

Remember AIDS?
Milwaukee and AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin are at the forefront of improving the nation's model for care.
page 14



THE VOICE OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY

Protesters lash out at Walmart's green record and greed

page 12



PHOTO: AP/CHARLES REX ARBOGAST

Protesters gather outside a Walmart in Chicago earlier this fall. Anti-Walmart rallies were scheduled nationwide on Black Friday.

4 Illinois becomes 16th state to legalize same-sex marriage

At a signing ceremony in Chicago, Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn makes marriage equality a reality for another of our neighbor states.



6 Fighting back for choice

Wisconsin Democrats introduce measure guaranteeing women the right of reproductive freedom.



8 HIV organ ban ends

Organ transplants between HIV-positive people now approved.



16 Holidays light up stages

A look at the seasonal fare that makes the season sparkle in Wisconsin.



28 Catching fire

Jennifer Lawrence talks about her winning streak at the box office and *Hunger Games* sequel.

News with a twist

WIGWAG

By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg



JINGLING JOE

A Kmart commercial for Joe Boxer that features boxer-clad men jiggling their junk to the tune of "Jingle Bells" is stirring ire among the world's human-body-hating humans (i.e., the fervent religious followers of the human-body maker). The ad begins with a row of bow-tied men ringing bells in front of a white banquet table. The table is yanked away, revealing the men stripped down to their skivvies and shaking it. Whether you think it's naughty or nice, "Show Your Joe" is less sexploitive than the average Victoria's Secret ad.

DRIVEN TO DEFICIT

The National Organization for Marriage has come up empty in the past year or so in repeated attempts to block marriage equality in the states. NOM lost in Maryland, Washington, Rhode Island, Minnesota, Delaware, Maine, Hawaii and Illinois in the last 12 months. And the right-wing group is feeling the impact on its bank account. The political arm of NOM has borrowed \$1.7 million from the educational arm to cover a deficit. The lesson: Don't bank on hate.

MODERN FAMILY

Mom and Dad Cheney aren't happy with the high-profile public feud their daughters are waging over same-sex marriage. Daughter Liz is running for the U.S. Senate in Wyoming and is courting the religious right vote with repeated affirmations that same-sex marriage is wrong. Daughter Mary, who is a lesbian



and married her longtime partner in the District of Columbia, has responded that her sister is wrong. Their parents, in a statement to the press, said that the family has dealt privately with the issue for years and they are "pained to see it become public." Of course, at WiG, we've been pained for years that the Cheney family has any public role.

BALDWIN'S MOUTH

MSNBC suspended Alec Baldwin's new weekly talk show for two episodes after his latest videotaped public meltdown, which was laced with homophobic insults. Baldwin said he was "deeply sorry" for calling a photographer what sounded like "cocksucking fag." At first, he denied using the word "fag," insisting that he said "fathead." He later admitted to using that epithet, but claimed that he didn't

know "cocksucking" was offensive to gays. *Up Late with Alec Baldwin* airs on Fridays, if any "cocksucking fags" or their friends care to tune in.

SAD CHOICES

In the final hours of this year's Wisconsin Assembly session, the Republican majority voted to create a special "Choose Life" license plate. Proceeds from sales of the plate will go to Choose Life Wisconsin Inc., an organization seeking to force women to bear children, whether they want them or not. Republicans in the House also killed a Democrat-proposed resolution to honor the 26 people — mostly children — killed in the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting last year in Connecticut. Their vote is likely the result of allegiance to the National Rifle Association, which opposes any action that draws attention to gun violence.

DISHING IT

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel recently delivered a message with some spice to Jon Stewart, who mocked the city's love for its deep-dish pizza pie on *The Daily Show*. Stewart said Chicago's famed pizza was "an above-ground marina swimming pool for rats." Not one of his craftier quips, but enough to goad Emanuel to action. The Second City mayor sent the staff of the New York-based show an anchovy-covered pizza with a note: "Jon, Deep Dish with Dead Fish. Love, Rahm." *The Daily Show* staff tweeted a video of a dog sniffing and passing by the pizza, which, it turns out, was made in New York City.

FICTION

Retailer Costco has apologized for labeling Bibles as fiction at a store in Simi Valley, Calif. A local pastor photographed the label and posted the picture on Twitter, setting off a predictable

uproar from fundamentalist Christians. In an email to Fox News, Costco officials said they "deeply regretted" the incident and "meant no offense." The reaction on Twitter has been mixed, according to USA Today.

BUY MORE AWARDS

Dan T. Cathy, president and CEO of Chick-fil-A, won an award at the Urban League of Greater Atlanta's annual Equal Opportunity Day dinner. Cathy received the honor despite proudly boasting of his opposition to equality for LGBT people and staunchly defending his family foundation's funding for hate groups such as the Family Research Council. The urban league explained its award to Cathy in a Facebook post, noting the "significant financial contributions" from Cathy and the Chick-fil-A Foundation.

We Support the
LGBT Community!

B *Randi F. 4th Generation*

BILTRITE™

FURNITURE • LEATHER • MATTRESSES

Locally & Family Owned Since 1928

LOW PRICE GUARANTEE!

SMALL **USA** amish
SCALE **MADE™** made™

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

5430 W. Layton Ave.
Greenfield, WI 53220

414-238-2020

BiltRiteFurniture.com

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

©BRF

\$5200
Instant
Gift Card

Valid on any purchase of \$299 or more

DOUBLES to \$104 OFF
your purchase of \$799 or more

TRIPLES to \$156 OFF
your purchase of \$1199 or more

Card valid through Saturday, Dec. 7th, 2013. Card must be presented at time of purchase. No cash value. No cash back. Not valid on prior purchases, clearance, parts, comfort, series or Tempur-Pedic. No other coupons or offers apply. See store for details.

THANKSGIVING DAY CLOSED
BLACK FRIDAY 9 am to 8 pm
SATURDAY 10 am to 6 pm
SUNDAY 11 am to 5 pm

PLUS:
Up To
18 Months
Interest Free
Financing*

Holiday
TRIPLE CHOICE
GIFT CARD **Sale**

**BEDROOM
SETS**

Available in Antique
Distressed Black or
Sandstone

WE ALSO CARRY
**amish
made™**
BEDROOM



2-SIDED FLIPPABLE, REVERSIBLE INNERSPRING MATTRESSES:
10 Models, Largest Selection Anywhere!
ALL SIZES ON SALE! QUEEN SETS ON SALE FROM \$347!

KING KOIL
USA Made Since 1898

* 18 Months interest free OAC Minimum purchases of \$999 or more with minimum monthly payments required. OAC 6 months interest free with minimum monthly payments on purchases of \$399 or more. Items marked "As Advertised," "Final Price" or "Includes All Discounts" already include the gift card. Prior purchases and clearance items are excluded. 50% deposit required on special orders. Sales tax and delivery charge collected at time of purchase. Financing offers apply only to single-receipt qualifying purchases. No other offers apply. See store for details. Sale ends Saturday, December 7th 2013.




To those working at the front lines of HIV and AIDS treatment, thank you. Our lives have been made better by your care.

In honor of World AIDS Day, we thank the many medical care providers who have served and cared for people living with HIV in our community. Your work has made a difference in many lives.

- | | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Lisbeth Alverio | Ian Gilson | Marilyn Lewis | Janaki Shah |
| Mark Beilke | Mary Beth Graham | Mary McCarron | Kim Sherard |
| Charles Brummitt | Peter Havens | John Meidl | Kathleen Strupp |
| Brian Buggy | Kristen Hendrickson | Steven Murphy | Valerie Thomas |
| Mary Busalacchi | Kathy Hernández | Iram Nadeem | Njeri Wainaina |
| Mary Carlson | Brian Hilgeman | Sharon O'Dwyer | Christopher Weber |
| Crystal Colins | Latoyus Hines | Jurg Oggenfuss | Lisa Zitterguen |
| John Fangman | Christine Hogan | Winsome Panton | |
| Graciela Fendt | Paul Hunter | Andy Petroll | |
| Michael Frank | Doug Johnson | Julie Raam | |
| Steve Franzen | Sonjia Krohn | Irmine Reitl | |
| Moises Garcia | Krutika Kuppali | Geralyn Schuster | |

This list is not inclusive of all providers working in the field of HIV/AIDS. Some providers were not included in order to protect their patient's confidentiality.

Honoring our past and present on **December 1st World AIDS Day.** 



Diverse & Resilient 2439 N. Holton St., Milwaukee, WI 53212 | 414.390.0444 | diverseandresilient.org



820 N. Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53212 | 414.223.6820 | arcw.org

It's official: Illinois is 16th state to legalize same-sex marriage

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

During a loud and festive ceremony in Chicago on Nov. 20, Democratic Gov. Pat Quinn signed legislation making Illinois the 16th state to legalize same-sex marriage.

Quinn signed the papers at the University of Illinois-Chicago, seated at a desk that Abraham Lincoln used to write an inaugural address in 1861.

The symbolism was not lost on the many elected officials who spoke at the celebration, which was attended by more than 2,300 people. Many of them were longtime advocates in the fight for equality in the Land of Lincoln and couples who had waited up to 50 years to marry.

The event, with Quinn serving as a master of ceremonies, featured several musical performances, the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the national anthem. There was also a moment of silence for those lost in deadly storms that swept across the Midwest just days before the celebration.

But mostly there were speeches from elected officials, including Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan, Secretary of State Jesse White, House Speaker Mike Madigan and longtime gay rights advocate Judy Baar Topinka, a pioneering supporter of equality in Illinois' Republican Party.

Topinka, the state comptroller, offered praise for the legislators who voted for the Religious Freedom and Marriage Fairness Act, singling out openly gay state Rep. Greg Harris of Chicago, who received multiple standing ovations for driving the bill through the House.

"History will show we got it right on this one," Topinka said.

She stressed that it felt good to do the



PHOTO: AP/M. SPENCER GREEN

Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn signs the Religious Freedom and Marriage Fairness Act into law on Nov. 20 in Chicago, making Illinois the 16th state in the nation to embrace full marriage equality for same-sex couples. The law takes effect June 1, 2014.

right thing and made a special offer to gay couples making wedding plans: "I am available to be a flower girl, and I'll even waive the fee."

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel also spoke, saying Illinois has gone on record as saying there is no "straight marriage" or "gay marriage," but just "marriage."

The speeches were delivered to a standing-room only crowd from a platform draped with state flags, U.S. flags and rainbow Pride flags.

Harris, who had delivered tearful, emo-

national speeches for equality and justice on the House floor in Springfield in May and November, opened his comments on Nov. 20 with a relaxed and warm chuckle. After the applause that welcomed him to the stage, he said, "Thank you, PFLAG moms."

The signing ceremony, said Harris, was a celebration of equality and liberty, and he praised the thousands who helped pass the bill — religious leaders who stood for social justice, Republicans who stood up for family values, LGBT families who organized and lobbied across the state.

"We're here to celebrate family, commitment, equality, love, courage and community," Harris said.

With Quinn's signature, the law takes effect on June 1.

At the ceremony, Quinn said, "We understand in our state that part of our unfinished

business is to help other states in the United States of America achieve marriage equality."

The governor said part of that mission was to ensure that "love is not relegated to a second-class status to any citizen in our country."

Same-sex couples can legally marry in the District of Columbia and 14 other states. In December, same-sex couples will be able to marry in Hawaii.

Gay couples also have married in New Mexico and Pennsylvania, while Oregon is recognizing out-of-state same-sex marriages and Missouri is recognizing same-sex marriages for income tax purposes.

Lawsuits for marriage equality are pending in as many as 19 states, but not in Wisconsin.

HERITAGE
SENIOR LIVING

Assisted Living and Memory Care Communities

Heritage Senior Living is looking for multiple shifts and pool positions in the Madison area. If you are looking to make a career change, this is the place for you! Training for the right candidate is available.

Available positions include:

Caregivers
Activity Coordinator
Dietary Assistants
L.P.N.'s
R.N.

Please apply on line at HeritageSenior.com

**WE MAKE YOU
WANT TO SMILE!**

Call Us Today!



DeWAN DENTAL WELLNESS

Michael DeWan D.D.S., S.C.

2445 N. Farwell Ave.

414.962.5915

www.dewandental.com



Madison gets perfect score on equality index

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The Human Rights Campaign released its second municipal equality index, giving 25 cities in the United States — including Wisconsin's capital — perfect scores for policies, laws and programs furthering equality for LGBT citizens.

HRC rated 291 municipalities, looking at non-discrimination ordinances, equal employee benefits, relationship recognition, city service programs and also leadership.

The 25 cities to receive 100 points on the index include major cities: Chicago, Baltimore, Phoenix, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Philadelphia, New York City, Boston, St. Louis, Atlanta, Minneapolis and Kansas City, Mo. The list also includes Long Beach, Palm Springs and West Hollywood in California, Jersey City in New Jersey; Cambridge, Mass.; New Haven, Conn.; Austin, Texas; Portland, Ore.; Columbus, Ohio; Missoula, Mont., and Madison, Wis.

"The message is clear. Equality isn't just for the coasts anymore. Real leadership is happening from Atlanta to Missoula to Salt Lake City and everywhere in between," said HRC president Chad Griffin.

Eleven cities received perfect scores last year, the first year HRC published the index. The number of cities included in the index increased from 137 in 2012 to 291 in 2013.

To build the index, HRC examined the climate for LGBT people in the 50 state capitals, the 150 largest cities in the United States, the three largest cities in each state, the city home to the state's largest public university and 75 municipalities with high proportions of same-sex couples.

Highlighting the importance of local protections for LGBT people, HRC emphasized in the report that 31 million people live in cities where the only protections for transgender citizens are at the municipal level. Such is the case in Wisconsin, which lacks a state law banning discrimination based on gender identity and where Fair Wisconsin and other organizations are pressing for reform from city to city.

About 10 percent of the cities rated in the MEI scored more than 96 points, 25 percent scored more than 78 points and the average score on the index was 57 points. About 25 percent of the cities HRC looked at scored 35 points or less and 3.5 percent of the cities scored 10 points or less.

The index contained ratings for three Wisconsin cities:



PHOTO COURTESY GMCVB

Wisconsin's capital city received a perfect score on the municipal equality index released by the Human Rights Campaign.

Madison, which earned 100 points; Milwaukee, which earned 91 points and Green Bay, which earned 48 points.

Zimmerman arrested for domestic violence

George Zimmerman is again a free man after an arrest on criminal charges — but his freedom carries conditions.

The former neighborhood watch volunteer who was acquitted in the fatal shooting of unarmed black teen Trayvon Martin earlier this year was released from jail pending arraignment on the latest charges against him: aggravated assault, battery and criminal mischief.

Zimmerman was released on the condition that he wear an electronic monitor, keep his distance from guns and stay away from the girlfriend, who accused him of trying to choke her and then — a week later — of pointing a shotgun at her.

The choking accusation was disclosed for the first time by a prosecutor at Zimmerman's first appearance before a judge. Zimmerman's girlfriend Samantha Scheibe said she feared for her life because Zimmerman mentioned suicide and said he "had nothing to lose," according to assistant State Attorney Lymary Munoz.

After the hearing, Zimmerman's public defenders said he did not appear to be suicidal and expressed confidence he would be acquitted of any wrongdoing.

An arraignment was set for Jan. 7.

Earlier this year, Zimmerman was acquitted of all charges in the February 2012 fatal shooting of teenager Trayvon Martin. Zimmerman has said he shot the 17-year-old to defend himself during a fight in February 2012 inside a gated community in Sanford, just outside Orlando.

The Justice Department has been investigating whether to file civil rights charges against Zimmerman related to that case. A department spokesman said that it would announce its decision soon.

Zimmerman's arrest is the latest of several brushes he has had with the law since his acquittal, which drew worldwide attention and sparked nationwide debates about race and self-defense laws.

—AP

Join WiG on
Facebook and follow
us on Twitter.

Learn why the experts have shopped with us since 1959.



Metro-Milwaukee's most diverse selection
of trees, shrubs, conifers and perennials.



JOHNSON'S NURSERY INC™

Nature's Best to You.®



w180n6275 Marcy Rd. Menomonee Falls • www.johnsonsnursery.com • 262.252.4988

Dems' bill fights back attacks on reproductive rights

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Democrats in Congress are working to pass legislation that would protect reproductive freedom, which is under repeated attack in Wisconsin, Texas and other states four decades after the Supreme Court affirmed a woman's right to choice in Roe v. Wade.

In mid-November, U.S. Sens. Tammy Baldwin, Richard Blumenthal and Barbara Boxer and Reps. Judy Chu, Maria Fudge and Lois Frankel introduced the Women's Health Protection Act of 2013 "to protect a woman's right to determine whether and when to bear a child or end a pregnancy by limiting restrictions on the provision of abortion services."

With 32 co-sponsors in the Senate and 67 co-sponsors in the House, WHPA was proposed just days before the U.S. Supreme Court declined to intervene in a legal dispute over a law that has forced a third of

Texas' abortion clinics to close. The measure requires doctors who perform abortions to have admitting privileges at a nearby hospital. No more than 20 clinics were able to meet the new standard, which means that some women must travel hundreds of miles to obtain an abortion in Texas. And all of the facilities that remain open are in metropolitan areas, leaving none in the Rio Grande Valley along the border with Mexico.

The Texas law on admitting privileges was part of a package of abortion restrictions that the GOP-controlled Legislature passed over the summer after Gov. Rick Perry called a special session. The restrictions, which are among the toughest in the nation, gained notoriety when Democratic state Sen. Wendy Davis launched a nearly 13-hour filibuster against them in June.

Two other states that are enforcing laws on admitting



PHOTO: PLANNED PARENTHOOD ADVOCATES OF WI

Pro-choice advocates protest new GOP restrictions on abortion in front of the Capitol in Madison.

privileges are Tennessee and Utah. Courts have temporarily halted similar laws in Wisconsin, as well as in Alabama, Kansas, Mississippi and North Dakota.

Baldwin, announcing the introduction of WHPA, said, "In Wisconsin and in states across the country, politicians have been standing between women and their doctors, restricting the choices women can make regarding their own repro-

ductive health."

Planned Parenthood of America has reported that in recent years more than 160 restrictions on access to abortions have passed in 30 states, including more than 40 new restrictions this year alone.

"Around the country, women are subjected to onerous waiting periods and forced to listen to medically inaccurate claims about their choices," said Ilyse Hogue, president of NARAL Pro-Choice America. "Abortion clinics are targeted for unnecessary and burdensome requirements designed to shut them down for good. In some states, outright bans challenge the very foundation of the Roe decision and force the will of politicians into women's private decisions."

In Wisconsin, Republican Gov. Scott Walker has signed nine measures intended to restrict women's access to health care.

"It is clear that we need federal protection from

these unwarranted intrusions into our personal health care decisions," said Eve Galanter of Wisconsin Women's Network, which endorsed WHPA in mid-November.

Other advocates of WHPA in Wisconsin include the American Association of University Women of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Alliance for Women's Health, Wisconsin Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association and Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin.

"Sen. Baldwin's legislation would make it unlawful for politicians to interfere with women's personal health care decisions," said Tanya Atkinson, executive director of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin. "This bill would ensure that a woman's freedoms don't depend on her ZIP code."

Baldwin — who defeated Tommy Thompson in 2012 to become the first openly gay person elected to the Senate — said, "I am proud

ALBUQUERQUE VOTERS REJECT LATE-TERM ABORTION BAN

In a closely watched, first-of-its kind election, voters in New Mexico's largest city have soundly defeated a ban on late-term abortions.

Voters on Nov. 19 rejected the measure 55 percent to 45 percent following an emotional and graphic campaign that brought in national groups and hundreds of thousands of dollars in advertising. The campaign included protests that compared abortion to the Holocaust and displayed pictures of aborted fetuses.

A coalition of groups, including the American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico and Planned Parenthood, called the results a huge victory for Albuquerque women and families.

Activists on both sides said it was the first municipal ballot measure on the matter.

— AP

to stand up to these attacks on women's freedoms. . . . Every American woman deserves the freedom to exercise her constitutional rights by making personal health decisions with a trusted doctor and without political interference."

AP contributed to this report

HARLEYS: THE STORE FOR MEN IN SHOREWOOD

65

CELEBRATING

65 YEARS OF FASHION

Happy Harleypdays!™

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HARLEYS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Choose from our spectacular selection of men's apparel and accessories that are perfect for holiday gift-giving — or will make a great addition to your own wardrobe. Harleys has been Milwaukee's fashion leader for men for 65 years!



HARLEYS
THE STORE FOR MEN
IN SHOREWOOD

Happy
Holidays
from Harleys:
The Store for Men



BEAUTIFY MILWAUKEE® — WEAR SOMETHING FROM HARLEYS!

3565 N. OAKLAND AVE. | SHOREWOOD, WI 53211 | 414.332.3404
harleys4men.com | M, T, W, F 10-6, TH 10-8, SAT 9-5



CHRISTINA'S CARPET CARE

No Hidden Charges — Ever!

Senior Discounts Available

— VALUABLE COUPON —

2 Rooms & Hallway
Only \$73⁸⁶ plus tax & travel

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

(414) 281-4491

E-Mail: rdetrie@hotmail.com



ANTI-ESTABLISHED

— IN 1981 —

91.7 FM

**FRONTIER
RADIO**



WMSE.ORG

MKE

OWNED & OPERATED BY



MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

HOPE Act lifts ban on HIV-positive organ donations

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Federal lawmakers introduced the HOPE Act on Valentine's Day 2013 hoping that someday an organ donated by someone who had lived with HIV might save the life of someone living with HIV.

The HIV Organ Policy Equity Act passed with bipartisan majorities in Congress — in the Senate in June and in the House in mid-November. President Barack Obama signed the legislation on Nov. 21.

"For decades, these organ transplants have been illegal. It was even illegal to study whether they could be safe and effective," the president said in a statement after signing the bill. "But as our understanding of HIV and effective treatments have grown, that policy has become outdated. The potential for successful organ transplants between people living with HIV has become more of a possibility."

The HOPE Act lifts the federal ban on the donation and transplantation of organs between people living with HIV that Congress implemented in the Organ Transplant Amendments Act of



1988. The 1988 act was meant to ensure that organs from HIV patients would not be given to HIV-negative patients. The blanket ban even barred the collection of organs from deceased people with HIV infections for research.

"Since the ban was implemented, the development of highly active antiretroviral therapy has significantly improved the life expectancy of people living with HIV," said Jason Cianciotto, the director of public policy for the Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York City. "As a result, the population living with HIV in need of organ transplantation has grown significantly."

Cianciotto said passing the HOPE Act is critical in "ensuring that people living with HIV can give and

receive the gift of life. The HOPE Act is not only a scientifically sound public health policy, but also a great act of compassion."

At any given time, the number of people in the United States in need of organ transplants exceeds the availability of healthy organs. More than 118,000 people are actively waiting for organs, but fewer than 30,000 transplantations are performed annually.

Permitting organs from HIV-positive donors to be used for transplant to HIV-positive recipients has the potential to save 1,000 patients suffering liver and kidney failure each year, as well as

shortening the general waiting list.

With the president's signature, the HOPE Act directs the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Organ Procurement Transplant Network to develop and institute standards for research on HIV-positive organ transplantation. In its second phase, the act authorizes Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius to permit positive-to-positive transplantation.

The act also amends federal laws regarding HIV transmission to clarify that organ donations are not barred.

Chief sponsors of the legislation included U.S. Sens. Tammy Bald-

win, Barbara Boxer, Tom Coburn and Rand Paul and U.S. Reps. Lois Capps, Michael Burgess and Andy Harris.

Advocates of the new law — representing AIDS United, amfAR, and the American Medical Association — say it has the potential to save hundreds of lives.

"Passage of the HOPE Act will save lives and also help break down the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS," said Kevin Frost, amfAR's CEO. "This legislation makes federal organ donation regulations more reflective of the evidence and allows for critically important research to move forward."

"The HOPE Act is a common-sense policy," said Dan Salomon of the American Society of Transplantation. "The AST and its thousands of professionals worldwide strongly support this legislative proposal allowing for greater use of life-saving donor organs and much needed research in the area of HIV organ donation and transplantation."

Salomon said the bipartisan and bicameral efforts to send HOPE to the White House were refreshing.



Visit us at
mandelgroup.com

View our entire
portfolio of luxury
apartment homes.

New luxury apartments
now leasing at
thenorthend.com

Mandel Group. National award
winning builder and developer.



COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Melissa Etheridge

PHOTO: DOJ

ACLU NAMES CELEBRITIES WITH A CAUSE

The American Civil Liberties Union recently launched an ambassador initiative that involves recruiting celebrities to help promote its cases and causes.

With the project's unveiling, the ACLU named six ambassadors and their areas of activism: Harry Belafonte, for his advocacy against mass incarceration; W. Kamau Bell for his work on racial justice; Lewis Black on voting rights; Melissa Etheridge on marijuana law reform; Jesse Tyler Ferguson on LGBT issues, including the free-

dom to marry; and Cyndi Lauper on LGBT issues and HIV/AIDS.

"These talented artists will bring civil liberties issues to audiences that we haven't reached before," said Anthony D. Romero, the executive director of the ACLU. "The voices of these new ambassadors — whether online, on TV, in film or in concerts or comedy clubs across the country — will create a powerful echo chamber that will amplify the ACLU's work of protecting freedoms for all."

POZ PRAISES WISCONSIN HIV/AIDS ACTIVIST

POZ magazine, a leading national news source on HIV/AIDS issues, included Wisconsin activist Danielle Wasko in its fourth annual POZ 100.

The magazine encouraged people across the country to nominate HIV-positive people who are "unsung heroes" in the fight against AIDS. So, for the first time, the list, released in advance of World AIDS Day, was made up entirely of people living with the virus.

"The individuals on this year's list may not consider themselves to be heroes, but we do," said POZ editor-in-chief Oriol Gutierrez. "Each person — in his or her own unique way — is taking a brave stand against the virus. They are fighting back. From people who volunteer for AIDS service organizations or work as policy advocates to those who act as educators to promote prevention and treatment, this list represents an incredibly diverse spectrum of people living with HIV and making a difference on the front lines in their communities."

Wasko has been positive since 2006. She has volunteered with Madison's AIDS Network for four years. POZ, in praising Wasko, said, "Known for her good spirit, she is often out in the community doing outreach education on the importance of knowing your status and practicing safe sex. Danielle has become a role model and an advocate in the LGBT community throughout the state, especially in the transgender community. She is always willing to share her story, her struggles and her experiences living with HIV/AIDS to help others."

HOLLANDER NAMED A 2013 PURPOSE PRIZE FELLOW

Diverse & Resilient president and CEO Gary Hollander was named a 2013 Purpose Prize fellow for his work to eliminate the health disparities faced by LGBT people. The Purpose Prize is the nation's only large-scale investment in social entrepreneurs 60 and older who are



helping to solve the world's toughest social problems.

"It is great to have the health, energy, and enthusiasm to help do the big things that need doing," Hollander said. "The honor of becoming a Purpose Prize fellow encourages me to keep the course of my work now and after retirement in a couple of years."

Awarded by Encore.org, the Purpose Prize program is funded by the John Templeton Foundation, The Atlantic Philanthropies and Symetra. Encore is a nonprofit that promotes "encore" or second careers that are personally meaningful and serve the greater good.

In other organizational news ...

• **The Wisconsin LGBT Leadership Conference** presented by Fair Wisconsin takes place Feb. 7-9 and registration is underway. The event coincides with the Fair Wisconsin Education Fund's annual leadership awards and gala dinner in Milwaukee, which is scheduled for Feb. 8 and features Kate Bornstein as the keynote speaker. For more, go online to fairwisconsin.com.

• **The annual community Thanksgiving** takes place at 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 30 at Plymouth Church, 2717 E. Hampshire St., Milwaukee. Attendees are encouraged to bring a dish to pass. Hosts — including Fair Wisconsin, Black and White Men Together, Galano Club, Lesbian Alliance, Milwaukee MCC, Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, SAGE Milwaukee and Plymouth United — will provide turkey, ham and vegetarian lasagna. For more, go online to www.mkelgbt.org.

• **The GLBT History Museum in San Francisco** spotlights the career of Vicki Marlane, a transgender woman and drag performer who got her start as a carry in the early 1950s, rose to fame as a female impersonator in the 1960s and, in her third act, became a beloved San Francisco community icon leading shows at Aunt Charlie's Lounge in the Tenderloin until her death at age 76 in 2011. *Vicki Marlane: I'm Your Lady* features never-before-displayed video, artifacts and photos from the performer's estate. The exhibit runs through Feb. 28. For more, go online to www.glbthistory.org.

• **The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Local Officials** group, meeting at the National League of Cities expo in Seattle, elected Keith McGlashan, the mayor of Shoreline, Wash., as its 2014 president. Others elected to the group's board include LaWanna Mayfield of North Carolina, Andy Amoroso and Tom Green of Florida, Karen Kellen of Colorado, and Philip Kingston and Adam Medrano of Texas. For more, go online to www.nlc.org.

• **WGIRLS Milwaukee** hosts the fifth annual Hope for the Holidays benefit on Dec. 5 at Spin Milwaukee, 233 E. Chicago St. Proceeds help raise money to grant holiday wishes for youth at Pathfinders Southeastern Education Center. The benefit at 7 p.m. includes a silent auction, music, a raffle, food and beverages. Guests are asked to bring a clothing item or school supplies to donate. For more, go to www.wgirls.org.

— L.N. and L.W.

Organizations can send announcements for community briefs to lmneff@wisconsin Gazette.com. Organizations also can reach WiG on Twitter — @wigazette — and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/wigazette.

FIND US ON TWITTER!
@wigazette

the
Cat ♥ Doctor
S.C.

Gentle, Loving
Compassionate Health Care
JUST FOR CATS

KATHRYN CHRISTENSEN, DVM

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

Cat Adoptions
through Local Rescue Groups
Food • Supplies • Gifts

We Do
House Calls!

236 N. Water St.
(414) 272-CATS (2287)
catdoctor98.com

Need the perfect gift?
Don't Panic. Call Patty.



Dorothy Gallun
& ASSOCIATES
Est. 1950

(262) 546-4523
gallunjewelry.com

n70w5336 Bridge Rd, Cedarburg, WI 53012



{ Editorial }

Sheriff Clarke's indecent exposure

Milwaukee County Sheriff Davide Clarke is a hot mess. If he performed in female drag rather than country-western, he'd be known as the Miss Mess of Milwaukee politics.

Clarke's public tirades have become another kind of drag. In recent months, he's suggested that Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele suffers from penis envy and uses heroin. He's urged Milwaukee County citizens to become armed vigilantes and help his deputies enforce the law.

He tried arresting House of Correction superintendent Michael Hafemann for not following his orders, even though Hafemann had broken no law and doesn't even report to Clarke.

Yes, Clarke's giving Toronto Mayor Rob Ford a run for his money.

We have right-wing hate radio frauds Charlie Sykes and Mark Belling to thank for enabling the narcissistic Clarke's madness by rewarding it with airtime. Clarke's a favored guest on Sykes' daily Scott Walker infomercial. Clarke is a living Sykes' wet dream in color — an African-American, closeted Republican in a 10-gallon hat who was named sheriff of the year by the Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association. That's a group that says sheriffs have a constitutional duty to protect citizens from the federal government.

Clarke's latest bout of madness appears to have manifest in a sting operation targeting gay men in Milwaukee parks. The Milwaukee District Attorney's office is currently reviewing seven cases of men who've been arrested for soliciting sex from plainclothes deputies in the parks.

We strongly disapprove of people using public facilities to engage in sexual activities, especially since we've fought so hard to achieve the right to integrate those activities respectfully into our lives. Once upon a time, gay men had reasons for seeking out anonymous public sex. They were forced to live in the shadows out of fear of discovery.

But today two men can get a room together in a respectable hotel. They can go home together without fear of being seen by neighbors and generating gossip that could ruin their careers. One-third of American gays live in jurisdictions where they can get legally hitched.

We fear this current rash of arrests is the result of entrapment, not people being caught having sex in public. It's an age-old form of anti-gay harassment, a holdover from the pre-Stonewall Era: Plainclothes officers pretend to be interested in gay men cruising around parks and then arrest them for taking the bait. Or not even taking the bait. After all, it's the officer's word against the gay's, and the officer might have a quota to fill.

We've requested information from the Sheriff's office to help determine what's going on in the parks. We'll report the facts surrounding these incidents as they emerge, and we'll take whatever steps are necessary if Clarke's office refuses to provide the information we've requested.

If it turns out that the sheriff, who's been wailing that funding cuts to his office have compromised public safety, is throwing taxpayer dollars into a lurid program to sexually ensnare gay men, then he'll be exposed for indecency.

WiG's WEB PICKS



Some of our favorite recent pictorials from cyberspace



Wisconsin Gazette .com

The Wisconsin Gazette is published every other week and distributed throughout the Milwaukee area, Madison, Racine, Kenosha, and 40 other cities statewide. To have WiG delivered to your address, contact rwright@wisconsin-gazette.com or call 414-961-3240, ext. 101
WiG Publishing, LLC. © 2013

Please recirculate and recycle this publication.

CEO/PRINCIPAL

Leonard Sobczak

PUBLISHER/ EDITOR IN CHIEF

Louis Weisberg
lweisberg@wisconsin-gazette.com

NATIONAL EDITOR

Lisa Neff
lmneff@wisconsin-gazette.com

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Eric Van Egeren,
Maureen M. Kane

SALES INFORMATION

sales@wisconsin-gazette.com
or call 414-961-3240

SALES EXECUTIVE

Samantha Luper
sales@wisconsin-gazette.com

MARKETING COORDINATOR

Kaitlyn Weisensel
kweisensel@wisconsin-gazette.com

DISTRIBUTION

Robert Wright
rwright@wisconsin-gazette.com
Greg Tomasetti

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Anita Gielow

CONTRIBUTORS

Katie Belanger, Stephanie S. Beecher,
Jody Hirsh, Jamakaya, Mike Muckian,
Anne Siegel, Jay Rath, Gregg Shapiro

ON THE RECORD



"The last thing is, Olivia Gondek said I want to eat her pussy. I've never said that in my life to her. I would never do that.

I'm happily married and I've got more than enough to eat at home."

— Embattled Toronto Mayor ROB FORD publicly denying allegations that he thought were made by a former female staffer, who denied saying such things.

"I think it's safe to say that my brother would have crushed playing the Rob Ford guy on SNL."

— KEVIN FARLEY, brother of the late *Saturday Night Live* star Chris Farley, commenting on Toronto Mayor Rob Ford's shenanigans.

"I think it's got to be an outsider. I think both the presidential and vice presidential nomination needs to be a former or current governor, people who have done successful things in their states, taken on big reforms, who are ready to move America forward."

— GOV. SCOTT WALKER coming perilously close to announcing his bid for the GOP presidential nomination in 2016 on ABC's *This Week*.

"Unintimidated? Well, that makes two of us. — MB"

— Tweet sent out by MARY BURKE, Democratic gubernatorial candidate, in response to Gov. Scott Walker's recently released memoir titled *Unintimidated: A Governor's Story and a Nation's Challenge*.

"I am available to be a flower girl, and I'll even waive the fee."

— Illinois Comptroller JUDY BAAR TOPINKA, a pioneer for equality in the Republican Party, addressing the crowd at the signing of the state's marriage equality bill on Nov. 20.

"For the record, I love my sister, but she is dead wrong on the issue of marriage. Freedom means freedom for everyone. That means that all families — regardless of how they look or how they are made — all families are entitled to the same rights, privileges and protections as every other."

— MARY CHENEY writing on Facebook in opposition to sister Liz Cheney's statements against same-sex marriage. Mary Cheney and her wife Heather Poe have two children as well as the support of her father, former vice president Dick Cheney.

"You could teach your son an important lesson by changing your own sexuality to show him how easy it is. Try it for the next year or so: Stop being a heterosexual to demonstrate to your son that a person's sexuality is a matter of choice — to be dictated by one's parents, the parents' church and social pressure."

— Advice columnist DEAR AMY responding to a letter from a homophobic woman who recently discovered that her 17-year-old son is gay. She wanted Amy's help convincing her son not to be gay anymore.



Moments of Christmas delirium

Opinion

JAMAKAYA

Despite my hard-earned rep as an atheistic radical commie lesbian, I turn into a hopeless ball of schmaltz when the holiday season begins. Every year, I succumb to the sentimentality of Christmas movies.

I used to start crying just 10 minutes into *It's a Wonderful Life*, when young George gets his ears boxed by the druggist, Mr. Gower. Last year, it only took 3 minutes, when George's little brother Harry crashes through the ice.

Many people have tired of it because of its overexposure, but *It's a Wonderful Life* is a perfectly written and executed film. Jimmy Stewart is outstanding but every performer, including bit players, is stellar. The scenes crackle with intensity and lyricism: George's heart-to-heart talk with his dad; his confrontations

with old Potter; his rousing plea to Bedford Falls to stick together against the evil banker.

Lately, my favorite scene is the "Buffalo Gals" stroll between George and Mary after their plunge in the pool. The flirtatious banter between Stewart and Donna Reed, punctuated by the neighbor yelling, "Why don't you kiss her instead of talking her to death?" is priceless.

The dialogue in *White Christmas* is stilted and there's that cringe-inducing minstrel number. But when the veterans sing "We'll Follow the Old Man" and the cast joins in "White Christmas," I'm a goner. Besides that, Danny Kaye and Vera Ellen are cute as buttons. "The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing" rates among the best Hollywood dance numbers, and the "Sisters" drag routine by Danny and Bing Crosby (which Danny seems to be enjoying a little too much) is hilarious.

Other movies I enjoy at

Christmas are less obvious. *While You Were Sleeping*, the wonderful romantic comedy starring Sandra Bullock, takes place from Christmas to New Year's in Chicago. There's a lot of Midwestern holiday warmth, charming performances and many funny lines. My fave is Granny announcing out loud at Christmas Mass: "I liked Mass better in Latin. It's nicer when you don't know what they're saying."

Another heartwarmer is *Little Women* with Winona Ryder and Susan Sarandon. There are a number of New England winter scenes that include caroling and gathering around the hearth. The interior scenes capture the warmth and love that pervade the March home. A great story, thoughtful performances and a classy score by Thomas Newman make it a winner. But prepare yourself: Beth still dies. Cue the crying jag.

Another unexpected holiday treat is *Millions*, a small gem by Danny Boyle, the director of *Slumdog Mil-*

lionaire. In *Millions*, 7-year-old Damian, who has just lost his mum and who talks with saints, comes upon a satchel containing millions of British pound notes. The sweet boy decides to give it all to the poor, leading to comical misadventures and a scary showdown with the criminals who want their loot back.

Most of the action takes place over Christmas and New Year's. In one magical scene, Damian flees from the bad guys by following a bright star. He's accompanied by the big papier-mâché donkey from his school's Christmas play. In the end, Damian meets his dead mum for a final chat and hug before he and she can let each other go.

The best Christmas stories, like Dickens' template *A Christmas Carol*, are dark as well as light. There's nothing like a good cry, but here's hoping that you find your way to the light this holiday season.

Winning equality in the heartland

Opinion

REBECCA ISAACS

with more than 30 state-based movement professionals who are advancing LGBT-inclusive policies in the Midwest.

Sitting in the meeting room, surrounded by smart, strategic, effective leaders from across the region, I had never been more aware of the incredible ways our movement is shifting.

For years, wins in the LGBT movement were concentrated on the coasts. Northeastern states passed a wave of LGBT-inclusive laws in swift succession. And on the Left, or West Coast, we charged ahead with a variety of legislation aimed at protecting our community.

The victories on the coasts, while historic, gave rise to concern that the Midwest and the Southeast would be forgotten and fail to receive the critical support that's necessary to continue winning over the long term. But momentum is now building in every state. In

the Midwest, we are more strategic, more sophisticated and more successful than ever before.

Change really is happening everywhere, including in America's heartland.

Of the states represented around the table in Chicago, two won the freedom to marry for same-sex couples this year. Three are engaged in robust statewide campaigns to pass critical laws protecting LGBT people from discrimination. Two are aggressively and successfully fighting back against harmful legislation that threatens our communities.

In just two days, state leaders shared strategies for advocating locally and statewide, discussed opportunities for effective collaboration and learned about what's working in neighboring states. They talked through the challenges of developing messaging that resonates with Midwestern values, of securing funding

for incremental work and of organizing in rural areas.

In short, Midwest state leaders developed a playbook for winning equality in the heartland.

The two days I spent in Chicago were inspiring, and I left feeling full of promise. Our wins are no longer counted by the number of states on our coasts. They're measured in the innovation of our movement leaders, in the strides we take each day, in the change we're making one community at a time.

The places we call home — that's where equality begins and ends.

Rebecca Isaacs is the executive director of the Equality Federation, a strategic partner and movement builder to state-based advocacy organizations.

Protesters target Walmart's false environmental claims, corporate greed and shoddy work conditions

By Lisa Neff
Staff writer

Black Friday brings big deals from the world's largest retailer, but this year's annual retail holiday also will bring demonstrations to Walmart, as environmentalists across the country demand change from one of the world's largest polluters.

Employees and advocates for fair labor and better wages will also demonstrate on Nov. 29 in as many as 1,500 actions across the United States.

"I think America needs to wake-up to what Walmart is and that there is a huge price being paid for the products Americans think they are getting cheaply," said Samantha Pickens of Atlanta, who was recruiting Black Friday demonstrators the week before Thanksgiving.

Pickens' partner, Toni Evans, also of Atlanta, added, "Walmart is destructive in so many ways. It's an irony that after we spend a day giving thanks for all we have, we run out to this place and gorge, gobbling

up more, and helping Walmart damage the earth in the process."

With the arrival of the holiday retail season, activists such as Evans and Pickens are joining others, including representatives of leading environmental groups, in calling on Walmart to live up to the public relations image it has manufactured and go green. Walmart execs promised in 2005 to become corporate leaders in the green movement, but the company's greenhouse gas emissions continue to exceed those of many countries, and Walmart's use of renewable power actually declined in 2012.

"Despite its recent PR events on renewable energy, the truth is that Walmart lags far behind many other retailers in making the shift to wind and solar," state representatives of nine leading environmental groups said in a letter to Walmart's board of directors and the Walton family, which owns half the company.

They continue, "More troubling still, Walmart has made clear that it plans to increase the amount of climate change pollution it pumps into the atmosphere over the coming decade."

The letter, signed by the Sierra Club, Rainforest Action Network, Friends of the Earth, the Institute for Policy Studies, Energy Action Coalition and others, calls for fundamental changes to the company's business model, which "continues to elevate profits above all else and leaves devastation in its wake." In 2012, Walmart generated \$17 billion in profits. The Walton family is worth

\$144.7 billion.

The environmental leaders also took up the lack of fair treatment and decent wages for employees in their letter: "Walmart is profitable because it externalizes its costs onto people, including its own workers, and the environment. We affirm that true sustainability entails a commitment to a viable future for both the environment and people."

The statement from the groups coincided with the November release of a report by the Institute for Local Self-Reliance that examined change — or lack of change — since 2005, when then-CEO Lee Scott said the company had a "responsibility to reduce greenhouse gases as quickly as it can."

Public opinion polls conducted over the past eight years show that Walmart succeeded in convincing many consumers that is a green company. But research shows that Walmart green washed its image — the record doesn't match the reputation. The ILSR paper, Walmart's Assault on the Climate: The Truth Behind One of the Biggest Climate Polluters and Slickest Green Washers in America, claims that if the retailer was included on the Greenhouse 100 Polluters Index it would rank No. 33, just behind Chevron. Walmart is not listed because the index is for heavy industrial firms — oil companies and metal smelters — not retailers.

Stacy Mitchell, a senior researcher with the nonprofit ILSR and author of *Big-Box Swindle*, wrote the paper.

She reported:

- In the eight years since Scott said the climate change "science is in and it is overwhelming," Walmart's greenhouse gas emissions have grown at least 14 percent and continue to rise.

- Walmart lags behind other retailers in making the shift to renewable power. The company derives 4 percent of the electricity used to power its stores from wind and solar projects. Kohl's Department Stores and Whole Foods Market get all of their electricity from renewable sources.

WALMART next page

ARE YOU POSITIVE?

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

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



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

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

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

ARCW
PHARMACY

ELECTRICAL CHARGE

Percent of electricity obtained from renewable sources:

- Whole Foods:** 107 percent of its electricity is from renewable sources
- Kohl's Dept. Stores:** 105 percent
- Staples:** 102 percent
- Starbucks:** 70 percent
- McDonald's USA:** 30 percent
- Best Buy:** 12 percent
- Walmart:** 4 percent

SOURCE: ILSR

Healthy legs are just a phone call away!

Now is the time to stop the pain, discomfort and unsightly appearance associated with varicose veins.

We invite you to call or visit us today for your **FREE** consultation.

Treatment may be covered by your insurance, Medicare or Medicaid included.



Bruce W. Cardone, MD, RVT
Board Certified Radiologist
Diplomate of American Board of Phlebology

Vena

The Varicose Vein Institute

www.venainstitute.com

262.349.9371



WALMART from prior page

Walmart, in measuring its pollution, omits several major sources of greenhouse gas emissions, including those generated by its international shipping operation.

Walmart is the largest importer of ocean cargo containers in the United States, responsible for importing one in every 25 containers shipped to the country.

According to the ILSR report, ocean shipping is a leading source of climate pollution. It causes more CO2 emissions than all but five countries.

And the ships that haul the cargo typically burn a dirty "bunker" fuel that produces black carbon — soot — and nitrogen oxide — a precursor to smog.

Walmart, in measuring its pollution, also ignores the impact of clearing land and building stores. Between 2005 and 2012, the company built 1,316 new U.S. "supercenters" — expanding its store space by 200 million square feet. Its plans for 2014-15 call for 516 additional stores — another 26-28 million square feet — using cement and steel.

The company usually develops fresh land, turning woods and fields into asphalt, Mitchell said.

Walmart continues to be a major contributor to the campaigns of politicians who oppose action to deal with the climate crisis, and some who deny the science.

In her research, Mitchell found that since 2003 Walmart's PAC has given more than \$22 million to federal and state candidates and political parties. Sam Walton's heirs also are major political donors.

From 2005 to 2012, more than half of the PAC and family donations to congressional campaigns went to members who voted against the environment at least 70 percent of the time. In 2007-08, 80 percent of Walmart donations to Senate campaigns went to members who voted against the Lieberman-Warner cap-and-trade bill. Meanwhile, 70 percent of the PAC and fam-

ily donations to federal lawmakers went to those who supported the Keystone XL Tar Sands Pipeline.

"Behind all of Walmart's slick green washing is a business model that is fundamentally unsustainable," said Mitchell. "It depends on a highly polluting, far-flung global supply chain and a network of sprawling supercenters. It exploits workers and wields political influence to undermine the common good."

Environmental leaders, responding to the ILSR report, want Walmart to adopt a publicly verifiable method for tracking its emissions, to commit to an overall 20-percent reduction in emissions by 2020 and to end its reliance on "dirty coal, fracking and tar sand oil."

Said Michael Marx of the Sierra Club, "Walmart is failing on climate exactly like it is failing on worker's rights. If Walmart wants us to live better, it can start by treating its workers with the dignity and respect they deserve and taking real steps to cut carbon pollution."

BLACK FRIDAY RALLIES

Walmart workers are organizing as many as 1,500 protests across the country on Nov. 29. The Black Friday campaign is expected to be one of the largest mobilizations of working families in U.S. history, with workers calling for an end to Walmart's retaliation against employees seeking to organize and demand living wages.

As the country's largest retailer and employer, Walmart earned \$17 billion in profit last year, and the Walton family's wealth is about \$144.7 billion — equal to that of 42 percent of Americans.

Protests are planned in many cities, including Milwaukee, Los Angeles, Chicago, San Francisco, Seattle, Sacramento, Miami, Minneapolis and Washington, DC.

— L.N.

When Viagra® doesn't work, we're here to help.

"You gave me hope when I thought my sex life was hopeless." -A real patient quote



Join the thousands of patients who are no longer suffering because they had the courage to call NuMale Medical Center at (414) 409-7371

- Immediate Results
- 98% Effective*
- Tailored ED & Low-T Treatments
- Total Privacy

This Week Only!

Special Offer!

\$99 Office Visit! A \$495 Value!



CALL (414) 409-7371

2600 N. Mayfair Rd
Mayfair North Tower, Suite 505
Wauwatosa, WI 53226

*Results May Vary. Pictures are models.

www.numalemedical.com



PHOTO: AP/JAE C. HONG

Protesters hold signs near the proposed site of a Walmart store in Chinatown in Los Angeles earlier this year.

ARCW at forefront of AIDS battle

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

Ronnie Grace was diagnosed with HIV at exactly 2:35 p.m. on Sept. 17, 1987. He remembers the moment vividly, because he considered it "a death sentence," he said. And he coped by forcing himself into a state of denial.

"I lived in Los Angeles at the time, and there had been a lot of false positives," he said. "There were people who tested positive and then found out that they weren't positive, so I just went inward and convinced myself that I got one of the false positive results. I lived my life and used condoms and kept it to myself for several years."

Extraordinary progress has been made since Grace, who today is the prevention program coordinator at Diverse & Resilient, was diagnosed. Medical advancements have made it possible not only for individual patients to control their disease but for public health officials theoretically to eradicate HIV from the human population. The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin is at the forefront of a model of care that could facilitate the achievement of that goal.

But complacency has replaced denial as a primary obstacle to ending the epidemic. Gone are the images surrounding the disease that dominated the media when Grace was diagnosed — emaciated patients covered with cancerous lesions lying in hospital beds entwined in thickets of IV tubing. Today pharmaceutical ads showing happy, healthy people with HIV living active lifestyles are the dominant images surrounding the disease.

A more casual attitude toward the disease and a reduction in prevention funding present new threats at a time that medicine is tantalizingly close to eradication.

HAART

Grace is one of a small handful of people who survived HIV during the decade before highly active antiretroviral therapy, better known as HAART, became the standard of care in the late 1990s. A cocktail of two or three antiviral medications using different techniques to prevent the virus from reproducing, HAART was a reprieve from the near-certain death sentence that had accompanied an HIV infection since it began terrorizing gay men in the early 1980s.

But HAART came with a costly price tag — and not just in dollars and cents. It was an ordeal to maintain the therapy, which was complex and caused unpleasant and sometimes deadly side effects.

Over the years, researchers have continued to refine the treatments, making them less harsh and yet able to attack the virus in an increasing number of ways. When Grace began HAART, he was required to take 30 pills a day, some of which came with conflicting dosing directions — some had to be taken with food, others on an empty stomach. Missing a few doses or taking them incorrectly could give the rapidly mutating

virus an opportunity to develop resistance to one of the drugs — or an entire class of drugs.

Today's HIV medications have advanced to the point where the majority of patients who take them correctly have viral levels that are undetectable in their blood. Although the virus still remains hidden in bodily reservoirs, the undetectable concentration in blood and body fluids means patients' immune systems remain functional and viral transmission is less likely.

Today HIV could be eradicated theoretically if every carrier were effectively treated so that his or her viral level (known as "viral load") were maintained at a level of undetectability. For that reason, today's epidemiologists and caregivers place more emphasis than ever on getting HIV-infected people into treatment and ensuring they maintain perfect compli-

ance with their dosing regimens.

But a couple of major obstacles stand in the way. One is that about 18 percent of those infected are unaware of it, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The other is that a significant number of patients concurrently suffer from mental health issues that prevent them from adhering to their medical regimens strictly enough to keep their viral loads undetectable.

"If someone is too depressed to get up off the couch, how can you expect him to show up for his doctor's appointment?" asked

Kevin Roeder, director of behavioral health and wellness at the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin. He said half of the Americans living with HIV have a diagnosable mental illness such as depression, and half of those have an alcohol and/or substance abuse problem.

Missing as few as two days of pills in one month can cause a patient's virus to develop resistance to a medication, Roeder added, which allows the viral load to rise and forces the patient to start over



PHOTO: COURTESY

Ronnie Grace was diagnosed in 1987.

with another type of drug.

ONE MILLION DOLLARS

Roeder made the remarks following a press conference at ARCW on Nov. 15 to announce a \$1 million gift from a private individual to support the organization's mental health services. The gift from philanthropist Will Radler, a Milwaukee botanist who developed the world's best-selling rose, was the largest that ARCW has ever received from a single donor.

"Over the years, I have come to realize how precious and important mental health is," said Radler, who's been a donor to ARCW since 1992. "The brain needs the body to be healthy. How can you achieve health if you are not mentally well?"

Roeder said Radler's gift would allow ARCW to provide clients with 60 hours of psychiatric care per week, meaning counseling for 300 to 600 patients.

In announcing his gift, Radler threw down a challenge to other donors. He said that he hoped to inspire others to contribute to the ongoing HIV/AIDS epidemic, which in Milwaukee disproportionately affects young gay and bisexual men of color.

"This crisis is not over," Radler said. "Don't turn away from it, return to it. Invest in it. There's never been a better time, because success can be achieved on so many levels now."

The greatest success can only be achieved by identifying everyone who's infected, getting them into care and then ensuring that they maintain strict adherence to their medical regimens. ARCW has become a national model for achieving that goal and other Milwaukee agencies, including Diverse & Resilient, are successfully bringing into care more of the population at highest risk in the city — young African-American gay and bisexual men.

HIV next page

HIV from prior page

INTEGRATED CARE

ARCW pioneered a model of care that's essentially a "medical home" for people with HIV/AIDS. Patients receive the full spectrum of medical and psychosocial support services at one location, including medical, dental, pharmaceutical, legal and case management. They can also receive employment counseling, help with housing, and food and nutritional assistance. Service teams consisting of doctors, pharmacists, social workers and case managers hold weekly conferences to review the progress and issues of individual patients, said ARCW president and CEO Mike Gifford.

Providing such comprehensive care under a single organizational umbrella avoids the duplicative costs of multiple administrative structures. It also streamlines the accessibility of essential life services for patients so they can focus on staying healthy.

"If somebody is low-income and hungry, they're more likely to seek out food than medicine," Gifford said. "If they're homeless, they're more likely to seek out shelter than a doctor's appointment."

But by ensuring that all of a patient's needs are met and by effectively coordinating all services at one location — and using a single electronic medical record — ARCW achieves eyebrow-raising treatment outcomes. Nationally, only 25 percent of people with HIV have undetectable viral loads, but at ARCW the proportion of patients who achieve and maintain undetectable levels of the virus is 78 percent, according to Gifford, who said he won't be satisfied until that number is 100 percent.

ARCW is, however, achieving 100 percent results in getting people who test positive for HIV linked immediately to care, compared with 62 percent nationally. Eighty-five percent of ARCW patients are regularly in care, compared with 36 percent nationally.

ARCW's success has caught the attention of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which has approved the organization's model of care as the nation's

only medical home eligible for Medicare and Medicaid services. The organization has provided consultation to health officials and organizations in 16 states on various aspects of HIV/AIDS care.

Other states are turning to ARCW for help recreating its medical home model. The AIDS Resources Center of Ohio recently paid ARCW a \$115,000 consulting fee for that service.

"There's a list of states that are now evaluating our model of care and retaining us to do this work," Gifford said. He expects to begin work with two more states on recreating ARCW's model by the end of 2013.

PREVENTION

The original HIV-prevention model focused on getting sexually active people to use condoms and, in the case of intravenous drug addicts, to use clean needles. Those efforts continue, but prevention today also keys in on getting people tested and treated. Studies have shown that people who know they're positive are much less likely to engage in unprotected sex with a negative partner. And those who are positive but maintain an undetectable viral load are much less likely to transmit the virus to others.

HIV-testing campaigns have become ubiquitous in the city ever since an alarming rise in new cases among gay and bisexual young black males surfaced a few years ago.

From 2000 to 2008, at a time when infection rates overall were declining, Milwaukee County reported a 144-percent increase in HIV diagnoses among African-American bisexual and gay men 15 to 29 years old. Alarmed, in 2009 the CDC sent a surveillance team to the area to investigate.

Since then, a number of agencies have been conducting vigorous and sometimes collaborative outreach campaigns promoting testing in high-risk populations and providing linkage to medical services for those who test positive. Like ARCW, Diverse & Resilient, a Milwaukee-based organization that addresses health disparities between LGBT people and the general population, also has a 100-percent success rate in linking people who test positive for HIV with medical care. This year alone, D&R expects to do 1,000 HIV tests at its Milwaukee office and at venues throughout the community, including PrideFest.

Other groups, including Planned Parenthood, Sixteenth Street Community Health Center, Pathfinders, BESTD and STD Specialties Clinic also perform HIV testing at a variety of venues.

But while HIV testing is going strong, other prevention strategies have been steadily falling out of focus in recent years. The economic recession, the cost of caring for increasing numbers of people enrolled in government-subsidized treatment for HIV and cuts in government spending have all taken a toll on prevention funding. Recently, Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele vetoed a \$100,000 budget item earmarked for ARCW's prevention efforts.

In his veto message, Abele said the designated money was to be shifted to ARCW from a program that assists people in the early stages of recovery from substance

abuse. "While there are many great non-profits that provide critical services in Milwaukee County, the County simply cannot fund every worthy cause," Abele wrote in the message.

Diverse & Resilient continues to provide grassroots, evidence-based prevention programs through federal grants. The group's president and CEO Gary Hollander said though it's widely thought that, more than three decades into the epidemic, everyone has the information needed to protect themselves from HIV. But many of the newly infected young black men he sees "are not getting relevant information to protect themselves," he said.

"If they're inadequately parented or bullied, it even reduces the likelihood they're getting exposed to relevant information," he added.

There's evidence that targeted prevention in Milwaukee is working. Among Milwaukee males 30 and under, new cases have dropped from 120 in 2010 to 75 in 2012, Hollander said. Among African-American males 15 to 29, the number has fallen from about 45 in 2010 to 35 in 2012, he added.

Yet the prevalence rate for young African-American gay and bisexual men is over 25 percent, Hollander lamented.

"(That's) a very high rate," he said. "We have a certain degree of tolerance for unacceptable rates. We have to ask why would we be complacent?"



PHOTO: COURTESY

Will Radler, who created the world's best-selling rose, gave \$1 M to ARCW.

HEALTHCARE REFORM IS LAW

Did you know that most individuals with out health insurance will have to pay a new tax starting in 2014?

Go to www.WIHealthInsure.com & click "news/healthcare reform" to watch an interactive video on "Obamacare"

Email me at JohnT@midstateis.com for a free brochure on Healthcare Reform & the Individual Mandate to purchase insurance.



John M. Tomlinson
Mid-State Insurance
(414) 254-9964
(262) 241-0550

midstate
insurance and
investment services

HIV IN WISCONSIN

- In 2012, an estimated 8,000 people in Wisconsin were living with HIV, according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. In 2012, 241 new cases of HIV infection were diagnosed in the state.
- Four times as many Wisconsin males as females were diagnosed in 2012.
- Among males, the rate of HIV diagnoses during 2008–2012 was 10 times greater among blacks and five times greater among Hispanics than among whites.
- Bisexual and gay men accounted for 70 percent of new diagnoses in Wisconsin during 2012. • Last year 2,742 Wisconsinites relied on the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin for health and social services.

Wisconsin
Gazette .com

WIGOUT!

WISCONSIN GAZETTE ENTERTAINMENT

Holiday stages sparkle with tradition

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

It's time to celebrate the season onstage, and Wisconsin offers a theatrical Christmas stocking full of choices to get you in the holiday mood.

BAH! HUMBUG!

The Milwaukee Rep brings back Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, everyone's favorite morality tale of greed and redemption. Dickens penned the original novella over a six-week period in the fall of 1843 because he needed the money, but it was an immediate success and remains the English-speaking world's most popular Christmas story. Scholars see it as an indictment of 19th-century industrial capitalism.

Now in its 38th year, The Rep production was adapted by Joseph Hanreddy and Edward Morgan. Aaron Posner, who directed last year's lauded production, is once again at the helm. *A Christmas Carol* runs through Dec. 24 at Milwaukee's Pabst Theatre. (www.milwaukee-erep.com).

Children's Theater of Madison brings its annual production of *A Christmas Carol* back to the Capitol Theater at Madison's Overture Center for the Arts

Dec. 13-23. American Players Theatre's James Ridge reprises his role as Scrooge. (overturecenter.com/production/a-christmas-carol).

The West Bend Masonic Center will host a community theater production of the Dickens classic performed in the round and with an accompaniment of Victorian Christmas carols. Performances run Dec. 5-8 and Dec. 13-15. (www.westbend-christmascarol.com)

The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center in Appleton will host Nebraska Theater Caravan's traveling production of *A Christmas Carol* on Dec. 4. (www.foxcitiespac.org/events/christmas-carol)

Wausau Community Theater performs its version of the holiday favorite Dec. 13-15 (www.wausaucommunitytheatre.org).

For a less-than-reverent look at Ebenezer Scrooge, try *A Kick in the Dickens 2* at The Alchemist Theatre in Milwaukee's Bay View neighborhood. Some original songs and comedic skits create an impromptu one-act "lost Charles Dickens play" based on audience input. There's a full bar for a not-so-silent night of holiday frolic. The show runs Dec. 5-28 (thealchemisttheatre.com).

MANY HAPPY RETURNS

Anyone unfamiliar with *It's a Wonderful Life*, film director Frank Capra's 1946 holiday tearjerker, must not own a television. Those who want a slightly different take on the story can catch Next Act Theatre's *It's a Wonderful Life: Live Radio Show*. Actor Mary McDonald Kerr's adaptation takes audiences to a vintage 1940s radio production studio for a performance that's complete with live music, sound effects and a little Milwaukee nostalgia. The play runs through Dec. 8 (www.netxact.org).

Ready for a little M'waukee Christmas dere, hey? In Tandem Theatre Co. is bringing back *A Cudahy Caroler Christmas* for youse guys dat know how to celebrate Cream City style. Join Stasch, PeeWee, Edna and Trixie as they warble their way through all your holiday favorites, including "We T'ree Guys from Cudahy Are," "O, Bowling Night" and other seasonal favorites that will surely bring tears of laughter and put lumps in your egnog. The production runs Nov. 29-Jan. 5. (intandemtheatre.org)

For those who like their *Christmas Carol* with a slightly more colorful spin, Madi-



PHOTO: JESSICA KAMINSKI

Valerie Harmon dances the role of the Sugarplum Fairy in Milwaukee Ballet's 2012 production of *The Nutcracker*.

son's Stage Q is producing *Scrooge in Rouge*, the perennial favorite that pits three actors against the 23 roles in Dickens' holiday classic. In addition to the true meaning of Christmas, audiences will learn that "Ebenezer" rhymes with "geezer," "teaser" and "squeeze 'er." The show has nine weekend dates Dec. 6-21 at Madison's Bartell Theater. (www.stageq.com)

For a little off-base humor, Chicago's Second City is bringing its *Nut-cracking Holiday Revue* to Madison's Barrymore Theatre on Dec. 18. The sketch comedy artists promise to capture all the magic, mystery and mayhem of the season with new bits and classic favorites. (www.barrymorelive.com).

O, HOLY NIGHT

Christmas operas are few and far between, but Gian Carol Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors* surfaces every now and then. The one-act opera tells the story of a shepherd boy and his mother who receive a visit from the Magi on their way to Bethlehem. This production features the students of Viterbo University at the Fine Arts Center Main The-

Mega Discount Nursery

Now offering fresh organic meats & eggs! Live Christmas Trees available!

All meat raised naturally – NO antibiotics NO growth hormones

FRESH EGGS • LAMB • PORK • DUCK • LIVER SAUSAGE • GOOSE • TURKEY • SMOKED MEATS • GOAT & MORE!

Go direct from our family farm to your table!

Now offering shipping throughout the USA!

Makes a great gift!

* WITH THIS AD ONLY *
ONE DOZEN FREE-RANGE EGGS
FREE w/ \$10 MEAT PURCHASE
PICK YOUR OWN EGGS FRESH FROM THE COOP!

"The art and craft in raising superior meats,
the secret is simple: what you put in is what you get out.
And we spare no expense in the feed & care of our animals.
After all, my family & I enjoy it too!"

-- Mike Beaumont, owner

1901 E. Rawson Ave., Oak Creek ••• (414) 571 - 6565 ••• OPEN: 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM 7 DAYS A WEEK



PHOTO: MICHAEL BROSILOW

The 2012 production of Milwaukee Repertory Theater's *A Christmas Carol*.

ater in La Crosse. The opera is presented on Dec. 7 and Dec. 8 (www3.viterbo.edu/Templates/three-col-menu-fac.aspx?id=17179869419).

NOT QUITE THE HOLIDAYS, BUT SOMEHOW APPROPRIATE

Door County's American Folklore Theatre helped the late writer and lyricist Fred Alley become a star, and one of Alley's and composer James Kaplan's favorites is back for a limited run at Madison's Barrymore Theatre. *Guys on Ice* tells the uniquely Wisconsin tales of buddies Marvin and Lloyd and the trials and tribulations of life in an ice fishing shanty. The show, featuring performers Doug Mancheski and Steve Koehler, runs for five weekend productions Dec. 19-29 (www.barrymorelive.com).

AND ALL THOSE "NUTCRACKERS"

Ballet is not a common family entertainment, but that hasn't stopped Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* from becoming entertainment's top holiday draw. Maybe it's the sword-wielding Mouse King, the Christmas tree that grows to giant proportions or all those kids

in the cast, but you can find productions of the ballet just about anywhere snow falls on the Badger State in December. Here is a list of choices:

Milwaukee Ballet, Dec. 14-27, Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, Milwaukee (www.milwaukeeballet.org)

Madison Ballet, Overture Center for the Arts, Dec. 14-24. (www.madisonballet.org)

Green Bay Nutcracker Ballet, presented by the North-eastern Wisconsin Dance Organization at Meyer Theatre, Green Bay, Dec. 7-9 (www.meyertheatre.org)

Central Wisconsin School of Ballet, Wausau's Grand Theater, Dec. 7-8. (www.cwschoolofballet.com/nutcracker)

www.cwschoolofballet.com/nutcracker)

La Crosse Dance Center, Viterbo Fine Arts Center, Dec. 13-14 (www.lacrosse-dancecentre.org);

Nutcracker in the Castle, Paine Art Center and Gardens in Oshkosh, Nov. 22-Jan. 6. (www.thepaine.org)

The Dance Factory, Young Auditorium at UW-White-water, Dec. 14. (www.uwu.edu/youngauditorium/season/nutcracker).

Dickens penned the original novella over a six-week period in the fall of 1843 because he needed the money, but it was an immediate success and remains the most popular Christmas story.

8 years supporting Wisconsin Pride festivals - NOW available online at jamsjewels.com

JAMS JEWELS

BRACELETS • PENDANTS • TUNGSTEN RINGS • TITANIUM RINGS
STAINLESS STEEL RINGS • NEW CUSTOMIZEABLE NAME RINGS & MORE!



www.JamsJewels.com

Like us on facebook!

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WHITEFISH BAY PRESENTS

Journey to Bethlehem

DECEMBER 13-15

CALL FOR RESERVATIONS 414-964-2424 819 E Silver Spring Dr. Whitefish Bay, WI 53217

Tinsel tunes

By Gregg Shapiro
Contributing writer

THE SOUL OF CHRISTMAS

The reissue of the Cotillion Records compilation *Funky Christmas* gets off to a fabulously funky start with "May Christmas Bring You Happiness" by a quintet called Luther. Led by the late Luther Vandross (shortly before his disco breakthroughs with *Bionic Boogie* and *Change*, and his subsequently soaring solo career), both of Luther's tracks (including the other Vandross original "At Christmas Time") are the main reasons to unwrap this disc. Margie Joseph's "Christmas Gift" and "Feeling Like Christmas" also rank high on the list.

Comprised of songs culled from Gladys Knight & The Pips' Christmas discs *The Christmas Album* (1975) and *That Special Time of Year* (1982), *The Classic Christmas Album* make the season bright. Knight and company's renditions of "Do You Hear What I Hear?," Donny Hathaway's "This Christmas," "It's the Happiest Time of the Year" and "That Special Time of Year" are standouts. Cuts featuring Johnny Mathis, including "When a Child Is Born" and



"The Lord's Prayer," wrap everything with a pretty bow.

Speaking of Johnny Mathis, the legendary (and out) vocalist has been releasing Christmas albums since 1958. His latest, *Sending You A Little Christmas*, is a delightful addition. More than half of the seasonal selections are duets with a stellar array of guests, including Billy Joel ("The Christmas Song"), Natalie Cole ("Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"), Gloria Estefan ("Mary's Boy Child") and Jim Brickman (the title tune, co-written by Brickman), to mention a few.

FROM SNOWBALLS TO MATZO BALLS

Mary J. Blige's *A Mary Christmas* could be included in the above category, but her bright "When You Wish Upon a Star" duet with Barbra Streisand (featuring Chris Botti on the horn) puts her in this category. Blige earns kudos for her choice of duet partners throughout the disc, including bi Brit Jessie J (on the popular "Do You Hear What I Hear?"), gospel goddesses The Clark Sisters (on "The First Noel") and Marc Anthony (on the bilingual "Noche De Paz/Silent Night"). Blige's "The Little Drummer Boy" is also spectacular, and her reading

of "My Favorite Things" suggests that she should do an album of standards.

What self-respecting homosexual doesn't have both of Barbra Streisand's Christmas albums — 1967's *A Christmas Album* and 2001's *Christmas Memories* — in their holiday music collection? So as not to make Streisand's *The Classic Christmas Album* completely superfluous, think of it as a good way to initiate the next gay generation in the joys of Barbra at the time of the winter solstice. The disc, featuring 16 selections, is split almost evenly between the two source albums. It would also make a lovely gift for straight friends and family members.

Nice Jewish boy Joshua Bell fiddles with friends on *Musical Gifts*. Bell jingles the holiday songbook with Alison Krauss ("God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"), Straight No Chaser (on the "Nutcracker Medley"), Kristin Chenoweth ("O Holy Night"), Renee Fleming ("I Want an Old-Fashioned Christmas"), Placido Domingo ("O Tannenbaum"), Branford Marsalis ("Amazing Grace"), fellow NJB Michael Feinstein ("The Secret of Christmas") and Steven Isserlis and Sam Haywood ("Baal Shem, Sim-

chat Torah").

Released in time for Hanukkah, the double-disc set *It's A Scream How Levine Does the Rhumba*, subtitled *The Latin-Jewish Musical Story: 1940s-1980s*, tells the tale of "Jews falling in love with Latin music." From resorts to bar mitzvah parties and weddings, from mambo to limbo to cha-cha, Jews and Latin music go way back (can you say "Spanish inquisition"?). The 41 tracks compiled here feature Latino and Jewish musicians, such as Xavier Cugat, Ruth Wallis, Perez Prado, Carole King, Tito Puente, The Barry Sisters, Celia Cruz, Mickey Katz, Willie Colon, Eydie Gorme, Eddie Palmieri, Abbe Lane, Ray Barretto, and, of course, Herb Alpert & The Tijuana Brass. The spicy collection is perfect for playing at any winter holiday gathering.

CHRISTMAS (PAST)

Andy Williams' name is synonymous with Christmas music. Williams' three Christmas recordings, *The Andy Williams Christmas Album* from 1963, *Merry Christmas* from 1965 and *Christmas Present* from 1974, along with a few singles and unreleased tracks, have been compiled on the two-disc set *The Complete*

Christmas Recordings. Questionable politics aside, the late Williams had one of the most distinctive singing voices in popular music, and these renditions of seasonal favorites are classics.

You may already have *The Original Sound Track of the CBS Television Special A Charlie Brown Christmas*, by the Vince Guaraldi Trio, in one of its previous configurations. However, the latest one includes a make-your-own Snoopy doghouse, complete with festive trimmings and Peanuts characters cutouts. Of course, the music, consisting of jazzy renditions of "O Tannenbaum" and "What Child Is This," as well as Guaraldi originals "Christmas Time Is Here" (both the instrumental and vocal versions), "Skating," "Christmas Is Coming" and "Linus And Lucy," are the real reason to make this part of your holiday music library.

If you have a hankering for some country this Christmas, then *The Classic Christmas Album* by George Jones & Tammy Wynette should fill the bill. Bookended by a pair of duets — "Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus" and "The Greatest Christmas Gift" — this set mainly consists of

TUNES next page

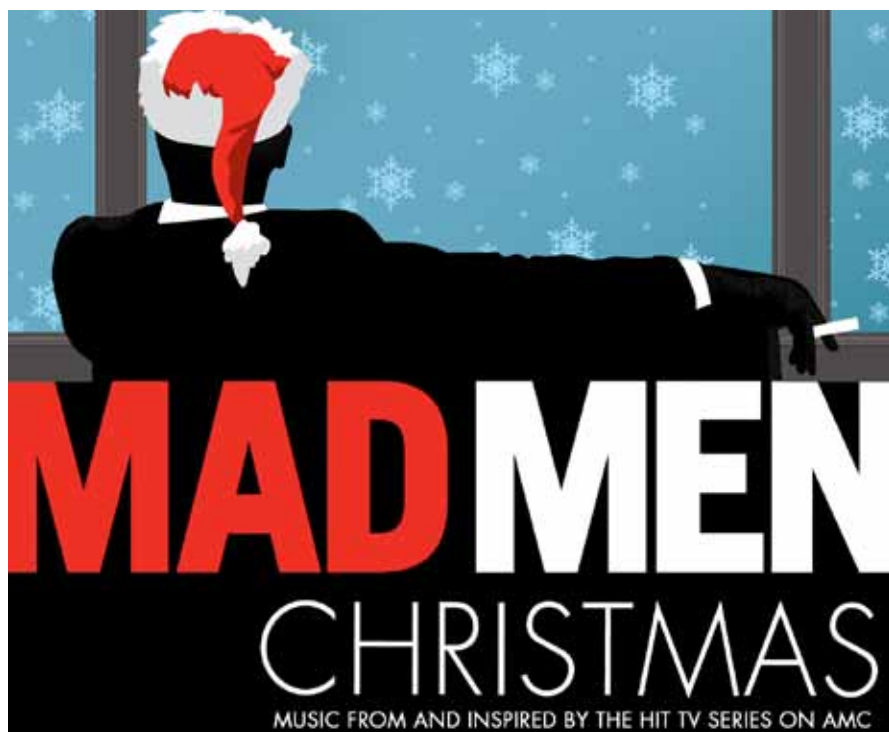
CONFIDENCE.

Would more natural hair give yours a boost?

NEOGRAFT

- Transplants individual follicles for a truly natural look.
- Does not remove any of the scalp so there is no scar.
- Automated process speeds the time needed to complete the procedure.
- Only local anesthesia is needed.
- Very quick recovery with no down time.

www.wihairrestoration.com
855-WIS-HAIR
2600 N. Mayfair Rd Suite 505, Wauwatosa



TUNES from prior page

Jones and Wynette's solo recordings from the '60s and early '70s.

Almost worth owning for the cover alone, *Christmas with Patti Page*, "the singing rage," is as much of interest for such novelty music as "The Mama Doll Song" as it is for Page's renditions of traditional holiday music. Six bonus tracks, including three songs from her short-lived *The Patti Page Show*, fill up this musical holiday stocking.

Patti Page would be at home on the 12-song compilation soundtrack *Mad Men Christmas: Music From and Inspired by the Hit TV Series on AMC*. Mostly comprised of vintage holiday recordings, such as "Christmas (Baby Please Come Home)" by Darlene Love, "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" by Teresa Brewer and "White Christmas" by Rosemary Clooney. The disc also features newer recordings, including "Christmas Waltz" by Nellie McKay, "Zou Bisou Bisou," sung by cast member Jessica Paré, and RJD2's *Mad Men* theme "A Beautiful Mine."

CHRISTMAS PRESENT(S)

Along with the Mary J. Blige disc, Kelly Clarkson's *Wrapped In Red* ranks among the best of this year's new seasonal music offerings. The original tunes, including



the title cut, "Underneath The Tree," "Winter Dream (Brandon's Song)," and "4 Carats," are worthy of standing alongside the standards. Clarkson is radiant on "Silent Night" (on which she is joined by Reba McEntire and Trisha Yearwood), as well as her jazzy readings of "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," "Baby It's Cold Outside," "My Favorite Things" and "White Christmas."

Is there anything better than holiday music sung phonetically? You can answer that for yourself when you hear *Buon Natale* — *The Christmas Album*, by Italy's trio of teen tenors Il Volo. Combining traditional Christmas fare ("Silent Night," "Ave Maria," "O Holy Night") with more contemporary titles ("I'll Be Home for Christmas," "Rocking Around the Christmas Tree"), Il Volo continues to aim for crossover success, this time with an accent on the holidays.

Contemporary country diva Mindy Smith must love Christmas. The five-song

EP *Snowed In* is her second holiday-themed release this century. Smith's lighthearted originals ("Tomorrow Is Christmas Day" and the title track) balance out the seriousness of the more traditional selections, including "Silent Night" and "Auld Lang Syne."

File this under: Oh, no she didn't! Susan Boyle opens *Home For Christmas*, her second Christmas CD in three years, with "O Come, All Ye Faithful," a duet with none other than Elvis Presley (gulp). Not her best idea. Johnny Mathis reprises his "When a Child Is Born" duet with Boyle. It's one of the more pleasing moments on the album. Also a joy is Boyle's version of "The Christmas Waltz" (written by two Yids, no less!).

Not sassy or brassy enough, despite the implied wackiness of the cover, *Christmas Time Is Here*, by Canadian Brass, features thoroughly delightfully playing throughout. The horns shine, particularly on Guaraldi standards, such as the title cut and "Christmas Is Coming." "Bach's Bells" trumpets the arrival of the holidays, and you could even say "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" glows. But when all is said and done, it's a bit too restrained.

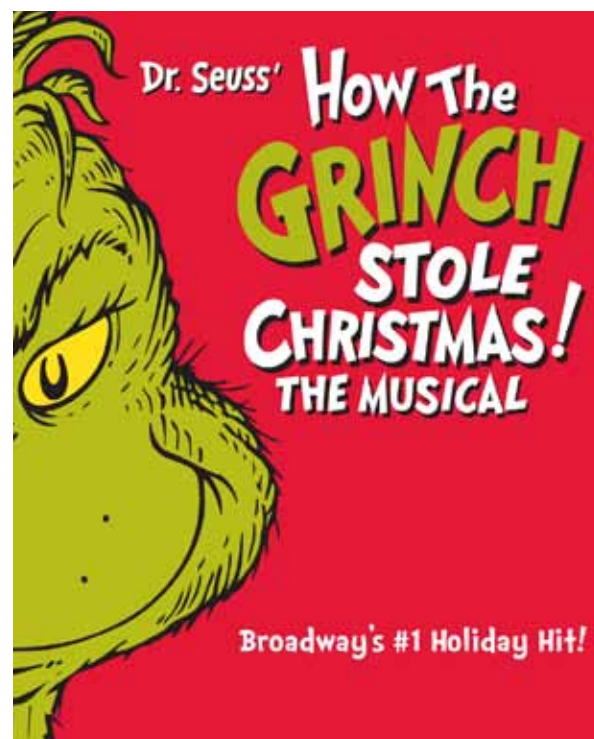
"YouTube sensations" (now that's a gift you can't return!) The Piano Guys take the holidays seriously on *A Family Christmas*. It's

not clear what it is about the song selection — including traditional Christmas favorites and a handful of originals by piano guy Jon Schmidt — that qualifies this as a "family" event, but everyone will find something to like here.

Not their first time at the Christmas music rodeo, the four Celtic women of Celtic Woman come to your home for Christmas with their fittingly named CD/DVD set called, you guessed it, *Home for Christmas*. The 12-song studio CD features their renditions of beloved Christmas selections. Expanding considerably on the CD, the DVD, recorded live in Dublin, adds more songs and also features four more songs from an "intimate acoustic" performance.

Not quite *The Nutcracker*, the Broadway musical *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical* has the potential to become an annual holiday theater event. Consisting of recognizable songs written by Dr. Seuss and Albert Hague (i.e., "You're A Mean One, Mr. Grinch") and new tunes by Timothy Mason and Mel Marvin, the Grinch lives on (stage).

It isn't specifically a Christmas album, but the self-titled debut album by multi-cultural America's Got Talent finalists Forte does close with the trio's version of "Silent Night" and includes their interpretation of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Pie Jesu."



Photography: Jon Bolton

RAM¹⁰

RAM at 10 | See America's Largest Craft Collection

Discover more about Racine Art Museum at ramart.org

441 Main Street

Downtown Racine, WI

262.638.8300

Creature feature is Off the Wall's holiday season choice

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Had one too many *Nutcrackers*? Been *Scrooged* enough for a lifetime? Try celebrating the holiday season this year with an amphibious man-creature in love with a woman who is actually a man.

Once again living up to its name, Milwaukee's Off the Wall Theatre is plowing new ground — make that new jungle — with a holiday-themed musical adaptation of *The Creature from the Black Lagoon*. Apparently, nothing quite captures the spirit of the season for OTW artistic director Dale Gutzman like an actor in a rubber reptile suit, a man in an auburn wig and Christmas Eve in the Amazon.

"This actually was a fortunate accident," says Gutzman, better known for his annual *Holiday Punch* revue. "I was going to do a Cole Porter revue, but in one week I lost my musical director and three actresses due to personal matters. I only had a few shows ready to go, one of which was *Creature*, and I owe my audiences a rollicking good time."

Gutzman admits he's a fan of the horror/sci-fi genre. He has a history of catching the classics on late-night Milwaukee television. With the Frankenstein and vampire-themed shows having been "done to death," he turned to *Creature*, a 1954 Universal Pictures classic.

"I wanted to pick a horror film that didn't feel like *Halloween*," Gutzman says. "This is



more of a twisted romance in the jungle — with songs."

Creature's action centers around a scientific expedition to the Amazon River to research the origins of a fossilized webbed hand found in a river embankment. The researchers investigate the fossil as the creature investigates them. Of course, love blossoms between the gil-man, as he is called, and the femme fatale, albeit one-sided love. The hero saves the day, vanquishes

the creature and what's left of the crew chugs back to civilization.

Employing the South American myth of half-fish, half-human creatures said to occupy remote regions of the Amazon, the filmmakers created their creature based on an original design by Disney Studios animator Millicent Patrick and refined by Universal makeup artist Bud Westmore. The film was originally released in 3D, with two sequels to follow.

A musical version of the film as a live-action performance ran for nine months at Universal Studios Hollywood theme park from 2009 to 2010, and there have been numerous talks of remaking the film. Thus far, Gutzman's stage adaptation is the only one with a Christmas theme.

Gutzman cites the strength of the cast as another reason for doing *Creature*, especially Mark Hagen in drag as Kay Laverne. Hagen, who appeared in OTW's *What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?* a few seasons back, is best known for his drag persona Dear Ruthie, an advice and cooking columnist for *Quest* magazine. *Creature* was an opportunity to put Hagen back onstage in the type of role he does so well, says Gutzman, who's directing the production.

Actor Nathan Danzer plays the creature, just one of Laverne's love interests in the play. Danzer poses a double threat because, in addition to performing the role, he has a hand in sewing the bodysuit that he'll wear

as the creature. The costume is designed to go with a professionally produced mask and set of claws.

"My hope is that it will be impressive and also hysterically funny at the same time," Gutzman says.

Other actors help flesh out the action, which is a combination of both horror movie kitsch and holiday spectacular that includes a full-sized boat, natives with blowguns, and a water ballet performed without real water. It's like a Bob Hope-Bing Crosby *Road* picture with a more liberal sexual orientation and greater holiday spirit.

"The most fun about *Creature* is that I wrote it for our stage," says Gutzman. "It is a huge spectacle crammed into our tiny space."

Gutzman adds the holiday seasoning with carols like *White Christmas*, but much of the musical tone is set with songs from film musicals of the 1940s and '50s. There's also some horror-movie music and arrangements by Jack Forbes Wilson.

Everything is played for humor, which should put audiences in a better mood to manage the rigors of the holiday season.

"Did I also mention there is a wild, half-naked virgin jungle girl about to be sacrificed to the gods of the deep?" Gutzman asks. "Now to me, that's got 'holiday show' written all over it."

WHERE MILWAUKEE
DISCOVERS NEW MUSIC
88.9FM RADIOMILWAUKEE.ORG

HELLO my name is
Amos Lee

CHECK OUT OUR FREE
WEEKLY MUSIC DOWNLOADS AT
RADIOMILWAUKEE.ORG/FREE

INTEGRITY
EXPERIENCE
RESULTS

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

Mark L. Thomsen
Attorney at Law

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

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



Lady Gaga's 'ArtPop' is short on art, fails to pop

By **Nekesa Mumbi Moody**

AP writer

The mission of some art, particularly the modern kind, is to provoke — to present outlandish concepts, explore untraditional ideas, challenge traditional norms — and leave you with many questions, searching for answers.

If that is the goal of Lady Gaga's fourth album, *ArtPop*, then she has a success on her hands. If the goal, however, is to entertain, then she fails — but at least she fails in her typically spectacular fashion.

"My artpop could mean anything, anything, I try to sell myself, but I am really laughing because I love the music and not the bling," Gaga sings in a near monotone voice, backed by futuristic electrobeat, on the title track. And there lies the ultimate problem: For all its lofty goals, *ArtPop* the album comes off as vapid artifice, with Gaga relying on familiar dance grooves and nonsensical lyrics that may be provocative but convey very little.

"Donatella" paints the picture of a narcissistic, skin-deep model, with lines like, "I'm a rich (expletive), I'm the upper class . . . I smoke Marlboro Reds and drink Champagne." There's no storytelling there, though, and while the electrogroove is racing with energy, the disconnect with the lyrics makes it ultimately fall flat.

"Jewels 'N' Drugs" features T.I., Too Short and Twista, and the rappers are the most interesting part of this wanna-be gangsta ode to the love of the drug trade — and that's not saying much. It sounds rather ridiculous, with Gaga intoning: "Jewels n' drugs, play that hustle, smother 'em, if you wanna be bad, ain't nothing if it ain't family, we know how to make that money." Clearly,

Pusha T and Rick Ross have no competition when it comes to drug lore.

"Sexxx Dreams" is an apparent girl-on-girl fantasy that's strikingly unsexy thanks to Gaga's unimaginative delivery: "I was thinking about you, hurts more than I can say, and it was kind of dirty, all night, and the way you looked at me, help." Yes, help is definitely needed on this track (it's as if she never listened to a Prince song).

R. Kelly teaches her something about sexy (and surprisingly not complete raunch) when he appears on one of the album's few bright spots: the midtempo groove "Do What U Want." But from that high the album veers to another misstep with the insult-driven "Swine."

The few moments that resonate are when it seems like we're hearing something that gives us true emotion from Gaga, or Stefani Germonatta. On the melancholy ballad "Dope," Gaga soars as she admits her failings but begs for one more chance from her loved one, singing, "I need you more than dope." It's powerful, touching, and truly heart-stirring.

"Gypsy" is another strong song, as Gaga explains her love of her whirlwind touring life to someone who wants to see her more stationary: "Don't want to be alone forever but I can be tonight," she sings.

But rarely do we get that kind of heartfelt sentiment. Instead *ArtPop* draws from familiar themes we've already heard on *Born This Way* and *The Fame*, and it sounds like someone who is stuck very much in the same place artistically — ironic, given how badly Gaga wants to be seen as an artist. In the end, *ArtPop* is a piece of pop art that ultimately fails in its mission.

THOMAS SULLY

painted performance



American Old Master painter Thomas Sully created dynamic characters that play their parts on canvas, in performances staged in paint. See nineteenth-century celebrities and theatrical classics, from President Andrew Jackson to *Cinderella*, beautifully brought to life.

THROUGH JAN 5, 2014

Thomas Sully, *Prison Scene from J. Fenimore Cooper's "The Pilot"*; Cecelia Howard and Katherine Plowden *Arousing the Prisoner Edward Griffith from His Slumber*, 1841 (detail). Birmingham Museum of Art.



MILWAUKEE
ART MUSEUM

m a m . o r g

Skylight succeeds with a personalized 'Les Miz'

By Anne Siegel

Contributing writer

Les Misérables isn't exactly traditional holiday fare. But Skylight Music Theatre's production, which opened Nov. 22, is a true holiday gift — a thrilling night of musical theater.

Few musicals equal *Les Miz* in blending a strong storyline, a soaring musical score and a compelling cast of characters. No wonder the musical's return to Broadway

in March is being so eagerly anticipated by fans. An astonishing 65 million people worldwide have already seen a stage production of *Les Miz*, and millions more have seen the film version starring Hugh Jackman and Anne Hathaway.

Set in 19th-century France during a time of revolution, the story is based on Victor Hugo's novel of the same name. It follows the journey of Jean Valjean, a paroled convict who served 19 years in prison for stealing a loaf of bread. Upon his release, Valjean is rejected by all except a kind clergyman. The clergyman's singular kindness makes such a strong impression on Valjean that he is transformed. He vows to spend his life correcting injustice.

He has his work cut out for him, as there is injustice aplenty in *Les Miserables*. The young mother Fantine has been abandoned by her lover and must work to pay another family to care for her daughter. Then she's fired by a factory manager after spurning his sexual advances. On her deathbed, Fantine pours out her heart to Valjean, who has by now become the successful owner of the factory in which she toiled. She fears for her daughter's future, and Valjean vows to find and raise the girl.

But hot on Valjean's heels is the police officer Javert, who will spend the rest of his life attempting to put Valjean back behind bars.

Also part of the plot is a group of young men who vow to liberate Paris from what they see as a corrupt government. Their stirring commitment to freedom is brilliantly realized under director Marie Rhode's direction. The young fighters literally create a barricade before the audience's eyes as they deliver a rousing rendition of the anthemic "The People's Song."

Rhode deserves credit for taking *Les Misérables* to a personal level. Her production depends more on character development than on splashy scenery. She dresses her cast in bland, sand-colored outfits. As the cast sings its way through the opening number "At the End of the Day," some actors don



PHOTO: MARK FROHNA

Rhonda Rae Bush as Mme. Thénardier in *Les Misérables*.

military uniforms while others put on prison outfits. This makes for a seamless transition to the scene in which Javert first confronts Valjean in the prison yard.

The cast is uniformly superb, led by Luke Grooms as the escaped convict Jean Valjean, and Andrew Varela as his pursuer Javert. A polished, operatic tenor, Grooms easily masters the challenging score. He is a big man whose physical presence matches his importance to the story. He can lead the production numbers with his booming voice, but he can also sing sweetly and tenderly when offering a prayer.

Equally impressive is Varela. His strong baritone lends Javert his authority. Varela's every movement is spot-on as well, probably due to his prior engagement as Valjean in Broadway's *Les Miz*. He's also played Javert before — in the 25th-anniversary tour of *Les Miz*.

Despite her hideous, Goldilocks-style blond wig, Susan Spencer as Fantine does a fine job of delivering the musical's best-known song, "I Dreamed a Dream." Melissa Fife shows off a spectacular voice as Eponine. Her unrequited love for the dashing Marius (played by a very good-looking Kevin Massey) is given more prominence than usual in this production. This makes her plight, as well as her death scene in Marius' arms, even more compelling.

Eponine's parents, the Thenardiers, do their part to lighten the proceedings. These bawdy, crude and money-grubbing innkeepers are played to the hilt by Eric Mahlmer and Rhonda Rae Busch. They give "Master of the House" all the gusto it requires.

Cabot Theatre's intimacy is its most charming feature, but its small stage is not equipped to handle the set demands for *Les Miz*. Rhode was able to dodge this problem when directing her former Skylight blockbuster *Sound of Music*. She never attempted to duplicate the Alps, for instance.

But in *Les Miz*, once the massive barricade appears, it never really goes away. Even the clever lighting can't compensate during scenes that contain only one or a few characters.

This is a slight drawback to an otherwise exceptional show that will create memories that linger throughout the holiday season.

ONSTAGE

Skylight Music Theatre's production of *Les Misérables* continues in the Broadway Theatre Center's Cabot Theatre, 158 N. Broadway, through Dec. 29. For tickets, call 414-291-7800 or go to www.skylight-musictheatre.org.

Handmade items from over 100 independent artists and designers

Gallery Nights
DIY Sewing Classes

2224 S. Kinnickinnic Ave
Bay View
www.SparrowCollective.com

Buy Your **Dream House**, and Make it Your **Dream Home**.

3.42% APR
15 Year Fixed

Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is approximate. Payments with an APR of 3.29% are \$1,756.68 for 180 months. Payment assumes a \$314,000 price and value with a \$64,000 down payment and a minimum \$250,001 mortgage. Payment does not include amounts for taxes and insurance premiums and the actual payment obligation may be greater. Other rates and programs available. Rate accurate as of 10/30/13. All rates subject to change without notice. For Purchase only.

THE EQUITABLE BANK

YouTube Twitter Facebook

414.777.4411

TheEquitableBank.com
Member FDIC EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Happy Holidays

COFFEE, GIFT BOXES & GOODIES AVAILABLE



Colectivo
COFFEE

Don't miss your chance to share this holiday classic with your whole family!

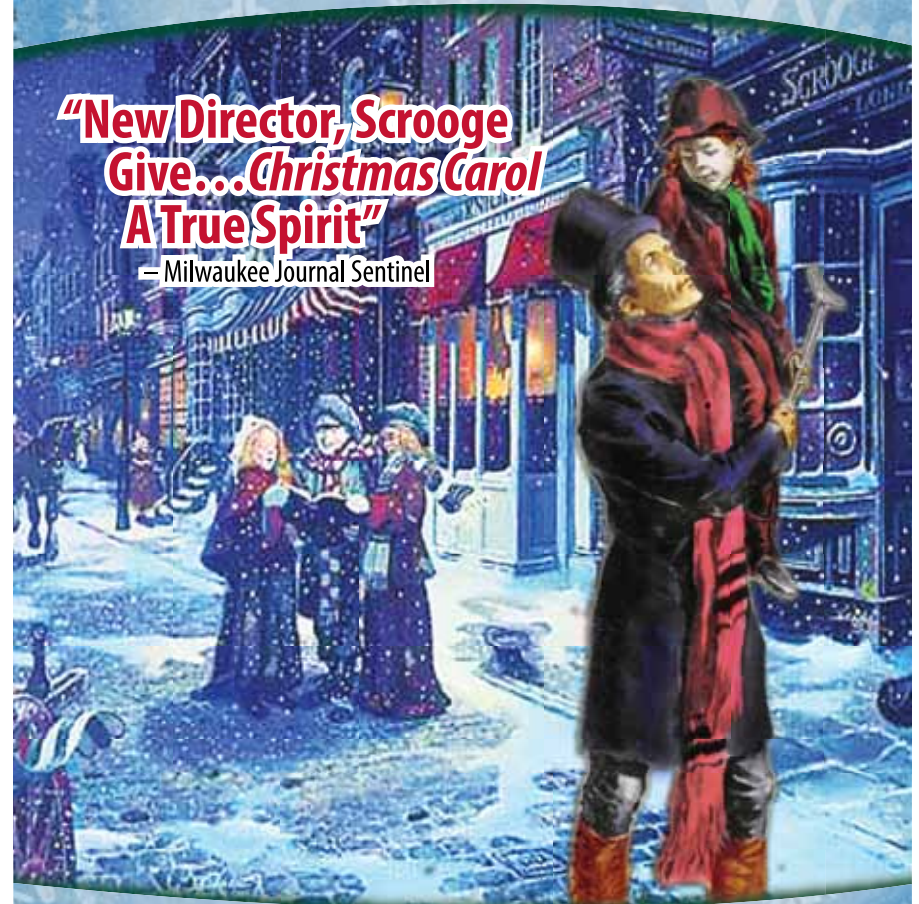
Wells Fargo Bank Proudly Presents The Rep's Production of

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

By Charles Dickens

Adapted by Joseph Hanreddy and Edward Morgan | Directed by Aaron Posner

NOW THRU DECEMBER 24 AT THE PABST



"New Director, Scrooge Give...Christmas Carol A True Spirit"

— Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

www.MilwaukeeRep.com

The Rep
MILWAUKEE

Media Sponsor:
MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN
JOURNAL SENTINEL
journal.com

A Christmas Carol is sponsored in part by



DisH*it Over!

Wine service 101: planning your party

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

You're throwing a holiday gathering for a few friends. You want the vibe to be upbeat and upscale, but you don't want to break the bank with beverage costs. What do you serve?

Why, wine, of course. You are well past the kegger days, and stocking the liquor cabinet for everyone's cocktail preferences is too varied and expensive. The right wines can lend elegance and sophistication to your affair. Wine pairs well with food and can help you keep costs in line. Your friends may even make some exciting wine discoveries among the glasses you pour.

But there's the rub. How do you choose from among the literally thousands of wines available today? How do you serve them properly? And is that \$100 Napa Valley cabernet sauvignon you covet really 50 times better

than the Two Buck Chuck that has become your everyday plonk?

Here are some ideas to help you better navigate the thickets and vineyards of Wine Service 101.

Decide on a theme. Yes, it's the holiday season, but everyone will be taking the same old winter-wonderland approach. You can, too, of course, but by adding a creative or thematic spin to the event, the décor or the menu you can make your gathering memorable.

Your angle will help you choose the wine to serve. Spanish tapas, for example, cry out for Spanish wines. The same strategy can be used for food and wine pairings from other countries.

Pick wines that pair with your menu. If your theme is an eclectic mix of influences and flavors, you can still match your wines to your menu. Everyone knows a big, bold red wine goes with red meat and bold sauces, but few people realize that a bright, fruity white pairs well

WINE next page



BREAKFAST – LUNCH – DINNER – BRUNCH – CATERING



½ Price Bottles of Wine

Wednesday & Saturday Evenings

\$5 Zardetto Brut Private Cuvee Mimosas

Saturdays & Sundays 9am-3pm



414-727-0860 | www.cafeperrin.com | 5901 W. Vliet Street

WINE from prior page

with Asian food. What you decide to serve on the plate should determine what you pour in the glass.

Vary your selection. Experienced wine drinkers enjoy new discoveries, but many people have a preferred wine. As much as possible, offer a mix beyond mere red and white choices, with an eye toward a little creativity.

Your range of reds could include a robust cabernet sauvignon, a rustic and chewy zinfandel, or a more refined and transparent pinot noir. These days, more U.S. winemakers are experimenting with creative blends — a technique traditional to French wine production. A range of blends offers your cab aficionado and your zin fan different variations on familiar themes.

White wine fanciers tend to come in two main varieties, those who like oaky, buttery chardonnays — and everyone else. There is nothing like a sophisticated chard, but there is a lot to be said for tart, citrusy sauvignon blanc or a soft, supple riesling. Trade up your white wine drinkers by offering them a bright New Zealand sauvignon blanc or a drier, more refined Riesling from France's Alsace region. They will appreciate the lesson and may even find a new wine to love.

Have the proper stemware available. Some people pride themselves on drinking Champagne from old jelly jars, but then some people just don't know any better. You may not have the bucks to invest in a full line of Riedel stemware, but the right glass completes the wine in the same way the right frame enhances a painting.

Red wine should be served in stemmed goblets with bowls large enough to capture and deliver the aroma, which is an integral part of wine enjoyment. White wines generally have lighter aromas and work well in stemware with smaller bowls.

The glass itself should be completely transparent — no color shades — so the drinker can check the wine's color and transparency. Thinner glass does a better job of dispersing the wine's various flavor

elements to different spots on the palate and tongue, resulting in a more complete and comprehensive taste profile.

Sparkling wine drinkers should invest in Champagne flutes. The hollow-stemmed glasses are specifically designed to showcase the fun columns of bubbles rising in the glass.

Serve your wine at the proper temperature. The old adage that red wine should be served at room temperature evolved when the average room temperature in drafty European castles was 55 to 60 degrees. The most common mistake in serving wine today, in fact, is that red wine is served too warm and white wine is served too cold.

Temperature plays a role in unlocking a wine's flavor. Chill wine too thoroughly and the flavors become muted, or not apparent at all. Serve a wine that's too warm, especially a big red, and the alcohol may dominate the palate, muting the more refined and subtle flavors.

Red wines should be served at between 60 and 65 degrees, and white wines between 45 and 50 degrees. An easy way to accomplish this is to refrigerate your reds for 45 minutes before serving, and, if you store your whites in the fridge, take them out and let them warm up for 30 minutes before serving. You will be surprised what a difference this technique will make.

Finally, don't forget the water. Despite being a beverage, alcohol also is a dehydrator. The more wine you drink, the thirstier your body will become.

To combat this, serve your wine with water on the side. In addition to stretching your wine budget, the water will refresh your guests, can be used to cleanse their palates between glasses and help to mitigate the alcohol's intoxicating effects.

Even if you serve bottled water, it's an inexpensive way to let your guests know you want them to have the best possible time at your gathering. And that's what good hosting is all about.



centro
ITALIAN INSPIRED CUISINE

CONSIDER CENTRO'S COZINESS FOR PRIVATE PARTIES DURING THE HOLIDAYS & BEYOND

414-455-3751
centrocaferiverwest.com

Holiday Gift Cards
Available NOW!

Cempazuchi
COMIDA BRAVA

Old world, indigenous & contemporary Mexican cuisine in a casual setting

www.cempazuchi.com
1205 E. Brady St. | 414~291~5233

60 percent polled say restaurant certificates are desirable gifts

If you're looking for a gift that's almost certain to please everyone on your gift list, look no further than your favorite local restaurant.

According to the National Restaurant Association survey, 60 percent of those polled said they'd like to receive a restaurant gift card as a gift. Of those, 29 percent said they'd like to get one from a restaurant they haven't been to before.

There are plenty of restaurants to choose from. The association counts more than 980,000 restaurants in the United States, and Wisconsin has more than its fair share of interesting eateries of all kinds and price ranges.

Here are four reasons the association recommends giving restaurant gift cards for the holidays this year:

It's what people want. The majority of people have stated that a restaurant certificate is what they want, so the odds are good it will be well received.

You can't go wrong. Sometimes people give gifts that end up being pushed to the back of a closet and never get used — or they re-gift it at the next office Christmas party. That isn't likely to happen with a restaurant gift card.

They are convenient. Want to avoid the crowded stores during the holidays? Restaurant gift cards simplify your holiday shopping experience. They can also save you shipping charges and the hassle of wrapping.

They are great for everyone. One thing that we all have in common is that we eat. That makes a restaurant gift card an ideal for everyone on your gift.

— L.W.



PASTICHE
~ WINES ~

"QUICKLY - BRING ME A BEAKER OF WINE, SO THAT I MAY WET MY MIND AND SAY SOMETHING CLEVER!"
~ Aristophanes

3001 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.
Bay View, WI • (414) 482-1950
Open Daily 4-9p, including Sundays
www.pastichewines.net

THE SECOND CITY'S
NUT-CRACKING
HOLIDAY REVUE

Take a break from holiday tradition
& enjoy some laugh-out-loud improv
sketch comedy from Second City!

SHOW CONTAINS ADULT CONTENT. FOR MATURE AUDIENCES ONLY.

DECEMBER 5-15 • VOGEL HALL • MARCUS CENTER
414.273.7206 • MarcusCenter.org • Ticketmaster.com

High Point Inn Affordable Luxury Suites
in Door County
at the North End of Ephraim

Excellent location for: Family Vacations • Romantic Getaways
Enjoy the breathtaking beauty of the Door County peninsula!

10386 Water Street • 800-595-6894 • 920-854-9773 • highpointinn.com
LIKE us on [facebook](#)

facebook.com/ChocobellaWI (414) 747-9007
www.chocobella.net
2474 S. Kinnickinnic Ave, Milwaukee

choco BELLA

Artisanal chocolates, truffles, barks
& more with a unique fusion
combination of flavors.
Perfect gifts or favors for any event!

Career of Hollywood's 'normal girl' is catching fire

By Jessica Herndon

AP film writer

It's not always easy being an Oscar-winner.

When Jennifer Lawrence returned to the set of *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire* after winning the best-actress Academy Award for last year's *Silver Linings Playbook*, she was treated to a round of applause.

Then the teasing began.

"I kind of wish just the *Hunger Games* group didn't know about (the award) because anytime I mess up my lines, Woody (Harrelson) is like, 'Ya better give that Oscar back!'" said Lawrence.

"But when I got back, I told everybody that things were going to be very, very different," the actress said, puffing out her chest before bursting into a bout of laughter. "The applause was sweet, but really it was like, 'Let's move on.'"

And move on she did, back in theaters as heroine Katniss Everdeen in the *Hunger Games: Catching Fire*. Although the role isn't traditional Oscar material, playing a bow and arrow-bearing fighter in the screen adaptation of Suzanne Collins' best-selling trilogy also isn't hurting Lawrence's established Oscar track.

"I don't really look for something (like Oscar potential) when I sit down to read a script," Lawrence said in a recent interview at a *Catching Fire* media event. "There is not really a lot of thought. It's a bizarre instinctual and emotional thing that just hits me."

Able to tackle dramatic and comedy roles with ease — both in studio blockbusters and smaller independent films — Lawrence says her continued universal success wasn't by design.

"It just sort of happened and everybody complimented me on it," said the actress. "I started out in indies and I always imagined myself being in smaller movies for the rest of my career. Then *Hunger Games* came along and I was in a big pickle. I would have done it in a heartbeat if it were an indie, but it was giant! I had to take a few days to think about it."

Lawrence accepted the role largely because of her fondness for the strong-spirited lead character. "The stakes are high for her," said the actress. "It's exciting to have a female hero like this. It says a lot about our society."

Though she was already on Hollywood's radar after starring in the acclaimed 2010 drama *Winter's Bone*, which gained her an Oscar nomination, Lawrence said *Hunger Games* raised the bar. "It took everything to a different place that I could have never imagined. And the (Oscar) did wonderful things for my career. I'm just rolling with it."

Deemed Hollywood's "normal" girl, Lawrence's accessible personality contributes to her demand. She endearingly stumbled while accepting her Oscar in February. She refuses to starve to fit the entertainment industry's ideals of beauty. And at the Nov. 11 premiere of *Catching Fire* in London, Lawrence averted from the red carpet to embrace a teary-eyed fan in a wheelchair.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Academy Award-winning actor Jennifer Lawrence in *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire*.

"It's refreshing," said Lawrence's *Hunger Games* co-star Liam Hemsworth of the actress' disposition. "She's not trying to be anything she's not and she's got one of the biggest hearts of anyone I've ever met."

Adds *Catching Fire* director Francis Lawrence (no relation): "Jen is such a down-to-earth goofball that she sets the bar for everybody. She doesn't take herself too seriously. She's able to do an intense scene. Then she'll stop and joke. It's pretty rare to be able to do it to the level that she can."

Does she take pride in being so relatable? "Not really because I never really meant to," said Lawrence, who's ditched her skirt and heels and has changed into a pair of sweats for her late afternoon interview. "A girl can only take so much!" she sighed.

Returning to theaters Dec. 18, Lawrence will share the screen with veteran actors Robert De Niro and Christian Bale in David O. Russell's 1970s corruption tale *American Hustle*.

She admits working with the seasoned cast made her nervous. "But Christian is the nicest and made me feel so normal and welcome," said Lawrence. The film was also a chance to again work with Russell, her *Silver Linings* director. "He's like creative epinephrine," she said.

Next up for Lawrence will be appearances

in *X-Men: Days of Future Past* and *Dumb and Dumber To*.

And as if she wasn't busy enough, Lawrence will soon go behind the camera as producer of the adaptation of Jeanette Walls' 2005 bestselling memoir, *The Glass Castle*. "I don't know if I will be any good," Lawrence said, "but I'm trying it."

Feeling "very satisfied" with the course of her career thus far, Lawrence said she's yet to reach her professional sweet spot. "I don't feel like I've gotten to a place where I am like 'Oh, yes!'" said the actress. "But I've always just had, fortunately, a very relaxed way about all of it."

A Must See / Hear Holiday Event!

WE ARE FAMILY

WOMEN'S VOICES MILWAUKEE
WINTER CONCERT

Sponsored by Cream City Foundation

Friday, Dec. 13th & Saturday, Dec. 14th
Time: 7:30pm each night

Washington Park Senior Center
4420 W. Vliet St., Milwaukee

Tickets \$15.00 at the door

WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS...
ALL STARTED WITH THE RAT PACK!

"Great songs, terrific voices, the easy camaraderie and confident stage presence of the originals!"
- Los Angeles Times

"Duprey's rendition of 'My Way' is worth the ticket price alone!"
- Chicago Tribune

Joey Frank Sammy Dean

THE RAT PACK IS BACK!

For the Holidays!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 · 8 PM · MILWAUKEE THEATRE

Tickets at the Milwaukee Theatre Box Office and all Ticketmaster Retail Locations, by phone at 1-800-745-3000 or online at Ticketmaster.com. Convenience fees apply.

MilwaukeeTheatre.org JOURNAL SENTINEL Ticketmaster f

Catch a video sneak peek at www.ratpackisback.com!

The gift of drama



By **Gregg Shapiro**

Contributing writer

Netflix be damned! For the people on your holiday list who collect DVDs of popular and classic TV shows, there's plenty to choose from this season.

Behind *The Candelabra*, the Liberace biopic directed by Steven Soderbergh, won 10 Emmy Awards, including Michael Douglas' award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Miniseries or a Movie. The stellar cast includes Matt Damon (as Liberace's alternately scantily clad and overdressed paramour Scott Thorson), Debbie Reynolds (as Liberace's mother), Rob Lowe and Scott Thorson.

Finally "liberated from the vaults," *Here's Edie*, singer/actress Edie Adams' groundbreaking early 1960s variety show (later

known as *The Edie Adams Show*), is available for the first time in a four-DVD set, with a wealth of bonus footage. During the run of the show, Adams' guests included Johnny Mathis, Zsa Zsa Gabor, Duke Ellington, Allan Sherman, Nancy Wilson and Bobby Darin, among others. The accompanying booklet features words of praise for Adams from Sandra Bernhard, Pee-wee Herman (Paul Reubens), Shirley MacLaine and others.

Michael C. Hall, who played gay mortician David Fisher in the acclaimed HBO series *Six Feet Under*, went on to star as Miami forensics expert/vigilante Dexter Morgan, in the Showtime series *Dexter*. The 12 episodes of *Dexter*'s eighth and final season, in which his dualities begin to unravel (his police officer sister is on to him), promises and delivers a "bloody

amazing send-off."

Speaking of "bloody amazing," the HBO Select edition of *True Blood: The Complete Fifth Season* gives viewers choices in how they can watch the sexy/scary vampire series — six Blu-rays, two double-sided DVDs or digital. The fifth season of supernatural life in the fictional town of Bon Temps, La., not only included an abundance of scenes featuring Jason (Ryan Kwanten), Alcide (Joe Manganiello) and Eric (Alexander Skarsgård) in various states of undress, but also queer relationships, including the one between Russell (Denis O'Hare) and Steve (Michael McMillan).

Complex gay characters continue to be featured in prime time network TV series, such as *Scandal* as well. The ABC series (presented in five DVDs), about political crisis



PHOTO: COURTESY

Joe Mangiello in HBO's *True Blood*.

manager Olivia (Kerry Washington), includes openly gay White House Chief of Staff Cyrus (Jeff

Perry, who also played a gay character on *My So-Called Life*) and his

GIFTS next page

GROUCHO *Playing through December 8*
a life in revue

Alexandra Bonesho, Chris Klopatek, David Cesarini, Chase Stoeger, Jack Forbes Wilson, Norman Moses

Photo by Timothy Moder

"...GROUCHO has a choreographic grace, its six performers partnering each other beautifully."
— *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*

414.278.0765 | www.nextact.org
255 S. Water St. | Milwaukee, WI

Sponsored by Skip & Ildy Poliner

NEXTACT
THEATRE
POWERFUL

GRUBER
LAW OFFICES, LLC

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

Car Accidents
Personal Injuries

No fees or costs unless successful
Home and hospital visits available

Attorney David E. Gruber

"WE'LL COME TO YOU"

414-276-6666
1-877-276-HURT

www.gruber-law.com

100 East Wisconsin Avenue • Suite 1650
Milwaukee WI 53202

Shephard
Best of Milwaukee
★ 2010
WINNER
Personal Injury Lawyers

GIFTS from prior page journalist husband James (out actor Dan Bucatinsky). Gay actor Guillermo Diaz also is part of the main cast, as a former CIA op turned techie.

Actor/filmmaker Christopher Guest has often included queer characters in his work (such as *Best In Show*). Guest's HBO mockumentary series *Family Tree*, starring Chris Dowd as lead character Tom (a man researching his lineage), is no exception. Fred Willard, who has appeared in a number of Guest's films, plays Mike, the gay neighbor of Tom's uncle Al (Ed Begley, Jr.).

The seven-part series *North America*, hosted by Tom Selleck (*In & Out*, *Magnum PI*) has made its way onto a double disc Blu-ray set. The gorgeously filmed program takes us "where civilization collides with untamed wilderness, just feet beyond our own backyards." Moving from the upper reaches of the continent through mountains, forests and deserts to the water's edge, the wildlife, ecological diversity and wonders of North America are on glorious display. Bonus material includes a colorful booklet and filmmakers' commentary.

It may have only been on TV for four sea-

sons, but the Vietnam War-set series *China Beach* made an impression on viewers. In addition to launching actress Dana Delaney into stardom, it co-starred Michael Boatman, who would later play a gay character in the Michael J. Fox series *Spin City*. The 21-DVD, 62-episode complete series box set includes 10 hours of bonus features, an exclusive 32-page collector's booklet and *China Beach* dog tags.

Created to compete with NBC's NYC-based *Saturday Night Live*, ABC's late-night comedy sketch and music show *Fridays* premiered in 1980 and ended in 1982. The five-DVD set *The Best of Fridays* features 16 episodes of the cult comedy series. In addition to showcasing performances by an amazing assortment of musical guests, including The Clash, Devo, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, The Cars and Dire Straits, the show was a launching pad for cast members Larry David, Michael Richards and Melanie Chartoff. The compilation also includes the legendary "Andy Kaufman incident" and special features, such as a cast and writers reunion, a discussion of the Kaufman incident and more.



Matt Damon and Michael Douglas in *Beyond the Candelabra*.

PHOTO: COURTESY



Michael C. Hall in *Dexter*.

PHOTO: COURTESY

mct
milwaukee chamber theatre

THINGS BEING WHAT THEY ARE

A quirky *bro-mantic* comedy by Wendy MacLeod

Nov. 20 - Dec. 15

"you got any brewskies?"

Broadway Theatre Center | 158 N. Broadway | Milwaukee
414.291.7800 | milwaukeechambertheatre.com

Pink Rebel
Because There is a Little Rebel in All of Us

TIS' THE SEASON FOR THE REBELS!

PNKrebel.com

POP CULTURE

ACROSS

- 1. "The buck ____ here"
- 6. Augment
- 9. Like a jury unable to agree
- 13. Orca, e.g.
- 14. *Photographs in text messages
- 15. Wiser
- 16. Buddhist who has attained nirvana
- 17. Australian runner
- 18. Sign of life
- 19. *Movie host
- 21. *Like popular TV genre
- 23. Hot springs resort
- 24. Ski lift
- 25. Sensitive subject to some
- 28. Delhi wrap
- 30. Boredom
- 35. " ____ Free" (1966)
- 37. *What a judge does on *Top Chef*
- 39. Straight muscles
- 40. Continental currency
- 41. Iron Age priest
- 43. Churn
- 44. Make more attractive
- 46. Major European river
- 47. "Fool me ____, shame on you"
- 48. Rodent and name of out door gear maker
- 50. Fungal spore sacs
- 52. Articulate

- 53. Coffin along with stand
- 55. Mozart's "L' ____ del Cairo"
- 57. *One Direction, e.g.
- 61. *Modern book
- 65. Architectural projection
- 66. Jelly-like stuff
- 68. *"Say Yes to the Dress" target
- 69. Calyx part
- 70. Emergency responder
- 71. Saint ____ of Rome
- 72. **American Idol*'s Ryan Seacrest
- 73. Unidentified John
- 74. City in Belgium

DOWN

- 1. Go to and fro
- 2. Through, to a poet
- 3. Pearl Harbor location
- 4. Surveyor's maps
- 5. Arrangements
- 6. D'Artagnan's weapon of choice
- 7. *Kourtney and Khloë's sister
- 8. Beyond suburbs
- 9. Drag
- 10. Tangerine and grapefruit hybrid
- 11. Egg holder
- 12. *Multi-shaded Christian
- 15. Merciful one
- 20. Talked like a sheep

- 22. **The Biggest Loser* isn't supposed to do it a lot
- 24. Like a noble dignitary
- 25. At right angles to ship or plane
- 26. Known for its common red casing
- 27. Computer message
- 29. Like pink steak
- 31. Audition tape
- 32. *They're on an iPhone screen
- 33. Carthage's ancient neighbor
- 34. *From Disney to pop star
- 36. *Cheers* regular
- 38. *The Jonas bros
- 42. Interior designer's focus
- 45. Cricket penalty
- 49. Sn, on periodic table
- 51. First-aid item
- 54. Bordered
- 56. Frustration, in print
- 57. *One of Miami Heat's "Big Three"
- 58. Filling treat
- 59. Pitiful puppy cries
- 60. *"Teen ____" mag (1967-2007)
- 61. Besides
- 62. Have supper
- 63. Original garden?
- 64. R in RIP
- 67. Rock music style

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
19					20			21	22					
			23				24							
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34
35			36		37			38		39				
40					41			42		43				
44				45		46				47				
48					49	50			51		52			
				53		54			55		56			
57	58	59	60					61				62	63	64
65						66	67			68				
69						70				71				
72						73				74				

Make the Switch to Dish Today and Save Up To 50%

Call Now and Ask How!

1-800-318-5121

Call 7 days a week 8am - 11pm EST Promo Code: MB0113

Promotional Packages starting at only ...

\$19.99

mo.

for 12 months

FREE

PREMIUM MOVIE CHANNELS*

For 3 months.

HBO SHOWTIME
CINEMAX starz

*Offer subject to change based on premium channel availability

© StatePoint Media

When he asks. You should know.

Get Tested. It's FREE!

BESTD CLINIC

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

1240 East Brady St., Milwaukee • 414.272.2144 • contactus@besld.org

T	N	E	H	G		D	O	E		S	T	H	O	S	T										
S				A	G	S		E	M	S		S	E	P	A	L									
				B	R	I	D	E	L		G	E	L		O	R	I	E	L						
				R	E	A	D	E	R			B	O	Y	B	A	N	D							
					O	C	A				B	I	E	R											
				Y		S			A	S	C	I			M	O	T		M	A	R	M	O	T	
				E		N	O			E	L	B	E			N	O	R	N		A	D	O	R	N
				L		M	O	I	L			D	R	U	I	D					E	U	R	O	
											R	E	C	T	I						B	O	R	N	
												S	A	R	I						A	G	E		
												T	E	D	I	U	M								
													R	A	R						S	P	A		
																					Y	O	U	T	
																					R	E	B	E	
																					A	R	H	A	T
																					S	A	G	E	R
																					P	I	X		
																					H	U	N	G	
																					E	K	E		
																					S	T	O	P	S



cheers to that



Eastmore's apartment homes are located exactly where you want to be on Milwaukee's east side, downtown, Shorewood and Whitefish Bay. Our variety allows you to choose from an eclectic mix of modern and turn-of-the-century styles. We also offer the option to customize your space with a palette of over 300 paint colors. Apartment homes are reasonably priced with most utilities included.

Combined with our 24-hour emergency maintenance, Eastmore delivers the whole package. *Cheers to that!*

East Side, Shorewood, Downtown & Whitefish Bay Apartment Homes



EASTMORE

you're more at home

eastmore.com | 414-961-1822

Capture Door County photo by Adam Casper



800-52-RELAX (73529) | DOORCOUNTY.COM

Like nowhere else.

Celebrate the Winter Holidays in Sister Bay!

D.C. Short Film Fest • Feb. 14 & 15
920.854.2812 • cometosisterbay.com

Photo by Todd Doerquis

A PERFECT SETTING FOR YOUR SPECIAL EVENT

Nestled along the shores of Lake Michigan, Gordon Lodge is 130 beautiful acres on the quiet side of the Door. You'll experience the tranquil setting and natural beauty of the forest and lake that have captivated guests for over 80 years. Whether you're planning a wedding, civil union or anniversary celebration, Gordon House Event Center is a stunning setting for your memorable event. From small intimate groups to large parties we'll help you plan your special day.



- High, Wood Beamed Ceilings • Large Dance Floor
- Floor to Ceiling Stone Fireplace • Large Windows Offer Clear Water Views
- Private Sandy Beach • Outdoor Patio

Call 920-839-2331 to Talk with our Event Planning Experts.

www.gordonlodge.com • glodge@gordonlodge.com • Baileys Harbor, WI 54202

NATHAN NICHOLS & COMPANY

Bakers
Lighting Gallery
One of a Kind Accessories & Rugs
Other Luxury Brands

Selected as one of the 50 best furniture and accessories stores in America!

The nicest things are always found at Nathan Nichols & Company.
8068 Highway 57 ~ Baileys Harbor, WI ~ 920.839.9779 ~ www.nathan-nichols.com

MCKEEFRY & YEOMANS LLP

FOR THE HOME

Fresh Door County Wreaths

Shipped to your friends and family!

10440 HWY. 42 • EPHRAIM, WI • 920-854-4749 • mckyeo@gmail.com **OPEN ALL YEAR**

Door County DISTILLERY

Unlock Extraordinary

Unlock the Extraordinary taste of DOOR COUNTY DISTILLERY
Find Door County Distillery at your favorite retailer or shop online
www.DoorCountyDistillery.com

A crackling fire, the perfect meal and the love of your life together in Door County. Truly, nothing could be more perfect. From **December 6 through March 30**, you're invited to take advantage of our settings and breathtaking scenery with custom designed "Nature of Romance" lodging packages. Plan your unforgettable Door County winter getaway today at DoorCounty.com/Nature-Of-Romance

DOOR COUNTY
NATURE of ROMANCE
WISCONSIN