



Beer here!

A guide to
the state's
craft-brewing
festivals

page 12



PHOTO: MAX SIKER

Lakefront Brewery president Russ Klisch. The Milwaukee-based company is Wisconsin's second-largest craft brewer.



4 Jailed for being pregnant

Authorities are rounding up pregnant women suspected of drug abuse and throwing them in jail.



8 Seeding the future

Wisconsin activists are fighting the corporate takeover of common seeds and trying to ensure they remain in the public domain.



23 Backstage at the Derby

A fascinating museum, insightful tours and a very dirty party offer different ways to experience Churchill Downs.



28 Nature's powerful berries

Among nature's most flavorful gifts, summer berries pack a surprising nutritional wallop.

News with a twist



FOR MALES ONLY

Super buff guys in spandex briefs rolling around together on the floor, moaning and groaning. Sound kind of gay? Nonetheless, pro wrestlers with the WWE recently pressed their sweaty near-naked bodies together for cheering male crowds in the ultra homophobic nation of Saudi Arabia. The WWE is wildly popular in the region. But women, beware. Ticketmaster warned on its website that WWE matches in Saudi Arabia are "for males only."

FEELING HANGRY?

Researchers with Ohio State University studied 107 married couples for three weeks, measuring blood sugar and asking the test

subjects to stick pins in "voodoo dolls" to indicate levels of aggressive feelings toward their significant others. The researchers found people with lower blood sugar were more prone to piercing their dolls. So, snack to avoid snapping or sniping.

BIG CATCH

Bjørn Frilund, 64, a master baiter in the village of Eidsbygda, Norway, recently found a big pink dildo in a cod he netted. He says the fish probably thought the dildo was a small octopus and ate it.

2ND CITY CHUCKLE

Did you hear the one about Milwaukee ranking 34th out of 50 on the list of America's funniest cities from the Humor Research Lab at the University of Colorado-Boulder? Coming in at No. 33 was Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Nashville, Tennessee, was at No. 35. Meanwhile, Chicago took first place in the survey, which was based on visits



WIGWAG

to comedy websites, comics' ratings of comedy club audiences, native-born famous comedians, concentrations of funny tweeters, frequency of humor-related Web searches and comedy clubs per square mile.

ALBREWQUERQUE?

We've heard all about the Blue Sky meth, but who knew about the chili pepper beer? Livability.com, which exists to rank places, says Albuquerque, New Mexico, is the best "unexpected beer city" in the United States. Don't despair Madison and Milwaukee — that's not the same as "best beer city."

MIXED FEELINGS

The former KKK grand dragon accused of gunning down and killing three people outside a Jewish community center and a retirement community in Kansas City, Kansas, was once

busted for performing a sex act with a black transvestite prostitute in the back seat of a car. Frazier Glenn Cross, 73, was arrested over the incident in Raleigh, North Carolina, in the 1980s, according to WTVD-TV. The station uncovered reports of the incident while looking into Cross' background in connection with the anti-Semitic killings.

TEACHING PREJUDICE

A teacher in Ohio's Fairfield School District got an early but unwanted start to his summer. The school district fired Gil Voigt after he told a black high school student that the nation didn't need another black commander in chief. Voigt, who's had a history of problematic remarks to students, claims he was misquoted and that what he told the kid was that the nation can't afford another president like Barack Obama, "whether he's black or white." What WiGWAG knows is the nation doesn't need any more teachers like Voigt.

By Lisa Neff & Louis Weisberg

THEATER PRIDE

For the first time in its 130 years, Playbill will alter its iconic black-and-yellow cover in honor of Pride. The logo will become rainbow-hued at all Broadway and off-Broadway theaters in June.

SIT, BEG, CONVICT?

Cumberland County, New Jersey, recently summoned IV Griner to jury duty. Problem is, the prospective juror is 5 years old and a German shepherd. Officials think the computer was attempting to summon the dog's owner, Barrett Griner IV.

HOLLYWOOD HARASSMENT

Actress Kim Novak says she was crushed by the bullying that took place at the Academy Awards this spring. In a letter condemning remarks by Donald Trump and others about her appearance, the 81-year-old Novak, who served as an Oscar presenter with Matthew McConaughey, said, "For days, I didn't leave the


house, and it got to me like it gets kids and teenagers" who are attacked. Trump had tweeted that Novak should "sue her plastic surgeon." Novak also took issue with Ellen DeGeneres' joke — "Good job, sir" — directed at Liza Minnelli.

PERSONAL WASTE WATER

A Culpepper, Virginia, man was sentenced to one year in jail and ordered to pay \$5,000 in damages after admitting he spiked his colleague's coffee at a wastewater treatment plant with his urine. The co-worker never drank the coffee, because it smelled like urine. The contents of his personal coffee pot tested positive for urine and feces.

NO PROM DATE


A Pennsylvania high school student who asked Miss America to prom during a question and answer session at his school not only got turned down but also received three days of in-school suspension.



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- JULY 21 • RIVERSIDE
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NATALIE MERCHANT
- JULY 21 • PABST
LYLE LOVETT AND HIS LARGE BAND
- AUGUST 9 • TURNER
PHOX
- AUGUST 11 • TURNER
BORIS
- AUGUST 14 • RIVERSIDE
RODRIGO Y GABRIELA
- AUGUST 15 • PABST
ELVIS & ORBISON
- AUGUST 22 • TURNER
RING OF HONOR WRESTLING
- SEPTEMBER 8 • RIVERSIDE
YANNI
- OCTOBER 4 • TURNER
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- SEPTEMBER 11 • TURNER
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- SEPTEMBER 12 • RIVERSIDE
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THE BEST OF JETHRO TULL PERFORMED BY IAN ANDERSON
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Pregnant women shackled, jailed for alleged substance use

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

A pregnant woman tumbles down a flight of stairs and is arrested for attempted feticide.

A pregnant woman about to be released from prison is re-incarcerated when the judge learns she is pregnant and HIV-positive.

A pregnant woman informs health care workers that she previously used drugs but kicked her habit and is clean. She's handcuffed, shackled, taken to court and ordered into detention at a drug treatment facility.

All of these incidents happened.

The last one occurred in Wisconsin last summer, leading to the filing of a federal civil rights lawsuit in Milwaukee and helping to inspire two state legislators to offer a trio of bills aimed at protecting the rights of pregnant women.

In mid-March, Democratic state Reps. Chris Taylor and Terese Berceau of Madison introduced the Pregnancy Protection Package, which was not passed in the 2014 session but will be reintroduced next session.

In the headlines when Taylor and Berceau offered the bills was a battle in Texas, where hospital officials had refused to remove 33-year-old Marlise Muñoz from life support because

of her pregnancy, even though the woman had been declared brain dead and had previously indicated to her family that she did not want to be kept alive artificially.

One bill, authored by Berceau, would ensure pregnant women's advanced medical directives are respected.

"Pregnant women are not second-class citizens and deserve the same rights as everyone else," Berceau stated. "Major medical decisions, as outlined in advanced directives, are very personal decisions that should be left up to individuals and their families, not politicians."

A second measure, introduced as Assembly Joint Resolution 111, would affirm "that pregnant women be afforded all the rights of non-pregnant people."

And the third bill, written by Taylor, would ensure pregnant women who are alleged to have used drugs have the right to counsel before being detained.

This last measure is a response to the forced detention last summer of Alicia Beltran of Jackson. Beltran, seeking prenatal care, told a health-care provider that she had previously used drugs but was clean. Several days later, Beltran was handcuffed in her home, shackled and taken to a holding cell. She was then brought before a judge, where she found her fetus

had a court-ordered attorney but she had no counsel.

At the hearing, without testimony from any medical expert, Beltran was ordered to spend 78 days in a drug rehab facility, where, she maintains, she went without adequate health care or prenatal care.

The federal civil rights complaint is pending in the U.S. District Court in Milwaukee.

Beltran is represented by attorney Linda Vanden Heuvel, who has said locking up the woman was not in the interest of a future child and "most certainly tramples

'Criminalizing pregnancy outcomes scares women away from prenatal care and drug treatment.'

the rights of Ms. Beltran, a woman who was not in fact using any controlled substances at the time of her arrest."

The complaint challenges a 1997 Wisconsin law that "takes away from a pregnant woman virtually every right associated with constitutional personhood — from the most basic right to physical liberty to the right to refuse bad medical advice," stated Lynn Paltrow, executive director of the National Advocates for Pregnant



Women and a co-counsel in the case. "This kind of dangerous, authoritarian state action is exactly what happens when laws give police officers and other state actors the authority to treat fertilized eggs, embryos and fetuses as if they are already completely separate from pregnant women.

The complaint lists a series of violations, including the rights to:

- Physical liberty
- Due-process notice
- Privacy in medical decision-making
- Carry a pregnancy to term
- Abortion
- Privacy in medical and personal information
- Freedom from illegal searches and cruel and unusual punishment
- Equal treatment under the law.

Four states — Wisconsin, Minnesota, Oklahoma and South Dakota — have laws that explicitly permit detaining pregnant women alleged to have used alcohol or drugs, according to NAPW.

On April 29, Republican Gov. Bill Haslam made Tennessee the first state to enact a criminal law explicitly permitting the prosecution of women for their pregnancy outcomes.

"This law is bad medicine

for Tennessee families," said Cherisse Scott, CEO of SisterReach. "It was promoted by prosecutors against the recommendations of medical professionals, (it) permits arrest and incarceration of women who cannot guarantee that their newborn is in perfect health and (it) creates a separate and unequal law for women, allowing their arrest if they are pregnant and struggling with addiction."

Thousands had called on the governor to veto the legislation, which is in conflict with the more progressive safe harbor law that was enacted to lessen the threat of punishment and encourage pregnant women to seek treatment if needed.

The Tennessee measure is a new breed of law, but since 1973 and the Supreme Court ruling in *Roe v. Wade*, advocates for pregnant women have documented the use of other measures to arrest, detain and force medical procedures in hundreds of cases involving pregnant women.

On April 18, the Alabama Supreme Court upheld the conviction of Sara Hicks, who gave birth to a healthy baby who tested positive for cocaine in 2008. The court, in an 8-1 decision, affirmed its prior ruling that "child" in Alabama law includes fertilized eggs and that women can be arrested for using a controlled substance while pregnant.

The legislation used to prosecute Hicks, the chemical endangerment law, was

passed in 2006 and intended to deter people from bringing children to places where controlled substances are distributed or produced — like meth labs.

Since 2006, more than 100 women have been arrested.

Research shows is that policies that deter women from seeking prenatal care are contrary to the welfare of the mother and fetus and that incarceration or the threat of detention are ineffective in reducing drug or alcohol abuse.

There is a long list of medical and mental health organizations that oppose punishing and prosecuting pregnant women for alleged risky behavior. The list includes:

- The American Medical Association
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- American Public Health Association
- American Nurses Association
- American Society of Addiction Medicine
- March of Dimes
- American Psychiatric Association
- American Psychological Association
- National Perinatal Association
- Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs
- Center for the Future of Children.

PREGNANT next page

An Evening with Dr. Kortney Ziegler

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PREGNANT from prior page

Many of the organizations have opposed laws such as those in Wisconsin and Tennessee for more than two decades, arguing such measures not only infringe on women's rights but also scare women away from medical care, treat addiction as a moral failing and lead women who want to give birth to instead undergo abortion procedures.

"Criminalizing pregnancy outcomes scares women away from prenatal care and drug treatment," said Farah Diaz-Tello, a staff attorney with National Advocates for Women. "Women who cannot afford private treatment for their addiction and who fear

arrest and separation from children they already have feel as though abortion is the only way to keep their current families together."

Jennifer Roth was among those who campaigned against the Tennessee Pregnancy Criminalization Law. She is the president of All Our Lives, which she described as a "pro-woman, pro-life organization."

In a letter urging Haslam to veto the measure, Roth wrote, "We fear that the effect of this law will be to discourage vulnerable women from seeking care that would benefit themselves and their babies, and even to provide an incentive for abortion. That doesn't foster life."

Chick-fil-A wants to open in Madison

Chick-fil-A, the Bible Belt-based fast-food chain whose charitable wing funneled millions of dollars to organizations working to demonize gays and lesbians, is seeking approval from Madison's Urban Design Commission to open a restaurant in Madison's West Town Mall at 423 S. Gammon Road.

Chick-fil-A's red-bricked façades are a common sight in Southern states. But Racine is the only Wisconsin city where a Chick-fil-A currently operates.



The rapidly expanding company has its sights set on Wisconsin, however, with other projects scheduled in Brookfield at 12575 W. Capitol Ave., and in Greendale at an undisclosed location later this year. Those two Milwaukee suburbs are strongly conservative.

But Madison, the state's most liberal city, seems an odd choice for the controversial fast-food giant, which is famous for serving breasts of factory-farmed chickens on a bun and for remaining closed on Sundays so that its employees can attend church.

In 2012, LGBT people and their allies boycotted the chain and staged protests at several sites after chief operating officer Dan Cathy made remarks condemning same-sex couples. Opposition to the company made Cathy and Chick-fil-A iconic heroes to evangelical Christians who want to halt same-sex marriages and re-criminalize homosexuality.

But when Chicago and Boston denied permits for the privately held company to build restaurants in those cities, Cathy agreed to stop making official donations to hate groups and organizations with anti-gay missions. Such contributions from WinShape Foundation, the company's charitable arm, ended soon afterward.

But due to the nearly impossible task of tracing bundled contributions to political action committees, donations made by the Cathy family are shielded from public view.

So far, there has been no organized LGBT effort to stop Chick-fil-A's expansion plans in Wisconsin, including in Madison.

—Louis Weisberg

Milwaukee County adds gender identity to nondiscrimination ordinance

The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors voted on April 24 to amend its nondiscrimination ordinance to ban bias based on gender identity and gender expression.

The ordinance protects those who work for the county and also those who work for companies that do business with the county.

In a statement, Marina Dimitrijevic, chair of the county board, said, "Thank you to my colleagues on the county board for voting today to end discrimination and to update our non-

discrimination ordinances. Milwaukee County will join 17 states and more than 100 communities across America ... who have all passed similar fully inclusive non-discrimination protections."

"County Executive Chris Abele has been an excellent partner in moving our county towards equality and fairness. I thank him for his support of my legislation. This inclusive resolution will modernize Milwaukee County's existing policies and help protect against discrimination. The implementation of this type of change will enhance our competitiveness as Milwaukee County seeks to build a talented workforce."

She continued, "I am proud of the Milwaukee County Board for taking a stand against discrimination and ensuring that all residents have the same access to our resources, services, and employment opportunities.

Milwaukee County is the economic engine of our state. A fair and inclusive Milwaukee County strengthens our state."

The county's website said the update expands the nondiscrimination policy "to ensure equal opportunity to all persons from all segments of Milwaukee County in contracting, employment and promotional opportunity and equal access to public services."

The City of Milwaukee has similar protections for transgender people in its nondiscrimination ordinance, as do Madison and Dane County. The state, though it was the first to ban bias based on sexual orientation, does not protect transgender citizens in its nondiscrimination law. However, a recent poll found growing support for ensuring transgender civil rights throughout the state.

— L.N.

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Hulsey's gubernatorial bid sparks a lot of questions

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

Everyone has a lot to say about state Rep. Brett Hulsey, especially Hulsey himself.

But no one knows what to make of his unexpected entry into the Democratic gubernatorial race — or whether it will affect the race.

There's one thing about Hulsey, however, on which everyone agrees: He was a bright, energetic and effective environmentalist before he went off the rails a couple of years ago and made headlines for some rather bizarre antics. Reports of his erratic behavior were alarming enough to have sunk most politicians' careers.

In fact, it's widely believed that the Madison Democrat chose not to seek re-election in the 78th Assembly District because he realized all the negative publicity had destroyed any chance he had of retaining his seat.

Two members of the Madison Common Council — Lisa Subeck and Mark Clear — are battling it out for the Democratic nomination in the solidly blue district. Embarrassingly for Hulsey, Clear is his former campaign treasurer.

WHY?

If Hulsey was afraid to run for re-election to the Assembly, then what prompted him to run for governor? Several Democratic insiders interviewed for this story speculated that it's an act of retaliation against his party for marginalizing him. An aide to Assembly Speaker Robin Vos reportedly told WisPolitics that Hulsey's bitterness has taken him so far that he asked to join the Republican caucus after Democratic leadership blocked his efforts to offer amendments to the state budget. Hulsey denies that charge but has hinted he might run as an independent.

If Democrats have more or less censured Hulsey, it's because of the alarming behavior he's demonstrated. In 2012, he flipped a 9-year-old boy off a flotation device while swimming at a public lake on July 4. He then intimidated the boy by taking pictures of him.

Hulsey pleaded no contest after being

cited for disorderly conduct. His version of the story, however, was that he intervened to protect two little girls from the boy, who he said was splashing them. He claims that Madison Mayor Paul Soglin, a political enemy, engineered the whole incident to discredit him.

Hulsey has kept the story alive by refusing to stop talking about it, said John "Sly" Sylvester, the colorful, popular radio host on 93.7 WEKZ-FM. Hulsey first claimed that he was taking pictures of the sunset, not the child, prompting some skeptical Madisonians to check out whether it was possible to shoot a sunset picture from the lake in July. It isn't.

Hulsey also appeared on Sly's show and insisted that he'd deleted the pictures. But he later turned up at a Democratic meeting insisting that he had pictures from the incident that would prove his innocence.

Sly said Hulsey "was always kind of a minor irritant to people because he was so dogged and wanted to get the spotlight. But people didn't think he was crazy. And issue-wise he's not stupid."

Although Hulsey has provided some "pretty entertaining" moments for Sly's listeners, "I kind of laid off after a while," Sly said. "He said he's going to counseling. I don't know what the issue is. But I've got mental illness in my family, and I didn't want to push someone over the edge."

Some of Hulsey's fellow Assembly members have been so terrified by Hulsey's aggressive behavior they've asked not to be seated near him for safety reasons. An aide to Hulsey was reassigned after she told Capitol Police she feared for her life when he brought a box-cutter to his office, urged her to seek self-defense instruction and threatened to bring a gun to work.

Hulsey also came under fire for purchasing a red convertible with campaign funds.

Despite so many well-publicized incidents swirling around him, however, Hulsey was on the campaign trail soliciting signatures for his nominating petitions when WiG caught up with him by phone.

NO SAINT

"Like most people in Wisconsin I'm not

Observers say he was a bright, energetic and effective environmentalist before he went off the rails.

perfect," Hulsey said. "I'm running for governor, not saint."

Hulsey adroitly dodged further questions about his personal behavior and launched into a complaint about the way that the Democratic Party of Wisconsin has united around candidate Mary Burke. He accused Democratic leadership of making a decision that should have been left up to the Democratic voters.

But voters do, in fact, have two other candidates to choose from in the Democratic primary.

Hulsey is likely to attract a number of Republican crossover voters. Since Gov. Scott Walker faces no challengers, Republicans are reported to be drooling over a prospective dirty-tricks campaign to increase Hulsey's vote total and make Burke look weak.

Hulsey dismissed the notion that he's a spoiler.

"Listening to Mary Burke, I just realized that at bare minimum she needs some spring training," he said. "She's playing more like the Bucks than the Brewers."

"I have a get-Wisconsin-to-work plan. It's a real jobs plan, so I thought I'd put it out there and see what happens."

Hulsey's challenged Burke to debates in every one of the state's 72 counties, and he intends to have someone in a chicken suit show up at every Burke appearance to underscore her refusal.

"While Mary Burke is tirelessly meeting voters around Wisconsin and rolling out her plan to take back our state and bring back hope to the many people suffering due to Scott Walker's mismanagement, Brett

Hulsey's in his basement making a chicken suit," said Dane County Democratic Chair Mike Basford. "This stunt doesn't deserve the respect and attention that would be due to a serious candidacy. The bottom line is that there is only one serious candidate for governor, and my job will be to work with Democrats to elect her in November."

Burke spokesman Joe Zepecki refrained from commenting on Hulsey's candidacy. "Our focus remains squarely on Scott Walker," he said. "Mary Burke has a real plan to grow our economy, create jobs and strengthen the middle class and a game plan to beat Walker in the fall."

Hulsey's candidacy presents a dilemma not only for Democratic officials, but also for conservationists. Hulsey, a state leader on environmental issues, runs an energy and environmental consulting business called Better Environmental Solutions. He served for 17 years as an environmental educator and advocate for the national Sierra Club. That puts the club's Wisconsin chapter in an awkward position when it comes to issuing its endorsement in the race.

David Blouin, chair of the club's Four Lakes Group in Madison, said, "It's pretty early in our (endorsement) process, and we have a lot of factors to consider. Endorsements are reserved for the best, most qualified candidates for office, and we're still reviewing records."

"We have endorsed Brett in his Assembly races but a race for governor is clearly a much bigger post," Blouin added.

The Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters had already endorsed Burke before Hulsey announced his candidacy.

IMPLICATIONS

Dennis Dresang, professor emeritus of political science and public affairs at UW-Madison, expects Hulsey to have a "pretty negligible" effect on the Democratic primary.

"There is a frontrunner, so he's entering the race late," Dresang said. "Burke's really got the momentum in terms of visibility and the like. He doesn't have statewide name recognition."

HULSEY next page

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PHOTO: AP/WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL/JOHN HART

Wisconsin Rep. Brett Hulsey, D-Madison, makes his intentions to enter the state's gubernatorial race official as he confirms his candidacy papers under oath with an elections specialist with the Government Accountability Board in Madison on April 21.

HULSEY from prior page

Dresang and his wife belong to a bike club in which Hulsey is also a member. Having known and respected Hulsey in the past, Dresang said it's been uncomfortable to watch his unraveling.

"The disrespect he's generated for himself just gets enhanced by a quest for something that is really just beyond what is achievable," Dresang said.

"A large number of people who know him are speculating about his mental health," Dresang added. "How else do you explain this change from someone who was an effective advocate for environmental issues and is now, if anything, very counterproductive. He's just made himself a laughing stock. When you try to search for an explanation, I think illness does come right up there to the top."

Dresang said it's for this reason that he doesn't expect Republicans to try exploiting the situation with Hulsey.

"If they take somebody who's not really respected and perhaps really sick and use

(him) as a source for trying to attack Mary Burke, that comes off as an act of desperation," he said.

Like Burke's supporters, Scott Walker's don't know quite what to make of Hulsey's entry into the Democratic gubernatorial race. Colin Roth, a right-wing blogger, wrote that "conventional wisdom says Hulsey's last-minute campaign for governor will actually help Mary Burke. It may toughen her up, boost her name ID, and could even serve to make her positions seem more moderate to voters."

Roth added, however, that Hulsey's presence in the race could prove to be a two-edged sword for Burke. "This may all end up working out just fine for (her). Or it could make Burke look afraid, timid, and lacking in confidence," he told his readers.

"Hulsey said he wants to make the governor's race 'more interesting,'" Roth added. "That we are guaranteed. But take heart Democrats. This, after all, is what democracy looks like."



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Wisconsin leads initiative to keep seeds public

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

An online store opened in mid-April, in time for vegetable growers to get seeds to plant for a summer or fall harvest. What makes the store unique is that it is an outlet for the Open Source Seed Initiative, a campaign affiliated with UW-Madison and established in 2011 by plant breeders, farmers, sustainable food system advocates, educators and others concerned about the decreasing availability of non-patented seeds.

Many of the big crop plants — specifically field corn and soybeans — already are restricted through patents, licenses and other forms of intellectual property protection. So are an increasing number of vegetable, fruit and small grain seeds. Those patented seeds cannot be shared, saved or even replanted by growers in the next year.

The Center for Food Safety, a watchdog and advocacy group, says the No. 1 threat to seed biodiversity is this corporate takeover of seeds.

Seed development and distribution in the United States, until the last few decades, was largely under the purview of the public sector and augmented by hundreds of small seed-breeder businesses, which acted mainly as distributors of publicly developed seed varieties. Today 10 top companies control 65 percent of proprietary seed, according to the CFS.

And companies aggressively defend their property rights. Monsanto has sued farmers in 27 states and won more than \$24 million in 72 judgments from farmers, according to CFS.

"Many public breeders don't have the freedom to operate," said Jack Kloppenburg, the author of *First the Seed* and a UW-Madison professor involved in the OSSI.

The initiative distributed its first seed packets — 29 types of organic seeds are available — on April 17. The launch occurred on the International Day of Struggle in Defense of Peasants' and Farmers' Seeds, which was marked with a rally on the university campus, followed by a teach-in.

Participants in the events pledged to work to keep the seeds freely available to anyone who wants them.

"These vegetables are part of our common cultural heritage and our goal is to make sure these seeds remain in the public domain for people to use in the future," said professor Irwin Goldman, a plant breeder and UW-Madison horticulture professor involved in the effort.

Goldman, Kloppenburg and others in the OSSI took a cue from the open source software movement that provided alternatives to proprietary computer software. The seed initiative was created to ensure that the genes in at least some seeds can never be owned, patented and held as intellectual property.

Goldman has described the OSSI as something like a national park for seeds. The people's park includes "Full Pint" barley from Oregon State University, "Midnight Lightning" zucchini from High Mowing Organic Seed Co., "Siber-Frill" kale and "Emerald Fan" lettuce from Lupine Knoll Farm, "Oranje" and "Sovereign" carrot from the University of Wisconsin, plus seeds for broccoli, celery, cress, mustard, quinoa, squash and sweet peppers.

"These seed varieties and new strains



PHOTO: BRYCE RICHTER/UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Seeds are placed into packets for distribution from the Open Source Seed Initiative.

arising from them can never be owned by anyone but the public, and that is important to us as a commercial seed company with a social mission at its core," said Tom Stearns of High Mowing.

To spread the word about the effort and to put the seeds into circulation, the OSSI is mailing packets to first lady Michelle Obama, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and author Michael Pollan, who wrote in *The Omnivore's Dilemma* that "the single greatest lesson the garden teaches is that our relationship to the planet need not be zero-sum, and that as long as the sun still shines and people still can plan and plant, think and do, we can, if we bother to try, find ways to provide for ourselves without diminishing the world."

Each packet is marked with a pledge. By opening the packet, "You pledge that if

you transfer these seeds or their derivatives they will also be accompanied by this pledge."

"It creates a parallel system, a new space where breeders and farmers can share seeds," Kloppenburg said of the initiative. "And because it applies to derivatives, it makes for an expanding pool of germplasm that any plant breeder can freely use."

Goldman said the pledge is so short it almost reads like a haiku.

"It basically says these seeds are free to use in any way you want. They can't be legally protected. Enjoy them."

SEEDING A MOVEMENT

The pledge: "This Open Source Seed Pledge is intended to ensure your freedom to use the seed contained herein in any way you choose, and to make sure those freedoms are enjoyed by all subsequent users. By opening this packet, you pledge that you will not restrict others' use of these seeds and their derivatives by patents, licenses or any other means. You pledge that if you transfer these seeds or their derivatives, you will acknowledge the source of these seeds and accompany your transfer with this pledge."

The store can be found online at www.opensourceseedinitiative.org/store. The introductory package, selling for \$25, includes an assortment of 15 seed packets, including "Midnight Lightning" zucchini, "Red Ursa" kale, "Gatherer's Gold" pepper, "Joker Lettuce" and more.

— L.N.



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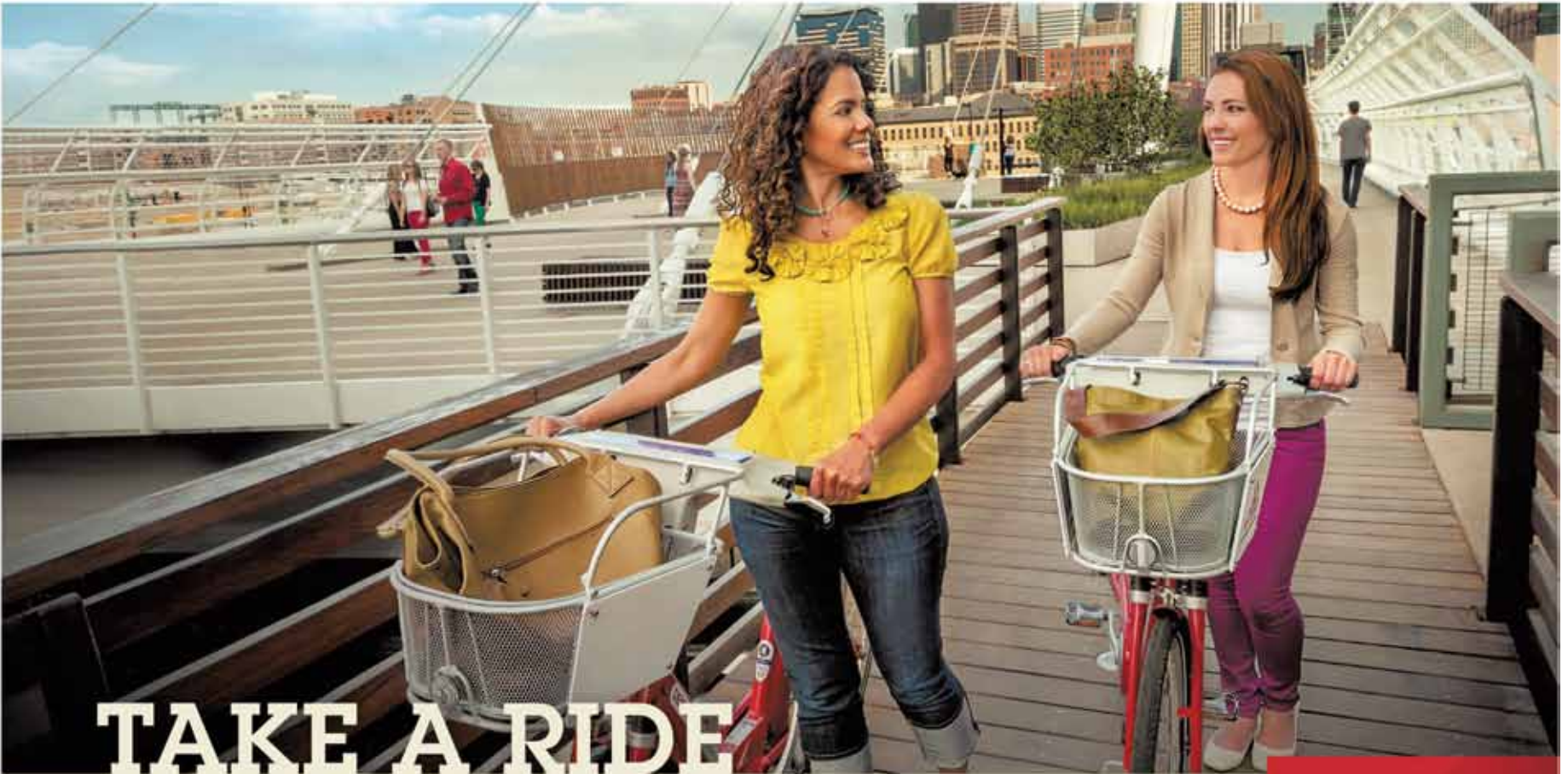
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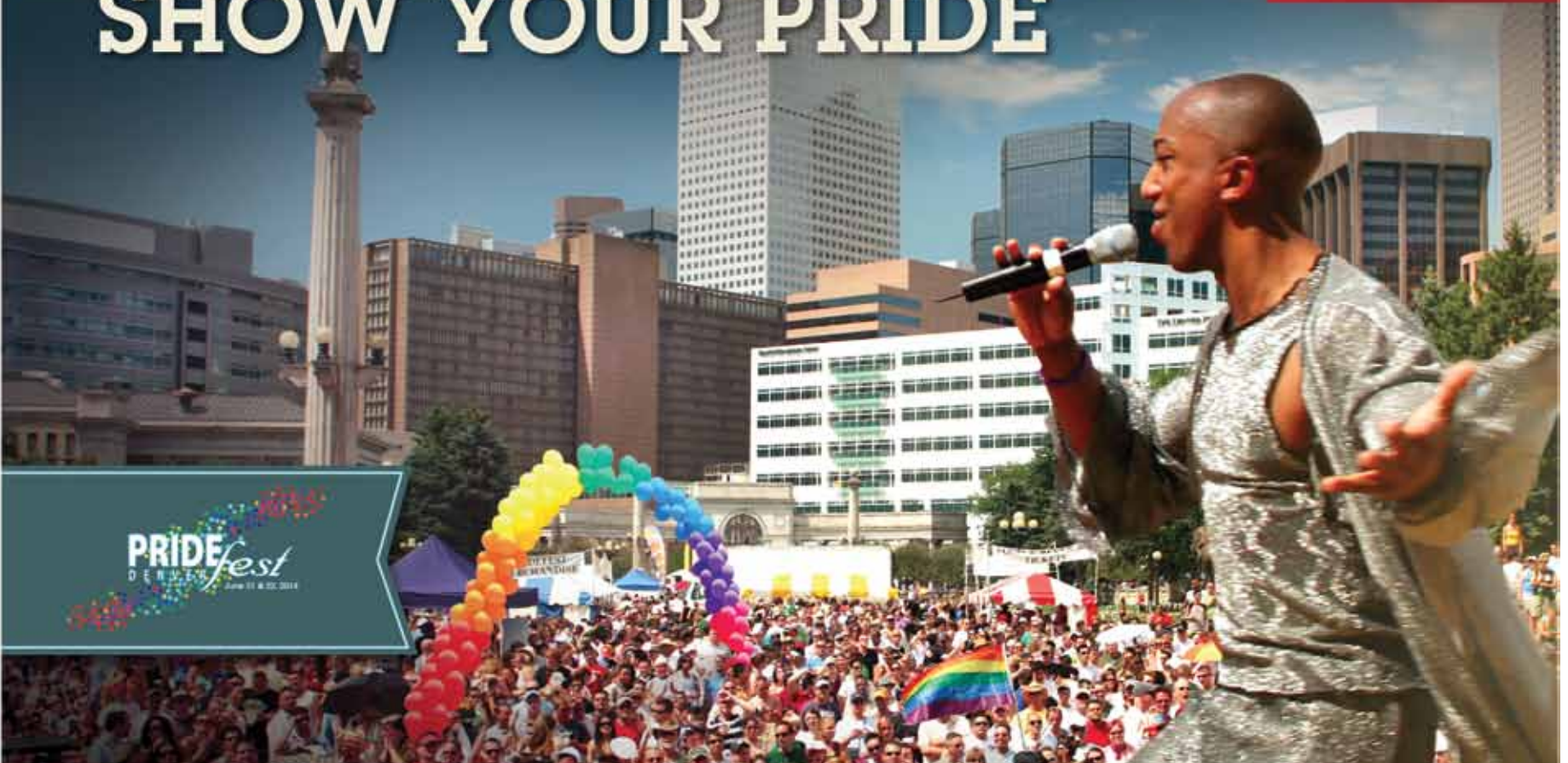


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Experience PrideFest in Denver, June 21 and 22. Connect with friends new and old, enjoy live music and enjoy the parade. While you're here, rent a B-cycle and explore The Mile High City's many unique neighborhoods featuring chef-owned restaurants, boutique shopping, and outdoor activities. And don't miss this summer's world-class exhibitions like *Chihuly* at Denver Botanic Gardens and *Maya: Hidden Worlds Revealed* at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Plan your pride getaway today at VISITDENVER.COM/LGBT



SHOW YOUR PRIDE



NATIONAL BRIEFS



The Harvey Milk Forever Stamp from the U.S. Postal Service.

PHOTO: COURTESY USPS

OBAMA ADMINISTRATION DELAYS DECISION ON KEYSTONE XL

The U.S. Department of State has notified federal agencies that they have more time to submit reviews on the proposed Keystone XL pipeline. The agencies, according to the State Department, need that time because of the uncertainty created by the litigation in the Nebraska Supreme Court, which could affect the pipeline route.

The State Department said it would use the extended period to "review and appropriately consider the unprecedented number of new public comments, approximately 2.5 million, received during the public comment period that closed on March 7."

The announcement triggered a flood of reactions, especially from the environmental community, which has been fighting the proposal through litigation, petitions and demonstrations.

At the environmental group 350.org, co-founder Bill McKibben expressed disappointment that the administration continues to consider the issue instead of deny the permit: "It's as if our leaders simply don't understand that climate change is happening in real time — that it would require strong, fast action to do anything about it."

In other national news ...

- **Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley**, who may run for president in 2016, says a state jail in Baltimore will no longer automatically comply with federal requests to hold immigrants past their release date for possible deportation. The Democratic governor said the Baltimore City Detention Center will now consider the severity of the charges a person is facing when reviewing U.S. Immigration and Customs and Enforcement requests to hold immigrants through the "Secure Communities" program.

- On **Harvey Milk Day**, which is a state holiday in California on May 22, the White House will hold a ceremony to dedicate the Harvey Milk Forever Stamp. A second dedication ceremony for the stamp will take place on May 28 in San Francisco, where Milk fought for equality, served as an openly gay supervisor and was assassinated.

- **The Boy Scouts of America** revoked its agreement with the Rainier Beach United Methodist Church because the Seattle-area church refused to oust Geoff McGrath as the leader of its troop. The Boy Scouts had revoked McGrath's membership because he is openly gay.

— Lisa Neff

REGIONAL BRIEFS



PHOTO: COURTESY

Mary Burke is the frontrunner in the Democratic race for governor in Wisconsin. She recently received an endorsement from the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters.

BURKE WINS ENDORSEMENT FROM CONSERVATION LEAGUE

The Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters celebrated Earth Day by announcing its endorsement of Mary Burke for Wisconsin governor.

"Mary Burke is whip smart, a good listener and knows how to make the tough decisions," said WLCV board president Roger Larson. "I was especially glad to see how deeply she personally values Wisconsin's natural resources. Voters can trust that Mary Burke will be a leader on air, water, and land protection."

The group said Wisconsin needs strong leadership and 21st-century solutions to natural resource challenges.

"Mary Burke is the kind of leader that will follow in Earth Day founder Gaylord Nelson's footsteps. She is more interested in solving problems than engaging in partisan politics," said executive director Kerry Schumann.

Burke, in a recent survey of voters by Public Policy Polling, was trailing Scott

Walker in a potential general election by just three points.

AIN'T MELLENCAMP'S AMERICA

John Mellencamp wants conservative Republican Gov. Scott Walker to know he supports union rights. He says Walker should think about that before using his songs on the campaign trail. When Walker launched his re-election campaign with a series of rallies, one of the songs played while his supporters waited for the governor was "Pink Houses." The song, first released in 1983, contains the lyrics, "Ain't that America, home of the free. Little pink houses for you and me." In 2010, when the National Organization for Marriage played "Pink Houses" at events opposing same-sex marriage, Mellencamp also had his publicist notify the group saying he was opposed to its agenda and suggested it pick a different song to play that is more in tune with its views.



PHOTO: COURTESY

John Mellencamp.

In other regional news ...

- **Cook County, Ill.**, has issued its 1,000th marriage license to a same-sex couple. Clerk David Orr said he issued the marriage license on April 18 to a couple from Chicago's Albany Park neighborhood.

- **Scott Walker's** public union restrictions have survived a review by a federal appeals court. The restrictions stripped most public workers of nearly all their collective bargaining rights. Two unions representing city of Madison and Dane County public workers filed a lawsuit in 2011 alleging the law violated their right to freely assembly and equal protection. Further appeal seems likely.

- **Illinois** has announced \$1.6 million for more than two dozen environmental and education projects aimed at helping to conserve and protect Illinois' 63-mile Lake Michigan shoreline.

- **Scott Walker** recently signed a bill that puts outside agencies in charge of investigating officer-involved deaths. The measure's supporters say the new requirements will counter claims that police protect their own from consequences of using deadly force.

— Lisa Neff and Louis Weisberg

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ORGANIZATIONAL BRIEFS



PHOTO: AMERICANS AGAINST FRACKING

Lance Bass — environmentalist, activist and entertainer — will perform at the Gay Games this summer in Cleveland.

GAY GAMES ORGANIZERS ANNOUNCE OPENING CEREMONY

Lance Bass, Broadway actress Andrea McArdle and the Pointer Sisters will headline the opening ceremony of the 2014 Gay Games in Cleveland this August.

The ceremony takes place on Aug. 9, and organizers expect more than 400 performers to join the headliners and a parade of athletes at Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland.

The games are Aug. 9-16.

For more, go to www.gg9cle.com.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Darren Young.

WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT SAYS: NOH8

When professional wrestler Darren Young came out as gay in 2013, World Wrestling Entertainment executives and stars rallied to support him.

Now the NOH8 Campaign announces the participation of WWE executives, superstars and divas in the photographic silent protest created by celebrity photographer Alan Bouska and his partner Jeff Parshley.

While California's Prop 8 has been overturned and same-sex couples can marry in the state, the NOH8 campaign created to respond to Prop 8 continues to grow.

For more, go to www.noh8campaign.com.

In other organizational news ...

• **Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce** has named the winners of its annual business awards. MillerCoors is the Corporate Partner of the Year. A2Z Design of Appleton is the LGBT Business of the Year. Sugar Doll of Stevens Point is the Allied Business of the Year. Colin Gorman of PNC Bank in Whitefish Bay is the Business Leader of the Year. The winners receive their honors on May 7 at a celebration at Hotel Metro in Milwaukee. For more, go to www.wislgbtchamber.com.

• **Retired Army Lt. Col. Jennifer Pritzker** receives the Frank Kameny Award during the National LGBT Bar Association's Lavender Law Conference in New York City in August. Pritzker is the chair and founder of the Pritzker Military Museum & Library, president and founder of the Tawani Foundation, president and CEO of Tawani Enterprises and a leader in the movement for transgender equality. For more, go to lgbtbar.org.

• **Fashion Affair 2014**, presented by Roots Salon and Spa, takes place at 8 p.m. on May 2 at Potawatomi Bingo and Casino. Tickets begin at \$21, and the event benefits the Penfield Children's Center. For more, go to eventbrite.com.

• **Voces de la Frontera's May Day March to Stop Deportations** takes place in Milwaukee on May 1, with marchers assembling at Fifth and Washington. For more, go to www.vdlf.org.

• **The Nature Conservancy** received a \$1-million grant from the North American Wetlands Conservation Act to protect and restore coastal wetlands, including St. Martin Island. The project area is a key bird migration corridor that extends from the northern tip of the Door Peninsula in Wisconsin to Michigan's Garden Peninsula and includes the Grand Traverse Chain of Islands. For more, go to nature.org/wisconsin.

• **Distinguished Young Woman of Wisconsin Astha Berry** joined other young women in April in celebrating National Be Your Best Self Week, a national outreach event. She visited the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee on April 23 to inspire other young people to lead successful, productive lives. For more, go to www.distinguishedyw.org.

— Lisa Neff

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Belly up to the bar — it's beer festival season

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

With Milwaukee Beer Week (isn't that every week?) winding to a close on May 3 and Madison Craft Beer Week firing up on May 2, one thing is perfectly clear: Beer season is upon us.

Wisconsin's brewing heritage is celebrated with outdoor festivals throughout summer and fall. As a public service to the state's storied beer drinkers everywhere, WiG offers below a list of many of the events on tap. Have your designated driver ready — he or she gets a discounted entry fee at most festivals — and prepare to celebrate with beers of the region and the season.

MAY 2-11 MADISON CRAFT BEER WEEK, MADISON

The more accurate title for this event would be "Madison Craft Beer Ten Days." The citywide celebration features special beers from across the state and around the nation and involves most of the Capital City's bars, brewpubs and restaurants. Unique to this festival is "Common Thread," a special beer jointly created by area breweries. This year, 12 different brewers participated in production of a Bohemian Pilsner that's sure to be memorable. For more information, go to www.madbeerweek.com.

MAY 2 WATERFORD'S BREWFEST IV, WATERFORD

Area businesses located in this Racine County village have come together with the local Lions Club to sponsor this one-day event. For more, go to www.waterfordbrewfest.com.

MAY 10 BELLE CITY BREWFEST, RACINE

Belle City, held at the Racine Civic Center, offers a 28-brewer lineup that includes Public Craft Brewing Co. and Rustic Road Brewing Co., both from nearby Kenosha. Entry is \$25 through May 2, \$35 thereafter. Info at www.racinebeerfest.com.

MAY 18 WISCONSIN MICRO-BREWERS BEER FEST, CHILTON

Thirty Wisconsin breweries will come together for the 23rd annual Wisconsin Micro-Brewers Beer Fest at the Calumet County Fair Grounds in Chilton. Hosted by Rowland's Calumet Brewing Co., the fest is attracting brews ranging from Hayward's Angry Minnow to Randy's Fun Hunters from Whitewater. Tickets are priced at \$40 and available in advance only. Info at www.rowlandsbrewery.com.

JUNE 7 BEER BARONS WORLD OF BEER FESTIVAL, MEMONONEE FALLS

Milwaukee's premier homebrew club hosts the 11th annual World of Beer Festival at the Schwabenhof Pavilion in Menomonee



Falls. Billed as "the best festival you never heard of," the event features 200 hand-picked beers, meads and ciders from around the world. Tickets are \$40. Info at www.wobfest.com.

JUNE 14 DOOR COUNTY BEER FESTIVAL, BAILEYS HARBOR

Wisconsin's picturesque peninsula opens its arms to craft beer lovers for a one-day festival at Baileys Harbor's Town Hall Park. Brewers from Wisconsin and other states, as well as a number of Belgian breweries, will be on hand to promote their products. Memphis blues legend Earl "The Pearl" Banks will provide the music. Tickets are \$40 in advance, \$45 at the gate. For information, go to www.doorcountybeer.com.

JUNE 14 GREAT NORTHERN BEER FESTIVAL, EAGLE RIVER

Perhaps the only beer festival to offer camping is the Great Northern Beer Festival, held at the Hi-Pines Campground. The event attracts brewers from around the state and offers a great opportunity to become acquainted with beers brewed in northern Wisconsin. Tickets are \$30 in advance, \$35 at the gate — if still available. Info at www.greatnorthernbeerfestival.com.

JUNE 21 OSHKOSH BREWS 'N' BLUES FESTIVAL, OSHKOSH

More than 30 brewers and two blues



PHOTOS ABOVE & LEFT BY MELISSA MILLER



bands take over the Leach Amphitheatre on the banks of the Fox River for the 19th annual Brews 'n' Blues, a craft beer, homebrew and music festival presented by the Oshkosh Jaycees to benefit community charities. Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$45 at the gate. Info at <http://jcioshosh.org/brews-n-blues>.

JUNE 28 APPLETON ALEFEST, APPLETON

Appleton's Stone Arch Brew House helps host the Appleton AleFest at the city's Memorial Park. A benefit for the Appleton Family Ice Center, the fest features a host of state breweries, including Pigeon River Brewing Co. from Marion and Madison's MobCraft, the world's first "crowd-sourced" brewery. Tickets are \$40. Get more information at www.appletonalefest.com.

JULY 19 MILWAUKEE FIRKIN BEER FEST, MILWAUKEE

Milwaukee craft beer fans thought it "was about firkin time" that they got their own beer festival, which led to formation of the Milwaukee Firkin Beer Fest in Cathedral Park. (A firkin is a small keg or covered vessel used in the beer brewing and aging process.) All the usual suspects from the Wisconsin craft beer scene will be there, along with select brewers from California, Colorado, Massachusetts and Michigan. General admission is \$46. Go to www.milwaukeefirkin.com.

JULY 26 MILWAUKEE BREWFEST, MILWAUKEE

Still in the planning stages at press time, the fifth annual Milwaukee Brewfest at 1600 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive on the city's lakefront will cover much of the same ground as the Firkin Beer Fest — but this time with Lake Michigan as a scenic backdrop. Info at www.milwaukeebrewfest.com.

JULY 26 LAC DU FLAMBEAU LIONS CLUB BREWFEST, MINOCQUA

Those who like their beer festivals backed by stunning north woods scenery might want to give the Lac du Flambeau Lions Club Brewfest in Minocqua a try. Held in Torpy Park in downtown Minocqua, the event draws breweries from as close as Minocqua Brewery, located right next door to the fest, to as far away as Quebec, Canada. No word yet on this year's entry fee, but the proceeds benefit local charities. Info at <http://lacduflambeaubrewfest.com>.

AUG. 9 GREAT TASTE OF THE MIDWEST, MADISON

Beer fests come and go, but The Great Taste of the Midwest, sponsored by the Madison Homebrewers and Tasters Guild, is the standard by which all others are judged. Now in its 28th year, the Great Taste

BEER next page

BEER from prior page

attracts up to 150 craft brewers from across the nation. There's also live entertainment, educational sessions and an entire tent devoted to cask ales. The \$60 tickets go on sale at noon on May 4 and will be gone within an hour. Go to <http://greattaste.org>.

SEPT. 13 GREAT LAKES BREWFEST, RACINE

Now celebrating its 10th year, the Great Lakes Brewfest is the only Wisconsin beer festival that takes place in a zoo — the Racine Zoo, that is. Due to its timing and location, this fest features more beers from Illinois and Michigan breweries than many of the other Wisconsin festivals. General admission tickets cost \$49 and proceeds benefit the Racine Kilties Drum & Bugle Corps. Tickets go on sale at noon on May 1 and have sold out for the past eight consecutive years, so make your plans now. Go

to <http://greatlakesbrewfest.com>.

SEPT. 13 THIRSTY TROLL BREWFEST, MOUNT HOREB

More than 25 brewers pouring over 100 beers will highlight the Thirsty Troll Brewfest in the Norwegian community of Mt. Horeb in south central Wisconsin, which bills itself as "The Troll Capital of the World." Held at the city's Grundahl Park, the fest features many area beers and is the only one with a mascot — Jorgen the Thirsty Troll. Visitors like to have their pictures taken with Jorgen. The entry fee is \$32. For all the details, go to <http://trollway.com/event/annual-thirsty-troll-brew-fest/>.

SEPT. 20 RAILS & ALES BREWFEST, GREEN BAY

Ever have the urge to sip craft beers while examining historic trains? If so, you won't

want to miss the Rails & Ales Brewfest at Green Bay's National Railroad Museum. A standard ticket (\$35 in advance, \$45 at the door) allows you to talk with area brewers and winemakers while sampling dozens of their beverages. A premium ticket (\$55 and available only in advance) buys you a three-course meal aboard the museum's 1939 restored dinette-lounge car "Silver Spirit." Tickets went on sale April 1, so call before the limited number of premium seats is sold out. Visit www.nationalrrmuseum.org.

OCT. 4 QUIVEY'S GROVE BEER FEST, MADISON

Before becoming known for saving Ten Chimneys, the historic Genesee Depot home of actors Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontaine, the late Joe Garton was a restaurateur who turned a circa 1855 stone farmhouse and barn into Quivey's Grove, one of Madison's better restaurants. Quivey's Grove holds an autumn beer fest, which celebrates its 21st anniversary this year. More than 45 brewers serving over 100 beers will par-

ticipate, with music provided by Westside Andy and the Mel Ford Blues Band. Info at www.quiveysgrove.com/beerfest/beerfest-main.htm.

OCT. 18 DELLS ON TAP, WISCONSIN DELLS

Wisconsin brewers will close the season with Dells on Tap, the annual beer festival held in one of Wisconsin's top vacation destinations. Smaller state breweries, including the Port Huron and Dells Brewing Co., as well as nearby Blue Heron Brewery from Marshfield, American Sky Brewing from Hudson, and Woodman Brewing from Woodman (pop. 96), offer a slightly different round of participants along with a lot of statewide favorites. Tickets are \$35 in advance or \$50 on the day of the event. Find more information at www.wisdells.com/wisconsin-dells-attraction/wisconsin-dells-on-tap.cfm.



Beer festival survival tips

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

If you've never been to a beer festival, proceed with caution. For craft beer lovers, these events are kid-in-a-candy-store opportunities. Be careful to keep track of your consumption.

It is possible to get the most from an event and still remember it. The following tips may help you and others to avoid becoming what organizers of Munich's Oktoberfest call "bierleichen," or "beer corpses."

- Beer fests are about selection, not consumption. Even at most modest fests, you can't sample everything. At 2 oz. to 4 oz. each, the pours are small, but they add up quickly. Pace yourself.

- Eat something to help absorb the alcohol. Some beer fests offer food, while others don't. Eat hearty before you arrive, and you will be better prepared to imbibe. Eat nothing and you may be courting disaster.

- Drink plenty of water between beers. Water will dilute your alcoholic intake, fill you up and slow down your consumption. Alcohol dehydrates you, so you need water to rehydrate.

- Narrow your selection. A friend went to a larger festival in pursuit of as many saisons, or Belgian-style farmhouse ales, as he could find. He had plenty of interesting beers to drink and didn't damage himself in the process.

- Try something new. This is not a place to quaff your everyday favorites. Look for new, odd styles and new breweries to broaden your beer education. That's what beer fests are — or should be — about.

- Beware the high-octane monsters. Increasingly, brewers are dabbling in new hybrids and experimental styles. Invariably, these beers come with high alcohol by volume (ABV) levels that pack a punch. Try what interests you, but limit your intake. You will thank yourself later.

- Arrange for transportation home before you arrive. You'll need a designated driver. If you don't have one, you are toying with your life and the lives of others. Designated drivers get a reduced rate at most festivals, while events like Madison's Great Taste of the Midwest arrange transportation through local taxi companies that will go anywhere in the city for less than \$5.

Enjoy the festivals.

Sober as a (beer) judge

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Beer fans are a finicky lot, and the Beer Judge Certification Program was created to make sure the judges are qualified. BJCP's testing standards for would-be judges are rigorous.

Founded in 1985, BJCP already has tested 7,846 potential judges worldwide, and 4,909 of those tested are currently active judges. But only 717 hold the rank of national judge or higher.

To date, certified beer judges have ranked 899,128 beers — and the number keeps growing.

Criteria are different for each beer. Try adapting BJCP criteria at your

next fest. Not only will you impress your sodden friends, but you'll enjoy your experience more.

Here is an edited version of what BJCP judges look for when judging a basic German Pilsner:

Aroma: Typically features a light, grainy Pils malt character, sometimes Graham cracker-like with distinctive flowery or spicy noble hops. Clean, with no fruity esters.

Appearance: Straw to light gold, brilliant to very clear, with a creamy, long-lasting white head.

Flavor: Crisp and bitter, with a dry to medium-dry finish. Maltiness is low to moderately low. Hop bitterness dominates the taste, continues through

the finish and lingers into the aftertaste. Hop flavor should be derived from German noble hops.

Mouthfeel: Medium-light body, medium to high carbonation.

Overall impression: A crisp, clean and refreshing beer that prominently features Noble German Hops bitterness accentuated by sulfites in the water. Drier and crisper than the original Bohemian Pilsner.

BJCP offers similar guidance for 28 beer and cider types, with three to six different styles for each type. For more information about judging and certification, visit www.bjcp.org.



{ Editorial }

Chelsea's baby

While we don't agree with them on reproductive rights, we know there are many opponents of choice who are caring, rational beings. They prove it's possible to disagree over an issue that touches on deep, personal feelings without calling out the National Guard.

Unfortunately, a sizable proportion of people who wear the "pro-life" mantle exhibit traits you'll find everywhere in the DSM — the diagnostic manual for mental health professionals.

The most disturbing thing about the protesters who gather outside family planning clinics waving signs of mutilated baby corpses (those are not actual photographs of aborted fetuses) is how little regard they have for the born. Whatever personal traumas and neurotic disorders the "pro-lifers" channel into the "unborn" end rapidly at the bottom of the birth canal.

Thus it was surprising when the fringes of the anti-choice movement went bonkers over the announcement by Chelsea Clinton and her husband Marc Mezvinsky that they're expecting. We thought they liked fetuses! But instead of congratulating the happy family, they had a field day accusing former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton of orchestrating her daughter's pregnancy for political purposes — an accusation that seems logistically impossible.

The bulk of their criticism, however, hinged not on politics but rather on the argument that it's hypocritical for women to have babies if they believe women shouldn't be forced to have babies. They were outraged that the Clintons issued a baby announcement, insisting that calling a fetus a baby runs counter to the pro-choice movement's differentiation between a fetus and a baby.

In fact, the Clintons announced that Chelsea Clinton Mezvinsky was having a

baby, not carrying one. And the Clinton and Mezvinsky families have every reason to believe the fetus in question will be born. They have the means to provide the expectant mother with the best prenatal care in the world. When the baby is born, s/he will be showered with love, attention, the best health care and, eventually, the best education possible.

Unfortunately, this situation is far different from that of the majority of women who choose to terminate their pregnancies. The path to reducing abortions is not by forcing women to have babies, but by creating a society where all children have the same chance to thrive that the Mezvinskys' child will have.

Unfortunately, the radical anti-choice crowd opposes virtually every public policy that would make that remotely possible. They've defunded Planned Parenthood clinics all over the country — clinics that provide family-planning, prenatal and post-natal care to women who otherwise could not afford it.

The same crowd generally opposes sex education and the use of prophylactics, which could prevent countless unwanted pregnancies. They detest economic policies that would help women get the resources they need to provide for their families — policies such as equal-pay legislation, affordable childcare services, health insurance, nutritional assistance for women living in poverty, early childhood education programs — the list goes on.

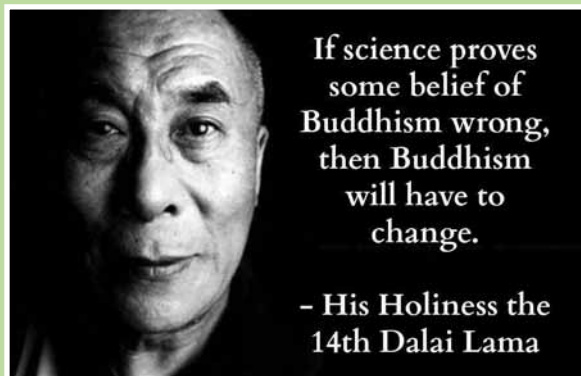
Right-wing abortion foes dismiss those kinds of programs as "socialism" and "big government." Which begs the questions: How do they characterize a society that forces women to bear children they don't want and can't afford — and then throws those children and their mothers under the bus?

WiG's WEB PICKS

Some of our favorite recent pictorials from cyberspace



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ON THE RECORD



"They weren't human. I don't see them as human. I see them as vermin. I was doing my civic duty."

— Statement by BYRON SMITH, 65, captured on an audio recorder just before he shot and killed two teenagers who broke into his home in the central Minnesota city of Little Falls on Thanksgiving Day in 2012. Police found the recording, which was played for jurors during his trial on April 21. Prosecutors say Smith sat near the recorder and spoke his thoughts as he waited for the teens to enter his basement, where he cornered them.

"I was just not prepared for such a negative reaction and it just caught me off guard."

— Screen legend KIM NOVAK, 81, referring to the ridicule heaped on the actress' physical appearance at the Oscars. The gorgeous star of such 1960s classics as *Vertigo*, Novak condemned what she called the "bullying" she received from Donald Trump and others just for aging.

"We don't want Finland to be represented on homeland and international shipping with homoerotic themes. The sexual orientation of the men in the images doesn't leave much room for interpretation."

— An FINNISH PETITION calling on the nation's government to halt plans to create a Tom of Finland commemorative stamp.

"It bothers me a lot that you want to broadcast that you're associating with black people. Do you have to?"

— DONALD STERLING, owner of the Los Angeles Clippers, ranting at his mistress for posting a picture of herself with Magic Johnson on Instagram. An audio recording of Sterling's tirade was obtained by TMZ. The NBA banned Sterling for life and fined him \$2.5 million.

"I'd like to think if anyone were out there drowning, I'd save them. I used to be a pretty good swimmer, I grew up in Hawaii."

— PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA responding to a reporter's question in South Korea about whether he'd save Vladimir Putin's life if the Russian president was drowning.

"It was exciting and just a major, major compliment. I was happy for all the girls who would see me on it and feel a little more seen."

— LUPITA NYONG'O commenting on her selection for the cover of *People* magazine's "World's Most Beautiful" cover for 2014. Nyong'o won an Oscar in February for her performance in *12 Years a Slave*.

"I want to commend (Sen. Herb Kohl) for working so diligently to keep our NBA franchise, the Milwaukee Bucks, right here in Milwaukee, and for passing the baton to new owners who are every bit as committed to team's success and the success of the community as Kohl himself."

— MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISOR DAVID BOWEN in a press statement applauding U.S. Sen. Herb Kohl's handling of the sale of the Milwaukee Bucks.



Easy ways you can help the planet

Opinion

JAMAKAYA

Here are some practical ways to observe Earth Day throughout the year.

Turn off electronic devices you are not using and unplug them. Clean and replace the filters on your furnace and air conditioner regularly. Those actions will reduce carbon emissions and your monthly energy bill.

Recycle as many household wastes as possible. Call your local department of public works or your private waste disposal company to learn what they accept. Encourage them and your legislators to expand recycling programs.

Recycle all electronic devices and hazardous wastes properly. TVs, computers, cellphones, etc., contain chemicals harmful to the environment. Contact your public works department or log on to <http://cleansweep.wi.gov>. This site includes dates and locations of special collections for household, pharmaceutical and other hazardous wastes.

Use alternative forms of transportation whenever possible — biking, car-pooling or public transportation. The Department of Transportation is now seeking public comment on the future of state transportation funding. Post your comments on the WisDOT website or speak out at hearings in Green Bay (May 7), Oshkosh (May 8), West Allis (May 20) or Kenosha (May 21). Google "Transportation Moves Wisconsin" for details.

Have your utility conduct a home energy audit. The results will give you practical ways to bolster insulation and become more energy efficient. Ask your utility about (and urge it to move toward) clean energy options.

Get a solar energy assessment for your home. The technology has become more affordable, with rebates, tax credits and financing available. Solar power cuts your energy costs considerably and does not despoil the planet like gas, coal and nuclear power. The Sierra Club works with H&H Solar Energy Services out of Madison, an experienced, reputable com-

pany.

Get politically active and vote. Wisconsin's 2013-14 legislative session just ended and Mother Earth took more hits from the GOP-controlled Senate and Assembly. The Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters will post its biennial scorecard on its website this summer, just in time for voters to see their representatives' records and to make decisions for the fall elections. Look for the scorecard at: <http://conservation-voters.org>.

The league has endorsed Democrat Mary Burke for governor over Scott Walker. Its members believe Burke is far more environmentally conscious and will work for renewable, locally-generated energy initiatives; the expansion of organic farming; new technologies for safer handling of livestock waste and wastewater; stricter regulation of sand and open pit mining; and the creation of more clean energy jobs.

Get involved with the league, Clean Wisconsin or the Sierra Club. The websites of each have information about current environmen-

tal issues, from mining and industrial farming to water pollution, energy efficiency, nuclear power and plant and wildlife preservation. All these groups allow you to sign up for alerts, which keep you updated on issues and provide avenues for action.

The Sierra Club has a statewide chapter and a dozen local chapters you can connect with. Visit <http://wisconsin.sierraclub.org/about>. Sierra Clubs are committed to "explore, enjoy and protect the wild places on earth." While serving as watchdogs over the environment, they sponsor hiking, canoeing, camping and other adventures that enhance your appreciation for the outdoors and enable you to connect with other nature lovers.

Being an environmentalist isn't just a long list of "shoulds." It offers solidarity with other committed people and the satisfaction of knowing you are doing what you can to respect and nurture a livable planet. Get involved today!

Eliminating voter hours is undemocratic

Opinion

U.S. REP. RON KIND

Gov. Scott Walker recently signed the Wisconsin legislature's partisan, anti-democratic bill (Wisconsin Bill 146) to reduce voter turnout. It's a bill that restricts the hours for voting early on weekdays and eliminates early voting on weekends altogether.

This was the second time Wisconsin Republicans have set limits on early voting since Walker and GOP lawmakers took control of state government in January 2011.

In 2011, the Wisconsin Legislature cut early voting from three weeks, including three weekends, to two weeks, including one weekend. This time, under the legislation as rewritten by Walker, early voting in clerk's offices could take

place solely on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

This legislation is an unnecessary fix to a voting system that isn't broken. If anything, elected officials should be working on ways to increase participation in our democracy, not reduce it.

For the 2012 election, the weather was cold and wet in Wisconsin, and we still had 70-percent voter turnout. Wisconsin should be taking pride in that, not putting up obstacles that will reduce turnout. Regardless of background, income, age or ZIP code, all Wisconsinites who

are eligible to vote should have the opportunity to do so with as much ease as their government can afford them.

U.S. Rep. Ron Kind is a Democrat who represents southwest Wisconsin.

Wisconsin early voting hours

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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			Election Day				
New 2014							
			Election Day				



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WISCONSIN GAZETTE ENTERTAINMENT

Overnight sensation Steve Grand to play PrideFest

By Gregg Shapiro

Contributing writer

I first spoke with gay singer/songwriter Steve Grand in July 2013, when he burst on the scene with his YouTube video "All-American Boy." The song, a sweet, catchy, country-influenced number, quickly logged more than 1.5 million views. Grand, who has the body and looks of a *Men's Fitness* cover model, sang the heck out of it.

Less than a year later, with a couple of more songs and music videos under his belt, Grand launched a Kickstarter campaign to raise money for his debut album. His goal was to raise more than \$80,000 in one month. But he quickly overshot the mark, raising almost \$120,000 in one day alone. Grand's impressive musical talents coupled with his unexpectedly humble charm have inspired a devoted fan base, known affectionately as the GrandFam.

An unknown before he posted his debut song, Grand ended the year 2013 on *Out Magazine's* Out100 list. He took a break from recording in California to talk about the past year and his upcoming appearance at Milwaukee PrideFest.

Gregg Shapiro: When you look back at the past eight months, what is the one event that stands out for you as the most memorable?

Steve Grand: It's so hard to say just one. There've been so many incredible things that have happened. For one, the continued support of my fans, who I love so much. When I was on my little tour they came out in droves. It was so incredible to meet them at each and every show. I remember a specific show in San Diego at Urban Mo's, and we packed the place. Everyone brought such great energy to the room and there was so much love in the room and this outpouring of support. It felt like a little family. I started my Facebook page when my video went up on July 2, and the day after my birthday (a couple of days ago), it passed over 100,000 "likes." The "GrandFam," as I love to call them and they love to call



PHOTO: COURTESY

Steve Grand's combination of talent and underwear-model looks made him an overnight sensation. He's performing at PrideFest Milwaukee on June 7.

themselves, has grown so much. They're so positive and supporting of each other. Not only are they there to support the music, but they're there because they care about each other.

What makes you believe they care about each other?

It's apparent if you go on my (Facebook) wall. They write to each other. People have made friends on my wall. It's a really beautiful thing to watch.

You'd been working hard at your craft for a number of years before you became an overnight sensation. Were you prepared for all the attention?

It's something you can't prepare for. I didn't expect this to the degree that it's happened. I take it day by day. I stay focused on all I have to be grateful for, which is really a lot. I get to pursue my dream. I get to wake up every day

and do something that I love. For that, I feel so blessed, so humbled. I also feel that honoring the relationship that I have formed with my fans is the most sacred thing to me.

Have you met people and gone places that you didn't expect?

I have met some incredible people. Very early on I met Edie Windsor, not too long after the repeal of DOMA. It was amazing. She is a hero and an inspiration to me. I've also met Mariah Carey and Elton John. I did a show with Lance Bass. He's an extremely sweet guy. Elton has been my musical hero since I was a little kid, and I got to meet him before a show and give him a hug. He knew who I was and he said he was keeping an eye on me. That was really exciting. After college I (was) struggling as a singer/songwriter and playing at churches. It's been incredible to be able to go to all of these places all



over the country and play and have people show up. In that year before "All-American Boy," when I was playing in a jazz club in Chicago, every night I played it was a new challenge to win over that audience. Just me and the piano and the microphone. That's all I had to work with. I never take it for granted when I get in front of an audience who is excited before I even play my first note.

Have you been offered any work outside of music, such as on TV in *Glee* or in a movie musical?

Yes, there have been some offers relating to film and people doing their own small or big-budget projects. People have asked me if I want to act, but right now I just want to focus on my music. I'm working hard every day. We really have to get this (album) out for the fans by late May.

Since we spoke last July, you have released two more singles, "Stay" and "Back to California." Do you plan to include those songs, as well as "All-American Boy" on your album?

Yes. It's part of the whole story. I have a whole library of music to choose from. I've been writing songs for a long time. The whole album will be 12 (original) songs, but those have to be on there. I want to show a full body of work, where each song stands alone, and together they all tell a story and a bigger picture.

Why did you decide to go the Kickstarter route?

I wanted my fans to be my label. I wanted to keep my music and message as pure as possible. I don't want anything getting in the way of that. I'm staying independent for that reason. I don't, for

one second, forget that they made all this possible.

When you performed in Chicago in advance of your Northalsted Market Days appearance, your family, including your parents and grandmother, were present. What do they think of your career?

They're having a great time with it. They're so happy for me and so proud of me. It's a beautiful thing. This life has been such a journey in so many ways. One of them is watching my parents do a 180. What they were taught to believe from their faith was that homosexuality was a sin. They can't help that that was the environment in which they grew up, that that was their world. But it's a testament to a parent's love that because of their own son, they were able to reexamine these beliefs.

On June 7 you are performing at Milwaukee PrideFest. What are you most looking forward to about that?

First of all, it's a really incredible line-up. The fact that I'm going to be on the same stage as Mary Lambert is incredible. I look up to her so much. She's an amazing artist and songwriter. I have so much respect for her. It's also going to be the first time ever, since I went out as a solo artist, that I'm going to have a band behind me. It's a lot of work putting it together, finding the right people. I'm working on that in addition to the album. I'm really excited to have my fans hear a lot of the songs (that are) going to be on my record once it comes out. It's going to have a lot more energy and a lot more power. I really think it's going to be cool.

Is Milwaukee a place you've visited?

I think this will be my very first time in Milwaukee. I'm really excited. I have a special place in my heart for Wisconsin. That's where I would go for my Boy Scout summer camp.

Neon Trees are more pop than psychology

By Bill Lamb

Contributing writer

On their just released new album *Pop Psychology*, Utah's Neon Trees explore angst in relationships from a number of points of view, ranging from teenage lust to friends. Rarely has it all sounded so catchy and fun.

While "Living In Another World" seems to be the only song to directly address lead vocalist Tyler Glenn's recent coming out, it sounds like he's spent some time self-reflecting since the band's last album *Picture Show*. However, with nearly all the songs set to up-tempo 1980s-influenced pop, *Pop Psychology* is an easy, pleasing listening experience.

The album's title carries multiple meanings. It reflects the fact that many of the songs dive into personal angst that makes the pop music here more "psychological" than Neon Trees' past work. However, the candy-coated '80s pop approach keeps things zippering along in a fashion that never dwells too long on deep concepts.

"I Love You (But I Hate Your Friends)" is a good example. The band seems ready to dive into something a bit deeper with the words, "I thought you had a thing for fancy boys." But ultimately the song seems more concerned with a catchy sound that could have been ripped from the Talking Heads' *Little Creatures* era.

A number of Neon Trees fans have speculated in the past about Glenn's sexual

orientation. But until this year, he consistently denied the rumors, pointing to a two-year relationship with a girlfriend that nearly resulted in marriage. Their breakup is the subject of the band's song "Our War" on the first album *Habits*.

There were some raised eyebrows over the lyric, "I'm sick of always operating out of fear. I'm sick of being called a fag because I'm queer," from the song "Teenage Sounds" on the group's most recent album *Picture Show*. Glenn explained the line by saying he was being "bratty" and reflecting on having been called a "fag" since age 11 because of dressing differently and listening to different music. He told a radio station that he could only imagine how frightening it would be to actually be gay.

But finally Glenn addresses the issue head on with the song "Living in Another World," saying, "I guess I've always been this way. It's been hard for me to say."

As a practicing Mormon, Glenn probably had a harder-than-usual time with his coming-out process. He has acknowledged "terrible" things said by church leaders in the past.

But in an interview with the Associated Press, he commented that he's been surprised at how accepting church leaders have been. They continue to state that homosexuality is a sin, but a number of out gay Mormons have reported recently that they are being welcomed back to the church while

'There were some raised eyebrows over the lyric, 'I'm sick of always operating out of fear.'

remaining in their same-gender relationships.

LOVE AND TEXTING

Pop Psychology puts one foot in the contemporary world when it examines relationships from a technological point of view. "Love in the 21st Century," which kicks off the album, details the hazards of love in a social media world. It's followed by "Text Me in the Morning" which ultimately concludes, "When all the other boys just want your sex, I just want your texts in the morning." With the retro '80s atmosphere of the music, the songs cleverly point out that despite the advance of technology, romantic relationships are just as much of a minefield as they have been in the past.

Neon Trees first came to widespread attention in 2008 after being asked to accompany The Killers as an opening act on the latter's concert tour. The single "Animal" was released in 2009 and began a long, slow climb up the charts,



PHOTO: RYAN RUSSELL

Neon Trees appears in Madison at Wisconsin's Majestic Theatre on June 24, then hits the Summerfest stage in Milwaukee on June 26.. Lead singer Tyler Glenn recently came out as gay.

ultimately hitting No. 1 on alternative radio stations and reaching No. 13 on the Billboard Hot 100. Neon Trees' debut album *Habits* was a moderate success.

In late 2011, the band released "Everybody Talks," the first single from the group's sophomore album *Picture Show*. That single also began a very slow march up the charts, ultimately reaching No. 6 on the Hot 100.

Pop Psychology closes with the anthemic "First Things First." Anchored by the line, "You are never

gonna get everything you want in this world, first things first, get what you deserve," the song tells the band's story. It begins with Glenn leaving Utah to head to southern California with guitarist Chris Allen. "First Things First" breaks down for a poignant moment with the words, "It began when I learned how to face myself, and I'm still deciding if I'm something else."

But the music quickly perks back up and, in keeping with the album title, it returns to the friendly sing-along energy that is a Neon

Trees trademark.

Do not turn to this album for impressive depth, but if you listen closely to Glenn's lyrical musing, you might catch multiple moments of self-realization that will resonate with your own life experiences.

In May, Neon Trees begin a North American tour in support of *Pop Psychology*. The group appears in Madison at Wisconsin's Majestic Theatre on June 24, then hits the Summerfest stage in Milwaukee on June 26.

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Against Me! brings 'Transgender Dysphoria' live to Milwaukee

By Bill Lamb

Contributing writer

After a childhood of dealing with gender dysphoria, Laura Jane Grace grew up to be the leader of a successful punk band. That band — Against Me! — appears live in Milwaukee at The Rave on May 14.

Formerly known as Tom Gabel, Grace is considered the first major rock star to come out as transgender. In her first public comments about her transition to *Rolling Stone* nearly two years ago, Grace said she was “hoping people will understand, and hoping they’ll be fairly kind.”

The first major breakthrough for Against Me! came with the 2007 album *New Wave*. It was the band’s first break into the upper half of the Billboard album chart. *Rolling Stone* named it one of the top 10 albums of the year.

Included among the songs was “The Ocean,” which contains the lyrics, “And if I could have chosen, I would have been born a woman. My mother once told me she would have named me Laura.” No one paid much attention to those lines then.

Following 2010’s *White Crosses*, an even more successful album, the closet door began to open. The band launched its own studio and label — Total Treble — in 2011. Shortly afterward, Against Me! began recording what became *Transgender Dysphoria Blues*, and Grace announced to the group and the public that she was transitioning.

“I felt like I drop-kicked them in the face,” Grace told *Rolling Stone*. “We had the most awkward hug ever, and then they left.”

Grace began hormone therapy, announced plans to undergo electrolysis treatments, and before long the four-piece band had lost two members, leaving only Grace and guitarist James Bowman. Despite all the turmoil in the band, Grace has said the most terrifying aspect of coming out was

worrying what the response of her wife Heather would be. The couple has a daughter Evelyn, and they have decided to remain married.

Grace was born the son of army Major Thomas Gabel, and during her early life she moved with her family from base to base. When she was 11, her parents divorced, and she went to live with her mother and grandmother in Florida. It was around this time that Grace began realizing that she was female. Lacking the kind of information about transgenderism you can find today on the Internet, she says her only experience of transgender identity was through the films *The Crying Game* and *Silence of the Lambs* — films featuring what Grace refers to as “the sad tranny and the scary tranny.”

Grace’s tales of bullying during her teen years are far too familiar, and she channeled the anger and frustration into a musical project. Against Me! began as a solo exploration, but by age 18 she had formed a touring band.

Flash forward 15 years, and this past January Against Me! released *Transgender Dysphoria Blues*, which deals directly with gender dysphoria. But it’s not all autobiographical.

On first listen, the 28-minute, 10-track album goes by quickly with music that is very approachable for fans of the punk genre. Grace sings with the venom and spirit she’s always possessed, and many of the songs are injected with catchy hooks. But when you look a bit deeper at the words, the struggles with rage and self-destruction are apparent.

Transgender Dysphoria Blues peaked at #23 on the Billboard album chart, the most successful yet for Against Me! It has received strong critical acclaim for its brave lyrics and engaging populist punk sound. Despite the group’s personnel upheavals, *Transgender Dysphoria*

Blues sounds tightly woven and coherent, just like the work of a solidly established band.

Against Me! hit the road this spring to present new songs from *Transgender Dysphoria Blues* live along with some of the group’s favorites. The cathartic, anarchic energy of the band’s shows has not changed. In fact, Grace’s predominantly male fan base seems to have eagerly embraced her and continued to support the group.



PHOTO: ANDREW ZAEH

If you venture out to the show at The Rave May 14, expect loud music steeped in the musical lessons of rock’s past — from

the Clash to Bruce Springsteen. But the words and the story behind them from the woman who’s front and

center onstage represent a truly unique moment in music history.

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PROGRESSIVE. ALTERNATIVE.

Famed harpsichordist Jory Vinikour performs C.P.E. Bach in Milwaukee May 10

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

It may not have been love at first sound, but Jory Vinikour admits he was attracted to the harpsichord from the first moment he heard it played.

"As a child I would go to the library and listen to record after record," says Vinikour. "I always loved the earlier repertoire and especially the harpsichord, but the opportunities to hear harpsichord music growing up in Chicago were rare."

Vinikour has devoted his life to filling that musical void, becoming a virtuoso on the instrument — a precursor of the piano. He earned a 2013 Grammy Award nomination for Best Classical Instrumental Solo.

Vinikour is to showcase one of his favorite harpsichord compositions on May 10, when he performs Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach's "Harpsichord Concerto in D Minor, WQ. 23." The performance, part of Ensemble Music Offering's *C.P.E. Bach 300th Anniversary Celebration*, takes place at the Cathedral Church of All Saints, 818 E. Juneau Ave., in Milwaukee.

In addition to Vinikour, baroque flautist Linda Pereksta will perform C.P.E. Bach's "Flute Concerto in G Major, WQ. 169."

There's also a pre-concert event that takes a look at the sons of Bach.

Early music's purview is western classical composition up to and through the Baroque era. The period is dominated by the music of Mozart, Handel and, especially, Johann Sebastian Bach, the father of C.P.E. Bach.

At the time of J.S. Bach's death in 1750, the popularity of the son outshone that of the father, Vinikour said. C.P.E. Bach's expressive and often turbulent music is described as *empfindsamer Stil* — or "sensitive" — applied the principles of rhetoric and drama to musical structures. The composer's predilection for *sturm und drang*, literally "storm and stress," was characteristic of German music and literature of the day, Vinikour explains.

"C.P.E. Bach's music helped bridge the Baroque era and the Classical and Romantic periods that followed," says Vinikour. "His compositions advanced the keyboard language to very expressive levels. He was enormously prolific, but his music isn't played much these days."

Vinikour first studied with piano prodigy Emilio Del Rossario while attending high school in Chicago. From there he went on to study at the Peabody Institute of Johns



PHOTO: COURTESY

Jory Vinikour at his harpsichord.

Hopkins University in Baltimore. He finished his piano degree at Mannes College of Music at The New School in New York City, where he also earned a master's degree in harpsichord.

Vinikour subsequently pursued but never finished a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at Rutgers University in Camden, New Jersey. Instead, he moved to Paris in 1990, as a Fulbright Scholar, to study harpsichord with Huguette Dreyfus and Kenneth Gilbert. His 2013 Grammy nomination was for *The Complete Harpsichord Works of Rameau* (Sono Luminus), showcasing the work of Jean-Philippe Rameau, who was considered one of the most important French composers and music theorists of the Baroque Era.

As a concert instrument, the harpsichord fell out of favor with the emergence of the fortepiano during the 18th century. Unlike the piano, considered a percussion instrument because the keys manipulate hammers that strike the instrument's internal strings, the harpsichord is a "plucked" keyboard instrument. It's similar in operation to the spinet, with an inner structure that plucks rather than strikes the strings. The 20th century saw the reemergence of the harpsichord, particularly in performance of early music works.

The Milwaukee-based Ensemble Music Offering has been promoting early music in general and the works of J.S. Bach in particular for more than 15 years. The group has gained prominence as a leading Midwest authority on the baroque and classical periods, receiving numerous national education awards and frequent airings on Wisconsin Public Radio.

"Many listeners like a bit of change in their musical diets," Vinikour says. "The sound of harpsichord and even baroque strings have drawn more listeners, and the

'This is a very expressive, very accessible work. C.P.E. Bach is just crazy with invention, and the work has so many interesting harmonic elements.'

quality of performances today has generated a constantly growing audience."

The harpsichordist believes the music of C.P.E. Bach and his harpsichord concerto is the perfect introduction for those unfamiliar with the genre.

"This is a very expressive, very accessible work," Vinikour says. "C.P.E. is a wonderful composer — just crazy with invention — and the work has so many interesting harmonic elements and so much to hear."

Vinikour expects audiences to walk away having discovered a new composer and new composition. With any luck, audiences will also leave with a new appreciation for the harpsichord.

ON STAGE

Ensemble Music Offering's upcoming concert, *C.P.E. Bach's 300th Anniversary Celebration*, is scheduled for 8 p.m. May 10 at the Cathedral Church of All Saints, 818 E. Juneau Ave., Milwaukee. For more information, visit www.ensemblemusicoffering.org.

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Theatre Gigante retells 'Midsummer Night's Dream'

By Matthew Reddin

Contributing writer

Isabelle Kralj and Mark Anderson, of Theatre Gigante, have taken the Shakespearean classic *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and turned it completely upside down to see what shakes out of it. Milwaukee audiences can see too, when the artistic duo's new adaptation opens May 9.

Kralj and Anderson admit they came up with the clever name *Midsummer in Midwinter* before anything else. But they'd planned from the beginning to diverge from Shakespeare's text in more than name.

"We knew we weren't going to do *Midsummer*," says Kralj. "We were going to do our own thing."

The core of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is its examination of love and how making the right or wrong choice in it can change your life, according to Kralj. So they decided their adaptation had to deal with that issue, which led them to their main characters: Two pairs of middle-aged couples and two young lovers, who all converge on a North Woods cabin on a midsummer evening.

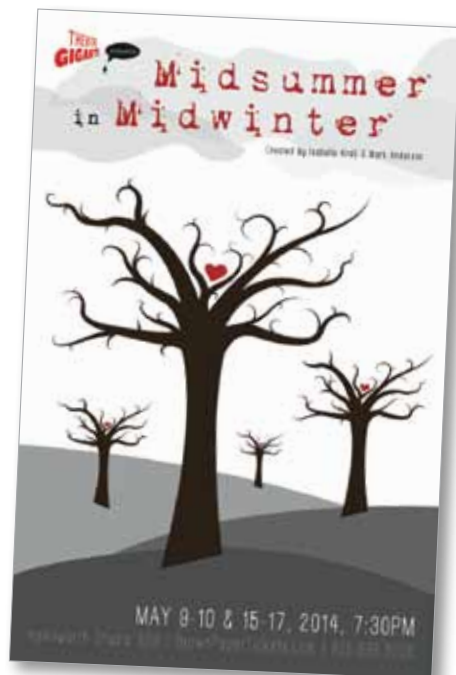
Kralj is hesitant to unveil too many details of their storyline, saying their divergence from the source material will work better as a surprise to the audience. But she acknowledges the age differences in the play are more purposeful than incidental.

Unlike Shakespeare's original, where the mature couples are pushed to the periphery, *Midsummer in Midwinter* puts them in the middle of the action. Kralj says focusing on them allows her and Anderson to show that there are more similarities than you might anticipate between their love affairs and those of their younger counterparts.

"Love when you're 20 is looked on as different than love in your 40s, but it really isn't," she says.

Her production's six lovers are joined by a group of woodland wanderers much smaller than the group who peopled Shakespeare's comedy. Replacing the original "mechanicals" is the lone character Nick, who's lost in the woods on his way to a poetry slam. The tribe of fairies is represented by Puck (perhaps a character's imaginary friend), and two assistants are played by dancers Edwin Olvera and Jessie Mae Scibek.

Many of the show's cast members are Theatre Gigante regulars, which made the rehearsal process much easier. Kralj and Anderson were able to put together a first draft with the actors already in mind, leading to minimal rewrites. Kralj says it's easier to work with artists who understand the manner of direction she and Anderson have cultivated in their careers, which focuses on specific movements and little subtle



moments.

"(For the regulars) there's no struggle in adapting to our style of creating and working," she says.

But even as this production retains the stylistic cohesion common to Theatre Gigante, it breaks new ground. Anderson says they're drifting farther into the realm of farce than before, playing their characters with cartoon-like brushstrokes.

"We had fun making these choices," he says, "feeling liberated and at ease. Why not?"

The Theatre Gigante production is also breaking new ground by blending both live and pre-recorded music to accompany the acting and dancing onstage. The latter half consists of compositions by experimental toy band artist Frank Pahl. It will be complemented by singers Amanda Huff and Daniel Mitchell, who'll perform original works live during *Midsummer in Midwinter*.

ON STAGE

Midsummer in Midwinter opens May 9 and runs through May 17 at Kenilworth Studio 508, 1925 E. Kenilworth Place, Milwaukee, with performances at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25, \$20 for seniors and \$15 for students. Order at 800-838-3006 or theatregigante.org.

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Tours, museum recreate Derby Day excitement

By Anne Siegel

Contributing writer

Although you might not be able to attend the Kentucky Derby this year, you can experience Churchill Downs excitement year-round. Within its gates there's a fascinating museum that's certain to awe racing enthusiasts and non-enthusiasts alike.

One of the country's most famous racetracks, known for its emblematic tall, white spires, Churchill Downs has been the center of Kentucky horseracing since 1875. You can lose a full day taking in the Derby's storied history.

Seats cost \$3,000 apiece on Derby Day (May 3 this year), but the museum is far more affordable. And the museum crowds are far lighter than on Derby Day, when thousands pack the stands to experience "the greatest two minutes in sports."

In early spring, the excitement of Derby Day was already beginning to show at the Downs, located just five miles outside of downtown Louisville, Kentucky. The air was filled with hammering and the buzzing of chain saws while workers installed temporary seating that's used only for the Kentucky Derby and the Kentucky Oaks, a race for three-year-old thoroughbred fillies held the day prior to Derby Day. While fillies are eligible to run in the Kentucky Derby (and a few have tried), the Kentucky Oaks is strictly limited to the female horses.

This year's pace of construction was



PHOTO: CHURCHILL DOWNS

especially brisk as a new section of 1,400 permanent seats was installed at one end of the track (comparable to a football stadium's end zone). It's estimated that the \$7-million project will more than pay for itself in just a few years.

That's because many Derby ticket holders are prepared to pay far more than the \$3,000 going rate per seat. There's an enormous, glassed-in area called Millionaire's Row, located almost directly across from the finish line. Above it is an area for the most rarified of visitors, including wealthy political leaders (as if there were any other kind these days), athletes, and entertainment celebrities and moguls.

A new behind-the-scenes tour takes visi-

Within the gates of Churchill Downs are a museum and tours loaded with fascinating behind-the-scenes glimpses of the storied racetrack.

tors (limited to 15 per tour) inside Millionaire's Row and the exclusive floor above, where you can catch a glimpse of the swank but tasteful reception area where the Queen of England sits her royal arse when she visits.

Wisconsinites might get a peek of one of their hometown celebrities while visiting Churchill Downs. This writer spotted an amiable Paul Hornung (retired Hall of Fame

running back for the Green Bay Packers) at Churchill Downs. He said that he lives in Louisville now and has traded footballs for race horses.

This tour is one of several that are offered daily by the Churchill Downs Museum (except for the day of the Oaks and the Derby). The museum's entrance is easily visible from the front gate

— its name is emblazoned on a wall in shiny gold letters. More than 210,000 visitors trot through the museum each year. The tours are limited and should be booked in advance.

One of the don't-miss tours is included with regular museum admission (\$14 for adults, \$6-\$11 for children). It takes viewers down the "chute" where all the Derby horses walk from a showing area outside the track onto the track itself. The area is paved with "bricks" made of recycled rubber, to keep the horses from injuring their feet.

The track seems enormous at ground level. Visitors can get their photos taken at trackside.

Most folks are surprised to learn that Churchill Downs has more than 100 horses stabled there year-round. The regular walking tour includes a visit to see the resident thoroughbred, who has a pony pal for company.

To see a racing thoroughbred (and possibly, a Kentucky Derby winner), there's the Barn and Backside Tour. This one-hour tour, conducted on an air-conditioned bus,

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PHOTO: DERBYMUSEUM KENTUCKY

**DERBY** from prior page

takes guests back to the stables. One might see horses getting a bath or being fitted for new "shoes." Many of these gleaming, gorgeous horses cost millions of dollars, so don't expect to get out of the bus to pet one. However, the experienced guides know a great deal about the track's history and even why racing horses wear certain pieces of equipment (such as nose pads and eye guards). That will give visitors a few fun facts to share at a Derby Day party.

Speaking of parties (see story below), it's not just women who wear eye-popping Derby hats. Men typically wear hats, too. Traditional hats worn by both sexes are available at the terrific gift store. The staff won't mind if you model a Derby hat for a quick photo (the women's hats cost about \$100-\$130). The men's hats, typically straw fedoras or gambler's hats in tones of cream and white, cost a bit less.

Another aspect of the Barn and Backside Tour is a chance to see the veritable village contained within the racing grounds. In addition to rows and rows of elaborately adorned stables, there's a 24/7 restau-

rant for stable workers, trainers, etc., and a church that holds services on Mondays (since races often are held on Sundays). There are dormitories and, of course, a fitness center.

The newest offering, Inside the Gates Tour, contains many of the features mentioned above. This 75-minute tour includes a stop at some original murals painted on the walls of a main area within the building. One mural is of famous trainers, and the other one is of famous jockeys (if you can only recognize jockey Willie Shoemaker, don't feel bad. He's the one most visitors remember).

Our guide told some colorful stories about those characters (and many were real characters), as you admire the workmanship of the murals.

Don't be surprised to see automated betting machines basically everywhere within Churchill Downs. It's still possible to place a \$2 bet. In some of the restricted areas (which you won't see unless you're the guest of an sheik who owns horses there), are beautiful, carved dark-wood betting cages. Visitors can place "live" bets, as they did in the "old" days before technology took over.

If you are interested in the two tours mentioned above plus regular admission, you can get a package that shaves a few dollars off the price. And you'll still have time to explore the museum itself, which offers state-of-the-art interactive exhibits. Unfortunately, flooding in 2009 required a complete re-do of the museum's main floor. Millions of dollars were spent to recreate what you'll see there today.

Inside the museum, visitors can experience all the aspects of racing. One of the interactive games allows you to "race" your friends atop a life-size thoroughbred. You have to maintain a jockey's stance (not easy) and position your horse on the track with your thumbs. Another exhibit allows you to "call" a race, like the real announcers do. There's a wonderful, 360-degree movie that puts you right in the middle of racing action.

To enter the museum, you pass through a real starting gate identical to the one used at the Derby. You'll gain a new appreciation for the tight space where jockeys prepare before they hear a buzzer and the call, "They're off!"

The Derby's annual infield party has Mardi Gras flair

By Anne Siegel

Contributing writer

If you'll be among the millions of TV viewers who are watching (or who watched) the Kentucky Derby on May 3, there's an aspect of the Derby action you'll probably never see: the freewheeling sideshow within the racetrack itself. Much like New Orleans during Mardi Gras, the Churchill Downs' infield becomes a playground for grown-ups on Derby Day. About 80,000 revelers are packed within its boundaries, and many are ready for "the best party of the year," according to a veteran infield-goer from Louisville.

It is important to note that very few among the infield crowd will see a live horse. And they could care less, as a well-heeled Kentuckian told me. They are far more interested in the beer stands, which also sell the traditional mint juleps (laced with Kentucky bourbon, of course). Horse racing action, if one is interested, can be viewed from an enormous Jumbotron video screen across the track from the more respectable areas of Churchill Downs.

While national TV cameras focus on the "proper" side of Derby action — showing images of celebrities and elegantly dressed women sporting their elaborate Derby hats — the infield is a bit more, shall we say, informal? The infield visitors are college kids, and they dress accordingly. The attire skews more toward the casual, with T-shirts and cut-off shorts the preferred outfit of the day. High heels are out, while cowboy boots and flip-flop sandals are definitely in. There's a practical reason for this: The heavy traffic tends to make the infield muddy, especially if there's been heavy rain (as in 2013).

However, unique costumes also are

encouraged. Last year, one gentleman showed up in a three-piece-suit, topped by a horse mask that covered his entire head. There's occasionally someone dressed as Batman or Gummy.

Many infield-goers wear imaginatively designed hats that tend to be more tacky than stylish. For instance, one woman at last year's race decided to wear a straw cowboy hat decorated with two plastic horses "doin' what comes naturally." Another woman sported a Wisconsin cheese-head decorated with plastic daisies.

The infield antics are so well known within Louisville that the infield experience is mentioned (briefly) in official marketing materials. Although the materials note that the infield is where people "indulge in all things fun, freewheeling and a little frisky," it goes far short of spelling out what really happens here — such as women stripping off their shirts and occasional sex-in-the-grass romance.

A recent crackdown on items allowed into the infield — including coolers, grills and tents — was partly designed to put a damper on full-scale partying. However, the imaginative infield crowd was not to be deterred. In 2013, when a light rain continued all day, some infield-goers were irked by the fact that umbrellas weren't allowed inside the gates. So, they created an interesting diversion. They placed tarps on the ground, tossed bags of ice on top, and created an adult-sized variation of the Slip-n-Slide. Even the "horse head guy" gave it a try. And so did some women stripped down to their bras (or at least that's how far they went for local videographers).

But don't expect such scenes to be played out on national television. Instead, you'll have to send your imagination racing.

One woman last year wore a straw cowboy hat decorated with two plastic horses doin' what comes naturally.



PHOTO: DERBYMUSEUM KENTUCKY



PHOTO: DERBYMUSEUM KENTUCKY

SCREEN SAVOR: NEW VIDEO RELEASES BY GREGG SHAPIRO



PHOTO: COURTESY

From *Chicago*.



PHOTO: COURTESY

From *Straight and Butch*.

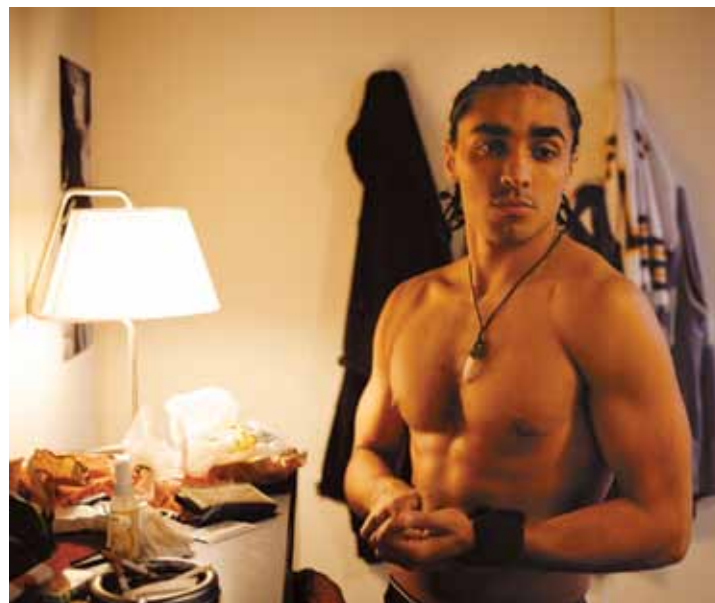


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Four.

'CHICAGO' BURNS WITH TALENT

When Kander & Ebb's Tony Award-winning musical *Chicago* finally hit the big screen in 2002 after a few failed attempts (including proposed versions rumored to star Liza Minnelli and Goldie Hawn), it was a massive success. The winner of six Oscars, including best picture, *Chicago* seemed to signal the return of the big-screen movie musical.

Neither of the lead actresses in the film *Chicago* — Renée Zellweger and Catherine Zeta-Jones — was known for her musical stage work. But under the direction of Rob Marshall, the duo glittered as murderous jazz-age mamas Roxie Hart and Velma Kelly, respectively — and Zeta-Jones took home an Oscar for her work.

Now available in a Blu-ray+DVD+Digital HD/Ultraviolet Diamond Edition, with more than two hours (!) of new content, *Chi-*

cago is holding up better than the city it's named for. Bill Condon's inspired Oscar-nominated screenplay transforms wannabe performer Roxie's musical numbers into effective flights of fancy. As inmates, Roxie and Velma compete for the spotlight and the sympathies of the public and the press. They sing and dance to their (and our) hearts' content.

Supporting players John C. Reilly (as Roxie's "invisible" husband Amos), Queen Latifah (as warden Mama Morton), Christine Baranski (as newspaper columnist Mary Sunshine) and Richard Gere (as unscrupulous lawyer Billy Flynn) all make the most of the Kander & Ebb songs, including "The Cellblock Tango," "All That Jazz," "Mr. Celophane," "Razzle Dazzle" and "Nowadays."

Special features include commentary by Marshall and Condon, which offers fascinat-

ing insight into the film. You'll also find the deleted "Class" scene, and much more.

STRAIGHT AND GAY, UNCENSORED

Butch Cordora, host of the gay Philadelphia TV talk show *In Bed With Butch*, is the main subject of the 2010 documentary *Straight and Butch*. The program airs on Here TV beginning May 30 and continuing through June, which is Gay Pride Month.

The film begins in 2008, when the slightly narcissistic Cordora sets out to create a calendar of pictures that pair him, naked, with straight men. The documentary follows the process through to its completion.

The images were shot by a handful of different photographers in a variety of settings. Gervase Peterson, of *Survivor* and *Big Brother* fame, happened to mention that his girlfriend shaved his head for him when he got out of the shower. So, a shot was set up in which Butch shaved Gervase's head. The subject's personal stories also influenced the shots with tattooed Bill, pizzeria proprietor Angelo and Eric, a professional cook and massage therapist. The best looking of the subjects, Eric, whose father was gay, was also the most comfortable with Butch in front of the camera.

As the project gained momentum, the photo shoots became more inventive. Butch and one of the subjects recreated the famous Annie Leibowitz *Rolling Stone* magazine cover featuring a naked John Lennon and a clothed Yoko Ono. Another subject joined with Butch to create a version of Leibowitz's infamous k.d. lang and Cindy Crawford barber chair shot for *Vanity Fair*. Perhaps the most universally famous image paid homage is the Beatles' *Abbey Road* album cover, featuring Butch with three naked straight men.

Unfortunately, *Straight and Butch* is neither as interesting nor titillating as it could have been. Still, it does a decent job of portraying the change in attitudes of straight

men toward gay men, and for that, it should be commended.

'FOUR' LACKS AUTHENTICITY

Four, the full-length feature film debut by writer/director Joshua Sanchez, is an adaptation of award-winning gay playwright Christopher Shinn's first play. An intimate portrait of four characters' lives intersecting on the fourth of July, the film features solid performances, but the film as a whole comes off as self-conscious.

The story begins with restless gay teen June (Emory Cohen) arranging online to hook up with a bisexual, African-American married man named Joe (Wendell Pierce). They meet near a payphone (remember those?) and drive off in Joe's BMW convertible. June, an only son, is reserved and admits to not being out to his parents. Joe, who is outgoing and fatherly, appears to be genuinely interested in the boy, although his interest could be sexually motivated.

Across town, Joe's obedient and responsible daughter Abigail (Aja Naomi King) is at home taking care of her sick mother. Abigail believes Joe is out of town at a work-related conference. Abigail and Dexter (E.J. Bonilla), an athletic classmate with bad grades and a police record, meet at a nearby basketball court.

Both couples end up having sex, but instead of making them more comfortable with each other, it has the opposite effect. Everything comes to a head in a diner parking lot, where Abigail spies her father getting into his car with June in the passenger seat.

In *Four*, issues of race, class and sexuality collide with the characters' desires for an authentic life. But *Four* itself feels inauthentic and stager.

DVD bonus features include commentary by Sanchez and Cohen, as well as a behind-the-scenes featurette.

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Operatic super power returns to Milwaukee Opera Theatre



By **Matthew Reddin**

Contributing writer

There's only one superhero-slash-opera singer out there, and her origin story is set in Milwaukee.

And so is her triumphant return, as Milwaukee Opera Theatre revives its acclaimed operetta *Fortuna the Time Bender vs. The Schoolgirls of Doom*, an original work that artistic director Jill Anna Ponasik commissioned Jason Powell to write in 2009. The two crossed paths in an Alchemist Theatre production of Powell's sci-fi comedy *Invader? I Hardly Know Her!* Ponasik performed in the production, and the two hit it off so well that she asked him to write MOT's first full-length production.

Powell says the two threw around different ideas, but his interest in comics eventually determined the choice. At the time, Powell was not only a fan of comics but also a blogger on the subject.

Since Powell's knowledge of opera was limited to Gilbert and Sullivan, he says half-jokingly, *Fortuna* is laced with lyrical and melodic allusions to their work. A very successful staged reading led to a 2012 production at the Alchemist that slowly built into a series of sell-out performances. The production was so well received, in fact, that the theater added a Sunday night show that sold out within four hours of its announcement.

The story of *Fortuna* unfolds in Anyville, a city recently cleansed of all crime thanks to

the superhero Fortuna (Samantha Sostrich). Her special super-hero power is her ability to manipulate time.

But, alas, her efforts are torn asunder by the sudden appearance of a very British supervillain (Nathan Wesselowski) and his three schoolgirl assistants (Katy Johnson, Lisa Buchmeier and Rana Roman). She must draft a local citizen, Joe (Jonathan Stewart), to be her sidekick, despite his lack of superpowers.

Ponasik and Powell say they've been fortunate to have their entire cast (including Melissa Kelly Cardamone as Joe's girlfriend Elizabeth and Diane Lane as Narrator) return for the *Fortuna* revival. They've enjoyed the opportunity to polish a few of the original production's rougher scenes. Ponasik says she brought Christopher Elst back to improve some of the fight scenes, for example. And cast members are trying out new ways to finesse their performances, she adds.

The May performances at Alchemist Theatre are not the first in which the cast has reunited to recreate the magic. Thanks to a successful Kickstarter campaign, MOT brought the cast together last year to produce a complete studio recording of *Fortuna*. The album has served as something of a promotion for the upcoming *Fortuna* revival, according to Ponasik.

Ponasik is counting on the people who've told her how much they want to see *Fortuna* return or how much they regret missing it the first time to help make the revival a success. The show, she adds, has wide appeal, drawing in opera buffs, comic lovers and average Joes and Joannes.

"I haven't hardly met anyone who didn't like it," she says.

Universal likability is a superpower that no performance company should turn down.

ON STAGE

Milwaukee Opera Theatre's revival of *Fortuna the Time Bender vs. The Schoolgirls of Doom* opens Thurs., May 8, and runs through May 24. Tickets are \$22, but \$10 for students. Order by phone at 800-838-3006 or online at brownpapertickets.org.



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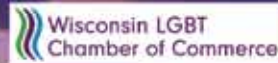
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Neil Patrick Harris crushes it in new production of 'Hedwig and the Angry Inch'

By Mark Kennedy

AP drama writer

It's obvious from the first moments of the new Broadway production of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* that star Neil Patrick Harris is doing something special. And it's not just trying on a new role.

He is lowered to the stage in a jumpsuit and ferociously feathered blond wig and immediately begins the show's first rock-punk song, getting down on all fours, grinding into the microphone stand or licking the guitarist's strings.

The crowd inside of the Belasco Theatre, where the show opened April 21, loses its mind, and why not? "Thank you! Thank you, you're so sweet," Harris says. "I do love a warm hand on my entrance."

Before our eyes, Harris is opening another chapter in his exceptional show business career with this 90-minute show and he simply crushes it, holding nothing back, softening no edges, making no nice.

The bravura performance has earned Harris a Tony nomination. The show received a total of eight.

Doogie Howser is long gone; the macho, tie-wearing Barney Stinson in *How I Met Your Mother* has left the building. That guy in *The Smurfs* film franchise is nowhere to be found, especially not strutting around in a pair of gold stilettos.

Harris plays Hedwig, a transgender East German performer who explains her tortured path from Berlin to a mobile home in Kansas to New York. Along the way, she has lost a piece of her manhood (the remainder is the rest of the show's title.)

The show has a renovated book by John Cameron Mitchell — who also played the first Hedwig — and songs by Stephen Trask that straddle the line between rock 'n' roll and traditional musical theater. A cult off-Broadway hit in 1998, *Hedwig* led to a 2001 feature film and has seemingly been waiting for Harris ever since.

Director Michael Mayer has been twice blessed. He has an undervalued score — some of the 10 songs here like "Wicked Little Town," "Origin of Love" and "Wig in a Box" deserve to be on iPods everywhere — and a stunning leading man who is willing to eat cigarettes and lick the stage ("Tastes like



PHOTO: COURTESY

Kathy Griffin," he comments after putting tongue to wood).

Mayer harnesses both beautifully, allowing Harris in a jean miniskirt to explore his natural exuberance but keeping the show about Hedwig, a feisty piece of show business flotsam or, as she admits, an "internationally ignored song stylist." Harris sings with real feeling, whether it's a torch song on a stool while dressed in a little cocktail dress or rocking out a head-banging tune by attacking the scenery.

Mitchell may not be *Hedwig* anymore, but he has given Harris new dialogue perfectly suited to the new star. There are digs at the ultra-hip Jane Hotel in New York, John Mayer and dating site ChristianMingle, as well as a new recurring joke about Broadway itself: Hedwig makes fun of the fictional *Hurt Locker: the Musical*, which "opened last night and closed at intermission." (Not to worry, old jokes like the fragrance "Atrocity By Hedwig" are still there.)

Other updates include some great, trippy projections by Benjamin Percy and a set by Julian Crouch that features a rusting car, front and center onstage, plus a fabulous grid of wig mannequins.

The five-piece rock band is headed by Lena Hall, a Broadway veteran who also, appropriately, leads the band The Deafening. In drag most of the night, Hall shows musical versatility and comic chops.

But it will come as no surprise that while Hall has an understudy, Harris does not. And that's perfectly right: Rarely does a role fit a performer so well. Harris is funny, twisted, poignant, outrageous, bizarre, silly and very, very human.

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DisH it Out!

Small fruits pack nutritional punch

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

The word "berry" conjures pleasant images: sweet, ripe strawberries, perfectly round little blueberries, succulent raspberries — summer's tastiest and most nutritious gifts. For botanists, however, the word brings a slightly different image to mind.

The botanical definition of "berry" is a fleshy fruit produced by a single plant ovary. Grapes, blueberries and cranberries fall into this category, but so do tomatoes, avocados, bananas and watermelons.

Cherries and olives fall into a category known as "drupes," produced from a single-seeded ovary with a hard, stony layer. Strawberries are not really berries at all, but rather an "accessory fruit," the edible part of which is not generated by the plant's ovary.

Blueberries and cranberries, a significant Wisconsin cash crop that's harvested in the fall, share the same family and are native to North America. Blueberries are cultivated as far north as Canada and as far south as Georgia, but Michigan is the top U.S. producer of the fruit.

Raspberries come in red, black, purple and blue varieties, with variant species producing golden or yellow raspberries that are

similar in appearance but different in color and flavor. Each berry is made up of about 100 "drupelets." The U.S. is the fourth-largest raspberry producer, after Russia, Poland and Serbia.

The first garden strawberries may have been cultivated in 18th-century France, although rudimentary cultivation went on among indigenous peoples in Chile 300 years earlier. References to wild strawberries and their medicinal uses can be found in ancient Roman literature. Today strawberry cultivation goes on worldwide, and the U.S. leads the globe, producing more than 1.3 million tons of strawberries in 2011. California is the top strawberry-growing state.

The nutritional values of berries rank them as "superfoods," which means you should enjoy them as often as you can while the season lasts.

Blueberries have 2 grams of fiber and 10 grams of natural sugar. They're good sources of Vitamins A and C, as well as calcium and iron. Although they offer the same vitamin and mineral content, raspberries tip the scale on dietary fiber with 7 grams of fiber and 4 grams of sugar.

Strawberries swing back the other direction with 2 grams of fiber and 8 grams of sugar, but

they break the bank on Vitamin C, offering 160 percent of the minimum daily requirement per cup — more than the average orange.

A mix of berries with a fillip of whipped cream on top is one of the best ways to enjoy them. But for those who want a little more, here are some favorite recipes:

BLUEBERRY CREAM MUFFINS

INGREDIENTS

4 eggs
2 cups white sugar or sweetener
1 cup vegetable oil
1 tsp. vanilla extract
4 cups all-purpose flour
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. baking soda
2 cups sour cream
2 cups blueberries

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 400 degrees, grease 24 muffin cups or line with paper liners. In a large bowl beat eggs, gradually adding sugar. Continue beating while slowly adding oil. Stir in vanilla. In a separate bowl, blend flour, salt and baking soda. Stir dry ingredients into egg mixture alternately with sour cream. Gently add blueberries. Scoop batter into muffin cups and bake for 20 minutes.

BERRIES next page

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BERRIES from prior page

RASPBERRY CANTALOUPE SMOOTHIE

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup raspberries
- ½ cantaloupe, peeled, seeded and cubed
- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 2 tbsps. sugar or sweetener

DIRECTIONS

Combine ingredients in a blender and blend until smooth. Pour into glasses, garnish with a whole raspberry or cantaloupe wedge and serve.

STRAWBERRY AVOCADO SALAD

INGREDIENTS

- 2 tbsps. sugar or sweetener
- 2 tbsps. olive oil
- 4 tsps. honey
- 1 tsp. cider vinegar
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- 2 cups torn salad greens
- 1 ripe avocado peeled, pitted and sliced
- 10 strawberries sliced
- ½ cup chopped pecans



DIRECTIONS

In a small bowl whisk together sugar or sweetener, oil, vinegar and lemon juice. Let stand. In a serving bowl or plate arrange greens, avocado and strawberry slices. Drizzle the dressing over the ingredients, then sprinkle with chopped pecans. Serve immediately.



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ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS



PHOTO: COURTESY

Milwaukee Art Museum.**WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM EXHIBITING FIRST COLLECTION OF PAUL SEIFERT WORKS**

The Wisconsin Historical Museum in Madison is currently displaying the first-ever exhibition of works by Wisconsin folk artist Paul Seifert. Seifert, who painted watercolors of Richland City area farms and scenes from the late 1870s to the early 1900s, was virtually unknown until scholars discovered his works in 1950, nearly 30 years after his death. He's now considered a leading folk artist of rural scenes, and his paintings are highly desired by collectors - although museum officials say they have never before been exhibited together. The 17 paintings of *Wisconsin in Watercolor: The Farmscapes of Paul Seifert* will remain on display through Aug. 30.

'WICKED' COMPOSER, OTHERS FIGHT SHEET MUSIC PIRACY

While most discussions of musical piracy focus on illegal downloads of songs, several musical theater composers, including *Wicked* composer Stephen Schwartz, have begun a fight to stop the piracy of sheet music. At a forum hosted by the Dramatists Guild on April 21, Schwartz and other composers, including Jason Robert Brown (*The Last Five Years*), Lin-Manuel Miranda (*In the Heights*) and Stephen Flaherty (*Ragtime*), discussed the problem and wrote personal letters to offenders describing the impact their piracies have on their individual incomes and the industry as a whole. The Dramatists Guild's Anti-Piracy Committee has not publicly assigned a dollar value to the cost of sheet music illegally traded online. But the committee says that well-known composers have tens of thousands of pieces of music available to download.

Committee chair Craig Carnelia said he believes most offenders are simply "people that don't really understand that by doing

this, they're taking from the very people they revere, and damaging the business they hope to become a part of."



PHOTO: COURTESY

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT TOWER OPENS TO PUBLIC

Frank Lloyd Wright fans now have the opportunity to take a look at one of his most unusual buildings: an industrial tower with a tree-like design. Building owners SC Johnson are opening the building for public tours.

The 15-story tower, SC Johnson's former research and development center in its Racine headquarters, is considered one of the country's most important examples of cantilevered architecture. The first floor appears like a tree trunk, and higher floors thrust from the core like branches.

Wright completed the structure for the company in 1950, at a time when SC Johnson was in the process of developing four of its most successful products: Raid bug killer, Glade air freshener, Off insect repellent and Pledge furniture polish. Researchers ultimately moved out of the building in 1982 to a new facility. The building stood vacant until this year, after completion of a five-year, \$30-million renovation. The tower and an adjacent administration center also designed by Wright are in the free tours, which begin May 2.

CHRIS FARLEY'S BROTHER SEEKS TO BE MADISON ALDERMAN

The brother of late comedian Chris Farley wants to be a Madison alderman.

The Capital Times reports that Tom Farley is looking to fill a seat recently vacated by Sue Ellingson to deal with a family emergency. The Madison City Council will appoint a placeholder until a new

alder is elected in 2015. A dozen have applied for the position.

Farley has been active in civic affairs as head of the now-defunct Chris Farley Foundation and through various city boards and commissions. He also ran unsuccessfully for Madison School Board in 2010 and a city council seat in 2011.

While he identified previously as a Republican, he now claims to lean Democratic. A committee will recommend an applicant to the full body, which will then vote on it.



PHOTO: GLAAD

Whoopi says pot relieves her pain**WHOOPI GOLDBERG SAYS SHE'S IN LOVE WITH HER MARIJUANA-VAPORIZING PEN.**

In her new column for *The Denver Post's* Cannabist website, the Oscar-winning entertainer writes that her "vape pen" relieves the devastating glaucoma headaches she suffers without overwhelming her with a marijuana high.

Goldberg's debut column appeared April 17.

She writes that marijuana eases the pressure, pain and stress of glaucoma, and her vaporizing pen allows her to get the right amount in small sips.

Goldberg says she's discreet about using the pen if she's in jurisdictions where medical marijuana is illegal

WILSON CENTER EARNS AWARD FROM WAUKESHA COUNTY BUSINESS ALLIANCE

The Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts announced April 21 that they've been awarded 2014's Community Distinction Award by the Waukesha County Business Alliance and media partner BizTimes Media LLC. The award, given in conjunction with the alliance's 2014 Top 10 Business of the Year Awards, recognizes

companies quartered in southeast Wisconsin that have consistent financial growth and demonstrate a commitment to good business practices. The Wilson Center and other winners will receive their awards at a luncheon scheduled for Friday, June 6, at the Country Springs Hotel. Tickets can be purchased at waukesha.org.



PHOTO: COURTESY

NBC ADDING WEHR, LIPINSKI TO KENTUCKY DERBY

Hot off their successful gigs at the Winter Olympics and the Academy Awards, former figure skaters-turned-announcing team Johnny Weir and Tara Lipinski are bringing their sense of style to the Kentucky Derby. NBC announced April 22 the duo will comment on the fashion and party scene at horse racing's signature event on Sat., May 3. Their addition is considered a reflection on how the Derby has become one of the most female-friendly sports televised. Last year's Derby was the second-most-watched in 25 years, and 51 percent of the viewers were women.

FISH FRY & A FLICK RETURNS

The now-annual Point Fish Fry & A Flick series, sponsored by Point Brewery, will return to Discovery World this summer - with two additional opportunities to mix a delicious Friday fish fry with a blockbuster projected on a mega screen. Films will be shown every other week beginning in mid-July. The roster of films will be announced May 19. Entry is free, but tickets must be purchased for the fish fry. The event's dates are July 18, Aug. 1, Aug. 15, Sept. 5 and Sept. 19.

WISN WINS REGIONAL MURROW AWARD FOR OVERALL EXCELLENCE

Local ABC affiliate WISN 12 announced Apr. 22 that it's received two regional Edward R. Murrow awards, given out by the Radio Television Digital News

Association. The station was awarded the prestigious overall excellence award as well as the breaking news award for its coverage of the Children's Hospital shooting last November. The two wins both qualify WISN for the national competition in June.

Other local stations that received awards are WITI-6, which won for investigative reporting, news series and use of sound/video, and WTMJ, which won two radio awards for breaking news and feature reporting as well as for best TV news website.



PHOTO: THEWRAP.COM

ROBIN ROBERTS GETS HONORARY DOCTORATE

Southeastern Louisiana University will honor ABC's *Good Morning America* out co-host Robin Roberts with an honorary doctorate at its spring commencement on May 17.

Roberts is a 1983 communications graduate and former basketball star at Southeastern. After graduating, she entered the broadcasting field and eventually joined ESPN, hosting "SportsCenter" and contributing regularly to "NFL Primetime." She joined *Good Morning America* in 2005.

Diagnosed with breast cancer in 2007, Roberts underwent a bone marrow transplant to treat pre-leukemia in 2011. Southeastern students started a program to educate the public and recruit potential donors for patients with leukemia and other blood diseases called "Swabbin' 4 Robin" and recruited a record number of potential donors for the nonprofit organization Be the Match.

No doubt about it Fox 2000 is developing a sequel to the 1993 hit comedy *Mrs. Doubtfire*, which starred Robin Williams. The follow-up will be penned by "Elf" writer David Berenbaum.

The 62-year-old Williams would reprise his role as *Mrs. Doubtfire*, and Chris Columbus would return to direct and produce the film, in which Williams played a struggling actor who disguised himself as Scottish nanny to spend time with his kids, who lived with his former wife Sally Field. The original film made over \$400 million worldwide.

WORLD WAR II

ACROSS

1. Low life?
6. Hot springs
9. Nerd
13. _____ International Airport, Kyrgyzstan
14. *It ended in 1945
15. *Peninsula, location of El Shatt WWII refugee camps
16. March celebrants
17. "Much ___ About Nothing"
18. Bond
19. *Russian soldiers, en masse
21. *Ribbentrop's co-signer
23. ___-tzu
24. Absorbed
25. "Yakety ___"
28. Short skirt
30. Geo-spacial positioning system, for short
35. Genesis man
37. Cell phone button
39. Wynonna Judd's mother
40. Mischievous Scandinavian god
41. Dress up or deck out
43. Elegant and stylish
44. ___-__-la
46. Russell Crowe's 2014 role
47. Comedy Central's "___O"
48. One of the founders of

- scholasticism
50. Box office failure, e.g.
 52. One of Five Ws
 53. Bread portion
 55. Corn spot
 57. Entertain, as in idea
 61. *WW II consequence
 65. Love intensely
 66. Snake-like fish
 68. Open-mouthed
 69. *He defeated Max Schmeling before enlisting
 70. In the past
 71. In the buff
 72. Formerly
 73. Rin tin tin, e.g
 74. Done for success

DOWN

1. Gulf V.I.P.
2. Filly's mother
3. Blyton or Bagnold
4. Primary
5. Hindu retreat
6. Go to and fro
7. Mouse turf
8. Enophile's sensory concern
9. Drunkard
10. "Get ___!"
11. *Post WWII military alliance
12. *Battle of ____, encirclement of Russian troops
15. Arabic ruler

20. Damp
22. Operations, as in military
24. Hang up the phone
25. *Churchill/Roosevelt/Stalin meeting site
26. Bedazzle
27. New Zealand parrots
29. Type of sign
31. Boors lack this
32. In no manner
33. American Mennonite
34. *Like France under Pétain
36. Eight furlongs
38. Involving two parts
42. Selfie
45. *Axis opponents
49. "Word" in French
51. *Germany's invasion target
54. Beforehand
56. J. _____ Hoover
57. Tall one is a lie
58. Carbon monoxide lacks this
59. Y'all
60. Court order
61. Heidi's shoe
62. Boat track
63. "Planet of the ___"
64. Co-written, produced and directed by Warren Beatty
67. Bigheadedness

CROSSWORD

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Out on the town May 1 - May 14

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'NANCY DREW AND HER BIGGEST CASE EVER'

May 2 to June 1

Teen detective Nancy Drew makes her first appearance in a First Stage production with this adaptation by Jeff Frank and John Maclay, which finds her stumbling into a brand-new mystery. In the vein of the classic stories by Mildren Wirt Benson (writing as Carolyn Keene), Frank and Maclay have crafted a clever tale of a mysterious girl, her family's secrets and a series of clues that draw Nancy closer and closer to the truth — and to danger. At the Marcus Center's Todd Wehr Theatre, 929 N. Water St. Tickets range from \$12 to \$32. Phone 414-267-2961 or visit firststage.org.



'SONGS FOR A NEW WORLD'

7:30 p.m. on Fri., May 2, and Sat., May 3

Greendale Community Theatre is well known for its big summer and winter productions, but this May, the company presents its first spring show: *Songs for a New World*. The first produced work by Jason Robert Brown, the show is best described as a theatrical song cycle. It's a minimalist work for a small cast that follows six performers playing multiple characters who are, in Brown's words, "hitting the wall and having to make a choice, or take a stand, or turn around and go back." At Muskego Lakes Country Club, S100 W14020 Loomis Road, Muskego. Tickets are \$10, and can be ordered at 414-423-2790 or greendaletheater.org. A pre-show dinner option is available. For more about that, call Muskego Lakes Country Club at 414-425-6500.



PHOTO: MIRANDACRISPIN.COM

The Paris cast of *Songs for a New World*.



PHOTO: GLORIA HAFEMEISTER

Dirk Hildebrandt, farm manager at Old World Wisconsin, poses next to an antique wagon he acquired for the historic attraction.

OLD WORLD WISCONSIN OPENING DAY Sat., May 3

After a long, cold winter, Old World Wisconsin springs back to life, once again re-creating the long-past world of late-19th century Wisconsin, when settlers began developing the land we now call home. Populated with historic buildings relocated from across the state and featuring a village of re-enactors portraying early settlers, Old World Wisconsin is the world's largest museum dedicated to the history of rural life. Old World Wisconsin is open weekends only from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through May 18, at which point it opens daily through the summer. Located just outside Eagle, Wis., at W372 S9727 Hwy 67. Admission is \$16, \$14 for students and seniors, and \$9 for children 5 to 17. Family tickets are \$43. Visit oldworldwisconsin.wisconsinhistory.org for more information.



MADISON ANTIQUE SHOWCASE AND SALE

9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sat., May 3; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sun., May 4

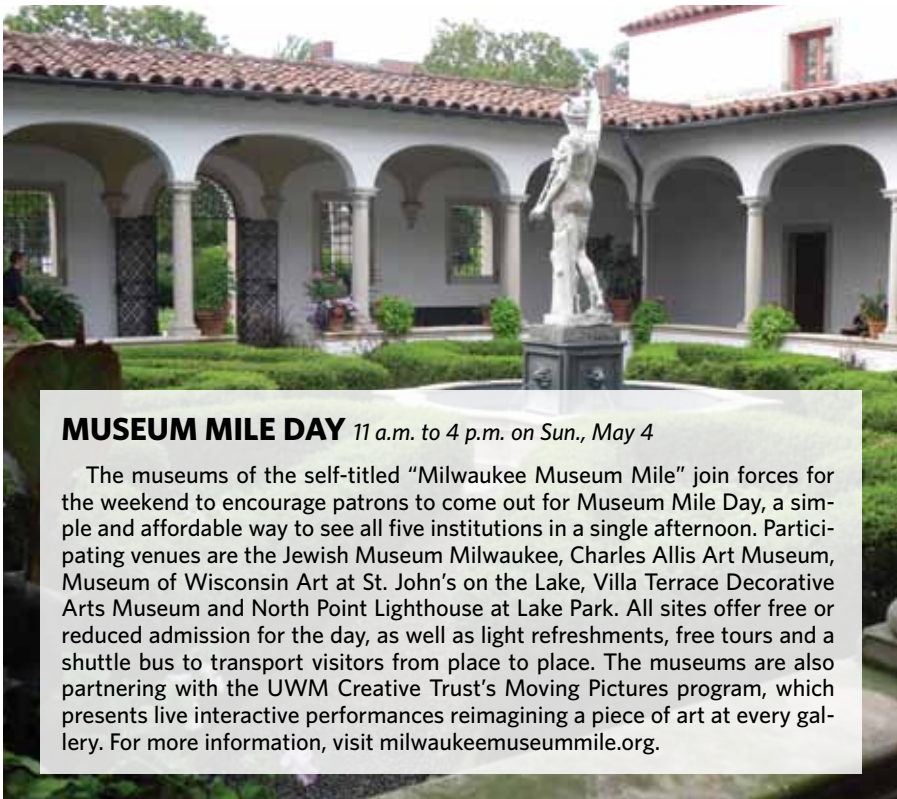
The 17th annual Madison Antique Showcase and Sale takes over the Alliant Energy Center this weekend. The event features 55 dealers from across the Midwest, selling art, Americana, pottery, furniture, folk art and vintage goods. There are also food and festivities to enjoy. If you have antiques to sell, take them along from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday or 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday to have them appraised. Admission for the two-day event is \$6. At 1919 Alliant Energy Way. Visit madisonantiqueshow.com for more details.



MAIFEST 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sat., May 3; after-party from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Celebrate spring's (sort-of) return at this festive, Germanic celebration of May at Essen Haus. This annual, outdoor, family-friendly festival features live contemporary and polka music, a traditional Maypole dance, a local art display and activities for kids and adults. Essen Haus, an authentic Bavarian restaurant, co-hosts the event with the Dane County Humane Society, which benefits from 15 percent of the profits from food and beverage sales. At 514 E. Wilson St., Madison. Admission and parking are free.

➤ Out on the town May 1 - May 14



MUSEUM MILE DAY 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sun., May 4

The museums of the self-titled "Milwaukee Museum Mile" join forces for the weekend to encourage patrons to come out for Museum Mile Day, a simple and affordable way to see all five institutions in a single afternoon. Participating venues are the Jewish Museum Milwaukee, Charles Allis Art Museum, Museum of Wisconsin Art at St. John's on the Lake, Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum and North Point Lighthouse at Lake Park. All sites offer free or reduced admission for the day, as well as light refreshments, free tours and a shuttle bus to transport visitors from place to place. The museums are also partnering with the UWM Creative Trust's Moving Pictures program, which presents live interactive performances reimagining a piece of art at every gallery. For more information, visit milwaukeemuseummile.org.



FITZ AND THE TANTRUMS 7:30 p.m. on Tue., May 6

Fitz and the Tantrums have swept like a whirlwind through popular music ever since releasing the bombastic debut, the Motown- and soul-influenced *Pickin' Up the Pieces*, in 2010. The group's latest release *More Than Just a Dream* is in many ways less ambitious and more self-conscious than the freshman outing. Nonetheless, it's the basis for an exemplary concert. If you haven't seen the sextet live, don't miss this soon-to-become rare opportunity to see Fitz and company in Madison, because it's on stage, not in the studio, where this group comes memorably to life. Having already sold out the Barrymore, the original venue where the group was to appear in Madison, the show's been moved to the larger Capitol Theater at the Overture Center for the Arts, 201 State St. With special guest Night Terrors of 1927. Tickets are \$25 to \$28. Call at 608-258-4141 or go to overturecenter.com. And hurry!

'MOM'S NIGHT OUT' 6:30 p.m. on Weds., May 7

Mother's Day isn't until May 11, but if you want some private "mom time" before that, sign up for "Mom's Night Out," sponsored by Dishcrawl Milwaukee. The "premier walking food tour" provider is partnering with City Moms Blog Network and My Milwaukee Mommy to offer a variety of specialty food samples, goodie bags and the opportunity to meet and network with other local parents. At Kasana, 241 N. Broadway, Milwaukee. Tickets are \$30. For more, mouse over to dishcrawl.com.

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PHOTO: MILWAUKEEOPERA.ORG

'I HEAR AMERICA SINGING' May 9 to June 1

Famous opera composer and Milwaukee native Daron Hagen agreed to write, arrange and direct this musical review, so expect something spectacular from *I Hear America Singing*, staged by Skylight Music Theater. The show features three old friends (played by Robert Frankenberg, Carol Greif and Rick Pendzich) who reunite at an audition for a revival of an old-time musical called — you guessed it — *I Hear America Singing*. As they trade stories and reminisce, they thread in a mix of classic Civil War and World War I-era tunes, as well as new compositions by Hagen. The proceedings lead to what the Skylight's advertising describes as no less than a "revolution of the heart." At the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Tickets range from \$13.50 to \$67. Give a call to 414-291-7800 or go to skylightmusictheatre.org.

'FORTUNA THE TIME BENDER VS. THE SCHOOLGIRLS OF DOOM' May 7 to May 24

Milwaukee Opera Theatre's most famous production returns, in all its superheroic, operatic glory. *Fortuna*, an opera commissioned from Jason Powell in 2010 and first performed in 2012, tells the story of Anyville, a town that's been cleansed of crime until the evil headmaster and his schoolgirls of doom cross the Atlantic to challenge the time-bending *Fortuna*, who must recruit an ally from the average citizenry of Anyville to vanquish her foe. Although this sounds like an unorthodox premise for an opera, Superheroes are red-hot right — and so is this production, complete with its original cast. At the Alchemist Theatre, 2569 S. Kinnickinnic Ave., Milwaukee. Tickets are \$22, \$10 for student rush. Order at 800-838-3006 or online at milwaukeeoperatheatre.org.



'MIDSUMMER IN MIDWINTER'

7:30 p.m. on Thurs., Fri., and Sat., May 9 to 17

Taking Shakespeare's classic *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and turning it upside-down to make it a contemporary midwinter farce? That's just the sort of thing you'd expect from Theatre Gigante, which has spent more than 25 years developing its own distinct style of theater and movement. The troupe's season concludes with this adaptation, which takes the basic idea of Shakespeare's original play — confused lovers lost in the woods — and applies it to a new crop of characters, young and old alike, with farcical results. At Kenilworth Studio 508, 1925 E. Kenilworth Place. Tickets are \$25, \$20 for seniors, \$15 for students. Ring 800-838-3006 or visit theatregigante.org.

ISTHMUS A LA CARTS

4 to 8 p.m. on Fri., May 9

The food carts and trucks of Madison will once again queue up at the lakeside setting of Olin Park, 1156 Olin-Turville Court, for another installment of Isthmus a la Carts, an afternoon celebrating the city's street food scene. Patrons can enjoy sample-sized portions from more than a dozen of the best roving restaurants, as well as craft brews from sponsor Leinenkugel's. The event wraps up promptly at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20. Check it out at isthmusalacarts.com.



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Out on the town May 1 – May 14

A curated calendar of upcoming events



NICKEL CREEK 6:30 p.m. on Sat., May 10

Mandolin player Chris Thile, fiddle player Sara Watkins and guitarist Sean Watkins — much better known as the progressive bluegrass trio Nickel Creek — hadn't played together in seven years before reuniting recently to celebrate the trio's 25th anniversary. So you can imagine their show together at the Riverside Theater is going to be nostalgic and enthusiastic. But seats are still available to hear the trio perform the biggest songs from their past, such as "The Lighthouse's Tale" and "This Side," as well as tracks from their new album *A Dotted Line*. The Riverside Theater is at 116 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee. Tickets — \$35 and \$45 — can be purchased at 414-286-3663 or pabsttheater.org.

'8 IS ENOUGH' 7 p.m. on Mon., May 12

Frank Almond will wrap up the 10th anniversary season of Frankly Music with a pair of mesmerizing octets, considered some of the greatest in the canon. The works by Schubert and Mendelssohn will be performed by a collection of Almond's colleagues, many from the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, joined by violinist David Kim, the concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra. After a season of multiple triumphs and the terror of having the Lipinski Stradivarius stolen from him, Almond is sure to present a cathartic and powerful evening. At Wisconsin Lutheran College, 8815 W. Wisconsin Ave., Wauwatosa. Tickets are \$39, \$10 for students. Go to franklymusic.org.

NEKO CASE

7:30 p.m. on Wed., May 14

She may have taken up with country music since leaving her collaborators in The New Pornographers, but Neko Case has always done things on her own terms. With her latest album *The Worse Things Get, The Harder I Fight, The Harder I Fight, The More I Love You*, she reaches her most emotionally raw places yet, exploring autobiographical and observed moments through song. She'll open up to Madison audiences at the Orpheum Theatre, 216 State St., performing on the same bill with the San Francisco folk band The Dodos. Tickets are \$28.50 in advance and \$32.50 at the door. Call 855-704-8976 or visit madisonorpheum.com.



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