

## The other rainbow

The Milwaukee Rep chronicles the stormy, brilliant end of Judy Garland's career in 'End of the Rainbow.'  
*pages 16-17*



**PROGRESSIVE. ALTERNATIVE.**

January 9, 2014 | Vol. 5 No. 4



## Looking ahead at the New Year *pages 4-11*



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New laws went into effect on Jan. 1, including the legalization of recreational pot in Colorado.



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It's another political year in Wisconsin. WiG looks at some closely watched Democratic primaries.



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Craft beermakers offer brews especially suitable for sipping next to a roaring fire.

# News with a twist



## DUCK, DUCK RYAN

Before it became the in-thing for right-wingers to show their appreciation for homophobe Phil Robertson, Congressman Paul Ryan was quacking for Duck Dynasty. The Wisconsin Republican put on his camouflage, beard and bandana to go trick or treating with his kids.

## CHEESE STREETS

Last month, Milwaukee began a pilot program to re-purpose cheese brine for use in keeping city roads from freezing, mixing the dairy waste with rock salt as a way to trim costs and ease pollution. "If this takes

off, if this proves to be a success here, I'm sure that it will be used in cities all over the country," said Ald. Tony Zielinski, who represents Bay View, where the recipe has been tried.

## HATE-STARVED

A Utah man who belongs to a party promoting the rule of biblical law embarked on a fast in response to a federal judge's ruling to permit same-sex marriage in his state. As of press time, Trestin Meacham, who belongs to the far-right Constitution Party, said he had not eaten since Dec. 21.

## PHANTOM THEORY

The family of the late Norman Rockwell took exception to American Mirror, saying the new biography about the American illustrator contains at least 96 factual errors and poses a "phantom theory" about his sexuality. In a statement, the family said the author makes inaccurate claims about how the illustrator



# WIGWAG

approached boys to be models. "She supports this unfounded claim with another phantom theory, that Rockwell was a closeted homosexual," the family stated. "To link pedophilia and homosexuality in this way is offensive and clearly homophobic."

## GOOD MORNING, ROBIN

Good Morning America anchor Robin Roberts said goodbye to 2013 in a Facebook post acknowledging her longtime girlfriend Amber Laign. It was the first time Roberts publicly acknowledged her same-sex relationship. In May 2012, Barack Obama came out in support of marriage equality during an interview with Roberts.

## LOL

Textopornographie. That's the term for "sexting" chosen by the Acad-

emie Francaise, the institution that watches over the French language and regularly invents French terms for English or other expressions that have gone global. The Justice Ministry asked the institution for a word for sexting because the phenomenon often comes up in legal cases.

## CHRISTMAS IS OVER BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Holiday time became jail time for a South Carolina woman who was arrested after allegedly beating a man with a ceramic squirrel because he failed to return home with beer on Christmas Eve. The man, according to the police reports, couldn't find any retailers that were open.

## CHEESECAKE MIRACLE

A suburban Phoenix family said they encountered a holiday miracle after baking a Christmas cheesecake. They pulled the cake from the oven, let it cool and then discovered that it had

By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg

cracked to form a crucifix. The family decided to sell instead of eat the cheesecake, skipping calories to raise cash for a local charity.

## BY THE MANGER

An artist created a Nativity scene for a Southern California church that featured a bloody, hooded Trayvon Martin in place of a swaddled infant Jesus. Critics of the piece called it sacrilege, but others appreciated the holiday season message about gun violence and intolerance. Artist John Zachary said he sought to draw a parallel to the times in which Jesus was born.

## PORN DYNASTY

The creator and producer of A&E's Duck Dynasty played a gay porn star in The Fluffer, a popular independent gay movie that played at the 2001 Toronto International Film Festival. Scott Gurney starred in the erotic film as a gay-for-pay porn star who's addicted to crystal meth.



## BEACH COMBING

Going to Florida this winter to escape the cold? If you roam the beach collecting seashells, be wary. A woman taking a walk on the north end of Jupiter Island found a sneaker with a human foot under some sea grass. Sheriff's deputies, air units and dogs searched the park on New Year's Day, but didn't find any other remains.

## AND CONGRATS

Best wishes for longtime partners — and funny people — Jane Wagner and Lily Tomlin, who married on New Year's Eve.

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# Legal: Colorado pot reform and other new advances

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Out U.S. Rep. Jared Polis rang in the New Year with a ringing endorsement of his state's rollout of retail marijuana and a promise to pursue a federal law allowing pot sales across the country.

"Today Colorado becomes the first state to implement comprehensive marijuana regulation," said Polis, a Democrat from Boulder. "By regulating marijuana like alcohol, Colorado voters hope to reduce crime and keep marijuana away from kids. I applaud Colorado's efforts to implement the will of the voters and will continue my work to pass H.R. 44 to regulate marijuana like alcohol federally."

Colorado voters approved a measure legalizing marijuana and allowing for retail sales in November 2012, as did voters in Washington. At 8 a.m., Jan. 1, three dozen state-licensed retail stores in Colorado opened to long lines of waiting cannabis customers.

Ezekiel Edwards of the American Civil Liberties Union's criminal law reform project said Colorado was the first state to "implement a truly common-sense approach to marijuana. This change will bring both justice and savings. Colorado will save millions previously spent arresting and penalizing people who use marijuana and will instead generate millions of revenue through the taxation and regulation of its sales and possession."

State officials estimate that weed taxes will generate \$70 million a year.

"The era of marijuana prohibition is officially over in Colorado," said Rob Kampia of the Marijuana Policy Project.

"It's only a matter of time before lawmakers and voters in more states adopt similar laws regulating marijuana like alcohol," he added. "The dominoes are falling."

Retail sales are expected to begin later this year in Washington.

The Marijuana Policy Project is working with Polis at the federal level along with lawmakers and activists in as many as 13 states to enact legislation and pass voter initiatives legalizing recreational pot. Voters may decide the issue in 2014 in Alaska and in



PHOTO: AP PHOTO/BRENNAN LINSLEY

**LIT UP: A server behind an outdoor bar prepares marijuana for partygoers to smoke during a Prohibition ERA-themed New Year's Eve party celebrating the start of retail pot sales at a bar in Denver Dec. 31. Colorado began marijuana retail sales on Jan. 1.**

2016 in Arizona, California, Massachusetts, Montana, Nevada and Maine, where voters in Portland have approved a largely symbolic recreational pot measure. Lobbying also is underway to pass bills in Delaware, Hawaii, Maryland, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Polls in those states show majority support for legalizing marijuana and a national poll by Gallup in October found about 58 percent of Americans support legalization.

"As a nation, we look back at alcohol prohibition and ask how we could have been so foolish," Kampia said. "Marijuana prohibition has been just as big a failure."

Wisconsin lawmakers have repeatedly refused to advance bills allowing the sale of even medical marijuana in the state.

## NEW YEAR, NEW LAWS

The New Year also brought the implementation of California's landmark School Success and Opportunity Act, which ensures that transgender K-12 students have access to facilities and activities — such as bathrooms and sports teams — that respects their gender identity.

California Gov. Jerry Brown signed the bill into law last August and soon after right-wing groups — the same ones that pushed for the anti-gay Proposition 8 — launched a repeal effort. As WiG went to press, the state was reviewing petitions filed by Privacy for All Students, which wants to ask voters in November to repeal the law. The measure also is the target of a lawsuit.

Still, LGBT civil rights activists and allies hope to enact similar legislation in other states, as well as legislation modeled on California's bill that bans so-called "ex-gay" therapy for minors.

Another measure that went into effect in California is intended to protect the children of celebrities from paparazzi. Those who take video or photographs of children without consent or in a harassing manner face a year in jail and a \$10,000 fine.

Another new law will boost California's minimum wage to \$9 an hour in July and

to \$10 by 2016. Ohio's minimum wage has gone from \$7.85 to \$7.95, Rhode Island's and New York's to \$8, Connecticut's to \$8.70 and New Jersey's to \$8.25.

In Connecticut on Jan. 1, assault weapons and large-capacity ammunition magazines

**WEED** next page

## STATES' STATUS

There was a lot to toast on New Year's but Chad Griffin, president of the largest LGBT civil rights group in the country, noted, "The glass is two-thirds empty on equality in America." The head of the Human Rights Campaign observed:

- 32 states, including Wisconsin, reject marriage equality.
- 29 states do not protect gays and lesbians from job discrimination.
- 33 states, including Wisconsin, do not protect transgender people from job discrimination.
- 35 states, including Wisconsin, do not have transgender-inclusive hate crime laws.

— L.N.



PHOTO: COURTESY

## BIKE AND BREW

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker has signed a bill legalizing drinking on pedal pubs, like the popular Milwaukee Pedal Tavern, pictured above during a summer outing.

Pedal pubs are multiple-person bicycles companies use to ferry riders to and from taverns. A driver steers while multiple riders sit at a bar mounted behind him, each with his or her own pedal-and-chain assembly. Riders pump away toward the next watering hole, and can now hoist cold ones along the way.

The bill allows drinking on pedal pubs in municipalities that permit it.

— WiG

**WEED** from prior page

that were not registered with the state became illegal contraband.

New immigration laws brought change in Nevada and Maryland, where people living in the United States without legal permission began applying for driver's licenses and state ID cards.

Maine is now requiring health care providers to give patients pricelists for services and procedures, and Delaware is implementing a new law that limits patient copays for health care.

Delaware also has a new law prohibiting the sale, possession or distribution of shark fins.

Several states implemented new voting regulations, including reinstating the early voting opportunities that Gov. Rick Scott had worked to cut in Florida.

In Rhode Island, a new law bans prospective employers from inquiring about criminal histories on job applications.

In Illinois, a new law makes it illegal for anyone under 18 to use an indoor tanning bed, and another law provides for a \$50 fine against anyone caught dropping a cigarette butt. The state's measure legalizing same-sex marriage will not take effect until June 1, although some couples, with emergency orders from judges, already have wed.

*The AP contributed to this report.*

**COIN-OPERATED CARE**

Those who get their sustenance — or at least a sugar rush — from vending machines may find themselves counting calories with their change in the next year.

Overshadowed by all the fuss about exchanges and marketplaces are new labeling regulations in the Affordable Care Act that include vending machines.

The Food and Drug Administration is expected to release final rules early this year for placing labels — paper or electronic — on an estimated 5 million vending machines in the United States. The rules will apply to companies that operate 20 or more vending machines and the goal is to help consumers make wiser food choices. If .02 percent of obese adults ate 100 fewer calories a week, the savings to the health care system would be greater than the initial costs, according to the FDA.

The FDA also is working on final rules for requiring restaurant chains with more than 20 locations to post calories, something some cities already mandate and some large fast-food operations have begun doing voluntarily.

A study conducted in New York in 2011 found that about one in six customers looked at such information. But those who looked generally ordered about 100 fewer calories.

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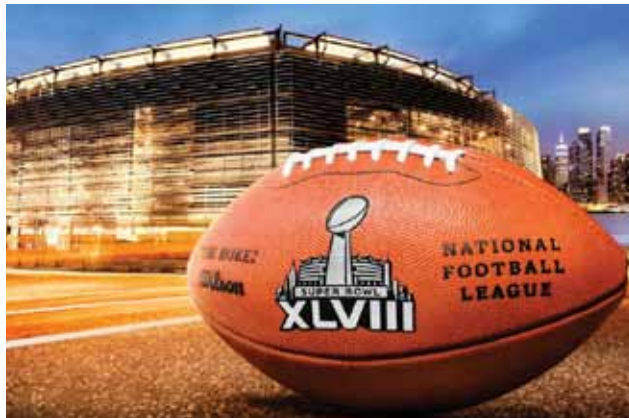
## 2014 at a glance

Check out these dates for the new year. Some may hold your interest. Some you may add to your calendar. Some of them you might not be able to avoid hearing about, no matter how hard you try.

- Jan. 8:** North Korea celebrates the birthday of leader Kim Jong Un, with a Dennis Rodman serenade, and the People'sChoice Awards take place in L.A.
- Jan. 9:** Kate Middleton celebrates her 32nd birthday.
- Jan. 10:** Deliberations and a possible verdict will come in the retrial of American Amanda Knox and her ex-boyfriend in Italy on murder charges.
- Jan. 12:** The 71st Golden Globe awards take place in L.A., and Carole King's musical opens on Broadway.
- Jan. 16:** The Oscar nominations are announced in L.A., and the Sundance Film Festival begins in Park City, Utah.
- Jan. 17:** Happy 50th birthday to Michelle Obama.
- Jan. 20:** Fashion week's haute couture shows begin in Paris.
- Jan. 21:** Osama bin Laden's son-in-law Abu Ghaith goes on trial.
- Jan. 22:** The World Economic Forum begins in Switzerland, and the UN holds a peace summit on Syria.
- Jan. 26:** The Grammy Awards are held in L.A.
- Jan. 31:** Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke's second four-year term ends.

\*\*\*

- Feb. 2:** The Super Bowl takes place in East Rutherford, N.J. The Pack will not be there.



- Feb. 6:** New York Fashion Week begins.
  - Feb. 7:** The Winter Olympics holds its opening ceremony in Sochi, Russia. Don't expect to see many rainbow flags.
  - Feb. 10:** The Westminster Dog Show begins in New York.
  - Feb. 18:** Wisconsin holds primary elections.
  - Feb. 23:** The Winter Olympics holds its closing ceremony in Sochi. We'll know by then if anyone's been arrested for violating Russia's draconian laws against perpetuating gay "propaganda," which means uttering the word "gay" in public.
  - Feb. 25:** The Summit for human rights and democracy opens in Geneva.
  - Feb. 27:** Forbes announces the "World's Most Admired Companies"
  - Feb. 28:** Carnival opens in Rio de Janeiro.
- \*\*\*
- March 2:** The Academy Awards, otherwise known as the gay version of the Super Bowl, are held in LA.
  - March 3:** The murder trial of athlete Oscar Pretorius starts in South Africa.



- March 4:** It's Mardi Gras time in New Orleans.

- March 5:** The world's oldest person, Misao Okawa, celebrates her 116th birthday in Japan.

- March 7:** The South By Southwest Festival begins in Austin, Texas.

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- April 1:** Wisconsin holds statewide elections.

- April 3:** The Wisconsin Film Festival begins in Madison.

- April 21:** Boston holds its first marathon since last year's terror attack, and Queen Elizabeth turns 88.

- April 27:** Pope John Paul II and Pope John XXIII will be declared saints in a historic double canonization in Vatican City.

- April 29:** The Tony Awards nominations are announced.

\*\*\*

- May 3:** The Kentucky Derby takes off in Louisville, and the White House Correspondents' Association annual dinner takes place in D.C.

- May 14:** The Cannes Film Festival opens.

- May 25:** The French Open begins.

\*\*\*

- June 1:** Same-sex couples can marry in Illinois.

- June 2:** Fortune 500 releases its ranking of America's largest corporations in NYC.

- June 6:** PrideFest begins in Milwaukee.

- June 6:** The 70th anniversary of the D-Day landings on Normandy beaches in France is commemorated.

- June 8:** The Tony Awards are presented.

- June 12:** The World Cup begins in Brazil.



PHOTOS: COURTESY

- Lady Gaga performs at Summerfest in June.**

- June 25:** Summerfest begins in Milwaukee.

- June 30:** This is the deadline for destruction of Syria's chemical weapons.



**July 1:** Monty Python holds a reunion at The O2 in London.

**July 5:** The 2014 The Tour de France begins, as well as the Wimbledon women's singles final.

**July 6:** Wimbledon holds its men's singles final.

**July 7:** It's the running of the bulls in Pamplona.

**July 22:** UK's Prince George celebrates his first birthday.

**July 24:** The Comic-Con International Show opens to the public in San Diego.

**July 29:** Edward Snowden's temporary asylum in Russia expires.



**July 31:** The Wisconsin State Fair begins in West Allis.

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**Aug. 9:** The Gay Games begin in Cleveland.

**Aug. 12:** Wisconsin holds primary races.

\*\*\*

**Sept. 4:** New York Fashion Week begins.

**Sept. 23:** The UN Climate Change Summit is hosted by Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

**Sept. 25:** The Milwaukee Film Festival begins.

**Sept. 30:** The U.S. fiscal year ends.

\*\*\*

**Oct. 5:** The Vatican convenes an Extraordinary General Assembly to focus on family and marriage "crisis."

**Oct. 10:** The World Bank and IMF Annual Meetings in D.C.

**Oct. 12:** The Chicago Marathon is run.

**Oct. 27:** Embattled Toronto Mayor Rob Ford seeks re-election.

\*\*\*

**Nov 4:** The nation holds its critical midterm elections. Up for grabs are the U.S. Senate and a number of governorships, including Wisconsin's.

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**Dec. 1:** World AIDS Day is observed.

**Dec. 31:** The deadline for withdrawal of all combat forces in Afghan is finally reached.

— from WiG and AP reports

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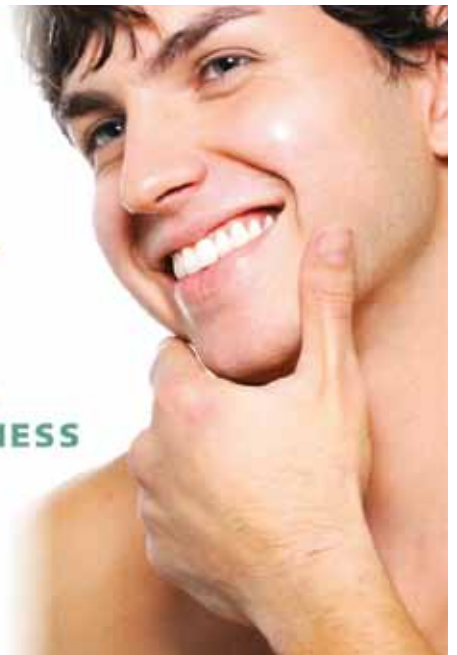
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# Plenty in play: Races to watch in 2014

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The irritation voters feel today might be the six-year itch that has plagued many second-term presidents and their political parties. Or maybe it's an itch to scratch the majority out of the U.S. House.

Early primaries in 2014 may reveal how the high-stakes midterm elections will look. Voters in November will decide majorities in the U.S. House, the U.S. Senate and 36 governorships, including Wisconsin's.

A look at key races beyond the Badger State:

## FOR GOVERNOR

- Arkansas has an open race, with Democrat Mike Beebe leaving office. Democratic Rep. Mike Ross is running and, on the GOP side, the candidates are Rep. Asa Hutchinson, state Rep. Debra Hobbs and businessman Curtis Coleman.

- Florida is preparing for a battle between incumbent Republican Rick Scott, who is widely unpopular but has vast wealth, and Democrat Charlie Crist, who is widely popular but has some baggage. He served as governor when he was a Republican and endorsed right-wing initiatives, including an anti-gay marriage amendment. Crist has since apologized for that.

- Maine Gov. Paul LePage, a Republican, is expected to face two challengers on



PHOTO: COURTESY/FACEBOOK

**REBOOT: Charlie Crist is seeking his old job in Florida, this time as a Democrat.**

Election Day — Democratic U.S. Rep. Mike Michaud, who came out as gay in 2013, and independent Eliot Cutler. In 2010, LePage won another three-way race because of a split Democratic vote.

- Pennsylvania has at least eight Democrats — including state Treasurer Rob

McCord, Rep. Allyson Schwartz, businessman Tom Wolf and former state environmental protection official Katie McGinty — lining up to take on Republican Tom Corbett.

- Texas Gov. Rick Perry is not seeking re-election, which means the state is wide

open. And there's a historic battle shaping up. On the GOP side, Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott has raised more than \$20 million. On the Democratic side, state Sen. Wendy Davis, who gained national fame with a 13-hour filibuster against new abortion restrictions, has the backing of EMILY's List. And, for the first time in Texas, two women are at the top of a party ticket. Democratic state Sen. Leticia Van de Putte is running for lieutenant governor.

## FOR THE SENATE

Voters will elect 33 U.S. senators on Nov. 4. Democrats currently hold a 55-45 majority, but will be defending 21 seats in the fall. Still, the big story right now is the number of Republican incumbents facing primary challenges from the party's right wing.

Georgia Republicans are scrambling to run for the Senate seat held by two-term Saxby Chambliss. At least eight have announced for the primary, including former Secretary of State Karen Handel, who influenced Susan G. Komen Foundation's decision to cut funding to Planned Parenthood. Others in the GOP primary include U.S. Reps. Paul Brown, Phil Gingrey, Jack Kingston and businessman David Perdue. The Democratic candidate will be nonprofit executive Michelle Nunn.

Kansas Republican Pat Roberts, now serving a third term, faces a primary chal-

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### Democrat Wendy Davis is running for governor in Texas.

lenge from Milton Wolf, who is attacking Roberts for initially supporting the nomination of Kathleen Sebelius as Health and Human Services Secretary. Roberts has more recently called for Sebelius to resign, but the primary may still be a battle over Obamacare involving two of the program's opponents.

Kentucky Republican Mitch McConnell, running for a sixth term, has low approval ratings and faces a primary challenge from businessman Matt Bevin. The winner faces a costly general election race against Democratic Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes.

Mississippi Republican Thad Cochran will seek a seventh term, but before a general election he must face tea party candidate Chris McDaniel.

North Carolina Democrat Kay Hagan won her first term when the state went for Barack Obama in 2008. The state went for Mitt Romney in 2012, and now Hagan is seen as vulnerable. On the GOP side, state House Speaker Thom Tillis and the Rev. Mark Harris are running in the primary.

South Carolina Republican Lindsey Graham, who worked with Democrats to draft comprehensive immigration reform, faces a primary fight in his quest for a third term. He faces state Sen. Lee Bright, businessman Richard Cash and Nancy Mace, the first woman to graduate from The Citadel military college.

Until recently, Wyoming Republican Mike Enzi, who is in his third term, faced a primary challenge for his seat from political commentator Liz Cheney, the daughter of the former vice president. Cheney had been showing off her right-wing credentials in a high-profile feud with her out sister Mary over same-sex marriage. In early January, Cheney announced she was giving up the fight, citing family health reasons.

Alaska Republicans are lining up to challenge incumbent Democrat Mark Begich, including Lt. Gov. Mead Treadwell, former state natural resources director Dan Sul-

livan and tea partier Joe Miller.

Democrats in the Hawaii primary include U.S. Sen. Brian Schatz, appointed by the governor to succeed the late Daniel Inouye, and U.S. Rep. Colleen Hanabusa, who Inouye had wanted for his successor. The seat is considered safe for Democrats, but Republican Linda Lingle, a former governor, may run.

### FOR THE HOUSE

Since 1921, the midterm elections in a president's second term have brought big losses — an average of 29 House seats — for the White House's party. Voters' irritation has been dubbed the "six-year itch" and the exception was in Bill Clinton's second term.

But Democratic optimists stress that the six-year itch may not apply to the current administration, because the White House already had a miserable midterm in the president's second year in office and polls show voters far more dissatisfied with Congress than Barack Obama.

There are other factors to consider, including the fact that redistricting has created more safe seats for parties and incumbents. In a recent study, "Monopoly Politics 2014," the non-partisan Fair Vote said it could project the outcome of 373 congressional races because of the crafting of safe districts and a winner-take-all system.

"The outcomes of those 373 races are effectively predetermined, regardless of national partisan tilt in 2014 or the quality of challenger candidates," said Fair Vote, which has a near perfect accuracy rate for prior elections. "Only in the case of an incumbent retirement, scandal or extreme party wave are any of these projections likely to be incorrect."

The group projected the election of 210 Republicans and 163 Democrats in 2014. It has not made projections for 62 seats.

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# Primary races to watch in Wisconsin

By Graeme Zielinski

Special to WiG

This year, Wisconsin Democrats aren't only facing the possibility of a primary in the race for governor between business executive Mary Burke, who's announced her candidacy, and state Sen. Kathleen Vinehout, D-Alma, who's reported to be leaning toward running. The state also will see races for key seats in progressive strongholds such as Milwaukee and Madison, as well as for statewide office and for Congress.

## MILWAUKEE'S TEA PARTY, COWBOY SHERIFF RIDES AGAIN

One of the major Democratic primaries in 2014 isn't even among Democrats — it's in Milwaukee County, where Milwaukee Police Lt. Chris Moews (rhymes with "haze") is making a second attempt to unseat Sheriff David Clarke, who runs as a Democrat even though he's a great favorite of tea party Republicans. Clarke's held the office since 2002.

Clarke, who's as famous for his erratic and imperious behavior as for his cowboy drag, is closely associated with Gov. Scott Walker and Milwaukee's Republican hate-talk radio. His tenure has been characterized by repeated embarrassments, controversies and scandals that have cost taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars in lawsuits and settlements.

In the wake of the Newtown school shootings, Clarke used public money to produce a radio ad calling for vigilantes to arm themselves and help his deputies to protect children. The commercial aired to worldwide ridicule.

Earlier, Clarke's office came under fire in the wake of the Oak Creek Sikh Temple shooting in August 2012, when six people were fatally shot by a white supremacist, who also died in the incident. Clarke's whereabouts that day have not been made public, but it's believed that he was in California as part of a 13-week training class. Law enforcement sources told WiG that the confused response by the sheriff's department delayed an entry team, while victims lay wounded. A swifter response may have saved their lives, sources said.

Clarke also has publicly sparred with Democratic Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele, accusing him of "penis envy." And he's mocked the serious injuries that Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett suffered defending a woman at State Fair Park against domestic abuse.

Clarke did not respond to several efforts made to contact him.

Moews says it's time to put away the "theatrics and grandstanding" and focus on public safety.

"I understand that as sheriff my first duty is competent management of public resources to ensure the public's safety," Moews said.

## TOP COP SPOT

With current Attorney General and equal-opponent J.B. Van Hollen retiring, and



PHOTO: COURTESY

## Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors Chair Marina Dimitrijevic.

with the gubernatorial race sure to drive turnout, Democrats are hopeful about their chances to pick up the job as Wisconsin's top law enforcement officer.

So far, two Democrats have thrown their hats into the ring — longtime Milwaukee Rep. Jon Richards and Dane County District Attorney Ismael Ozanne. Both oppose Republican efforts to limit voting rights and a woman's right to choose.

Richards is a lawyer who has represented the 19th Assembly District since 1998. He's been an outspoken proponent for firearms background checks, as well as for the federal Affordable Care Act and marriage equality.

Richards said he would oppose Walker's efforts to dismantle the state's domestic partnership registry law, established under Democrat Jim Doyle. Van Hollen has refused to defend the law, saying he believes it's unconstitutional.

"I have a long track record standing up for the values that make Wisconsin great," Richards said.

Ozanne is well known statewide for the lawsuit he brought against Walker's union-busting Act 10 — a lawsuit that he ultimately lost in the bitterly divided and right-leaning Wisconsin Supreme Court.

He was an official with the Wisconsin Department of Corrections under Doyle and tried hundreds of cases as an assistant district attorney in Dane County.

"As a prosecutor for 13 years as the district attorney in the state's second largest county, and during my tenure helping lead Wisconsin's prison system, I've spent my career fighting to keep families and communities safe," said Ozanne, who also supports marriage equality.

## 19TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Four candidates have announced campaigns to replace Richards in Milwaukee's heavily Democratic 19th Assembly District.

Announced candidates include Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors Chair Marina Dimitrijevic, labor lawyer Sarah Geenen, activist Jonathan Brostoff and defense lawyer Dan Adams.

Dimitrijevic is likely the frontrunner. The bulk of the district's progressive leaders and groups have lined up behind her candidacy, including Barrett and U.S. Rep. Gwen Moore.

The South Side native has been a Milwaukee County supervisor for almost 10 years

**RACES** next page



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RACES from prior page



PHOTO: AP/JOHN KLEIN

**COWBOY DRAG: Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke Jr. rides his horse in 2010.**

and says it's her experience and record of results that separates her from the field.

"Our Milwaukee neighborhoods need a proven champion to be a vocal fighter against the divisive, extreme agenda in Madison put forth by the party currently in control," she said.

Dimitrijevic said she'd work to reverse the anti-equality amendment to the Wisconsin constitution and would make education her priority.

Brostoff, a native of Milwaukee's East Side, is courting some of the same progressive leaders sought by Dimitrijevic. A former staffer for Senate Minority Leader Chris Larson, Brostoff has helped to train, organize and recruit a new generation of progressives in Milwaukee County.

Brostoff said his organizing experience is his greatest strength, along with his commitment to "work tirelessly to win majorities back in the state Senate and Assembly."

His legislative priorities include full funding of education, returning women's choice to Wisconsin and establishing a non-partisan redistricting process.

Geenen is a newcomer to Milwaukee politics, and she sees that as an asset.

"I have real-world practical experience that I can offer," she said. "I'm not a career politician — I'm a working mom."

Adams, a former Milwaukee County assistant district attorney, is another newcomer to Milwaukee politics. He said he'd advocate a new approach to politics that includes "changing the political discourse toward building a knowledge-based economy, where we encourage scalable startup and small businesses to build the economy and investments in education."

**HORSEPLAY WITH BOYS**

In Madison's heavily Democratic 77th Assembly District, incumbent Brett Hulseley faces a strong challenge after an embarrassing 2012 incident when he took photo-

graphs of and flipped a 9-year-old boy off an inner tube on a lake.

After pleading no contest to the ensuing disorderly conduct charge, which was referred to as "horseplay" in the police report, Hulseley claimed the charges were engineered as a conspiracy against him by Madison Mayor Paul Soglin.

Hulseley, who often challenges party leadership and has threatened to leave the Democratic caucus, has faced other controversies since he was first elected in 2010. He's admitted to using campaign funds to buy a 1987 Volkswagen Cabriolet. He freaked out his Capitol staff during an incident in which he brought in a box cutter to work for self-defense.

Responding to questions about his behavior, Hulseley pointed to his strong liberal advocacy. "Who else offered a \$2.1 billion amendment to get Wisconsin working again, restore Walker cuts to UW, public schools, tech colleges and Act 10?" he asked. "I fought for what was right and needed when others cut and ran."

Seeking to replace him are two Madison Common Council members, including Lisa Subeck, a longtime women's health advocate, and businessman Mark Clear.

Before her election to the council, Subeck was executive director of NARAL Pro-Choice Wisconsin. She's served as executive director of United Wisconsin since 2012.

Subeck sought to differentiate herself by hinting at Hulseley's weirdness.

"I think we are in a district that is very progressive and is looking for somebody who can provide leadership that is not only progressive, but is effective," she said.

Clear, meanwhile, sounded a pro-growth message and touted his business record. He demurred when asked about Hulseley's horseplay.

*Graeme Zielinski is a journalist and former communications director of the Wisconsin Democratic Party.*



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# { Editorial }

## Rodgers' 'outing' spotlights cultural challenges

Unfortunately, a number of professional athletes have made insulting remarks about gay people. Their hateful statements, uttered by high-profile, macho role models and amplified by the media, have reinforced negative perceptions and hostility toward gays. They've also made it more difficult for young people who are questioning their sexual orientation to talk about and process their feelings.

But Aaron Rodgers is not one of those athletes. To our knowledge, he's never said anything publicly about LGBT civil rights, marriage equality or anything else related to sexual orientation.

We support the outing of gay and lesbian hypocrites who act out their self-loathing in the public sphere by actively demeaning others like them or campaigning against their rights. But Rodgers does not fall into that category.

So it was regrettable when rumors that Rodgers is gay recently crashed the Fame Driven, a hitherto unknown website that couldn't handle all the traffic drawn by its story claiming to "out" the Packers' star quarterback. The evidence — tweets from Rodgers' former roommate and personal assistant Kevin Lanflisi — was compelling but inconclusive. The motivation was clearly salacious.

Moreover, broadcasting Lanflisi's sad, personal tweets about an ended relationship to a mass audience without his permission and without context was creepily voyeuristic — one of those occurrences that leave us longing for the pre-Internet era.

Sexual orientation is natural and morally neutral. The carnival-like atmosphere that surrounded the Internet speculation about Rodgers suggested otherwise. It reduced gay people to something like exotic animals in a circus sideshow.

Perhaps Rodgers worsened the situation when he turned the story into fair game for the legitimate press by denying it on his Milwaukee radio broadcast. He insisted that he "really, really likes women." Too bad that Rodgers didn't take a clue from the playbook of celebrities such as Oprah, George Clooney and James Franco, who've been rumored to be gay. They've said that if they were gay they would not deny it, because it's not something to be ashamed of.

At least Rodgers didn't make as big a fuss as former Mets catcher Mike Piazza famously did in 2002 after being "outed." Piazza called a news conference to proclaim his heterosexuality.

But the professional sports arena has not changed as much as the rest of world in the ensuing decade. Not a single Major League Baseball or NFL player has come out during his professional career, despite the demographic odds that some gay players must exist. The lack of gay visibility in major league sports contributes to the homophobic vibe of the locker room.

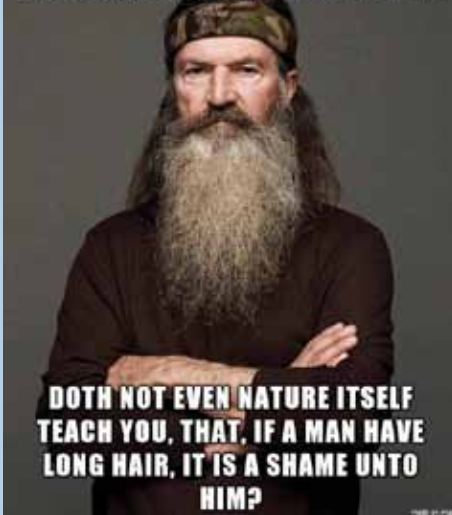
If an athlete of Rodgers' stature came out of the closet, it would help to change perceptions about LGBT people — and gay men in particular. It would advance the ball.

But only if he proudly owned it.

## WiG's WEB PICKS

Some of our favorite recent pictorials from cyberspace

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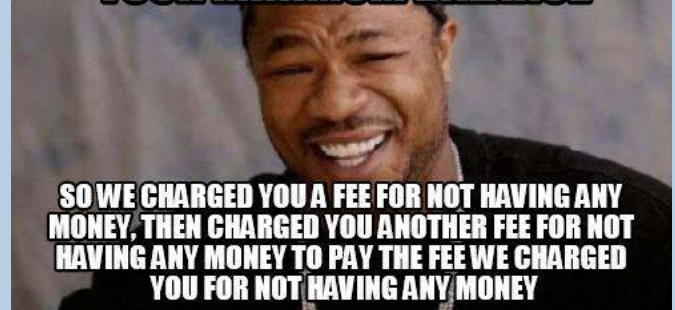
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## ON THE RECORD



“I think it’s funny, but the last thing you’ll ever see me do is jump up and down, saying, ‘These are lies!’ That would be unfair and unkind to my good friends in the gay community. I’m not going to let anyone make it seem like being gay is a bad thing. My private life is private, and I’m very happy in it. Who does it hurt if someone thinks I’m gay? I’ll be long dead and there will still be people who say I was gay. I don’t give a shit.”

— Actor **GEORGE CLOONEY** telling *Esquire UK* why he’ll never deny being gay.

“It seems like, to me, a vagina . . . would be more desirable than a man’s anus. That’s just me. I’m just thinking: There’s more there! She’s got more to offer. I mean, come on, dudes! You know what I’m saying? But hey, sin: It’s not logical, my man. It’s just not logical.”

— Born-again Christian and *Duck Dynasty* star **PHIL ROBERTSON** explaining his sexual views to *GQ* magazine. A&E put Robertson on a brief hiatus for his homophobic rant.

“Robertson is a character in a reality show. He’s not a spokesman for A&E any more than some soul-sucking social X-ray from the *Real Housewives* series is a spokeswoman for Bravo. Is he being fired for being out of character? Nah. He’s being fired for staying in character — a character A&E have nurtured and promoted and benefited from.”

— Gay author **ANDREW SULLIVAN** blogging in defense of *Duck Dynasty* star Phil Robertson’s right to say what he believes without losing his job.

“Going to Africa. Hope I don’t get AIDS. Just kidding. I’m white!”

— **JUSTINE SACCO**, a public relations executive for the New York-based Internet media company IAC, tweeting about an upcoming trip. The tweet cost Sacco her job.

“The matter of the abuse and cruelty we inflict on other animals has to fight for our attention in what sometimes seems an already overfull moral agenda. It is vital, however, that these instances of injustice not be overlooked. It is a kind of theological folly to suppose that God has made the entire world just for human beings, or to suppose that God is interested in only one of the millions of species that inhabit God’s good earth.”

— **DESMOND TUTU**, archbishop emeritus of Cape Town, South Africa, and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, making his first major statement on animal welfare in his foreword to the *Global Guide to Animal Protection*.

“I have retained counsel that is preparing the paperwork to renounce the citizenship.”

— Tea party leader Sen. **TED CRUZ**, R-Texas, announcing that he intends to renounce his Canadian citizenship. Cruz holds dual U.S.-Canadian citizenship. He was born in Canada to a Cuban father and an American mother. His change in citizenship status is widely believed to be a step toward his 2016 presidential bid.



## Fox News' obsession with genitalia

## Opinion

LUKE BRINKER

Transgender actress Laverne Cox made waves with a recent appearance on Katie Couric’s syndicated talk show, where she pushed back against Couric’s fixation on the genitalia of Cox and fellow guest Carmen Carrera, a transgender model. In decrying the objectification of trans people, Cox highlighted a problem that plagues right-wing media coverage of transgender issues.

On the Jan. 6 edition of *Katie*, Couric repeatedly focused on her guests’ gender transitions, introducing Carrera by stating that “she was born a man and that’s why she’s on our show,” before inquiring whether Carrera’s “private parts” are “different now.” Carrera challenged Couric’s line of questioning, saying the issue was “really personal” and that “after the transition there’s still life to live, I still have my career goals, I still have my family goals.”

Couric pursued the matter further when Cox joined the segment, asking the *Orange Is the New Black* actress for her take on Carrera and Couric’s exchange. Cox responded that fixating on trans people’s bodies detracts attention from the realities of transgender lives.

Cox said, “The preoccupation with surgery objectifies trans people and then we don’t get to really deal with the real lived experiences. The reality of trans people’s lives is that so often we’re targets of violence. We experience discrimination disproportionately to the rest of the (LGBT) community.”

Compelling as they were, Cox’s words fell on deaf right-wing ears. The Media Research Center’s Tim Graham responded by mocking Carrera and Cox’s handling of what he called “those uncomfortable wiener questions” and “the bulge issue.” Graham derided the “two men” for believing “(i)t’s possible to pretend to be a woman and use a urinal.”

Graham’s transphobia dovetails with the right-wing media’s approach

to transgender coverage, characterized by willful ignorance and expressions of derision and disgust. After Army Private Chelsea Manning announced her gender transition in 2013, Fox News mocked her transition as “confusing” and “bizarre.” *Fox & Friends* ended a segment on Manning’s transition by playing Aerosmith’s “Dude (Looks Like a Lady).”

Fox’s transphobic coverage has persistently emphasized trans people’s genitalia. After Chaz Bono struggled with a knee injury on *Dancing with the Stars*, the hosts of *Fox & Friends* joked about “the one part that hasn’t been operated on.”

Fox’s transphobic coverage stokes a climate of violence and discrimination against transgender people. In regularly depicting trans people as deviant, deceitful, perverted, and ridiculous, the network’s coverage contributes to the bigoted view that trans people are legitimate objects of scorn and violence.

Another major right-wing objectifier of trans people is *The Daily Caller*, whose

education editor Eric Owens repeatedly mocks transgender students and obsesses over their private parts. In a September report on transgender homecoming queen Cassidy Lynn Campbell, Owens saw fit to note that Campbell still has “various male appendages.” Earlier that month, he also let readers know that a transgender student who unsuccessfully attempted to become a homecoming king candidate “still has a vagina.”

The discrimination, intolerance, and brutal transphobia Cox highlighted is enabled by the relentless derision and marginalization of trans people — which, in turn, is made easier by a mocking fixation on their internal plumbing. Cox’s appearance on *Katie* has drawn attention to the perils of such an obsession. The question is whether conservative media will atone for its role in objectifying and dehumanizing trans people.

*This editorial was disseminated by Media Matters for America. You can subscribe at [mediamatters.org](http://mediamatters.org).*

## Weighing when to use the scales of justice

## Opinion

KATIE BELANGER

For a brief time, marriage equality existed in Utah.

While I couldn’t be happier for my friends at our sister organization Equality Utah, I was as shocked as many of you to learn that Utah achieved full marriage equality before Wisconsin.

Following landmark victories in the Proposition 8 and Defense of Marriage Act cases before the U.S. Supreme Court last summer, many individuals and organizations rushed into litigation, suing states and the federal government for the right to marry. Because the Proposition 8 decision only struck down the marriage equality ban in California, Wisconsin, along with more than 20 states with

constitutional bans, was left to undo our amendment on our own.

Many of you have asked me if litigation is on the agenda for Fair Wisconsin. It certainly could be. We have a history of legal action, most recently in the defense of our domestic partnership registry before the Wisconsin Supreme Court. We joined with more than 28 organizations across the country in the “Red State Brief” in the DOMA case. We filed amicus briefs in the McConkey case — the first attempt to strike down our constitutional amendment, which failed in late 2009. We joined with national allies in filing briefs in the Lawrence v. Texas case that struck down laws making same-sex sex a crime.

Litigation is a power tool at our disposal, but it is not one to be picked up lightly.

Take the domestic partnership registry defense.

That case is entering its fifth year in 2014 and we are still waiting for the final decision from the state’s high court. Lawsuits are a long, arduous process.

I am no lawyer, but we have the best legal team in the nation: Lambda Legal. The pre-eminent national LGBT legal organization, Lambda Legal has some of the best legal minds in the LGBT equality movement. Not only has Lambda Legal represented Fair Wisconsin in several of the cases mentioned above, we are also working closely with its lawyers to determine the best legal strategy for achieving marriage equality in the Badger state.

Legal cases are a complicated equation. In order to be successful, you must have the right case and the right argument in the right court with the right legal team. An unknown variable in that equation in Wisconsin

is the outcome in our domestic partnership registry case, which might have a tremendous impact on how we would build our case in Wisconsin.

It seems passé to still be defending such a limited set of legal protections when our neighbors have full marriage equality. But our past victories are the foundation upon which we can continue to build. In our effort to continue moving forward, we cannot forget that people rely every day on the domestic partnership registry to protect themselves and their families.

All options are on the table, and you can expect to see more from Fair Wisconsin as we strategically assess our options to move our state forward as quickly as possible.

*Katie Belanger is president and CEO of Fair Wisconsin.*

## PROGRESSIVE NEWS BRIEFS



PHOTO: DAVE LAUERSDORF

### Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele.

#### ABELE DONATES \$10,000 TO FW

Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele surprised Fair Wisconsin, the state's LGBT advocacy group, with a \$10,000 holiday gift. The donation brings the total amount that Abele gave the organization last year to more than \$185,000.

Abele presented the check at a Dec. 19 event to introduce Auston McLain, FW's new southeastern Wisconsin regional program manager. Based in Milwaukee, McLain will coordinate political advocacy and grassroots efforts in the state's most populous region.

McLain's hiring fills a vacancy created when FW merged with Milwaukee-based Equality Wisconsin. Abele's donations went largely to support the merger, which was designed to enhance the efficiency of local and statewide LGBT advocacy efforts.

McLain, a native of Rock Island, Ill., has a

history of grassroots political and advocacy work, beginning with helping to organize gay-straight alliances for GLSEN in the Midwest. He also managed 2,300 volunteers at the LGBT Community Center in New York City before managing the volunteer program at Mentoring USA.

For more, visit [www.fairwisconsin.com](http://www.fairwisconsin.com).

#### MILWAUKEE COUNTY REPORTS GREEN ENERGY SUCCESS

Milwaukee County's Kill-a-Watt Challenge saved money and cut electricity in 2013. The county's electricity use from May-October was 2.7 percent less than the same period in 2012.

"This program is another great example how even small changes in government can have big impacts," Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele said.

The Milwaukee County Office of Sustainability estimated the county used 1,506 megawatt-hours less electricity than last year, a savings of about \$128,000. The electricity use reduction also provided an environmental benefit equivalent to taking 140 homes off the electricity grid for one year.

For more, visit [county.milwaukee.gov](http://county.milwaukee.gov).

#### DIVERSE & RESILIENT REPORTS BANNER YEAR

Diverse and Resilient, a Milwaukee-based agency that addresses health care disparities for LGBT people, ended 2013

with increases in program participants, budget and staff. In 2013, D&R:

- Added a youth safe space designed by youth.
- Completed about 1,000 HIV tests — an increase of 45 percent from 2012.
- Launched four programs to serve LGBT people, including a condom distribution campaign to reduce teen pregnancy and STIs.
- Hosted the Reviving the Dream Celebration to honor the memory of civil rights leader Bayard Rustin.

For more, visit [diverseandresilient.org](http://diverseandresilient.org).

#### FOUNDATION FUNDING FOR LGBT ISSUES TOPS \$100 MILLION

A review of grants for LGBT issues shows domestic funding exceeded \$100 million in 2012, according to Funders for LGBTQ Issues. The report, considered the most comprehensive of its kind, captured data on 4,068 grants awarded by 399 foundations "to identify gaps, trends and opportunities in LGBTQ philanthropy."

The review found that foundation funding of LGBT issues totaled \$121.4 million in 2012, a slight decrease from the \$123 million in 2011, which was a record.

Other findings in the survey:

- The top five funders in 2012 were: Anonymous, Ford Foundation, Gill Foundation, Arcus Foundation and the Evelyn and Walter Haas Jr. Fund, which collectively provided 45 percent of all LGBTQ funding for the year.
- Corporate funders increased grantmaking by 26 percent; public funders increased grantmaking by 20 percent.
- Youth were the top-funded subpopulation in the United States, receiving \$20.4 million in funding.
- International funding for LGBTQ issues totaled \$20.2 million in 2012, down from its record high of \$27 million in 2011.

For more, visit [www.lgbtfunders.org](http://www.lgbtfunders.org).

#### In other organization news ...

▪ **The Jewish Museum Milwaukee** is hosting a display of large silkscreen portraits by Andy Warhol — *Ten Portraits of Jews of the 20th Century* — through March 30. The silkscreens feature Sarah Bernhardt, Louis Brandeis, Martin Buber, Albert Einstein, Sigmund Freud, George Gershwin, Franz Kafka, the Marx Brothers, Golda Meir and Gertrude Stein.

▪ **Retired Col. Jennifer N. Pritzker** — a former soldier, investor and philanthropist — will chair the Equality Illinois 2014 Gala in Chicago on Feb. 8. "She is a courageous role model who, as a transgender woman, has committed herself to continued service," said EI CEO Bernard Cherkasov. For more visit, [www.eqil.org](http://www.eqil.org).

▪ **GSafe/Gay Straight Alliance For Safe Schools** is accepting workshop proposals for the Safe Schools, Safe Communities: State Conference on LGBT Youth to take place April 11 at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside Student Center. For more, visit [www.gsafewi.org](http://www.gsafewi.org).

▪ **The National Arbor Day Foundation** is offering Wisconsinites who become members 10 free flowering trees to plant — two Sargent crabapple, three American redbuds, two Washington hawthorns, and three white flowering dogwoods. For more, visit [arborday.org/january](http://arborday.org/january).

— L.N. and L.W.



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# U.S. Supreme Court blocks gay marriages in Utah

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Utah, with its red-state conservatism, seemed like one of the least likely places for gay couples to marry. But about 1,000 same-sex couples married there following an unexpected and unprecedented ruling from U.S. District Judge Robert Shelby that overturned Utah's anti-gay Amendment 3.

Utah is a predominantly Mormon state and no other religious group — not even the Catholic Church — invested as heavily as The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in fighting marriage equality in Hawaii and Alaska in the 1990s and California in the 2000s. Tens of thousands of Mormon activists were dispatched by bus to California in 2008 to campaign for Proposition 8, the constitutional amendment that banned same-sex marriage in the state until it was completely overturned in 2013.

As gay couples were exchanging vows in the state where it is headquartered, the Mormon church in late December released a statement. It read, "We continue to believe that voters in Utah did the right thing by providing clear direction in the state Constitution that marriage should be between a man and a woman, and we are hopeful that this view will be validated by a higher court."

Shelby, nominated by President Barack Obama and confirmed by the Senate in 2012, said in his Dec. 20 ruling that the right to marry is a fundamental right protected by



PHOTO: AP PHOTO/FRANCISCO KJOLSETH

**ON HOLD: Hundreds of same-sex couples, including those pictured above in Salt Lake City, requested marriage licenses at Utah county clerks' offices on Dec. 22.**

the U.S. Constitution.

"These rights would be meaningless if the Constitution did not also prevent the government from interfering with the intensely personal choices an individual makes when that person decides to make a solemn commitment to another human being," he wrote.

Republican Utah Gov. Gary R. Herbert denounced the decision, which overturned a 2004 voter-approved constitutional amendment, as judicial activism. The governor said, "I am very disappointed an activist federal judge is attempting to override the will of the people of Utah. I am working with my legal counsel and the acting attorney

general to determine the best course to defend traditional marriage within the borders of Utah."

But state officials weren't quick to react, leaving judges skeptical of claims of an emergency.

Shelby issued his order on a Friday afternoon, and with no stay. So there was a window of several hours for same-sex couples to obtain marriage licenses on Dec. 20. Salt Lake County Clerk Sherrie Swensen even extended her office's hours and Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker officiated at more than 30 weddings, including that of Stephen Justesen and state Sen. Jim Dabakis, chair

of the Utah Democratic Party.

The window remained open, as Shelby and the appeals court rejected state requests for stays.

With outside private counsel brought in by the state and the swearing in of a new attorney general Dec. 30, Utah didn't ask the U.S. Supreme Court for a stay until Dec. 31.

Meanwhile, Herbert instructed state agencies that they must comply with Shelby's order. His order persuaded clerks in four holdout counties to issue marriage licenses to gay couples.

By New Year's Day, gay activists said as many as 1,000 of the estimated 4,000 same-sex couples in Utah had married.

The march to the clerks' offices ended — at least temporarily — on Jan. 6, when the Supreme Court issued a stay pending a review by the appeals court.

The state, in its complaint to the Supreme Court, said each gay marriage "is an affront . . . to the interests of the state and its citizens in being able to define marriage through ordinary democratic channels" and state officials have vowed to work to undo the gay unions if they win in court.

If the state's appeal goes forward — at a cost of about \$2 million to taxpayers — the question to be answered will be the one the High Court avoided last June: Do state bans on same-sex marriage violate the U.S. Constitution's guarantees of equal protection and due process?

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## 'End of the Rainbow' chronicles final days of Garland's stormy career

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

In the winter of 1968, Judy Garland was on the ropes personally and professionally. Plagued by addictions, drowning in debt and just entering her fifth marriage, she desperately hoped that a six-week engagement at London's Talk of the Town would revive her dying career. She planned to recapture the energy of her 1961 Carnegie Hall comeback performance, which had catapulted the former star from obscurity back into the limelight.

But in show business, lightning rarely strikes twice. On June 22, 1969, the fading chanteuse was found dead in her rented London home. Authorities said her death was the result of "an incautious self-overdose" of barbiturates.

She was 47 years old.

Garland's untimely demise coupled with her enormous talent sealed her legend. The final months before her star finally fell forever are chronicled in Peter Quilter's *End of the Rainbow*, which opens on The Rep's Quadracci Powerhouse stage on Jan. 10.

*Rainbow* is a snapshot of a period that, for Garland, was most certainly the worst of times. Set in a suite in London's Ritz Hotel and the nearby Talk of the Town nightclub, Quilter's musical drama dissects the disintegration of Garland's massive talent. Each day depicted in the play is overlaid with the suspense of whether Garland is too strung out on alcohol and pills to perform.

In the play, Garland, portrayed by Chicago-based actor Hollis Resnik, is propped up by new husband Mickey Dean (Nicholas Harazin) and gay, Scottish-born pianist Anthony (Thomas J. Cox). Both are fighting a losing battle against Garland's growing appetite for Stoli and Seconal. What they don't realize is the erratic nightclub performances, far from her best, would be among her last.

"At its core, this play is a moving story about a woman fighting through her difficult life with incredible passion and attempts by the people who loved her to help her," says Rep artistic director Mark Clements, who also is directing the production. "With this story and the powerhouse songs woven into the story, this will be a great production for Milwaukee."

Quilter was drawn to the material by Garland's legendary status and the drama of her final years. Garland, who first became hooked on barbiturates fed to her by MGM



PHOTO: COURTESY

Judy Garland with her new husband Mickey Dean in 1968, the year in which *End of the Rainbow* is set.

studio executives during the rigorous filming schedule of the *Andy Hardy* series with Mickey Rooney, was an enormously complex character who truly was larger than life.

"She was both ferociously difficult and incredibly loved, financially broke and yet world famous, married several times but still searching for love, capable of singing beautifully one night and terribly the next," Quilter says. "Those final years of her life were incredibly dramatic and compelling, and I was just fascinated by the kind of car crash of emotions and situations in her life."

The narrative is not without its lighthearted moments, however, often in the form of zingers spoken by Garland, who was known for her wit. Still, the play's main draw for Garland fans will be the music.

*Rainbow* contains some dozen or so of Garland's greatest hits, including "I Can't Give You Anything But Love, Baby," "For Me and My Gal," "You Made Me Love You," "The Trolley Song," "Get Happy," "Come Rain or Come Shine" and, of course, "Over the Rainbow." The combined musical and dramatic demands of the role place enormous pressure on the actors who fill Garland's shoes, Quilter says.

"You need a performer with a great sing-

ing voice, the ability to play a huge range of emotions, plus a terrific sense of humor," Quilter says. "Garland was very funny, even when things were falling apart. Playing tragedy while being funny at the same time is a real tightrope walk and requires a brilliant performer. Hollis Resnik has all the necessary qualities."

Garland's greatest post-mortem role may be that of gay icon. Theories abound as to why she has attained iconic status in the LGBT community, but several themes are consistently cited, Clements says.

"Many people say that, in addition to her incredible talent, her appeal to gay men is as someone with an incredible public life but also hidden secrets," says Clements. "Many of her personal struggles at the height of her fame relate to the personal struggles of gay men in America."

Quilter agrees. "The LGBT community always recognizes people that have that extra star quality," he explains. "And that voice! She brought huge pain, joy and emotion to a song."

Some historians point to her gay fans' anguish over Garland's funeral on June 27, 1969, in New York City as the flashpoint that led to the Stonewall riots, which are

considered the beginning of the modern gay rights movement. Others, including gay historian David Carter, refute the theory, saying the rioters were not the type to moon over Garland records and mourn her demise.

But *End of the Rainbow* doesn't delve into the historical implications of Garland's death. Instead, it captures the dying gasps of a dynamic career and a life that may have been lived too fully.

"She died tragically before her time and that gives celebrities more of an iconic status," Quilter says. "Plus, of course, her performances at the Carnegie Hall concert, in *A Star Is Born* and *The Wizard of Oz* are still regarded as among the best ever given. That doesn't fade. Time makes her bigger, not smaller."

### ON STAGE

Milwaukee Repertory Theater's production of *End of the Rainbow* runs Jan. 10-Feb. 9 in Quadracci Powerhouse Theater. For details, please visit [www.milwaukeekeerep.com](http://www.milwaukeekeerep.com). WiG is the production's media sponsor.



# Hollis Resnik faces her greatest challenge as Judy Garland in 'End of the Rainbow'

By Gregg Shapiro  
Contributing writer

Acclaimed Chicago actress Hollis Resnik resurrects Judy Garland at the Milwaukee Rep through Feb. 9 in the Tony-nominated play *End of the Rainbow*. Taking a leave of absence from the national tour of *Sister Act* (in which she portrays the Mother Superior), Resnik adds Garland to the long list of real people she has portrayed onstage over the years, including Edie Beale (in *Grey Gardens*), Patsy Cline (in *Always Patsy Cline*) and Eva Peron (in *Evita*). A familiar face to theatergoers from her many national tours, as well as the recipient of multiple acting awards, Resnik spoke with me about Garland, her career and gay fans in November 2013.

## Gregg Shapiro: Hollis, what are the rewards and challenges of playing a historical figure like Garland?

Hollis Resnik: That's a big question. I've played a lot of real people — Edie Beale and Patsy Cline, Eva Peron, Edith Piaf — and I've found the rewards to be immense. The challenge, of course, is to emulate them in some way. That takes an extra amount of work. For instance, when I played Edie Beale, I was watching that movie (*Grey Gardens*) and constantly clicking and backtracking and clicking and backtracking and imitating that voice, because that voice is so distinct. With Judy Garland, she is probably my greatest challenge. In terms of rewards, I can't speak on that yet (laughs). I'm just now learning the text. I've watched her and listened to her and I am extraordinarily different physically from her. Vocally, it will probably be my biggest challenge, because she had such a fat sound and I don't have that at all. I can probably get her speaking voice a little bit better, more than I can the singing. You have to understand that when she died she was 47. Even though her voice had been ragged because of her history, she hadn't gone through things like menopause yet. I'm past that age. I am dealing with changes in my body and everything associated with that as I grow older. Your singing voice changes. I don't have the same singing voice I had at 47. It's going to be a super challenge.

Is it more of an acting challenge to play a historical figure such as Garland or to

**'I think she never had a chance to be an authentic human being.'**

**put your own stamp on a familiar character, such as the Mother Superior in *Sister Act* or Blanche in *A Streetcar Named Desire*?**

I don't think it matters if it's a real person or not. It all depends on the text and the situation.

**Are you learning new things about Judy in preparation for this role? What have you learned?**

I think she never had a chance to be an authentic human being. I think she was doomed from the get-go. It's a really sad, sad story. This woman had a divine gift. This woman was connected to everything she sings in an honest way. It was what she connected to the most. Unfortunately, she was raised in a time — vaudeville — she had a stage mother, all that stuff, from the time she was very young. She never had a chance to be herself, be a kid. I think that's such an enormous challenge as someone grows up to adulthood.

**Do you have a favorite Garland song?**

I don't really have a favorite. I haven't listened to a whole lot yet except for what's on the concert years' video. I'm impressed with her arrangements and the guile with which she sings. I love "The Man That Got Away." That's the one Judy Garland tune I've been singing for a while in gigs. But I honestly don't have a favorite. The arrangement of "Come Rain or Come Shine" is out of this world.

**Do you have a favorite Judy Garland movie role?**

I just saw the movie *I Could Go On Singing*, which was her last movie. She was amazing in this movie.

**You are in the midst of the national tour of *Sister Act* and with *End of the Rainbow*, you are returning to the Great Lakes Region where you live. With that in mind, after your years on the stages of Chicago and your upcoming Milwaukee Rep run**



PHOTO: COURTESY

**Actor/singer Hollis Resnik portrays the legendary Judy Garland in The Milwaukee Rep's *End of the Rainbow*.**

**in *End of the Rainbow*, do you think there is anything that sets audiences in this area apart?**

No, I can't say that I do. I think that everybody that comes to the theater — 80 percent of them — really enjoy it. They do. They leave the theater, whether they're thinking about something artistically or intellectually or just enjoying the comedy and the music, then we have done our job. There are certain groups of people, certain demographics of people, who prefer certain kinds of theater. But in terms of *Sister Act*, it's a huge hit. Everybody's up on their feet. They love it. But not all of them want to see *Streetcar* (laughs). I, however, want to do everything. I'm very lucky.

**Like Judy Garland, you have a large and devoted gay following.**

They're such a supportive and wonderful demographic to the theater. It's amazing. I've done many interviews and benefits and things like that for the gay community. They are hugely supportive of the arts. For that, I am eternally grateful.



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# For your Oscar consideration

Reviews of likely contenders now on Wisconsin screens



PHOTO: COURTESY  
Amy Adams, Bradley Cooper, Jeremy Renner, Christian Bale and Jennifer Lawrence in *American Hustle*.

The Associated Press

## 'AMERICAN HUSTLE' CHRONICLES CORRUPTION WITH STYLE AND HUMOR

Exploring deeply conflicted characters who are on a mission to reconceive their unsatisfying circumstances is director David O. Russell's sweet spot. From his raw 1996 film *Flirting with Disaster* to last year's acclaimed *Silver Linings Playbook*, he effectively unravels the disarray.

The 1970s-set con artist tale *American Hustle* is Russell's most audacious, entertaining jaunt yet.

Russell co-wrote the script, which loosely chronicles the Abscam scandal — an FBI investigation into the bribery of government officials that riddled New York in the late 1970s and early 1980s. The script heightens the ludicrous true-crime thread to an outrageously savage, comical and rapid degree. The result is a sleek revival of the 1970s, complete with oversized glasses, plaid suit jackets, plunging come-hither necklines, all set to a rapturous soundtrack.

Just about all of his characters are painstakingly obsessed with getting ahead. As a result, they cast morality and logic to the side at the expense of love, stability and a clean criminal record.

Some of the names from the real operation have been changed here, as Irving Rosenfeld, played by Christian Bale, is based on actual con artist Mel Weinberg, who was forced to conspire with the FBI to evade doing time.

Sacrificing his usual sex appeal, Bale packed on 40 pounds and hid a fake balding head with a hairpiece and a comb-over for this role. Still, his Irving charms the smart and sassy former stripper Sydney Prosser (a memorably bold Amy Adams) at a winter indoor-pool party by identifying their mutual love for Duke Ellington. Sydney, who is tired of slumming, pitches in on Irving's crooking and assumes the perfect British blue blood persona for luring clientele into the loan scam. Before long, the two, who take turns narrating the story, fall madly in love.

But we soon find out Irving is married



and stashes his lady Roselyn and her son on Long Island. His sultry and blunt companion, fiercely pronounced by Jennifer Lawrence, ensures she's far from forgotten as she threatens to unmask Irving's scheming if he utters the word "divorce." The 23-year-old actress is the most irresistible part of this film, as she shifts between fiery and needy in an instant.

As Irving and Sydney's plotting gains steam, they attract the interest of FBI agent Richie DiMaso (Bradley Cooper), who is thirsty for recognition and threatens to bust the couple unless they assist with his plan to nail politicians. But Richie, who lives with his mother and packs his head with rollers for that sexy curly look, falls victim to Sydney's deceitful advances. He isn't as clever as he thinks he is.

However, with themes of duality and skepticism running throughout, Sydney's

attraction toward Richie (who Cooper cleverly punches up in each scene), inevitably becomes real.

When the scheme to take down questionable pompadour-donning New Jersey mayor Carmine Polito (Jeremy Renner) goes wrong, things begin to unravel.

The film may lack grit but the stellar cast adds to its allure, helping to round out this dynamic account where reinvention offers the means to endure.

## 'AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY' BLISTERS WITH FAMILY DYSFUNCTION

It's unlikely that any family dinner of yours will equal the rollicking, vicious one at the heart of *August: Osage County*, the blistering film adaptation of the Pulitzer-winning Tracy Letts play starring Meryl Streep and Julia Roberts.

The most biting insults come from the mouth of the one and only Streep, who holds absolutely nothing back in a performance that could be called showy except that's it's so compelling and deeply faithful to the script. As Violet Weston, the 65-year-old matriarch of an Oklahoma clan, she serves up one of the most spectacularly damaged characters in memory. And as written by the hugely talented Letts, who has both playwrighting and acting Tonys to go with his Pulitzer, she's someone you'll want to meet — if only once.

*August: Osage County*, directed by John Wells, does not work best as a movie, even with a screenplay by Letts himself. Those who saw it onstage in Chicago or on Broadway will likely recall a nearly perfect theatrical experience, one that left them drained but grateful after three hours.

Oscar next page

Oscar from prior page

But the material feels less naturally suited to film, and a brief final scene feels tacked on for cinematic purposes. But those are not fatal flaws.

Virtually all the action takes place in a crumbling home in the heart of the Oklahoma plains, baking in the August heat. It's the home of Violet and her husband Beverly, a 69-year-old poet and raging alcoholic. "My wife takes pills and I drink," he says. "That's the bargain we've struck."

And Violet does some serious pill-taking. As a result, the regal Streep is wrinkled and pale, with a craggy fuzz of gray hair peeking out of a dark wig, the consequence of chemotherapy for mouth cancer. She has stains on her baggy sweater and can't keep her balance. Tufts of smoke from her cigarettes linger in the stifling air, because she doesn't believe in air conditioning. Plastic shades are taped shut, blocking out natural light.

The extended family is summoned home when Beverly mysteriously disappears. All are forced to sit together, talk together, eat together, and of course face some serious family truths.

Margo Martindale is absolutely pitch-perfect as Violet's sister Mattie Fae, at once boisterous, flighty, warm, and witheringly insensitive to her awkward adult son, Charlie (Benedict Cumberbatch). Or, as Mom calls him, "Little Charlie," which should tell you a lot.

Also wonderful is Chris Cooper as Mattie Fae's long-suffering husband, and Julianne Nicholson as the lonely and misunderstood Ivy, one of Violet's daughters. The top-flight cast also includes Sam Shepard, Juliette Lewis, Ewan McGregor, Abigail Breslin and Dermot Mulroney.

Much depends, though, on the dynamic between Violet and daughter Barbara (Roberts), who's in the throes of a disintegrating marriage. This is one of the meatiest roles Roberts has had in a long time, and she handles it with an admirable lack of vanity. Gone is that high-wattage Roberts smile.

Barbara is weary, bitter and shrewish.

Watch her in that dinner scene, trying to dodge her mother's verbal missiles, until she no longer can. Come to think of it, watch absolutely everyone in that scene.

And then plan your own family dinner, secure in the knowledge that it could never, ever be this bad.

### 'INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS' FINDS LAUGHS AMID UTTER BLEAKNESS

In the first 10 minutes of *Inside Llewyn Davis*, an unidentified stranger knocks the titular character to his knees in an alley behind a cafe in New York's Greenwich Village. The genesis of this animosity is left unanswered until the final moments of the Coen brothers' latest dark comedy, leaving us to wonder why anyone would beat up a folk singer.

The scene is the perfect setup for this bleak and witty tale of a striving musician, set in the beatnik scene of the late 1950s and early 1960s. Helmed by longtime Coen collaborator T Bone Burnett, the tunes in this film — which are performed live — provide bare morbid undertones that correspond with the foremost concepts of the story: poverty, abortion, disappointment and death.

The guitar-strumming Llewyn Davis is played to grungy, dark and handsome perfection by the stylish and calm Juilliard-trained Oscar Isaac. This marks the first time the Miami-bred, Guatemalan-born 33-year-old has anchored a feature, and he carries it off with infectious grace and grit. When he sings "Hang Me, Oh Hang Me" in the initial moments of the film, we're both seduced and heartbroken.

But for his character, a deep tune isn't enough to win over an audience. He is struggling to make it as a solo artist after his bandmate committed suicide, and his dismal hymns fail to propel him out of dire straits. Unable to afford his own place, he crashes on the couches of friends around town. Yet he's determined to keep his guitar



PHOTO: COURTESY

Oscar Isaac plays folk singer Llewyn Davis in the Coen brothers' latest release.

close by and not sell out.

It seems we'll have no problem feeling sorry for Llewyn. But the fact he's an egotistical jackass makes it impossible to feel solidly empathetic toward him. His tenacity is admirable, though painstakingly impractical, which his married lover Jean, played by Carey Mulligan, never fails to point out. The actress, who also played Isaac's love interest in *Drive*, is deliciously abrasive in this role as Llewyn's best friend's wife, who just

might be carrying Llewyn's baby.

Jean is disgusted with Llewyn's casual nature and lack of desire for the stable suburban lifestyle, yet she's attracted to his rough edges. Their back-and-forth dustups speed up the film's otherwise drowsy pace and offer the most intriguing and hilarious exchanges.

Justin Timberlake, as Jean's bearded musician husband Jim, has good comedic timing. He's convincingly quirky and naive, especially when he attempts to record a loony track about President John F. Kennedy with a straight face. And *Girls* star Adam Driver, as the cowboy hat-wearing folk singer Al Cody, is a riot when adding absurd sound effects to Jim's soon-to-be hit.

Luck never seems to be on Llewyn's side. When he hitches a ride to Chicago for a last-chance meeting with stoic music manager Bud Grossman (portrayed by the ever-magnetic F. Murray Abraham), he is told his music isn't sellable. His traveling companions — bizarre Southern jazz musician Roland Turner, played with raw perfection by Coen regular John Goodman, and the aloof leather coat-wearing stud Johnny Five (a quiet, captivating Garrett Hedlund) — turn out to be a headache when one almost overdoses on drugs and another is arrested.

The film is a heavy downer, and its consistent gray hue enhances the bleakness. But the Coen brothers never fail to weave in bits of saucy irony, giving way for comical moments that bring everything full-circle.

Now back to that alley beat-down: Despite what Llewyn goes through, it becomes clear he deserved it.

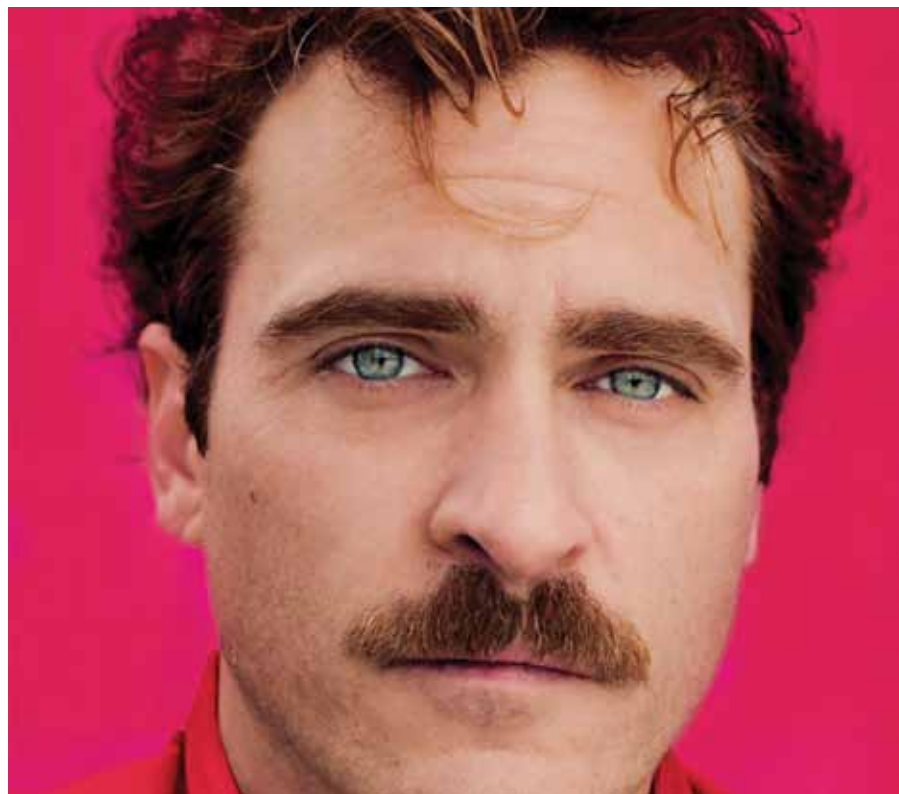


PHOTO: COURTESY

Meryl Streep and Juliette Lewis star in *August: Osage County*.

Oscar next page

Oscar from page 19



PHOTOS: COURTESY

Joaquin Phoenix in *Her*.

### VIRTUAL AFFAIR LIES AT THE HEART OF 'HER'

How essential are physical and emotional connections when falling in love? What would you miss — looking into someone's eyes, caressing them? In *Her*, Spike Jonze's futuristic exploration of a man's relationship with his computer, the filmmaker surveys human disjunction.

Joaquin Phoenix is Theodore, a loner struggling to cope with his unwanted divorce from neuroscientist Catherine (a sullen Rooney Mara). Theodore has become guarded, but his work requires an outpouring of emotions as he pens tender, personal letters for others at beautifulhandwritten-letters.com.

After seeing an ad for an artificial intelligence operating system, Theodore purchases one and finds his new OS is voiced by a woman with a sultry, whiskey-stained tone named Samantha (a witty and relaxed Scarlett Johansson, who is never seen on-camera). Samantha is at Theodore's beck and call. Communicating by way of an earpiece and a small hand-held device, she keeps him on schedule and encourages him to get back out there and go on a blind date. His date (Olivia Wilde) critiques his kissing ability and scolds him for refusing to indulge in the idea of a relationship. "I'm not in a place where I can commit right now" becomes one of Theodore's signature lines.

But eventually Theodore and Samantha, who is eager to please and has the ability to grow through her experiences, fall for each other. Jonze effectively manages to capture real intimacy as the couple greet each other in the morning and say goodnight. Theodore takes Samantha on a double date with his co-worker Paul (played by the ever-hilarious Chris Pratt), and Samantha composes piano

melodies to heighten their experiences.

Jonze has become known for creating bewildering worlds, from his work on the maniacal Oscar-nominated *Being John Malkovich*, his layered *Adaptation* and the heart-rending *Where the Wild Things Are*. He's also crafted arresting videos for inventive artists like Bjork and Kanye West, as well as a collection of short films, commercials and documentaries. *Her* is the first feature film he's penned solo and he's never been so ingenious.

There's a somber and supple tone throughout, as Theodore (faultlessly performed by a pensive and vulnerable Phoenix) surrenders to his desperation.

Visually Jonze has built a bold dreamland: a near-future Los Angeles awash with primary colors and warm pastels that tickle our childlike senses. Every fella dons high-waisted pants, a fashion choice emphasizing the sign of the times. And for the magnetic cityscapes, the movie was filmed in Los Angeles and China.

Amy Adams delivers a delicate portrayal of Theodore's lovelorn neighbor and best friend Amy. She supports his decision to date his OS, but thinks anybody who falls in love is a freak. "It's kind of a form of socially acceptable insanity," she proclaims.

But Theodore's ex-wife thinks his latest turn at love is crazy. "You always wanted to have a wife without actually dealing with anything real," she tells him. Thus, the lingering questions are brought to the forefront: To what lengths would we go to avoid certain truths? And could virtual affairs be the inevitable evolution of relationships in our tech-blooming society? The notion of unconventional romanticism is certainly enchanting, but even computer love can be fleeting.

# WINTER SERIES



MAYARA PINEIRO. PHOTO: JESSICA KAMINSKI

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# Theatre LILA debuts in Madison

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Great promise surrounds this month's debut of the newly formed Theatre LILA (pronounced "lee-lah") in Madison. In addition to its New York connections and local roots, the new group has chosen a timely opening production that features one of Milwaukee's most popular actors.

The company, which takes its name from the Sanskrit word for "a sense of play," presents Marti Gobel in *No Child*, Nilaja Sun's 2006 one-woman play.

"This play is one I have been attracted to for years," Gobel says. "Jessica (Lanius, who directs the production) and I have been trying to find a way to work together on this for a long time. When it became possible, we were thrilled."

The subject matter of *No Child* makes it the perfect opening salvo for the new company, Lanius says. Former educator Sun, who spent eight years teaching in some of New York City's toughest schools, wrote the semi-autobiographical narrative as a one-woman show for herself.

"*No Child* is a play about one teacher's experience with a challenging group of at-risk high school students that illuminates some of the problems many schools, teachers and students face in this country and in this city," Lanius says. "Marti is an incredibly talented performer, an authentic and bold actor who makes strong choices, and I knew she would be a great choice to take on *No Child*."

In the play, the teacher's methodology to reach her students involves leading them in a production of *Our Country's Good*, Timberlake Wertenbaker's 1990 play about a real-life lieutenant who led a group of Australian convicts in a production of George Farquhar's 1706 Restoration comedy *The Recruiting Officer*. In both cases, education-through-theater become the driving force leading to education and understanding.

"I think there are two major themes to the play," Gobel says. "First, young minds need arts integration no matter where they live, and second, teaching is hard. We owe all teachers our respect and support because they are doing a phenomenal amount of work with our children for very little pay and sometimes no appreciation from the children they teach."

The play runs for four performances Jan. 9-11 in Promenade Hall at Madison's Overture Center for the Arts. It's the first of several productions the company plans to offer this season, Lanius says.

Gobel, raised by a single mother in San Diego who also was a teacher, understands the play's themes. In all, she

plays 17 different characters, including the school janitor, several teachers and many of the students.

The difficult work of preparing for a one-woman show — this will be Gobel's fourth — is worth the effort when the message is one that needs to be told.

"We must allow all children the opportunity to express themselves and be exposed to the arts, and for actors such as myself to have a place in the school system to share what they know about their discipline," Gobel says. "I'd like the audience to understand that theater and arts integration is extremely important for the survival of humanity."

Theatre LILA is the result of a collaboration that began in 2004 between Lanius, a native of Sauk City in northern Dane County, and Andy Arden Reese, an actor/director and friend of Lanius from graduate school at Rutgers University. Reese is teaching at New York University's experimental theater department while Lanius develops the company back home.

"I am leading the way here in Madison, and there is potential to still have a New York City wing to Theatre LILA in the future," says Lanius, who might look familiar from playing Midwestern moms in television commercials for Special K, V8, Claritin and other consumer products.

Theatre LILA plans to mix local actors with Equity performers "to create provocative choreographic theater that arouses an audience and stimulates awareness, compassion and change," Lanius says. Madison will remain the company's home base, but Lanius hopes to establish relationships with performing arts centers throughout Wisconsin to create projects that will include community outreach initiatives related to her productions' subject matter.

Along with *No Child*, for example, the company will host *No Story Left Behind* on Jan. 11. The free, 50-minute performance of school-centric stories is designed to introduce educators to Theatre LILA's work and its performance ethos, Lanius says.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Marti Gobel's latest one-woman show is *No Child*, at Madison's new Theatre LILA.

## ON STAGE

Theatre LILA's production of Nilaja Sun's *No Child* runs Jan. 9-11 in Promenade Hall at Madison's Overture Center for the Arts. For more information, visit [www.overturecenter.com/production/no-child](http://www.overturecenter.com/production/no-child).

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# Betty Who goes viral thanks to gay man's proposal at Home Depot

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Is there any place more romantic than the lumber aisle at a Salt Lake City Home Depot? Apparently, Spencer Stout didn't think so. He proposed to partner Dustin Reeser in the store's lumber section.

On Sept. 11, 2013, Stout lured Reeser to Home Depot, where the couple first met, on the pretense of picking out lighting for an upcoming party. There, Reeser was suddenly confronted by a flash mob of 30 friends dancing a choreographed number to music blasting over the store's loudspeakers. As the number progressed, family members from toddlers to grandparents danced in and seated themselves on several rows of folding chairs.

Finally, Stout danced into the scene dressed in a suit, dropped to one knee and, with ring in hand, popped the question. Reeser's response — a teary "yes" — came following the final notes to the song "Somebody Loves You" by Betty Who.

The video of Reeser's proposal went viral, attracting more than 11 million views to date. But exactly who, many viewers wondered, is Betty Who?

An Australian-born singer, the 22-year-old just might be the world's next pop diva queen. Wisconsin audiences will get the chance to determine her worthiness to wear that crown on Jan. 15, when she brings her dance-oriented, bubblegum sound to the Pabst Theatre Pub for a first-ever Milwaukee appearance and a low-priced \$8 show.

Born Jess Newham, Who began her musical career playing cello at an all-girls Catholic school in Sydney, Australia. She played well enough to be accepted into the cello program at the prestigious Interlochen (Michigan) music academy at age 15. She went on to spend three years at Boston's Berklee College of Music.

After that, everything changed, says Who.

"I always knew cello wasn't where I needed to be, but it took a lot of emotional development and growth so I could comfortably move away from the instrument," she says.

Who formed a band with fellow Berklee students Lauren Fuller on keyboard, Jemila Dunham on bass and Derek Schurbon on drums. The group released an EP titled *The Movement*, which put her on the same musical track as her heroes Katy Perry, Christine



PHOTO: YOUTUBE

**Spencer Stout proposes to Dustin Reeser following a flash mob dance in a Salt Lake City Home Depot. A YouTube video of the event went viral.**

Aguilera, Pink, Kelly Clarkson and Britney Spears. Who's favorite recording of all time is Spears' *Live in Las Vegas* from 2001.

Who says her unusual nom de stage has been around for a while and has nothing to do with Cindy Lou Who, the animated character from Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*.

"I made up my stage name when I was 17, but didn't assume it till a couple years later," she says. "(The name has) gotten great response by fans and, even more importantly, from my father, who loves it because he thinks it's sassy."

Who favors a retro 1980s sound. She says that era's sensibilities speak to her musi-

cally and thematically.

"The sound of my music came to me over years of hard work with my producer Peter Thomas," Who says. "He and I spent hours figuring out exactly how I wanted to sound and also what would exactly capture my personality in the music."

It was that sound and the lyrics to "Somebody Loves You" that drew Stout to the song for his proposal. "Spencer and Dustin are new friends of mine, and since the video went viral I have been able to have dinner with them," Who says. "I have found them to be two incredibly kind men who love

**WHO** next page

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**WHO** from prior page each other with all their heart. I'm so excited about their wedding plans and intend to be standing there in awe of true love."

Who has a growing following in the LGBT community, fueled in part by the proposal video. But the music itself, with its joyful buoyancy and heartfelt lyrics, also tends to be just the thing to get people moving.

"I once had a friend who (said) gays love to dance and they love to emote and your music lets them do both," Who says.

Following her appearance in Milwaukee on Jan. 15, Who plans to perform the next night at Schubas Tavern in Chicago, where she predicts "there will be lots of dancing, lots of emoting and lots of high kicks."

**ON STAGE**

Betty Who performs Jan. 15 at the Pabst Theater Pub. Tickets are \$8. For more information, visit [www.pabsttheater.org](http://www.pabsttheater.org).

**ON THE WEB**

Watch "Spencer's Home Depot Marriage Proposal" at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4HpWQmEXrM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4HpWQmEXrM).



Betty Who

PHOTO: COURTESY

# DisH\*it Over!

## Soups for cold days

By Michael and Jean Muckian

Contributing writers

Few foods have the restorative power of soup. We're not talking about the canned heat-and-eat variety, many of which lean too heavily on sodium as a key ingredient. We prefer to make our own soups and, thanks to our participation in a community-supported agriculture program, we always enter the new year with a cornucopia of root vegetables just waiting for some broth.

This time of year we prefer hot, thick soups chock-full of ingredients (mostly vegetables) to fill our stomachs and warm our souls.

In creating a soup, professional cooks start with one or two specific ingredients and add contents they regard as complementary. Our choice is often determined by what's been sitting for the longest time in the vegetable bin. For instance, three or

four leftover turnips cry out for a batch of booyah, an extra chunky chicken-noodle-vegetable soup that's a local favorite.

Ready to stash the Campbell's and try making your own soup from scratch? Here are a couple of recipes to get you started.

### CHICKEN BOOYAH

In producing the traditional northeastern Wisconsin soup-stew, our Kewaunee County grandmothers started with a big stewing hen cut into pieces and set to boil. Everything — including the skin, bones, neck and vital organs — were included along with the meat.

The resulting soups were rich with layers of chicken fat, vegetables and homemade noodles. As much as we loved the chicken booyah, we've modified the recipe to be more heart-healthy and appealing.



### INGREDIENTS

2 lbs. chicken breasts, bone-in  
5 quarts water  
2 tablespoons kosher salt  
1 medium onion, chopped  
4 carrots, sliced  
3 stalks celery, diced  
(We also add turnips, parsnips, rutabagas or celeriac from our CSA)  
2 cups frozen corn  
5 oz. Harrington's Amish Style Hand-made Noodles

### DIRECTIONS

Remove skin from chicken breasts and place them in a large stockpot. Add 5 quarts of water and 2 tablespoons of kosher salt. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer for 2 hours.

Remove the chicken breasts from the stockpot and place on a plate to cool. Allow the stock to cool and remove any congealed fat. Strain the stock and return it to the pot. Heat to boiling, add the vegetables and noodles and simmer for 30-45 minutes. While the vegetables are cooking, remove the meat from the bones and cut it into small pieces. When the vegetables are soft, add the breast meat to the stock and simmer for an additional 15-20 minutes. Enjoy!

### SPICY BUTTERNUT SQUASH AND BLACK BEAN SOUP

We're fans of vegetarian soups and of anything using squash. Blogger Kaylen Denny's low-fat adaptation of the following Bon Appetit recipe for Azteca Squash Soup is a delicious, meat-free alternative.

### INGREDIENTS

1 large butternut squash (about 1.5 lbs.)  
Salt and fresh ground black pepper  
2 teaspoons olive oil  
2 cups finely chopped onion  
2 cups finely chopped celery  
6 cloves garlic, finely minced

6 cups vegetable stock or canned vegetable broth

2 teaspoons ground cumin  
1 15-oz. can of black beans  
1 medium red bell pepper, chopped small  
1/2 cup chopped cilantro (plus more to garnish soup if desired)  
1-2 tablespoons of jalapeño hot sauce  
Low-fat sour cream or plain Greek yogurt to garnish soup (if desired)  
Crushed tortilla chips to sprinkle in the soup (if desired)

### DIRECTIONS

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Cut the butternut squash in half and use a sharp spoon to scoop out seeds. Place the squash on a baking sheet, season with salt and pepper and roast until slightly brown and soft enough to pierce with a fork (about 50-60 minutes). Let the squash cool enough to handle.

While the squash is roasting, chop the onion and celery and mince the garlic. Heat the olive oil in a large nonstick soup pot and sauté the onions and celery until soft (about 7 minutes). Add minced garlic and cook 2-3 minutes more. Add 2 cups of vegetable broth and simmer the mixture for 10 minutes.

Once the squash has cooled, scrape the flesh from the skin and mix it with the other 4 cups of broth and the ground cumin. Add this mixture to the soup pot and simmer about 20 minutes; then use an immersion blender or food processor to purée the soup.

While the soup simmers, rinse the black beans with cold water. Chop the cilantro and red bell pepper. Add the beans, red bell pepper and cilantro to the soup mixture and simmer for 15-20 minutes more, adding a little more vegetable stock if desired. Stir in the jalapeño sauce to taste and serve the soup hot, garnished with low-fat sour cream or plain Greek yogurt and tortilla chips.

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# Brewing up some winter warmers

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

On cold winter nights, wine aficionados have luscious ports and sherries to sip by the fire. Spirits drinkers have elegant cognacs and smoky single-malt scotches.

But what is there for the beer drinker?

Thanks to the rapidly growing craft beer movement, there are quite a few beers suitable for the setting. Beers today are every bit as complex as wines and spirits, and the right beer can be every bit as good if not better as an after dinner sipper.

One of the best is **New Glarus Brewing Co.'s Winter Warmer** (\$9.49 per four-pack). It's part of brewmaster Dan Carey's Thumbprint series, a line of infrequently brewed specialty beers. A scotch ale by nature and a powerhouse by design, the malty Winter Warmer pours dark with an off-white frothy head. Its flavor palate is redolent of vanilla, toffee and spices. At 9.25 percent alcohol by volume, it has a kick. And aged for a year before this release, it also has great finesse. This beer is going fast, if not already gone. Snap it up if you see it.

Speaking of scotch ales, **Whole Hog Wee Heavy Scotch Ale** (\$6.99 per four-pack), from Stevens Point Brewery, is a bit lighter on all counts. It's 6.5 percent ABV and has a lighter malt body. But it still pours dark and rich, with notes of caramel and toffee on the palate. **Big Eddy Wee Heavy Scotch Ale** (\$10.99 per four-pack), brewed at Leinenkugel's Milwaukee brewery, draws greater presence from its cherrywood-smoked malt and greater strength from its 9.5 percent ABV. Both of these ales are suitable for fireside sipping.

Porters, too, can make fine winter warmers. Developed in 18th century London as a hearty drink for local workers, porters have come into their own for beer lovers who enjoy a robust brew with a fine dash of hops. One of the best comes from Great Lakes Brewing Co. in Cleveland. **The Edmund Fitzgerald Porter** (\$8.49 per six-pack), named for the freighter that sank in Lake Superior in 1975, has a complex, roasted palate and pours nearly opaque. A gold medal winner at the Great American Beer Festival, "Fitz" features a bold hops presence dressed with overtones of chocolate and coffee. The brew is 5.8 percent ABV.

Speaking of coffee flavors, Milwaukee's **Lakefront Brewery** brews up one of the best with **Fuel Café** (\$8.49 per six-pack), a blend of organic roasted malts blended with coffee from the city's own Fuel Café. The beer pours dark with a creamy head, its roasted malt and light hops providing an excellent canvas for robust coffee flavors. At 6.4 percent ABV, Fuel Café pairs well with desserts or simply as an after-dinner drink.

Want something with a little more kick? Lakefront can provide that, too, with **Bridge Burner Special Reserve Ale** (\$4.99 per 22-oz. "bomber"). The award-winning assertive amber ale combines a dominant hops profile of citrus and pine with a rich



caramel malt backbone. The components offset for a pleasing brew that at 8.5 percent ABV makes a formidable impression.

We recently discovered **Bell's Special Double Cream Stout** (\$9.99) and were delighted by the creamy smoothness that its 10-malt blend produced. At 6.1 percent ABV, the beer still creates a strong statement. But it's a subtle flavor, emphasizing essences of cocoa and just a touch of espresso on the palate. The Kalamazoo, Mich., brewery, best known for its **Two Hearted Ale APA**, Oberon wheat ale and a host of highly hopped specialty beers, has a quiet hit on its hands with this one.

Speaking of highly hopped brews, Wisconsin beer lovers are huge fans of Three

Floyds, the Munster, Ind., brewery. Its flagship brands include **Alpha King** (\$9.99 per six-pack). At 6.66 percent ABV and 66 international bittering units, this American pale ale blends Centennial, Cascade and Warrior hops for a beer that will knock the socks off any India pale ale or American pale ale lover.

For an even more pronounced hop presence with an additional kick in the alcohol department, look no further than **Satisfaction Jackin** (\$11.99 per six-pack) from Madison's Ale Asylum Brewery. Brewmaster Dean Coffee's double IPA weighs in at 8.25 percent ABV and more than 100 IBUs, resulting in a subtle powerhouse with a barleywine-style sweetness.

Speaking of Madison and imperial styles (read: higher alcohol), Capital Brewing is breaking new ground under the hand of relatively new brewmaster Brian Destree. **Eternal Flame** (\$6.99 for a 22-oz. bomber), now in its third iteration, is an imperial stout that combines six malts, roasted cocoa nibs and habañero peppers for a unique drinking experience. Weighing in at 8.8 percent ABV, the beer is surprisingly subtle despite its strength and content.

If any beer says nightcap, Eternal Flame is it. But it also offers beer lovers a bright start to a well-hopped new year.



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# 2013 IN REVIEW

**ACROSS**

- 1. Fancy tie
- 6. \*Amanda Bynes wore a blue one in court
- 9. A woman at Harvard after 1977
- 13. Star Wars attacker
- 14. Big time
- 15. Artillery burst
- 16. Rhino relative
- 17. Brit. fliers
- 18. E.T., e.g.
- 19. \*New prince of Cambridge
- 21. \*Leno's successor
- 23. And not
- 24. Dispatched
- 25. What hernias do
- 28. Yamaguchi's court
- 30. \*Football HOFer, \_\_\_\_\_ Jones, died
- 35. Web \_\_\_\_\_
- 37. Butcher's cut
- 39. Eye \_\_\_\_\_
- 40. Truth alternative
- 41. One affected by Hansen's disease
- 43. Deuce topper
- 44. Be in harmony
- 46. Urban legends, e.g.
- 47. Kitten's plaything
- 48. \*Kind of care
- 50. Rich soil
- 52. French "lake"
- 53. Place to moor a boat

- 55. Gourmet mushroom
- 57. Female peafowl
- 60. Jewish village, historical
- 63. Elks' hangout
- 64. Augment
- 66. Fear-inspiring
- 68. MPH
- 69. Bull's mate
- 70. Sheep-like
- 71. Hibernation stations
- 72. \*Kourtney and Kim
- 73. Cause aversion

**DOWN**

- 1. \*Jennifer Lawrence won for doing it
- 2. Smelting waste
- 3. Endure
- 4. \*Satire newspaper that stopped printing
- 5. Reign of \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. "The Way We \_\_\_\_"
- 7. Gershwin or Levin
- 8. Blooper
- 9. "\_\_\_\_ Me Maybe"
- 10. Assortment
- 11. Fifty-fifty
- 12. \*\_\_\_\_ Draper of *Mad Men* went to L.A.
- 15. Some chips are this, some are not
- 20. Done on a barbie
- 22. Plus
- 24. Biathlete's equipment

- 25. Jerusalem's ancient land
- 26. Cell phone bill item
- 27. It's firma
- 29. Season to be jolly
- 31. Bohemian
- 32. Reef constructor
- 33. Met's offering
- 34. \*Boy group, reunited
- 36. Movie \_\_\_\_\_
- 38. Agrippina's slayer
- 42. Boxer's stat
- 45. Engraved
- 49. Clod chopper
- 51. \*Cause of Chelyabinsk's disaster
- 54. Sweater style
- 56. Pet annoyance
- 57. \*The new one is from Argentina
- 58. *I Dream of Jeannie* star
- 59. Long, long time
- 60. Tailored
- 61. \*Artist Banksy took one to New York
- 62. Country dance formation
- 63. AKA acid
- 65. Ornamental carp
- 67. Unagi

**CROSSWORD**

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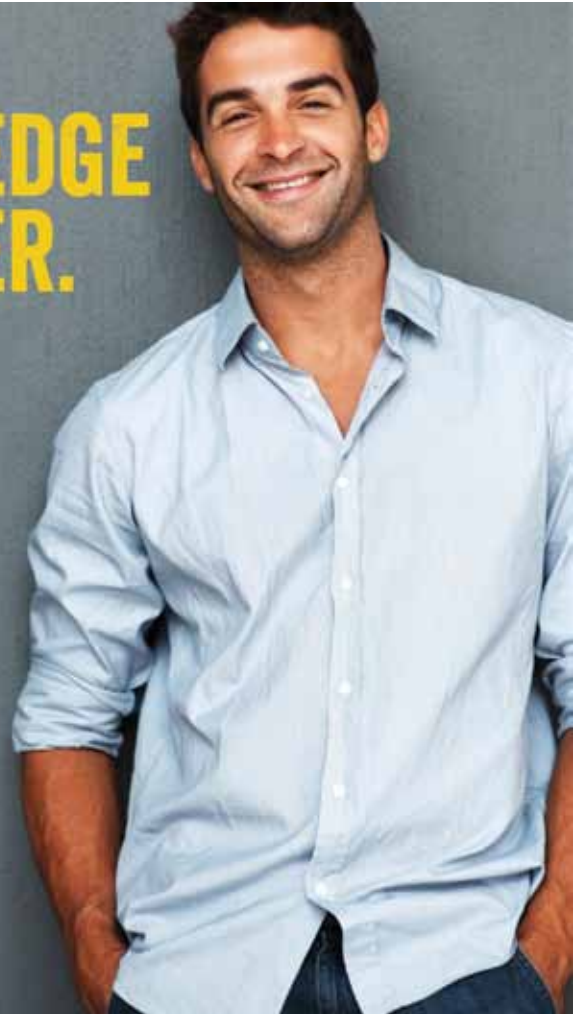
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# Out on the town Jan. 9–Jan. 24

## A curated calendar of upcoming events



### 'END OF THE RAINBOW'

Through Feb. 9

To call this portrait of Judy Garland's last days a big show is a bit of an understatement (see preview, page 16). The play, set in a London hotel during her final cabaret act, is a dazzling portrayal of the highs and lows that the aging diva and gay icon wrestled with behind the scenes. This is the first new production of the show since it ran on Broadway in 2012. Of course, no tribute to Judy Garland would be complete without the songs that made her famous, and *End of the Rainbow* prominently features them amid the backstage drama. At the Quadracci Powerhouse at the Milwaukee Rep, 108 E. Wells St. Call 414-224-9490 or visit [milwaukee.com](http://milwaukee.com) for tickets.

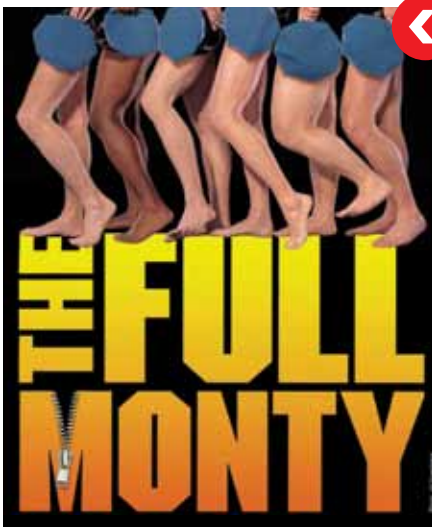
### MILTOWN KINGS 9 p.m., Sat., Jan. 11

The Miltown Kings' mission is to encourage self-expression and "the challenging of social and gender norms." The drag king/burlesque troop holds its annual half-and-half show, which is equally divided between troop members and guest performers. At Miramar Theatre, 2844 N. Oakland, Milwaukee. Come dressed as your favorite cartoon character and get \$1 off admission. Call 414-967-0302 or visit [miltownkings.com](http://miltownkings.com).

### 'WOMEN IN THE CHAMBER'

2 p.m., Thurs., Jan. 9; 7:30 p.m. Fri., Jan. 10 and Sat., Jan. 11

Present Music mounts a second installment of its annual chamber music series, this time focusing on the works of female composers in new, extra-intimate venues: the Woman's Club, 813 E. Kilbourn Ave., Milwaukee, on Thursday and Anodyne Coffee, 224 W. Bruce St., Milwaukee, on Friday and Saturday. In addition to the variety of international composers on the program, Present Music will also feature a spoken word performance by local artist Dasha Kelly and a string quartet by Kettle Moraine High School senior Judith Moy, created as part of Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra's Creation Project. There's also a post-concert show by Milwaukee native/Brooklyn transplant Melissa Czarnik that fuses funk, jazz, soul and hip hop. Tickets are \$20 to \$35. Call 414-271-0711 or go to [presentmusic.org](http://presentmusic.org).



### 'THE FULL MONTY'

7:30 p.m., Jan. 9 through Jan. 18

Greendale Community Theatre takes on this infamous musical comedy — adapted and Americanized by gay playwright Terrence McNally from the original 1997 British film. The plot surrounds a group of unemployed men in Buffalo who decide to eliminate their money problems by eliminating their clothes. Despite their average-Joe looks, they create a strip act that goes all the way. As the day of the show draws nearer, the six guys face obstacles and insecurities that force them into some affecting male bonding. At Greendale High School Auditorium, 6801 Southway, Greendale. Tickets are \$15. Phone 414-817-7600 or go to [greendaletheater.org](http://greendaletheater.org).



PHOTO © BRINKHOFF/MÖGENBURG

Christopher Mai, Derek Stratton, Rob Laqui operate one of the puppets featured in *War Horse*.

### 'WAR HORSE' Through Jan. 12

This Tony Award-winning play about a boy who embarks on an extraordinary journey to rescue his beloved horse in the midst of World War I gallops into Milwaukee for the first time this week. The story might already be familiar to moviegoers who caught the film adaptation in 2011. But the Broadway production has the selling point Spielberg left out: Elaborate, spellbinding puppetry that brings the production's horses to life. It's a perfect family show, and the Marcus Center, 929 N. Water St., has responded accordingly, offering a Family Night on Thurs., Jan. 9, when the purchase of one adult ticket comes with a free children's ticket (Use the code "FAMILY" if ordering online.) Tickets start at \$30 and can be purchased at [marcuscenter.org](http://marcuscenter.org) or 414-273-7206.

### 'TRAILER PARK PROPHECIES'

7:30 p.m. weekends Jan. 10 through Jan. 26

The fledgling theater company Splinter Group turns to founder Jim Farrell for the second show of its inaugural season. *Trailer Park Prophecies* is set in a southern Illinois town, where a local celebrity with psychic powers is launched to national fame when he uses his gifts to solve an open police case. At the Marian Center for Nonprofits, 3211 S. Lake Dr., Milwaukee. Tickets are \$15. Call [splinter-group.org](http://splinter-group.org).

### DELAFIELD RECYCLABLE ART SHOW 6-9 p.m., Fri., Jan. 10

Looking to add some new art to your home? Drop in at the Delafield Arts Center this weekend for its first-ever Recyclable Art Show. The Center will sell works donated by community members throughout the evening, all to the accompaniment of live music by Spring City Recorder Consort. Admission is free. At Delafield Arts Center, 527 Milwaukee St., Delafield. Call 262-303-4865 or go to [delafielddartscenter.org](http://delafielddartscenter.org) for additional info.

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# Out on the town Jan. 9–Jan. 24

## 'SISTER ACT'

Tue., Jan. 14, through Sun., Jan 19.

The touring Broadway musical *Sister Act* brings the famous clan of singing nuns to Madison's Overture Center for a six-day run. Based on the Whoopi Goldberg movie, the stage version follows the same plot: A nightclub singer who's put into protective custody in a convent after winding up on a mob boss' hit list turns the nuns into a formidable singing group. But the stage version includes new music by Alan Menken and Glenn Slater and changes the time period from the early '90s to the disco-heavy '70s. At the Overture Center for the Arts, 201 State St., Madison. Ticket prices range from \$39 to \$96. Call 608-258-4141 or visit [overturecenter.com](http://overturecenter.com).



PHOTO: COURTESY

Violinist Jennifer Kohl.



## BRAHMS' 'FIFTH'

8 p.m. Fri., Jan. 17, and Sat., Jan. 18

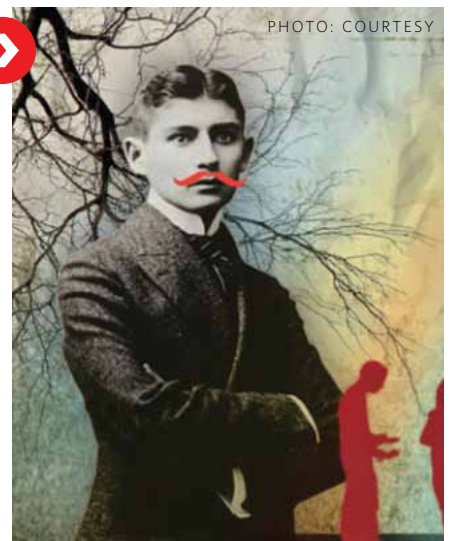
Okay, 19th-century composer Johannes Brahms technically published only four symphonies. But Arthur Schoenberg's 1937 orchestration of Brahms' Piano Quartet No. 1 is as grandiose as any of them. The Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra puts that pseudo-symphony on the program for its first Edo de Waart-helmed concert of 2014, alongside two works constructed by fellow members of Schoenberg's Second Viennese school of thought: Bach's *Ricercar* No. 2 by Anton Webern and Alban Berg's *Violin Concerto*. Violinist Jennifer Koh joins the MSO for this concert. At Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N. Water St., Milwaukee. Call 414-291-7605 or visit [mso.org](http://mso.org).

## 'THE UNDERSTUDY'

Opens Jan. 17, closes Feb. 9

Renaissance Theaterworks goes backstage with the group's latest, a comedy about a Broadway cast that gets tripped up with interpersonal conflicts in their efforts to stage a newly discovered Kafka work. The show largely pivots around three dueling characters: Roxanne, the stage manager in charge of the understudy rehearsal; Harry, an actor and her ex-fiance; and Jake, a Hollywood star looking to segue onto the live stage. Malory Metoxen directs the Theresa Rebeck-penned play. At the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway, Milwaukee. Tickets are \$39.50. Call 414-291-7800 or visit [r-t-w.com](http://r-t-w.com).

PHOTO: COURTESY



## GALLERY NIGHT AND DAY

Fri., Jan 17, and Sat., Jan. 18

Milwaukee's quarterly gallery event returns for a chilly winter installment. More than 40 venues will open their doors for new and continuing exhibitions, including a series of oil paintings by leading Peruvian artist Ernesto Gutierrez at David Barnett Gallery, 1024 E. State St., new glass sculptures by Jeremy Popelka at Tory Folliard Gallery, 233 N. Milwaukee St., and exhibitions by Pfister artist-in-residence finalists at Gallerie M, 139 E. Kilbourn Ave. In conjunction with January Gallery Night and Day, enjoy the Third Ward's annual ice-sculpting exhibition. It begins at 10 a.m. in Catalano Square, and the creations remain on display through the weekend. The weather appears all-too-eager to cooperate. All galleries offer free admission on both Friday night and Saturday. For more information, visit [historichirdward.org](http://historichirdward.org).



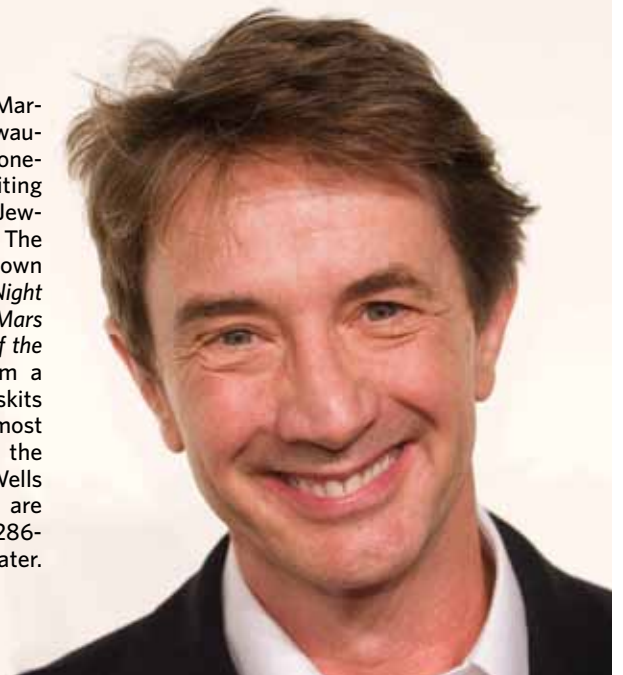
PHOTO: THIRD WARD ASSOCIATION

David Andrews, the winner of last year's Third Ward ice-sculpting exhibition.

## MARTIN SHORT

7 p.m. Sun., Jan. 18

Actor and comedian Martin Short travels to Milwaukee's Pabst Theater for a one-night-only show benefiting the MACC Fund and the Jewish Community Center. The comedian and actor, known for his work on *Saturday Night Live* and such films as *Mars Attacks!* and the *Father of the Bride* series, will perform a variety of impressions, skits and recreations of his most famous characters. At the Pabst Theater, 144 E. Wells St., Milwaukee. Tickets are \$70 or \$95. Call 414-286-3663 or visit [pabsttheater.org](http://pabsttheater.org).



# A curated calendar of upcoming events



## PABLOVE BENEFIT CONCERT 2014 6:30 p.m., Sat., Jan. 18

The Pablove charity, dedicated to supporting children with cancer through research funding and quality of life improvement, stages its annual benefit show in Milwaukee. This year's show features three reuniting local punk acts — Alligator Gun, the Benjamins and Subside — along with sister duo Vic and Gab, and Chris Porterfield of Field Report. At Turner Hall Ballroom, 1034 N. Fourth St., Milwaukee. Tickets are \$15, \$10 for kids 12 and under, and \$20 for VIP seating. Call 414-286-3663 or visit [pabsttheater.org](http://pabsttheater.org).



PHOTO: CARFSSUMMER2012

**Mark Rothko's No. 9 Dark over Light Earth, 1954, oil on canvas.**

## 'RED' Opens Jan. 16, closes Feb. 2

You know what a Mark Rothko painting looks like, even if you've never seen one. The abstract artist became famous in the mid-20th century for monumental canvases covered in rectangular swaths of vivid color. *Red* pictures him in 1958, completing one of the largest commissions in the history of modern art — a series of murals for the Four Seasons restaurant in New York City. But don't come expecting a man confidently at the height of his career. Writer John Logan throws in a complication by the name of Ken, Rothko's assistant, whose answers to a seemingly simple question — "What do you see?" — lead to a probing inquiry of artistic integrity. Laura Gordon directs James DeVita (Rothko) and Nate Burger (Ken) in this Forward Theater production. At the Overture Center for the Arts, 201 State St., Madison. Tickets are \$20-\$40. Call 608-258-4141 or go to [forwardtheater.com](http://forwardtheater.com).



PHOTO: COURTESY

## DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION Sun., Jan. 19

The city of Milwaukee has celebrated the life of Dr. King for 30 consecutive years, longer than any city except Atlanta. The tradition shows no signs of abating. This year's celebration again focuses on local youths who are keeping King's legacy alive through an art, speech and writing scholarship contest. The event also features performances by a variety of cultural groups in the city as well as presentations by Dr. Joan M. Prince, vice-chancellor of UWM, and 1994-95 scholarship winner Milele A. Coggs. At the Marcus Center, 929 N. Water St. Admission is free. Go to [marcuscenter.org](http://marcuscenter.org).



PHOTO: COURTESY

## BETTY WHO 7 p.m., Wed., Jan. 15 (Milwaukee); 8 p.m., Fri., Jan. 17 (Madison)

In September 2013, Betty Who joined the list of artists whose songs have served as the perfect soundtrack for viral video hits (see story, page 22). The suddenly famous singer is passing through Wisconsin on her Getaway Tour, making her first-ever stop in Milwaukee on Jan. 15 at the Pabst Theatre Pub, 144 E. Wells St. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 on performance day. Call 414-286-3663 or visit [pabsttheater.org](http://pabsttheater.org). Who appears in Madison on Jan. 17 at The Frequency, 121 W. Main St. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 on Jan. 17. Order online at [madisonfrequency.com](http://madisonfrequency.com).

# Out on the town Jan. 9–Jan. 24

## A curated calendar of upcoming events

**LIAM FORD BAND** 6:30 p.m.,  
Thurs., Jan. 16 and 8:30 p.m., Jan. 25



Winner of two Wisconsin Area Music Industry Awards, Milwaukee's Liam Ford Band is well versed in the musical language of rockabilly and Americana. So who better to pay homage to the late country music legend and eternal "Man in Black," Johnny Cash? Promising an evening of Cash's greatest hits and more, Liam Ford Band performs at The Domes at Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, 524 S. Layton in Milwaukee on Jan. 16. Call 414-649-9830. You can also catch the band at 8:30 p.m., Jan. 25, at AJ's Live, N88W16521 Main in Menomonee Falls.



**'ALMOST, MAINE'** Friday, Jan. 17  
through Sun., Feb. 2

Racine Theatre Guild has nights of mid-winter love on the brain with its production of *Almost, Maine*. The collection of vignettes observes inhabitants of a small, isolated town fall in and out of love over the course of a Friday evening. At Racine Theatre Guild, 2519 Northwestern Ave., Racine. Tickets are \$13-\$17, with reduced student and senior prices. Call 262-633-4218 or go to [racinetheatreguild.org](http://racinetheatreguild.org).

**CALIFONE** 8 p.m., Thurs., Jan. 23

It's nearly impossible not to compare Califone, a band with Chicago roots and an experimental alt-country sound, with Chicago's Wilco. But Califone holds its own on *Stitches*. And how could you not love a band that makes reference to the late Karen Black (in the desert torch tune "Movie Music Kills a Kiss") and admits to having an orgasm in their pants ("Moses")? Califone performs at 8 p.m. at High Noon Saloon, 701A E. Washington in Madison. Call 608-268-1122.

**MADFEST JUGGLING FESTIVAL** Jan. 17-19



It makes sense that people who can keep bowling pins and miscellaneous other objects in motion for long periods of time would be able to keep an annual festival going for almost 50 years. The Madison Area Jugglers mounts the 47th annual Madfest, a weekend of open, free-to-the-public juggling at the Alliant Energy Center. If you're interested in a more structured (if just as up-in-the-air) performance, check out the Juggling Extravaganza, a variety show that includes comedy and music as well as object manipulation, at 7 p.m., Sat., Jan. 19, night, or the group's *Renegade* show, a more experimental, adult-targeted show following the Extravaganza at 9 p.m. at the Barrymore Theater, 2090 Atwood Ave., Madison. Tickets for the Extravaganza are \$20, \$15 in advance. Call 608-241-8633 or go to [barrymorelive.com](http://barrymorelive.com) to order.



**HERMAN'S HERMITS** Thurs., Jan. 23, and Fri., Jan. 24

Here's an informal poll. How many gay men of a certain age gazed dreamily in their youth at pictures of Herman's Hermits in the pages of *Tiger Beat* magazine? It's all right to admit it, you're among friends. An essential part of the original British invasion, Herman's Hermits were known for popular radio and chart-topping hits such as "There's a Kind of Hush," "Mrs. Brown You've Got a Lovely Daughter," "I'm Into Something Good" and "I'm Henry VIII, I Am." Original Herman's Hermits leader Peter Noone brings the band to The Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi Bingo Casino, 1721 W. Canal in Milwaukee. Call 414-847-7922.



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