GAY ICON

Barbra Streisand reveals that she can't cook and more as she talks about her new movie "The Guilt Trip," her gay son and her status as a gay icon.

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THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY

Jan. 10, 2013 | Vol. 4, No. 5



By Michael Muckian and Louis Weisberg

WiG writers

Milwaukee's vast and growing cultural scene has not only immeasurably enhanced the region's quality of life but also created a new economy that's helped to mitigate the erosion of its manufacturing base. While other once-great cities in the region have become emblems of the Rust Belt, Milwaukee is evolving into a new life through the arts. The creative industries in Milwaukee have grown to the point that they now have the same economic impact as the construction industry, according to commissioned reports.

Earlier this month, Milwaukee was named one of America's top 12 "ArtPlaces" today by ArtPlace, a public-private coalition of major foundations and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Much of the credit for Milwaukee's transition to a cultural center belongs to the generous contributions of arts patrons, as well

as visionary civic and government leadership. But the cornerstone of the region's cultural development is the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee's Peck School of the Arts.

The Peck School is marking its 50th anniversary with a "Year of the Arts" celebration that includes more than 400 affordable events both on and off campus. That might sound like a lot of celebrating, but then there's a lot to celebrate.

"The Peck School – from our alumni to our students to our faculty (current and past) - have made a profound and lasting impact on the cultural vibrancy, creative industry, quality of life and talent pool here in Milwaukee, in Wisconsin and truly, around the world," says Ellen Schupper, Peck School's director of marketing and community relations.

MAJOR PRESENCE

Founded in 1962 as the nucleus of UWM's combined arts disciplines, the school was renamed in 1999 in honor

PECK page 4

Condom campaign to save the Earth

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer
"This is where the rubber meets the road to rescuing the red fox,' says Wayne Kitchens, who on New Year's Eve received a smartly packaged Endangered Species Condom from a female admirer.

The 19-year-old university student and Madison resident, having grown up in an age of AIDS, knows the importance of a condom in practicing safer sex.

And he knows the value of a condom in preventing an unwanted pregnancy.

But on Dec. 31, 2012, with the small gift in hand, Kitchens considered for the first time the importance of a condom - and other family planning tools - in safeguarding the environment.

"It's a pretty cool way to have a conversation about climate change and population," the math major says of the condom distribution effort."I'm a convert."

Over the end-of-year holidays, the Center for Biological Diversity's 7 Billion and Counting Campaign - the name comes from the size of the Earth's human population shipped 50,000 arty, eye-catching Endangered Species Condoms to volunteers in all 50 states, including 12 volunteer distributors in Wisconsin.

'They are out in the field, with the people leading the distribution efforts," says Jerry Karnas, CBD's new population campaign director.

Karnas, a resident of the boom state of Florida and a veteran in its environmental movement, knows that "a major driver of the species extinction crisis and a major threat to our country's ecological heritage."

"There are more than 3 billion people on the planet under the age of 25," he says. "The choices this generation

CONDOM page 6

News with a twist



STRIKING KISS

In what might be a first, ESPN showed an openly gay male pro athlete kissing his husband. The shot was captured at the 2012 Professional Bowlers Association Chameleon Championship in Las Vegas. After gay bowler Scott Norton won the tournament, he was shown kissing husband Craig Woodward. During the telecast, ESPN's announcers referred to Woodward as Norton's husband or spouse.

Weekdays 10-8 | Sat 10-6 | Sun 11-5

2012 WORDS

The Global Language Monitor analyzed thousands of sources and named "apocalypse" as the top buzzword for 2012 in mostly English-speaking countries. The GLM said people were focused on gloom and doom, but also the frivolous. "Gangnam Style" was the top phrase.

SOME LIKE IT LEFTIST

The FBI recently reissued documents from its file on Marilyn Monroe with fewer redactions. Readers can now see the names of friends and associates that the government suspected of communist leanings. One 1962 entry in the file says, "Subject's views are very positively and concisely leftist; however, if she is being actively used by the Communist Party, it is not general knowledge among those working with the movement in Los Angeles." The file, obtained by

WIGWAG

The Associated Press in a Freedom of Information Request, also contains letters and news clippings on the actress' death, which was ruled a probable suicide.

EVIL PRAYS

Controversy accompanied the installation of Maurizio Cattelan's statue, "HIM," in the former Warsaw Ghetto in Poland. The statue shows Adolf Hitler on his knees and praying. One Jewish advocacy group, the Simon Wiesenthal Center, called the statue's placement "a senseless provocation which insults the memory of the Nazis' Jewish victims." The Center for Contemporary Art said in its commentary on the work, "Every criminal was once a tender, innocent and defenseless child."

MOUNTAIN HIGH

When Colorado's new

marijuana law took effect at the end of December, several members-only pot clubs opened. One, Club 64, is named for the ballot initiative that legalized recreational pot in the state. Members pay \$29.99 to enter the bring-your-ownpot club. Club 64's attorney told the Denver Post that some people can't smoke at home because of a local ordinance or because their landlords might disapprove. "It's just a place for adults to exercise their constitutional rights together," he

UNPOLISHED SHEEN

Celebrity Charlie Sheen made an attempt at an apology for an anti-gay slur uttered at the opening of a bar near Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. Sheen, in a video posted online by TMZ, was introducing musical acts when he said, "Lying bunch of faggots how we doing?" Days later Sheen told TMZ,

By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg

"I meant no ill will and intended to hurt no one and I apologize if I offended anyone. I meant to say maggot but I have a lisp."

CLERICAL KINK

A Springfield, III., priest is on administrative leave after calling 911 to report that he was unable to remove a pair of handcuffs he'd been "playing with."

The Rev. Tom Donovan placed a 911 call on Nov. 28 from the rectory of St. Aloysius Parish asking for help getting out of the cuffs "before this becomes a medical emergency." His voice on the 911 tape released by police sounds garbled or muffled. Donovan was also wearing a gag when they arrived.

HEROIC CHICKEN

A Wisconsin couple says fire clucks, not fire trucks, helped them escape a blaze at their home.

Alma Center Fire Chief Jeff Gaede says the couple was sleeping when a pet chicken woke them at about 6:15 a.m. on Dec. 27. He says the smoke alarms didn't go off when the fire started in the attic of their attached garage.

He says the chicken and a cat also escaped, but another cat died.

The fire destroyed the house. The cause is still being investigated.

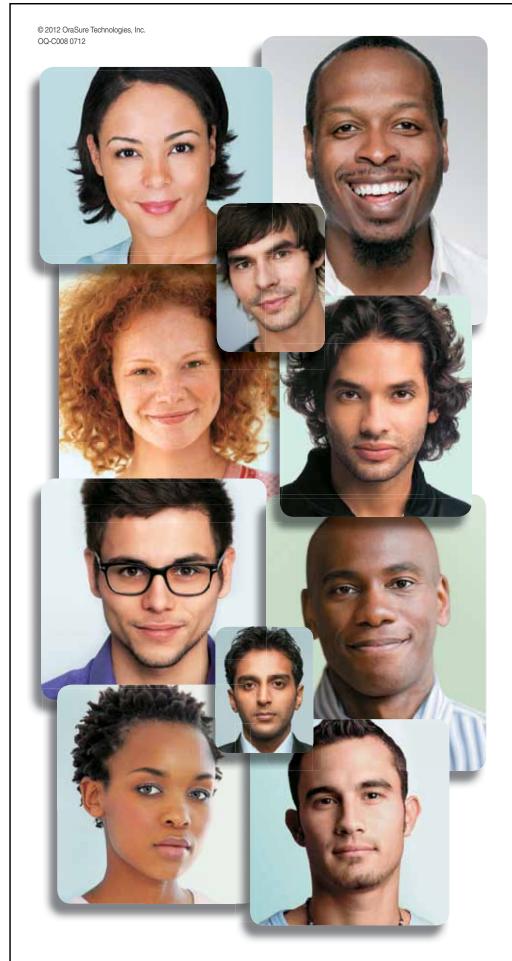
IRONIC TURN

Vermont State Police say a Massachusetts man faces a drunken driving charge after driving onto the lawn of the historic Dorset home once owned by the co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Police say 55-year-old Donald Blood III thought he was driving into a parking lot, but actually it was the lawn of the Wilson House, built in 1852, the birth-place of AA co-founder Bill Wilson.

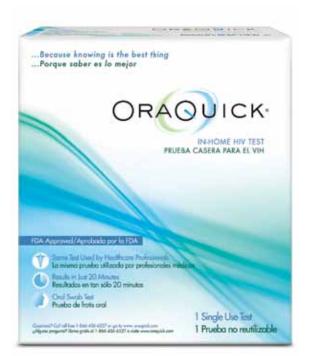
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WISCONSINGAZETTE.COM | January 10, 2013

Peck is a local and national arts incubator

PECK from page oe

of the financial support provided by the Milton and Lillian Peck Foundation. Today, the Peck School is the only comprehensive school of the arts in the University of Wisconsin system. It's home to nearly 125 full-time faculty and staff members, as well as 2,000 students studying disciplines that include art and design, dance, film, music and theater. An inter-arts program combines arts technology and musical theater.

The Peck School has grown into a cultural institution in its own right, but it's also an incubator, pipeline and resource for a large proportion of the area's prolific arts groups. "If you don't have a really robust and multidimensional educational support structure for creative industries, you cannot grow them and you can't sustain them - and you're certainly not going to keep the talent," says Christine Harris, former executive director of the Creative Alliance Milwaukee and current CEO of Christine Harris Connections.

The presence and influence of Peck School alumnican be seen at all levels and in all facets of the region's thriving arts scene. Milwaukee Ballet executive director Dennis Buehler is a Peck alum, as are Milwaukee Film Festival director Jonathan

Jackson and Jonathan Winkle, director of Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts in Brookfield.

Alumni Kevin Stalheim, the founder and director of Present Music, and Dani Kuepper, the founder and director Danceworks, are among the Peck School graduates who have expanded the city's cultural scene. So has Michael Cotey, founder and director of Youngblood Theatre Company, whose other members are also Peck graduates.

"You can't go to any arts organizations in southeastern Wisconsin and not bump into at least one of our alums," says Peck School's interim dean Scott Emmons. "The impact has been incredible."

Peck faculty also have played a prominent role. Dick Chudnow, founder of the popular ComedySportz, teaches at Peck, faculty artists exhibit their work in Milwaukee and around the world and faculty musicians perform with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and other groups.

Peck School itself has grown the region's cultural offerings through its Inova gallery, one of the city's most important exhibition sites for the visual arts, along with such performance venues as Helen Bader Concert Hall, Helene Zelazo Center for the Performing Arts, Mainstage Theatre, Studio Theatre

and Studio 254.

But one of Peck School's most important functions is helping to ensure that the area's arts tradition continues. Every school district in southeastern Wisconsin has a visual or performing arts faculty member who studied at Peck School. As teachers, they are preparing the next generation of arts leadership and talent.

BROAD INFLUENCE

While their impact is most keenly felt in southeastern Wisconsin, Peck School alumni hold positions of cultural influence worldwide. The Fine Arts quartet is worldrenown, Qwith an extensive recording legacy and global performance history that stretches over the past 50 years. The Washington Post calls the quartet "one of the gold-plated names in chamber music."

Henry Godinez, who received an MFA from Peck's theater program, serves as resident artistic associate at Chicago's Tony Awardwinning Goodman Theatre. Peck School alumna Michelle Grabner, chair of the painting and drawing department at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, was recently named a curator for the \ Whitney Biennial.

Oscar-nominated film actor Willem Dafoe and visual effects master Jim Rygiel, who won an Academy Award for his work on "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring," also attended Peck School. So did composers Jerome Kitzke and Josh Schmidt, as well as Broadway actor Chike Johnson, who appeared most recently in



Dani Kuepper



The Peck School's Fine Arts Quartet performs all over the globe and has an extensive recording legacy. Music critics consider it one of the world's finest chamber groups.

the Great White Way's revival of "Wit."

Peck alumnus Eric Haywood has directed and produced music videos for Usher, Cee-Lo Green and Tupac Shakur. He's also written for Showtime and the Hallmark Channel, and most recently wrote and directed the independent feature film "Four of Hearts."

For Haywood, Peck School offered the opportunity to learn filmmaking without leaving his hometown. The equipment and technology available at the school provided him with the opportunity to gain practical experience while studying the underlying theory. Even before graduation, he began his transition to "the real world" by writing and directing music videos for local artists.

"Working with a production company for paying clients (and) the pressures of bigger budgets — it was just a continuation of my education," Haywood says.

While Haywood's education at Peck School led him elsewhere, actor James DeVita's education brought him here to stay. A native of Long Island, N.Y., he originally decided to study at Peck because he wanted to lose his thick accent, and Peck's theater department has a strong reputation for speech and voice training.

"Susan Sweeney, the voice and speech instructor, changed my life," he says. "That's not hyperbole.

I wouldn't be where I am today without her. She didn't just teach me how to speak, but about everything involved with acting."

Following graduation, DeVita worked for the Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre and First Stage Children's Theater. He currently performs with the American Players Theatre in Spring Green, where he also directs and serves as company literary manager. He's also written two novels.

DeVita enjoys the life he's made for himself in Wisconsin, especially the relationship he has developed with the theater community over the years: "I meet people all the time who say things like, 'I saw you perform as a student at UWM!' Or a 25-year-old will come up to me and say, 'You taught me at First Stage when I was nine!' The community has a sense of ownership - they've seen us succeed and fail, they watched us grow up. That's an exciting part of the theater."

\$300M IMPACT

Two recent studies found Milwaukee compares favorably to similarly sized and larger communities in the extent and quality of the arts, as well as their economic impact. Peck School has played a significant role in this success.

Conducted by Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading nonprofit organiza-

tion for advancing the arts, "Arts and Economic Prosperity IV" looked at the arts' financial impact on Milwaukee. Researchers found that Milwaukee's nonprofit arts and culture organizations provide employment for more than just administrators, artists, curators, choreographers and musicians. They also employ financial staff, facility managers, salespeople, and others who contribute to the vibrancy as well as the viability of the local economy.

Given the sluggishness of recent overall economic trends, results from the 2010 fiscal year study are astounding. Arts and culture in the greater Milwaukee area generated \$299.6 million in total economic activity in 2010, according to the report. The \$220.4 million spent by nonprofit arts and culture organizations, combined with the \$79.3 million in event-related spending by audiences, supported 10,895 full-time equivalent jobs, generated \$231.7 million in household income and delivered \$38.4 million in local and state government revenue.

"This economic impact study sends a strong signal that when we support the arts, we not only enhance our quality of life, but we also invest in Milwaukee's economic well-being," researchers said.

A similar report commis-

PECK see next page

A YEAR OF CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES

Peck School's Year of the Arts, which began last fall, encompasses more than 400 on- and off-campus programs, including world premiere works and signature events involving relationships with more than 60 community and campus partners. The celebration began with the college's annual LGBT Film/Video Festival, which is considered one of the nation's best. The festival continues all year with monthly screenings.

Upcoming events for the celebration's second season include:

• "Winterdances," a program offering a variety of works choreographed by award-winning Peck alumni, Jan. 24–27 at UWM Mainstage Theatre.

• "The Wild Party," an acclaimed musical by Andrew Lippa, plays at Helen Bader Concert Hall Feb. 8–10.

• On March 7, "Beyond the Score," a multimedia presentation of the history of Antonin Dvorák's "New World Symphony," is followed by a performance of the work at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts. The unique event brings together the UWM Music Department, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Faculty member Michelle Grabner's installation at Inova gallery.

sioned by the Cultural Alliance of Greater Milwaukee and the Greater Milwaukee Committee used 2009 data. In that study, researchers Mt. Auburn Associates reported that 4.2 percent of Milwaukee's workforce operates within the creative industry. That figure compares favorably to communities like Atlanta, which reported 4.6 percent, and bests cities such as Charlotte and Cleveland, which reported 3.6 percent and 3.4 percent, respectively.

National figures show 3.7 percent of all U.S. employees and 3.6 percent of all Wisconsin employees work in the creative industry, putting Milwaukee's creative impact ahead of both state and national norms.

"Southeast Wisconsin's economy and prosperity will depend less on how much it produces and more on what it produces, less on its cost of living and more on its quality of living, less on its workers' skills and more on its people's talents, less on corporate identities and more on entrepreneurial energies," Mt. Auburn researchers concluded.

REMOVING BARRIERS

Faculty and administrators at the Peck School understand the impact their programs have on local, state and even national-level arts organizations. Future plans include increasing efforts that bring together various businesses, both within and outside the artistic disciplines.

"We plan to remain in our various disciplines, but we will increase our collaboration," Emmons says. "Life doesn't exist in little boxes, and we're learning that we need to be leaders in removing barriers to growth."

An ongoing partnership between the Peck School and UWM's College of Engineering & Applied Science has some 60 students from both disciplines working together to blend creative approaches and practical applications to create marketable solutions to problems and opportunities. Collaborative efforts are spreading to other schools within UWM as well.

Peck has joined forces with various city businesses and enterprises to seek solutions to issues that are both financially viable and esthetically sound as part of arts' evolving approach in society, Emmons says.

An excellent example is the Harmony Initiative, says Christine Harris. The project has united the resources and the missions of the Peck School and the Milwaukee Ballet with Froedtert and The Medical College of Wisconsin. Together, these organizations will develop an estimated 90,000-square-foot building, probably at the site of the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts parking structure, to fill their individual and collective needs.

The structure will house the Milwaukee Ballet's offices, bringing the group from an obscure building in the Fifth Ward into a more central and visible location. Studios for the ballet and its school, as well as a performance center with upt to 400 seats for small dance performances, will also occupy the building.

In addition, the facility will have a sports medicine clinic for the ballet and the general public to use.

"It will be one of the finest dance facilities in the country and a showcase for dance performance, dance education, dance therapy and dance research," according to the Harmony Initiative's website at www4.uwm.edu/ psoa/harmony.





Actor James DeVita, left, came to Peck School from New York and wound up staying in Wisconsin, where he currently is associated with the American Players Theatre. Eric Haywood is a Milwaukeean whose studies at Peck led to a national career in filmmaking.

"This is an example of a really integrated, collaborative partnership that will grow support for and access to all three of those organizations," Harris says. "UWM sees itself as an urban resource for the community, not just an isolated campus. This is an example of how they reach out and participate in the community. It's an example of how UWM has been inventive and proactive in its thinking.'

The National Endowment for the Arts awarded the ballet a \$100,000 grant for the project last summer.

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Family planning is a health and welfare issue, but also an environmental issue

CONDOM from page I

makes will determine whether our planet and its wildlife and natural resource base are burdened with 8 billion or 15 billion people. The difference between these paths can be measured by how many other species are left to roam alongside us."

In the 1970s, population growth was an integral component of the environmental movement. Agendas changed over the years and, for various reasons, the movement veered away from the focus.

But since at least 2009, the Center for Biological Diversity has worked to bring back a focus on population growth with an approach that celebrates common goals with others in the broader progressive community.

"Some of the past efforts on population resulted in coercion, a lack of respect," says Karnas. "This campaign is about education, empowerment and freedom. People want access to family planning and they don't get it....We're trying to call attention to that, and respect diversity, human rights and freedom of choice."

CBD emphasizes that access to family planning is a universal human right – a health and welfare issue – but also an environmental issue.

So in 2011 and 2012, when the right wing challenged the contraceptive mandate in the Affordable Care Act, CBD stood with women's rights groups, as well as LGBT and

other civil rights organizations, in defending the provision.

The center also hailed the recent declaration from the United Nations Population Fund that access to family planning is an essential human right. UNFPA executive director Babatunde Osotimehin said, "Women who use contraception are generally healthier, better educated, more empowered in their households and communities and more economically productive. Women's increased labor-force participation boosts nations' economies."

In the paper, the U.N. fund declared that access to family planning benefits women, their families, their communities and the environment.

OF PANTHERS AND FAMILY PLANNING

From 1800 to 1930, the world's human population went from I to 2 billion. By 1975, the population had doubled again. By October 2011, the world's population had surpassed 7 billion. CBD says the population increase is "staggering" and the consumption it drives is "massive," overwhelming the Earth. Species once abundant in North America — the Rocky Mountain grasshopper, the woodland bison, the Culebra parrot of Puerto Rico, for example — are gone forever.

Most biologists seem to agree that the Earth is experiencing a mass extinction – its sixth and the first one that is man-made and

tied to unsustainable population growth. Species are disappearing about 1,000 times faster than usual in the planet's history.

In the United States, species threatened with extinction by human overpopulation include the Atlantic bluefin tuna, the loggerhead sea turtle, Lange's metalmark butterfly, the Mississippi gopher frog, the Gulf sturgeon, the San Joaquin kit fox, the polar bear and the Florida panther, which once ranged throughout the southeastern United States and now survives in a tiny area of South Florida. Experts estimate there are 100-120 panthers left, and the animals continue to face human threats. Just last year, motorists struck and killed 26 panthers.

A U.S. report on a proposal to protect 66 coral species cites "the common root or driver" of the threats faced by coral reefs as human population growth.

Another report, released by the U.S. Department of the Interior, raises questions about the ability of the Colorado River to meet the needs of a growing population in the western United States.

SYNERGY OF CAUSES

Karnas says the Endangered Species Condoms are "a great way to get a conversation started about how the growing human population is affecting the wild world around us, especially animals already teetering on the edge of extinction."

Since 2009, CBD has given away 450,000

condoms. For the holiday campaign, the non-profit received applications from 5,000 people who wanted to volunteer as distributors. Given the interest, CBD may launch distribution efforts for Valentine's Day and Earth Day.

Karnas says the campaign is popular, in part, because "the condoms are cool, beautifully packaged."

Another appealing aspect of the campaign is its synergy of causes.

"People understand generally that the more space we take up, the more we consume, the less room there is for wildlife," Karnas says. "But ... there's this untapped reservoir of activism. This gives people the opportunity in a fun, creative way to engage. What we're trying to do is emphasize that access to family planning is a universal human right. But it is not just a social issue, it is an environmental issue."

The distributors are dispensing the condoms at health clinics, bars, nightclubs and house parties, and engaging people in conversations about the link between the overpopulation of the human species and the decimation of other animal species and plants.

"We are not helping ourselves, other species nor the planet Earth by unwanted pregnancies," says Wisconsin volunteer Lisa Lind. She plans to distribute condoms at the bars during NFL playoff games because "it is a great place to have the conversations and no doubt the need for them will be there as well."

Volunteer Rhea Esposito of Green Bay handed out condoms at a New Year's Eve party and gave some to a friend who teaches philosophy at the University of Wisconsin–Green Bay.

"In general, it triggered short conversations about population control," says Esposito, a doctoral student. "Several people made jokes about whether we should all stop reproducing, which I would explain was not the point of the campaign, just that people should reproduce responsibly."

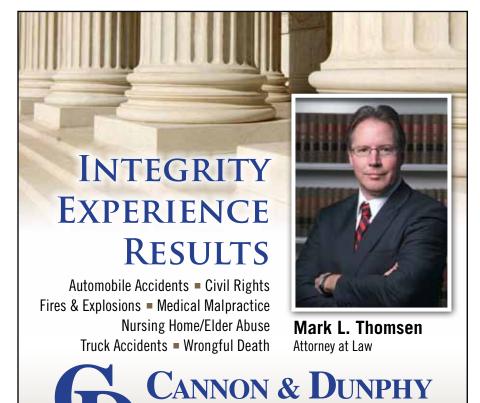
She adds that some who received the condom gifts hadn't "thought about overpopulation and the influence on the environment and endangered species. Mostly they'd made reproductive decisions based on smaller-scale impacts on their immediate lives. ... I think it was good to highlight the larger-scale effects."

Esposito says, "I became interested in the campaign when I heard about it from a newsletter from the CBD, because I agree with them that human overpopulation is a huge environmental problem that is often overlooked. And I liked the idea of doing something about this to increase awareness of the connection."

Wisconsin isn't experiencing the population growth of some other states, especially warm-weather states such as Florida, where about 1,000 people move every day and the population doubles every 20 years.

But Wisconsin, which in 1972 passed the

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Forging a future

CONDOM from page 6

first endangered species bill in the nation, is home to species in trouble.

Federally threatened or endangered species in the state include the Canada lynx, Kirtland's warbler, piping plover, whooping crane, Eastern massasauga, the winged mapleleaf, Hines emerald dragonfily, Karner blue butterfly and the poweshiek skipperling.

Surveys indicate the black tern population in Wisconsin has declined as much as 36 percent in recent years and 78 percent over a 30-year period. Once reported at 79 sites, the bird was found in just seven breeding colonies in 2010.

The upland sandpiper also is in decline, as large blocks of idle and or grazed grasslands are consumed by development.

CBD and its condom distributors – Wisconsin's volunteers are in Madison, Green Bay, South Milwaukee, Sheboygan, Milltown, Redgranite and Sawmill – know protecting these species and others is complicated. But they also know a simple truth – taking care to plan families is taking care of the Earth.

Karnas calls it connecting the dots.

He says, "Universal access to birth control, a rapid transition to clean energy, robust land-acquisition programs and much smarter growth policies can combine to forge a future for wild-life and a high quality of life for people. There's no better time to start than in the new year of 2013."



Endangered Species Condoms come in colorful packages and in-the-moment catchphrases, including "In the sack? Save the leatherback," "Don't go bare ... panthers are rare" and "Wrap with care ... save the polar bear."





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Baldwin takes oath amid progress, challenges



Speaker of the House John Boehner swears in openly gay freshman U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, D-Wis., standing on the right, with his husband Phil Frank in the center.

Vice President Joe Biden administers the Senate Oath to Sen. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis., during a swearing-in ceremony on Capitol Hill on Jan. 3, as the 113th Congress officially began.

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Every two years, a new class of U.S. senators assumes the duties of the office. For the first time in U.S. history, the new class includes an openly gay member - Democrat Tammy Baldwin

Baldwin, after serving in the U.S. House since 1999, took her oath in the Senate on Jan. 3. Meanwhile, in the U.S. House, six out gay members - a record - were sworn into office. Openly gay U.S. Reps. Jared Polis of Colorado and David Cicilline of Rhode Island were joined by gay Reps. Mark Pocan of Wisconsin, Sean Patrick Maloney of New York and Mark Takano of California and bisexual Rep. Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona.

The out representatives, all of them Democrats, serve in the minority party - there are 233 Republicans and 200 Democrats in the House. The freshman class of 84 also includes the first Hindu elected to Congress, Tulsi Gabbard of Hawaii, and the first Buddhist, Asian-American woman and Japanese-born citizen, Mazie Hirono of Hawaii.

Baldwin, assigned to committee seats on health, education, labor and pensions; budget; homeland security and aging, serves in the majority party - there are 53 Democrats, 45 Republicans and two independents in the Senate. The 12-member freshmen class is made up of three Republicans, eight Democrats and one independent.

Baldwin, in addition to being the first openly gay person elected to the Senate, is the first woman elected to the Senate from Wisconsin.

One of the first orders of business in the House was to select its leadership. John Boehner was re-elected House Speaker with 220 votes, only three more than the number required.

And initial House votes included a controversial rules package that authorized the House legal team, known as the Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group, to keep paying outside counsel to defend the Defense of Marriage Act in court. Republican lawmakers have spent at least \$1.5 million to defend the act, the subject of a Supreme Court challenge this year.

Evan Wolfson, of the Freedom to Marry advocacy group, said, "It's truly disheartening that, on a day of new beginnings on Capitol Hill, the leadership of the House of Representatives is advancing a measure ... to continue spending taxpayer dollars on expensive lawyers to defend the so-called Defense of Marriage Act in court. ...It's past time for the Republican leadership to listen to their constituents, a majority of whom support the freedom to marry and stop wasting precious resources in an effort to treat fellow Americans as second-class citizens."

On Jan. 4, the new Congress held a joint session to count the electoral votes for the 2012 presidential election, which returned Barack Obama to the White House for another four years.

The 57th presidential inauguration takes place on Jan. 21, the day after a private swearing-in ceremony at the White House. Four former presidents – Jimmy Carter, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton and George W. Bush - will serve as honorary co-chairs. The inaugural theme is "Faith in America's Future."

"Our nation has faced countless challenges throughout its history, and each time we have come together as Americans and moved forward with renewed strength," said U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer, chair of the Joint Congressional

Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies. "During the 57th presidential inauguration, Americans from across the country will gather beneath the Capitol Dome to celebrate our history, take measure of how far we have come and look towards our future with hope and

Civil rights advocates are focusing on a number of measures they want to advance in the 113th Congress, including banning workplace discrimination against LGBT people, repealing the antigay Defense of Marriage Act and enacting policies to curb anti-LGBT harassment in schools and protect bi-national same-sex couples from deportations.

However, with the partisan divides in the House and Senate - and extended use of the filibuster - civil rights advances over the next two years are more likely to take place within the Obama administration and federal agencies than courtesy of Congress.

A report from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force shows that over the past four years an actively pro-LGBT administration has "reaped more successes in securing equal access to federal programs and benefits for the LGBT community than during any other period in United States history."

During Obama's first term substantial change came with administration initiatives on housing, health care, education and justice. NGLTF, in its paper, concluded, "It is undeniable the last four years have been the most successful in advancing LGBT priorities at the federal level.... It is entirely possible, given candidate Romney's posture in both the primary and general elections, that this progress would have been halted, or possibly reversed, if he had been

IN THE 113TH CONGRESS

LGBT civil rights advocates will lobby the new Congress for passage of the:

- Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which would extend federal employment discrimination protections to include sexual orientation and gender identity and prohibit employers, employment agencies and labor unions from using sexual orientation or gender identity as the basis for employment decisions.
- Family Leave Insurance Act, which would grant essential benefits to working families by providing 12 weeks of paid family medical leave coverage to employees seeking to take leave to care for their families, including leave to care for a domestic partner and children in a same-sex household.
- Safe Schools Improvement Act, which would amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to require federally-funded schools and districts to adopt codes of conduct prohibiting bullying and harassment, including on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. The bill also would require that states report data on bullying and harassment to the U.S. Department of Education and that the department provide data to Congress.
- The Respect for Marriage Act, which would repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and restore the rights of all lawfully married same-sex couples to receive the benefits of marriage under federal law. The bill also provides same-sex couples with certainty that federal benefits and protections would flow from a valid marriage celebrated in a state where such marriages are legal, even if a couple moved or traveled to another
- Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act, which would require colleges and universities receiving federal student aid funding to prohibit harassment and to establish a grant program to support campus antiharassment programs.
- · Uniting American Families Act, which would amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to include samesex partners as "family" for issues related to immigrant visas and green cards.
- Lisa Neff

Marriage equality campaigns intensify for 2013

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Lawmakers and civil rights leaders in as many as seven states are organizing to advance marriage equality this year, including in neighboring Illinois.

Illinois state Sen. Heather Steans, D-Chicago, moved the Religious Freedom and Marriage Fairness Act through the Senate Executive Committee on Jan. 3, securing an 8-5 vote that sent the bill to the full Senate.

Illinois state Rep. Greg Harris, D-Chicago, is driving marriage equality in the General

"We have come so far," said Bernard Cherkasov of Equality Illinois, the state's largest LGBT civil rights group. "Just to be able to witness the historic public debate over the desire of all loving, committed couples to be able to marry in Illinois is a major accomplishment. And with the landmark action by the Senate Executive Committee in favor of the bill, for the first time ever an Illinois legislative body voted to extend the freedom to marry. Never before has the issue gone this far in the Illinois legislature."

It was unclear when floor votes might take place. As WiG went to press, Steans and Harris were prepared to re-introduce the bill into the new, more Democratic, Legislature seated on Jan. 9.

measure by Valentine's Day.

On the pro-equality side in Illinois, a

White House spokesman told the press in late December, "Were the president still in the Illinois State Legislature, he would support this measure that would treat all Illinois couples equally.'

Also, a coalition of more than 200 pastors and rabbis released an open letter saying civil gay marriage is a matter of equality, conscience and justice.

Lawmakers received another letter endorsing same-sex marriage from a group of African-American leaders who said, "We remember that not long ago, some states defined marriage as limited to people of the same race. We were told marriage between people of different races was 'unnatural' and that society would be eroded if marriage changed. The truth is, marriage has evolved throughout history to reflect the needs and progress of society.'

That passage was a direct reference to a letter penned by Cardinal Francis George in which he called gay marriage "unnatural" and against God.

George, in his statement, encouraged church members to lobby lawmakers to vote against the marriage equality bill. If the legislation passes, he warned, "We will all have to pretend to accept something that is contrary to the common sense of the human race."

George also said "human dignity and Gov. Pat Quinn has said he wants to sign a human rights are then reduced to the whims of political majorities."

Opinion polls, however, show that more

Illinois voters were on the pro-equality side of the issue.

On Jan. 2 and Jan. 3, some of those voters rallied at the Capitol in Springfield.

More rallied on Jan. 5 at the Illinois James R. Thompson Center in Chicago in a demonstration sponsored by The Civil Rights Agenda, Join The Impact Chicago, Queer Fest America and Gay Liberation Network.

Marriage equality also is on the agendas in Delaware, Minnesota, Hawaii, New Jersey, Rhode Island and California in 2013.

Activists in Delaware Minnesota and Hawaii are focused on lobbying state lawmakers, while in Rhode Island, the only New England state where gay marriage is not legal, a bill was introduced on Jan. 3.

And, after victories at the ballot boxes in 2012, some in New Jersey are considering a voters' initiative. Gov. Chris Christie vetoed a marriage equality bill in early 2012, saying voters should decide the issue. Civil rights advocates said the majority shouldn't decide the rights of a minority, but those objections were made before voters in Maine, Maryland and Washington approved gay marriage.

In late December, New Jersey Assemblyman Reed Gusciora said if the "bully-in-chief" wouldn't sign a marriage bill then a popular vote is the only choice.

Californians, meanwhile, are awaiting a final word from the U.S. Supreme Court on the constitutionality of the state's anti-gay marriage amendment, enacted when voters approved Proposition 8 in 2008. A pro-gay ruling, if broad enough, could topple other anti-gay amendments in other states. There are 30 of them, including one in Wisconsin.

LGBT civil rights advocates also are working on passing anti-discrimination legislation in Utah and West Virginia this year, as well as advancing domestic partnership measures in cities and counties.



Lambda Legal has sued the state of Illinois for marriage equality and is backing the legislative campaign.

ON THE RECORD

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{ Editorial }

Walker's art-less **leadership**

Let's face it: Tea party events are not where you'd go scouting for the next Einstein or Mozart. The nation's current crop of conservatives is fiercely antiintellectual and combative toward the arts. They're threatened by people who respect facts and the messy complexity of reality when they're incapable of absorbing anything that can't be reduced to a 15-second bite on Fox News.

The GOP's catering to these voters in recent years explains why people with graduate degrees have consistently voted Democratic since Bill Clinton's 1992 presidential race. It also reveals why the disconnects in tea party ideology seems so Kafka-esque to even the most modest of thinkers.

Skeptics question why conservatives oppose birth control while claiming to hate abortion. After all, effective birth control can prevent unwanted pregnancies that lead to abortion. And why do they emphasize individual liberties yet welcome government intrusion into the bedrooms and underwear of LGBT citizens.?The greatest problem facing the nation is lagging job growth. In that area, the arts in Milwaukee perform on a par with the construction industry, according to recent studies. Yet, the radical right reserves its greatest disdain for arts funding. Could that be because LGBT people are such an integral part of the arts scene?

As our cover story on UWM's Peck School of the Arts makes clear, the creative industries not only enhance the quality of life in southeastern Wisconsin, but they also draw desirable new businesses and residents to the area while furnishing a boom in arts tourism. The ripple effects are felt throughout the economy. Arts tourists spend 60 percent more at local restaurants and businesses than locals.

Even before college dropout Scott Walker overran Madison with his backwoods militia friends, the state already ranked 43rd in terms of per-capita arts spending. It is only through generous arts patrons, local civic leadership and institutions such as Peck School and MIAD that Milwaukee's arts economy - one of the most promising economic sectors of the future – has remained above the national average.

Walker and crew, however are determined to put a stop to that. They cut Wisconsin Arts Board state funding by 73 percent, reduced the staff from 10 employees to four and relocated the WAB inside the Department of Tourism, where it lacks the autonomy to make arts-related decisions.

Funding of the WAB amounts to only .013 percent of the state budget, while the arts account for 3.6 percent of employment within the state. Any reasonable person interested in the state's future would see the disconnect in those figures.

In addition to stripping away arts funding, Walker's drastic cuts to public education have resulted in the loss of untold school programs that foster the arts leaders and entrepreneurs of the future.

No wonder Walker's record on jobs is the second worst in the nation. Data covering the 12 months from June 2011 to June 2012 shows that Wisconsin's position worsened from a rank of 37 in the previous period from March 2011 to March 2012. He lacks the insight, vision and intellect needed in a leader. Instead of lifting up the state, he seems determined to sink everyone to the level of the lowest common denominator.

WiG's WEB PICKS



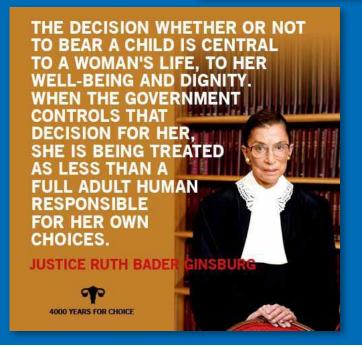




Some of our favorite recent pictorials from cyberspace









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ON THE RECORD

"I think probably the thing that
... really touched me the most
in my time at Log Cabin is Bush
administration colleagues and
army colleagues being so supportive (of repealing 'don't ask, don't
tell') ... and so congratulatory once
the repeal succeeded."

R. CLARKE COOPER, of the Log Cabin Republicans, telling a reporter what he's most proud of about his tenure. Cooper stepped down after serving for two election cycles.

"Two men or two women cannot consummate a marriage. It's a physical impossibility."

 Chicago CÁRDINAL FRANCIS GEORGE sharing his lack of imagination with the Chicago Tribune.

"New York state allows all its citizens the freedom to marry the person they love. Under the Tenth Amendment, the federal government has a constitutional responsibility to respect New York's right to set its own laws. It's my job to see that it does."

– U.S. REP. RICHARD HANNA, R-N.Y., announcing his support for the Respect for Marriage Act, a bill that seeks to overturn the anti-gay Defense of Marriage Act. Hanna is the second Republican to sign on to the measure. The first was Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla.

"My favorite place to perform is London, because I have never seen more gay people."

– Entertainer MILEY CYRUS explaining why she loves the British capital. Early in 2012, Cyrus criticized the president of Urban Outfitters for supporting then-presidential candidate Rick Santorum, whose anti-gay views were central to his campaign.

"Go f*ck yourself."

Speaker of the House JOHN BOEHNER, R-Ohio, speaking to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., in the White House lobby shortly after Reid accused Boehner of catering to tea party zealots rather than serving the country during fiscal cliff negotiations. The altercation was reported to Politico by several different sources who claimed to have overheard.

"People think, 'Oh, she's been single for too long. That's kind of an insult to the gay community. Being single doesn't mean you're gay. But I'm never insulted by it, obviously. I mean, I get hit on by the hottest girls ever. Oh, my God, if I were a lesbian, I would be so in luck. But it's just not my thing."

- Singer KELLY CLARKSÓN talking about widespread rumors that she's gay with Cosmopolitan magazine.

"The Second Amendment isn't for 'duckhunting.' It's to protect us from tyrannical government. ... I'm here to tell you 1776 will commence again if you try to take our firearms!"

 Right-wing radio host ALEX JONES discussing the petition to deport CNN host Piers Morgan for his gun-control advocacy.

Feminist pioneer Lerner dead at 92



On Jan. 2, we lost another feminist pioneer. The esteemed historian Gerda Lerner, a longtime University of Wisconsin professor, died in Madison at age 92.

Lerner was a leader in the field of women's history, launching the first master's degree program in women's history at Sarah Lawrence College in the 1970s and the first doctoral program in women's history at the University of Wisconsin in 1980. The UW program is one of the most prestigious in the nation and has produced dozens of exceptional historians who are teaching and publishing important scholarship on women.

Lerner was an immensely knowledgeable and disciplined woman who demanded rigorous standards of scholarship from her students. No one ever took her courses for "easy" credits, that's for sure. Students who stuck through their coursework, accepted criticism

and wrote endless revisions emerged as better scholars and could take real pride in their achievement.

I think Lerner's stern

teaching methods stemmed from two things. She had an old school, perhaps even Old World belief (given that she was born in Vienna in 1920) in strict standards of scholarship and accountability. As a pioneer of women's history, which was constantly attacked by traditional historians, she knew that the new methods, theories and findings of women's history needed to be accurate, carefully considered and able to withstand criticism.

In addition to training generations of new scholars, Lerner published many influential books and essays on women's history.

The first Lerner book I read was an anthology she edited called "Black Women in White America," which is still used in many schools. It's a collection of first-person narratives that convey the experiences of African-American women from slavery to the 1970s. In voices that are alternately heartwrenching and assertive, the

women discuss slave labor, family life, the struggle for education, domestic work, overcoming stereotypes, racial pride and more.

Lerner's magnum opus is a two-volume study that grapples with the core issues of women's history: subordination and liberation.

In "The Creation of Patriarchy," Lerner explores the roots of patriarchal dominance, concluding that it was an evolutionary development that stretched from about 3100 to 600 B.C.E. It likely originated with the dawn of agriculture. Because women's labor and children became significant assets, men sought economic advantage by controlling women's reproductive capacities and freedom of movement. Lerner contends that women's subordination provided the model for private property and slavery. Male dominance was enforced through laws, customs and religious dogma. It was institutionalized further by increasingly hierarchical organs of church and state. The only good news is that because patriarchal control was a culturally constructed

process, it was not inevitable but alterable.

In "The Creation of Feminist Consciousness," Lerner travels from the Middle Ages to the late 19th century to trace women's long slog toward self-awareness. The development of feminist consciousness was stymied primarily by the denial of education reinforced by legal, religious and occupational restrictions. It was not until the 19th century that increased literacy, growing economic independence, knowledge of women's historical oppression and new female networks demanding reforms expanded women's roles and opportunities.

Some politicians today want to restrict reproductive, educational and occupational choices for women. Gerda Lerner's writing implicitly calls for resistance to turning back the tide of progress. This extraordinary woman was jailed by the Nazis in her native Austria in 1938. Her passion for justice ran deep. We have much to learn from her writing and her example.

Follow us on Facebook.

Victories pave the way forward for 2013



I recently attended the swearing-in receptions for U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin and U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan. It was inspirational to be on Capitol Hill on such a historic day. Seeing Baldwin standing behind a podium with the U.S. Senate Seal provided a sense that all of the work was worth it. It gave me hope that the I 13th Congress has the ability to move our community forward.

At the Equality Wisconsin holiday party in December, Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele challenged Equality Wisconsin to raise \$50,000 to increase our efforts to repeal the constitutional ban on same-sex marriage. Abele promised to match every penny that

is raised by Jan. 31 up to \$50,000. This generous challenge also provided Equality Wisconsin with a great source of inspiration to kick off 2013.

With the recent victories in Washington, Maryland, Maine and Minnesota, the time is now to engage people in conversations about why marriage equality is important. When Nathan and I decided to get married, it was because we loved one another and wanted to make a lifelong commitment. That is the message we must take to the streets - that, like straight couples, loving samesex couples want to get married because they love each

Wisconsin has a great history of being a beacon of progressive hope for the Midwest. In 1982, Wisconsin became the first state in the nation to pass an employment non-discrimination law that included sexual orientation. While the law needs to be expanded to include protections for our transgender brothers and sisters, it was a great moment for our state.

Leaders such as former state Sen. Gary Goyke, a champion of numerous progressive issues, made that moment possible. Now as Evan, Gary's son, follows in his father's footsteps to the Assembly, I'm confident that he will make a great legislator and ally for our community.

We can't accomplish this alone. We need your help to move this conversation forward.

We recently announced the formation of our Marriage Equality Committee, which will work on engaging Wisconsin in conversations about marriage equality and training community members on how to have conversations with their families, friends and neighbors.

A recent study conducted in Minnesota showed that 67 percent of people's opinions on marriage equality changed after engaging in such a conversation.

Last year, we changed the face of Congress with the election of Baldwin, Pocan and others. Additionally, we saw our friends at Lambda Legal and Fair Wisconsin achieve success in their defense of the state's domestic partnership registry, and we saw several cities in Wisconsin extend benefits to the registered same-sex partners of their workers

As we turn to 2013, we are better positioned than ever to do even more.

Jason Burns is executive director of Equality Wisconsin.

NEWS BRIEFS

MARRIAGE CEREMONIES BEGIN IN MARYLAND

Same-sex couples in Maryland were greeted with cheers and noisemakers held over from New Year's Eve parties, as gay marriage became legal in the first Southern state on New Year's Day.

James Scales, 68, who has worked for the Baltimore mayor's office for 25 years, was married to William Tasker, 60, on Jan. I shortly after midnight by Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake inside city hall.

"It's just so hard to believe it's happening,"



Kathryn Christensen, DVM

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Scales said shortly before marrying his partner of 35 years.

Ceremonies took place in other parts of the state as well.

MAINE COUPLES MARRY IN FIRST HOURS OF LAW

After waiting years and seeing marriage rights nearly awarded and then retracted, gay couples in Maine's largest city didn't have to wait a moment longer than necessary to wed, with licenses issued at the stroke of midnight as a same-sex marriage law went into effect Dec. 29.

Nobody knew exactly how many couples would be rushing to get their marriage licenses early Dec. 29 in Maine. Falmouth's city hall joined Portland in opening at midnight. Other communities including Bangor, Brunswick and Augusta held special Saturday hours.

In Portland, the mood was festive, with the crowd cheering and horns sounding at midnight as one same-sex couple began filling out paperwork in the clerk's office in Portland City Hall. There were free carnation boutonnieres and cupcakes, and a jazz trio played.

Outside, the raucous group that gathered in front of the building cheered and broke into a spontaneous rendition of the Beatles' "All You Need is Love."

KANSAS PURSUING LESBIANS' SPERM DONOR

The state of Kansas is pursuing a man for child support even though he signed away parental rights when he donated sperm to a Topeka lesbian couple.

A lawyer for William Marotta argues that the state's effort to have Marotta declared the baby's father runs contrary to a 2007 Kansas Supreme Court ruling on sperm donors.

Marotta, a Topeka mechanic, answered a Craigslist ad in 2009 from a lesbian couple seeking a sperm donor.

The women who placed the ad, Angela Bauer and Jennifer Schreiner, described themselves in an email to Marotta as a "financially stable lesbian couple."

Marotta, Bauer and Schreiner agreed that the donor would have no parental rights whatsoever. The agreement also called for



PHOTO: PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

Shehan Welihinda, left, and Ryan Wilson react after participating in a marriage ceremony at Baltimore City Hall on Jan. I. Maryland is the first state south of the Mason-Dixon Line to approve same-sex marriage.

Bauer and Schreiner to hold Marotta harmless "for any child support payments demanded of him by any other person or entity, public or private, including any district attorney's office or other state or county agency, regardless of the circumstances of said demand."

But on Oct. 3, the Kansas Department of Children and Families went to court seeking a ruling that Marotta is the father of Schreiner's child and owes child support. It said the state had paid medical expenses totaling nearly \$6,000 for the child.

Schroller said the state became involved after Schreiner fell on hard times and applied for financial assistance.

CALIFORNIA LAW EASES SPERM DONOR RULES

A new California law makes it faster and less expensive for women to get pregnant using sperm from a donor they know.

Crafted with women who are single or in same-sex relationships in mind, the new law creates an exemption from federal rules requiring donated sperm either to be quarantined for six months or the man providing it to undergo repeated testing for sexually transmitted diseases.

The California regulations allow women who already have tried artificial insemination with an acquaintance's sperm at home to waive the requirements in a clinic, just as women who are inseminated with sperm from their sexual partners can.

University of California fertility specialist Mitchell Rosen said the new law will level the family planning playing field for same-sex couples.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MILWAUKEE CENTER ACCEPTING BOARD NOMINATIONS

The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center is accepting nominations for its board of directors until 5 p.m. Jan. 11 at nominations@believeintheceter.org.

Four people will be voted on to the board during the center's annual meeting Feb. 28.

Nominations should include the name of the nominator, the nominee, an email address and phone number for the nominee and the reason the nominee would be valuable to the center board.

A list of candidates will be posted on the center website Feb. I.

For more information, email board secretary Martin Palicki at martin@believeinthecenter.org.

The center website is www.mkelgbt.org.

D&R SEEKS LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS

Every year, Diverse & Resilient recognizes individuals and organizations for leadership in, and on behalf of, Wisconsin's LGBT community.

D&R is seeking nominations for community leaders who showed significant leadership on the community's behalf during 2012.

Nominations forms can be accessed online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/W6HRQDD. The deadline for submission is Jan. 25.

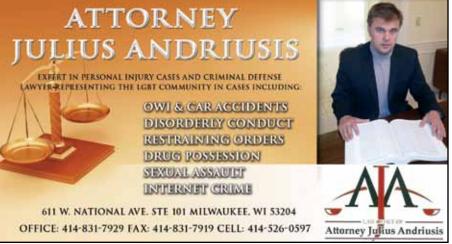
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If it's the first Friday, it's time for Ladies Night Out

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Anne Perry knows, without needing to check a calendar, where she'll be at about 7 p.m. on Feb. I and any first Friday of 2013.

The same applies for a number of women in the Milwaukee LGBT community.

First Friday is Ladies Night Out at Hotwater, 818 S. Water St., Milwaukee, with drinks at the bar, conversation at the tables, couples on the dance floor and entertainers - usually DJ Chris Hill and musician Carol Alms – on the job.

LNO, courtesy of the informal Ladies Out Milwaukee, debuted in December 2011 and took place monthly throughout 2012.

On the first Friday in February, Ladies Night Out, with sponsorship from the Wisconsin Gazette, presents The Dianna Jones Trio. The event will move to Hotwater's Wherehouse to accommodate a larger crowd, says Perry, a founding organizer.

Regular Peg Dyer, who often volunteers to take photographs at the socials, "first heard about LNO around the holidays last year, just in time to make the Jan. 6, 2012, event. I was excited by the idea of meeting new women, as well as catching up with friends, in a casual setting with good music and full bar service. It sounded like the place to be, and every month's event has fulfilled that promise."

Many of the women who favor Ladies Night Out weren't into the regular club scene - the late-night start, the partying into morning, the Saturday afternoon hangover.

LNO is "an event for women who still like to party, but don't want to wait until II p.m. to get started," says regular and volunteer Leigh White. "It's laid-back; it's not a pick-up scene."

friends about a need for activities If you arrive alone, chances are you for "women of a certain age" - 40 and older - to socialize.

"I, as a new member of the community, was frustrated that there was really nothing for lesbians who didn't want to wait until 9 or 10 at night to start partying," Perry says. 'When you get to a certain age, you enjoy your mornings and don't want to sleep until noon. I thought, 'If I'm feeling this way, probably a lot I knew 20 years ago and refreshed of other people feel this way."

When Perry suggested a Friday night social, Jane Ottow says, "Immediately I was sold on the idea," She became an original organizer and remains an enthusiast.

"Before LNO, I was resigned to the idea that my dancing days were over," Ottow says. "Not so now, as Hotwater is a cool venue, has a great dance floor and the DJ plays the music we want to hear. I have met many new friends this past year."

To launch LNO, organizers promoted the event by word of mouth and through other local groups, including Wander Womyn and Out to Brunch Milwaukee.

"It was really a very viral start," Perry says. "We immediately had a respectable turnout."

A marketing professional, Perry says the event is easy to put together, in part because there are always volunteers eager to assist. "The great thing is there is such a sense of shared ownership for these events," she says.

Ottow says the loosely organized group of volunteers is called the 'welcome wagon," and there is a "concerted effort to make everyone feel welcome and included at each and every LNO event. We ensure that we learn people's names and a little bit about them, is more imporso that we can be the conduits tant than ever to to meeting others throughout the

will depart with potential opportunities to get together with others."

Women have made new friends, romanced their partners, found partners and renewed old friendships at LNO.

Wendy Young is an LNO regular and a member of the "welcome wagon.'

"I've reconnected with women many of those friendships," Young says. "I've met new friends I would never have met otherwise."

Perry says on average about 100 people attend, but in June, a record of 175 was set. Many attendees are local residents, but some drive in from Madison or Chicago or elsewhere.

LNO regularly features pianoplayer Carol Alms, who "sets the tone early in the evening with relaxing music," Dyer says. Then there is "the variety of great dance music played by DI Chris Hill."

"It's a lot of fun to dance to music that I actually know, by people I've actually heard of," says White.

LNO regular Mary Singer, who attended the inaugural event and volunteered soon afterward, adds. "I love the piano music happy hour,

DJ. (LNO) has something for everyone. And I have made and met a lot of new friendships. Just what the doctor would order for anyone. ... I'm at a point in my life where companionship and friendship me."

and then the



Ladies Night Out takes place on the first Friday of each month at Hotwater, 818 S. Water St., Milwaukee, usually beginning at 5 p.m. The Feb. I event, with different hours - 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. - features The Dianna Jones Trio.

Jones says she performs "adult contemporary soft rock. My original material tells stories, with a danceable groove in some, ballad in some, easy listening in some as well.'

And, she adds, "When it comes to cover songs, we aim for the 'adult,' 40 to 60 age group."

Jones has opened for Jerry Jeff Walker, Maria Muldaur, Paul Butterfield and Rick Danko and shared billing with Suzzy Bogguss. The trio includes Cheryl Staats and Katie Elliott.

Admission is \$3.







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WISCONSIN GAZETTE ENTERTAINMENT

Streisand: 'I love being a gay icon'

The Interview Feed

At age 70, Barbra Streisand remains very attractive, youthful and trim. Wearing a figure-hugging black ensemble at the Four Seasons Hotel in Beverly Hills, she's in a great mood as she promotes her new movie "The Guilt Trip."

The story is about an inventor, played by Seth Rogen, who invites his mother on a cross-country trip as he tries to sell his new product while reuniting her with a lost love.

As one of the few performers who has won an Oscar, Grammy, Emmy and Tony award, Streisand defines the term "living legend." She's been married twice, first to actor Elliott Gould from 1963 to 1971. They had one child, out gay actor Jason Gould.

Streisand married her second husband lames Brolin in 1998. They have no children together, although Brolin has two children from his first marriage, including Academy Award-nominated actor Josh Brolin, and one child from his second marriage.

What was it like meeting Seth for the first time?

Seth, it turns out, sussed me out and he called people from the Focker movies. I thought he was adorable - so I thought, "This is interesting. Unlikely, which makes it greatest satisfaction as interesting." But we are both

Who made whom crack up and laugh the most?

Well, it was more unexpected for me probably, and I am more serious, so that's funny. But the director, Anne (Fletcher) and writer Dan (Fogelman) used to throw us things. They would say, riff on your cousin and we would just laugh. And he copied my iPhone - I was the one with the iPhone. But he would show me things and he asked me if I had a Twitter account and I said, "I don't know," (laughs) so he looked it up, and I have a Twitter account! Which I only use for political purposes. So I didn't know it was beyond that. I wouldn't know how to find it on my phone. Seth is very handy.

You must know that a lot of gay people are going to see this movie.

We hope! I would love

How do you feel about the label "gay icon" and your own son, do you think that he considers you an icon?

He doesn't see me as an icon (laughs), he sees me as his mother who touches his hair too much. No, I love being an icon to anybody. Equal rights, you know?

What gives you the an artist and what does Jewish, I could be his mother. it mean for you to be



I prefer things that are private, so I love recording and I love making films as a filmmaker, because it uses every bit of what you have experienced or know, whether it's graphics, composition, decorating, psychology, storytelling, whatever it is - and it's very, it's a wonderful thing.

This movie has a great balance of comedy and drama in it and it has some real heartfelt moments

This is good, thank you.

What was the hardest thing you had to do

in the film?

Eating steak. (Laughs.) For person who doesn't like steak, that was the hardest thing.

What do you think is the secret to your success and what have you done right?

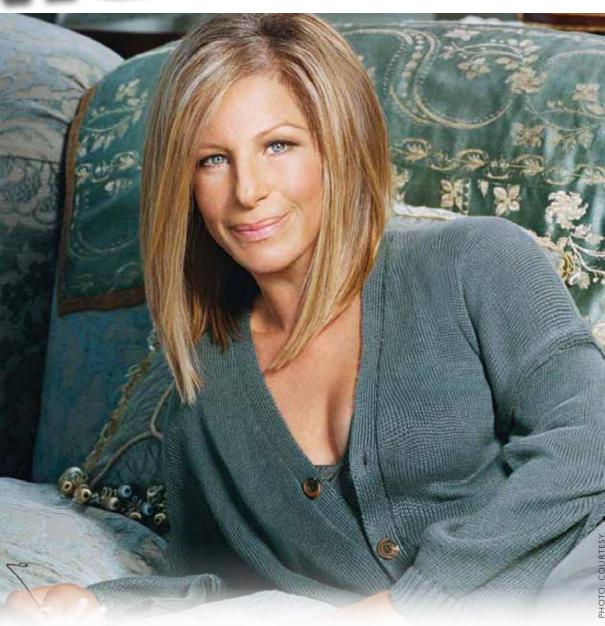
I don't make that many movies and I don't make that many appearances, so less is more. And so that keeps a little mystery or something. I don't know, I like to stay home a lot. I like to do other things too, like decorate, build.

How much contact did your son Jason

Gould have with Seth when he was thinking about playing the role.

Actually, he was very important in my decision to make the movie, because he was recovering from back surgery and he was in bed for a few days after, and I brought the script over and we read it out loud. It was interesting. Actually his father was in the room too, isn't that funny? We were both there coddling our son, so he became the audience and Jason was reading all the parts to me and he said,"I think you should do it, mom." And I really trust his integrity and his opinion. He has great taste in whatever he chooses to do. It's amazing. So he clinched the deal. ... I was thinking at the time, should I be playing Sarah Bernhardt or trying to get movies made as a director and it's very, very hard. It's not the same as when I last made a film. They are not interested in love stories or any movie that's sort of over \$15 million, but it can be \$100 million, that's OK. Two hundred million is OK to lose (laughs), but the movies that I am used to making or liking, what draws me are movies that cost \$18 million (or) \$20 million. They are not interested in those movies. So it is a different time

STREISAND page 16



'I can't cook at all. I mean, I would not now how to make coffee or boil an egg'

STREISAND page 15 and I don't like it as much.

I have to imagine you get sent so many scripts.

I don't.

You don't, or they just don't make it to you?

See, everybody thinks like you. She must get so many scripts, why would I send her that, she will never get a chance to read it, and meanwhile I go, "Where are the scripts?"



What ultimately was it about reading "Guilt Trip" with your son that connected with you?

Mothers develop guilt trips. I mean, when I was working a lot and I felt guilty as a parent that I couldn't pick up my son every day from school, bake him cookies and that kind of thing, and so I know that feeling. I know that feeling a lot. And so you try and compensate and everything they do is great and they sense that guilt, children, and they are going through their own rebellious time and having a famous parent is an odd thing. And so I thought it was an interesting thing to investigate this. Dan wrote this lovely script and it just felt like it was meant to be for me to come back to work in a starring role, rather than (spend) six days on a movie, but it was time to challenge myself again. Of course, I made it very difficult for them to hire me because I kept wanting an out in some way, so I made it really hard. I really don't want to schlep to Paramount, it's two hours each way, so I said, "Would you like rent a warehouse and build the sets in the Valley? No more than 45 minutes from my house?" (Laughs.) And they said yes. Then on all these Focker movies, I had to get up early, and I am not an early bird, and Seth says it's very hard to be funny at 7:30 in the morning. He's right. I said, "So you can't pick me up till 8:30," 'cause that's like a normal time to get up for me 'cause I love the night. My husband and I stay up till two, three in

function that well at six said OK.

the morning, so we don't fif you knew all my in the morning. And they self-doubt, my God!'

What do you want audiences to take away from the film?

I want them to be moved, I want them to identify, I want them to see themselves in the movie. I want them to get closer to their children, a lot of things. And more.

You look so beautiful in the film and here today, what is your secret?

No, if you knew all my self-doubt, my God! I kind of like the child part of me. Maybe it reflects in my face or something (laughs). I don't know.

You can sing, you can act in drama or comedy, compose, write, direct, you do everything well. What can you not do well?

I can't cook, I can't cook at all. I mean, I would not know how to make coffee. Or boil an egg - maybe I could figure that one out. I took cooking classes, I know how to make chocolate soufflé. But just ask me if I want to make chocolate soufflé. I would rather have somebody else make the chocolate soufflé and I eat it. Because I found, when I took cooking classes, when I tried to cook, put it that way, it was never appetizing to eat. I mean, I didn't want to eat it. The joy was gone. My hands, I was always filthy with the stuff and how do they keep

their hands clean enough, and then cooking and cleaning up, I don't like that part.

Who is the person that you want to tell you the absolute truth about your performance in this picture? Whose opinion means most to you?

Just one person?

It's hard, it's between my husband and my son, and my manager of 50 years, I mean that's a long relationship. I trust several

Well, let's just say your husband.

Let's just say that. I don't like to be schmeicheled, you know what that means? How would you describe that, it's a great Yiddish word. It means smeared. I like the

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Distinguish

Hot cocktails cure the common cold night

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Nothing relaxes us faster on warm evenings than a cool, refreshing adult beverage. Come the depths of winter, however, the tables turn in favor of hot, spirited drinks designed to warm both body and soul and maybe even "cure" the common cold.

Anyone who has added a dollop of distilled spirits to a steaming mug has mastered the basics of cold weather cocktail preparation.

A primer for turning those mugs into little masterpieces of flavor and nuance.

But there is more to the process for those who want to brew up a truly special drink. The list below can serve as a primer for turning those mugs into little masterpieces of flavor and nuance.

JAVA DRINKS

For fans of our favorite breakfast beverage, there's nothing like Irish Coffee to finish a delicious meal. Combine 1½ oz. of Irish whiskey with 2½ oz. of black coffee, add a teaspoon of brown sugar, then top with about an ounce of whipped cream and you have a taste of Auld Sod in your steaming cup.

That's the basic recipe for just about all coffee drinks. Replace the Irish whiskey with I oz. each of cognac and amaretto, then top the whipped cream with shaved almonds, and you have French Connection Coffee. Replace the cognac and amaretto with hazelnut liqueur and peppermint schnapps and drop the almonds, and you have a Mad Monk. There are more complex variations, but you get the idea.

LIKE CHOCOLATE FOR COCKTAILS

The approach is similar for hot chocolate-based cocktails, with different variations under the same whipped-cream cap. The nuances found in high quality chocolate help foster more creativity and often lead lovers of Adult Hot Chocolate, as the category is sometimes called, in a sweeter direction.

The basic alcoholic ingredient is peppermint schnapps, which adds more sweetness to the drink. Add 2 oz. of schnapps to hot chocolate and dust the whipped cream cap with chocolate sprinkles and you have what is variously known as Cocoanapps or a Peppermint Kiss. Dial the schnapps back to 1½ oz., add 1½ oz. of coffee liqueur and top the whipped cream with a Hershey's Kiss and you have a Chocolate Kiss.

One of the more interesting variations, Oaxaca Chakas, calls for the spicier powdered chocolate from Mexico's Oaxaca region and 2 oz. of aged, top-shelf tequila. Blend the chocolate and tequila with $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. of agave nectar, I oz. heavy whipping cream and 2 oz. milk. Top with the traditional whipped cream cap and enjoy.



CIDER HOUSE RULES

Hot toddies, which have long been considered an effective folk remedy for colds and flu, involve mixing multiple ingredients, including whiskey, water and honey, and then heating them. One can debate the medicinal properties, but it's clear the drink provides its suffering imbibers with at least a little relief.

Some of the more interesting toddies can be made with apple

cider, which imparts more character to the libation. The basic Hot Apple Toddy requires 2 oz. of whiskey or apple brandy, a teaspoon of sugar, and then garnishes of a lemon wedge, cinnamon stick and 2 to 3 whole cloves. To make the drink edgier, combine 1½ parts bourbon with 1½ parts cinnamon schnapps, ½ oz. fresh-squeezed lemon juice, a teaspoon of agave nectar and a fresh green apple slice and/or cinnamon stick garnish for a Hot Cinn Apple Toddy.

For something a little different, you might try single servings of Navan Punch, which is as complex in flavors as it is simple to make. Combine ½ oz. of vanilla liqueur with I oz. light spiced rum and I oz. apple juice. Add ¼ oz. lemon juice, a teaspoon of freshly squeezed ginger juice, ¼ oz. of maple syrup, 2 dashes of Angostura Bitters, and then garnish with pomegranate seeds and grated nutmeg for an exotic treat.

FIT TO A TEA

Hot tea cocktails can add a new dimension to your cold-weather libations. One of the simplest and best is a Chai Swizzle. To 3 oz. of freshly brewed chai tea add 2 oz. of Irish cream liqueur, 2 teaspoons of raw brown sugar, then stir and garnish with a cinnamon stick.

Tea also offers its own variation on the Hot Toddy – one that seems particularly medicinal. After coating the bottom of an Irish coffee glass with a tablespoon of honey, add I oz. of brandy, whiskey or rum, and the juice of ½ lemon. Brew the tea separately, then pour the steaming tea into the cup and stir.

If that doesn't "cure" what ails you, then you're not really sick.

Savory soups for cold winter nights

By Michael and Jean Muckian

Contributing writers

When it's bitterly cold outside, is there anything better than the inner warmth that only a piping hot bowl of soup can provide?

Winter is definitely soup season for us, a time when we take to the kitchen with piles of fresh vegetables, succulent meats and seafood and a cupboard full of herbs and spices. Whether the result is bouillon or bouillabaisse, bisque, borscht or bird's nest soup, a hearty, nutritious meal is only a matter of combining the right ingredients and setting the stove to simmer.

The evidence of soup dates back to 6,000 B.C., about the time that clay jars – thought to be the first watertight containers – came into use. The word "soup" comes from the French word "soupe," or broth, which further derives from "suppa," a phrase in vulgar Latin that meant bread soaked in broth. In 16th-century France, soup sold by street vendors became popular for its restorative powers. It wasn't long before entrepreneurs set up soup shops called restaurants, which loosely translates into "something restorative."

Soup was popular in Colonial America and the invention of canning made soup even more popular – and accessible. The Campbell Soup Co. introduced condensed soups in 1897. Its three most popular brands – tomato, cream of mushroom and chicken noodle – account for some 2.5 billion bowls consumed in America every year.

We like to make our own soups, combining organic vegetables and grocery store ingredients to create a hearty and healthy meal. Soup is a good way to use leftover produce and it helps to make nutritious but difficult ingredients, such as a kale, more manageable.

In creating soups, first decide on a main ingredient, then look for other contents to complement it in both flavor and texture. Decide if you want the soup to be thick and stew-like, or merely a thin broth. Knowing that will help you choose the right amount of seasoning.

The following recipes are among our favorites:

WINTER SQUASH SOUP WITH GRUYÈRE CROUTONS

(adapted from epicurious.com)

1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter

I large onion, finely chopped

4 large garlic cloves, chopped

3 14½-ounce cans low-salt chicken broth

3 lbs. squash, butternut or acorn (2 large or 3 small)

I 1/4 tsp. minced fresh thyme

I 1/4 tsp. minced fresh sage

1/4 cup half & half

2 tsp. sugar

Croutons

2 tbsp. (1/4 stick) butter

24 1/4-inch-thick baguette bread slices

I cup grated Gruyère cheese

I tsp. minced fresh thyme

I tsp. minced fresh sage

For soup:

Melt butter in large pot over medium heat. Add onion and garlic, then sauté until tender (about 10 minutes). Cut the squash in half and remove the seeds. Brush each half with olive oil and lightly salt and pepper. Place squash on baking sheet cut side down and roast in a 350-degree oven for 1 hour. Remove from the oven and cool. Scoop the flesh from the squash and add it to onions. Then add the broth and herbs and bring to boil. Reduce heat, cover and simmer until squash is tender (about 20 minutes). Puree soup in a blender then return it to the same pot. Stir in cream and sugar and simmer. Season with salt and pepper.

SOUP page 19





SOUP from page 18

For croutons:

Preheat broiler. Butter one side of each bread slice and arrange buttered side up on baking sheet. Broil until golden (about one minute). Turn over. Sprinkle cheese, then thyme and sage over bread. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Broil until cheese melts (about one minute). Ladle soup into bowls, top with croutons and serve.

BLACK BEAN CHILI WITH DARK ROAST COFFEE

(Adapted by Andrea Yoder, Harmony Valley Farms, from "Long Way on a Little" by Shannon Hayes)

Serves 4-6

- I cup dried or canned black beans, sorted and rinsed
- I tbsp. vegetable oil
- I pound beef stew meat or round steak, cubed
- I large onion, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- I tbsp. chili powder
- I tsp. ground cumin
- I tbsp. crumbled dried oregano, or 3 tbsp. fresh oregano
- 1/4 tsp. cinnamon
- 1½ tsp. unsweetened cocoa powder
- I tsp. dried chipotle powder
- I tsp. coarse salt, or to taste
- 2 cups diced canned tomatoes
- I cup strong brewed medium to dark roast coffee
- 3-4 cups beef or vegetable broth

Optional garnishes:

Sour cream, shredded cheddar or Monterey Jack cheese, chopped fresh cilantro, diced onion, diced and pickled hot peppers and diced avocado

- I. Prepare the dried black beans by putting them in a saucepan and covering with water. Bring the water to a boil, then turn off the heat, cover the pan and soak until tender. Drain and discard the soaking liquid prior to adding the beans to the chili. For canned beans, drain and rinse.
- 2. In a medium soup pot, heat oil over medium heat. Add the stew meat or round steak cubes and cook until nicely browned on all sides. Season with salt and pepper.
- 3. Add the onions and garlic to the pan with the meat and sauté until the onions are soft and translucent. Stir in the chili powder, cumin, oregano, cinnamon, cocoa powder, chipotle powder and salt. Cook one minute, stirring, then add tomatoes, beans and coffee. Cover and simmer for one to one and a half hours, stirring periodically. Both the meat and beans should be tender.
- 4. Remove the lid and simmer until thickened to your liking. Adjust the seasoning to your taste. Serve with the toppings of your choice and corn tortillas, cornbread or corn muffins.







-20

'Pirates' offers real insight into the swashbuckling life



ARTIST RENDERINGS BY GREGORY MANCHESS © ARTS AND EXHIBITIONS INTERNATIONAL

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Who among us, at one time or another, hasn't wanted to be a pirate - if only for the fashion statement?

But the closest any of us will come to sailing the Spanish Main is **boarding parties** a trip to "Real Pirates," the ongoing exhibition at the Milwaukee Public Museum that opened Dec. 14. Sponsored by National Geographic, the exhibit highlights the life and times of Capt. "Black Sam" Bellamy and the Wydah Gally - the pride of the pirate captain's fleet. The Wydah sank along with two other ships off the shores of Cape Cod, Mass., in 1717 during a violent nor'easter that took the lives of all but two of the Wydah's crew.

The wreck was discovered in 1984 by underwater explorer Barry Clifford. He used a chart of the wreck site that was created just days after the Wydah sank - a virtual treasure map. Clifford and his crew have unearthed 200,000 items, including a bell emblazoned with the ship's name. With that discovery, the Wydah became the first clearly identified pirate vessel ever to be recovered.

About 200 artifacts from the ship are on display at the museum. Local actors dressed in pirate garb add an element of interpretative fun to the exhibit.

FROM SLAVE SHIP TO **PIRATE SHIP**

Among the exhibit's most interesting revelations was the way that pirates undermined the West African slave trade that flourished during the 16th and 17th centuries. The pirates interfered by seizing the slave ships, including the Wydah.

Commissioned in 1715, the Wydah was owned by a consortium of British merchants and named

Female pirates were among the fiercest and were often part of in battle.

after Ouidah, located in what is now Benin and considered one of Africa's leading slave ports. At 102 feet long, the 300-ton slaver could travel 13 knots (about 15 mph) and carry more than 350 slaves. Most of them were men between the ages of 16 and 30 who were destined to work on the New World's sugar and cotton plantations.

The ship, among the fastest sailing the seas, was heavily armed to counter revolts mounted by either the slaves or their families - a feature that made the ship especially attractive to pirates. The slaves who survived the months-long trans-Atlantic voyages would be traded for rum, precious metals, medicinal herbs and other New World goods.

The Wydah arrived at the tail end of what was known as the Golden Age of Pirates, a period of plundering Spanish gold shipments and providing a profitable living for sailors who found themselves out of work after the War of Spanish Succession. By the early 18th century, the British Crown had grown tired of dealing with the pirate scourge, making pirating a capital offense punishable by death. As pressure mounted on pirates in the Caribbean, many turned to the Atlantic shipping lanes for targets. Slave ships once again drew favor, with armadas of as many as 500 pirates under multiple captains interrupting the trade significantly, effectively eliminating many of the slave shipments to the New World.

featured in the exhibition.

The Wydah had completed only one slave mission before it was seized in February 1717 while navigating the windward passage between Cuba and Hispaniola (now Haiti). After a three-day chase Capt. Lawrence Prince surrendered the Wydah. The 28-year-old Bellamy was so pleased with his prize that he made the Wydah his flagship, giving his own vessel to Lawrence and the crew members who wished to remain with him.

DIVERSITY

There were no slaves aboard at the time. But if there had been, it was the pirates' practice to either offer them freedom or a place on the crew. That was partly due to the pirates' lack of legal access to slave markets and partly due to a fledgling form of democracy that became part of pirate culture.

Whereas navies and merchant ships of the day were homogenous collections of largely white males from specific countries, pirate crews offered significant diversity, according to the exhibit. Often headed by British captains, pirate crews included Native Americans, runaway slaves and seafarers from countries around the world. Bellamy's crew included II-year-old John King, captured with his mother during a pirate raid. He was made part of Bellamy's crew.

There were also occasional female pirates, including Anne Bonny and Mary Read, who joined the crew of pirate "Calico Jack" Rackham dressed as men. They soon found themselves productive members of the crew. History reports that the pair were among the fiercest of pirates and were generally part of boarding parties during battles.

Hendrick Quintor, John King, Captain Sam Bellamy, and John Julian - four pirates

SHARING WEALTH

One thing that attracted people of all types to pirating was the extreme wealth that could be amassed even by the average pirate. Except for minor adjustments due to rank, treasure was generally shared equally among pirates, another revelation of the exhibit.

While all treasure was shared, pirates could keep whatever clothing and goods they took from the passengers. Artifacts found in the Wydah indicate pirates tended to be more "dandified" in their dress than first thought, attempting to duplicate in style their upper-class

Part of any seized treasure was saved for the ship's treasury, which was used to buy supplies for the voyages. The booty also underwrote the pirates' rudimentary 'workman's compensation" program. Pirates who lost an arm or leg in battle were awarded an extra \$800, but only after the broken limb was sawed off by the ship's surgeon. If there was no ship's surgeon, the task usually fell to the ship's carpenter and surgery was completed without anesthetic or antibiotics. (That may have been what part of the rum was used for.)

Pirate John Brown (local actor Bethany Liesman) grabbed our ear on the dock next to the exhibit's replica of the Wydah. As a former British navy sailor, Brown made £1 per month, then lost the job when a war with Spain ended.

"Ask me how much I make as a pirate," Liesman said in her colorful cockney accent. "£1,000 per

PIRATE'S LIFE FOR ME

Liesman was one of several pirate characters prowling the exhibit, engaging us in conversation, asking us questions and all but pressing us into service. It was Capt. Bellamy (Zach Thomas Woods) who, spying our reporter's notebook, took us to be spies of the Crown. We kept him from drawing his pistol by questioning him about the makeup of the pirate crew, the ratio of British captains and other issues.

We also were charmed by the Irish lilt of Anne Bonny (Alicia Rice), one of history's fiercest female pirates and lover of "Calico Jack," who was saved from the hangman's noose, despite her murderous ways, because she was carrying Rackham's child.

Bonny wondered why our grandsons, when asked, were not interested in becoming pirates. "Never met a boy who didn't want to be a pirate," she said.

I had to agree. Thanks to "Real Pirates," I once again heard the rigging creak, the gulls cry and tasted the salt of the sea in the air. Apparently, there is still time to set sail for adventure.

ON EXHIBIT

"Real Pirates: The Untold Story of the Wydah from Slave Ship to Pirate Ship," an exhibition by National Geographic, sails the seas at the Milwaukee Public Museum through May 27. For details, visit www.mpm. edu/pirates.

IN SEARCH OF GAY PIRATES

Despite the occasional homoerotic overtones surrounding pirates, the literature is inconclusive when it comes to the prevalence of same-sex relationships on the high seas. Nonetheless, here are some anecdotes that provide a gay angle:

- Johnny Depp may have opened the closet door a bit on pirates with his portrayal of Capt. Jack Sparrow in the "Pirates of the Caribbean" series, much to the initial dismay of Disney executives charged with producing the films. Depp claimed to have patterned his character after Rolling Stones lead guitarist Keith Richards, which raises an entirely different set of questions.
- Traditional seafarers' ballads contain no mention of the subject, but contemporary British singer Cosmo Jarvis tackled the theme in his song "Gay Pirates." You can watch it at http://www.youtube. com/watch?v=dysGI2QCdTA.
- There are no known members of the Pittsburgh Pirates baseball team who are gay, but this past fall Kevin McClatchy, board chairman of the McClatchy Newspapers chain, came out. McClatchy owned the baseball franchise 1996-2007 and cited homophobic language in the sport for causing him to remain closeted.
- And even if you can't be a gay pirate, you can enjoy a cool drink of the same



Johnny Depp as Jack Sparrow.

name, courtesy of the Drinks Mixer website. Blend I oz. Bacardi I5I proof rum with I oz. apricot liqueur, I oz. Malibu cocoanut rum, 3 oz. of pineapple juice and a splash of lemon juice. But make sure you're sailing calm seas before imbibing, since this one is sure to shiver your timbers.

- Mike Muckian







Life is the lesson in Renaissance Theaterworks'

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

experience, and everyone we meet is part of a series of lessons through which we learn about others and ourselves. That's the premise driving "Educating Rita," which continues Milwaukee's Renaissance Theaterworks' 2012-13 season starting Jan. 18.

The 1980 play by British author Willy Russell concerns the relationship that develops between Liverpool hairdresser Rita (Cristina Panfilio) and her tutor. Dr. Frank Bryant (Jonathan Smoots), after Rita enrolls in the U.K.'s Open University, the nontraditional school in which Frank teaches.

Rita wants to escape her working-class roots, convinced an education will open doors and show her worlds that go beyond Friday night pub dates with her

mates. Frank, a cynical lifelong academic and alcoholic, Life is an educational accepts the tutorial relationship to pay for his drink. But both characters in this two-member cast get something entirely different than they anticipated, says director Jenny Wanasek.

'Educating Rita'

'The play really explores the dynamics and chemical attraction between the characters despite the significant difference in age," says Wanasek, who also teaches applied theater techniques at UWM's Peck School of the Arts. "Rita breathes a life into Frank that he certainly didn't expect.

In addition to teaching at UWM, Wanasek co-owns Milwaukee's Center for Applied Theatre with her husband, UWM theater professor Mark Weinberg. Both were students of Augusto Boal, the late Brazilian theater director and political activist who

ON STAGE

Renaissance Theaterworks' production of Willy Russell's "Educating Rita" runs at The Studio Theatre in Milwaukee's Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway, Jan. 18 – Feb. 10. For more details, go to www.r-t-w.com.

founded the Theatre of the Oppressed.

Russell adapted "Educating Rita," originally commissioned by the Royal Shakespeare Co., for a 1983 film starring Julie Walters and Michael Caine. Although the movie received a Best Picture nod from the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, critics were lukewarm to negative about the screenplay, which Russell stretched to include numerous lesser characters. The core narrative and major points, however, remained the same.

Russell's play, in which Rita studies English literature, challenges the English class system and the shortcomings of institutionalized education while exploring the dynamics of marriage and human relationships. The mentor-mentee arrangement between Frank and Rita borrows from George Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion," which was also the source for "My Fair Lady."

But the characters can also be traced to archetypes from Greek mythology, and they can still be found in classrooms, Wanasek says.

"Rita's character is delightfully effervescent and appeals to me as a woman." Wanasek says. "I have a Rita in one of my classes and think of her every time I direct a scene from the play."

Frank exposes Rita to the works of Ibsen, Yeats and E.M. Forster. She takes on the pretensions of the university community, something that angers Frank, because she doesn't know how to behave

...in the play, Rita studies **English lit, challenges** the English class system, and the shortcomings of institutionalized education and human relationshibs.

in a world of which she's never been part, Wanasek

"He offers her different ways to live and to look at things," Wanasek says. "He allows her to see herself in new ways and gives her chances he doesn't realize she doesn't already have."

What Rita does have going for her is a love of life and youthful optimism that Frank has long since lost. The surprising denouement illustrates how both characters have progressed throughout Linda Stephens, runs April the play that, while amusing, is anything but a straight-up

comedy, Wanasek says.

"This is much more than a comedy," she says. "The narrative questions the value of education, who deserves to experience it and at what cost to your sense of the personal culture from which you came."

Renaissance Theaterworks will close its 2012-13 season with Athol Fugard's "The Road to Mecca." The production, directed by Suzan Fete and starring Jonathon Gillard Daly, Melinda Pfundstein and

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'HOLLYWOOD' SHINES

In addition to their genetics, gay identical twin brothers Gary and Larry Lane, 35, also share an over-the-top adoration for Dolly Parton. John Lavin's documentary "Hollywood to Dollywood" follows the duo on their quest to meet Parton and present her with "Full Circle," a screenplay they wrote featuring a part especially for her.

The North Carolina-born twins' comingout story also figures prominently in the documentary. From a religious family in which swearing on a Bible was a routine occurrence, the boys' complex relationship with their Southern Baptist mother is one of the film's recurring themes.

Beginning shortly before the boys leave California in an RV named Jolene on a journey that will take them across eight states and almost 2,250 miles, "Hollywood to Dollywood" is a refreshing road movie. Parton is the driving force in the film, but also included are meetings and interviews with gay actor Chad Allen, actress Ann Walker, Oscar-winning gay screenwriter Dustin Lance Black, out actor Leslie Jordan, actress Beth Grant and dollymania.net's editor.

Editing their lengthy script while on the road, the boys plan to arrive in Pigeon Forge, Tenn., the home of Dollywood, in time for the park's 25th anniversary. They believe that Parton will be at her most accessible during the festivities.

Along the road, there are stops at the Cadillac Ranch in Texas, the Fayetteville, Ark., hair salon where friend Cody Renegar (who has his own powerful coming-out story to tell) works, the Arkansas gay bar Tangerine, and Night of 1,000 Dollys in Knoxville. When they arrive in Pigeon Forge, the twins have three chances to get their screenplay to Parton. But those plans go awry. When they do finally meet their idol and give her the script, they are touched that she remembers their names from a previous meeting in Los Angeles.

To paraphrase Parton, this movie "shines like the sun." The collective love shared for Parton by the twins, their friends and the people they meet on their trip, is a testament to Parton's influence on the culture



PHOTO: FANPOP.COM

Twins Gary and Larry Lane with their idol – Dolly Parton.



PHOTO: COURTES

James Murphy, formerly of LCD Soundsystem, spins a DJ set on Jan. 24 at The Majestic, 115 King, Madison.

at large and on the LGBT community in particular.

DVD special features include extended and deleted scenes, extra interview footage, filmmaker Q&As and more.

'SHUT UP AND PLAY' SHOWS JAMES MURPHY'S EDGE

The concert documentary "Shut Up and Play the Hits" begins with the quote, "If it's a funeral, let's have the best funeral ever." Dylan Southern and Will Lovelace's film wants to be the electronic dance music equivalent of Martin Scorsese's "The Last Waltz," and it almost succeeds, especially in the performance footage.

Using concert footage to frame the story of how LCD Soundsystem's James Murphy walked away from fame at the peak of his career, "Shut Up and Play the Hits" is surprisingly touching. Murphy, a straight man with a French bulldog named Petunia and a genuine appreciation for classic disco/dance music and giant mirror balls, sold out Madison Square Garden for his farewell show.

In a perhaps too revelatory interview with journalist/writer Chuck Klosterman, Murphy describes the history and function of "the band," which he describes as a cover band. Composed primarily of former members of punk bands, the band's members wanted to play dance clubs and places where people were having fun.

In the interview, Murphy touches on such issues as aging, influences, and successes and failures. He describes "the desire to be understood" and his ambition "to leave a mark, to leave a stain."

When all of its elements come together, "Shut Up and Play the Hits" is a portrait of a man who will never lose his edge.

The three-DVD special edition includes the documentary on the first disc and the full-length, three-plus hours LCD Sound-system farewell concert at Madison Square Garden on the second and third discs. DVD extra features include the featurette "Catching Up With Keith" (Wood, Murphy's former manager), outtakes, the extended interview and more.

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Florida is a paradise for Fido

By Tamara Lush

AP writer

Picture this: You're sitting on a white sand beach, warm sun on your skin. Coconut-scented sunscreen wafts through the air. A splashing noise comes from the blue Gulf of Mexico. It's your dog, happily retrieving her favorite ball from the water.

There's no reason to leave your fourlegged friend behind when you vacation in Florida this winter, with its miles of sandy beaches, lots of sunshine and a laid-back vibe. From lodging that offers special pet beds, to beaches with off-leash play, to theme parks with nearby kennels, many places in the state accommodate visitors with pets. Many Florida state parks also allow leashed dogs.

You can lodge your dog in a place as rustic as a campground or as ritzy as, well, the Ritz Carlton. In places like Key West or Sanibel Island – where all beaches are open to leashed dogs – unique and funky pet-friendly accommodations are easy to find in various price ranges.

Most counties have their own tourism boards and many have specific pages on their websites about pet-friendly activities, restaurants and hotels. Visit Florida has lots of information at http://www.visitflorida.com/Pet_Friendly_Florida.

Jeannette Scott, a fashion blogger from Orlando, took her shih tzu-Yorkie mix named Bella on a three-day trip in June. Together, they drove three hours to Fort Myers, boarded a ferry to Key West, stayed at a Sheraton that offered a doggie bed for Bella, and posed for photos in front of a frozen yogurt stand that carried Yoghund, a froyo for doggies.

"She thought it was really fun to get away and go on adventure instead of staying at home," Scott said.

If your dog might enjoy a trip, here are some dog-friendly destinations around Florida, along with lodging advice and general tips for traveling with pets.

DESTINATIONS

- Dog Beach and Paw Playground at Fort De Soto State Park. In
- 2010, Southern Living magazine named this spot in Pinellas County on Florida's West Coast one of the top five dog beaches in the South. You only need to set one paw onto the sugary sand to know why: It's a gorgeous and peaceful place. The Gulf of Mexico is usually warm and calm, and dogs of all sizes love to play in the soft surf. Dogs can run on the beach and swim offleash, then enjoy a large, adjacent fenced-in grassy dog park area. There are water fountains, waste bags and a place to wash salt out of dog fur. Admission to the park area is \$5.
- **Dinosaur World in Plant City.** Who loves dinosaurs? Dogs, that's who. Located halfway between Tampa and Disney, Dinosaur World is a park featuring 150 giant

dinosaur statues and trails winding through the lush Florida landscape. Leashed dogs are welcome on the trails, and it's a great opportunity to snap a photo of your pooch with a giant Stegosaurus (some intrepid bloggers have gotten shots of their dogs posing inside a dinosaur's mouth). Tickets are \$14.95, dogs are free; open daily.

• Dog Wood Park, Jacksonville. This 25-acre, privately owned park is heaven for dogs. It's all off-leash and entirely fenced in, from the pond to the grassy knoll to the trails. A separate small area nearby has chairs where owners can

sip coffee and chat. There are two ponds, Lake Bow Wow for the big dogs and Lake Fifi for little ones, plus doggie sand piles, shady areas and tires for dogs to climb on. Day visits are \$11, including tax. Additional services, like use of the park's indoor dog wash area. are extra.

- The Fountain of Youth in St. Augustine. Spanish explorer Pedro Menendez de Aviles discovered this spring in 1565 and the Timucua Indians lived here for 4,000 years before that. You and your dog can sniff around and drink from the fountain. Tickets are \$12.
- Downtown Naples. This is a great place to stroll with your pet while embracing tropical Florida. Downtown Naples has lots of outdoor cafes, bars and restaurants where you can dine al fresco with your dog. Several stores Diva Doghouse, For Footed Friends, Pucci & Catana and Fergie's Closet Doggie Boutique specialize in upscale pet accessories, clothing and food.
- Lincoln Road, Miami Beach. Located in South Beach, this pedestrian-friendly shopping area is the place to watch all of the beautiful people and their designer dogs. Outdoor restaurants and tropical drinks abound.
- Jonathan Dickinson State Park, Hobe Sound. This sprawling park on Florida's East Coast, north of tony Palm Beach, offers miles of trails that showcase how Florida looked before development. Dogs must be leashed. Admission is \$6 per vehicle.
- Panama City Beach dog playground. This Florida Panhandle spring break favorite offers 400 feet of beachfront for leashed dogs and the new Panama City Beach Conservation Park with 12 trails (dogs must be leashed there).



For many poochers, the good life is truly a beach.

 Miccosukee Canopy Road Greenway, Tallahassee. This park in the state's capitol is popular with local dog owners because of its beautiful trails and secluded grassy areas.

GENERAL TIPS

While it might seem like you are in a remote area as you hike through jungle-like trails or play on deserted beaches with your dog, you're actually never far from civilization in Florida. There's usually a veterinarian, bigbox pet store and pet-friendly hotel within a short drive. A quick Google search or sites like http://www.bringfido.com or http://www.dogfriendly.com can help locate them.

Larger theme parks such as Busch Gardens in Tampa offer kennel services; make sure to bring your pet's vaccination record along.

Other essentials for a Florida vacation with your dog: drinking water, heartworm medicine and even sunscreen. With temperatures in the 70s and 80s in many Florida locations during the winter, dogs (and people) can easily become dehydrated. Specially formulated sunscreen for dogs isn't a bad idea, especially if your furry friend has a short, fair coat and pink skin.

Take shady breaks, put ice cubes in the water dish and let dogs sprawl on cool tiles. Never, ever, leave your dog in a car in Florida, even for a few minutes. Temperatures inside cars can heat up to 120 degrees and kill animals quickly.

Heartworm, a disease transmitted by mosquitoes, is endemic to Florida. Plan to visit a vet before your trip to get a heartworm test and pills to prevent infection.

Many beaches in Florida allow leashed dogs on the sand, but check first. In some places, you can receive a heavy fine. Dogs are welcome in many places at outdoor cafes and along pedestrian malls.

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Music

British diva Paloma Faith could be one of 2013's breakout stars



HOTO: COURTESY

Paloma Faith.

Poised to be one of the big musical breakout stars of 2013, British diva Paloma Faith comes across as a sober and sane Amy Winehouse. Her domestic debut "Fall To Grace" (Epic) is a lustrous showcase for her remarkable vocal range. Heavily influenced by American R&B vocalists from bygone days, Faith can belt like the best of them, infusing songs such as "Picking Up the Pieces," "lust Be" and "When You're Gone" with a maturity belying her youth. She unleashes her inner dance diva on the track "Blood, Sweat & Tears.'

I spoke with Faith shortly before the release of the

Your debut disc was released in 2009 and its follow-up, "Fall To

Grace," was released stateside at the end of 2012. What was happening during that three-year period?

I was quite popular in the U.K. I think my first album went double platinum, but only in the U.K. To my frustration, there was no real mention of it in the States. Basically, I spent 18 months touring and promoting it. Then I took a year to write this new record.

You co-wrote most of the dozen songs on "Fall To Grace." Where do you find inspiration for your songs?

I don't write music, because I can't play an instrument. I write lyrics. All the words you hear on the record are from me. I find inspiration from conver-

sations that I hear passing or that I have. I always have a notebook with me, and I write lines or words or sentences down that I think would be inspiring. Then when I go into the studio I read out the possibilities to whomever I'm working with and usually let them choose what they'd like to work with. Then I respond to the music they're playing.

So is the "agony and suffering" in the song "Agony" a personal statement or something you observed?

It was a personal one. I was going out with someone who was addicted to drugs. I really, really liked him, but I knew that I wouldn't be able to stay with him because I don't want to create a world of hits for myself (laughs). I tend to get out of those relationships (laughs).

That's very wise.

(Laughs) It was all a bit like, "Oh. I'll enjoy it for another couple of weeks" kind of situation.

Because your sound has a retro pop feel to it, I was wondering where Lulu and Dusty Springfield fall on your influence spectrum?

To be honest, I think most of my influences are from American music. My alltime favorite singer is Etta James. I grew up listening to Billie Holiday and Ella

Fitzgerald - Peggy Lee, all biographical in a way. When those kind of people. I've always loved Tina Turner and women who have balls when they sing, but they're all American.

Your music videos are wonderful productions. Are the costumes in some of the videos a carry-over from your theater days?

Probably, but I've always kind of dressed up. I've always dressed in a kind of contemporary vintage way, ever since I was about 18.

You make good use of your acting in your videos and have also been acting in motion pictures. What do you like about acting?

I like the escapism of acting. What I do as a musician is very personal and auto-

I'm acting, I remove myself from it and I'm embodying another character or another person, really. I find that part exciting for me - it's the escapism.

"Blood. Sweat & Tears" is a house music anthem that is sure to appeal to your gay fans dancing in the clubs. Have you made appearances in gay clubs?

Yeah, I have played in the big London gay clubs. Gay radio stations, as well.

Do you feel like you have a strong embrace from your gay fans?

Absolutely.

Earlier this year you recorded a video backing the Out4Marriage campaign, saying that

you are "proud" to be a supporter. Have you had the opportunity to sing at any samesex weddings?

No! I wish! When I recently performed in a gay club, I was saying that I really hate heterosexual marriages. If anybody wants to invite me to their samegender marriages, I prefer those.

Is there a specific song you'd like to sing at a gay wedding?

I've sung at weddings before and usually I sing "At Last" by Etta James.

Is there anything else you want people in the States to know about you?

I mean well (laughs).

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~ ONGOING ~

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.

"Mind Over Milwaukee" with mentalist Marc Salem runs through Feb. 24 in the Stackner Cabaret at Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells. Call 414-224-9490.

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.

JAN. II, FRIDAY

Schauer Arts & Activities Center, 147 N. Rural in Hartford, presents the roadhouse musical **"Pump Boys and Dinettes,"** through Jan. 13. Call 262-670-0560 or visit schauercenter.org.

Pat McCurdy plays the Oconomowoc Arts Center, 641 E. Forest, Oconomowoc, at 7 p.m. Call 262-560-3109.

Strollers Theatre presents Tennessee Williams' **"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof"** through Feb. 2 at the Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin, Madison. Call 608-204-0280 or bartelltheatre.org.

"Class" by Coleman, "a spoof, inspired by a true story," runs through Feb. 4 at Broom Street Theater, 1119 Williamson, Madison. Call 608-244-8338.



JAN. 12, SATURDAY

Alt/acoustic duo **Lucrezio** performs at 8 p.m. at Redamte, 449 State (above the Asian Kitchen), Madison. Call 608-819-8650.

The **All-State Choirs** perform at 4 p.m. at The Pabst, 144 E. Wells. Call 414-286-3663.

The Majestic, 115 King, Madison, hosts the Wisconsin Folk Fest, featuring Wisconsin's own **Count This Penny**, as well as Phox, Pioneer and Dietrich Gosser at 8 p.m. Call 608-251-2582.

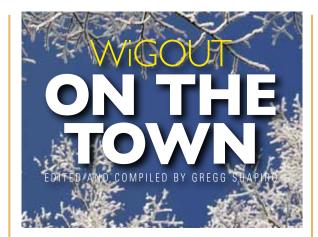
Jean's Jazz Series presents **Kal Bergendahl Project and RAR** (pronounced "rare") at 7 p.m. at The Racine Theatre Guild, 2519 Northwestern (Highway 38), Racine. Call 262-633-4218.

JAN. 13, SUNDAY

The Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library Book Sale at the Milwaukee Public Market, 400 N. Water, features new and used books available for purchase for \$1 with proceeds benefiting Milwaukee Public Library, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

JAN. 14, MONDAY

Wisconsin Conservatory of Music Bader Recital Hall, 1584 N. Prospect, presents **Frankly Music's Art of the Cello**, featuring Tamás Varga, principal cello of the Vienna Philharmonic, and pianist Stephen Beus, at 7 p.m., tonight and tomorrow night.



JAN. 15, TUESDAY

The Women's Speaker Series presents a reading by **Cynthia Morris**, author of "Chasing Sylvia Beach," at 7 p.m. in the Lynden Sculpture Gardens, 2145 W. Brown Deer.



JAN. 16, WEDNESDAY

"How the World Began" by Catherine Trieschmann runs through Feb. 24 in the Stiemke Studio at Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells. Call 414-224-9490.

Violinist **Itzhak Perlman** joins the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra for one night in Uihlein Hall at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N. Water, at 7:30 p.m.

JAN. 17, THURSDAY

Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, 1584 N. Prospect, presents **Eric Jacobson Quartet: Music of Tom Harrell** in the Helen Bader Recital Hall, at 7:30 p.m.

The musical **"Lumberjacks In Love,"** from the creators of "Guys On Ice," runs through Feb. 17 at Sunset Playhouse, 800 Elm Grove Road, Elm Grove. Call 262-782-4430.

Stone-Cohen Blues Band performs beginning at 6:30 p.m. at The Domes at Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, 524 S. Layton. Call 414-649-9830.

JAN. 18, FRIDAY

Music Theater of Madison presents Bill Russell's acclaimed AIDS musical "Elegies for Angels, Punks, and Raging Queens," tonight and tomorrow night, at the Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin, Madison. Call 608-204-0280 or bartelltheatre.org.

Ultravox frontman **Midge Ure** plays a solo show at 8 p.m. at Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell. Call 414-276-7288.

Billy Van Zandt and Jane Milmore's Marx Brothers-style musical farce "A Night at the Nutcracker" runs through Feb. 3 at The Racine Theatre Guild, 2519 Northwestern (Highway 38), Racine. Call 262-633-4218

JAN. 19, SATURDAY

The **Miltown Kings** presents its Half and Half Flashback show at 9 p.m. at the Miramar Theater, 2844 N. Oakland. Dress up like your favorite flashback icon for \$1 off admission at this 18-and-over show.

Madison Area Jugglers present The 47th Annual **Madfest Juggling Extravaganza** with Jay Gilligan, Clean Sweeps, Mark
Hayward, Guinness World Record-holder Josh Casey and others at
7 p.m. at the Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood, Madison. Call 608241-2345

Horicon Marsh in Dodge County, one of the nation's largest freshwater marshes, hosts the third annual **Candlelight Snowshoe/Hike**, including a variety of events beginning at 1 p.m. Visit horiconmarsh.org or call 920-387-7893 for more details.

JAN. 20, SUNDAY

The 29th Annual **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration** begins at 1 p.m. in Uihlein Hall at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N. Water.

Reel Big Fish, of "She Has a Girlfriend Now" fame, performs at 8:30 p.m. at the Majestic, 115 King, Madison. Call 608-251-2582.

The Pabst, 144 E. Wells, welcomes **Grace Potter & The Nocturnals** at 7 p.m. Call 414-286-3663.

JAN. 21, MONDAY

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra principal trumpet Mark Niehaus is featured soloist for **Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra's Founders Concert**, featuring the Senior Symphony, at 2 p.m. in the Helen Bader Concert Hall in the Helene Zelazo Center of the Performing Arts, 2419 E. Kenwood Blvd. Call 414- 229-4308.

JAN. 22, TUESDAY

Hang 10 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.

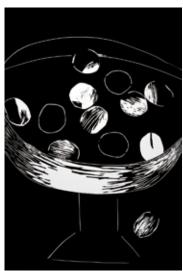
JAN. 24, THURSDAY

Not totally retired yet, **James Murphy**, formerly of LCD Soundsystem, performs a DJ Set at 10 p.m. at The Majestic, 115 King, Madison. Call 608-251-2582.

State Ballet Theater of Russia presents **"Cinderella,"** tonight and tomorrow night at 7:30 p.m. at The Pabst Theater, 144 E. Wells. Call 414-286-3663.

The Domes at Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, 524 S. Layton, presents **The Jerry Grillo Orchestra** performing during Health Fair Night beginning at 6:30 p.m. Call 414-649-9830.





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