

Beethoven goes Bollywood

Skylight Music Theater gives "Fidelio" what is perhaps the most original treatment in its history. *page 20*



THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY

Cyber bullying, gender stereotyping confront LGBT students *pages 8-11*



4 Will Allen plants ideas

Milwaukee's legendary urban farmer Will Allen and Growing Power mark 20 years.



12 Civil rights rally in D.C.

Activists to mark 50th anniversary of March on Washington.

17 Apply for benefits

Wisconsin ACLU urges registered partners to apply for Social Security benefits.



22 Out on stage

Proud Theater gives voice and recognition to LGBTQ youth.



23 Designing woman

"Project Runway" finds a new star in Milwaukee's Miranda Levy.

News with a twist



WIGWAG

By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg



PUBLIC PROPOSAL

A sailor on the USS New Mexico proposed to his boyfriend in front of about 200 people who were gathered at the submarine base to welcome the boat home from its first deployment. Dylan Kirchner told the Day of New London that he didn't care that everybody was watching when Machinist's Mate Jerrel Revels dropped to one knee and popped the question.

GUNS WELCOME AT STARBUCKS

Pro-gun advocates gathered in Starbucks' stores in August to show their appreciation for the company's decision to allow weapons inside its locations in states where it's legal. "Starbucks Appreciation Day" events

occurred nationwide, including in Newton, Conn. "Our stores are gathering places for the communities we serve and we respect the diverse views of our customers," said Zack Hutson. But Starbucks bans free-distribution publications, including this one, from its corporate-owned stores.

LOVE IN THE AIR

New Zealanders Lynley Bendall and Ally Wanikau walked down the aisle of an airplane to exchange vows, becoming one of their nation's first couple's to get hitched following the enactment of a new law on Aug. 19. The seatbelt-fasten signs were off. The two have been together 13 years and have three foster children. Along for the ride was "Modern Family" star Jesse Tyler Ferguson.

OYEZ, OYEZ: AN OPERA

Composer Derrick Wang looked to the U.S. capital

to inspire his latest work, an opera about two people who've forged a friendship despite being adversaries at work — Supreme Court Justices Antonin Scalia, the tenor, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the soprano. Both justices share a love for opera, and they previewed "Scalia/Ginsburg," a work in progress, the day after the Court released its rulings on Proposition 8 and the Defense of Marriage Act.

OUT IN THE RING

Darren Young became the first WWE pro wrestler to publicly come out as gay. When TMZ asked if he thought a gay wrestler could be successful in WWE, he said, "Absolutely. Look at me. I'm a WWE Superstar and, to be honest with you, right now, I'll tell you I'm gay and I'm happy. Very happy." WWE issued a statement supporting Young's decision to come out.

HOW HOT?

It's been so hot in China this month that people are frying bacon on manhole covers, eggs are hatching without incubators and a highway billboard caught fire. The heat wave has been the worst in more than a century, with temps reaching 104 degrees and forcing authorities to issue the emergency declaration usually reserved for typhoons.

TRAVEL PLANS

Fleeing homosexuality and abortion in the United States, a Christian family got lost at sea. Hannah Gastonguay and her family set sail from San Diego for the tiny south Pacific island nation of Kiribati in May. The family, including an infant, hit storms that left them adrift for weeks until they were rescued. Apparently they didn't realize Kiribati is disappearing under rising ocean levels due to global warming. Leaders are seeking to move its population.

DANGEROUS TERRITORY

New York City mayoral candidate Anthony Weiner aka Carlos Danger called an opponent "grandpa" at a candidates' forum sponsored by AARP. The 48-year-old Weiner got into it with 69-year-old George McDonald. Weiner said McDonald had "anger" issues. When McDonald angrily replied that he did not, Weiner said, "Yes, you do, Grandpa." AARP called the remark "unfortunate."

LARD LUMP

A London utility company in early August reported finding a 15-ton blob of congealed fat and baby wipes in a sewer drain. The "fatberg" built up over about six months, according to Thames Water. The blockage was discovered after residents were unable to flush their toilets.

MINOR MISTAKE

A Minor League Baseball

team affiliated with the Minnesota Twins admits staging a rejection of a marriage proposal as a publicity stunt. Between innings at a Rock Cats game in New Britain, Conn., a man and a woman were on the field for a trivia contest. On the third question, fans heard the man propose and then heard the woman say, "I'm sorry, I can't, I'm sorry," before she fled the field.

RUSSIA? NO WAY!

Out celebrity Andy Cohen has resigned as co-host of the 2013 Miss Universe competition, scheduled for Nov. 9 in Moscow. Cohen hosted the 2011 and 2012 pageants and was booked to return this year. But he said that he fears for his safety in Russia, which has criminalized gay behavior as well as public support for gay rights.

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LEFT Kehinde Wiley, *Triple Portrait of Charles I*, 2007 (detail). Image courtesy of Rubell Family Collection, Miami. Photo by Chi Lam.
RIGHT Dietzel Studio Flash, n.d. (detail). Watercolor and ink on paper. Image courtesy of Solid State Tattoo Collection.

Taking on Big Agra

Will Allen seeks to build food-secure communities

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Will Allen was driving through a desert when he came upon an oasis.

Allen was cruising along Milwaukee's West Silver Spring Drive on a routine workday in January 1993 when he came across a "for sale" sign and some empty greenhouses, battered and broken, in the midst of a food desert, a neighborhood where residents must go miles to reach a supermarket but have easy access to fast-food joints and convenience markets.

Growers have a saying: "right plant, right place, right time." Well, the right person was in the right place at the right time. The son of a sharecropper, Allen had left the farm for careers in pro basketball and corporate America only to find he couldn't escape the lure of the land. He tapped into his 401(k), got a loan and bought the property – the last tract zoned for agricultural use in the city of Milwaukee. His decision would lead to the nonprofit Growing Power Inc. and help fuel the good food revolution.

"It's the hardest profession in the world, to grow food, to be creative, to reduce the costs of production, to work so that everybody has food – not standard food for some but good food for everybody," said Allen, now considered America's most prominent urban farmer. "I never tire from this."

Usually photographed in blue jeans, a baseball cap and a sleeveless sweatshirt or T-shirt, Allen starts his days at about 4:30 a.m. and finishes about 7 p.m., depending on when the work gets done. "That," he said, "is the life of a farmer."

He spends his days with worms, compost, plants and soil. He prefers talking about nutrition over politics.

"I try not to be political at all," said Allen, noting that he's been nudged to run for office. "The farmer only has so much capacity."

But Allen does have policy interests and Growing Power has a manifesto. Decades ago, people gave up power over their food supply to big agricultural companies that can

make a lot more money from selling Twinkies than turnip greens.

"The fault really is with all of us who casually, willingly, even happily surrendered our rights to safe, wholesome, affordable and plentiful food in exchange for over-processed and pre-packaged convenience," the manifesto states.

It continues, "... No, we are not suddenly starving to death; we are slowly but surely malnourishing ourselves to death."

Growing Power urges people to take back the power and control and encourages the government to stop paying large subsidies to "Big Corn, Big Soy and Big Chem" to use prime farmland to grow fuel, plastics and fructose instead of food.

Allen said, "If people can grow safe, healthy, affordable food, if they have access to land and clean water, this is transformative on every level in a community. I believe we cannot have healthy communities without a healthy food system."

FROM SPORTS TO FARMING

Allen has told his story many times in workshops, on television, at political forums, in the press and now, with the help of journalist Charles Wilson, in his memoir, "The Good Food Revolution: Growing Healthy Food, People, and Communities." The book arrives from Gotham in paperback as the operation that became Growing Power marks its 20th anniversary.

With the book, Allen adds critical literary praise to a long list of awards and recognitions. Writing on the back cover, former President Bill Clinton says Allen "has shown us a new type of heroism. Through 'The Good Food Revolution,' Allen recounts his effort to reclaim his family's heritage and, in doing so, confronts lingering disparities in racial and economic justice. As the champion of a new and promising movement, Allen is skillfully leading Americans to face one of our greatest domestic issues – our health."

Allen grew up outside of Washington, D.C., on a small

farm in Maryland, where he learned from his father how to farm and hunt and, from his mother, how to share what was harvested from the garden and placed on the supper table.

The family was poor but "never short of food," Allen said. "We always had tremendous amounts of food and we could share that with family and extended family."

He left the farm to break records and a color barrier at the University of Miami, where he was the first African-American scholarship athlete at the school. He went on to play pro basketball and was playing ball in Belgium when he reconnected with his farm roots and grew food for family and friends in a small garden.

Allen continued to grow the type of vegetables he grew up on when he and his family returned to the United States and settled in Oak Creek, his wife's hometown and the site of her family farm.

Allen was earning a living with Procter & Gamble and selling some of his Oak Creek produce at markets when he came across those now historic greenhouses on Milwaukee's north side near the Westlawn community.

"I bought that land to sell my farm produce on," Allen said. "Coming from a business background, I know it's location, location, location. It was a very busy street between two freeways, a food desert, a great place to be."

LARGEST NONPROFIT FARM IN THE U.S.

The focus broadened when Allen was asked to help some neighborhood kids with an organic vegetable garden. That fledgling community effort became the Youth Corps, and Allen's small produce operation sprouted an organization that took root, matured, bloomed and thrived.

"I guess we've reached the point where more and more people have become more and more interested in changing the food system," Allen said on a recent summer morning between chores. "We went from where it seemed just a few people had these concerns to where millions of people

are interested in better food."

Today, Allen works with about 65 staff, 25 interns and thousands of volunteers, and Growing Power is involved in:

- Aquaponics, using chemical-free systems that support more than 100,000 tilapia and perch and grow edible crops.
- Composting and vermiculture, using 20 million pounds of food waste – collected from grocery stores and restaurants, breweries and coffee houses – to generate energy and fertilizer.
- Livestock, raising more than 500 egg-laying hens, a dairy goat herd, bees, ducks and turkeys.
- Youth development, conducting year-round training in Milwaukee and elsewhere.
- Education, teaching thousands of people every year about community-based food projects and urban agriculture.
- Food policy development, working with local, state and national governments and also organizations on nutrition programs, wellness campaigns and environmental efforts.
- Food production and distribution, distributing more than 400 Farm-to-City Market Baskets a week, managing the Rainbow Farmer's Cooperative, working multiple farm stands and serving healthy snacks to school children.

"It's like putting together a puzzle," Allen said. "We just started adding more pieces and now this is where we are" – the largest nonprofit farming enterprise in the country.

Partners Kathy and Patty Mannix-Pearsal of Madison toured Growing Power's Community Food Center last year.

"I'd been dealing with some health issues and we heard about the Growing Power workshops," Patty Mannix-Pearsal said. "We went, and now we've got a garden growing that provides us plenty, and neighbors too."

"Mr. Allen, he's like Willy Wonka," Kathy Mannix-Pearsal said, remembering the visit. "And the food center is a magical place."



PHOTO: GROWING POWER / JENNIFER BAYNES PICCIOLO

Will Allen seeds a field.

Growing ideas

This is a good time for sowing grains, winter wheat, oats and rye, says FarmersAlmanac.com. And it's a favorable time for planting root crops, vine crops and plants.

Maybe.

Will Allen, Milwaukee's legendary urban farmer, will tell you that you can't learn to grow a garden — or work a farm — by jumping on a computer or diving into a book. It's know-how, he says, that comes with hands-on work, which is why Allen's Growing Power Inc. holds workshops where thousands of people a year learn about growing healthy food and building communities.

But reading a book — specifically "The Good Food Revolution: Growing Healthy Food, People, and Communities" by Allen and journalist Charles Wilson — just might drive you to a hands-on workshop to learn about composting, conservation, vermiculture, aquaponics, animal husbandry and growing your own organic produce. This time next year, you might be harvesting cherry tomatoes, green beans, sweet corn, kale, collard greens and okra from a plot in the backyard or a nearby neighborhood garden.

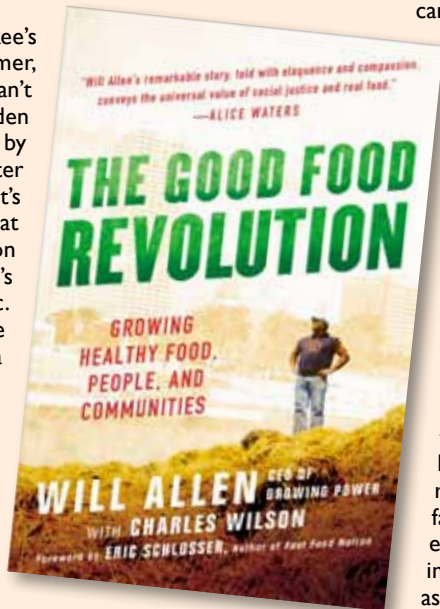
"The Good Food Revolution," 283

pages in paperback from Gotham Books, tells the story of how Allen, the son of a sharecropper and a former basketball player, came to be America's most pre-eminent urban farmer and how Milwaukee came to be home to the largest nonprofit farming enterprise in the country.

"The Good Food Revolution" contains the history of Allen's family and their part in the Great Migration, an exodus out of the South and away from agriculture. It details Allen's return to his farming roots — even in places as improbable as an asphalt lot — and his drive to see that all people have access to the same food — not whole food for the wealthy and empty food for the poor.

The story is fertile with memorable characters, practical advice, Allen's outline for success and the Growing Power manifesto: The way to heal a malnourished nation is to take back control of the food system, to grow and to share the harvest.

— L.N.



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Milwaukee LGBT Center pays off debt

Louis Weisberg

Staff Writer

The once-beleaguered Milwaukee LGBT Community Center has eliminated its largest debt, which originally amounted to \$500,000 for back rent and remodeling costs owed to the organization's landlord.

After new leadership took control of the center early in 2012, negotiations began with Siegel-Gallagher, the

building's management company, to reduce the amount of space occupied by the center in the former Blatz Brewing Company building. That successful move eliminated the cost of future rent on unneeded space.

Interim executive director Karen Gotzler led a team that included center treasurer Peter Larson and attorneys Kass Hume and Jan Pierce to negotiate a deal

reducing the center's debt to the landlord to \$93,000, with the stipulation that the amount would be paid in full within three years.

The center's leaders were able to eliminate that debt by borrowing \$50,000 from several supporters and offering to pay it immediately to the landlord in exchange for canceling out the center's debt altogether. The landlord agreed.

Center board co-president Paul Williams said the \$50,000 borrowed from supporters will be paid back in three years at an interest rate of 1 percent.

"(They're) helping the center at a critical time so we can move forward toward our goals more quickly and save significant money in the process," Williams said.

"These supporters saw the logic and the benefits to the center and the community – in terms of reducing overall debt, and in terms of further increasing the confidence of the broad community in the center," said center board co-president Anne Perry Curley.

Williams praised Siegel-Gallagher for its role in facilitating the negotiations that brought the center so far from the fiscal cliff it faced just 18 months ago. "This is an amazing nonprofit turnaround story," he said.

Center officials said they believe the debt elimination will enhance confidence in

the center's future and fuel enthusiasm for the "Believe in the Center" fundraising campaign that's currently under way. The campaign aims to raise money that will expand support for programs such as SAGE Milwaukee and provide for basic resources, such as heat and light, which are not covered by direct program grants.

Next up on the center's agenda is hiring a new executive director through a nationwide job search. CenterLink and the Johnson Family Foundation provided a \$30,000 grant to conduct the search and support the hiring process.

"We have a job description out and we're accepting applications now," Williams said.

"We're getting a very strong response. It's very exciting."

In other developments, the center reported that its 2012 audit was completed on time, with a clean "non-modified" rating. Copies of the audit



PHOTO: DAVE LAUERSDORF

"These supporters saw the logic and the benefit to the center and the community," says Paul Williams, board co-president of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center.

are available at the center.

ON THE WEB

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Photo: Connie Wenzel

THEY DO: Staci Isbell and Silvana Mercede were among couples participating in “Say ‘I Do,’” a commitment ceremony staged as part of Madison’s Pride Picnic fundraiser on Aug. 18. Shannon and the Sophisticates of Sound String Quartet provided music for the event, which drew over 300 people and 20 organizations to Brittingham Park.

WISCONSIN LGBT CHAMBER WINS NATIONAL HONOR

The Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce recently received the Excellence in Community Impact Award at the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce leadership conference in Dallas.

The national group recognized the Wisconsin chamber for nurturing relationships with city chambers and business districts, as well as engaging with the Coalition for Ethical Diverse Chambers of Commerce in Milwaukee. The Wisconsin organization also has cultivated partnerships with philanthropic and nonprofit groups.

“NGLCC affiliate chambers like the Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce are leveraging every possible opportunity for businesses to grow and become strong engines that drive local economies,” said Sam McClure of NGLCC. “This new chamber came out of the gate very strong, and we are very glad to be their national partner.”

For more, visit www.wislgbtchamber.com.

IN OTHER NEWS...

- **Organizations** concerned about the erosion of women’s rights under Wisconsin’s Republican leadership are staging a rally noon–1 p.m. on Aug. 26 at the Capitol. For more, go to the Facebook page Stand with Wisconsin Women.

- **GLSEN** is accepting nominations for Student Advocate of the Year, the annual award created to recognize “the amazing work of students advocating for LGBT rights and safe schools across the country.” Applications are due by Aug. 29. For more, visit www.glsen.org.

- **Fair Wisconsin’s Garden Party for Equality** is Sept. 8 at a private residence in Milwaukee. The suggested contribution is \$50 and sponsorships are available. For more, go to fairwisconsin.com.

- **Food Slam** on Sept. 13 raises money for WMSE

Radio. The event is at 6 p.m. at MSOE Grohmann Museum with a long list of participating vendors. For more, go to www.wmse.org.

- **Family Equality Council** gets outdoors for Family Camp at Camp One Heartland in Willow River, Minn., Sept. 20–22. The camp is about 90 miles north of the Twin Cities. For more, go to www.familyequality.org.

- **Community Shares of Greater Milwaukee** is looking for volunteers to help with the night of Champions for Change presented by Potawatomi Bingo Casino on Sept. 25. Volunteers are needed to help set up, greet and register guests, sell raffle tickets, help with the silent auction and more. To volunteer, contact hayleyb@communitysharesmke.org. Also needed is a volunteer videographer. To volunteer for this position, contact amyz@communitysharesmke.org.

- **Women’s Fund of Greater Milwaukee** is preparing for the 2013 Women and Public Policy Luncheon,

held at noon on Oct. 23 in Milwaukee. The keynote speaker is Michelle Bernard, CEO of the Bernard Center for Women, Politics & Public Policy and a frequent political analyst for TV news. For more, visit www.womensfundmke.org.

- **GLBT Partnership** in northeast Wisconsin has opened registration for UnMasquerade at the Marq, a fundraiser for Harmony Cafe LGBT youth services. The event is at 6 p.m. Nov. 5 at the Marq, 3177 French Road, De Pere. For more, email d.wavrunek@a-mazingevents.com.

– L.N. and L.W.

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Study: Internet bullying is rampant

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The text message flashes on the iPhone. The girl's smile disappears as she reads: "I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU, YOU DYKE." She looks at the other students in the school hallway. What are they thinking? What are they saying?

This is not a scene from "Pretty Little Liars." Studies show that bullying online, through social media networks and in text messages, is pervasive – and LGBT youth are more likely to be targets than other kids.

New research from the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network shows that LGBT youth experience three times as much bullying and harassment online as other kids. Although the research found that LGBT youth find greater peer support, access to critical information and connect with the larger community online, it also linked cyber bullying to lower grade-point averages and diminished self-esteem.

The study, "Out Online," examined the experiences of LGBT youth in the digital world through a national survey of more than 5,600 students in grades 6–12.

The research showed that about 42 percent of LGBT youth have been bullied or harassed online compared with 15 percent of non-LGBT youth. Researchers also found that LGBT youth are twice as likely as other youth to say they've been bullied via text message.

One in four LGBT youth has been bullied online because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, and one in five has experienced anti-LGBT harassment in a text message.

The study also revealed that one in four LGBT youth has been sexually harassed online, and LGBT youth are three times as likely as other kids to be sexually harassed via text message.

LGBT kids told GLSEN's researchers that they're just as likely to feel unsafe in the digital or cyber realm as at school or on a school bus.

HELPING TO COPE

But researchers also found positives in the number of young people online and the resources readily available there to kids.

"The Internet does not serve to simply reinforce the negative dynamics found offline regarding bullying and harassment," said Michele Ybarra, the president of the Center for Innovative Public Health Research. "Rather, this technology also offers LGBT youth critical tools for coping with these negative experiences, including access to understanding and accepting friends, and exposure to health information that is unavailable elsewhere."

"Out Online" showed that about 81 percent of LGBT youth turn to the Internet to find health information, about 76 percent have gone online to promote a cause and 51

42 percent of LGBT youth have been bullied online.

percent have used the Internet to engage in a community event.

Moreover, about half of LGBT youth have made at least one close friend or confidante online.

"The Internet impacts almost all aspects of our lives, but is particularly entrenched in the lives of youth, who are the most connected people online in society," GLSEN executive director Eliza Byard said. "LGBT youth continue to face extraordinary obstacles in their day-to-day lives, whether at school or online, but the Internet can be a valuable source of information and support when they have no one or nowhere else left to turn to. As social media evolve, so must our efforts to serve LGBT youth to ensure their safety, health and well-being."

Byard and other policymakers, along with educators, parents and students, are discussing bullying as the 2013–14 school year begins.

The national PTA is advising parents to learn to use the technologies their kids are using, to be interested in their kids' friends and activities – online or offline – and to ask about any changes in behavior.

The National Education Association is encouraging members to engage in its Stand Up to Bullying campaign.

Meanwhile, LGBT youth groups, including a number of gay-straight alliances in Wisconsin, are training student leaders who can stand up for themselves and help others. Madison's GSAFE in Madison held its Leadership Institute Training camp in mid-August, bringing together 40 students from throughout the state to spend four days building community, gaining leadership skills, and learning how to make their schools safer and more just for all students.

Also, many school districts around the nation are preparing anti-bullying campaigns. Wisconsin public schools will observe Bullying Awareness Day on Sept. 25.

And the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights recently announced it would begin collecting information on LGBT bullying in schools across the country.

Still, reformers continue to call for stronger

BULLYING next page

TWITTER COUNTER

GLSEN's thinkb4youspeak.com Twitter Counter tracks the number of times in a day, week and month that anti-gay slurs are tweeted.

In July, "fag" was tweeted 835,560 times; "dyke," 85,560 times, "so gay," 304,920.

– L.N.

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BULLYING from prior page

legislation to protect LGBT students. Earlier this year, U.S. Sen. Tom Harkin, a Democrat from Iowa, introduced the Strengthening America's Schools Act of 2013. The comprehensive legislation would reauthorize and update the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and incorporate provisions in the proposed Safe Schools Improvement and the Student Non-Discrimination acts.

The legislation would ensure that states and school districts develop and implement anti-bullying and anti-harassment policies that include all students, report incidents of bullying and harassment to the Justice Department and formally establish a ban on discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in public schools.

"We are thrilled that the Senate is moving to address the long overdue issue of school bullying and harassment," Byard said. "This bill includes critical components to ensure safer learning environments."

SCHOOLHOUSE SOCIAL JUSTICE

Educators rallied this summer in Atlanta at the National Education Association's annual conference to prepare for the 2013-14 school year.

Over the summer recess, there were significant developments on issues on the NEA's political agenda. The Supreme Court overturned the provision in the Defense of Marriage Act that barred the federal government from recognizing married gay couples and cleared the way for same-sex marriage to resume in California. Also, gay couples began marrying in three more states, the U.S. Senate approved a massive immigration reform bill and stronger gun control laws were enacted in several states.

Regarding the Court's rulings on marriage equality, NEA president Dennis Van Roekel said, "I cannot help but be moved by the thought of all of the children and students we serve whose families will now be made whole."

Van Roekel observed that the day before the Court ruled for marriage equality, it struck down a provision in the Voting Rights Act, dealing a "horrible blow to the progress we've made in our journey to achieve racial equality."

Van Roekel said the NEA has recommitted to social justice campaigns in a school year bookended by the 50th anniversary of the Great March on Washington and the 60th anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision against segregation in *Brown v. Board of Education*.

"The spirit of *Brown* was really about whether all children should have the same opportunities to learn," he said.

- L.N.

UW-Madison among top LGBT-friendly schools

The University of Wisconsin-Madison ranks No. 5 among the most LGBT-friendly colleges in the United States, according to a Princeton Review survey.

The review polled 126,000 students at 378 colleges to rate their schools on dozens of topics. Among the topics: most LGBT-friendly and least LGBT-friendly.

THE MOST LGBT-FRIENDLY SCHOOLS:

1. Emerson College in Boston.
2. Warren Wilson College in Asheville, N.C.
3. New College of Florida in Sarasota, Fla.
4. Stanford University in Stanford, Calif.
5. **University of Wisconsin-Madison in Madison.**
6. Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio.
7. Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering, Needham, Mass.
8. Smith College in Northampton, Mass.
9. New York University in New York City.
10. Bryn Mawr College in Bryn Mawr, Pa.

AND THE MOST LGBT-UNFRIENDLY:

1. Grove City College in Grove City, Pa.
2. Hampden-Sydney College in Hampden Sydney, Va.
3. College of the Ozarks in Point Lookout, Mo.
4. Wheaton College in Wheaton, Ill.
5. University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind.
6. Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.
7. Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C.
8. Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich.
9. University of Rhode Island in Kingston, R.I.
10. University of Dallas in Irving, Texas.



PHOTO: WWW.UWALUMNI.COM

GO BADGERS: University of Wisconsin - Madison is one of the most LGBT-friendly schools in the country, according to a student survey.

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ACLU challenges gender bias in Wisconsin schools

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Earlier this year, the ACLU and the ACLU of Wisconsin asked the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights to investigate the Beloit School District after analyzing documents obtained in an open records request.

The ACLU said two Beloit elementary schools offer programs that violate state and federal laws, forcing students into single-sex environments and employing educational concepts based on gender stereotypes.

The ACLU also had asked the Education Department to investigate the Barron Area School District.

The investigation is pending in Beloit, but the Education Department

won't be acting on the Barron complaint because, at the time of the filing, the district had suspended the program, said ACLU of Wisconsin communications director Sarah Karon.

The ACLU said the documents showed that both Wisconsin programs were influenced by the ideas of psychologist Leonard Sax. His theories about boys and girls having different kinds of brains and being hardwired to learn differently have been debunked.

Sax, the author of "Boys Adrift" and "Girls on the Edge" and the founder of the National Association for Choice in Education, has said girls do badly under stress so they should not be given time limits on tests. And boys who like to read, don't



like contact sports or lack close male friends should be firmly disciplined and required to spend time with

"normal males" and play sports, he has suggested.

Galen Sherwin, a senior staff attorney for the

'There is absolutely no evidence that teaching boys and girls differently leads to any education improvements.'

ACLU Women's Rights Project, said it's harmful for schools to promote such stereotypes, "particularly with children who are so young."

In its letter regarding Beloit, the ACLU asks for enforcement of "federal laws that prohibit discrimination based on sex in schools."

"There is no solid evidence supporting the assertions that the supposed

differences between boys' and girls' brains on which these programs are based (exist), and there is absolutely no evidence that teaching boys and girls differently leads to any education improvements," Sherwin said in a statement.

Administrators in Beloit and Barron did not respond to WiG.

California law gives transgender students right to chose gender-related activities

AP and WiG reports

California has become the first state to enshrine rights for transgender K-12 students in state law.

Democratic Gov. Jerry Brown announced on Aug. 12 that he had signed AB1266, which requires public schools to allow students access to whichever restroom and locker room they want. The law also allows transgender students "to participate in sex-segregated programs, activities and facilities" based on their self-identification, regardless of their birth gender.

"It's definitely a model example of going beyond a nondiscrimination policy and saying, 'We're going to actively include transgender and gender nonconforming students,'" said Brian Juchems, co-director of the GSAFE in Madison.

Supporters of the California law said it will help reduce bullying and discrimination against transgender students. The law comes at a time when families of transgender students have been waging local battles with school districts across the country over what restrooms and

locker rooms their children can use — disagreements that have sometimes landed in court.

The National Center for Lesbian Rights and the ACLU of California were among the bill's supporters. Detractors, including Republican lawmakers, said allowing students of one gender to use facilities intended for the other could invade the other students' privacy.

Karen England, executive director of the right-wing Capitol Resource Institute, criticized the Legislature and governor for spreading "San

Francisco values" throughout the state.

"The answer is not to force something this radical on every single grade in California," she said of the new law.

Carlos Alcalá, spokesman for Democratic Assemblyman Tom Ammiano of San Francisco, the bill's author, said that conservatives' fears are overblown. In general, he said, transgender students are trying to blend in and are not trying to call attention to themselves.

"They're not interested in going into bathrooms and

flaunting their physiology," Alcalá said.

He also noted that the state's largest school district, Los Angeles Unified, has had such a policy for nearly a decade and reported no problems. San Francisco schools also have had a policy similar to the new law, and numerous other districts signed on in support of the legislation.

"Clearly, there are some parents who are not going to like it," Alcalá said. "We are hopeful school districts will work with them so no students are put in an uncom-

fortable position."

The Gay-Straight Alliance Network said two states, Massachusetts and Connecticut, have statewide policies granting the same protections, but California is the first to put them into statute and require them in all school districts.

Juchems said that GSAFE would like to see such a law enacted in Wisconsin but added, "We still have a long way to go." GSAFE currently is working with school districts to enact nondiscrimination policies that include transgender and gender nonconforming students.

Although the state's pioneering 1982 nondiscrimination law includes sexual orientation, it does not include gender identity and expression. Earlier this year, GSAFE succeeded in getting the McFarland and Oregon school districts in Dane County to enact polices that include specific protections for those students.

"These policies can be important first steps for the safety of transgender and gender nonconforming students," Juchems said.

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National and local speakers will include Madison's own Patrick Farabaugh, Publisher of *Our Lives* magazine (ourlivesmadison.com) and Nathan Manske, Founder and Executive Director of the extensive story-collecting project, *I'm from Driftwood* (imfromdriftwood.com).



Continuing Studies
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Handling bullying and campus dangers

By Wes Manko

Special to WiG

Research suggests that one of the best ways to stop bullying – whether it's verbal, physical or cyber – is to report it to school authorities and law enforcement, if appropriate.

But bullying also can be countered by taking the power away from the bully through ignoring the taunts or making a joke out of them. Although this might not change the bully's behavior, it can take away his or her power.

Cyber bullying has hidden dangers. Although it can occur under the radar of parents and authorities, it can provoke or organize groups of people to get involved in a physical attack. Physical bullying is classified under the law as battery, which

is the harmful or offensive touching of another person. If someone physically attacks you, alert school authorities and law enforcement.

Taking a self-defense course is a great way of self-empowerment against bullying. Good self-defense techniques are easy to learn and use. They can help you use verbal tactics to prevent violence and physical techniques to avoid injury.

CAMPUS DANGERS

The most recent and disturbing trend in youth violence is school shootings. Some schools emphasize running away as the best response. While this is a normal reaction, quickly exiting older institutions may be difficult. Another tactic is to cause a flinch response in the attacker

by throwing objects at him and then having the closest students tackle and disarm the assailant.

This might actually be less dangerous than turning your back on someone with an assault rifle and giving him more targets.

No school is immune to society's growing gun violence. When choosing an educational institution, check with the institution's police department to learn campus safety statistics. This is necessary, because some campus police don't share their statistics with local law enforcement.

Mugging can occur almost anywhere. When confronted by a mugger, the most effective measure is to drop your wallet or purse. A smart tip is to keep your valuables in a money belt and

fill your wallet with dollar bills that stick out. Then, if you're held up, you can drop it and run away.

When you let someone into your dorm room who becomes "the thing that won't leave," use a commanding voice and short sentences, such as: "Please leave now." If that doesn't work, throw in a swear word. Some people were raised to believe they could get away with anything until their parents swore at them, which makes this simple strategy surprisingly effective.

If it doesn't work, however, excuse yourself to the bathroom with your cellphone. Then lock yourself in and call for help. Remember that in Wisconsin, 93 percent of women who are assaulted know their attacker.

Parties can also lead to dangerous situations. Besides date rape drugs, which might even be hidden in ice cubes, alcohol consumption was found to be a factor in 75 percent of sexual assault

cases. When you go to a party or bar, go with friends and have specific check-in times to make sure you get back safely.

Before you go out on a date, you might want to check whether your would-be suitor has a criminal record. In Wisconsin, it's easy to find out by visiting CCAP online at <http://wcca.wicourts.gov/index.xsl>. Type

in your date's name and, if you have it, his birth date.

Knowledge, as they say, is power.

Wes Manko is a self-defense expert and nationally published author. He owns DEFENSEWORKS, which offers training in self-defense and Russian Martial Art training. For more, go to www.defenseworks.us.



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Marching again *Civil rights activists returning to rally in D.C.*

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

When they announced the 2013 March on Washington, organizers planned a commemorative event marking the 50th anniversary of the historic demonstration that climaxed with Martin Luther King Jr.'s "dream" speech.

But the same week in June that activists debuted preliminary plans for this month's actions, the U.S. Supreme Court gutted the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the summer's celebratory events took on greater urgency. The Great March on Washington in 1963 fueled passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that now needs saving.

"It is the intent of those that come together to make it clear that this is not just a nostalgia visit, that this is not a commemoration but a continuation and a call to action," said the Rev. Al Sharpton of the National Action Network.

One march – organized by NAN in partnership with the King Center and the groups behind the '63 march – is set for Aug. 24. Another march takes place on Aug. 28, 50 years to the day of the 1963 march, and, according to organizers, will conclude with President Barack Obama speaking from the Lincoln Memorial.

Now, as was the case 50 years ago, the marches are about jobs, justice and free-

dom.

The Aug. 24 event begins at 8 a.m. EDT with a rally at the Lincoln Memorial and then the march to the King Memorial.

The Aug. 28 march will assemble at about 8 a.m. EDT at 600 New Jersey Ave., with participants from the 1963 event at the front of the procession. The march begins at 9:30 a.m., with a stop at the U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., another stop at the U.S. Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Ave., and then a walk to the National Mall. There, organizers plan a number of speeches, including one by the president.

Organizers have chartered buses, booked seats on trains

and planes and established carpooling communities, as well as set up networks for marchers to find a bed or a couch for an overnight in D.C.

"Midwest activists are still organizing for the trip," said Chicago civil rights activist Claire Ruehlmann. "But I think we'll see thousands headed east from the Lake Michigan states. We're starting to hear from people who marched in 1963, some who were in their early 20s then, and some who were just kids."

Civil rights veteran and longtime King associate Bayard Rustin, who was openly gay, coordinated logistics for the 1963 march. The demonstrators arrived by

IN THE CAPITAL

On Aug. 28, citizens from across the country will converge on the nation's capital to commemorate the historic March On Washington that occurred on Aug. 28, 1963.

Also, on Aug. 24, citizens from across the country will gather for the 50th anniversary March on Washington National Action to Realize the Dream.

IN MILWAUKEE

From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sat., Aug. 24, Milwaukee will stage a commemorative march beginning at the MLK statue on Martin Luther King Drive. For more information, phone Tracey Dent at 414-502-7296 or James Ferguson at 414-264-6888. —L.N.



PHOTO: U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY

Civil rights leaders Martin Luther King Jr., Joseph L. Rauh Jr., Whitney Young, Roy Wilkins, A. Philip Randolph, Walter Reuther and Sam Weinblatt at the 1963 March on Washington.

the hundreds of thousands – there were 21 chartered trains, 2,000 buses and 10 chartered airlines – to walk from the Washington Memorial to the Lincoln Memorial. There, gathered around the reflecting pool at the base of the Lincoln Memorial, they heard from King, Rustin, Josephine Baker, labor leader Walter Reuther, CORE chairman Floyd McKissick, A. Philip Randolph, Eugene Carson Blake, National Urban League director Whitney Young, NAACP leader Roy Wilkins and now-Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., who was a young activist at the time.

King's speech, carried live on television, is the best-remembered of the event and is universally hailed as one of the greatest speeches in history.

"I have a dream, that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character," King said. "I have a dream today."

Lewis' speech proved the most controversial, partly for

what he was not allowed to say. The speech was edited to exclude criticism of the Kennedy administration and a fiery call to nonviolent revolution: "We will march through the South, through the heart of Dixie, the way Sherman did. We shall pursue our own scorched earth policy and burn Jim Crow to the ground – nonviolently."

On Aug. 24, Lewis again will address marchers, as will House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer, the family of Trayvon Martin, the family of Emmett Till, American Federation of Teachers president Randi Weingarten and National Education Association president Dennis Van Roekel, labor leaders Lee Saunders and Mary Kay Henry, and Janet Murgula of the National Council of LaRAZA.

Martin Luther King III, King's eldest son, plans to climb the steps of the Lincoln Memorial to speak.

Earlier this summer, he said many Americans who have faced a history of exclusion – people of color, women, workers, immigrants, LGBT citizens – still disproportionately face poverty, unemployment, underemployment, inadequate health care, voter suppression and discrimination.

Sharpton said, "We are in a climate that is threatening too much of what was achieved 50 years ago."

The marches take place during Congress' summer recess, with lawmakers due back to D.C. on Sept. 9.

Then, said Lewis, hearings will resume on restoring the "heart and soul" of the Voting Rights Act.



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PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM FOR RUSTIN

President Barack Obama is awarding the late civil rights advocate Bayard Rustin the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the United States.

The White House said Rustin was “an unyielding activist for civil rights, dignity, and equality for all. An advisor to the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., he promoted non-violent resistance, participated in one of the first Freedom Rides, organized the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom and fought tirelessly for marginalized communities at home and abroad. As an openly gay African American, Mr. Rustin stood at the intersection of several of the fights for equal rights.”

— L.N.

Transgender servicemembers serve invisibly, live in silence

By Lisa Neff
Staff writer

The repeal of “don’t ask, don’t tell” liberated gay and lesbian servicemembers from their closets but not transgender servicemembers, according to a new study.

The research, “Still Serving in Silence: Transgender Servicemembers and Veterans” comes nearly two years after the repeal of “don’t ask, don’t tell.”

That policy had required gay servicemembers to hide their sexual orientation and was intended to stop military officers from asking about sexual orientation.

Transgender people are not barred by congressional legislation from military service, but the military medical code sets out regulations that can prevent them from signing up or serving openly.

The research showed that transgender Americans serve in the military at a high rate — 20 percent of those who

participated in the NTDS had been in the Armed Forces. About 10 percent of the general population serves in the military.

The survey also showed that transgender servicemembers — or veterans — were less likely to be out than transgender civilians.

About 9 percent of transgender servicemembers who served openly reported being discharged, according to Herman.

The survey included personal statements from transgender Americans who served, who were refused entry into the military and who still want to enlist. “I am a patriotic and God-fearing 21-year-old male (of transsexual history) from a military family,” one young man wrote. “I want to serve my country badly, and think about this constantly.”

The study contains many reports of harassment, beatings, sexual assaults and insti-

tutional discrimination.

After their service, many transgender veterans were “met with discrimination in employment, housing and health care post-service,” said Herman.

“Still Serving in Silence” found:

- Transgender veterans were more likely to have lost a job due to discrimination than non-veterans.
- Within the workplace, transgender veterans were more likely to have been harassed than non-veterans.
- Transgender veterans were more likely than non-veterans to attain some college education, but actually less likely to have graduated.
- Transgender veterans were more likely than non-veterans to be evicted from their homes due to bias and to experience homelessness. The rate of homelessness for transgender veterans was 21 percent — three times the

general population’s rate.

The researchers noted, “This high rate ... is not surprising, given that veterans of all gender identities are disproportionately represented in the U.S. homeless population.” Nearly one in seven homeless adults is a veteran.

• A majority of transgender veterans go to non-VA clinics for health care and were more likely to be refused medical treatment due to bias. “Still Serving in Silence” is based on data from the National Transgender Discrimination Survey conducted by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the National Center for Transgender Equality. NGLTF Policy Institute manager Jack Harrison-Quintana and Jody L. Herman of the Williams Institute at UCLA released the paper.

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{ Editorial }

Madison's growing police state

While we have been preoccupied with the way Russia has taken an ax to democracy and individual freedom, a police state has been evolving right here at home.

There's been a dramatic increase in the arrest of people who gather at the Capitol to peacefully express their views. The Wisconsin Republican Party has littered "the people's place" with armed guards charged with eliminating dissent in the very building that symbolizes our constitutional rights to freedom.

The right-wing GOP crony in charge of the crackdown was recently rewarded by Gov. Scott Walker with a hefty raise granted through a complex, unethical maneuver that included a one-day job transfer in order to avoid state personnel law.

Demonstrations in the Capitol rotunda, including the peaceful weekday "Solidarity Sing-Alongs" of old union protest songs, have become routine since Gov. Scott Walker and his corporate-backed GOP colleagues stripped public sector unions of nearly all their bargaining rights in 2010. Armed with untold – and unaccounted for – millions of dollars from private interests who benefit financially from such legislation, Walker and his cronies have had nearly free rein in enacting legislation that's whittled away at the state's progressive traditions and values.

The Republicans have gerrymandered the state's political boundaries so that they were able to pick up majorities in both chambers of the Legislature even while receiving 200,000 fewer votes during the 2012 elections. With impunity, they're able to purchase seemingly unlimited advertising containing shameless lies about their own accomplishments and false accusations about their opponents.

With the benefit of the truth taken away from them, opponents of Walker et al. have fought back with the one tool they believed could not be snatched away – their own voices.

But now the state's GOP, borrowing a chapter from the playbook of Russia and other virtual dictatorships, is trying to take away the average citizen's voice. From July 24 to Aug. 16, Capitol Police issued at least 245 civil forfeiture citations and 10 misdemeanor criminal charges to more than 124 people participating in the daily sing-alongs. Though the events have irritated GOP officials, they've caused no real problems.

Matt Rothschild, editor of the nationally respected magazine *The Progressive*, was handcuffed merely for doing his job and reporting on the proceedings.

Attempts to silence the press and the unprecedented handcuffing of protesters have alarmed many. According to experts, the procedure is seldom, if ever, used on people who are not combative and threatening or who are not being taken to jail. Yet on Aug. 15, three grandmothers – at least one of them in her 80s – were handcuffed, then taken outside and let go with a citation. That was intimidation, not routine law enforcement.

According to the Wisconsin Constitution: "The right of the people peaceably to assemble, to consult for the common good, and to petition the government, or any department thereof, shall never be abridged."

As for the freedom of the press, the Constitution is equally clear, saying, "No laws shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the press."

Using classic police state tactics, Republicans are violating those Constitutional provisions to suppress dissent. Protesters must double down and prevent them from winning a battle leads down such a dangerous path.

WiG's WEB PICKS

"No business which depends for existence on paying less than living wages to its workers has any right to continue in this country"

Franklin D. Roosevelt



Some of our favorite recent pictorials from cyberspace

It's time we were honest about who the real welfare queens are - not the desperate for work, or the working poor, or the ailing middle class, but the Ultra Rich and corporations who get the benefits of a strong government without ever paying for it in taxes.



The party of Lincoln and Liberty was transmogrified into the party of hairy-backed swamp developers and corporate shills, faith-based economists, fundamentalist bullies with Bibles, Christians of convenience, freelance racists, misanthropic frat boys, shrieking midgets of AM radio, tax cheats, nihilists in golf pants, brownshirts in pinstripes, sweatshop tycoons...

Republicans: The number one reason the rest of the world thinks we're deaf, dumb, and dangerous.

Garrison Keillor



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ON THE RECORD



“Well, something that shocked me about Russia – and I’m surprised this is not a huge story – suddenly, homosexuality is against the law. I mean, this seems like Germany: Let’s round up the Jews, let’s round up the gays, let’s round up the blacks. I mean, it starts with that. Why is not more of the world outraged at this?”

– JAY LENO speaking with President Barack Obama on the “Tonight Show.”

“It is a shame and it is a sin but it is a personal choice. It is not normal but a person cannot be punished in Russia for being homosexual, or to live with a dog, with a horse, with a sheep, whatever.”

– Russian politician VITALY MILONOV speaking to the BBC about the “sin” of homosexuality. Milonov is behind St. Petersburg’s anti-gay law, which was later adopted by the nation as a whole.

“I applaud the Russians for taking a stand for children!”

– National Organization for Marriage spokesperson REV. BILL OWENS praising Russia’s persecution of LGBT people.

“Our (Russian) problem with homosexuals is that they behave in a provocative, victim-like way. They are aggressively foisting minority’s values on the majority. It is likely that society would counteract this. Naturally, right? In various ways, including brutal ones. ... They should be prohibited from donating blood, sperm. And their hearts – in case of a car accident – should be buried or burned as unfit for extending anyone’s life.”

– Russian state television host DIMITRY KISELYVOV during a radio interview. He was promoted shortly after making the remarks.

“You go to jail in Russia for being gay. Someone better arrest those nesting dolls. They’re ladies inside other ladies!”

– STEPHEN COLBERT tweeting a comment about Russia’s crackdown on homosexuality.

“Reince Priebus, when I got engaged, congratulated me at the White House Correspondents’ weekend. Last year, Sean Spicer (RNC communications director) congratulated me on getting married to my husband. Yet they incorporate into the platform of the RNC their stance against marriage equality.”

– MSNBC host THOMAS ROBERTS speaking on “Morning Joe.”

“My mother’s illegal abortion marked a time in America that we have worked long and hard to leave behind. It was a time when women were seen as second-rate citizens who were not smart enough, nor responsible enough, nor capable enough to make decisions about their lives. It was a time that deserved to be left behind.”

– Kenosha native MARK RUFFALO speaking out for reproductive rights in a letter read during a rally outside of Mississippi’s last abortion clinic.

“I believe that exposing children to these health risks without clear evidence of benefits that outweigh these serious risks is not appropriate.”

– New Jersey GOV. CHRIS CHRISTIE explaining why he signed a bill on Aug. 19 banning “ex-gay” therapy for children in his state.



Union busting: Don’t mourn – organize!



Early this year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported union membership in Wisconsin had fallen to just 11.2 percent of the labor force.

In March, the 73-year-old Milwaukee Labor Press, the voice of Milwaukee area labor unions, folded after publishing its last issue.

In July, the Milwaukee County Labor Council announced that Labor Fest, the exuberant parade and festival held every Labor Day weekend at Maier Festival Park, would not be held this year due to lack of funds.

In August, a report on the top lobbying groups in Wisconsin showed that spending for legislative lobbying by labor unions has plunged dramatically. The list of top lobbyists at the Capitol is now dominated by private business interests and is likely to stay that way for the foreseeable

future.

I watched these developments with dismay and got increasingly bummed out by right-wingers who greeted each new blow with cheers.

The fall of labor is nothing to gloat about. It is a tragedy that will make all of our lives more difficult, endanger our democracy and require us to refight many long and exhausting battles.

Labor unions provide critical balance to the contending interests of capital and labor. Frederick Douglass’ contention that “Power concedes nothing without a demand” is as true of the rights of workers as it was about the abolition of slavery. Employers did not benevolently bestow the eight-hour day, minimum wages, safe working conditions, an end to child labor, collective bargaining, workers’ compensation and other reforms. These reforms were fought for by organized workers, some of whom were shot and beaten by state militias and company goons.

Anyone who gloats about the fall of unions is willfully ignoring the history of working people in this country and the central role unions played in bringing greater safety, security and dignity to all workers.

Labor unions instill leadership, civic education and democratic values. They train union members how to campaign for steward and officer positions and the responsibilities involved in representing fellow workers. They teach parliamentary procedure and how to conduct orderly meetings and decision-making. They teach the nitty-gritty details of petitioning, filing grievances, and negotiating contract language and issues with tough opponents.

All of these union-honed skills transfer to active engagement in the broader society, which benefits everyone. For generations, millions of union members, infused with their ethic of collective responsibility, have been the backbone of political and civil rights campaigns (including

for LGBT rights), neighborhood groups, school committees, food drives, you name it.

Labor unions have been hammered by multiple forces: the decline in manufacturing, unfair trade deals, cutbacks and threats by employers, deficits due to unending wars, and corporate-funded politicians, think tanks and union-busting firms. In Wisconsin, Gov. Scott Walker’s Act 10 smashed collective bargaining for public sector unions, leading to pay cuts and lay-offs – sending teachers, nurses and government workers scrambling to maintain their families and homes.

Labor unions helped create and solidify the middle class in this country in the middle of the 20th century. The increased income inequality and higher poverty rates of recent years correspond directly to the decline in unions.

This Labor Day, I salute all those who continue to fight back and urge others to read up and get involved. Don’t mourn, organize!

Two leaders building equality



Two elected leaders, two different political backgrounds, one common goal – to build an inclusive community for LGBT people.

Appleton Mayor Tim Hanna, a self-proclaimed “fiscally and socially responsible” leader whose endorsement is often sought from GOP candidates, successfully introduced domestic partner benefits for city employees in 2011. Two years later, Outagamie County Executive Thomas Nelson is leading a similar effort at the county level.

Aided by strong city staff, including diversity coordinator Kathy Flores, community and economic development director Karen Harkness, and human resources director Sandy Behnke, as well as a majority of the city council members, Hanna led an effort that transformed the local conversation about diversity and inclusion.

Their success was not without significant challenges. Not only did several members of the city council speak out forcefully against providing domestic partner benefits, but a local group called “Appleton Taxpayers United” quickly formed. Originally focused on a perceived fiscal threat created by extending fair and equal employment policies, ATU quickly devolved into a small, disorganized handful of anti-gay activists relying on some of the most over-used and ineffective anti-gay stereotypes.

A former Democratic state legislator and candidate for lieutenant governor, Nelson is no stranger to supporting progressive issues. Earlier this summer, he introduced a measure to the county’s legislative/audit and human resources committee that would grant county workers access to domestic partner benefits.

Appleton utilized our statewide domestic partnership registry as the basis for enrollment, and Outagamie County is considering the same. The Outagamie Leg-

islative/Audit and Human Resources Committee is still working out the details of the proposal, which is expected to come before the full county board for a vote at the end of September.

The two leaders joined forces to roll out the county’s proposal together. On July 20, Hanna, as well as local business leaders, joined Nelson at the news conference announcement.

City and county, mayor and county executive, working together to continue advancing equality for their LGBT constituents. It’s an advocate’s dream.

In the weeks ahead, the legislative/audit and human resources committee, a typically conservative body, will continue to move forward with its review of domestic partner benefits. Because the proposal is an administrative rule, regardless of the committee’s final vote, domestic partner benefits will be taken up before the full county board in a month.

Though ATU is not an effective organizing group, local opposition to any pro-

fairness policies remains. So-called “moral opposition” has been attending county hearings and Wisconsin Family Action’s Julaine Appling was quick to stand in opposition to Nelson’s proposal.

Grassroots organizing is key to countering our opposition. Local LGBT and allied activists, business leaders, elected officials, faith leaders and other community stakeholders are critical voices to engage in supporting pro-fairness policies. Sharing stories at hearings, in letters to the local newspapers and during one-on-one conversations with elected leaders are all ways we can all help potential allies on a city council or county board understand the importance of building welcoming and inclusive communities.

Luckily, Nelson and Hanna are not the only local leaders moving their communities forward, nor are they the only two elected officials collaborating on issues of importance to the LGBT community.

Katie Belanger is executive director of Fair Wisconsin.

NATIONAL BRIEFS

GAY COUPLE
BEATEN IN
NEW YORK

Police say that Peter Nortman and his boyfriend Michael Felenchak had left New York City's Chelsea Cinema holding hands just after midnight early Aug. 15 when two men attacked them.

The assailants allegedly launched a barrage of anti-gay slurs while beating the couple, one of whom required seven stitches. Four other men joined in the beating — also hurling anti-gay epithets.

At a news conference with out New York City Council Speaker and mayoral candidate Christine Quinn, Portman, 53, said he's now afraid to walk through Chelsea — his home of 20 years.

"This is unbelievable," he said. "I was shocked that this happened on a street I called home."

The recent attack follows a series of similar anti-gay



PHOTO: WABC
Michael Felenchak after being attacked in Manhattan for holding hands with his boyfriend.

assaults in the spring, including the fatal shooting of a gay man in Greenwich Village. The NYPD Hate Crimes Task Force is investigating.

**BAR ASSOCIATION
ADOPTS POLICY
AGAINST 'GAY
PANIC' DEFENSE**

The American Bar Asso-

ciation adopted policies regarding topics ranging from human trafficking to the "gay panic" defense at its annual meeting in San Francisco.

The ABA House of Delegates voted on more than 20 resolutions, including a policy urging every level of government to take legislative action to curtail the use of the "gay panic" and "trans panic" defenses. Such defenses seek to partially or completely excuse crimes on the grounds that the victim's sexual orientation or gender identity is to blame for the defendant's violent reaction.

During the meeting, former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton received the ABA Medal, the association's highest honor.

IN OTHER NEWS...

• **Labor and civil rights activists** with the Americans for Workplace Opportunity lobbied elected officials and rallied supporters around the country this

summer to build support for ENDA — the federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act.

• **Oregon Says I Do** collected nearly 40,000 signatures in the first 10 days of a petition drive to ask voters to legalize same-sex marriage. Campaign organizers had hoped to collect at least 10,000 signatures.

• **California Congresswoman Linda Sánchez** recently introduced the Social Security Equality Act of 2013, which would require the government to provide spousal, survivor and death benefits to same-sex couples in relationships recognized by the state where they live. Her legislation includes marriage, but also civil unions and domestic partnerships.

• **The Pentagon** will extend benefits to same-sex spouses of military members by Sept. 3, as long as the servicemember provides a valid marriage certificate.

Broad religious exemption in ENDA challenged

The U.S. Senate may take up legislation banning workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity this fall, following bipartisan approval from the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

But some equality advocates say the religious exemption in the legislation is too broad, extending far beyond houses of worship.

The ACLU, in a letter to senators, noted that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 contains an exemption for religious organizations and religious education institutions to give preference to employees who share their religion. But Title VII in the act doesn't allow religious organizations to discriminate against employees based on race, sex or other protected classes.

ENDA, as proposed, would provide a religious exemption to "a corporation, association, educational institution or institution of learning, or society."

— L.N.

Military personnel in a same-sex relationship who are stationed in a state that does not permit same-sex marriage will be allowed to

take leave for travel to a jurisdiction where they can marry legally.

— L.N. and L.W.

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Wisconsin ACLU urges partners to apply for Social Security benefits

From WiG reports

The American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin is encouraging same-sex couples in registered domestic partnerships in the state to apply for Social Security benefits.

Earlier this summer, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a key provision in the Defense of Marriage Act that barred the federal government from recognizing same-sex marriages, a provision that prevented gay spouses access to more than 1,300 federal benefits and rights associated with marriage.

Legal experts have been analyzing DOMA, federal and state law and what the justices said in the majority opinion to determine the impact of the Court's landmark decision on Wisconsin.

The state does not allow same-sex couples to marry or recognize out-of-state marriages under a constitutional amendment enacted by popular vote in 2006.

But the state does have a domestic partnership registration program, which was established in 2009.

The ACLU of Wisconsin, in a statement released on Aug. 19, said, "we believe couples who are registered here as domestic partners are eligible for Social Security retirement benefits."

"That's because Social Security is governed by federal, not state laws. Wis. Chapter 852 treats domestic partners no differently than

married couples – which is the standard in the Social Security statute."

The Social Security Administration is encouraging same-sex couples to apply for benefits, even though the agency hasn't yet issued updated instructions to its field offices. The U.S. Justice Department first needs to complete a review the laws related to federal marriage benefits and obligations. It will take time to determine which Social Security benefits apply to civil union and domestic partner states, such as Wisconsin.

The ACLU said same-sex couples considering applying for Social Security should think about the following:

- A couple must be registered as domestic partners for at least a year before applying for Social Security benefits.

- There is no penalty for registered domestic partners to apply for benefits even if the benefits are denied.

- A person must be at least 61 years and nine months of age or older to apply for Social Security benefits. The earliest age at which a person can begin receiving Social Security retirement benefits is 62; the oldest age is 70.

- Applications should be filed in person, at a Social Security field office, rather than online. An applicant will need to bring proof of his or her domestic part-

'We believe couples who are registered here are eligible for Social Security retirement benefits.'

nership registry and may need to cite Wis. Chapter 852.

- It only makes sense to apply for Social Security benefits if one partner earns significantly less income than the other, or has no earnings. The partner earning less applies to receive up to 50 percent of the higher earner's benefits. The government first pays the lower earner's benefits, and then makes up the difference between those benefits and 50 percent of the higher earner's benefits.

There are other considerations when applying for benefits. For example, should a person apply for benefits at age 62, 66 or 70? Should an individual take payments now or apply and then suspend payments to continue working? So couples should consult with an expert in Social Security matters.



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REGIONAL BRIEFS

LANSING CUTS SISTER CITIES TIES WITH ST. PETERSBURG

Officials in Lansing, Mich., ended a "sister cities" relationship with the Russian city of St. Petersburg due to that country's anti-gay policies.

The Lansing City Council voted unanimously to call for an end to the relationship.

A new Russian law criminalizes pro-gay behavior or statements in public, where children might witness them. It includes such statements made online or in the media. St. Petersburg was one of several cities to pass similar laws at local level before the national law passed.

According to the Lansing Regional Sister

Cities Commission, the city's relationship with one district of St. Petersburg formally began in 1994 with a youth exchange program but fell dormant after political and geographic districts of St. Petersburg were changed several years ago.

Last year, the Italian city of Milan cut its cultural ties to St. Petersburg, and Los Angeles is considering taking the same action.

BALDWIN PUSHES TO END GAY BLOOD DONOR BAN

U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin is leading a push in Washington to allow gay men to donate blood.

The ban on donations by men who have sex with men has been in place for decades – since the emergence of HIV and AIDS in the 1980s.

Baldwin, from Wisconsin, and 84 other Democratic lawmakers, recently sent a letter to Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius saying the ban fosters "an atmosphere that promotes discrimination."

The letter said there have been dramatic improvements in blood screening since the early 1980s and the medical community has a better understanding of the virus. The senators stressed that blood donors should be accepted based on health factors and not their sexual orientation.

The American Medical Association adopted a policy in June opposing the ban.

IN OTHER NEWS ...

• **U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan**, R-Janesville, raised \$1.7 million in the first six months of the year. Ryan collected nearly three times more money than any other member of Wisconsin's congressional delegation during the period.

• **Attorney General Eric Holder** marked the first anniversary of the shootings at the Sikh temple in Oak Creek with an announcement that the Justice Department's Office on Victims of Crime was offering emergency assistance grants to the state of Wisconsin. A grant of \$512,000 will help victims' families and survivors of the shooting.

• **U.S. Reps. Gwen Moore and Mark Pocan** of Wisconsin have introduced legislation to protect and support LGBT runaway and homeless youth. The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, last reauthorized in 2008, is up for reauthorization this year. Pocan and Moore said the measure must be amended to include protections for LGBT kids.

• **Lambda Legal and the ACLU** recently presented oral arguments asking a Cook County Circuit Court judge not to dismiss two lawsuits seeking marriage equality for same-sex couples in Illinois. Twenty-five couples are involved in the lawsuits.

• **American Legislative Exchange Council** or ALEC held its 40th annual meeting in Chicago earlier in August. The organization, responsible for providing lawmakers with model right-wing legislation on immigration, abortion, voting and gun ownership, drew some high-profile speakers and also hundreds of demonstrators. Many of the laws that Gov. Scott Walker has signed in Madison were created by ALEC, whose corporate members have also given him millions of dollars.

– L.N. and L.W.

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New business is cocoon for emerging artists in Riverwest

Brandon Miller

Contributing writer

It's a Sunday afternoon and Rachel Buth is working on a tank-top design for a client. She's reducing her design down to two colors with the help of friend and Cocoon Room co-owner Shelia Teruty. Amid the creative idea sharing, Amanda Mills, the store's third co-owner, is showing a curious passerby the space's clothing boutique and art section.

The amorphous Riverwest arts venue is a multi-operational space that functions as an art gallery, boutique store and creative workplace that also transforms into a music venue at dusk. The three co-owners envisioned a venue similar to Foxglove Gallery, which formerly occupied the space.

All three are engaged in the curating process and they share mutual goals. Each owner acts as an essential leg for the tripod that balances the Cocoon Room.

"We all have our own tastes, but we all agree on what good art is," Teruty says. "We all went to school for art and design and have been doing these things for a long time. We look for artists who are unique and have different perspectives."

Founded in November 2012 and launched earlier this year, Cocoon Room aims to fulfill the owners' belief that the neighborhood needed to continue holding "a place to celebrate the arts and the Riverwest community," Buth says.

When seeking a name for their multifaceted gallery, Mills was attracted to the concept of a cocoon.

"The idea behind it is something crawling inside and going through metamorphosis – changing, learning, creating and coming out as something else. Kind of like a transformation," she says.

During their regular hours, Cocoon Room serves as a small boutique that sells curated pre-owned clothing, as well as new, handmade apparel, jewelry and other

accessories. The owners say they don't want Cocoon to be considered a typical second-hand store, so they choose items that reflect their unique style.

The space also can be rented out at a modest price for both music events and art installations. People can be shopping for clothes, listening to a band and enjoying work by local artists – all at the same time.

Even before opening, Cocoon Room's owners showed their hospitality by hosting shows for Riverwest Fest. For gay Pride month in June, the gallery displayed the "Celebrate Queer Milwaukee" artist series.

In addition to the other activities, Cocoon Room serves as a space for the owners' other businesses, which include So Passé, a fashion design enterprise, Redish, a photography studio, and Sunshine Acid Designs, which makes jewelry and clothing. Recently, So Passé and Sunshine Acid Designs contributed a fashion editorial for Info* magazine.

The three entrepreneurs cooperate well in managing the gallery and say they're excited for future events and endeavors.

"We all take responsibility and combine our talents and experiences to run it and make it successful," Buth says. "We encourage people to send in images and ideas for shows. I don't know how people are hearing about us but we get requests from everywhere – all different states."

Cocoon Room has just finished installing works by emerging artists Nick Hetzel, Shawn Gurath and William Arthur. In September, the gallery plans on hosting a fashion photography show. Inspired by her recent experience teaching at Children's Outing of America, a youth and family center located in Riverwest, Mills plans to offer jewelry-making classes at Cocoon Room.

Together the owners have created a space that both nurtures and exhibits

It functions as an art gallery, boutique store and creative workplace that transforms into a music venue at dusk.

the growing arts scene in Riverwest.

"Cocoon Room is a haven of good energy and creativity," Mills says. "We have a work space here and if people want to come in

and work on stuff they can. That's one of the reasons why we're here."

ON THE WEB

For more, visit facebook.com/cocoonroommke.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Located in the creative neighborhood of Riverwest, Cocoon Room is a multi-operational space.

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Beethoven goes Bollywood



PHOTO: COURTESY

This scene from the stage production “The Merchants of Bollywood” reflects the bright, glittery athleticism of classic Indian musical cinema.

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Take Ludwig van Beethoven's classic opera about love, freedom and a political prisoner wrongly convicted. Dress it up in colorful, spangled costumes from the Indian cinema's golden age. Then present the composer's magnificent melodies with a primarily dancing cast that fills a highly stylized stage with robust athleticism. Finally, add a dash of the latest in interactive technology for good measure.

What have you got? The Skylight Music Theatre's production of “Fidelio.”

The Skylight's season opener might be more appropriately titled “Beethoven Goes Bollywood” or “Fidelio 2.0.” It's the first production directed by Viswa Subbaraman, the Skylight's new artistic director, and it pays more than a passing nod to his Indian heritage and the future of the performing arts.

The unusual combination, possibly the first of its kind in the history of Beethoven's only opera, seemed like a natural to Subbaraman, who took over the company's helm July 25 from longtime artistic director Bill Theisen,

who left to head the University of Iowa's opera program. There are more commonalities between the opera and the Indian cinematic genre than most people realize, Subbaraman says.

“When you think about ‘Fidelio,’ there's great dialogue, great singing and a lot of great music, but nothing happens,” he says. “Classic Bollywood films are much the same. The genre allows us to fill the space Beethoven left with good dancers who create the subtext of the arias and show us what's going on.”

Bollywood does not refer to all

Indian cinema, but rather those films produced in Mumbai. The golden age includes films made in the 1950s and '60s, a period that focused on classic Indian themes in a manner that was heavily influenced by Hollywood musicals of the 1920s through the 1950s.

Other Bollywood influences were the ancient Indian epics Mahabharata and Ramayana, Sanskrit drama, traditional Indian folk theater and Parsi theater, which blends realism and fantasy, music and dance with sensational stagecraft.

Subbaraman has called on

Raghava KK, one of India's top artists, to create sets for the opera that use new interactive technology. Named one of National Geographic's 2013 Class of Emerging Explorers, Raghava KK has employed technology for the sets similar to what he uses in his own artwork. Xbox users familiar with Kinect technology will understand how the silhouettes of dancers appear on the opera's video screens as the performers move across the stage.

Subbaraman, who will conduct the orchestra for each perfor-

SKYLIGHT next page

Skylight director traveled unique path

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Viswa Subbaraman always knew that music would be a part of his life, but he wasn't always aware that it would become his career.

The new artistic director of Milwaukee's Skylight Music Theatre originally planned to become a physician, like his father and grandfather. Subbaraman was a sophomore at Duke University enrolled in pre-med studies when a trip to Vienna with the Duke Wind Ensemble dramatically altered his life's course.

Ironically, it was a trip he did not want to take.

"I am a devout basketball and football fan and had to be convinced to go and skip basketball season at Duke," says Subbaraman, a West Texas native. "It was the first time in my life I saw a professional orchestra live."

The orchestra was the Vienna Philharmonic under the direction of conductor Claudio Abbado. While in Vienna, Subbaraman, who plays trombone and violin, also saw his first opera – 15 of them, in fact. He hated the first five, but the art form that was to become

the center of his life soon began to grow on him.

"We knew only medicine as a professional career choice, but I began to realize the greatest doctors are the ones who are called to it," Subbaraman, now 36, says. "That passion is important because it's a difficult field, and I didn't have that passion."

Music quickly replaced medicine for Subbaraman, who graduated from Duke with degrees in both biology and music. He became an assistant to North Carolina Symphony conductor William Henry Curry, and his fledgling musical career began to blossom.

Subbaraman earned a master's degree from Texas Tech University and was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to study conducting in Paris with John Nelson, conductor of the Ensemble orchestral de Paris. Two months after his arrival, Maestro Kurt Masur offered him a position as assistant conductor with the Orchestre National de France. Masur also arranged for Subbaraman to participate in the 2006 Beethoven Seminar in Bonn, an event usually open only to German conductors.

Subbaraman returned to Texas, and in 2006 he founded Opera Vista, a Houston-based opera company that specializes in contemporary composers. He also earned an MBA from McCombs School of Business at the University of Texas-Austin.

Subbaraman's unique background gave him the dual credentials needed to run the Skylight, founded in 1959, as both an artistic and business enterprise.

Although his position officially started in July, Subbaraman arrived early enough this year to have a hand in creating the Skylight's 2013-14 season.

"I tried to keep the arc of what the Skylight has done historically," he says. "I wanted to integrate the performances in a way that would allow us to start a conversation with the public."

The season opens Sept. 20 with a Bollywood-style production of Beethoven's opera "Fidelio," followed by "Les Misérables." The theme of the season is revolution.

"The Skylight has been trying get the rights to 'Les Misérables' for years, and they finally came through," he says.

Subbaraman plans to stretch that thread a bit, closing the season in May with "Hair," the "hippie musical" that shocked theatergoers in 1967 with its anti-war sentiment, drug references and nudity. The show seems tame in comparison to many contemporary Broadway offerings, but contributes to the broad range of production styles that now characterize not only the Skylight's offerings, but also the changing face of musical theater.

"Great theater fundamentally tells a great story, whether we do it through opera or musicals," Subbaraman says. "We are going to aim for two operas each season, but we're not pitting one musical form against the other."

Subbaraman says the Skylight has stayed ahead of national trends with its historical mix of musical styles. He's impressed with the city's theater scene and plans to rise to the demands posed by local audiences, he adds.

"Milwaukee has a very substantive arts audience that is interested in good performances, and that makes things exciting and challenging," he says. "All the bases



PHOTO: MARK FROHNA

Viswa Subbaraman

are covered when it comes to the classical arts. I'm curious to see whether there is an appetite for world music and an ethnic arts scene."

Casting Beethoven's only opera in the style of a Bollywood musical is a good first step toward answering that question.



SKYLIGHT from prior

performance, will wear a brain-wave scanner during the opera's finale. The technology will translate his subconscious thoughts into light patterns that will be projected on stage to create a "star map" at the end of each performance. Thus, the graphic that represents the opera's eternal quality will change from performance to performance based on the conductor's thoughts and emotions.

Subbaraman says the technology underscores the fact that "the beauty of live theater is that each performance is unique."

"I don't know anyone who's done this before, which makes us very excited that we're blazing some new ground here," he adds.

The choreography was sourced closer to home.

Deepa Devasena, who operates Milwaukee's Aarabhi Dance School, designed the production's dances. A teacher of Bollywood-style dancing, Devasena had to adapt classical Indian moves to Beethoven's music.

"There has been some trial and error for all of us, but she has loved every second of it," Subbaraman says.

Members of the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin in Oak Creek, the site of last year's shooting, have come on board to provide Subbaraman, who's originally from West Texas, with what he calls some much needed expertise and cultural perspective. This relationship, too, was a Skylight first.

In addition to all the original elements of the production, "Fidelio" will feature some world-class operatic performers, including tenor

Chase Taylor as Florestan, soprano Cassandra Black as Leonore, soprano and Milwaukee resident Erica Shuller as Marzelline and bass-baritone and Lawrence University graduate Christopher Besch as Rocco.

"Fidelio" will be sung in English rather than its native German, which is often a turnoff for opera purists. But with all the Bollywood trappings and technology going on, the change of language will be the smallest leap of faith that Subbaraman will ask his audiences to take.

"We're telling the story in a way that is honest and true to the composer's storyline," he says. "The singing is wonderful and it is fundamentally the music of Beethoven. Audiences should love the production."

SKYLIGHT'S 2013-14 SEASON

Beethoven's opera "Fidelio" launches a season of "revolutionary" musical entertainment, including:


- "Les Misérables," the musical retelling of Victor Hugo's immortal tale, Nov. 22 – Dec. 29.
- "El Cimarrón," Hans Werner Henze's theatrical story about a runaway slave, Jan. 3 – 12.
- "In the Heights," the Tony- and Grammy-winning musical that chronicles life in a close-knit urban community, Jan. 31 – Feb. 23.
- "Hydrogen Jukebox," combining the words of poet Allen Ginsberg and the music of composer Philip Glass, March 14-30.
- "I Hear America Singing," a musical revue written and directed by opera composer and Milwaukee native Daron Hagen, May 9 – 25.
- "Hair," the 1967 "hippie musical" that turned Broadway on its head, May 16 – June 8.

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Theater

JAY RATH

Proud Theater empowers LGBTQ youth while illuminating audiences

If you haven't seen a Proud Theater production yet, you might have the opportunity soon. The LGBTQ youth theater troupe, founded in Madison, has opened chapters in Wausau and Milwaukee. And talks are underway to expand into other cities as well.

Proud Theater describes itself as "a surrogate family for those without, a second home for others, and a space of love for all."

Sol Kelley-Jones and Callen Harty created the group in 1999 with help from Madison's LGBT resource center, OutReach, Inc.

"It started off with three people, and over the years it just kept growing and growing," recalls executive director Brian Wild.

Its first public performance was at a local Pride picnic in 2000. A year later came its first production in an actual theater, at UW-Madison.

Proud Theater was designed for participants ages 13-18, though exceptions have been made. Many of its performances are staged as community outreach efforts.

What happens offstage is just as important as the performances. Led by mentors, the rehearsal process begins with youth members telling stories about "the queer experience in their high schools," which generates themes and characters that are eventually honed into scripts, says Peter Rydberg, assistant professor and director of theater at Thiel College in Greenville, Pa.

"It's called applied drama,

and it's transformative in that the participants are all transformed by the mere act of being in the process," he says.

As a doctoral candidate at UW-Madison, Rydberg wrote his dissertation on Proud Theater, which involved two years of interviewing participants and observing the theater's method of developing original productions. He found the process exciting.

It's rare, he says, that young people are given the chance to speak for themselves.

"(Proud Theater participants) are celebrated for being themselves, and that alone is worth everything that comes out of the program," Rydberg says. "The youth can take pride in creating something. Finding 'belonging' is something that any young person can build their entire future on."

"One of our biggest concerns is that the youth are taught that their voice is important, that they have something truly remarkable to say, and that within them lies greatness, in the words and the art that they create,"

says Wild, who also serves as creative and performing arts program coordinator for the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County.

Parents of Proud Theater participants appreciate the program's positive benefits for their kids.

"For us as parents, the most important part of our son David being involved in Proud Theater is that he has a comfortable, accepting place to go once a week where he

Proud Theater participants 'are celebrated for being themselves.'

can be himself," says Chris Viken Harvey, whose family lives in Cottage Grove, near Madison. "He has made some really good friends, and has really good guidance from the adult mentors. Proud Theater has given my son and the other members a voice to express and accept who they are through dance, acting, music or spoken word pieces."

Proud Theater's growth has been gradual.

"I thought the process and the stories the kids were telling were so important that I wanted to see (the program) expanded to other parts of the state," Wild says. "I started gathering some of the forces together, because I knew we would have to become our own nonprofit."



PHOTO: CALLEN HARTY

Proud Theater performs at Milwaukee PrideFest in June.

The nonprofit Art and Soul Innovations was created as the theater's fiscal sponsor in 2011.

"At that time I'd already been laying the groundwork to create our first-ever pilot Proud Theater (outside of Madison), which in this case was in my hometown of Wausau," Wild says.

That chapter's first show was in 2012. "As soon as we got that launched, we immediately started working in the Milwaukee area," he says.

The Milwaukee chapter launched in April. All three chapters performed together at Milwaukee's PrideFest in June.

Oshkosh and Appleton are possibilities for new chapters, as well as Minneapolis.

"I've been talking to sev-

eral people outside of the state," says Wild. "The one thing that I want to make sure of is that the three chapters that we have right now have sustainability and stability. This year, I'm going to focus more on making sure they have all the tools they need to maintain what they're building right now."

Volunteers are sought to assist with publicity, fundraising, website design and upkeep.

"And, of course, we welcome help on the artistic side," Wild adds. "We need people to do sound design and light design, and all the things that make a theatrical production work."

In addition to LGBTQ kids, young allies and youth from families with same-sex or

queer-identifying parents are welcome to participate.

"We have quite a few straight kids," Wild says. "We generally don't ask. It's really not important. What's important is the work, the story that they have to tell. As long as their hearts are in the right place and they want to make a difference, by all means, please join us."

ON THE WEB

For more information, about Proud Theater, visit www.proud-theater.org.



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Shorewood resident Miranda Levy a standout on TV's 'Project Runway'

Fashion

GREGG SHAPIRO

Miranda Levy, a self-taught Milwaukee-based fashion designer, has wowed audiences at local fashion events, including shows at the Milwaukee Art Museum, the Pritzlaff Building, Flying Car MKE and numerous gala and charity events. She's held positions as curator for Tenth Street Gallery, adjunct professor at Milwaukee Insti-

tute of Art & Design and color specialist for Kohl's. As a prominent member of Milwaukee's fashion community, Levy's work has been showcased on the cover of M Magazine and Info Magazine, among others.

Now the Wilton native is competing on season 12 of Lifetime TV's "Project Runway" for a prize package worth more than \$500,000. She has,

at times, been a polarizing character on the show — but she's always been entertaining.



Levy answered some questions for me earlier this month.

Gregg Shapiro: You've had some unusual jobs: Army mechanic, strawberry picker, hotel maid, librarian, pre-school photographer. Did any of those positions influence your sense of style?

Miranda Levy: Definitely being in the military. After getting out, I kind of started making clothing around an idea of re-creating or creating a new identity for myself. That's really where it all started, in art school and going from there. Every job along the way from there was just those kinds of filler jobs to keep me going until I was able to be a designer.

From the beginning of the season, you said that fellow Milwaukee resident Timothy Westbrook should be eliminated and then he was, but not until the third round. (To get a glimpse of the drama between the two, go to YouTube http://youtu.be/mdGypx9P_5w.)

I think that Timothy is a really strong personality. Unfortunately, the show is not just about design. I think it's also about personality, as well. If they made a show based just on designers sitting in the work room being quiet, it would probably be pretty sad to watch (laughs). He definitely had his angle and he knew how to play it up.

Do you have a fashion weakness?

Shoes! I love shoes so much. I must have brought 30 pairs with me (to "Project Runway"). People were like, "Do you really need that many pairs? You only have two feet." But I really love them!

Who do you consider to be your style icons?

I really love Patti Smith. I don't think I make work like

her at all. I think she's just a really cool woman and really has a great voice of her own as a musician. I love how she dresses. She doesn't care what people think of her. She just does her own thing. I really like that.

What do you look for in a model?

Maybe I shouldn't call it a fetish, but I do have a secret fetish for gaps in front teeth. I really love models with gaps in their front teeth. I also really like a girl with curves. Probably because I'm really interested in the '40s, '50s style — I really like a small waist and hips and a figure.

If you could design a new look for any celebrity, who would it be and why?

I think I would love to design for Madonna. Just because she's really cool and always does interesting

things and always seems to be ahead of the trends.

She also fits the gap in the front teeth mold.

Yes! And she has a gap in her teeth (laughs). That's probably why more than anything. I just want to see her smile.

What are your favorite neighborhood spots in Shorewood?

I love going to Thief Wine Bar. There's a new — maybe a year old — sushi bar called Nana Asian Fusion, and I really love going there too. I have wine and sushi within walking distance, so I probably never need to leave Shorewood again (laughs). Now, if only they would get a fabric shop, I'd be set forever.

Who is your biggest competitor on "Project Runway"?

I guess I would say Sandro.

His design is really good. He's really fast. His stuff is really tailored. It is similar to mine in the way that he really likes making females look really beautiful and showing those curves. He's probably my biggest competition.

Why do you think that you should win?

I think I should win because I'm really passionate about design. After the military and being a mechanic in the Army for eight years, it really pushed me to follow my dreams and be the most motivated person in whatever I chose to do. I love it and I feel like after getting out of the military, I was starting over. I didn't want to make any excuses. I just wanted to do what I love. Hopefully, it all works out for me and I can continue doing this whether I win "Project Runway" or not.

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Dish it Out!

Wineries – and now breweries – make Door County a spirited destination

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Wisconsin's Door County isn't Napa Valley, but seven wineries dot the 483-square-mile peninsula. Two of the wineries also brew beer and one of the two produces distilled spirits. There is a third brewery just starting out and a hard cider operation on the peninsula's northern end.

All of this makes Door County an excellent destination for travelers with a spirited vacation in mind.

TIME FOR WINE

The Kewaunee County community of Algoma is a great place to begin your Door County wine tour. The local **Von Stiehl Winery** ranks as one of Wisconsin's oldest. Housed in a building constructed as a brewery in 1868, the structure fell into disrepair until 1967. That year, it was purchased, restored and opened by Dr. Charles von Stiehl as a winery specializing in locally grown cherry and apple wines.

Von Stiehl's lines have expanded and the winery has won numerous awards over the years. The company currently produces 70,000 gallons of wine annually.

Tours and tastings at the winery, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, end in the popular third floor lounge, which overlooks Algoma's landmark lighthouse and the Lake Michigan shoreline.

Traveling north, the next stop is **Red Oak Winery**, with production facilities just south of Sturgeon Bay. Owner, winemaker and Sturgeon Bay native Andy Wagener, an attorney with winemaking credentials from the University of California (Davis) prides himself on premium wines in the German white and French red styles. One of several wineries to use fruit purchased from West Coast growers, Red Oak specializes in pinot



PHOTO: I23RF.COM

SPIRITED VACATION: It's not Napa Valley, but Door County, located at the same latitude as Europe's most prolific wine-producing regions, is home to a growing wine industry. For aficionados of the grape, the Door's seven wineries make for an enjoyable tour.

noir, zinfandel, cabernet sauvignon, chardonnay and other well-known varietals. Wagener also produces several Door County cherry wines.

Door 44 Winery, located just north of Sturgeon Bay, produces wines from fruit grown exclusively in Wisconsin vineyards, including those of **Parallel 44 Vineyard & Winery**, its affiliated Kewaunee County operation. Owned and operated by the husband-and-wife team of Steve Johnson and Maria Milano, the wineries use locally grown grapes, including Marechal Foch, Fronte-

noir, St. Pepin and other varietals to produce their wines.

The name Parallel 44 refers to the latitude where the vineyard sits – the same one as the French and Italian wine-producing regions of Bordeaux and Tuscany. Except for Wisconsin's freezing winters, the three regions share many similarities, say Johnson and Milano.

Door Peninsula Winery, located in Carlsville, may be among the peninsula's most productive: It has winemaking, brewing and distilling operations. The winery houses the restaurant Bistro 42 and also owns Fat Louie's, which

produces gourmet oils and vinegars, as well as an art gallery.

Door Peninsula's modern facility stands on the site of the 1885 schoolhouse in which the winery started. The facility offers tastings of many of its 45 wines, made from locally grown grapes and other fruit, as well as grapes brought in from the West Coast.

On the eastern side of the Door Peninsula on County Road I, **Simon Creek Vineyard & Winery** occupy some of the county's most scenic terrain. Founded in 2003 by partners Tim Lawrie, Lance Nelson and Tom

Payette, who serves as winemaker, Simon Creek relies on locally sourced fruit and grapes from other regions. The 11,000-square-foot facility, which sits on 30 acres of vineyards, bottles wines using varietals ranging from cabernet franc and gewurztraminer to golden muscat and Door County cherry.

Harbor Ridge Winery, located south of Egg Harbor, may be the peninsula's newest winery, but it benefits from assistance provided by von Stiehl's winemaker, who helps the owners create memorable reds and whites. With wines named Knockin' Heads Red, Mademoiselle Tantalizing White and Gimme One Good Riesling, Harbor Ridge aims for a whimsical brand. But don't discount the quality of its wines – they rank among Door County's best.

Stone's Throw Winery, located east of Harbor Ridge on County Road E outside of Bailey's Harbor, prides itself on its microvinification approach. The winery imports small-lot premium grapes from California's Napa, Sonoma and Mendocino counties to produce high-end varietals. In a world of cherry wine, Stone's Throw is bottling Petite Verdot, Sangiovese, cabernet sauvignon and other complex wines in a 90-year-old stone barn that the owners say is located at the very center of the Door County's Peninsula.

But it may be **Lautenbach's Orchard Country Winery & Market** south of Fish Creek that best embodies the Door's winemaking tradition. Starting as the Lautenbach's family dairy farm and cherry orchard in the 1950s, Lautenbach's Orchard Country is still one of the peninsula's major cherry growers. The business creates a full line of wines from grapes, cherries and other fruit that have become very popular with visitors. The Swedish ling-

WINE next page



PHOTO: MICKY GOODMAN/TRAVELGRAM

Harbor Ridge Winery offers wines with such whimsical names as Knockin' Heads Red and Gimme One Good Riesling.

WINE from prior page

onberry wine, probably the company's most unique, was out of stock when we visited, giving us a reason to return.

BEER HERE

Wine isn't the only spirited beverage bubbling up in the Door. The craft beer movement, at full swing elsewhere in the state, is beginning to catch on. There's a

trio of worthy brewers to check out.

Shipwrecked Restaurant, Brewery & Inn in Egg Harbor is the oldest area microbrewery and part of the **Door Pen-**

insula Winery family. The bayside brewery produces the standard range of craft ales. The cherry wheat ale is not to be missed.

Door County Brewing Co., located in Baileys Harbor, is new to the scene and currently contract brews its beers at Sand Creek Brewery in Black River Falls. But restaurants up and down the peninsula feature the brewery's Polka King Porter and Little Sister Witbier, both worth a sip.

Even von Stiehl is getting into the brewing scene. This summer the company revived the Ahnapee Brewery, which will feature Noble IPA, a German-style IPA, and Bavarian Helles on tap soon two doors down from the winery.

AND THE REST

If your tastes don't run to wine or beer, here are several other libations available during your Door County vacation.

Door County Distillery, another part of Door Peninsula Winery, has only been operating for sever-

al years, but it already has earned honors in top national spirits competitions. The blend of botanicals, juniper and citrus earned its Door County Lighthouse Gin gold and silver awards in East and West coast spirits competitions, with silver awards going to the distillery's Door County Apple Brandy.

One of the area's unique producers, **Island Orchard Cider**, is located in Ellison Bay. Owned by Milwaukee residents Bob and Yannique Purman, the

hard cider house produces five different ciders in the Normandy style from apples, pears and cherries grown on Washington Island off the Door peninsula's northern tip. The oak-aged brut apple cider is one to take home with you to foster fond memories of your spirited vacation.

ON THE WEB

For more, visit doorcounty.com/what-to-do/wineryies.

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Music

GREGG SHAPIRO

You may not know Kady Z's name yet, but you will. The daughter of diminutive showbiz legend Pia Zadora, Kady was named for the character her mother played in the campy cult movie "Butterfly."

Kady has emerged as a powerhouse entertainer in her own right. Her full-length debut disc "Ordinary Girl" is anything but ordinary. Propelled by an unstoppable dance energy, Kady, who co-wrote the 12 songs with Tone Def, embraces her inner dance diva on "Beautiful Disaster" and "One Million Pieces."

She talked recently about her first full-length album and more during the summer of 2013.

Gregg Shapiro: Coming from a show business family, was it inevitable that you would become an entertainer?

Kady Z: I think so, for sure. My mom is really a huge inspiration for me. Being on stage with her as a little kid and seeing her perform and do her thing, it definitely inspired me to go into it. I've watched videos of myself performing from ages 3 to 8, and I didn't have a fear or care in the world. Now, of course, it's totally different. When you're a kid you don't have any idea of what you're doing, really. You just do it.

A few months ago, you appeared on "RuPaul's Drag Race." What was that like?

At first they were like, "You're going to be on 'RuPaul' as a guest judge." I thought, "Oh, awesome." When I got there, they told me I was going to be in a girl pop group. I was like, "Wait, what? That's cool." Then they said I was going to be in drag. How does that even happen? I was really lucky because I was with Raven and J Jubee. They are so amazing, and they were so fun. When they started putting makeup on me — they said, "OK, we're going to make you look like a drag queen now." I had so much fun and it was good to see Kelly (Osbourne). We were friends as kids. RuPaul is awesome, obviously. All my friends were really jealous (laughs).

I'm really glad that

Kady Z follows in famous mom's footsteps



PHOTO: COURTESY

ONSTAGE

Kady Z performs at Madison's Redamte Coffee House, 449 State St., on Aug. 25. For more, go to www.redamte.com.

It's actually Rob Thomas (from Matchbox Twenty), because I had a huge crush on him as a kid.

Have you ever actually met him in person?

I did meet him face-to-face, and I felt like such an idiot (laughs). He's really nice and he's so cool. But he doesn't know, yet (laughs).

He'll know now.

He will! He'll know now (laughs).

You make reference to a favorite Nick Lachey song in one of your songs. To what song are you referring?

I love "What's Left of Me." It's one of my jams (laughs).

There's such a dance-music focus on songs such as "Drown You Out," "Beautiful Disaster" and "One Million Pieces." Have you made any appearances at gay clubs?

Yes, I did. I performed at Ruby Skye last year, and I sang "Beautiful Disaster" there. It was so crazy and awesome. I performed at Mr. Black's in Hollywood, which I think recently closed. Also, at a drag show in New York about a year ago.

I haven't been on an airplane since 1995, so I can relate to your reluctance to fly. How are you traveling to the various cities on your tour?

Luckily, we are driving (laughs).

What are you most looking forward to about the tour?

I'm looking forward to getting to touch people almost every night and do what I love to do. See the country. It's funny, because I've been to Europe but have never actually been around the states before, and I'm really looking forward to seeing them.

you mentioned Kelly, because on that show, you appeared alongside her and Vanessa Williams' daughter Jillian Hervey, leading me to wonder if you ever cross paths or socialize with other progeny of people in the entertainment industry.

I've been good friends with a couple. But we don't really talk anymore. I used to hang out with Paris Hilton a lot. At a certain point, you go in different directions. I don't think we'll be seeing any sex tapes of Kady Z in the future.

You co-wrote all of the songs on "Ordinary Girl." How would you describe your role in that process?

I co-wrote them with Tone Def, who produced the songs. Basically, I write my thoughts and ideas, and he writes his own

ideas and he comes up with the track or a hook or whatever. We'll work from there, based on how we feel. We work off of each other. He'll ask me if I like something and I'll say, "I hate it" or I'll ask him and he'll say, "It sucks" (laughs). Most of the time it's pretty positive (laughs).

What songs on the disc best represent who you are?

I think "Crush Gone Wrong," which is about me being a stalker. It's just fun. I like to have fun and I like to make fun of myself. I think "Crush Gone Wrong" is really representative of me. Also, I think "Ordinary Girl" is as well, because it's very introspective. I'm really proud of it and it's a very colorful album.

Who is the mystery person that you are singing about?



Dora Diamond raises money for Milwaukee Gay Arts Center

By Brandon Miller

Contributing writer

When John Dormady first put on his mother's dress at age 4, he felt curiously comfortable. He spun around in his room, music blaring, imagining himself as the singers he heard.

This experience would evolve and give birth to a diva alter ego – Dora Diamond.

During Halloween in the small town of Ashland, Dormady had the opportunity to dress up in drag. The rural community presented no other outlets for doing drag. It wasn't until Dormady moved to Milwaukee to study art at MIAD that he found a flourishing LGBT community, as well as place to start a performing career.

"When I first moved here in 2009, I sang an original piece onstage at MIAD's talent show," he says. But that was in male attire.

In 2011, Dormady was a winner in a Lake Superior singing competition, Big Top Idol. Around the same time, he began incorporating his passion for drag into performances.

"I've noticed that when in costume, I get a little more 'quippy' – a little more flirtatious and extroverted," Dormady says. "I'm an extrovert by nature, but being in costume certainly amplifies that. Being in costume adds another level of theatricality to the mix, and I'm all about theatricality."

After performing in drag shows around Milwaukee and building a reputation for Dora Diamond as a performer and a personality, Dora began hosting a monthly gay cabaret variety show at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center. Since its March debut, the show has gained popularity in the local LGBT community.

Dormady says there are several drag shows weekly in Milwaukee, but what sets his apart is its integration of performance styles and a goal of unifying various drag cliques.

"There are drag queens that are cartoonish and there are pageant drags queens who dress glamorously with lots of glitter," Dormady says. "I consider myself to be somewhere in between. And that's similar to how I want my show to be – some kind of hybrid show."

Dora's shows mix comedy, burlesque, singing and of course, drag queens. As curator, Dora features reoccurring performers doing a variety of acts. Inspired by an Oscar Wilde quote, she encourages everyone to participate. Wilde said: "Man is least himself when he talks in his own person. Give him a mask, and he will tell you the truth."

Dora performs songs by Madonna, Adele, Whitney Houston and Cher, but dreams of putting on a concert singing blues and jazz standards made famous by Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, and Nina Simone, performers admired for their vocal prowess and their courage and perseverance.

"They overcame adversity and sang their hearts out to the acclaim of thousands. I feel like as a member of the LGBT community, I too face some adversity in today's society, but these are the voices that keep me strong," Dormady says.

"My career dreams are simple. As long as I get to continue singing and performing, I'll be truly happy. I don't care if it makes me filthy rich – I do it because it's what I love to do."

ONSTAGE

Dora Diamond's monthly drag shows benefit the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center, a nonprofit venue for LGBT performers and artists. There is a suggested \$5 donation at the door. For more, call 414-383-3727.



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Memoir longs for unconventionality of queer life

Books

GREGG SHAPIRO

The year 2013 is shaping up to be an important one when it comes to queer memoirs, with books by Barrie Jean Borich, Rigoberto González and Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore at the forefront. Sycamore's non-traditional memoir, "The End of San Francisco" (City Lights Books, 2013), flows stylistically from stream of consciousness to rant to stage dialogue. A cross between an activist handbook and a cautionary tale about activism, it is a queer travelogue that includes stops in a number of LGBT-friendly metropolises.

Sycamore spoke recently about his work.

Gregg Shapiro: Congratulations on your book "Why Are Faggots So Afraid of Faggots?" being a Lambda Literary Award finalist.

Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore: "Why Are Faggots So Afraid of Faggots?" is also an American Library Association Stonewall Honor Book, and I'm really excited by all the attention it's receiving. It was actually a hard book to get published, so it's gratifying to see reviewers, librarians, booksellers, awards judges and other readers

relating to both its strident stance and the vulnerability of the essays by the 30 different authors inside. I meant this book as an emergency intervention in the morass of consumerist gay culture, and I really feel like it is making an impact.

As someone who has written fiction and non-fiction, why did you choose to write "The End of San Francisco" in the form of an unconventional memoir?

I wanted to make this story as vulnerable as possible. I think that conventional memoirs adhere to a formulaic narrative, and I wanted to resist that tidy linear path, but at the same time this book obsesses over my formations, and their undoing. I keep circling around the moments that have made me – socially, politically, sexually, emotionally, ethically – and for me that's what makes it nonfiction, even though it's structured more like an experimental novel.

Is your goal as a writer to give a voice to an unheard population?

I think that's fair – I think that the queer voices that mean something to me are almost always shut out of mainstream gay and straight discourse. It's important to me to break down the

fence that separates those that matter from those that don't.

In the chapter that shares its title with the book, you wrote, "We were the first generation of queers to grow up knowing that desire meant AIDS meant death."

I'm glad you're calling attention to that line. To me it's a really crucial place in the book where I talk about this "we" of queer freaks and outsiders and whores and vegans and anarchists and dropouts and activists trying to survive in the face of so much death, both internal and external. I think that's had as much impact on me as anything else – that and growing up as an incest survivor and seeing how my parents' professional and financial "success" enabled them to camouflage their abuse so successfully.

You write about the outsiders' need to assimilate. Do you fault the LGBT community for trying?

I do. The way I see it, assimilation is violence. The violence of arresting homeless queers for getting in the way of happy hour. Of evicting people with AIDS and seniors in order to increase property values. Of pushing everyone aside who doesn't belong instead of making more space for those on the



PHOTO: COURTESY

Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore

margins. It makes me so sad to see marriage and military inclusion championed as the dominant goals of the so-called "LGBT movement." We need to get back to fighting for gender, sexual, social and political self-determination for everyone. As a start.

In the chapter "What We Were Creating," you write about "the end of San Francisco as a place where marginalized queers could try to figure out a way to cope." In truth, the same thing was occurring in queer

neighborhoods across the country. Do you think that there was anything that could be done to slow or prevent it, other than the methods that you and your allies employed?

What breaks my heart the most is that so many gay neighborhoods were formed initially because queers didn't have spaces where they could express themselves, where they could find one another for sexual merrymaking and risk-taking on their own terms. But what has happened in cities across the U.S. is that these same gay neighborhoods now

ON THE SHELF

Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore appears at UW-Madison on Oct 3. For more, go to mattildabernsteinsycamore.com.

police the borders so that only those willing or able to conform to upper-middle-class white norms are allowed. Can you imagine how different these places could be if homeless queer youth, trans people, people with disabilities, seniors, welfare queens, migrants – if all these people were at the center?

The book begins and ends with your biological family, which is an interesting way to frame what occurs between the pages, particularly because incest and confrontation are central to the story. Do you know if any of your family members have read the book?

My mother had a particularly interesting response. She said that because of the way I write without the conventional boundaries of plot structure, the separation between what happens in the book and herself as a reader wasn't there. She said she felt immersed, like she was in a movie. This is in spite of her unwillingness to acknowledge the abuse that frames the story, her own role or my father's. Still she was able to appreciate the writing on the terms I intend, and I find that kind of exciting.

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GEOGRAPHY 101

ACROSS

- 1. He had no cause?
- 6. Also
- 9. Captain _____
- 13. Napoleon's stay on St. Helena, e.g.
- 14. Aggravate
- 15. It killed the radio star?
- 16. Serving of parsley
- 17. Actress ____ Thompson
- 18. More ill
- 19. Trying experience
- 21. *"Geographia" author
- 23. *Mouth to a river, e.g.
- 24. Call someone
- 25. PC "brain"
- 28. Stupor
- 30. *Gobi or Kalahari, e.g.
- 35. Os in XOXO
- 37. Livens up
- 39. Pang
- 40. *Capri, e.g.
- 41. Anklebone
- 43. Shamu
- 44. Nigerian money
- 46. Dharma teacher
- 47. Chinese restaurant staple, pl.
- 48. Founder of Scholasticism
- 50. Winningest Super Bowl coach
- 52. Marble _____
- 53. First in baseball, e.g.

- 55. Distress signal
- 57. *Tallest mountain
- 61. *Deepest lake
- 64. Japanese-American
- 65. American Gas Association
- 67. Like unspoken agreement
- 69. Garment enlarger
- 70. Octopus' defense
- 71. Olden day anesthetic
- 72. It shows ownership
- 73. Poe's "The Murders in the ____ Morgue"
- 74. High-pitched

DOWN

- 1. Hi-_____
- 2. Montreal baseballer
- 3. Ethiopian currency
- 4. Omit or suppress
- 5. *On a map
- 6. Cash cache
- 7. Bonanza find
- 8. Similar to giraffe but smaller
- 9. Tarantino's "_____ Bill"
- 10. Not in action
- 11. Believe
- 12. Nemo's forgetful friend
- 15. Shrinking _____
- 20. To modify a book into a screenplay, e.g.
- 22. Slight amount

- 24. Get off an airplane
- 25. *Most populous country
- 26. South Korean port
- 27. AKA Tangelos
- 29. Eagerness
- 31. "_____ me the money!"
- 32. It may get you to first base
- 33. *_____ Mountains
- 34. Flirt
- 36. Bone-dry
- 38. Form of wrestling
- 42. Chip dip
- 45. Even though
- 49. No _____
- 51. Hang around
- 54. Up or down step
- 56. Type of edible ray
- 57. "National Velvet" author _____ Bagnold
- 58. *Tropical rainforests contain ninety percent of the world's _____ species
- 59. "_____ quam videri" or "To be, rather than to seem (to be)"
- 60. Instrument type
- 61. To be very hot
- 62. Yearn or pine
- 63. Told an untruth
- 66. Bearded antelope
- 68. Give it a go

CROSSWORD

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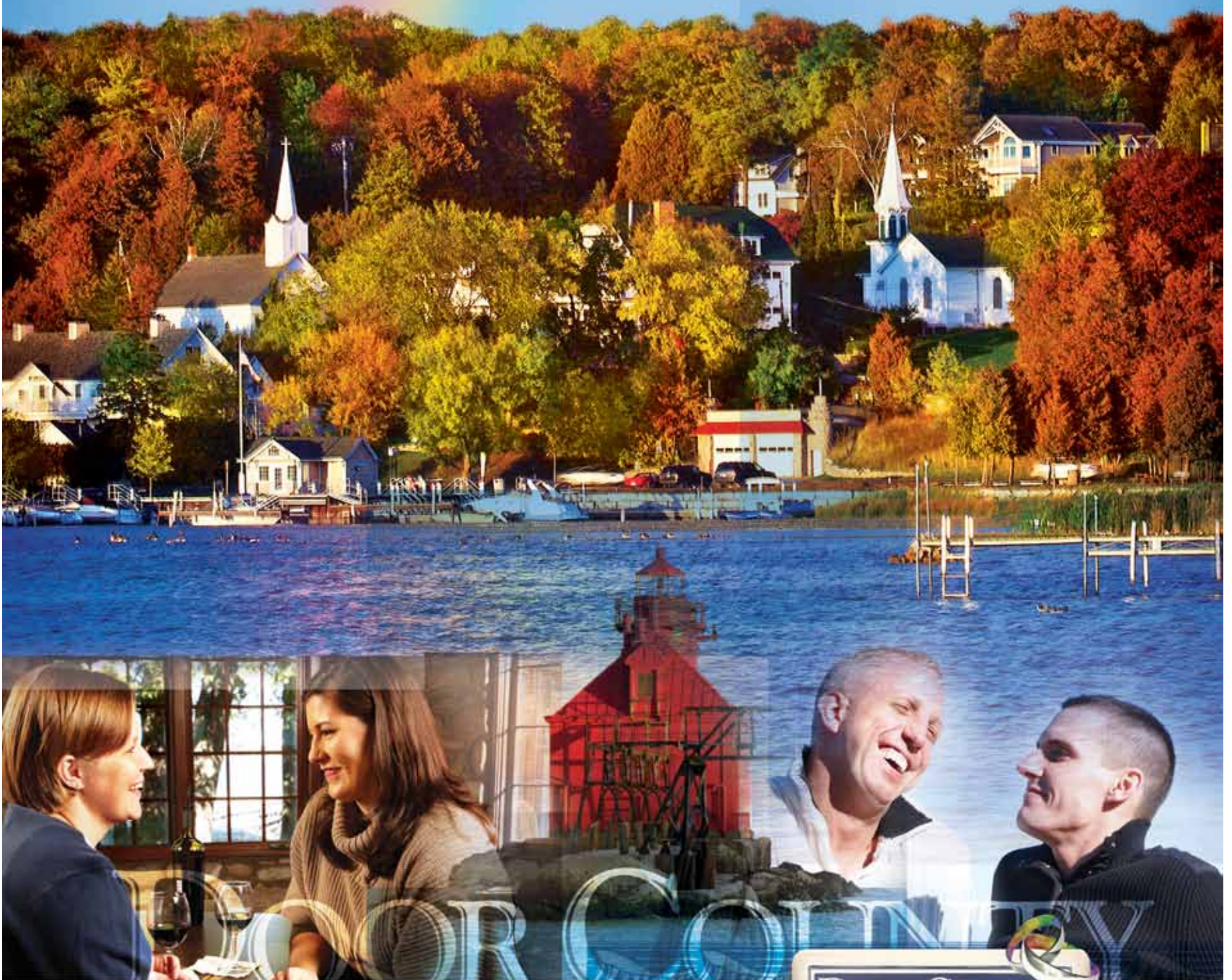


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