

The twisted best of 2012

WIGWAG

By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg

**WHOLESUME AS APPLE PIE**

Vermont-based Ben & Jerry's renamed its Apple Pie-flavored ice cream to Appl-y Ever After to promote marriage equality in the U.K. The company said, "Social justice is at the core of our values. Since our humble beginning 34 years ago, Ben & Jerry's has been an advocate for equal rights." A couple years ago, B&J renamed its popular Chubby Hubby flavor to Hubby Hubby to celebrate marriage equality in Vermont.

MARY VISITS MARY'S

Hamburger Mary's, a restaurant known for its gay karaoke and drag queen bingo nights, was the latest eatery to report a sighting of the Virgin Mary. Customers of a franchise of the restaurant chain located in the Ybor City neighborhood of Tampa, Fla., first noticed the image on a stainless steel plate on the wall near the kitchen. The restaurant's tagline is, "Eat, drink and be Mary."

BONE PICKS

A headline in Britain's The Sun newspaper summed up Tory MP Peter Bone's concern about legalizing same-sex marriage: "Gay marriage law means 'there could be two Queens' on the throne." The British government was in a "consultation" process intended to result in a final proposal to legalize same-sex marriages by 2015. Bone said there were too many unanswered questions about how legalizing gay marriage would impact the royal family: Would royals also be able to enter into civil same-sex marriages? Could there be two lesbian queens? A pair of gay kings?

**UNFAIR AND UNBALANCED**

A Fox News Orlando affiliate aired a report describing the National Socialist Movement, a Neo-Nazi organization, as "a civil rights group." The focus of the station's report was the group's armed patrols of Sanford, Fla., where Trayvon Martin was killed. "They say they are just a civil rights group trying to protect people in case things get out of hand," concluded Fox reporter Jennifer Bisram. She failed to mention that



this particular civil rights group refers to Adolf Hitler as "our Fuhrer, the beloved Holy Father of our age."

REAL CREEPY

Real Doll, the company that creates creepy, life-like, life-size silicone female dolls equipped to provide sexual pleasure, announced the production of life-size male dolls. The standard male model came with "anal entry, plus one size penis attachment." Buyers could select everything from eye color to pubic hairstyle. The cost: \$5,999.

CABLES CROSSED

On April 20 in Ontario, Canada, cable station CHCH aired three minutes of "hardcore" gay porn at the end of its morning newscast. The station said a cable company employee inserted the wrong programming after repairing cut cable lines.

THE USS MILK?

U.S. Rep. Bob Filner, a San Diego Democrat, wanted the Navy to name a ship after slain San Francisco gay rights activist Harvey Milk. In a letter to Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and Navy Secretary Ray Mabus, Filner said naming a ship after Milk would promote equality in the military after the repeal of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy. Milk, who was a Navy officer in the

1950s, was shot to death on Nov. 27, 1978, while serving as a San Francisco supervisor.

ROMNEY APOLOGY

Mitt Romney went on Fox News to apologize over reports that he'd bullied gay students during high school. The Washington Post uncovered Romney's youthful shenanigans in interviews with his former classmates at the exclusive Cranbrook School in Michigan. "Back in high school, I did some dumb things," Romney said. "And if anyone was hurt by that or offended, obviously I apologize for that."

HE'S OUT

Alan Scott, aka the Green Lantern, came out. Actually, in the latest incarnation of the character, he was never in. DC Comics brought back the character first introduced to a super-fan base in 1940. The Green Lantern has had multiple personalities and names over the years, but he's always had his power ring, one of the most dangerous weapons in the universe. The newest Green Lantern is gay, partnered and all-American.

SHE'S NOT

Queen Latifah got caught in a gay Web whirlwind in June. Even the most respected news outlets rushed to publish false stories that she'd come out at Long Beach's LGBT

**Queen Latifah.**

Pride celebration. Their proof was apparently nothing more than the fact that she'd performed at a Pride event – after all, only LGBT people perform at Pride events – and that she'd referred to her audience as "my people." After all, she could only have been referring to gays, not to Californians or progressives or, um, her fans – right?

WITH FRIENDS LIKE YOU ...

Actor Max von Essen, who was in the Broadway revival of "Evita," published an open letter on his Facebook page asking all Mitt Romney supporters to unfriend him. The gay actor said he wanted those connected to him to know that by supporting Romney, they are opposing him, his life and his ability to love a partner and raise a family.

BUTT BONG OR BUST?

A University of Tennessee student was alleging an invasion of privacy

after the Knoxville police released a report stating that he suffered poisoning from a wine enema. He also said the reports were false, as were insinuations that he's gay. Broughton said as a Christian he would never desecrate his body in such a way. Rather, he said, he consumed a six-pack of beer on an empty stomach and then played a wine-drinking game. When he passed out, his frat brothers hoisted him by his belt to take him to the hospital – and that's how he injured his private area, he said. But police say they had proof Alexander Broughton sought emergency treatment after a butt bong.

SOME BLESSING

An ordained Christian "counselor" devoted to "freeing" people from homosexuality was charged with eight counts of criminal sexual conduct after two young men filed complaints against him in Minnesota. The Rev. Ryan J. Muelhauser, who's affiliated with a group that claims to cure same-sex attraction through prayer, allegedly fondled the two young men, who had sought his help to rid themselves of homosexuality. One young man said the pastor cupped his genitals with his hands several times to bless him. Both men said the pastor had them masturbate in front of him, telling them it would bring them spiritual strength.

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to keep it here for years to come. We are now at a point where **we need YOU. We need your help to continue building this amazing organization and to move the center from stability to sustainability.**



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Flashback 2012: Biggest national LGBT stories

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

WiG's picks for the top national LGBT stories of 2012 include:

MARRIAGE MARCHES ON

Wedding marches played out in Maryland, Maine and Washington, with unprecedented voter support for marriage equality in all three states. Support for was widespread – primarily from women but also from Hispanic, African-American and Catholic constituencies.

Voters also defeated a proposed constitutional amendment against gay marriage in Minnesota. But in North Carolina in May, voters approved a similar amendment and there was a loss in New Jersey, where Gov. Chris Christie, with eyes on the White House prize in 2016, vetoed an equality bill.

FLASHBACK: The year began with ho-hum celebrations of civil unions in Hawaii and Delaware and announcements that lawmakers in Washington and Maryland would be pushing for marriage equality.

In February, a marriage bill was passed in Washington and opponents quickly organized to bring the matter to a vote in the general election. The same path would be followed in Maryland.

In April, the National Organization for Marriage, a leading opponent of gay marriage,

suffered a setback when documents revealed a secret “divide and conquer” campaign aimed at driving “a wedge between gays and blacks – two key Democratic constituencies.”

On May 8, voters in North Carolina approved a constitutional amendment against legally recognizing same-sex couples and activists worried about the ballot campaigns ahead.

But that month instead brought a tectonic shift on the issue. President Barack Obama endorsed marriage equality on May 9 and civil rights leaders in the African-American and Hispanic communities made legalizing gay marriage a priority.

An NAACP resolution stated, “The NAACP has opposed and will continue to oppose any national, state, local policy or legislative initiative that seeks to codify discrimination or hatred into the law or to remove the constitutional rights of LGBT citizens. We support marriage equality consistent with equal protection under the law provided under the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.”

The NOM campaign seemed to have failed. In November, with the ballot measure votes, the failure was proven.

By early December, same-sex weddings were taking place in Washington, with ceremonies to soon follow in Maryland and Maine.



PHOTO: BETINNA HANSEN/AP

Mary Davidson, 27, left, and her bride Monica Rozgay, 29, await their mid-night ceremony at The Seattle Yacht Club early Sunday Dec. 9. Rozgay and Davidson were one of the first couples to wed following the passage of Referendum 74, which approved a bill legalizing same-sex marriage in Washington.

BALLOT BOX WINS

Democratic President Barack Obama defeated Republican nominee Mitt Romney in an explosive battle for the White House. The Nov. 6 general election also brought a record number of LGBT candidates into elected office and more than a year of campaigning demonstrated the Democratic Party's solid support for equality. The same can't be said of the GOP.

FLASHBACK: Through the winter and spring, Republicans worked at nominating the candidate to challenge Obama for the White House. It seemed a process of elimination rather than selection. By June, the presumptive nominee was Mitt Romney, who in August selected as his running mate Wisconsin Congressman Paul Ryan, who brought a nearly unblemished right-wing record to appeal to conservatives who doubted Romney's conversion.

Meanwhile, through the first half of the year, Democrats worked at building up the party base, including warming up LGBT voters. Party chapters at the local and state levels embraced LGBT civil rights policies. Democratic mayors – from cities large and small – endorsed marriage equality, and Democratic governors in Washington state and Maryland signed marriage equality bills.

Then, in May, came the big endorsement after several years of “evolution.” Obama became the first sitting president to publicly back marriage equality, telling a “Good Morning America” audience: “At a certain point I've just concluded that for me personally it is important for me to go ahead and affirm that I think same-sex couples should be able to get married.”

In September, record numbers of LGBT delegates attended the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., and witnessed

an unparalleled embrace of equal rights.

In November, LGBT candidates ran and won in record numbers, among them Wisconsin's Tammy Baldwin, who will be sworn in as a U.S. Senator on Jan. 3, and Mark Pocan, who will succeed Baldwin in the U.S. House.

The morning after the Nov. 6 election, Human Rights Campaign director Chad Griffin said, “It's an equality landslide. When the history books are written, 2012 will be remembered as the year when LGBT Americans won decisively at the ballot box.”

WAR ON WOMEN

Decades after the pill ceased to be controversial, conservative Republicans reintroduced birth control as a political issue. Right-wing politicians in the party assaulted women's reproductive rights with new legislation and efforts to eliminate funding for vital women's health programs. Occasionally, they tripped over their own live wires.

FLASHBACK: In early February, women's rights advocates saw red. Their furor was stoked by a decision at Susan G. Komen for the Cure to defund cancer prevention programs at Planned Parenthood clinics. The intense scrutiny that followed Komen's announcement led to reports that the breast-cancer nonprofit also withheld funds for programs affiliated with stem-cell research. And the widespread protests that followed led to Komen reversing its decision and the resignation of right-winger Karen Handel, Komen's VP for public policy.

The war raged on through the spring and summer, with state and federal politicians – as well as high-profile pundits – rifling through the Republican arsenal:

- U.S. Rep. Roy Blunt proposed that an employer rather than a doctor should

FLASHBACK see next page

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FLASHBACK from prior page

decide what type of health care should be available to women.

- U.S. Rep. Darrell Issa convened an all-male panel to discuss contraceptive coverage and refused to hear the testimony of any women.
- Radio personality Rush Limbaugh called a 30-year-old female law student a “slut” and a “prostitute” because she spoke in favor of birth control coverage in health care plans.
- Gov. Rick Perry led a campaign to defund Planned Parenthood in the Lone Star State, forcing the closure of clinics that provided vital health services to low-income women, including cancer screenings.
- Virginia Republicans pushed a bill to require that women undergo a medically unnecessary procedure, a transvaginal ultrasound, before getting an abortion. The measure was amended to require an abdominal ultrasound instead and signed into law by Gov. Bob McDonnell.
- Missouri Rep. Todd Akin was the first of several Republican men – Paul Ryan was another – to reveal caveman notions about rape in an attempt to justify their opposition to women’s reproductive rights.

The Guttmacher Institute, a health think tank, estimated that 430 abortion restrictions were introduced in legislatures in 2012, including in Wisconsin.

“The level and scope of activity on abortion and family planning is completely unparalleled to anything we have seen before,” Guttmacher’s Elizabeth Nash said in November.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

The U.S. Supreme Court, to the surprise of many, upheld the U.S. Affordable Care Act, known both affectionately and derisively as Obamacare. Almost immediately, work began to implement the federal law in some states and resist it in others, including Wisconsin. Meanwhile, the Obama administration called for a campaign to create an AIDS-free generation and the United States hosted the first world AIDS conference in years.

FLASHBACK: In March, arguments on Obamacare took place before the Supreme Court over two days, with protesters on both sides of the issue assembled on the steps of the court.

Then the waiting began, as if the nation were stuck in the lobby of an ER.

On June 28, in a 5-4 opinion, the court upheld much of the comprehensive legislation, including the individual mandate. Chief Justice John Roberts wrote, “The Affordable Care Act’s requirement that certain individuals pay a financial penalty for not obtaining health insurance may reasonably be characterized as a tax. Because the Constitution permits such a tax, it is not our role to forbid it, or to pass upon its wisdom or fairness.”

Reacting, Rea Carey of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said, “This ruling is a victory for millions of people and families across the country who have suffered significant health and financial turmoil because of a lack of access to adequate, affordable health care.”

Days later, the AIDS Memorial Quilt – a testament to the lives of more than 600,000



PHOTO: PLANNED PARENTHOOD ACTION

Americans who’ve died of HIV-related causes – returned to the National Mall in Washington, D.C., where it was first shown in 1987.

And, in late July, the 19th International AIDS Conference opened in Washington, D.C., returning to the United States for the first time since 1990.

Both events seemed monumental in a year in which the Obama administration offered its strategy for an AIDS-free generation.

“I think we are at a turning point,” said Dr. Anthony Fauci, the National Institutes of Health’s infectious disease chief.

SUPREME JUSTICE?

Victory followed victory in the federal courts, where district and appeals court judges considered cases challenging the constitutionality of laws barring marriage equality at the state and federal levels. The decisions piled up at the U.S. Supreme Court, where, at the end of the year, the justices agreed to hear at least two.


FLASHBACK: In February, a federal appeals court in San Francisco struck down Proposition 8, the amendment barring same-sex marriage in California.

The spring brought multiple rulings against the Defense of Marriage Act, with the challenges clearly bound for the U.S. Supreme Court. “The momentum for the freedom to marry seems unstoppable,” said Stuart Gaffney of Marriage Equality USA.

In December, the Supreme Court put two cases – the Prop 8 challenge and a DOMA challenge brought by a widow – on its docket for 2013, with arguments expected in the spring and decisions expected in late June.

“The moment we have been fighting for has finally arrived,” said Adam Umhoefer, the executive director of the American Foundation for Equal Rights, the organization behind the legal challenge to Prop 8.


More Flashback stories: www.wisconsin-gazette.com.



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Wisconsin's top LGBT stories of 2012



PHOTO: AP

Sen.-elect Tammy Baldwin at her victory party in Madison.

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

WiG's picks for Wisconsin's top LGBT stories of 2012 include:

TAMMY! TAMMY! TAMMY!

In her victory speech, Sen.-elect Tammy Baldwin was adamant: "I didn't run to make history. I ran to make a difference."

But Baldwin did make history, shattering two glass ceilings at once. On Nov. 6, she became the first woman ever elected to represent Wisconsin in the U.S. Senate and the first out gay person ever elected to serve in Congress' upper chamber. Notably, both she and President Barack Obama, the first president ever to endorse marriage equality, won handily with Wisconsin voters

just months after tea party Republican Scott Walker became the first governor in the nation to survive a recall challenge.

Baldwin prevailed in a tough race against popular former Gov. Tommy Thompson by running a disciplined campaign that never strayed off its message of shoring up the middle class by leveling the American playing field. She worked hard, meeting voters all over the state face to face. Her soft-spoken command of the facts and her sincere, friendly demeanor contrasted sharply with Thompson's fireworks display of self-aggrandizing bombast.

Baldwin paved the way for yet another LGBT history-making event. Out Assemblyman Mark Pocan won his bid for the Madison-area congressional seat that she retired from in order to run for the Senate. It was the first time in history that one out candidate has succeeded another in Congress.

GOP STRANGLEHOLD

Although they've proven hopelessly inept at managing the state's economy, Wisconsin's Republican leaders proved to be absolute savants at gerrymandering.

Every decade following the U.S. Census,

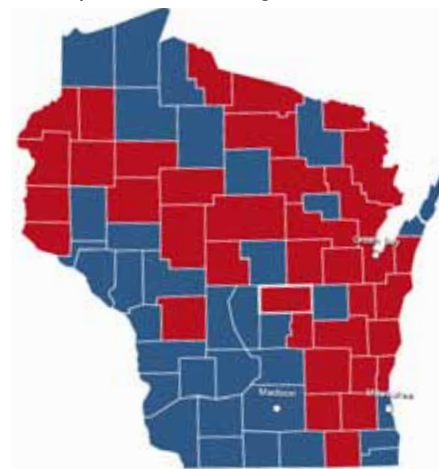


PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA

Wisconsin 2012 U.S. Senate election results by county.

state governments are tasked with redrawing political district boundaries to reflect population shifts. The GOP was in total charge of state government following the 2010 Census, having flooded into Madison on a national tea party wave. And they took total advantage of the situation, contorting Assembly and Senate districts to give themselves likely control of Wisconsin until 2020.

As a result, even though voters in the state delivered President Obama a convincing win and elected progressive Democrat Tammy Baldwin to the U.S. Senate, Republicans regained control of the state Senate, which they had lost briefly during the summer recall races. Republicans also won 60 out of 99 Assembly seats, even though Democrats overall received 174,000 more votes than Republicans in Assembly races.

Wisconsin wasn't the only state where tea party gerrymandering created strange partisan discrepancies. Disconnects between the number of popular votes cast for one party

and the number of congressional seats won by the other was the largest since 1950.

GROWING GRASSROOTS

Recognizing the impossibility of making gains for equality in Madison during 2012, advocates turned to the local level – and with great success. As if energized by the challenging political environment, the year saw Wisconsin LGBT rights groups and individual activists operating at full tilt.

During 2011, the city of Appleton extended domestic partner benefits to the same-sex partners of city workers after three tries. But during 2012, five cities – Manitowoc, Eau Claire, Janesville, Racine and Kenosha – joined the equality bandwagon with little resistance. In fact, in Kenosha, which adopted the policy on Dec. 17, the vote was 15-0, with one abstention.

"I think this shows that tides are turning, that people's hearts and minds are changing on the issue of equality," said Megin McDonell of Fair Wisconsin, which provided support to those local efforts. "They're starting to see how these laws protect everyone equally – their friends and neighbors and everyone they work with."

In Milwaukee, Jason Burns was named executive director of the growing group Equality Wisconsin after a nationwide search. He dug in quickly and positioned his group in a leading role in a number of local actions, ranging from helping a local resident physician to obtain in-state tuition for his husband to pushing the Milwaukee Public Schools to streamline its labyrinthine process of awarding partnership benefits.

EW also worked throughout the year to strengthen the community's mutually supportive relationships with progressive allies in Milwaukee, including groups representing labor, immigrants' rights and women's health.

The two LGBT advocacy groups played significant roles in registering voters and electing pro-equality progressives in Democratic primaries for local and state offices during 2012. Fair Wisconsin's strong network of supporters on campuses and among PFLAG chapters throughout the state helped increase the turnout for Baldwin.

As the year drew to a close, an appeals court panel ruled that the state's domestic partner registry, signed into law by former Gov. Jim Doyle, is constitutional. That decision was only possible because Fair Wisconsin had taken the role of defending the law when Walker and Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen refused to do so.

NO RECALL

Labor unions, which have played a major role in advancing LGBT rights, lost huge when Scott Walker became the first governor in U.S. history to survive a recall challenge. Labor will now face continued attacks that could have a negative effect on wages and benefits for all workers in the state, where one in five already earns poverty-level wages.

For progressives in general, Walker's sur-

TOP STORIES next page

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TOP STORIES from prior page

vival – coupled with the GOP's enhanced control of state government – means more attacks. For example, there will be renewed attacks on women's health programs, such as Planned Parenthood. Women will have to fight continually in Madison to maintain their right and access to contraception and abortion. Forget about equal pay protection.

The state's environment will also remain under attack. Last year, the Legislature approved science-based rules to reduce the runoff pollution that threatens 90 percent of the state's inland lakes. Walker hopes to weaken those rules in order to help out the polluting industries that have given him massive amounts of cash.

While all of Walker's austerity measures and anti-progressive policies were designed to boost job growth and make the state more business friendly, his strategy has had the opposite effect. Forbes now ranks Wisconsin as one of the top 10 worst states in the nation to do business. The state experienced a net loss of jobs through October of 2012 and Forbes projects Wisconsin's job-growth rate to be the second worst in the country through 2016.

Just in case those statistics should hamper Walker's reelection prospects, the tea party plans to begin 2013 with a proposal to end same-day voter registration, which would make it harder for students and poor people to vote.

But the ongoing John Doe investigation into crimes committed by his staffers dur-



PHOTO: AP/JOHN HART

Hallis Mailen participates in a rally at the Wisconsin State Capitol in Madison in January calling for the recall of Gov. Scott Walker.

ing Walker's tenure as Milwaukee County executive could derail his reelection before 2014. Four former staffers have already been convicted in the ongoing probe.

FROM THE ASHES

The year 2011 ended with the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center hovering on the brink of collapse – the consequence of poor financial management and the alienation of community members.

But the center's original founders rallied to its aid, assisted by the support of energetic, skilled and committed volunteers who recognized the critical need for the center. Among those who rushed forward to save it were Neil Albrecht, the center's first executive director, and Karen Gotzler, who returned as interim executive director.

Paul Williams, who along with Jennifer Morales is now a co-chair of the center's board of directors, said the revitalized cen-

ter "demonstrates what a community can accomplish when it commits to a united goal."

Among the new leaders' accomplishments: reducing operating expenses by 50 percent and lowering management costs by 65 percent through "right-sizing," Williams said.

The board of directors also revised its by-laws to reverse a controversial change under prior director Maggi Cage that had prevented the group's membership from electing board members.

After a year of re-negotiating contracts and re-establishing relationships, the center's board decided late in 2012 that the group is secure enough to go to the public for funding. A fundraising campaign titled "Believe in the Center" seeks to raise \$300,000 from a variety of sources – individuals, foundations and corporations – by June 2013.

The campaign had an impressive kick-off in its first two weeks, raising more than \$50,000 from core supporters, including \$22,000 in matching dollars from the Cream City Foundation. Now the center is turning to individuals in the community to contribute.

Cream City Foundation also had a banner 2012. Positive developments included the naming of Paul Fairchild, a longtime organizational leader in Chicago's LGBT community, as executive director. The Milwaukee-based LGBT health advocacy group Diverse & Resilient had a successful year as well, winning large grants from the federal government and the Medical College of Wisconsin.

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Coming out in 2012 – some high-profile stories



PHOTO: COURTESY

MATT BOMER

Growing up, actor Matt Bomer always assumed he was gay but stayed safely in the closet. He auditioned for the school play but also tried out for the football team – just for good measure. But no longer afraid of the extra attention, Bomer proudly thanked his wonderful family – husband Simon Halls and their three sons – at a Palm Springs Convention Center in 2012. Although he says coming out has made him a happier person, published reports say it's cost him film roles, including the lead in the film version "Fifty Shades of Gray."



PHOTO: ABC NEWS

Rubem Robierb and Sam Champion.

SAM CHAMPION

After 14 years as the most recognizable weather man on "Good Morning America," Sam Champion happily announced his recent engagement to Brazilian fine-arts photographer Rubem Robierb. With that announcement, the 51-year-old Champion became the first openly gay co-host of a network morning TV show. The couple married on Dec. 21.

ANDERSON COOPER

Anderson Cooper has been presumed gay for many years, but this year he made it official. "The fact is, I'm

gay, always have been, always will be, and I couldn't be any more happy, comfortable with myself, and proud" he wrote to friend and blogger Andrew Sullivan, who posted the statement. Cooper is the sixth and best-known openly gay anchor in the cable news business – joining Don Lemon, Jane Velez-Mitchell, Thomas Roberts, Rachel Maddow and Steve Kornacki.



PHOTO CREDIT: HOGANPHOTOS.COM

ORLANDO CRUZ

Holding the No. 4 ranking in the World Boxing Organization's featherweight category isn't the only reason Orlando Cruz' name is famous. In October, the 31-year-old Puerto Rican boxer became the first active, openly gay boxer. Asked about his love life, the hard hitter responded that his mind is all about the fight: "The title belt is my new boyfriend," he quipped.

KEVIN MCCLATCHY

Former Pittsburgh Pirates owner Kevin McClatchy wanted to check another thing off his list before turning 50 next year: to finally come out. He now resides with his partner of four years, Jack Basilone.

KRISTY MCNICHOL

Better known as Letitia "Buddy" Lawrence from the TV show "Family," Kristy McNichol returned to the spotlight this year when the 49-year-old former actress announced that she had been living happily with her partner, Martie Allen, for the past 20 years. McNichol said she hoped the publicity surrounding her announcement would provide some support to young people struggling with coming out issues.

FRANK OCEAN

Hip-hop artist Frank Ocean is no stranger to headlines. He's won titles such as "Best New Artist," "Record of the Year" and



PHOTO: COURTESY

"Best Male Video of the Year." But on Independence Day 2012, Ocean made headlines after posting a story on his website paying homage to his first love – a young man he met when he was 19. The hip-hop community rushed to his support and business continued as usual when he released the acclaimed "Channel Orange" album.



PHOTO: CREATIVE COMMONS ATTRIBUTION-SHARE ALIKE

NATE SILVER

Nate Silver gained attention for successfully applying a math-based forecasting model to baseball, and he became a household name for developing a formula that uses polls to predict election outcomes with astounding accuracy. The 34-year-old statistician writes a blog titled "FiveThirtyEight" for The New York Times, and he hit the bestseller list this year with his book "The Signal and the Noise." Also this year, he was named OUT magazine's "person of the year" after publicly coming out. He described himself as "sexually gay but ethnically straight."

TAMMY SMITH

Achieving a high-ranking position for a woman in



PHOTO: U.S. ARMY

Army Brig. Gen. Tammy Smith, right, with her wife Tracey Hepner.

the Armed Forces is difficult enough. But in August, Tammy Smith broke a glass ceiling when she was promoted to brigadier general, making her the first out gay general in the Army. Thanks to the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell," Smith's wife Tracey Hepner was able to maintain the Army tradition of pinning the star of general on her spouse's uniform. Smith said she hopes the publicity surrounding her promotion encourages others in the military.

LANA WACHOWSKI

The ending of their most recent work "Cloud Atlas" wasn't the only surprise this year for fans of the Wachowski siblings' films, which include "The Matrix Trilogy" and "V for Vendetta." Lana Wachowski, formerly Larry, surprised fans by announcing her decision to live openly as a transgender woman. Now



PHOTO: ACESHOWBIZ.COM

47 and sporting neon pink dreadlocks and a smile from ear to ear, Wachowski was radiant as she told her story to an audience at a Human Rights Campaign fundraiser in San Francisco.

Posthumous



PHOTO: MILWAUKEEOBSERVATORY.COM

SALLY RIDE

Known mostly as the first American woman in space, Sally Ride lived her post-astronaut days dedicated to space discovery, science and helping girls develop careers in math and science. It was only when she died of pancreatic cancer at age 61 that the world learned that she'd had a beloved partner – Tam O'Shaughnessy – for the past 27 years. NASA recently named a moon landing site after Ride, thanking her for always encouraging us to "reach for the stars."

Local outings

AARON ROGERS

Madison radio personality Aaron Rogers (not to be confused with the football player) chose National Coming Out day to make an announcement on the air. With Diana Ross' "I'm Coming Out" playing in the background, the Z104 radio personality announced that from that moment on he would be living his life as an out gay man.



PHOTO: Z104FM.COM

Radio personality Aaron Rogers.

JOCASTA ZAMARRIPA

State Rep. JoCasta Zamarripa decided 2012 was the year to do it. In the middle of a primary election, the 36-year-old came out as bisexual. Although rumors of her orientation circled her 2010 campaign, Zamarripa said she lacked the courage to face them head on. She hoped by being confident and content with who she is, Zamarripa can inspire young people struggling with their identities.

– Kaitlyn Weisense



PHOTO: COURTESY

Kenosha adopts partner benefits

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

The Kenosha Common Council voted 15-0 – with one abstention – to adopt a resolution extending employee health-care benefits to the same-sex partners of city workers.

With that lopsided vote on Dec. 17, Wisconsin's fourth largest city became the fifth this year to support fairness for its workers. Ald. Chris Schwartz, who spearheaded the resolution, said the benefits should become available during the first quarter of 2013. In order to apply for the benefits, city workers need only show proof of registration under the state's partner registry law.

The resolution was the first major initiative introduced by Schwartz, who was elected in April to represent Kenosha's 2nd Aldermanic District. Schwartz is perhaps best known in the city as co-owner of the popular Franks Diner, which is virtually a regional institution. She's a past president of the Kenosha Downtown Business District.

"As I got my feet wet and got to know the process of becoming the alderperson, I decided this was something I wanted to get done," Schwartz said. "I was pretty shocked that it went through as seamlessly as possible. I hope that tells us that this is a progressive city that truly believes in equality."

Rather than "reinvent the wheel," she said, Schwartz looked at how Racine, Milwaukee



PHOTO: SUSAN LEITING

Kenosha Ald. Chris Schwartz

County and Dane County had structured their resolutions and emulated them as much as possible.

Despite being new to the process, she presented the resolution with such finesse that not a single witness appeared at the Dec. 17 council meeting to testify against it. Nine out of the common council's 17 members signed on as co-sponsors.

The only alderperson who failed to support the measure was 8th District Ald. Kevin Mathewson, who abstained from voting rather than cast the sole "no" vote.

Tenth District Ald. Anthony Kennedy, who described himself as Schwartz's "co-pilot," said "she approached me some time ago saying, 'This is what I want to do,' and I said, 'It's about time.'"

Schwartz and Kennedy lined up support from unions representing city workers. At the Dec. 17 council meeting, union officials testified that offering domestic partnership benefits would benefit the city's ability to attract and retain good personnel.

"All of them (union leaders) saw this as another issue toward helping our productivity," Kennedy said. "Someone who's not worrying about their home lives at work is going to do their job better."

"We spend a lot of money recruiting people to come to our city and work on behalf of our constituents," Kennedy added. "As municipal leaders, we have a responsibility to provide taxpayers with the best services possible. (Partner benefits) are another tool we have in the tool box to attract high-quality candidates."

Kennedy's interest in the resolution was personal in addition to professional: "My mother is gay, and the gay community is probably my first community of refuge and the place where I feel the most comfortable, because some very, very special people in my life happen to be part of the LGBT community," he explained.

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{ Editorial }

Ignoring critics, NRA doubles down

The United States virtually belongs to Wall Street, Big Oil, Big Pharma and a handful of other special interests – including the National Rifle Association. The rest of us merely live in it.

The NRA's wealth does not come from hunters but rather from the producers of weapons and ammunition. That industry is expected to rack up \$11.7 billion in sales and \$993 million in profits this year, according to analysts at IBIS World. An increasing percentage of those profits are from semi-automatic weapons produced for combat, according to industry analysts.

With their vastly disproportionate influence, the NRA and its cronies create policies and laws that benefit their interests while harming the rest of us. Indeed, if an elected official from a non-safe legislative district dares to put public safety before the arms industry's bottom line, the NRA can simply eliminate him or her. Money buys a lot of political advertising. Even President Obama is terrified of the NRA.

Demonstrating the arrogance of their power, NRA officials waited a week before responding to the unthinkable Sandy Hook Elementary School shootings, in which Adam Lanza allegedly used an assault weapon to riddle the bodies of 6-year-olds and 7-year-olds.

When the NRA's CEO Wayne LaPierre did finally address the massacre, he used the opportunity to hawk gun sales by calling for the arming of school officials. "The only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun," he advised.

But if LaPierre's advice had any merit, then America would be the safest nation on earth – because it is the best armed. A November Congressional Research Service report found that, as of 2009, there were about 310 million firearms in the United States, including 114 million handguns, 110 million rifles and 86 million shotguns. At least 1.5 million of those weapons are automatics and semi-automatics designed for warfare.

Yet the United States has by far the highest incidence of gun-related deaths in the industrialized world, and the 10th highest incidence rate overall – ranking just 1 percent less deadly than Mexico in deaths by firearms.

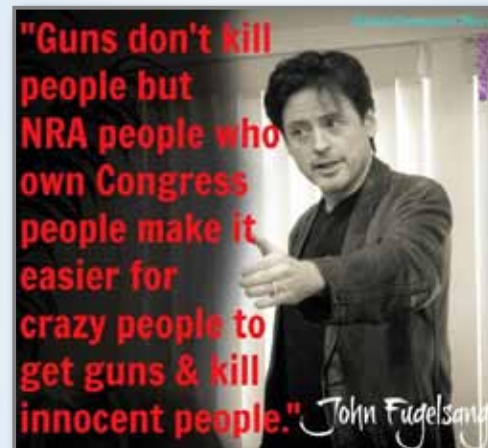
Even more reprehensible than the NRA's reaction to the Connecticut massacre was the pandering response of politicians hoping to curry the group's favor. Wisconsin Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen is a prime example.

A perennial aspirant for higher office, Van Hollen made a preemptive defensive strike against any prospective efforts to reform gun-control laws in the state. "It's a bad idea to have quick, knee-jerk reactions," he said, apparently unaware of the irony.

Van Hollen wasn't really worried – he was merely genuflecting. The NRA and gun-makers spent \$815,660 to help Walker defeat Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett in the June recall election, according to the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign. That's why concealed-carry was at the top of Walker's legislative agenda, and that's why Wisconsin will never have gun-control reform as long as Walker and the GOP maintain their greedy grip on Madison.

WiG's WEB PICKS

Some of our favorite recent pictorials
from cyberspace



As Fiscal Cliff Deadline Approaches, Obama's Position Strengthens



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ON THE RECORD



“Terrible news today. When will politicians find courage to ban automatic weapons?”

– Far-right media mogul RUPERT MURDOCH tweeting his support for gun control reform.

“Michael was a wonderful kisser.”

– MATT DAMON telling Playboy magazine about his romantic scenes with Michael Douglas in the upcoming HBO biopic about Liberace. Douglas plays the iconic gay pianist and Damon portrays his longtime lover Scott Thorson.

“God is not going to go where he is not wanted.”

– BRIAN FISCHER, director of the American Family Association, explaining that God refused to intervene in the elementary school shooting in Connecticut because prayer is not allowed in public schools.

“I never met a gay person who regrets coming out. I’m sure you found the same, you’re more at ease with your loved ones, and your family, and your extended family. It’s out in the open and honesty is the best policy.”
– SIR IAN MCKELLEN discussing his decision to come out with CNN’s Anderson Cooper.

“If we cannot have moral feelings against homosexuality, can we have it against murder? Can we have it against other things?”

– U.S. Supreme Court Justice ANTONIN SCALIA defending his anti-gay writings and statements during an appearance at Princeton University.

“I’m not gay. If I was gay, I would have come out of the closet just a-flying.”

– DOLLY PARTON responding to longstanding rumors that she’s secretly gay.

“The momentum is clearly now in the direction in finding some way to ... accommodate and deal with reality. And the reality is going to be that in a number of American states – and it will be more after 2014 – gay relationships will be legal, period.”

– Anti-gay Republican NEWT GINGRICH acknowledging to the Huffington Post that more and more states are jumping on the marriage equality bandwagon – and he’s OK with that.

“I’ve heard of people being killed playing ping-pong. Ping-pongs are more dangerous than guns. Flat-screen TVs are injuring more kids today than anything.”

– Texas GOP state Rep. KYLE KACAL citing questionable statistics while vowing to block any attempt at gun control.

“Be present in every single moment. As big as today is, it’s the rest of your life that is really amazing.”

– CNN’s ELIZABETH VARGAS offering marital advice to colleague Sam Champion, the weather editor and anchor for ABC’s “Good Morning America.” Champion married his partner Rubem Robierb on Dec. 21.



Ominous forecast for 2013



The new year is traditionally a time for resolutions and possibilities. But in my post-holiday blues, I can’t help obsessing about an underreported story of 2012 that portends ominous outcomes for our future.

Among the most neglected stories of 2012, especially given that it was an election year, was the advance of global warming and the climate crisis. The best sources for clear scientific data about our changing environment are the National Climate Data Center, part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Resources Defense Council, which promotes information and advocacy. Both organizations have extensive online data and resources.

The Data Center publishes extensive monthly data on air and sea surface temperatures, sea levels, arctic ice surface area and density (a measure of melt-

ing), droughts and wildfires, tropical storms and more. It sounds dry and nerdy but it really makes fascinating reading.

A snippet from the Data Center’s “State of the Climate” report stated that “globally-averaged temperature for November 2012 marked the fifth warmest November since record keeping began in 1880. November 2012 also marks the 333rd consecutive month with a global temperature above the 20th century average.”

The Data Center reports 60 percent of the contiguous United States experienced moderate to extreme drought at the end of November. Although the year-to-date total of 55,505 wildfires was the least since record-keeping began in 2000, the size of those fires (in acreage affected) was the largest ever recorded. From January through November, all 48 contiguous states experienced above average temperatures and below average precipitation.

The National Snow and Ice Data Center reported last summer that the amount

Sea ice in the Arctic fell to the lowest level ever.

of sea ice in the Arctic fell to the lowest level on record. The amount of summer sea ice has declined more than 40 percent since satellites began measuring it in the late 1970s. By 2020, the Arctic may be completely free of ice in the summer months.

In the south, west Antarctica has warmed 4.4 degrees since just 1958, threatening the massive ice sheet there. Meanwhile, land ice, from the Greenland sheet to the Himalayan mountains, is also receding at an accelerating pace.

“It’s hard even for people like me to believe, to see that climate change is actually doing what our worst fears dictated,” Rutgers scientist Jennifer A. Francis told The New York Times. “It’s starting to give me the chills, to tell you the truth.”

A new report funded by

the U.S. Geological Survey, “Impacts of Climate Change on Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services,” has particularly troublesome news about the threat to plants and animals. Climate change is causing many species to shift their geological ranges, altering and even destabilizing whole ecosystem structures.

Some plants and animals are moving to higher elevations at rates two to three times greater than originally predicted. Marine life is altering patterns much faster than land species. The report says species “that are unable to shift their geographic distributions or have narrow environmental tolerances are at increased risk of extinction.”

Global warming and climate change are real. The evidence is bountiful and ever-growing. Despite this, little action is being taken to reverse the ominous trends. Global warming deniers are a powerful lobby, backed by fat cat oil and mining interests and, to a larger extent, the ethos of capitalist rapaciousness. I’ll write more on these in future columns.

Unopened presents under the tree



On Dec. 25, millions of children from around the world woke up and rushed to their living rooms to see what gifts Santa Claus had left for them underneath the Christmas tree. I remember as a child being the first one up, waking up my parents and my brothers before 7 a.m. It was a joyous occasion.

But this year I couldn’t help but think about the families of the 26 people killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School and how they must have felt as they removed presents that will never be opened from under their Christmas trees.

What can we do as a community to help ensure that such senseless acts of violence are reduced? For

several years I was a police officer in south Florida and dealing with guns was an everyday reality for me. Since the Columbine shootings, first responders have been trained to deal with active shooter situations. But law enforcement is typically reactionary in nature, and officers are seldom able to stop those situations before they start. What we need are leaders who are willing to demand gun control reform.

My goal – and that of most people who want reform – is not to take away people’s guns. But we must have a conversation about common-sense approaches to curtail gun violence.

The Bushmaster 223, which was used to slaughter most of the victims in Sandy Hook, is the civilian version of what I carried as a police officer. This gun has no practical purpose for average

citizens, other than creating mayhem. I have heard the argument that inside it functions the same as a hunting rifle and the outside appearance is what upsets people. That’s simply not true. Any avid hunter would tell you that they would not use this weapon to hunt, because it would cause too much damage to the game. The bullets used in this rifle can travel as far as two miles when fired. They can easily break through walls of homes and body armor typically worn by law enforcement officers. Surely we can all agree that banning an assault weapon like this is an appropriate step to take.

But this argument goes beyond just guns. We also need to address high-capacity magazines. Many people equate guns to protection. I understand that argument, but if you are pro-

I’m disgusted with hearing now is not the time for gun control.

tecting yourself, then surely you don’t need a handgun that has a magazine with a 30-round capacity. At a certain point you’d move from defense to offense, and that is a line that must not be crossed.

I am disgusted with seeing mass shooting after mass shooting and then hearing that now is the time for mourning and not the time to talk about gun control. Enough is enough. Now is the time to talk about gun control and to demand that our elected officials take action at every level.

The partner registry case is likely to be heard by the state Supreme Court in 2013

REGISTRY from page one

the rights and protections currently available to same-sex couples and their families in Wisconsin – a sweet holiday present to loving couples and families.”

The registry provides limited legal protections and benefits to same-sex couples, including hospital visitation and the ability to take family medical leave to care for a sick or injured partner. About 2,000 couples have joined the registry, according to Katie Belanger of Fair Wisconsin, who added that a new count would come with the new year.

On Dec. 21, the appeals court said Appling had the burden of proving beyond a reasonable doubt that voters, when they passed the marriage amendment, intended to prohibit the particular type of domestic partnership created by the Legislature.

The court concluded that Appling “fell far short of meeting her burden.”

The court said, “there is lit-

tle reason to think informed voters believed that the marriage amendment language would prohibit the domestic partnerships at issue here.”

Belanger said, “We are pleased that the court upheld the limited protections provided by domestic partnerships because they are essential in allowing committed same-sex couples to care for each other in times of need.”

She added, “This is an exciting day for Wisconsin. Domestic partnerships marked our state’s first step toward full equality in nearly 30 years. This decision will ensure that we can continue advancing equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Wisconsinites in the years ahead.”

Appling originally filed her case with the Wisconsin Supreme Court, seeking an emergency injunction to prevent same-sex couples from registering. But the High Court declined original jurisdiction in November 2009, forcing Appling to take the case to a lower court.

The never-married Appling has lived for decades with another never-married woman in a home the two own together in Watertown.

After being rejected by the Supreme Court, Wisconsin Family Action and the conservative Alliance Defense Fund refiled the challenge in Dane County Circuit Court in August 2010. In March 2011, Walker fired the counsel Doyle had hired to defend the case.

Fair Wisconsin and Lambda Legal sued to intervene in the case, which right-wing Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen and Gov. Scott Walker refused to defend. The attorney general of a state is expected to defend state laws in court, but Van Hollen agreed with WFA that the registry was unconstitutional.

But Lambda and FW continued their defense and, last summer, they secured a victory when Dane County Circuit Judge Daniel Moeser ruled that the registry is constitutional and that a

domestic partnership status is not “substantially similar” to marriage.

WFA then challenged Moeser’s ruling. The district appeals court tried to bump the case up again to the Supreme Court, but the court sent it back.

Appling v. Doyle is likely to finally be heard by the Wisconsin Supreme Court in 2013, which is also when the U.S. Supreme Court will take up two marriage equality cases – one challenging California’s anti-gay constitutional amendment and another challenging the law barring the federal recognition of legal same-sex marriages.

“We will appeal this decision because this domestic partnership scheme is precisely the type of marriage imitation that the voters intended to prevent,” said Austin Nimocks, a plaintiff’s attorney with the Alliance Defense Fund, in a statement issued on Dec. 21.

Appling stated, “We are disappointed with the ... court’s opinion, but once



PHOTO: BAILLIES

Katie Belanger, executive director of Fair Wisconsin, at the group’s holiday party at the Madison Club.


again it does not weaken our resolve to defend Wisconsin’s marriage amendment. The people of Wisconsin have strongly affirmed the lifelong, faithful union of a man and a woman as the fundamental building block of civilization. Our system of government serves no pur-

pose if politicians can ignore the will of the people with impunity.”

Belanger said, “Fair Wisconsin, represented by Lambda Legal, is the sole defending party in this case and will continue to defend the legislation in any subsequent appeals.



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Year ending, beginning with same-sex weddings

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

A year of unprecedented public victories for marriage equality is ending with private wedding ceremonies for same-sex couples in Maine.

And 2013 will begin with weddings for same-sex couples in Maryland.

In both states, as well as Washington, voters affirmed marriage equality in ballot initiatives on Nov. 6. In Minnesota, voters rejected an anti-gay marriage amendment.

Gay couples in Washington state began marrying earlier in December.

The weddings were to begin in Maine on Dec. 29 and in Maryland on Jan. 1.

In mid-December, the Maine Office of Vital Records was updating the marriage license application used by cities and towns across the state and clerks were receiving notice that they cannot legally refuse licenses to gay couples.

Later in the month, some clerks in more progressive communities were preparing to open offices to issue licenses over the weekend.

Meanwhile, there were rumblings

and grumblings in Maine's conservative community of a campaign to repeal the marriage equality measure.

"Our opponents are already working to undermine our recent victory," said Betsy Smith of the LGBT civil rights group Equality Maine. "They have promised to introduce legislation to amend the new marriage law and are exploring a possible ballot measure campaign to overturn it."

She added, "To that end, we must remain vigilant."

Mainers approved same-sex marriage 53 percent to 47 percent on Nov. 6, a margin wide enough to suggest that voters are unlikely to overturn it, according to the Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders group in New England. Also, with Democratic majorities in the Legislature, it's unlikely that there would be enough votes to overturn the measure.

So, with the transition into a new year, LGBT civil rights advocates are focusing on the campaigns for marriage equality in state legislatures in Illinois, where a vote may occur as early as January and a governor is eager to sign a bill, and in Rhode

Island, where a vote is expected in 2013 with the support of another governor. Activists also are planning to press for marriage equality in Minnesota.

Illinois could become the second Midwestern state to legalize same-sex marriage. "The quick pace of our marriage efforts may seem surprising to many, but we have been paving the ground for this from the moment civil unions passed the legislature in 2010," said Bernard Cherkasov of Equality Illinois.

Rhode Island, which like Illinois currently recognizes civil unions, would be the last New England state to legalize same-sex marriage. Rhode Island Senate President Teresa Paiva Weed still opposes gay marriage and blocked a vote this past year, but she said she expects the chamber to take up the issue if the House advances a bill.

Rhode Island House Speaker Gordon Fox, who is openly gay, has said he intends to call an early vote on gay marriage legislation and passing it is one of his top priorities.

Independent Gov. Lincoln Chafee has made it clear he wants to sign such a bill.

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PHOTO: TINYTALL/ANDREA PARRISH-GEYER ON FLICKR

Couples celebrate after applying for marriage licenses in Spokane, Wash., where gay couples began marrying in early December. Gay couples were set to marry in Maine on Dec. 29 and in Maryland on Jan. 1.

IN THE STATES

Gay marriage is legal – or will be legal – in the District of Columbia and nine states: Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Washington.

The two states most likely to enact gay marriage in 2013 are Rhode Island and Illinois.

– L.N.



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PHOTO: COURTESY

Equality Wisconsin executive director Jason Burns, left, and Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele at the presentation of a \$50,000 challenge grant that Abele gave the group.

MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXEC ANNOUNCES MARRIAGE EQUALITY CHALLENGE

Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele personally issued a challenge grant of \$50,000 for Equality Wisconsin to work on marriage equality, the organization announced Dec. 14.

Abele, in a statement from EW, said, "I'm proud to support Equality Wisconsin in their effort to allow gay and lesbian couples to celebrate their love and commitment to each other. I know Wisconsin is ready to embrace the idea of fidelity for everyone and allowing longtime partners to make a lifetime commitment to each other."

The challenge is for EW to match, dollar for dollar, Abele's grant.

The organization has until Jan. 31.

"Equality Wisconsin is humbled by the county executive's generosity," said Jason Burns, EW's executive director and a WiG columnist. "We are excited to continue engaging Wisconsinites around the issue of

marriage equality. We are excited to start driving these conversations around equal right for all."

MILWAUKEE GAY ARTS CENTER AWARDED \$1,000 GRANT

Northwestern Mutual, through its foundation, announced a \$1,000 grant for the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center on behalf of Milwaukee resident James McFarland, a winner in Northwestern Mutual's Days of Sharing campaign.

The annual program encourages employees to nominate nonprofits they care about to receive grant funds in their name.

McFarland works as an assistant general counsel and assistant secretary in the law department at the Milwaukee-based financial security company.

"This grant will help the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center further its mission of giving openly gay artists the opportunity to present in a gallery space with a stage," he said. "As treasurer, I see how the center gives people the opportunity to present their work, which would not be possible otherwise."

More than 770 employees nominated their favorite local nonprofit as part of Days of Sharing this year. The 25 winning grants were chosen at random each day during in mid-November.

PURDUE RANKS SECOND IN CAMPUS HATE CRIMES

Purdue University reported the second-highest number of hate crimes among the country's colleges last year, according to statistics compiled by the FBI.

The seven alleged hate crimes reported

on the West Lafayette campus in 2011 were the most among Indiana colleges, the Journal & Courier reported. So far in 2012, Purdue police have documented 12 hate crimes.

The University of California at Santa Cruz reported nine hate crimes, the most of all colleges in 2011.

The FBI report said five of the incidents reported at Purdue reflected racial bias and two were related to religion. The offenses involved assault, intimidation and vandalized property.

KOHL DELIVERS FAREWELL SPEECH TO SENATE COLLEAGUES

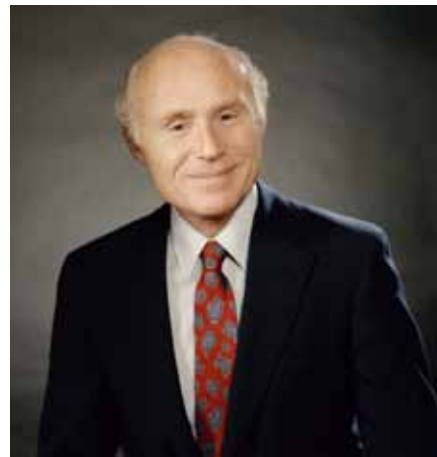


PHOTO: PROVIDED

U.S. Sen. Herb Kohl delivered his farewell speech on Dec. 13.

Wisconsin Sen. Herb Kohl has given his final speech from the floor of the U.S. Senate.

The retiring Democrat delivered brief farewell remarks on Dec. 13.

He remembered some of his late colleagues with whom he served in his 24 years as a senator, and he thanked his current colleagues for their service.

Kohl took office in 1989 for his first of four terms. The 77-year-old is stepping down after his current term ends Jan. 2.

He spoke for about three minutes. He acknowledged that he hasn't always agreed with his colleagues but he said every sena-

tor is acting on the genuine belief that their actions are best for their states and the nation.

BALDWIN GETS COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

U.S. Sen.-elect Tammy Baldwin, D, will serve on several high-profile committees in the 113th Congress. She's assigned to the Senate committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions; the Budget Committee; the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Senate Special Committee on Aging.

In a statement, Baldwin said, "These committee assignments provide me the opportunity to make a difference for Wisconsin families and businesses across our state. I am looking forward to working across party lines, bringing people together and working to move our economy forward for the middle class and small businesses."

Baldwin will be sworn in to the U.S. Senate on Jan. 3.

MAJORITY IN INDIANA OPPOSED TO ANTI-GAY AMENDMENT

Indiana residents are evenly split on legalizing gay marriage, although a majority of them do not want to amend the state constitution to ban it, according to a new poll.

The survey taken for the Bowen Center for Public Affairs at Ball State University and WISH-TV found that 45 percent of those surveyed supported allowing gay people to wed, while 45 percent opposed the idea. Ten percent had no opinion.

MINNESOTA GROUP TO PUSH FOR MARRIAGE EQUALITY

The leader of the campaign that defeated a gay marriage ban in Minnesota says the group will push to legalize marriage equality in the legislative session starting in January.

Richard Carlborn told The Associated Press that he'd continue to lead Minnesotans United for All Families, transforming it into a lobbying group. The group will lobby Minnesota lawmakers to pass a bill legalizing same-sex marriage in the state next year.

"Minnesotans were asked whether we should limit the freedom to marry in the last campaign, and they resoundingly said no," Carlborn said. "We believe it's time to move forward from that."

The marriage amendment went down with 47 percent of the vote in November, short of the majority needed to cement it in the state constitution.

But same-sex marriage is still prohibited under state law.

With Democrats set to take over the legislature in January and gay marriage supporter Mark Dayton as governor, Minnesotans United has a strong path to adding Minnesota to the growing list of U.S. states that allow same-sex couples to wed.

— WiG and AP reports

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Anne Hathaway as Fantine in "Les Misérables."

Far from
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Anne Hathaway
shears her hair,
and shares
the story of
her best
year ever



From The Interview Feed

Newly married Anne Hathaway, 30, looks stunning in a black turtleneck sweater and white flared trousers. Her cropped hair, which was shorn for her role in the film version of "Les Misérables," suits her. She's doing interviews to promote the film, which critics say is likely to earn her another Oscar nomination.

Hathaway is glowing. She married Adam Shulman in September, after recovering from a disastrous affair with the Italian businessman Rafaelo Folieri. He was convicted of wire fraud and served time in jail.

Now, she says, Hathaway is having the best year of her life.

You look stunning with short hair.

Thank you. It is what it is for the time being. When it was first cut, as it was growing in, there was a moment where it was about an inch long around and it was this kind of sweet Mia Farrow thing that I really liked. Then it was kind of awkward for a few months, and this is the first cut that I've had since then that I am happy with, but honestly, I don't think about it that much, it's just kind of my hair at the moment.

Were the Friday nights at Russell Crowe's hotel sing-a-longs real? Everyone keeps talking about them.

Oh, yeah, they were so real, and it wasn't a hotel but a cottage he had on the hotel grounds, so it was just kind of homey and very cozy. He would have us over, he would make everyone else steaks and then make fun of me for being a vegan (laughs). But he did make me a very nice carrot salad, so I had that going for me. And then after dinner we would all move into kind of another room and someone would start playing the piano and we would usually all start with singing "Hallelujah," the Leonard Cohen song. Everybody would take a verse and it would kind of just relax everyone and get everyone singing. It was a way of getting some of the people who were maybe a little shy out of their shells.

People say that you are every girl's BFF.

Nice, that's cool, I love everybody (laughs)! So I am glad to hear that.

Is it difficult to maintain those relationships?

I have the most wonderful, wonderful friendships, especially with my girlfriends, my

group of friends from high school. We are all still friends and we get together every few months and have dinner together, and we are all still very up to date with each other's lives. And my group of friends from college, which includes men and women.

How many bridesmaids did you have?

Seven. I have a lot of friends (laughs). Some of my friendships date back to like the day I was born, and most of my bridesmaids I've been best friends with for 12 years. We've all grown up alongside each other and helped each other grow and rooted for each other and held out faith for each other when we stumbled. I know they have for me.

Does it feel different being married?

It does, in a way that I didn't realize that I was aching for.

This is a huge year for you and you will most likely earn another Oscar nomination.

Thank you for saying that, I hope that that comes true. We will find out in a few weeks if I am even in the running for it. And I can say with absolute assurance that 2012 has been the best and greatest year of my life.

What kind of mother do you think you'll be one day?

Well, a cool one (laughs) – a stylish one, all that stuff. I just want to be one that they love, I just want to be their guide towards being good people. And I've wanted to be a mom since I was 16.

Do you think it would be hard to say no? Being a good mom also means you have to say no.

Oh yeah, definitely, yes, of course, I was told no many times in my life, it's a very healthy thing.

You are often compared to Audrey Hepburn.

I know. I think everyone is on glue (laughs).

What about the latest comparison to Liza Minnelli?

I'm compared to Liza Minnelli? Well, she is certainly a bucket full of talent. Wow, that's very flattering. Thank you. She's also just the nicest lady, she's so sweet.

This movie is about passionate love. Do you believe in love at first sight?

I think that I believe in soul mates, I believe in soul recognition, but love at first sight, I

HATHAWAY page 26



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Dish it Out!

Sparkling wines that will blow your cork

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Are you strapped for ideas for celebrating New Year's Eve? Have you received a last-minute party invitation and don't know what to bring?

Relax. Nothing shows sophistication like Champagne – if you can afford the product from the Champagne region of north of Paris, where the concept of sparkling wine originated. Lesson one: All Champagne is sparkling wine, but not all sparkling wine can legally be called Champagne.

Lesson two is that there is a broad array of delicious sparklers produced around the world that sell for a variety of prices, often much less than Champagne. You can broaden everyone's palate by serving a sparkling wine they never experienced before.

Here are some suggestions to help add a little effervescence – at a reasonable cost – to the last night of 2012.

Some of the best inexpensive wines come from Spain, and the **Absidis Brut Cava** (\$11) from the Catalonia region is an appealing sparkler. The wine presents with a citrus nose that has a slight floral edging and a buttery lemon flavor with soft bubbles on the palate. It's made from 40 percent Xarel-lo, 30 percent Macabeo and 30 percent Parellada – the traditional Cava grapes. This one's bright and breezy.

The same vineyard also produces **Absidis Rosé** (\$12), a wine produced from 12 different varietals. In addition to the Spanish grapes mentioned above, the rosé also contains the classic Bordeaux varietals cabernet sauvignon, merlot and syrah, along with the Champagne grapes

Reasonably priced sparklers from around the world



pinot noir and chardonnay – and even a little muscat thrown in. The resulting complexity gives way to a surprising simplicity and freshness that delights the palate.

Those who like it a little sweeter might opt for the **Moscato Dolce Spumante** (\$14), an Italian sparkler from the Veneto and Piedmont regions. The white-peach-and-honey nose gives way to similar flavors on the palate punctuated by the crisp effervescence caused by tiny, but insistent bubbles.

Piper Sonoma Blanc de Blanc (\$17), Piper Hiedsieck's California cousin, draws on a 95-percent chardonnay blend for a very pleasing delivery. The wine presents with a citrus-floral nose with a touch of green apple and has a dry,



delicate body with tiny bubbles on the palate. It's very refreshing and crisp.

There aren't many sparkling reds, but Australia's Bleasdale Vineyards offers a noteworthy **Red Brute Sparkling Shiraz** (\$16). Pro-

duced entirely from shiraz (syrah) grapes, the wine pours a vivid ruby color and offers a cherry/raspberry nose. The palate experiences the same red fruits, with a bit of pepper, spice and a fine, rich finish for a very nice change of pace.

For something a little special, try **J Cuvee 20** (\$24). It's the Russian River Valley vineyard's 20th anniversary wine, produced from an equal blend of chardonnay and pinot noir grapes with a little pinot meunier thrown in. The nose is redolent with lemon peel and honeysuckle, edged with a little yeast. The citrus carries over to the palate with apple, pear and almond notes. The lively acidity and lingering finish make this a pleasing choice.

We didn't know North Carolina's historic **Biltmore Estate** had its own winery, but it appears to have a rather prolific winemaking operation located in the estate's former dairy. The winery produces a variety of sparklers, including the **Blanc de Blanc "Method Champenoise" Brut** (\$20) from chardonnay grapes harvested in California's Russian River Valley. With a nose of yeast, hazelnut and honey, along with a well-balanced palate of green apple and pear that adds an acidic effervescence, the wine makes a very good showing.

Korbel Natural (\$16) offers a similar profile from the same region using the same grape varietals, but with a slightly crisper, drier quality. It's almost as good as the wines above, but at a slightly better price.

Finally, a flute of the **Henkell Blanc de Blanc** (\$14) is a fitting accompaniment to any end-of-the-year celebration. Light and bubbly, the German sparkler delivers notes of white peach and grapefruit with a little yeast at the edges, tiny bubbles and an acidity that offers just the right amount of refreshment.

Any of these wines will help your celebration, whether your year was a challenging or cherished one.

Cheers!



Create an appetizing New Year's Eve party

Chef's Corner



PHOTOS: COURTESY
LE PERSONAL CHEF
**Prosciutto-wrapped
asparagus with Neufchâ-
tel cheese**

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

You and your partner have decided to entertain on New Year's Eve this year, inviting old friends and new to welcome 2013 in style.

Not a bad plan, but what will you serve to make your event memorable? After all, New Year's Eve is just not a chips-and-salsa event, and it's too late to hire a caterer or personal chef.

But if you have some rudimentary kitchen skills, a little imagination and any kind of food sense, you can prepare some award-winning appetizers that will keep your friends talking well into the New Year, promises Sami Fgaier, owner of the Madison-based Le Personal Chef.

"When preparing appetizers for a party, you need to have a variety of options," Fgaier says. "I always recommend offering some seafood, vegetarian, poultry, red meat and sweet options. This will give you a chance to please everyone's palate."

Always use fresh ingredients for the best taste and appearance. Above all, make sure you are aware of any potential food allergies your guests might have. Nothing

throws a wet blanket over a party more than a visit from the EMTs.

"One touch that makes appetizers exceptional is good presentation," Fgaier says. "I like white platters because they make your food the focus rather than the platter's pattern or color."

A good garnish, such as chives or rosemary sprigs, adds dimension to the presentation, he explains. Meat dishes shine with a garnish of micro greens. Adding a dash of balsamic glaze, available at most supermarkets, makes the appetizers look like a professional hand was at work.

Two things you want to avoid have to do with the timing of the appetizers' preparation. In most cases, you want to prepare the appetizers as close to serving time as possible in order to avoid having the dressings run and the bread get soggy.

On the other hand, if your recipes involve indoor searing or grilling, do it early in the day to eliminate any lingering smokiness at party time. You don't want your home smoke alarm to drown out the festive sound of your guests' noisemakers.

Fgaier offers the following recipes to help make your New Year's Eve memorable.

PROSCIUTTO-WRAPPED ASPARAGUS WITH NEUFCHÂTEL CHEESE

Makes 12

Ingredients:

24 sprigs of asparagus
6 slices of Italian aged Prosciutto
2 tbs. Neufchâtel cheese
Cracked black pepper

Drop asparagus in boiling water for about 2 minutes. Remove the stalks and immediately transfer them to an ice water bath. This is called shocking, which will stop the cooking process and keep the bright green color.

APPETIZERS next page



A January warming trend!

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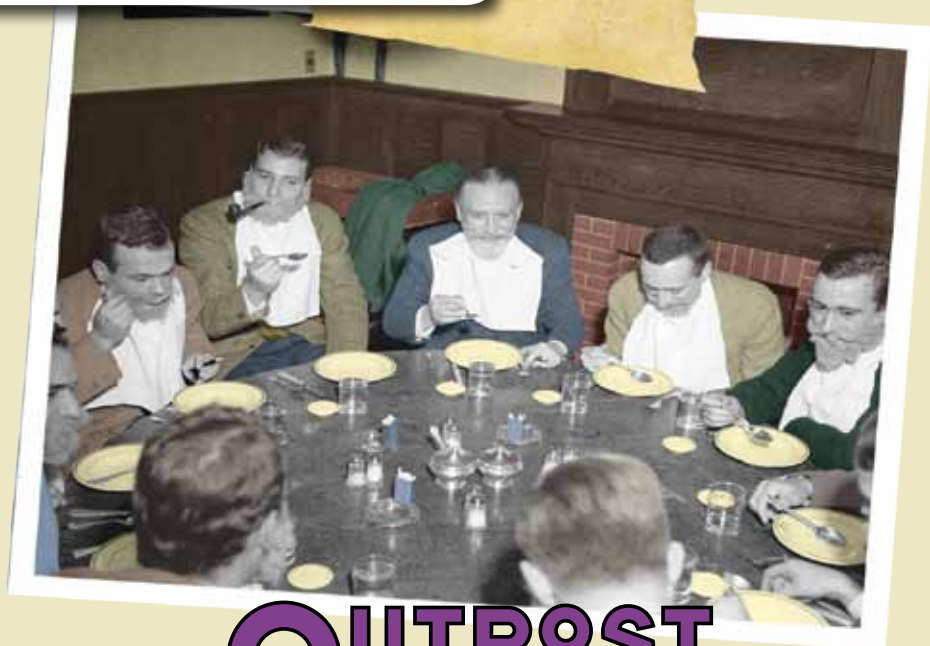
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APPETIZERS from prior page

Spread ½ teaspoon of Neufchâtel cheese on a half-slice of Prosciutto, then add a little cracked pepper. Wrap the ham around the asparagus. Spray a baking sheet with oil and add the wrapped asparagus. Bake for about 15 minutes at 350°F. Let cool for about 10 minutes and serve.

CRIMINI MUSHROOM CAPS STUFFED WITH LUMP CRABMEAT

Makes 12
Ingredients:
 12 medium-size Crimini or white mushrooms
 1 cup lump crab meat
 1 cup backfin crab meat
 2 tbsps. grainy old-fashioned mustard
 1 tbsp. fresh chopped chives
 1 tbsp. mayonnaise
 Salt and pepper to taste

Remove the stems of the mushrooms and clean them. Soak mushroom caps in hot water for about 2 minutes until soft.

Mix all ingredients and stuff mushrooms. Bake for 10-15 minutes at 350°F.

Garnish with chives and serve.

MAC & CHEESE BITES

Makes 12
Ingredients:
 2 cups of pasta (elbow shape works best)
 1 tbsp. unsalted butter
 1 tbsp. all-purpose flour
 1 cup of milk
 1 cup of grated Gruyere cheese
 1 cup of grated extra-sharp Cheddar cheese
 ½ cup of breadcrumbs

Boil 2 quarts of water and add a pinch of salt; add pasta, cook for about 8 minutes and drain.

Chill pasta under cold running water and mix with 2 tablespoons of olive oil so the pasta doesn't stick.

Melt butter in a medium pan, add flour and whisk constantly to create a light brown roux. Add milk and cheese and cook for about 10 minutes. Add pasta and breadcrumbs and mix well.

Spray a mini-muffin tin with cooking spray, spoon small amount into muffin cups and sprinkle tops with breadcrumbs. Bake at 350°F for 5 to 10 minutes or until the tops begin to brown and crisp.

Allow dish to cool slightly before removing from pan.



PHOTO: COURTESY LE PERSONAL CHEF
Crimini mushroom caps stuffed with lump crabmeat.



Mac & cheese bites.

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Like its lead characters, 'Romy and Michele' fails test of time

Screen Savor

GREGG SHAPIRO

The cult hit "Romy and Michele's High School Reunion" makes its Blu-ray debut in honor of the film's 15th anniversary. The humorous story of overcoming hardships and redefining yourself still elicits a fair share of laughs, even if the movie as a whole doesn't hold up too well. Think of it as the hot high school jock everyone is anxious to see at the reunion only to find he's let himself go to seed.

Ten years after graduating from high school in Tucson, Ariz., titular BFFs Romy (Mira Sorvino) and Michele (Lisa Kudrow) are still inseparable. Sharing a beachfront flat near L.A., they're the kind of girls who make fun

of "Pretty Woman" as they watch it for the 100th time. They get dressed up to go clubbing, order Diet Cokes with extra cherries and end up dancing with each other. When Romy wonders if they'd be better off as lesbians, Michele suggests they have sex to see if they are. Rebuffing Michele, Romy suggests that Michele ask again if they're still unmarried at 30.

While at work as a cashier at a Jaguar dealership, Romy runs into gruff classmate and fast-burning cigarette paper inventor Heather (Janeane Garofalo). It's Heather who informs Romy that their 10-year class reunion is approaching. At home, Romy and the unemployed Michele page through their yearbook and reminisce, introducing a series of high school flashbacks. Borderline social pariahs, Romy and Michele were taunted by the "mean girls," led by Christy (Julia Campbell). Class nerd Sandy (out actor Alan Cumming) is in love with Michele, who won't



PHOTO: COURTESY

Mira Sorvino and Lisa Kudrow as Romy and Michele.

give him the time of day. Romy is hot for class stud Billy (Vincent Ventresca), but he only has eyes for Christy.

In spite of such memories, Romy and Michele decide to attend the reunion. But in order to make a better effort at fitting in and making them appear successful, the pair concocts a scheme involving a borrowed Jag and the invention of Post-It Notes.

At the reunion, there are confrontations and humiliations. History is recounted and covers are blown. Expressions of love are given voice and apologies are exchanged. But the high school reunion wouldn't be Romy and Michele's if they didn't exact some sort of revenge and make a triumphant exit.

Not as much fun to watch as when it first came out, "Romy and Michele's High School Reunion" is still probably better than attending your own class reunion. Blu-ray bonus material includes a production featurette.

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'Greek Wedding' still offers big, fat entertainment

Before she made two of the worst movies of 2009 ("My Life in Ruins" and "I Hate Valentine's Day"), Nia Vardalos wrote and starred in "My Big Fat Greek Wedding," perhaps the most successful rom-com ever made. Vardalos' breakthrough film marks its 10th anniversary with a special edition Blu-ray/DVD/Digital Copy set.

"My Big Fat Greek Wedding" stars Vardalos as 30-year-old, unmarried Toula. Her father Gus (Michael Constantine), who considers Windex a cure-all for what ails you and can trace any word back to its Greek root, tells her she's starting to look old — which he's been doing since Toula was 15. Still living at home with her father, mother Maria (Lanie Kazan), brother Nico (Louis Mandylor) and itinerant yia yia (grandmother), Toula undergoes a transformation after she enrolls in college to take computer classes. Hired by her travel agent Aunt Voula (Andrea Martin, who steals every scene in which she appears),

Toula meets and falls for teacher Ian (John Corbett).

Of course, Toula's parents (and large extended family) are hesitant about her getting involved with someone who isn't Greek. But the heart wants what it wants. Ian's selfless act of being baptized in the Greek Orthodox Church seals the deal and a wedding date is set.

Vardalos effortlessly portrays the highs and lows of growing up in an ethnic household. She mines humor (and some pathos) and makes the experience feel universal. When Toula (and her family) come in contact with Ian's WASPy clan, the laughs roar.

Still as entertaining as it was 10 years ago, it's easy to understand why "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" was so well received. Bonus features include deleted scenes, the original 2002 audio commentary and the featurette "A Look Back at My Big Fat Greek Wedding."

www.wisconsinazette.com



PHOTO: COURTESY

Publicity collage from "My Big Fat Greek Wedding."

'Around the Corner with John McGivern' opens with profile of Shorewood

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

His travels for the popular Milwaukee Public Television series "Around the Corner with John McGivern" landed the actor in Shorewood last summer to film an episode that was chosen to open the program's second season on Jan. 8.

The north shore Milwaukee community is one of the state's most liberal and colorful suburbs – and one that's close to the city's East Side. That's where McGivern grew up surrounded by characters who became some of his most entertaining and beloved stage material.

The Shorewood episode is the first of 13 that will take viewers in 2013 around the state to visit communities, including Mineral Point, Madison and Whitewater. People who live or work in Shorewood are invited to a free screening of the episode Jan. 3 at 6:30 p.m. at Discovery World's Innovation Theater, 500 N. Harbor Drive, Milwaukee. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Explorer Pere Jacques Marquette was thought to be the first European to set his eyes on the land that constitutes Shorewood when he and his companions sailed down what is now the Milwaukee River in 1674. During the 19th century, the village was variously known as Mechanicsville and Cementville – the latter for its rich limestone deposits that could be used in producing cement.

The town was established in 1900, when it seceded from what was then the town of Milwaukee. It was known as East Milwaukee until 1917, when it adopted its current name.

"Shorewood is really all about the water," says McGivern. Its location between the Milwaukee River and Lake Michigan is a determining factor for the area's personality,

he explains.

Resident Diedre Martin, a researcher for the "Around the Corner" series, suggested Shorewood as a destination for the show.

McGivern's shows are designed to explore individual neighborhoods and communities through the eyes and voices of the people who live and work there. Even though each community or neighborhood is different, their residents share a common appreciation for where they live, McGivern says.

"There is a lot of pride in the various neighborhoods, and the enthusiasm is remarkable," McGivern continues. "It doesn't take but a question to get (interviewees) going about how much they like to live and work there."

McGivern and MPTV producer Lois Maurer traditionally spend several days in the neighborhood before filming and conducting interviews. When filming the Shorewood segment, McGivern visited the Village Hall, the Shorewood High School drama program, Hubbard Park, Benji's Deli and other familiar locations. He talked with Anne Marie

Topel, whose Lake Drive home is listed on the National Register of Historic places, entrepreneurs Anne and John Nehring, and Leonard Sobczak, owner of the Wisconsin Gazette.

"I went to grade school with Leonard," McGivern says. "It was so nice to sit on the porch and talk with him, knowing that he is representing my community."

"Around the Corner" already has been renewed for a third season, with new episodes scheduled to be filmed this coming spring and summer. The show is carried on all Wisconsin Public Television stations and airs in Milwaukee on channel 10 Thursdays at 7 p.m. and repeats Fridays on channel 36 at 8 p.m.



PHOTO: COURTESY

John McGivern.



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EARLENE HOOPLE IS BACK!

There's still time to celebrate the holidays with cable access TV hostess Earlene Hoople, as she tapes her last Christmas special. Actor John McGivern's female alter-ego, the self-proclaimed "Queen of Rural Media," celebrates "A Kodachrome Christmas" by ringing bells, baking cookies and offering some off-the-wall holiday survival advice. The show runs at Next Act Theatre through Dec. 31. Find details at www.nextact.org.

Film Reviews

FROM AP

“AMOUR”



Michael Haneke takes a subject you don't often see in movies and probably don't want to see – the slow, steady deterioration of an elderly woman – but handles it with grace. The Austrian writer-director, who's achieved a reputation for a certain mercilessness over the years through films such as “Cache” and “Funny Games,” displays a surprising and consistent humanity here. He draws unadorned but lovely performances from his veteran stars, Jean-Louis Trintignant and Emmanuelle Riva. Haneke focuses on the intimate moments of their changing lives, as the longtime married couple remains holed up in their comfortable Paris apartment, coping day to day, waiting for eventual death. This film will strike a chord with anyone who's watched a loved one slip away. But Haneke's aesthetic can feel too stripped-down, too one-note in its dignified monotony. He will hold a shot, as we know, and once again he avoids the use of a score, so all that's left to focus on is the insular, dreary stillness of quiet descent. Certainly minimalism is preferable to melodrama in telling this kind of story, but Haneke takes this approach to such an extreme that it's often hard to maintain emotional engagement.

Rated PG-13 for mature thematic material, including a disturbing act, and for brief language. In French with English subtitles. 125 minutes.

– Christy Lemire, AP movie critic

“DJANGO UNCHAINED”



For his latest blood fest, Quentin Tarantino replays all of his earlier ones, especially his last flick “Inglourious Basterds.” In that 2009 tale of wickedly savage retribution, Allied Jewish soldiers rewrite World War II history by going on a killing spree of Nazis. In Tarantino's new tale of wickedly savage retribution, a black man (Jamie Foxx) gets to rewrite Deep South history by becoming a bounty hunter on a killing spree of white slave owners and overseers just before the

Civil War. Granted, there's something gleefully satisfying in watching evil people get what they have coming. But the film is Tarantino at his most puerile and least inventive. The premise offers little more than cold, nasty revenge and barrels of squishing, squirting blood. The usual Tarantino genre mishmash – a dab of blaxploitation here, a dollop of Spaghetti Western there – is so familiar now that it's tiresome, more so because the filmmaker continues to linger with chortling delight over every scene, letting conversations run on interminably and gunfights carry on to grotesque excess. Bodies bursting blood like exploding water balloons? Perversely fun the first five or six times, pretty dreary the 20th or 30th. Tarantino always gets good actors who deliver, though, and it's the performances by Foxx, Leonardo DiCaprio, Christoph Waltz and Samuel L. Jackson that make the film intermittently entertaining amid moments when the characters are either talking one another to death or just plain killing each other.

Rated R for strong graphic violence throughout, a vicious fight, language and some nudity. 165 minutes.

– David Germain, AP movie writer



PHOTO: COURTESY

Naomi Watts in “The Impossible.”

“THE IMPOSSIBLE”



Based on the true story of a family swept away by the deadly tsunami that pummeled Southeast Asia in 2004, director Juan Antonio Bayona's drama is about as subtle as a wall of water. The depiction of the natural disaster itself is visceral and horrifying – impeccable from a production standpoint. And Naomi Watts gives a vivid, deeply committed performance as the wife



PHOTO: COURTESY

Kristen Stewart and Garrett Hedlund in “On the Road.”

and mother of three young boys who finds the strength to persevere despite desolation and debilitating injuries. But man, is this thing heavy-handed. Watts and Ewan McGregor play Maria and Henry, a happily married British couple spending Christmas at a luxury resort in Thailand with their three adorable sons. (The real-life family whose story inspired the film was Spanish.) During a quiet morning by the pool, the first massive wave comes ashore, scattering the family and thousands of strangers across the devastated landscape. “The Impossible” tracks their efforts to survive, reconnect, find medical care and get the hell out of town. The near-misses at an overcrowded hospital are just too agonizing to be true, and the uplifting score swells repeatedly in overpowering fashion to indicate how we should feel. Surely, the inherent drama of this story could have stood on its own two feet.

Rated PG-13 for intense, realistic disaster sequences, including disturbing injury images, and brief nudity. 107 minutes.

– Christy Lemire, AP movie critic

“NOT FADE AWAY”



“The Sopranos” boss David Chase's somewhat autobiographical drama about a Jersey boy in a 1960s rock band would be called a promising first feature from some unknown filmmaker doing the rounds at Sundance. Coming from a Hollywood heavyweight who's spent decades in the TV trenches, it's a hopeful sign, or maybe just wishful thinking, that more of the quality that has fled film for television might somehow be channeled back to the big screen. Chase's directing debut is a sweet, sad, smart and satisfying piece of nostalgia, at least partly inspired by his own youthful experiences as a drummer in a New Jersey band. Like “The Sopranos,” much of the drama arises out of generational conflict, in this case rebellious son Douglas (John Magaro) and his pragmatic, my-way-or-the-highway dad (“Sopranos” star James Gandolfini). Infected by music of the British invasion, chiefly the Rolling Stones, Douglas and some pals form a band that few will ever hear about. From

there we get not the overdone tale of a group on the rise and struggling with the pitfalls of fame and success. Instead, we get the genuine and more illuminating story of all those losers who didn't make it. Great 1960s period detail gives the film authenticity. Aided by “Sopranos” co-star and E Street Band member Steven Van Zandt, Chase assembles a killer soundtrack – the Stones, the Beatles and the Kinks to Bo Diddley, Robert Johnson and Elmore James.

Rated R for pervasive language, some drug use and sexual content. 112 minutes.

– David Germain, AP movie writer

“ON THE ROAD”



Walter Salles' adaptation of Jack Kerouac's famous novel was made with noble intentions, finely-crafted filmmaking and handsome casting. But, alas, it does not burn, burn, burn. This first ever big-screen adaptation of the Beat classic doesn't pulse with the electric, mad rush of Kerouac's feverish phenomenon. Salles (“The Motorcycle Diaries”) approached the book with reverence and deep research, and perhaps that's the problem – that its spirit got suffocated by respectfulness and affected acting. If anything has made “On the Road” so beloved, it's not its artful composition, but its yearning: the urgent passion of its characters to break free of themselves and post-war America. As our Dean Moriarty, Kerouac's stand-in for Neal Cassady, Garrett Hedlund (“Tron”) gives his all in an ultimately failed attempt to find Moriarty's wild magnetism. The women have more fire. As Moriarty's first wife, Marylou, Kristen Stewart has a slinky sensuality. In a few scenes as Moriarty's heartbroken second wife, Kirsten Dunst makes the strongest impression. Elisabeth Moss, also as one left behind, excels, shouting: “They dumped me in Tucson! In Tucson!” Viggo Mortensen, Steve Buscemi, Terrence Howard and Amy Adams make cameos.

Rated R for strong sexual content, drug use and language. 123 minutes.

– Jake Coyle, AP entertainment writer

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Butch Vig goes alt-country in new band



PHOTO: COURTESY

Emperors of Wyoming, with Butch Vig (far right).

By Gregg Shapiro

Contributing writer

Wisconsin native Butch Vig has high-profile production credits, including Nirvana's "Nevermind," Sonic Youth's "Dirty," Smashing Pumpkins' "Gish," Foo Fighters' "Wasting Light" and Green Day's "21st Century Breakdown." As a musician, Vig played in the 1980s Madison band Fire Town and then gained visibility as a member of Garbage, featuring Shirley Manson on lead vocals.

Famous for hit singles such as "Stupid Girl," "Queer," "Only Happy When It Rains," "Push It" and "Special," Garbage returned in 2012 after a seven-year hiatus with the "Not Your Kind of People" disc. Vig also reunited with Fire Town bandmate Phil Davis, along with Pete Anderson and Frank Anderson, to form the alt-country band The Emperors of Wyoming. That band's eponymous debut owes more to Fire Town than Garbage.

I spoke recently with Butch Vig about the new band.

Gregg Shapiro: Emperors of Wyoming reunites you and former Fire Town bandmate Phil Davis. Was that inevitable or unexpected?

Butch Vig: A bit of both really. We've kept in touch over the years, and Phil has continued writing songs. But we live in different cities, so it was damn near impossible to actually record songs together until the technology made it possible to collaborate from our home studios via the Internet. Once we started file-sharing song ideas, the process happened quite easily.

Fire Town emerged from a 1980s Wisconsin music scene that also featured the BoDeans and Violent Femmes. Do you think that Wisconsin musicians got a fair shake at that time?

The music biz doesn't really give fair shakes to anyone — either you've got songs that find an audience or not. Both the Femmes and BoDeans had a lot of success, maybe not Adele "21" success, but they've had long careers.

I notice that West Allis and Highway 43 get shout-outs in "Cornfield Palace."

Well, almost all of the songs have references to Wisconsin. Avalanche Girl is a true story about a whirlwind road trip I took with a 21-year-old femme fatale when I was a naive 16-year-old. Phil sings about the Kickapoo River and "shooting Stite," which was cheap malt liquor we used to guzzle.

If Emperors of Wyoming were invited to play Country Thunder in Twin Lakes in July 2013, would you go?

We have yet to play a live gig, but it's something we're talking about. It's been tough because we all have full-time jobs and families.

Is Emperors' target audience more Country Thunder or insurgent country or a combination of both?

I'm not sure where EOW fits in. I think of us as alt-country, whatever that means. "Avalanche Girl" is starting to get airplay on a variety of radio stations, not just country.

You've had involvement in a variety of musical styles. Which genre reflects your personal music taste?

My mother was a music teacher. I was exposed to all styles of music growing up: Top 40, Frank Sinatra, rock 'n' roll, country music, classical, musicals, jazz, polka music, etc. I would say the new wave/punk explosion in 1979 was a big moment for me.

One of Garbage's biggest hits was the song "Queer." Although not specifically a gay song, it was embraced by the LGBT community. Do you have a gay following?

Garbage had a very diverse fan base: all ages, ethnic backgrounds, and sexual orientations. Shirley has always talked about feeling like an outsider, and I think a lot of our hardcore fans can relate to her lyrics.

www.wisconsin Gazette.com

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'Memphis' dancer says his life imitates the play's heart



PHOTO: PAUL KOLNIK

The cast of "Memphis."

Theater

MICHAEL MUCKIAN

For every loss, there is equal gain, and for every gain equal loss, according to Kyle Leland. That life philosophy has helped the out dancer and choreographer through difficult times, but his current role as dance captain for the traveling production of "Memphis" is most definitely a time of gain and increased self-awareness.

"If you want to understand yourself and the human spirit around you, book a national tour," the Los Angeles native says. "Seeing the same faces every day for an extended period of time reshapes you."

"Memphis," the winner of multiple Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle awards, also is a story of gain and loss. Set in the smoky halls and underground clubs of 1950s Memphis, the narrative charts the cultural revolution that occurs when a white DJ falls for a black chanteuse amid the birth of rock 'n' roll.

"Memphis" features an original Tony-winning score with music by Bon Jovi founding member and keyboardist David Bryan and lyrics by Bryan and Joe DiPietro ("I Love You,

You're Perfect, Now Change"). DiPietro also wrote the musical's book.

The show, part of the Broadway Over America touring series, stops at Milwaukee's Marcus Center for the Performing Arts Jan. 8-13.

For Leland, "Memphis" marks not a revolution, but an evolution in a dance career for which he believes he was destined.

"Dance came to me indirectly, but choreography was given to me by my high school drama instructor as she set her musicals at Nathaniel Narbonne High School in Harbor City, Calif.," Leland says. "Formal training came later."

That training began at choreographer Debbie Allen's Dance Academy, where Leland participated in a talkback session after a performance of "Pepito's Story." Allen liked his comments and invited him to take a free lesson; Leland ended up with a full scholarship and spent three years with Allen.

Stints as a backup dancer followed, most notably one for singer Mylene Farmer. That's a name that few Americans recognize, but she's one of France's most successful recording artists of all times.

"Tens of thousands of fans would faint, scream and claw their way through a sea of (people) just to catch a front-row glimpse of their idol," he says. "As her dancers, we

were treated like royalty."

That period of success ran its course. Soon Leland found himself waiting tables at a restaurant in New York's meatpacking district and wondering what his next move would be.

"After a year of that, I looked in the mirror and was unrecognizable to myself," he said. "What was I doing? Why wasn't I satisfied? Where do I belong? I put in my two-weeks' notice with no prospective job in sight and immediately called my agent to tell her to put me back on the market."

A month later, Leland was teaching hip-hop dance classes in New Jersey, assisting the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater and auditioning as much as possible. Then "Memphis" called.

"This was my third audition for the show in a year and a half," he says. "Six years of New York auditions teach you to detach from the process, mostly to preserve your sanity and wellbeing. But leaving my serving gig must have signaled the universe that I was ready."

Leland was given a six-month contract to serve as a replacement for an injured dancer. He went on to dance in four of the show's numbers, eventually inheriting a fifth number. Next, he landed a role as dance captain, working with Sergio

The dreamer risks everything in pursuing his dream.

Trujillo, the award-winning choreographer after whom Leland began to pattern his new career.

"Watching Sergio work was an enlightening experience," Leland says. "He spoke the language of every department, from the directors to the soundmen to the lighting engineers. (He) had a passion and assertiveness that I really admired and modeled my leadership on."

Which brings Leland to where he is today, a period of gain after loss. The journey thus far has taught the dancer/choreographer to be true to himself and follow his heart. Those same emotions guide the characters in "Memphis," particularly in terms of the inter-racial relationship, a love forbidden in its day. It's part of the show's ultimate message, he says.

"Being free to love whomever we choose is the highest gift we can give to ourselves and to each other," Leland says. "The dreamer risks everything in pursuing his



PHOTO: COURTESY

Kyle Leland.

dream, for the journey is more important than the destination at which he may never arrive."

Leland's destination still lies ahead but, at this point in his career, the dancer/choreographer is confident that he is on the right course.

ON STAGE

"Memphis" runs Jan. 8-13 at Milwaukee's Marcus Center for the Performing Arts. For more information, visit www.marcuscenter.org.

Gilbert & Sullivan return to the Skylight New Year's Eve with a wacky revue that takes a modern approach

Theater

MICHAEL MUCKIAN

History tells us that librettist W.S. Gilbert and composer Arthur Sullivan hated each other so much that they wouldn't communicate for years at a time. When they finally did collaborate, many of their works were left unfinished because they were unsatisfactory to one or the other – or both of them.

But like the proverbial little girl with the little curl, when they were good they were very, very good, and their Victorian-era operettas such as "The Pirates of Penzance," "H.M.S. Pinafore" and others enjoy great popularity to this day. Milwaukee theatrical impresario Dale Gutzman has combined some of the pair's best with his own wacky interpretations to create "Here's Howdy Do: The Mischievous World of Gilbert and Sullivan," which opens at Milwaukee's Skylight Music Theatre on New Year's Eve.

The musical revue is the 25th Skylight production directed by Gutzman, who's the artistic director for Milwaukee's Off the Wall Theatre. Gutzman also wrote the show, and audience members can expect a collision of silliness and song.

"The Skylight thinks this is something I do especially well," says Gutzman, who also was responsible for the "The Bathtub Gin Revue," "Beertown Burlesque" and

"Holiday Punch" – all done in the Gilbert and Sullivan vein. "I write other things as well, but most people seem to know me for my satiric revues."

Fans of Gutzman's "An Evening With Gilbert and Sullivan," produced for the Skylight in 2010, can expect something completely different this time. In fact, audiences should anticipate an entirely new approach to some very familiar material.

"The show is a series of G & S songs performed in totally different ways," Gutzman says. "We are doing some as nightclub jazz pieces, some as parody, and many with just a bit of new or contemporary feeling."

The production includes men singing songs written for women, women singing songs written for men and audience participation using cellphones. There's a production of the "Five-Minute Mikado," complete with a dance number that will truncate the famous songs and reduce the action to just 300 seconds.

"We analyze humorously the G & S formula and the fact that all of their shows are really exactly the same," Gutzman says. "We also do some pieces that the famous team created alone, without each other."

Gilbert and Sullivan each had modest careers prior to coming together in 1871 for

the first of 14 comic operas. Sullivan, the son of a military bandmaster and six years Gilbert's junior, had always wanted to be a serious classical composer. Gilbert, the son of a naval surgeon, had early on developed a "topsy-turvy style" that created absurd situations drawn to their logical conclusions. He was part of London's theatrical reform movement, helping to elevate the acceptability of theater in his day.

The pair was at odds starting early in their joint career. Gilbert was confrontational, but thin-skinned, while Sullivan avoided conflict whenever possible. Gilbert's topsyturvy world often skewered Great Britain's class distinctions, something that complicated Sullivan's pursuit of patronage and support from the upper classes. These differences, coupled with ongoing artistic disagreements, strained the pair's working relationship right up through their last production – "The Grand Duke." Composed in 1896, it was considered by many to be an outright failure.

But the duo had a profound effect on modern musical theater and literature. The works of author P.G. Wodehouse, the songs of Tom Lehrer and Allan Sherman, and even Monty Python's Flying Circus all show an influence, and their work continues to be revived in various forms.

"The friction between the two helped elevate Gilbert's silliness to beauty through the use of Sullivan's music," Gutzman says. "They were

very much like the 'Saturday Night Live' of their day, if SNL (had) to use Sondheim music each week to get its points across."

Gutzman's Skylight production, which stars vocalists Niffer Clarke, Paul Helm, Ray Jivoff and Diane Lane, aspires to combine both the highlights and lowlights of a dual career that has provided moments of both beauty and laughter to audiences for over a century. However, it's not designed to be about Gilbert and Sullivan themselves.

"This show is about what they do to us, rather than about their lives," Gutzman says. "It's about how they get under our skin, how we recall certain memories with them and about how we share the joys of love and laughter through them."

There is no better way to ring in the New Year, Gutzman says.

Follow the news at www.wisconsin Gazette.com.



PHOTO: LITTLEAUGURY.COM

W.S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan

ON STAGE

Skylight Music Theatre's production of "Here's Howdy Do: The Mischievous World of Gilbert and Sullivan" runs Dec. 31–Jan. 18 in the Studio Theatre in Milwaukee's Broadway Theatre Center. Find details at www.skylightmusictheatre.org.

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Thomas Gainsborough, *Mary, Countess Howe*, ca. 1764 (detail), Kenwood House, English Heritage; Iveagh Bequest. Photo courtesy American Federation of Arts.

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PHOTO: COURTESY

Anne Hathaway.

HATHAWAY from page 15

think that it doesn't always pan out and I'm not sure that I believe in the one at first sight. ... I do believe that our souls recognize each other on a deeper level than we are conscious of.

How did you celebrate your 30th birthday?

I threw a costume party. I am on the board of the Public Theater, so I asked them to let me use Joe's Pub and I screened the movie "Auntie Mame" with Rosalind Russell and so we all dressed up as characters from

the show and I got drunk and danced with my friends (laughs).

How do you usually celebrate New Year's?

It's different. I don't have a typical way of celebrating it, it's just wherever my life is at. A few years ago I was at a wedding, sometimes I am with friends, this year I am going to be with friends.

Can you talk about the first time you saw "Les Mis"?

The first time I saw "Les Mis," I was seven

years old and my mother was in it playing the factory girl, and different members of the ensemble. I remember that pretty well, but the first time I really remember connecting with "Les Mis" was when I got to see my mother perform the role of Fantine.

How much did you want this role?

A whole lot. I wanted to be involved in the film because my mother played the part, I always kind of thought that this is her role and untouchable, so I was very familiar with all the other parts. I actually never considered singing "I Dreamed a Dream," but when I

found out that that was the only role that I was up for I just thought, "OK great, then I want to play Fantine" (laughs).

Was it easy going from Catwoman to Fantine?

I found them to be more related than I initially thought they would be. They are both warriors; they are both incredibly strong and all of the physical training that I had to do to play Selena Kyle translated into this and it made me much stronger mentally. It made me much more disciplined and a much harder worker. I needed all of that to play Fantine.

You had a musical sequence with Hugh Jackman three years ago at the Academy Awards. Was that a seed for this project or was it unrelated?

I mean I think it can't help but be related now. I mean, it's just that it put it out there into the universe that Hugh and I wanted to do something musical together. We've been looking for something since then and of course the project that arose had nothing to do with either of us, it just sort of happened and we happened to get the parts together and I am thrilled. I want to do more, that's the thing about Hugh Jackman, just you get a taste and you just want more and more and more.

You have come a long way from "The Devil Wears Prada" to here and your roles are getting more serious. What have you learned?

Yeah (laughs), I don't know where to begin. What have I learned? My only regret from "The Devil Wears Prada" was, I felt so inse-

cure being in the company of the actors I was in, that I didn't let myself enjoy the experience. I learned from that experience that you need to fight through that feeling, you need to take stock of where you are at and even if you don't know that you've deserved it or earned it, enjoy it.

What was your area of study in college?

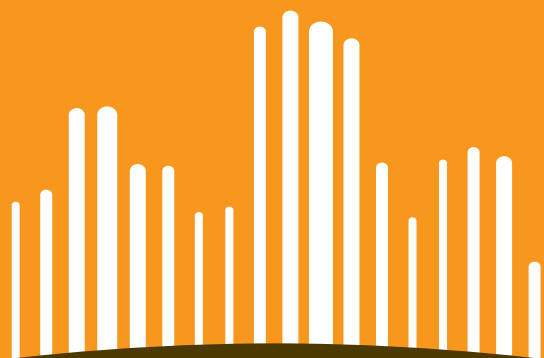
When I was at school, I focused on English literature and romantic poetry.

Was your husband on the set with you when you shot this film?

My husband and I, we had worked it out that I was going to do the first part by myself because he has a job, he has a life, he can't just drop everything to be with me every second, so we planned it that he could only spend a certain amount of time with me throughout the entire shoot. So in the beginning, we were going to be apart and then he was going to come and stay with me when I had to do the weight loss, because I would be so depleted. It was about three days into the weight loss that I realized I was going to have to ask him if he didn't mind me being by myself because he was making me so happy (laughs). And I was having way too much fun (laughs), and I said, "I really need to be a bit more miserable actually," and he went home and I crawled inside the misery of the character just fine without him.

How does it feel to call him your husband instead of boyfriend?

I'm so super into it. I say the word way too much, I like saying it. It feels wonderful and natural and still like very delicious.



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Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

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, through Dec. 31, 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.

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.

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

Milwaukee Art Museum, 700 N. Art Museum Drive, presents **"Western Union: Small Boats,"** an exhibition by queer filmmaker and video artist Isaac Julien ("Looking For Langston," "Young Soul Rebels") through Feb. 17. Visit mam.org.

Ahoy, Matey! Milwaukee Public Museum, 800 W. Wells, presents the exhibition **Real Pirates,** including treasures from the only authenticated pirate shipwreck in the waters of the United States, through May 27. Call 414-278-2702.

DEC. 27, THURSDAY

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

DEC. 28, FRIDAY

Singer **Roxi Copland** performs at 8:30 p.m. at Underground at Intercontinental Milwaukee, 139 E. Kilbourn. Call 414-276-8686.

Delta Center, 400 W. Wisconsin, presents the **Wisconsin's Got Talent** competition during Milwaukee Winterfest, 2-6 p.m. Call 888-887-2402.

The cabaret act **"A Very Good Year,"** featuring Alison Mary Forbes and Brian Myers, performs tonight and tomorrow night at 10:15 p.m. at the Skylight Bar & Bistro, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7811.

DEC. 29, SATURDAY

The Rumskis play Fire on Water, 518 N. Water, at 10 p.m. Call 414-291-4411.

Carte Blanche Studios Theatre, 1024 S. Fifth St., presents **Build,** a weekly DJ event with local and regional artists, at 10 p.m. Call 262-716-4689.

Social/sketch comedy **"Bye Bye Liver"** begins at 9:30 p.m. at ComedySportz, 420 S. First St.



EDITED AND COMPILED BY GREGG SHAPIRO

DEC. 31, MONDAY

Skylight Music Theatre presents **"Here's A Howdy Do – The Mischievous World of Gilbert & Sullivan,"** written and directed by Dale Gutzman, through Jan. 13 in the Studio Theatre at Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Call 414-291-7800.

Ring in the new year at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N. Water, with an evening of waltzes and other Viennese music performed by the **Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra** at 8 p.m. Call 414-273-2787.

Sunset Playhouse, 800 Elm Grove Road in Elm Grove, presents New Year's Eve with the **Ellen Winters Group** at 7 p.m. Call 262-782-4430.

Wisconsin's very own **BoDeans** play a New Year's Eve concert at 10 p.m. at The Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi Bingo Casino, 1721 W. Canal. Call 414-847-7922.



The BoDeans

The Toys play at 8 p.m. at Horny Goat Hideaway, 2011 S. First St. Call 414-482-4628.

The NEWaukee crew hosts **NYE-MKE** at the Milwaukee Art Museum, 700 N. Art Museum Drive, on New Year's Eve, a celebration featuring DJs, live music, a dance performance by Femme Feroce and go-go dancers. Call 414-224-3200.

JAN. 1, TUESDAY

Happy 2013!

The **Cool Fool Kite Festival,** featuring more than 50 kites, ice sculpting and horse-drawn buggy rides, begins at 8 a.m. in Veteran's Park, 1010 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive. Visit giftowings.com.

JAN. 2, 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.

JAN. 3, THURSDAY

Ten more days to see the exhibition **"Rembrandt, Van Dyck, Gainsborough: The Treasures of Kenwood House, London"** at the Milwaukee Art Museum, 700 N. Art Museum Drive. Call 414-224-3200.

JAN. 4, FRIDAY

Catering to the after-work lesbian crowd who "still loves to party but don't want to wait until 10 to get started," Hot Water Night Club, 818 S. Water, hosts **Ladies Night Out** with a piano bar beginning at 5:30 p.m., followed by dance music, 7:30-10:30 p.m. Call 414-383-7593.

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra presents **"Gershwin Favorites: Porgy, Bess & More,"** tonight through Jan. 6 at 8 p.m. at Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N. Water. Call 414-273-2787.

Winner of 12 Tony Awards and a Pulitzer Prize, the musical **"A Chorus Line"** begins at 7:30 p.m. and tomorrow night at Milwaukee Theatre, 500 W. Kilbourn. Call 414-566-1375.



A Chorus Line

JAN. 5, SATURDAY

The Racine Theatre Guild's Comedy Tonight series presents **"Legally Funny"** starring comedian Karen Morgan at 8 p.m. in the RTG's auditorium, 2519 Northwestern Avenue (Highway 38) in Racine.

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

JAN. 7, MONDAY

Hang ten with surfer Kelly Slater in the movie **"Ultimate Wave Tahiti"** in the Dome Theater at Milwaukee Public Museum, 800 W. Wells. Call 414-278-2702.

JAN. 8, TUESDAY

Eric Kahn Gale, reads from his debut y/a novel "The Bully Book," at 7 p.m. at Boswell Book Company, 2559 N. Downer. Call 414-332-1181.

The Marcus Center and Broadway Across America presents the 2010 Tony Award-winning musical **"Memphis,"** through Jan. 13 at Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, at the corner of Water and State. Call 414-273-2787.

JAN. 10, THURSDAY

MadCity Sessions presents **Natty Nation**, 6-8 p.m., Overture Center for the Arts in Madison. Call 608-258-4141.

LGBT people thrive, living, healthy, satisfying lives in safe, supportive communities.



New Year's Check List:

- **Get consistent exercise:** go for a long walk at least three times a week
- **Take care of my body:** get an annual physical and visit the dentist
- **Improve nutrition:** have fun by making healthy meals with friends and family
- **Build healthy relationships:** be authentic and clarify commitments as you develop relationships
- **Get creative:** write a story or poem, sing a song, or paint a picture
- **Recharge yourself:** get sufficient rest and active play time
- **Connect to your community:** engage colleagues, neighbors, and extended family with who you are
- **Stay connected:** find three new healthy places to socialize with friends and family

**Last chance for year-end giving. Please go to diverseandresilient.org/give.
New gifts up to \$500 will be matched by three generous 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.



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