming (\$2,775.50) and 11 pipers piping (\$2,562) might also be considered relative bargains compared to seven swans, which will set you back \$7,000. Nine ladies dancing will cost you \$6,294.03.

Dunigan said the 2011 drought caused the prices of some birds to soar, partly because of corn and other feed costs.

"The geese were up 29.6 percent, and swans were up 11 percent," Dunigan said, adding that none of the gifts in the song went down in price this year.

The price of a pear tree is \$189.99, an 11.8 percent jump from last year's \$169.99. Five gold rings jumped 16.3 percent this year, to \$750, and three French hens are now \$165, instead of \$150.

Last-minute shoppers who turn to the Web will pay a bit more for the gifts. Buy-



ing one set of the core items in each verse costs \$24,431 in traditional stores this year, but \$40,440 online. Part of that difference is the extra expense of shipping live birds, Dunigan said.

PNC Financial Services Group Inc. checks jewelry stores, dance companies, pet stores and other sources to compile the list. Some of its sources this year include the National Aviary in Pittsburgh and the Philadelphia-based Pennsylvania Ballet Company.

**C3 Designs**  
Award Winning Custom Jewelry  
**20% OFF**  
**Your Last Minute Holiday Gifts!**  
Offer Valid on any in store Purchase with this Ad. Now open Every Day Til X-Mas!  
(414)764-3892 [www.c3-designs.com](http://www.c3-designs.com)  
Located in The Marketplace Shopping Village on Puzit & Hwy 32 in Oak Creek

~ MADE IN WISCONSIN • SHOP LOCAL ~

*Fine Crafts*  
from

**More than 50 Wisconsin Artists at the Morning Glory Gallery**  
inside the lobby of the  
**Marcus Center for the Performing Arts in Downtown Milwaukee**

Featuring unique, handmade jewelry, fiber, ceramics, leather, glass, wood, sculpture, photography and mixed media.

**MORNING GLORY GALLERY**

**WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS ARE SAYING:**  
"There's nothing like this anywhere in Milwaukee - I just LOVE this store!"

**MENTION OR BRING IN THIS AD AND RECEIVE A FREE GIFT WITH ANY PURCHASE!**

**SUPER HOLIDAY GIFTS - NEW WORK ARRIVES WEEKLY!**  
We also have gift certificates.

**OPEN THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY FROM 12-6 P.M. AND DURING ALL PERFORMANCES IN UIHLEIN HALL**  
929 N. Water St. • 414.765.7227 • [wdcc.org](http://wdcc.org) • [galleries@marcuscenter.org](mailto:galleries@marcuscenter.org)

"Is a revelation not to be missed"  
—The New York Times

**REMBRANDT  
VAN DYCK  
GAINSBOROUGH**

The Treasures of Kenwood House, London

**Now through Jan 13**

Don't miss seeing Rembrandt's iconic *Portrait of the Artist* and other Old Master paintings from the collection of Lord Iveagh, heir to the Guinness brewery, that have never before been seen on this side of the Atlantic.

**MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM**  
414-224-3200 | [www.mam.org](http://www.mam.org)

The exhibition is organized by the American Federation of Arts and English Heritage. It is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities, with additional funding from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. In-kind support is provided by Barbara and Richard S. Lane.

Milwaukee Presenting Sponsor: **BMO** **Harris Bank**

Rembrandt van Rijn, *Portrait of the Artist*, ca. 1665 (detail). Kenwood House, English Heritage; Iveagh Bequest. Photo courtesy American Federation of Arts.



# EASTMORE

*you're more at home*



More Value.

More Service.

More Options.

# More Possibilities

Milwaukee Apartment Homes Located on the East Side,  
Downtown, Shorewood and Whitefish Bay

3287 N. Oakland Ave. | Milwaukee, WI 53211 | 414-961-1822

[eastmore.com](http://eastmore.com)

# Protect pets from holiday hazards

## From StatePoint

You can bet that during the holiday season your pet is bound to sniff out leftovers, dig into the presents and have fun with all of your decorations. And while these holiday effects can spread cheer and joy among your human family members, they can be a real hazard to pets. This season, keep your holidays safe, happy and healthy for pets by taking these key measures:

## DECORATE WISELY

Avoid poisonous holiday plants such as poinsettias and holly. There are plenty of toxic-free alternatives as evocative of the season as these traditional holiday favorites. If you must deck the halls with such plants, place them in an out-of-the-way spot your pets can't reach and keep your pets away from those areas of your home.

Tinsel and gift ribbons are tempting for pets that like to play with shiny things, but when swallowed,

such items can cause intestinal obstructions. Clean up after opening presents and vacuum around the tree to pick up any gift debris, as well as fallen pine needles which pose a similar hazard.

## AVOID THE PROBLEM

When it comes to the holidays, there's no need to be a Grinch in order to keep your celebration safe for pets. New technologies are making it easier to teach pets to stay away from certain areas of your home, both indoors and outside. For example, Invisible Fence Brand Micro Shields Avoidance Solutions are small mobile wireless units to train pets to avoid areas of the home or yard where they might get into trouble. And if you have multiple pets, you can set different rules for different pets.

So don't forgo that lovely holiday candle display just because you have a pet in your life. For more information go to [www.invisiblefence.com](http://www.invisiblefence.com).

## Keep the holidays festive for you and your pets.

## WATCH YOUR PLATE

As most great pet owners know, not all human foods are safe or healthy for pets. Pets can choke on bones in meat or fish dishes. And such foods as onions, macadamia nuts and chocolate – which are commonly found in holiday cooking and baking – are unsafe for dogs.

Avoid having your well-meaning guests sending Spot to the vet by laying ground rules about sharing food.

Also, one man's trash is a pet's treasure, so be sure to keep the lid on the garbage secure.

By taking proper precautions, you can keep the holidays festive this year for both you and your pets.



Holiday food and decorations can be unsafe for pets.



THE JOAN, JACK AND VICTOR STEIN FOUNDATION PRESENTS

— MICHAEL PINK'S —

# THE NUTCRACKER

MILWAUKEE'S MAGICAL HOLIDAY TRADITION

2012-13  
MICHAEL PINK'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

MILWAUKEE  
BALLET

MICHAEL PINK, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

DECEMBER 8-26  
MARCUS CENTER  
MILWAUKEEBALLET.ORG  
414-902-2103

SPONSORED BY 

Dancer Janel Meindersee. Photo Jessica Kaminski.

# Gifts that have impact

By Leanne Italie

AP writer

Holiday shopping can be such a grind. You buy, you wrap, you hand it over – times 20. If you're feeling overly cynical, try some Fair Trade gifting and offer your recipients the story behind their gifts as well.

Not unlike decoding the terms "organic" and "eco-friendly," figuring out exactly what Fair Trade means and where to find the real deal can be confusing. With no one oversight or regulatory body, a variety of organizations offer Fair Trade certification.

Some distributors of handcrafts and gifty foodstuffs, such as coffee, tea and chocolate, do without a Fair Trade sticker or label on their products but tout their embrace of broad principles, promising they do business ethically.

Others have been through a careful screening process after developing long-term relationships with small farmers and artisan cooperatives around the world.



PHOTO: COURTESY

**A hand-sewn tablecloth from India, available through dolmafairtrade.com.**

Most sell online or through small boutiques and shops.

"During the holidays we get all this stuff. It's all about the stuff and we never take the time to think about where it came from and who made it," said Renee Bowers, executive director of the Fair Trade Federation, based in Wilmington, Del.

"Fair Trade is really talking about a commitment and the relationship between a buyer and a seller as a method of poverty alleviation," she said.

The Fair Trade Federation publishes its core principles at [Fairtradefederation.org/principles](http://Fairtradefederation.org/principles). Transparency is a stalwart in the

Fair Trade movement, but if you don't want the hassle of digging deep into the business arrangements behind the baskets, home decor or accessories you choose as gifts, the federation has about 250 screened members in the United States and Canada.

Some possibilities:

## TEXTILES

About 20 years ago, in the southeast forests of the Indian state of Rajasthan, a nature preserve was established to preserve the habitat of tigers. People living on the land for centuries were forced off, away from access to wood and water supplies.

Dastkar Ranthambore was established to help villagers relocate just outside the park and provide women a way to generate income.

Among their products are table coverings, placemats and bedspreads inspired by traditional animal murals. They're created using a hand-blocked printing technique in earth tones, as well as bright blues, greens and yellows.

"The women have an open-air workshop where they work together doing embroidery and sewing," Bowers said. "They've been able to, over time, build houses and really create a sustainable living situation."

Some of their wares are available at [Dolmafairtrade.com](http://Dolmafairtrade.com) and [Tenthousandvillages.com](http://Tenthousandvillages.com).

## COFFEE

Roasting in small batches from its Humboldt location in Milwaukee's Riverwest neighborhood, Alterra sources about 40 percent of its beans from Fair Trade-certified growers and the rest from small farmers "who are doing a good job in the way they treat the land, their workers and the environment," says George Bregar, Alterra's director of coffee. Alterra has developed strong relationships with small farmers in Latin America, east Africa and Indonesia, helping some of them gain access to financing.

For gift-giving, Alterra offers a 100-percent certified Fair Trade gift box, as well as "featured farms" gift boxes that feature coffees from some of the company's favorite growers.

## HANDBAGS

Handbags and other accessories made of recycled aluminum pull tabs from cans may not be for everyone, but Escama Studio in San Francisco connects their customers with women's collectives in Brazil where their products are made.

Each item comes with a tag introducing



PHOTO: COURTESY

**Recycled tote bag from Nomi Network, a Cambodian non-profit that markets tote bags created from colorful, graphic fish-feed and rice bags.**

the creator in Brasilia. The company's website, [Escamastudio.com](http://Escamastudio.com), offers a place where the recipient can write a message to the gift's creator. Escama translates the messages into Portuguese and sends them on.

Some of the Escama looks incorporate a traditional crochet technique into contemporary Western designs. In addition, the company funds computer literacy programs for those interested among the more than 100 women it works with.

"It's kind of a cool example of how Fair Trade organizations are trying to innovate in order to support artisans," Bowers said.

Giftier items include the small Smart Bag, with a fabric liner and detachable cross-body strap, and the Shaggy Bag, a "wristlette" with long fringe in black or silver.

## TOTE BAGS

We've all seen tote bags made of recyclables. The nonprofit Nomi Network, operating in Cambodia, employs women and girls who were victims of human sex trafficking or are at risk. They make tote bags out of colorful, graphic fish-feed and rice bags.

The Manhattan-based Nomi Network, named for a victim whom co-founder Diana Mao once met, partners with rehabilitation homes and other organizations in Cambodia to train and educate the women who sew the bags. The company also works with trafficking victims in India.

In addition to totes and wallets, Nomi sells a canvas bag with the slogan, "Buy Her Bag, Not Her Body."

Key to the partnerships Nomi has in Cambodia is providing sustainable employment within the emotional support structure the traumatized women rely on, Bowers said. The company also helps connect them with training in other career fields.

Find the projects at [Nominetwork.org](http://Nominetwork.org).

# Triskele's



Featuring Fine Food  
in a Casual Atmosphere  
Chef Owned & Operated

OPEN  
NEW YEAR'S EVE!

Seatings from 5 to 10 pm

Call to check on our  
very special SPECIALS  
and for reservations

TUESDAYS

All You Can Eat Mussels  
\$8 per person

WEDNESDAYS

1/2 Off Bottles of Wine  
& Draft Beer

THURSDAYS

\$5 Appetizers &  
\$4 House Wine & Sangria

HAPPY HOUR

4-6pm Tue. thru Sat.

Open Tue. thru Thur.

4pm to 9pm  
Fri. & Sat. 4pm to 10pm

1801 S. 3rd St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53204

5 blocks south of the Allen Bradley  
Clock Tower on 3rd & Maple

414-837-5950

[www.triskelesrestaurant.com](http://www.triskelesrestaurant.com)

Grandmother  
**REILLY'S**  
CHOCOLATES

*Handmade*  
**ENGLISH TOFFEE**  
**SEA SALT CARAMELS**  
**TRUFFLES**  
**FLYING TURTLES**  
*& more*

*Treat yourself or someone else*

**BURKE**  
CANDY & INGREDIENTS  
EST. 1929

3840 N. Fratney St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
414 • 964 • 7327

Open  
M-F 11am-5pm & SATURDAY 11am-3pm

**BURKECANDY.COM**

*Nights like this only happen once a year!*



**NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION**

DECEMBER 31, 2012

**DUELING PIANOS AT 9:00PM**

DOORS OPEN AT 7:00PM

STANDARD \$60/PERSON

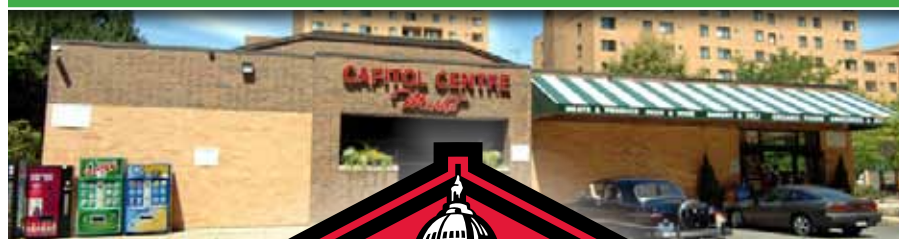
VIP \$99/PERSON  
(minimum party size four)

- reserved seating
- cocktail service
- open bar
- heavy appetizer buffet
- complimentary champagne at midnight

- reserved VIP seating
- personal cocktail and bottle service
- two complimentary bottles and select mixers (per four people)
- heavy appetizer buffet
- complimentary champagne

FOR RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION CALL 414-225-0304  
LucillesMKE.com | 1110 N. Old World Third St. - Milwaukee

*Ingredients for Life.*



Fully Stocked  
Wine & Beer  
Natural & Organics

Produce  
Fresh Seafood  
**We Deliver!**

**Madison's Downtown Grocer Since 1983**  
Open 24 Hours Mon. thru Fri. • 7 a.m. to midnight Sat. & Sun.  
*Locally Operated. Locally Involved.*

111 N. Broom St. • Madison • (608) 255-2616  
Corner of Mifflin and Broom Streets  
**ORDER ONLINE:** [www.capcentremarket.com](http://www.capcentremarket.com)



# Dish it Out!

## Punch up your holiday spirits

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

My research for this article led me to a cookbook published in 1891 by the Ladies of the Plymouth Church in Des Moines, Iowa. The book's introduction contained the following caveat:

"The Ladies who compiled this manual have thought it best not to include alcoholic condiment, believing it better to lack a certain piquancy in food and drink than to bring to the home table anything which may so easily work mischief."

Balderdash. The holidays will arrive and with them good spirits and spirited cheer. Parties will pop with Champagne corks, percolate with fragrant punches and sparkle with spiced wine. Lively libations will pour all around.

No matter what your spiritual persuasion, know that there are ancient links between mid-winter celebrations and spirited consumption. In centuries past, Yule logs were sanctified with wine to honor the Holy Trinity, priests blessed strong ale sold to thirsty parishioners on Christmas night, and pagans sprinkled wine on the roots of fruit trees in thanks for a bountiful harvest.

Practices may have changed, but the emphasis on strong drink has remained. Knowing the origins of today's celebratory mixtures may add to your enjoyment.

We have the Netherlands to thank for Hoppel Poppel, as well as for numerous rules about how, when and where to get tipsy. Dutch drinking involved so much ceremony and ritual, in fact, that the French poet Theophile de Viau once said, "I am as much repelled by their discipline as by their excess."

The holidays were especially popular times for Dutch ladies to become cupshoten on the following mixture:

4 egg yolks  
1 tsp. vanilla extract  
1 cup rum or cognac  
7 tbsp. sugar  
1 qt. hot milk

Beat yolks and sugar to a froth, stir in vanilla and slowly add milk, beating constantly. Mix in rum and pour into heated mugs. Dust with nutmeg and serve. (This recipe makes six to eight drinks.)

Scotland's contribution was **Athole Brose**, literally "brew," from the country's mountainous northern province of Athole. It's original concoction of hot whiskey and oatmeal has been refined.

To make Athole Brose, mix equal parts of Drambuie liqueur, honey and heavy cream; warm and stir until smooth, then cool and serve.

The Scots use Athole Brose to toast the New Year, but it also makes an excellent cold remedy.

Punches, also popular among holiday party-givers, originated in India, where 16th-century British seamen were first exposed to the potent brew. Punch, from the Hindustani word for "five," was blended from sweet, sour, bitter, weak and spirited ingredients. **Wine Punch**, a popular concoction of the day, was composed the following:

1 medium pineapple, peeled and diced  
½ to 1 cup sugar to taste  
2 bottles German Rhine or Moselle wine or 2 bottles dry red wine  
1 quart crushed strawberries or 12 peeled, sliced peaches  
1 bottle dry Champagne

Crush fruit and sugar into a punch bowl, then let stand until sugar dissolves. Add white wine and chill four hours. Add Champagne just prior to serving.

If more chilling is required, add an ice block to the bowl. Ladle into punch cups and garnish with fruit. (NOTE: Red wine punch does not need to be chilled as thoroughly, but

may need extra sugar.)

But the libation most associated with the holidays is the traditional **Wassail Bowl**. Literally translated as "be well," this beverage was used by the early Anglo-Saxons to toast each other's health, especially in mid-winter. Peasants unable to afford their own Wassail took their wooden bowls from door to door and sang in exchange for refills – the origin, many say, of caroling. One of the best treats the peasants could hope for was finding a piece of toasted bread floating in the bowl, giving rise to the practice of "drinking a toast to one's benefactors." The classic Wassail bowl includes:

18 crab apples, cored  
3 quarts ale  
5 slices fresh ginger, or 1 tsp. powdered  
½ tsp. powdered cloves  
1 cup Cognac, heated  
2½ cups brown sugar  
1 bottle sherry  
1 tsp. nutmeg  
6 eggs, separated  
10 slices buttered toast, quartered

Sprinkle apples with ½ cup brown sugar, then bake in pre-heated 400-degree oven for 30 minutes. Heat sherry, ale and spices in saucepan. Beat egg yolks until thick, egg whites until stiff, then fold together. Pour ale mixture into eggs, beating hard. Pour baked apples into heated bowl. Add ale-egg mixture and Cognac. Serve immediately in heated mugs. Pass toast to dip or float. (This recipe yields about 18 drinks.)

Of course, the Ladies of Plymouth Church would not have approved, and almost in precognition of holiday revelers' too-festive ways, they included in their same slim volume the "English Cure for Drunkenness":

"The recipe comes into notoriety from the discovery of a man



Traditional holiday libations typically contain lots of spice and fruit flavors.

fallen into such habitual drunkenness that his most earnest efforts to reclaim himself proved unavailing. He sought the advice of an eminent physician, who gave him a prescription which he followed for several months, after which he lost all desire for liquor."

The prescription was as follows: five grams of sulfate of iron, 10 grams of magnesia, 11 drachms of

peppermint water and one drachm of spirits of nutmeg, to be taken twice a day. The tonic, the Ladies claimed, would cure anyone of the desire for strong drink.

We may look into that after the holidays, assuming we can find peppermint water.

Follow WiG on  
Facebook and Twitter.

## Chef's Corner



White truffles.

## 'Tis the season – for white truffles

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Vittorio Giordano knows that the holidays are best celebrated with truffles. He doesn't mean the overwrought chocolate kind that come wrapped in colorful foil, but the exotic fungus that grows underground and is considered a delicacy worldwide.

"Truffles are rare, unique and can't easily be cultivated," says Giordano, vice president and U.S. truffle buyer for Urbani Truffles, based in New York City. "That's what makes them exciting."

Those characteristics also make truffles the world's most expensive food, commanding as much as \$250 per ounce from chefs and foodies across the U.S. Despite the high prices, truffles often are in short supply, and Urbani's seasonal stock of white truffles, the rarest of all, will soon be gone.

"The white ones from Italy's Piedmont and Alba regions are only available for several months of the year," Dentici says. "They are the perfect luxury commodity, precious and getting more so all the time."

However, the pending shortage does not concern Amanda Dentici, purchasing manager and truffle buyer for Glorioso's Italian Market, 1011 E. Brady St., Urbani's outlet

in Milwaukee. In addition to ordering fresh truffles for special clients, Dentici stocks a full line of preserved truffle products that offer shoppers the famous taste at significantly less cost.

Like their mushroom cousins, the potato-shaped truffle constitutes the fruit of their fungi. There are hundreds of varieties – from marble to golf ball-sized – all of which are ectomycorrhizal, meaning it has a symbiotic relationship with trees and is usually found close to their roots. The spores of stemmed mushrooms are spread by the wind, but truffle spores are spread by the feces of animals that eat them.

The first appearance of truffles in recorded history dates back to the neo-Sumerians in 2000 B.C. Nineteenth-century French gastronome Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin called them "the diamond of the kitchen." Many truffles are imported from Italy, France and Spain. But a growing number come from Oregon, Australia and other areas where the climate and soil conditions are conducive.

Traditionally, female pigs were used to hunt for truffles, because the fungi fruit mimics the scent of male swine sexual excretions – which drives the female pigs

wild. But pigs that weren't muzzled tended to eat the truffles once they found them, Giordano says.

"Today, more truffle hunters use dogs that have been trained to the scent," he says. "They won't eat the truffle, but instead wait for a treat or a pat on the head from their masters."

Consumption by pigs, not to mention voles, squirrels and other woodland creatures, have taken a tiny bites out of global production. But there are other socio-economic and climatic factors that have reduced truffles harvests significantly over the past century and may threaten their future.

In the beginning of the 20th century, the global truffle crop is estimated to have been around 1,000 tons annually. But changes in the French agrarian lifestyle and the

**TRUFFLES** next page



## "Nueva cocina Mexicana"

Featuring old world, indigenous & contemporary Mexican cuisine in a casual setting

Full bar with

Handcrafted Margaritas & over sixty 100% blue agave tequilas

Gift Cards Available For Holiday Giving!

Cempazuchi  
COMIDA BRAVA

www.cempazuchi.com

1205 E. BRADY ST. • 414.291.5233

Carini's La Conca D'Oro

A TOUCH OF SICILY

Gift Baskets & Gift Boxes

Now available for Holiday giving!

Now Booking HOLIDAY PARTIES 7 Days A Week!

Any size – up to 100 people

Happy Hour – 3 to 6 p.m.

Drink Specials & Half-Price Appetizers

3468 N. Oakland Ave., Milwaukee

Just 2 blocks from UWM & close to downtown  
Public parking lot on the corner of Edgewood & Oakland

(414) 963-9623

www.atouchofsicily.com

Like us on Facebook  
to receive specials!

**TRUFFLES** from prior page

interruption of agriculture by two world wars have taken a significant bite out of nature's yield. By the 1960s, only 200 to 300 tons of truffles were sold each year, and the effects of environmental pollution and global warming have continued to take a toll.

Like all fungi, truffles are sensitive to rising temperatures and water depletion. The 2010-11 season saw just 25 tons of truffles sold. "You don't market the truffle, you manage its scarcity," said Jean-Charles Savignac, president of the French Truffle Growers Federation, to Agence France-Presse last year at this time.

Those interested in truffles this season should place their orders soon, Glorioso's Dentici says, if they want

to have an ample supply for holiday events.

"Customers can order whatever truffle is in season by the ounce, by contacting me," says Dentici. "The truffles will arrive the next day."

Currently, Black Burgundy Truffles (\$40 per oz.) are nearing the end of their season. White Truffles (\$215 per oz.) are peaking, and the season is just beginning for Black Winter Truffles (\$150 per oz.)

Glorioso's also offers truffle sauces, truffle honey, truffle oil and truffle-infused balsamic vinegar.

"If you want to experience truffles without spending big bucks, there are a lot of products available at the store that will give you the flavor at a much lower price," she says.

**c.1880 Mounts Truffle Dinner**

Glorioso's Italian Market will co-sponsor a truffle dinner Dec. 30 at c.1880 Restaurant, 1100 S. First St. in Milwaukee's Walker's Point neighborhood. Black and white truffles will be matched to a menu of soup, eggs, lobster, veal and four other courses prepared by chef Thomas Hauck. The tasting menu is \$185 per person, or \$220 with wine pairings. Details at [www.c1880.com](http://www.c1880.com).



D

i

S

H

it

O

u

T

!





# Glorioso's

ITALIAN MARKET

Bringing ITALY to MILWAUKEE!

---

Imported Italian Foods • Deli Sandwiches • Pasta • Gift Baskets  
 Handcrafted Sausages • Party Trays • Trio's Pizza • Vinegars  
 Olive Oils • Cheese • Wine • Craft Beer

Our World-Famous Christmas Sausage is Available From  
 December 8-31 Only, pre-order yours now!

Your Local Grocer Since 1946  
 1011 E Brady Street • (414)272-0540



---

M-F 8am-8pm SAT 8am-6pm SUN 8:30am-5pm [www.gloriosos.com](http://www.gloriosos.com)



centro-happy-hour  
 the  
**\$808 east center**  
 special

in our bar  
 monday to thursday 5 to 7  
 half a pizza &  
 a small green salad - \$8.08  
 two drinks - \$8.08



SHOW YOUR  
 APPETITE FOR LIFE  
 WITH  
 THE GIFT OF  
 GOOD TASTE

★★★★★

Restaurant Gift Cards  
 Now Available!

[www.getbianchini.com](http://www.getbianchini.com)









"Some  
of the Best  
Prime Rib  
in America"

As seen on

Travel Channel's  
Food Paradise.

540 E Mason, Milwaukee

414.223.0135

WWW.WARDSHOUSEOFPRIME.COM  
CORNER OF JACKSON & MASON STREETS

FREE SHUTTLE  
TO DOWNTOWN EVENTS

Gift Certificate  
Promotion  
Through the  
Holidays

## Macklemore & Ryan Lewis shake up hip-hop world with 'Same Love'

### Music

CHRIS TALBOTT FOR AP

Macklemore isn't afraid to tell you he was scared when he saw some of the destinations for his upcoming tour.

Idaho. Montana. Texas.

None of those places seemed like they'd be receptive to Macklemore & Ryan Lewis' left-leaning, socially conscious message. A hostile reception seemed more likely — especially for the lightning-rod song "Same Love," which offers support for the gay community. An eighth-grade teacher in suburban Detroit was recently suspended after playing the song for her performing arts class.

But, to the 29-year-old rapper's surprise, he found the crowds singing the chorus right back at him.

"Those were three places where people probably sang the loudest and it gives me some hope in the power of music and what music can do," said the MC, whose given name is Ben Haggerty. "To hear people's testimonials about 'Same Love' changing the way that they feel about gay people or the language that they use in their everyday life, making them consider changing that language, or changing their hateful perspective on another group of people, it's exciting to see that music has that capability."

It's a time of plenty for the Seattle alternative hip-hop duo, which released its debut studio album, "The Heist," to great acclaim last month. Haggerty and his producing and business partner Lewis sold more than 78,000 copies of the record the first week of release. That's a staggering number for an independent release, putting the album at No. 2 on the Billboard 200 all-genre chart.

Haggerty said they expected to sell somewhere between 28,000 and 33,000 copies.

"It's a validation, absolutely," Haggerty said in a phone interview. "It's definitely a reward. But at the end of the day it is a number and you try not to let your happiness be contingent upon a number. What it equates to is the fact people are resonating with the music, that the fans are supporting our album, that people wanted to be part of our record and not just download illegally, but financially get behind it and say, 'We believe in it.' And that is the biggest reward out of all of it."

What's happened in the six weeks since the release has been dizzying. Lewis said offers are coming from everywhere and the fans are increasing exponentially at every show. Things are happening so fast, reacting in real time to the changes in their popularity has been difficult. Used to dealing with fans in a very personal way, they're trying to engage larger groups of people.



PHOTO: CARLO ALLEGRI/INVISION/AP

**American musician Ben Haggerty, better known by his stage name Macklemore, right, and his producer Ryan Lewis.**

"Now we have to figure how to keep that intimate relationship with the fans in the midst of so many people," Lewis said. "And that's across the board. The shows get bigger. How do we adapt our shows to keep it as awesome as it was for 800 people to 4,000 people. We're adapting."

Keeping it personal has been the key to success so far for the duo, who met on MySpace in 2006 when Haggerty showed an interest in a beat crafted by then-teenager Lewis. Haggerty's red rooster haircut and thrift-store finery identify him as a very different kind of MC on the surface, and his rhymes and stories go far beyond the braggadocio and swag-hyping ways of the current archetype. Homosexuality isn't the only subject he looks at closely.

"The Heist" opens with "Ten Thousand Hours," a riff on the theories of author Malcolm Gladwell and an ode to hard work. Over the course of the next 14 songs he tells stories about his personal struggle with alcohol ("Starting Over"), the anti-swag virtues of secondhand shopping ("Thrift Shop"), developing your own identity in a world of copycats ("Make the Money"), the sway held by Nike and the evils of advertising ("Wing\$") and the ills of the music industry ("Jimmy lovine").

It all plays out over high-spirited beats crafted by Lewis with the help of featured performers like Schoolboy-Q, Ab-Soul, Bufalo Madonna, Allen Stone and Ben Bridwell

of Band of Horses.

"I want to give 100 percent of who I am to the listener and censorship is not an option," Haggerty said. "And when I'm afraid, when I'm fearful, when I feel like I'm divulging too much information is usually when I know I'm writing a good song."

We see that best on "Same Love" as he compellingly relates how when he was in the third-grade he came to the conclusion he was gay because he could draw, kept his room clean and had an uncle who was in a same-sex relationship. His mother reassured him he was not, but it's still a discussion you won't find many other MCs leading, even in the post-Frank Ocean age.

Haggerty thinks the song's cultural impact shows how much the notoriously homophobic hip-hop world has changed in recent years.

"I hope we're part of that transformation," Haggerty said. "I don't think a song like 'Same Love' would have been received the same way even five years ago. We as a society and a culture have proven throughout time that we evolve, that we become slowly more compassionate and tolerant and accepting. The last couple hundred years in American culture have shown that. Obviously, there's give and take. There's times when we haven't and times that we lose ourselves, but I do think we're evolving as a society and hip-hop is a reflection of that."

## Guide to coffee table books as holiday gifts



By Leanne Italie

AP writer

Even people without coffee tables enjoy coffee table books as gifts, especially if they're thoughtfully chosen rather than hastily snatched from a store shelf at the last minute.

The holidays bring fresh choices every year among large-format, photo-driven books. A sampler among new releases:

### FASHION & STYLE

**"Vogue: The Editor's Eye"** (Abrams Books) features interviews with eight of the magazine's stylists through time. Included are celebrity portraits and behind-the-scenes candids by the fashion industry's top photographers, including Irving Penn, Mario Testino, Richard Avedon and Annie Leibovitz.

**"Icons"** (Running Press) offers stunning up-close photography by Markus and Indrani of Kate Winslet and Kanye West, along with more stagey and dramatic commercial jobs featuring the duo's A-list clientele, from album covers to magazine work.

**"Tim Walker: Story Teller"** (Abrams Books) features the photographer turning fashion into fairy tales. Singer Kate Bush wrote a foreword and Walker includes personal observations of the full-page, color-saturated shoots. There's Tim Burton as a skanky Santa and model Xiao Wen with a huge insect on her open mouth.

### FILM & TV

**"Bond on Bond"** (Lyons Press) recounts the Roger Moore years – by Roger Moore. There's lots of trivia in the text, which spans all 50 years of 007, not just Moore's stint. His recollections are cheeky and well informed. He includes snapshots of famous pals who showed up on set, details gadgetry and a great color beefcake shot of Daniel Craig, shirt off.

**"Steven Spielberg: A Retrospective"** (Sterling) features text with the

director and film critic Richard Schickel in conversation as Spielberg looks back on the last 40 years. Chapters are chronological by movie. Photos are heavy on film stills.

**"All the Bits: Monty Python's Flying Circus"** (Black Dog & Leventhal Publishers, by Luke Dempsey). A colorful doorstep of a book, "All the Bits" offers complete scripts for every one of the show's 45 episodes, with marginalia and fun graphic details.

### ART & ILLUSTRATORS

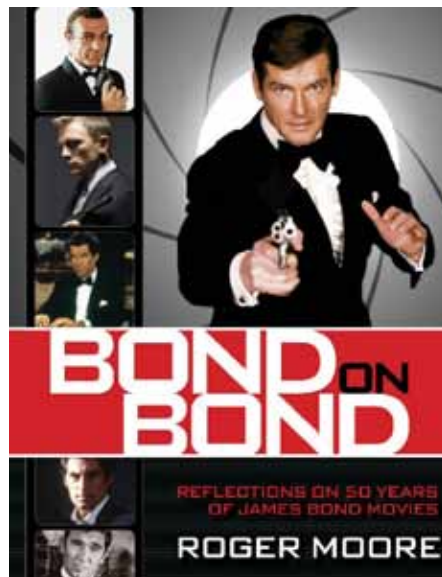
**"Ralph Steadman's Extinct Birds"** (Bloomsbury), includes commentary from Ceri Levy. Levy, a filmmaker, asked the cartoonist best known for his work with Hunter S. Thompson to produce one painting for an art exhibition on birds. Steadman didn't stop there – he documented 100 birds in beautiful color. His full-size paintings are punctuated by humorous emails and phone conversations between the two.

**"Mad's Greatest Artists: Mort Drucker, Five Decades of His Finest Work"** (Running Press). This is a collection of movie and TV satire plucked in comic-strip format from the pages of the magazine. George Lucas, Steven Spielberg and others among Drucker's targets wrote notes of appreciation.

### MUSIC & POLITICS

**"The Rolling Stones: 50"** (Hyperion, by Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Charlie Watts and Ronnie Wood). In celebration of the band's 50th anniversary, the book has stark commentary from the Stones to go with tour photos, candids and close-ups.

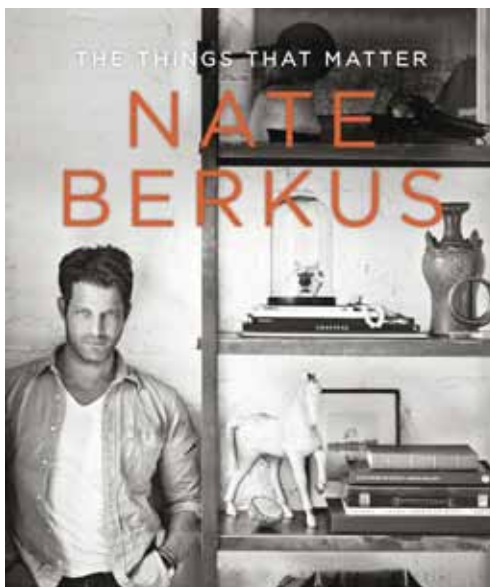
**"Green Day: The Ultimate Unauthorized History"** (Voyageur Press, by Alan di Perna). The rock journalist includes



concert visuals, posters and memorabilia such as backstage passes in this retrospective spanning the band's 25 years.

### HOME & ENTERTAINING

**"Celebrate: A Year of Festivities for Families and Friends"** (Viking, by Pippa Middleton). From Christmas crafts to putting on a traditional afternoon tea, the younger sister of Catherine, the duchess of Cambridge, covers a lot of ground. You'll



find lots of party recipes, including nutella madeleines and a hazelnut roulade, as well as tips on preparing ahead for the holidays.

**"The Things That Matter"** (Spiegel & Grau, by Nate Berkus). The out, dreamy-looking design guru has created a text-heavy look at his influences and some of his favorite things. There's a shout-out for sex therapist Dr. Ruth Westheimer and the radio show he listened to as a youth that "gave everyone respect, acceptance, and permission to be exactly who they were."

### POLITICS & FOOD

**"Capturing Camelot"** (St. Martin's Press, by Kitty Kelley). Featured are intimate images of John F. Kennedy by Kelley's close friend, photojournalist Stanley Tretick, known for having incredible access to the president and his family. Scenes range from ticker tape parades to John Jr. running for Marine One. There's lots of Jackie.

**"Come In, We're Closed"** (Running Press, by Christine Carroll and Jody Eddy, with foreword by Ferran Adria). How do the world's best restaurants feed their staffs? The book contains recipes based on the good eats for the "families" of a variety around the country. Included are staff meals from wd-50 in New York, Ad Hoc in Yountville, Calif., Cochon in New Orleans and Mugaritz in Spain.

# A CHORUS LINE

BROADWAY'S SINGULAR SENSATION!



MAKES A GREAT GIFT!

2 PERFORMANCES!  
JANUARY 4 & 5  
MILWAUKEE THEATRE

Buy tickets at the Milwaukee Theatre Box Office, and all Ticketmaster Retail Locations including select WalMart stores, by phone at 1-800-745-3000 or online at Ticketmaster.com. Box office hours are 10-5 Mon-Fri, except holidays. Convenience fees apply.



# Award-winning film documents the impact of AIDS activists on American health care

Film

GREGG SHAPIRO

Writer and filmmaker David France's film debut, "How to Survive a Plague," is one of the most acclaimed films of the year. The AIDS documentary won a 2013 Independent Spirit Award nomination for best documentary and a New York Film Critics Award for best first film. It's been short-listed for an Academy Award for best documentary.

Prior to the film, France was best known for his book "Our Fathers," about the Catholic Church's clerical sex abuse scandal. Combining a stunning array of period film footage with such interview subjects as Larry Kramer, Dr. Mathilde Krim, Gregg Bordowitz and many others, France has created a dazzling cinematic quilt of survival.

**Gregg Shapiro: The title of the film suggests a very different approach to the AIDS crisis than "We Were Here." Why did you decide to take the "how to" approach?**

David France: The bigger goal of mine was to tell a story, to tell the other side of

the story of what those plague years were like. I think that many accounts have been put together, both fictional and nonfictional, about how tragic that time was. Anybody who had gone through it knew also that it was a time of incredible urgency on the part of the community. There was a huge growth in power and knowledge and creativity. It's a revolutionary impetus that changed the country. It changed health care in America. It changed the role of gay people in America. It left this totally transformed country behind. I wanted to tell that part of the story. I understand why people hadn't done it before, because there was so much suffering and we needed to honor that. I didn't want to undermine that, but I wanted to be able to say, "Look a lot of good came from AIDS along with that awful tragedy."

**The survival aspect of the title really hits home in the scene where someone says, "in the absence of adequate health care" the community became its own "clinicians, researchers, drug smugglers, pharmacists." Before making the film, how aware were you of this level of community activity?**

I was very aware of the underground stuff.



PHOTO: COURTESY

From "How to Survive a Plague."

The underground drug distributions I had covered. I had friends who relied on those distributions for medication. At one point when my lover died, I did what many people did, which was I carried what was left of his experimental drugs over to the People With AIDS Health Group so they could distribute them to people who were still alive. There was this active underground that the authorities were just allowing to exist. Because they existed, people had some hope and had some belief that something was being done. Ultimately as Derek Link says in the film, ultimately those drugs didn't do any good. It was like the Laetrile of the time.

**It was all trial and error.**

Right. And that's when they started doing actual drug trials. The Compound Q trials, which is what you saw in that basement, was drawn up by academics and the idea was, "We're going to see if this works, instead of just giving it out over the counter. Let's see if it works." Of course, it didn't.

**People outside of the community learned many valuable lessons from the response and from ACT UP.**

Absolutely! Every aspect of health activism today is based in part of the model of ACT UP.

**Do you think ACT UP, TAG and other groups within the LGBT community ever got – or will ever get – the recognition they deserve for the changes they helped to effect?**

Not yet. People who have watched the film have left it saying, "They deserve a Nobel Prize, their contributions were that fundamental that they really should be considered

at that level."

**The late Bob Rafsky is something of a central figure, both in the film and in the fight against AIDS. Why did you choose to focus so much time on him?**

Each of the characters that I focus on or follow had one thing in common: They were AIDS treatment activists. But I selected individuals based on what role they played in the organization. Bob was really like the prophet. He had the ability to contextualize the pandemic in a way that made others understand it. He was the kind of person who would go into these demonstrations, taking over offices, meeting with scientists. When everything broke down, he was the person who would pull up his pant leg and show his Kaposi's sarcoma lesions and say, "Look, this is about death and not about politics and not about money and not about anything else." And you see him developing throughout the course of 10 years, you see the refinement of his oration. He's like a rabbi. He was a stunning character, he really was.

**Something else that stood out for me in the doc was the use of the late Arthur Russell's music.**

Russell died of AIDS in the early '90s. His music is really influential to a new generation of musicians, and it was through that resurgence that I first learned of his work. We made a plan to go, with his estate, into his recordings from late in his life, when he was very prolific and see what he was doing, to see the world that he was seeing. Surprisingly, it was a very bright world. I thought it would be darker as he was dying, (but) it's full of beauty and life and power.



## LUNCH



EXTENDED HOLIDAY HOURS!

ALSO OPEN MONDAYS 11-3



# DINNER

# TEA SAKE

LOCAL FRESH

SMALL PLATES GREENHOUSE





# anabata

www.anabatearoom.com  
2107 E Capitol Drive, Shorewood WI 53211

**Tues:** Lunch & Tea Service 11-3, Limited Menu 3-5 (Subject to Private Parties & Events)

**Wed-Sat:** Lunch & Tea Service 11-3, Limited Menu 3-5, Dinner 5-9

**Sun:** Lunch/Brunch & Tea Service 11-3 Featuring Drink & Brunch Specials! • Closed Mondays

**2107 E Capitol Drive, Shorewood 414-963-9510**

Join us on Facebook to see our daily specials

# Bah humbug, girl

Gay actor David Pevsner plays a queer Scrooge in a contemporary remake of the popular Dickens classic

I first met out actor David Pevsner when we were both “theater jocks” at Niles East High School in Skokie, Ill. We didn’t have a gay-straight alliance back then, so the theater department served that purpose.

Since that time, it’s been a delight to watch Pevsner’s career take off. He’s appeared off-Broadway, on television and in movies. He wrote songs for “Naked Boys Singing,” including “Perky Little Porn Star.” He recently portrayed Elizabeth Taylor’s doctor in the Lifetime movie “Liz and Dick.”

For his first lead role in a feature film, Pevsner takes on one of the most reviled but redeemed characters in literature – Ebenezer Scrooge – in “Scrooge & Marley,” a contemporary gay retelling of Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol.”

**Gregg Shapiro: What drew you to the role of Scrooge in “Scrooge & Marley”?**

David Pevsner: At first, I saw the opportunity to work in Chicago. My family’s still here, and I thought it would be great to spend time (with them). As far as the role, I never thought of myself as the guy to play a typical Ebenezer Scrooge, but I loved the take on the character. He’s built this whole world for himself that has no real connection to anyone or anything except business. Yet in his earlier incarnation, we see him so full of love and wonder. How he gets back to connecting on a human level is the story here, and I found it so relatable. I love him throughout, because even at his meanest, he’s still sort of witty.

**How do you think people will react to this variation in the treatment of the Dickens’ classic?**

I hope they take it to heart. It’s a “gay” film in that a lot of the stock Dickens characters are in a gay context, but the feelings of family and inclusion and self-esteem and love are so universal. It’s sort of the family Christmas film for the gays and their friends and family. There’s another fun gay Christmas film that was directed by my friend Rob Williams called “Make the Yuletide Gay.” “Scrooge & Marley” has an entirely different feel. Why can’t we have two perennials? It would be so great if this could be a film that people revisit every year, like “Miracle on 34th Street” and “It’s a Wonderful Life.” Shooting it, it certainly felt that way. It was shot with such heart and goodwill. Our directors Richard Knight Jr. and Peter Neville were terrific – supportive, funny, smart, direct, always with an eye to make us look good. A pleasure all the way around.

**The cast of “Scrooge & Marley”**

**includes out actors Bruce Vilanch and Madison, Wis., resident Richard Ganoung. What was it like to work with them on this project?**

What a great group. I already knew Bruce from writing “Naked Boys Singing” and I see him in L.A. a lot. I didn’t know David Moretti or Ronnie Kroell from L.A., but we certainly are in the same circles and we had a ball together here. I only knew Richard based on his work and he is a total sweetheart and a wonderful scene partner – all the gays were! That means you too, Megan Cavanaugh, and the honorary gay, Rusty Schwimmer! The whole cast was so wonderful, mostly great Chicago-based actors who really stepped up to the plate and made me keep up.

**“Scrooge & Marley” is a Christmas movie. Were you raised in a secular Jewish household with a tree at Christmas or in a more traditionally Jewish home?**

I’m Jewish and was raised as such in

Film

GREGG SHAPIRO

**‘I love him throughout ... even at his meanest, he’s still sort of witty.’**

Skokie – Hebrew school, bar mitzvah, all of it. We did go to (the) Sauganash (neighborhood) to look at the Christmas lights, but we never had a tree. Every year I campaigned for a “Chanukah Bush,” but that was NEVER gonna happen! Face it, Chanukah is menorahs, dreidels, potato pancakes, and dirge-like songs, while Christmas is lighted trees, sugar cookies, decorated houses, and caroling. We Jews got the short end of the celebratory stick (laughs).

**Do you have a favorite holiday-themed movie?**

I love “It’s a Wonderful Life” but as a little boy, my fave was Shirley Temple’s “Heidi.” I can imitate her calling for her grandfather, played by Jean Hersholt. “Grandfeather! Grandfeather!” (Laughs.)

**You balance a film and television acting career with one on the stage. Do you have a preference?**

I really enjoy playing a great role. Luck-



PHOTO: COURTESY

**David Pevsner.**

ily, I’m getting more substantial stuff in films these days, and it’s so damn fun. They say there’s no such thing as small roles, only small actors, but girl, I’ve done the small roles and still do on TV, and I like the big roles better (laughs)! I was shooting a short film recently that called on everything I have as an actor, including a fight scene, and I just thought, it doesn’t get better than this. It’s the role, not the medium.

PASTICHE



~ WINES ~

**GREAT GIFTS IN OUR WINE SHOP!**

**3001 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.**

**Bay View, WI 53207**

**Second Floor (414) 482-1950**

*Mon. to Sat. 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.*

*Closed Sunday*

**www.pastichewines.net**

**Ready for a New Direction?**

John Meier, M.Ed. LPC

Guidance & Support for:

- Self-Esteem
- Relationships
- Growth & Healing

for LGBT individuals & couples

**(414) 305-3049**

JohnMeierTherapy@gmail.com

www.JohnMeierTherapy.com

AM 55 60 70 80 100 120 140 160 kHz

**MEMPHIS**

THE MUSICAL

**WINNER!**  
2010 TONY AWARD  
**BEST MUSICAL**

MEMPHIS BOOK & LYRICS BY JOE DIPIETRO MUSIC & LYRICS BY DAVID BRYAN CHOREOGRAPHY BY SERGIO TRUJILLO DIRECTED BY CHRISTOPHER ASHLEY

**GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT IDEA!**  
**JANUARY 8-13 • MARCUS CENTER**  
MarcusCenter.org • Ticketmaster.com • 414-273-7206  
Groups 10+ Save! Call 414-273-7121 ext 210

Marcus Center  
For the Performing Arts

BROADWAY ACROSS AMERICA  
MILWAUKEE

# 'Gigi' the perfect holiday Champagne musical

## Theater

MICHAEL MUCKIAN

Lavish costumes, romance, familiar songs and a storyline about a young girl training to become a high-class prostitute — what better way to ring in the holidays?

Nothing, according to Dale Gutzman, whose Off the Wall Theatre celebrates the season with "Gigi." The 1958 Lerner and Lowe musical about a Parisienne courtesan and her "vieux protecteur," which opens Dec. 14, is designed to be an engaging theatrical holiday truffle, but one with complexities at its center, Gutzman says.

"The show may seem light and frilly, but it really raises some interesting questions about love versus marriage," says Gutzman, who is directing the musical adaptation of the novella by French author Colette. "It asks us to consider why and how we love."

Colette's 1944 work involves Gilberte "Gigi" and her training to become a young woman of high learning and loose morals who will ideally serve as the mistress of an older man. The novella ends when the wealthy, cultured Gaston falls in love with Gigi and marries her.

The work served first as the basis for a 1949 French film, and then a 1951 Broadway play by Anita Loos. Colette herself picked an unknown ingénue named Audrey Hepburn to play the title role. Hepburn's Broadway debut, the play earned her a TheatreWorld award.

Audiences are most familiar, however, with the 1958 musical film adaptation by Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Lowe, which did for French actress Leslie Caron's career what the play did for Hepburn's. The film version, directed by Vincente Minnelli, also featured Louis Jordan, Hermione Gingold, and a delightfully salacious Maurice Chevalier, whose rendition

of "Thank Heaven for Little Girls" neatly captured the narrative's raison d'être.

"Colette was really a very racy writer, and when people saw the musical film version I don't think they listened to the dialogue all that closely," says Gutzman. "The songs softened the harsh edge of the story, but in our small theater, we are able to get more out of the story itself."

At the time of the film adaptation, the theater world was still overshadowed by the success of "My Fair Lady," the 1956 Lerner and Lowe musical of George Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion" starring Julie Andrews and Rex Harrison. Some critics felt that "Gigi" was no more than a thinly veiled attempt to recreate the success. In fact, New York Times theater critic Bosley Crowther felt the two works bore such a close resemblance "that the authors may want to sue themselves."

However, the film was well received by audiences, win-

ning nine Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Best Director. It is considered the last of the great MGM musicals and was selected for preservation by the U.S. Film Registry of the National Library of Congress. Its songs, including "I'm Glad I'm Not Young Anymore," "I Remember It Well" and "The Night They Invented Champagne" have also stood the test of time.

One of the film's most striking aspects was Sir Cecil Beaton's Academy Award-winning costumes and production design, lavishly similar to what he had done for "My Fair Lady." Gutzman admits recreating that look is a challenge for Off the Wall's budget and space, but the production does its best to make up for its limitations.

"We have used the space



in a really creative way and tried to capture the colors of the art of the period," he says. "We have scrounged, borrowed, rented and bought costumes from all over, and I am trying to color coordinate each scene."

Gutzman also is using color wheels to give the two-level set a "Moulin Rouge" effect that he feels will successfully carry through the look of the period, with little

lost in the intimate setting. "Eighty percent of the show concerns five people, so it suits our intimate nature," he says.

Finally, although he lacks a Caron, the director is very happy with his Gigi.

"Our Gigi is the magnificent Liz Mistele, probably the single most lauded actress in Milwaukee today," he says. "I cannot think of a single other local actress who has gotten as many rave reviews as Liz. And not only is she tiny, but youthful enough looking to bring the part to life effectively."

That's up to the audience to decide, but Gutzman is confident the holiday crowd will enjoy "Gigi" for the story it tells and the songs it sings so very well.

### ON STAGE

Off the Wall Theatre, 127 E. Wells St., Milwaukee, presents "Gigi" Dec. 14-31. Call 414-327-3552 or go to [www.offthewalltheatre.com](http://www.offthewalltheatre.com).

## HARLEYS: THE STORE FOR MEN IN SHOREWOOD



**CELEBRATING**  
**64 YEARS OF FASHION**  
*Happy Harleydays!®*



**HARLEYS**  
THE STORE FOR MEN  
IN SHOREWOOD

### THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HARLEYS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Choose from our spectacular selection of men's apparel and accessories that are perfect for holiday gift-giving — or will make a great addition to your own wardrobe. Harley's has been Milwaukee's fashion leader for men for 64 years!

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM HARLEYS: THE STORE FOR MEN!**

**BEAUTIFY MILWAUKEE® — WEAR SOMETHING FROM HARLEYS!**

3565 N. OAKLAND AVE. | SHOREWOOD, WI 53211 | 414.332.3404  
[harleys4men.com](http://harleys4men.com) | M, T, W, F 10-6, TH 10-8, SAT 9-5



**BIGFOOT**  
BIKE & SKATE  
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

**BICYCLES**  
**SKATEBOARDS**  
**ROLLER SKATES**  
**SAFETY GEAR**  
**PARTS & REPAIRS**  
**GIFT CERTIFICATES**

[www.bigfootbikeandskate.com](http://www.bigfootbikeandskate.com)  
2481 S. Kinnickinnic Ave  
Milwaukee, WI 53207  
414.332.3479



**BIGFOOT**  
BIKE & SKATE  
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

the  
**Cat Doctor**  
S.C.

**Kathryn Christensen, DVM**  
**Kara Escutia, DVM**

Quality Feline Medicine & Surgery  
Dentistry • Boarding • Grooming  
Nutritional Consultations  
Behavioral Consultations  
Food • Supplies • Gifts

Cat Adoptions through Local Rescue Groups



**We Do  
House  
Calls!**

**236 N. Water St.**  
**(414) 272-CATS (2287)**  
[catdoctor98.com](http://catdoctor98.com)

Please find us on Facebook! 



# Joint production of 'Collected Stories' questions the ownership of personal information

## Theater

MICHAEL MUCKIAN

One repays a teacher badly by remaining only a pupil, according to philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche. But if the pupil plucks a plum that the teacher unintentionally offers and then capitalizes on it for her own gain, has the teacher been honored or betrayed?

That question intrigues actor Sarah Day, who portrays "teacher" Ruth Steiner in Donald Margulies' "Collected Stories," playing now through Dec. 16 at the Milwaukee Chamber Theatre. It also raises the question of what separates public from private information in the age of social media. (The joint production with Forward Theater moves to Madison

on Jan. 17.)

Day appears opposite Milwaukee actor Laura Frye, who plays Lisa – the student who sees Ruth first as a mentor, then a friend and, eventually, a competitor for the attention of New York's literary world. Lisa's unapproved usage of private information about Ruth's one-time love affair with poet Delmore Schwartz leads to Lisa's fame and the friendship's undoing.

The relationship between a mentor and her charge is something Day understands. She sees aspects of herself in both Ruth and Lisa.

"When you ask an actor about a character she is portraying, you will almost always find a cheerleader for that character," says Day, 54, an American Players Theatre company member. "I think there is a great nobility in Ruth, but there is also a danger that she may become a hermit and a hoarder as she

cocoons herself into her own world."

As Ruth counsels Lisa and criticizes her tendency to "up-talk" – that is, to end every sentence with a question mark – the younger woman challenges her mentor's perceptions, drawing her out of herself and into a position of trust and friendship. The revelation of the love affair, which Day says is very hurtful to Ruth, signals the betrayal of the growing trust, but also becomes a jumping off point for Lisa's own career.

Day is looking forward to playing the character in a show with an extended run in two different cities.

"It's fun to be able to get a little deeper into the character," says Day, who also appeared in last season's joint Chamber/Forward production of Gwendolyn Rice's "A Thousand Words."

Much of the discussion

during talkback sessions after the Milwaukee performances focused on whether Lisa was wrong to go public with the information of the love affair, even though it was veiled in the character's short stories.

The debate more or less divided along age lines, with younger audience members seeing nothing wrong in capitalizing on information that was freely offered. Older audience members, including Day herself, tend to see the information as something shared among friends and not meant for public broadcast.

"It gets me to thinking about who has the right to other people's information," says Day. "It has to do with the context of social networking, something of which I am not generally part."

The joint production of "Collected Stories" continues its run at Madison's Overture Center next month.



PHOTO: MARK FROHN

Sarah Day as Ruth Steiner and Laura Frye as Lisa Morrison in "Collected Stories."

### ON STAGE

"Collected Stories" continues through Dec. 16 at Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Broadway Theater Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-276-8442 or visit [milwaukeechambertheatre.com](http://milwaukeechambertheatre.com). The production moves to The Playhouse in Madison's Overture Center for the Arts, 201 State St., Jan. 17–Feb. 3. Call 608-258-4144 or go to [www.forwardtheater.com](http://www.forwardtheater.com).

Party flavors, naturally!

## The best Holiday Party ever...

...is the one **you** don't have to cook for! This holiday season, Outpost Catering has you covered with fresh seasonal cuisine, chock full of organic ingredients! Special diet requests are always welcome, and heck, we'll even figure out how to feed your picky Aunt Ida!

*It's not too early to start planning your unique holiday gathering, office event and New Year's cocktail party.*

**OUTPOST**  
NATURAL FOODS

100 E. CAPITOL DRIVE MILWAUKEE

7000 W. STATE STREET WAUWATOSA

2826 S. KINNICKINNIC AVENUE BAY VIEW

www.outpost.coop  
open daily • info 414.961.2597



For more info or to book your event contact:  
**aviec@outpost.coop**  
**414.755.3202 x452**

or visit us online at  
[outpost.coop/products/catering](http://outpost.coop/products/catering)



**CLUB  
Icon**

**New Year's Eve 2013 Celebration is  
Monday, December 31st. from 8:00pm until 4:00am**

**\$13.00**  
2013 New Year's Eve  
General Admission Ticket  
includes:  
**Food Buffet  
Champagne Toast  
Party Favors  
Door Prizes & Giveaways**

**\$50.00**  
2013 New Year's Eve  
VIP Package  
includes:  
**Open bar\* from  
8:00 pm until 12:30 am  
Food Buffet  
Champagne Toast  
Party Favors  
Door Prizes & Giveaways**

**For details on all our events  
visit us @ [www.club-icon.com](http://www.club-icon.com)**  
Club ICON • 6305 120th Ave • Kenosha WI • 262-857-3240

# Alcohol or Other Addictions?

## We Can Help

### 12-Step Group Meetings

- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Al-Anon
- Narcotics Anonymous
- Sexual Compulsives Anonymous

The Galano Club is a 12-step recovery club that provides meeting space for 12-step groups and a place to socialize and enjoy the fellowship of others in recovery. While our membership is made up of primarily gay and lesbian people, everyone is welcome.

(414) 276-6936  
[www.galanoclub.org](http://www.galanoclub.org)  
mail@galanoclub.org



315 Court St., # 201 (5 blks north of the Bradley Center) Milwaukee, WI 53212

Naughty or Nice?

When he asks. You should know.

**Get Tested. It's FREE!**



Mondays & Tuesdays  
6:00pm-8:30pm

**BESTD  
CLINIC**

1240 East Brady St.  
Milwaukee • 414.272.2144  
contactus@bestd.org




**88NINE**

**RADIO MILWAUKEE**

**DIVERSE MUSIC  
FOR A DIVERSE CITY**

[www.radiomilwaukee.org](http://www.radiomilwaukee.org)

## ~ ONGOING ~

StageQ presents **"The Holiday Stops,"** with book, music and lyrics by Eric Lane Barnes, on the Evjue Stage at the Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin in Madison, through Dec. 15. Call 608-204-0280.

Set in chaotic Toon Town, Steve Yockey's adult-oriented **"Cartoon"** runs through Dec. 15 at The Milwaukee Fortress, 100 A E. Pleasant. Visit [youngbloodtheatre.com](http://youngbloodtheatre.com).

Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, in collaboration with Madison's Forward Theater Company, presents **"Collected Stories"** by playwright Donald Margulies, through Dec. 16 at the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800.

Second City's **Dysfunctional Holiday Revue** continues through Dec. 16 in Vogel Hall at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts. Call 414-273-2787.

The tasty musical **"Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka,"** based on the book and classic film, runs through Dec. 16 at The Racine Theatre Guild, 2519 Northwestern (Highway 38) in Racine. Call 262-633-4218.

**"Blues in the Night"** runs through Dec. 23 in the Stackner Cabaret at Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells. Call 414-224-9490.



Photo: Mark Frohna

The Sound of Music

Skylight Music Theatre presents Rodgers and Hammerstein's beloved musical **"The Sound of Music"** through Dec. 23 in the Cabot Theatre at Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800.

Based on the popular holiday musical movie starring Albert Finney, **"Scrooge the Musical"** runs through Dec. 23 at The Fireside Theatre, 1131 Janesville (Business HWY 26 South) in Fort Atkinson. Call 800-477-9505.

Promising "ring-a-ding sounds and cool cat moves," the SideNotes Cabaret Series presents **"A Crooner Christmas,"** through Dec. 23 at the Sunset Playhouse, 800 Elm Grove Road in Elm Grove. Call 262-782-4430.

Milwaukee Repertory Theater's annual holiday production of Charles Dickens' **"A Christmas Carol"** runs through Dec. 24 at the Pabst Theater, 144 E. Wells. Call 414-286-3663.

Milwaukee Ballet performs the holiday favorite **"The Nutcracker"** through Dec. 26 at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, at the corner of Water and State. Call 414-273-2787.

Ring in the holiday season with First Stage's production of **"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer"** adapted from the 1964 animated television special, through Dec. 30 in the Todd Wehr Theater at Marcus Center for the Performing Arts. Call 414-273-2787.

The **Milwaukee Holiday Lights Festival** radiates holiday cheer at various downtown Milwaukee locations, including Cathedral Square Park, Pere Marquette Park and Zeidler Union Square. For more details, visit [MilwaukeeHolidayLights.com](http://MilwaukeeHolidayLights.com).

John McGivern stars as Earlene Hoople in Pat Hazell's **"A Kodachrome Christmas,"** through Dec. 31 at Next Act Theatre, 255 S. Water. Call 414-278-7780 or visit [www.nextact.org](http://www.nextact.org).

In Tandem Theatre presents **"A Cudahy Caroler Christmas,"** at Tenth Street Theatre, 628 N. 10th, through Jan. 5. Call 414-271-1371.

Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells, presents Jane Austen's **"Sense and Sensibility"** in the Quadracci Powerhouse, through Jan. 13. Call 414-224-9490.

Milwaukee Art Museum, 700 N. Art Museum Drive, presents **"Western Union: Small Boats,"** an exhibition by queer filmmaker and video artist Isaac Julien through Feb. 17. Visit [mam.org](http://mam.org).



## DEC. 13, THURSDAY

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra performs Handel's **"Messiah"** at 7:30 p.m. at the Basilica of St. Josaphat, 2333 S. Sixth. Visit [mso.org](http://mso.org).

## DEC. 14, FRIDAY

The UWM Film Department Student Film and Video Festival, a juried showcase of the best short films and videos by students of the UWM Peck School of the Arts Film Department, takes place from 7-9 p.m. at UWM Union Theatre, UWM Student Union, second level, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. Call 414-229-4070.

## DEC. 15, SATURDAY

Danceworks Youth Performance Company presents **"Gingerbread Express,"** at 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. at Danceworks Studio Theatre, 1661 N. Water. Call 414-277-8480.  
Comedian and actor ("Think Like a Man") **Kevin Hart** brings his "Let Me Explain" tour to Milwaukee Theatre, 500 W. Kilbourn at 7 p.m. Call 414-566-1375

## DEC. 16, SUNDAY

Milwaukee Repertory Theater presents the third annual **Rep Holiday Artisan Craft Fair**, noon-7 p.m. at Gallerie M of the InterContinental Hotel, 139 E. Kilbourn (ground floor of the Milwaukee Center). Call 414-276-8686.

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra performs Handel's **"Messiah"** at 7:30 p.m. at the Basilica of St. Josaphat, 2333 S. Sixth. Visit [mso.org](http://mso.org).

## DEC. 18, TUESDAY

Based on the movie starring Leonardo DiCaprio, the musical **"Catch Me If You Can"** runs through Dec. 23 at Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, 400 W. College Ave. in Appleton. Call 920-730-3760.

## DEC. 19, WEDNESDAY

Grab the mic and set your inner diva free at 10 p.m. when Safe House, 779 N. Front, hosts **karaoke night**. Call 414-271-2007.

Musical chameleon **Joe Hite** performs tonight and tomorrow night at 9 p.m. at The Belmont Tavern, 784 N. Jefferson. Call 414-988-6161.

## DEC. 20, THURSDAY

**MKE Unplugged**, a free all-ages concert featuring local indie

artists, plays at 8 p.m. in the Helene Zelazo Center of the Performing Arts, 2419 E. Kenwood. Call 414-229-4308.

"American Idol" finalists Kimberly Locke, Adam Brock, Naima Adedapo and Katrina Elam perform as part of **"A Holiday in the Heartland"** at 6:30 p.m. at Turner Hall Ballroom, 103 N. Fourth. Call 414-286-3663.

## DEC. 21, FRIDAY

The Tritonics play original Jamaican-style tunes at 8:30 p.m. at the Underground at Intercontinental Milwaukee, 139 E. Kilbourn. Call 414-276-8686.

Dance Alive National Ballet performs **"The Nutcracker"** tonight and tomorrow at Schauer Arts & Activities Center, 147 N. Rural in Hartford. Call 262-670-0560.

## DEC. 22, SATURDAY

Jazz vocal duo **Pam Duronio and Tim Stemper** perform at 7 p.m. at Sheridan's American Bistro, 5133 S. Lake Drive in Cudahy. Call 414-747-9800.

Mason Street Grill in The Pfister Hotel, 425 E. Mason, presents the **Jonathan Wade Trio** at 6 p.m. Call 414-298-3131.

## DEC. 24, MONDAY

Today is your last chance to catch Madison Ballet performing Tchaikovsky's **"The Nutcracker,"** at 1 p.m. in Overture Hall at the Overture Center for the Arts, 201 State in Madison. Call 608-258-4141.



The Nutcracker

## DEC. 25, TUESDAY

Merry Christmas!

## DEC. 26, WEDNESDAY

Musical chameleon **Joe Hite** performs tonight and tomorrow night at 9 p.m. at The Belmont Tavern, 784 N. Jefferson. Call 414-988-6161.

## DEC. 27, THURSDAY

Marcus Center for the Performing Arts presents **"Jim Brickman: On A Winter's Night,"** Uihlein Hall at 7:30 p.m. Call 414-273-2787.



# my **ART** my **i** **IDENTITY** my **PECK** **SCHOOL**

*"With the support of professors and my fellow students at the Peck School, I have been able to find my creative voice and freely express my identity through my work."*

**Betty Allen**, BFA Film  
Anticipated graduation: Spring 2013

[arts.uwm.edu](http://arts.uwm.edu)

