Wisconsin Gazette ocom

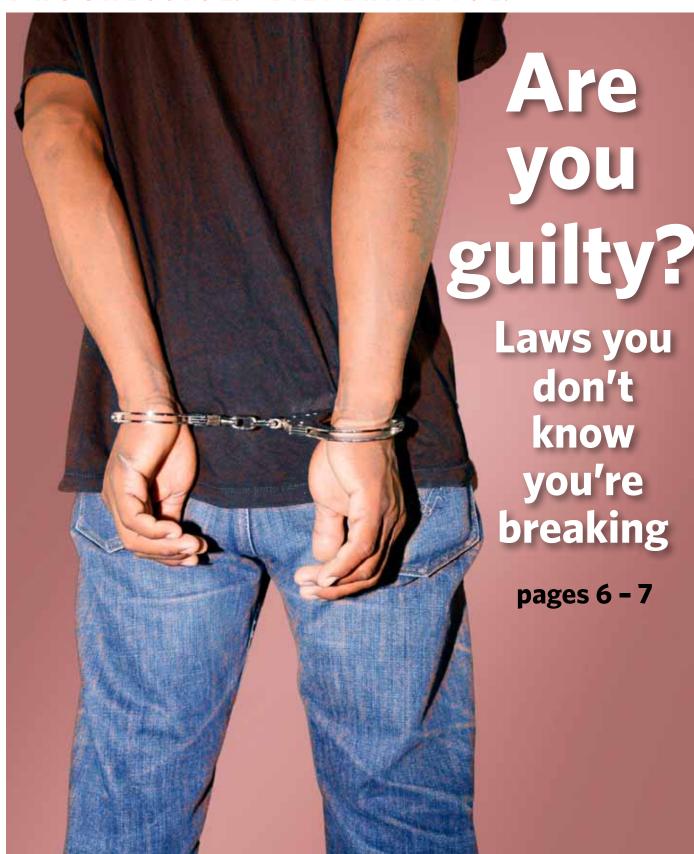
Pleasant under glass The glass-enclosed gardens of Madison and Milwaukee offer a respite from winter.

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January 15, 2015 *Vol.* 6 *No.* 4

PROGRESSIVE. ALTERNATIVE.





8 New year, new laws New laws take effect throughout the U.S., including minimum wage hikes in some states.



12 Marquette prof. 'off duty' Controversial professor John McAdams remains 'under review' after challenging grad student over gay marriage.



22 Dr. M.L. King, Jr. and more This issue's calendar features two events celebrating the civil rights leader, along with more than a dozen other events.



35 A ladies' 'Macbeth'Women take center stage in Soulstice Theatre's man-less version of the classic.

News with a twist

HEY, SHUCKS, DERE

Is this something to brag about? The HeyLets Self-Promotion Index, based on self-promotional posts and boasts on social media, ranks Wisconsin as the 10th most humble state in the country. The most humble is Utah. And the states with the highest percentage of brag-ommendations on social media? California is No. 1, followed by Washington, Nevada, Maryland and New Hampshire.

RODGERS' LUCKY CHARM

The beard grown on a communications technician who works on the sidelines during Green Bay Packers home games is getting a lot of attention. The 9-inch beard belonging to Jeremy Wilcox has become a good luck charm for Aaron Rodgers. The Packers quarterback has been giving the red beard a gentle tug at each home game ever since Rodgers spotted Wilcox and his hairy chin.

HORSING AROUND?

A Wausau man was charged with bestiality after allegedly having sex with a horse. According to court documents, sheriff's deputies found Jared Kreft. 30, in a barn wearing a facemask, black jacket and blue wind pants with holes cut in the groin and buttocks areas. Deputies also found a glass pipe, the type used for smoking marijuana, and a jar of petroleum jelly. Kreft admitted to performing oral sex on the horse and trying to arouse the equine with his hand. He said he had viewed "horse pornography" before the incident. Kreft was ordered held on a \$2,000 cash bond and ordered to stay away from the barn.

HAPPY DAYS

An AP-Times Square poll at New Year's found Americans eager to say bye-bye to 2014 and optimistic about 2015. Nearly half of those surveyed expect the next 12 months to be better

WiGWAG

than the last and only 10 percent expect the year to be worse. The survey found most

Americans shrugging of the old year with a "meh."

NO LADY JOHN

Sir Elton John and David Furnish converted their civil partnership to a marriage, but the couple still faces discrimination when it comes to titles. Although Sir Elton was awarded a knighthood in 1998, Furnish will not automatically receive a courtesy title, as do wives in heterosexual marriages. But, then, neither do husbands of women who are awarded titles. John and Furnish have been together 21 years.

PALIN VS. PETA

PETA took on Sarah Palin after the half-term-Alaska-governor-turned-Fox-News-celebrity posted pictures on Facebook of her 6-year-old son standing on the back of the family dog to reach the kitchen sink. Palin punched back at PETA. "At least Trig didn't eat the dog," she wrote on Facebook, referring to the president's acknowledgement that he ate dog as a child in Indonesia. And referring to a photo on Ellen DeGeneres' Twitter account of a child standing on a dog, Palin asked PETA, "Did you get all wee-wee'd up when she posted this sweet picture?"

FIENDISH FUR-SELLERS

New York prosecutors arrested and charged three fur-sellers who allegedly climbed to the roof of a six-story building in Manhattan to pour bleach and ammonia on animal rights activists assembled below on the sidewalk. The men face charges of reckless endangerment, harassment and criminal mischief. The bleach rained on protesters, passersby and at least one baby stroller.

By Lisa Neff, Louis Weisberg & Matthew Reddin

IN MY CAR? Fundamentalist preacher Gaylard Williams, 59, was arrested in southern Indiana after a 27-year-old man told police the pastor had reached through his car window while he was parked at an area lake and then squeezed his genitals and demanded oral sex. According to a police report, the victim responded, "You're barking up the wrong tree" and phoned police with Williams' license plate number. Police officers found gay

pornography in the car, but

the anti-gay pastor said it

belonged to someone else.

FAVORING FALLON
Did you know there is a National League of Junior Cotillions? There is, and the league has just released its list of the 25 "best-mannered people of the past 25 years." Jimmy Fallon of *The Tonight Show* is at the top of the list for "maintaining the dignity and respect of others through his come-

dic disposition" and also "his continuing support of charitable organizations." The top 10 also includes David Muir, Peyton Manning, Barbara Bush, Bob Hope, Michael J. Fox, Kate Middleton, Nelson Mandela, Victoria Soto and Phil Mickelson.

THE DENIAL CHANNEL

The Learning Channel, which has unleashed on the world such programming as Sarah Palin's Alaska, Here Comes Honey Boo-Boo, Obese and Pregnant, and Toddlers and Tiaras, has created a new program titled My Husband's Not Gay. The program features three gay Mormon men who married women in an attempt to turn straight. Numerous online petitions are calling on TLC to cancel the program, claiming that it sends the messages that being gay is wrong and gays can change their orientation.

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MILKY CHANCE

MURDER BY DEATH JOHNNY MATHIS

JOHN MELLENCAMP DIANA KRALL



Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Ann Walsh Bradley faces retention bid against Rock County Circuit Judge James Daley

By Scott Bauer

AP writer

Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Ann Walsh Bradley will face Rock County Circuit Judge James Daley in a race that will determine whether the conservative majority on the state's highest court will grow.

Bradley, the 20-year incumbent who is generally viewed as part of the liberal minority, launched her re-election campaign on Jan. 6 with a news conference at the Wausau County Courthouse. Daley, a decorated war veteran with 26 years' experience on the court, is garnering support from conservatives.

Races for the state Supreme Court are officially nonpartisan, but they have broken down along party lines in recent years, with outside groups spending heavily to influence the conservative and liberal makeup of the court.Bradley, 64, said in a statement on Jan. 6 that she's committed to maintaining a non-partisan court "that is beholden to no special interest group large or small."

"The people of Wisconsin deserve a justice who is tough, fair, and independent, with a proven track record of standing up for them," Bradley said. "That's exactly the kind of justice I've been for two decades."

Daley, 67, was appointed to the circuit court in 1989 by Republican Gov. Tommy Thompson. He previously served four years as Rock County district attorney and has nearly 40 years of military service, including three years in the Marine Corps, where he earned a Purple Heart and Bronze Star while serving in Vietnam.

"I look forward to a campaign which highlights the differences between my judicial philosophy and my opponent's," Daley said in a statement.

Justices serve 10-year terms on the seven-member Supreme Court. Bradley was first elected in 1995 and re-elected in 2005.

The Supreme Court race is the only statewide contest on the April 7 spring election ballot. Two state appeals court judges along with 63 circuit court judges will with dozens of school board memhers and other local offices

A state Senate seat vacated by Republican Glenn Grothman after he was elected to Congress also will be filled. The district includes most of Washington, eastern Fond du Lac, northern Ozaukee, western Sheboygan, and southern Calumet counties.

Three Republicans had filed to run for the seat by midday on Jan. 6. Two additional Republicans, a Democrat and one independent all registered to run but had yet to submit the required paperwork before the 5 p.m. deadline.

The primary, for races with more than two candidates, is on

Spring elections traditionally attract few voters and favor incumbents. But in 2008, incumbent Louis Butler lost his seat on the bench after corporate interests spent heavily on ads portraying him as working "to put criminals on the street" and accusing him of securing the release of a child molester. An ethics complaint was

be elected across the state, along filed against his right-wing opponent Michael Gableman for false and misleading advertising, but the partisan court deadlocked 3 to 3 on pursuing the charges, so they were dropped.

> Gableman has been accused of other ethical violations during his tenure on the court.

> Bradley is a liberal-leaning judge, frequently siding with Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson. Conservatives have a four-judge majority on the court.

> The court's private deliberations have gotten heated, most notably in 2011 when Justice David Prosser put his hands around Bradley's neck during an argument over an opinion upholding Republican Gov. Scott Walker's law effectively ending collective bargaining for public workers. Prosser said he was making a defensive move, but charges were brought against him alleging that he violated the judicial ethics code. Bradley and four other justices recused themselves from the case, leaving the court without a quorum to move



Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Ann Walsh Bradley



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Federal Respect for Marriage Act re-introduced

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The sunny day Floridians Joe Williams and Peter Rostenkowski skipped down the steps of their county courthouse with a marriage sex couples still license in hand, a Florida congresswoman reintro- may be denied duced legislation aimed at guaranteeing them access to full marriage benefits.

Same-sex couples began marrying in much of the Sunshine State at the stroke of midnight on Jan. 6.

Also that day, a Republican from Miami-Dade, U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, joined U.S. Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., in reintroducing the Respect for Marriage Act, legislation aimed at fully repealing the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act.

The Supreme Court partially overturned DOMA in 2013, but still in place is Section 2, which allows states to refuse to recognize valid legal marriages of same-sex couples. Also, there is no uniform standard on marriage for federal purposes.

"We must finish the job begun by the Supreme Court by passing the Respect for Marriage Act," Nadler said. "The Supreme Court has ruled that Section 3 of DOMA is unconstitutional, but Congress still must repeal the law in its entirety."

U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California introduced a companion bill, which would provide a uniform rule for recognizing couples under federal law, ensuring benefits and rights of marriage regardless of where lawfully married couples reside

In June 2014, a year after the Supreme Court ruling on DOMA, the U.S. Justice Department issued a finding that without legislation repealing DOMA, married same-sex couples still may be denied critical federal benefits, specifically Social Security and veterans benefits that are issued based on the law of the state in which a married couple resides or resided. Currently under the law, if a same-sex couple married in Wisconsin then moved to Texas, where a marriage ban remains, and

Unless DOMA is repealed, married samecritical federal benefits.

one spouse died, the widow or widower likely would be denied Social Security spousal survivor benefits.

"The Respect for Marriage Act would ensure equal treatment under federal law and finally put to rest the awful consequences of DOMA," said U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan of Wisconsin, a co-sponsor of RMA.

U.S. Rep. Gwen Moore of Wisconsin also is a cosponsor.

Back in Florida, Williams and Rostenkowski, who've been together 33 years, wanted to get their license the first day possible. But they don't plan to marry until Valentine's Day.

"We've waited decades for this," Williams said. "We can wait long enough to plan a marvelous wedding."

Florida, whose 19.9 million people make it the nation's third-largest state, became the 36th where same-sex couples could marry. It likely will become a mecca for gay couples seeking destination weddings.

Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi, however, continues to defend the marriage ban and wants final rulings on the issue from state and federal courts.

Her position led clerks in some conservative counties to shut down marriage ceremonies at the courthouses on Jan. 6.

Elsewhere, mass weddings took place at courthouses and city halls, including in Broward and Palm Beach counties and Orlando.

In Miami-Dade County, more than 100 same-sex couples received marriage licenses on Jan. 6 and more than 20 married at the courthouse.



Brandy Gardner, left, and her spouse Michelle Long-Gardner of Crestview, Florida, hold their marriage license following their ceremony on Jan. 6. The women also are holding their two children Willow, 4, and Journey, 3. Florida is the 36th state to allow same-sex marriage.

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Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, Inc.

Biased, obsolete laws litter the books Our legal code is unjust and unequally applied

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. subscribed to St. Augustine's view of the law: "An unjust law is no law at all." King was martyred during his fight to eliminate laws that treated people unjustly.

Today, many unjust laws remain on the books, as do antiquated and obscure laws that are widely unknown and seldom enforced. Some of the former are occasionally invoked by prosecutors intent on harassing people; some of the latter, particularly state abortion bans that were overturned by *Roe v. Wade*, are maintained on the books by conservative lawmakers who hope they'll someday become enforceable again, says Nicole Safar, public policy director of Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin.

LAWS AS GIFTS

Some laws on Wisconsin's books are essentially legislative gifts to fat-cat donors or other wealthy special interests. Ever wonder why you can't buy liquor at a store after 9 p.m. in Wisconsin, but you can still buy it at a bar for several hours after that? It's due to a law created for the powerful Wisconsin League of Tavern Owners, whose members want Wisconsinites to buy cocktails from them rather than make them

at home

Optometrists also have wrangled a sweetheart deal from Wisconsin law-makers, as they have from lawmakers in the other states. In Wisconsin, the vision impaired must have an eye examination every year in order to wear contact lenses, regardless of whether they need, want or can afford one. It's illegal to sell contact lenses, online or in person, to a consumer who does not provide a valid prescription under state law.

You can still, however, buy eyeglasses without an annual examination. Optometrists have an argument to support this discrepancy — it involves contact lenses being classified as "medical devices" — but the real reason for the law is obvious.

Wisconsin, like most states, has similarly convoluted laws protecting favored local industries. The most prominent are the laws governing margarine — a nod to the state's huge dairy industry.

In 1967, Wisconsin became the last state in the nation to legalize margarine. But Wisconsin Statute 97.18, aka the Oleomargarine Regulations, still forbids restaurants to substitute margarine for butter unless a patron specifically requests it. The statute also mandates that patients and inmates in state institutions must be

served butter unless their doctors determine they have a medical condition, such as high cholesterol, that makes margarine a better choice. In other words, you need a note from your doctor to get margarine in a state-run facility.

Lawmakers made a concerted, but failed, effort to eliminate the Oleomargarine Regulations in 2011.

LAWS AS JOKES

Wisconsin lawmakers occasionally purge obsolete laws from the books and update public health and safety laws to reflect technological and social advancements. In recent years, the Assembly has conducted an overhaul of a number of statutes to remove the gender-specific pronoun "he" and replace it with "he or she," according to ACLU of Wisconsin legal director Larry DuPuis.

Still, some odd relics remain the law of the land in Wisconsin. For example, no jurisdiction can prohibit manual flushed urinals. Livestock have the right of way on public roads. If you camp in a wagon on a public highway, you'll pay a \$10 fine. One especially strange Wisconsin law makes it illegal to kiss on a train.

But municipalities allow even stranger statutes to linger inexplicably on their books, DuPuis said. A quick Google search backs up his assertion.

For example, in Racine it's illegal to wake up a sleeping fireman or for women to walk down the street unaccompanied by a male. St. Croix has a law that represses women even more: They're banned from wearing anything red in public. Connorsville is more forward-thinking toward women. There, it's a crime for a man to fire a gun while his female partner is experiencing an orgasm.

In Kenosha, a man could land in the slammer for becoming aroused in public. In Sheboygan, only police can shoot birds. Hudson law mandates that citizens put screens in their windows from May 1 until Oct. 1.

Brookfield has enshrined some particularly odd laws in its criminal code. Tattooing is illegal in the suburb unless it serves some medical purpose. Brookfield also makes it a crime to allow another person to use your phone to make crank calls.

In Sun Prairie, the apparent legal watchword is "safety." In that city, it's illegal to ride a bike with your hands off the handlebars, and it's a crime to manufacture nuclear weapons within city limits. While those seem like fairly common-sense statutes, another Sun Prairie law is more perplexing: Cats are forbidden to enter cemeteries.

In Milwaukee, it's illegal for "offensive-looking" people to appear in public during daylight hours, a statute that obviously is not enforced. It's also illegal to buy sparklers in Milwaukee, although city law permits buying fully disassembled machine guns.

Ever wonder why you can't buy liquor at a store after 9 p.m. in Wisconsin?

A Supreme Court ruling in 1953 set a precedent that somewhat protects citizens accused of unwittingly breaking such outdated laws. In his 1997 book *Three Felonies a Day: How the Feds Target the Innocent*, legal scholar Harvey Silverglate explains the ruling in *Morissette v. United States*, which involved a Michigan Army veteran who collected and sold scrap iron he collected from a vacant, unmarked field in his area. The field turned out to belong to the U.S. Armed Forces, which once had used it as a practice bombing range.

The FBI learned about the case and charged the vet with "willfully and knowingly" stealing and converting U.S. property. He was convicted and sentenced to two months in prison or a \$200 fine after the prosecutor argued, essentially, that ignorance of the law is no excuse.

But in a unanimous decision, the U.S. Supreme Court threw out that verdict, which had been upheld on appeal. Writing for the majority, Justice Robert H. Jackson said that to be convicted of a crime, a plaintiff must have "an evil-meaning mind with an evil-doing hand," both of which were lacking in the case.

UNEQUAL APPLICATION

Silverglate goes on to lament that the wide discretion that prosecutors have in enforcing and interpreting laws — and the roles that money and influence play in meting out justice — have eroded the goal of fairness in the American justice system. Laws are not applied equally or with equal commonsense.

Consider the recent case of Eric Garner, a 43-year-old unarmed black man from Staten Island, New York, who died in police hands for allegedly selling tax-free cigarettes. Many people have pointed out the relative pettiness of Garner's alleged crime compared to those of Wall Street barons who crushed the world economy through shady banking and trading practices. The latter went on to receive federal bailout money to save their institutions—and bonuses rather than jail time.

Silverglate points out that a particularly egregious practice in today's criminal justice system is plea-bargaining: Two people who carry out the same crime together





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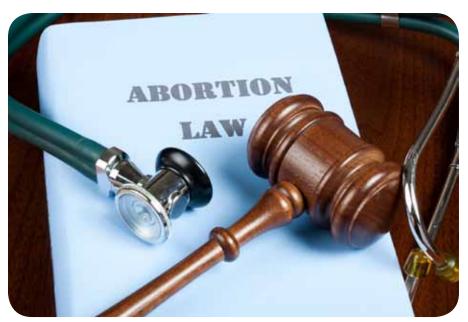


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LAWS next page



LAWS from prior page

often receive different punishments because prosecutors get one of them to cooperate in the case against the other.

In addition, today's system is riddled with inequality. For instance, penalties for possessing crack cocaine, which is perceived as a drug primarily used by urban blacks, are much harsher than penalties for possessing powdered cocaine, which is perceived as the drug of choice for Wall Street.

And the outcome of a legal case is often more dependent on who's prosecuting the law — and who's defending the plaintiff — than on the merits of the case. Poor people and people of color face far greater challenges in the courtroom than whites and wealthy Americans.

SEX-RELATED LAWS REMAIN ON BOOKS

While some outmoded laws remain on the books due to neglect, some are maintained wishfully, if not purposefully. Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, for example, has tried in every session since 2006 to remove a law enacted by the state in 1849 making it a felony for a doctor to perform an abortion in Wisconsin, according to Safar. With the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Roe v. Wade giving women a constitutional right to choose, Wisconsin's anti-abortion law and those of other states became unenforceable. Roe v. Wade has been upheld in numerous subsequent rulings.

But a spate of decisions in recent years allowing states to impose severe restrictions on women's access to abortion services has led many pro-lifers to believe that the *Roe v. Wade* decision "is hanging by a thread and could be overturned at any time," Safar says.

She does not believe *Roe v. Wade* will be overturned, but she has watched as so many limits have been placed on the right

that it's "almost meaningless," Safar says.

"Wisconsin is certainly headed down that road," she added.

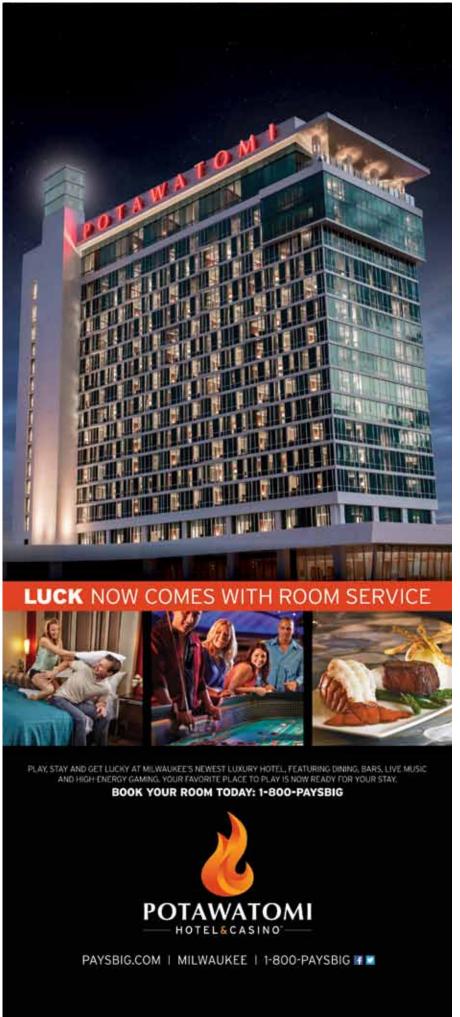
The advantage of keeping the law on the books is that if the federal right to abortion were to be overturned, the 1849 statute would immediately regain effect in Wisconsin. The state would not have to engage in a debate or campaign to create a new law. The reset button would automatically be hit, and the harsh law of 1849 would once again reign over women's bodies in Wisconsin.

Other laws are kept on the books by conservatives who want to stigmatize certain behaviors, even if the laws banning them are never enforced. For instance, adultery is a felony in Wisconsin, but no one has been charged with adultery in the state since 1990 — and that case did not yield a conviction.

Wisconsin's adultery law carries a maximum punishment of two years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Even though adultery cases are not prosecuted, they do come into play in divorce proceedings and custody battles. Often the cheating party finds him/herself facing stigma and prejudice due to the shadow of the adultery law.

The law remains part of the state's penal code because lawmakers are afraid that supporting its removal would tarnish them politically, according to legal experts. Similarly, right-wing leaders in states like Wisconsin are refusing to allow the removal of same-sex marriage bans from their constitutions or legal codes, even when marriage equality is legal in their states. The reasons for this are likely twofold: Anti-gay leaders still hold out hope that the Supreme Court's final decision on the issue will be in their favor, and they want to ensure that some stigmatizing language remains in the state law for them to point to when arguing against LGBT rights.



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Minimum wage hike, other new laws take effect

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Minimum-wage workers in 20 states — about 3.1 million people — saw a boost in their paychecks with the arrival of the new year.

Meanwhile, the "bah humbug" mood toward workers at Wisconsin's Capitol carried over from 2014 to 2015, with Republicans focused on enacting an anti-labor "right to work" bill. If introduced, the measure seems likely to reach the governor's desk, but it's uncertain whether Scott Walker would sign the bill.

As for the minimum-wage bill introduced in early January by state Sen. Bob Wirch, D-Somers: It seems likely to go nowhere, despite voters in nine Wisconsin counties and four cities passing advisory referenda in support of a hike in November 2014.

"Studies have shown those making minimum wage tend to spend nearly all of what they earn, so this increase will provide a boost not just to families directly affected but to our small businesses and communities, as well," said Wirch.

In addition to Wisconsin voters supporting an increase in the minimum wage, voters approved hikes in Arkansas, Nebraska and South Dakota, where the base wage on Jan. 1 went up by \$1.25 per hour. Legislative action raised minimum wages in 2015 in Connecticut, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont and West Virginia and automatic increases in wages kicked in for workers in Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon and Washington.

Estimates indicate the wage increases will pump more than \$800 million into the GDP.

Later this year, minimum wages for workers will go up in Alaska, the District of Columbia, Delaware and Minnesota.

Additionally, the minimum wage for workers under federal contract went up to \$10.10 on Jan. 1.

Just over a week into the new year, the AFL-CIO assembled labor leaders in Washington, D.C., for the National Summit on Raising Wages, part of a campaign to boost the wages of more Americans in more states, with a focus in early presidential primary states.

"For more than 30 years, too many politicians in Washington have made deliberate choices that favored those with money and power," U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., said in the keynote address at the summit. "And the consequence is that instead of an economy that works well for everyone, America now has an economy that works well for about



U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., speaks about raising wages during the AFL-CIO National Summit on Jan. 7 at Gallaudet University in Washington.

10 percent of the people."

The Democrat said to make new choices "we need to talk about what we believe: We believe that no one should work full time and still live in poverty — and that means raising the minimum wage. We believe workers have a right to come together, to bargain together and to rebuild America's middle class. We believe in enforcing labor laws, so that workers get overtime pay and pensions that are fully funded. We believe in equal pay for equal work. We believe that after a lifetime of work, people are entitled to retire with dignity, and that means protecting Social Security, Medicare and pensions."

In Wisconsin, Wirch's proposal would take the minimum wage from \$7.25 — where it has been since 2009 — to \$10.10 per hour, and tie future increases to inflation

"With so many families struggling just to get by and the cost of necessities and utilities continuing to rise, we need to take this small step to help them stay afloat," Wirch said.

Hector Reubens, who earns a minimum wage at a gas station in Taunton, Massachusetts, said the state increase from \$8 to \$9 effective Jan. 1 already has made a difference. "Some people will say what's a dollar? Big deal. But it is a big deal, when every week you feel like you are falling behind or just getting by," he said.

Belinda Young, a discount store clerk in Lincoln, Nebraska, said she's earning 75 cents more per hour. "That will add up in time," she said. "It won't be wasted."

NOTABLE NEW LAWS

Other laws now in effect deal with alcohol sales and consumption, animal welfare and hunting rights, crime and punishment, environmental protection and conservation, health and welfare, driving and transporta-

tion, taxes and gun sales and possession.

New to the statutes:

- In Utah, cities and towns can no longer ban specific dog breeds within their limits, which should reduce the number of pit bulls abandoned to rescues.
- In California, a measure now restricts the confinement of egg-laying hens, breeding cows and veal calves.
- Another new law in California makes drivers' licenses available to people without legal immigration papers.
- In Tennessee, ex-felons can receive a certificate of employability, intended to protect businesses from negligent hiring lawsuits.
- In Michigan, it's now illegal to buy cough and cold medicine to make methamphetamine and the state police must add meth offenders to a national database.
- Louisiana made it possible for those 16 and 17 to register to vote when they get a driver's license, though the teens aren't eligible to vote until they turn 18.
- In Nevada, teens who habitually cut class could see their license suspended or have to wait to get one.
- Property owners in North Carolina must disclose if underground oil or gas rights have been sold when selling a home.
- New Yorkers must recycle their electronics instead of trashing them.
- In Mississippi, totally disabled veterans or their surviving spouses — if they do not remarry — need not pay taxes on their home

DID YOU KNOW?

Raising Wisconsin's minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour would increase the state's economic activity by \$517 million and generate 3,800 new jobs, according to a study by the Center for Wisconsin Strategy.

— L.N.

Communities enact bans on GMO crops

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Two Oregon farmers are defending a local ordinance in federal court in a campaign to protect their harvests and create a zone free of genetically engineered crops.

The Center for Food Safety and Our Family Farms Coalition joined the farmers in the defense of the Jackson County ordinance approved by voters in May 2014. Campaigns are underway to enact similar measures in other parts of the country, including in Wisconsin.

In the Oregon county, the ordinance passed 66-34 percent, despite opposition from the chemical industry, which spent nearly \$1 million on its campaign against the local law that now faces a legal challenge.

"Across the United States today, family farmers growing traditional crops are being threatened by crops that have been genetically engineered to survive heavy pesticides or produce their own insecticide," said Elise Higley, a farmer

'Chemical giants have created a product they simply cannot control.'

and director of Our Family Farms
Coalition. "Monsanto, Syngenta
and other chemical giants have
created a product they simply
cannot control and which puts
the livelihood of family farmers
everywhere at risk."

Tom Buchele, an attorney with Earthrise, which is involved in the legal defense of the ordinance, said their case is about a farmer's right to protect crops from contamination and valuing a democratic vote.

Transgenic contamination is the transfer of genetically engineered crops to conventional, organic or wild plants. When contamination

occurs, traditional farmers can lose the opportunity to sell in GE-sensitive domestic and foreign markets or to customers who avoid genetically modified foods.

"When I learned that Syngenta was growing genetically engineered sugar beets close to my farm, I had little

choice but to tear up the crops I was already growing that were likely to be contaminated," said Chris Hardy, one of the farmers defending the ordinance. "No farmer should have to worry about whether a patented product of Monsanto is going to drift outo their

Monsanto is going to drift onto their property and threaten their farm."

Other communities with zones restricting the use of genetically engineered seeds or plants include Boulder, Colorado; San Juan County, Washington; Montville, Maine; and Marin County, California.

Some states, including Wisconsin, have limited laws addressing the use of genetically engineered plants or organisms. Other states, including lowa and Indiana, have laws against local control of GMOs.

Activists are engaged in at least two related campaigns in Wisconsin. Right to Know GMO is promoting GMO labeling in the state and a petition is circulating on MoveOn.org to declare La Pointe and Madeline Island in Ashland County a zone free of genetically engineered crops.



PHOTO: AP PHOTO/THE MAIL TRIBUNE/JAMIE LUSCH

A protest against genetically modified organisms is held on the steps of the Jackson County Court House in Medford, Oregon.



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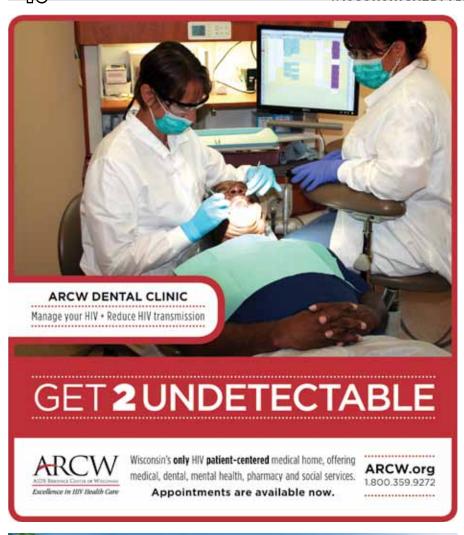
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House votes to undo Obama immigration policies

From AP and WiG reports

The Republican-controlled House of Representatives voted on Jan. 14 to overturn President Barack Obama's key immigration policies, approving legislation that would eliminate new deportation protections for millions and expose hundreds of thousands of younger immigrants to expulsion.

The 236-191 vote came on a broad bill that would provide nearly \$40 billion to finance the Homeland Security Department through the rest of the budget year.

Democrats accused Republicans of playing politics with national security at a time of heightened threats, and Obama has threatened to veto the legislation. Prospects of it passing the Senate look tough, too

But House Republicans, in a determined assault on one of Obama's top domestic priorities, accused him of reckless unconstitutional actions on immigration that must be stopped.

"This executive overreach is an affront to the rule of law and to the Constitution itself," said House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio. "The people made clear that they wanted more accountability from this president, and by our votes here today we will heed their will and we will keep our oath to protect and defend the Constitution."

But U.S. Rep. Luis Gutierrez, D-III., accused Republicans of "viciousness" for trying to make it easier to deport immigrants brought to the U.S. as children. Rep. David Price, D-N.C., called the GOP effort "a political vendetta," adding, "It's a reprehensible, reckless tactic which will compromise, has already compromised, the full and effective functioning of our Homeland Security Department" at a time of heightened security risks.

The immigration measures were amendments on the Homeland Security bill.

One of them, approved 237-190, would undo executive actions that Obama announced in November to provide temporary deportation relief to some 4 million immigrants illegally in the country. A second amendment would delete Obama's 2012 policy that's granted work permits and stays of deportation to more than 600,000 immigrants who arrived in the U.S. illegally as children. That measure passed more narrowly, 218-209, as more than two dozen comparatively moderate Republicans joined Democrats in opposition.

The changes Obama announced in November especially enraged the GOP because they came not long after Republicans swept the midterm elections, taking control of the Senate and increasing their majority in the House. Republicans pledged then to revisit the issue once Congress was fully under their control.

But even with Republicans in control of the Senate, the bill faces difficulty there, especially because House GOP leaders decided to satisfy demands from conservative members by including a vote to undo the 2012 policy that deals with younger immigrants known as "Dreamers."

Republicans are six votes shy of the 60-vote majority needed to advance

UNDO next page

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most legislation in the Senate, and even some Republicans in that chamber have expressed unease with the House GOP approach, especially given the importance of funding the Homeland Security Department in light of the Paris terrorist attacks.

Some House Republicans acknowledged that the Senate was likely to reject their approach, perhaps forcing them in the end to pass a Homeland Security funding bill stripped of controversial provisions on immigration.

"They're not going to pass this bill," said Rep. Charlie Dent, R-Pa.

Homeland Security money expires at the end of February so House leaders have left themselves several weeks to come up with an ultimate solution.

Immigrant advocates warned Republicans that Wednesday's votes risked alienating Latino voters who will be crucial to the 2016 presidential election.

U.S. Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva, who co-chairs the Congressional Progressive Caucus, said, "The Republicans continue to include senseless bed mandates and harmful family detention funding in their funding bills; it's time they get a reality check on the security needs of this country.

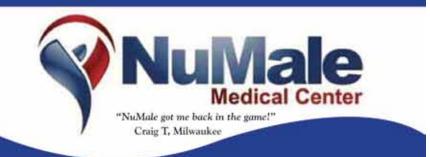
"For nearly two years, this country waited for Congressional Republicans to join their Senate colleagues in addressing our broken immigration system. As if their refusal to act wasn't bad enough, their current tactics make clear that they'd rather enflame our immigration problems than ever see them solved. But undermining the public's security is a length to which no politician should be willing to go for the sake of a political victory. It's an abdication of their duties as elected leaders, and a violation of the oath of office they took just days ago."

Before the votes, Voces de la Frontera, a Wisconsin-based immigrant rights group, urged supporters to call their congressional representatives and tell them, in part, "These amendments are cruel and xenophobic. We need our Congress to work together to pass comprehensive immigration reform, not criminalize and separate working class families."

From Wisconsin, Democratic U.S. Reps. Mark Pocan and Gwen Moore voted against the amendments. The Republican members from the state voted to undo the administration's immigration reforms.



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NEWS ANALYSIS

Has Marquette University grown weary of John McAdams' right-wing shenanigans?

By Louis Weisberg

Staff writer

A conservative professor at Marquette University remains "off duty" and "under review" more than two months after writing a blog post criticizing a graduate student for not permitting critique of same-sex marriage during her ethics class.

John McAdams, an associate professor of political science at the university and author of the right-wing blog Marauette Warrior, wrote that teaching assistant Cheryl Abbate stifled academic freedom by denying the student's request, even though she said that same-sex marriage was off-topic for the class. After the blog post appeared, Abbate began receiving inflammatory emails from students accusing her of violating the First Amendment (see editorial, page 16) and trashing her with homophobic slurs.

Another blog site called *Daily Nous* presented the text of some particularly vicious emails sent to Abbate, along with a post from her Rate My Professor page that said, "If you don't celebrate a sexual disorder called lesbianism ... she will go after you."

Daily Nous also reported that Abbate is leaving Marquette.

In the Nov. 9 post that apparently sparked the rancor, McAdams led his readers down a rhetorical path that's quite familiar to them. The essence of his complaint against Abbate was the same one he levels at everyone at Marquette who refuses to genuflect to orthodox Roman Catholic doctrine, because Marquette is, as he repeatedly reminds everyone, a Roman Catholic institution.

"Abbate, of course, was just using a tactic typical among liberals now," he wrote. "Opinions with which they disagree are not merely wrong, and are not to be argued against on their merits, but are deemed 'offensive' and need to be shut up."

Abbate countered that McAdams was, in effect, harassing her.

"It is astounding to me that the university has not created some sort of policy that would prohibit this behavior which undoubtedly leads to a toxic environment for both students and faculty," she told *Inside Higher Ed.* "I would hope that Marquette would do every-

thing in its power to cultivate a climate where Marquette employees, especially students, are not publicly demeaned by tenured faculty."

In mid-December, after several faculty members called for an investigation of McAdams' behavior, he received a letter from Dean Richard Holz stating that the university was conducting a review of his conduct and, in the interim, he was "relieved of all teaching duties and all other faculty activities, including, but not limited to, advising, committee work, faculty meetings and any activity that would involve your interaction with Marquette students, faculty and staff."

McAdams was told that he'd continue to receive his salary and benefits during the review process but he was not to visit campus without first obtaining permission.

Noting that "our graduate student teaching assistants are students first," Marquette senior communication director Brian Dorrington said via email that "the safety of our students and campus community is our top priority."

"The university has a policy in which it clearly states that it does not tolerate harassment and will not stand for faculty members subjecting students to any form of abuse, putting them in harm's way," Dorrington added. "We take any situation where a student's safety is compromised extremely seriously. ... They are learning their craft and it is our expectation that they are mentored and supported by our faculty.

"It is important to note that under faculty conduct rules, a professor would not be subject to a review of this nature simply for voicing an opinion. The university has expectations of conduct, specifically as they relate to the faculty-student relationship. When concerns are raised that a line has been crossed, it is our responsibility to take action and conduct a review."

Reporting about the letter on his blog, McAdams appeared stunned.

A hero on the religious right for his anti-intellectual rabble rousing, McAdams has been milking the latest 15 minutes of fame he's received over Abbate for all it's worth. For years, he's been a frequent guest on Charlie Sykes' talk 'The university will not stand for faculty members subjecting students to any form of abuse.'

radio program on WTMJ-620, where listeners savor his sexist, racist and homophobic rants. (Marquette Warrior links directly to Sykes' blog Right Wisconsin.)

But in recent weeks, McAdams also has appeared on Fox News and been lauded for his courage by *The Christian Post*. Ben Shapiro's online watchdog group *TruthRevolt* trumpeted "Marquette Suspends Conservative Professor for Exposing Totalitarian Leftist Faculty." Under that canonizing headline appeared a picture of the professor looking smug and raising a clenched fist.

The last time McAdams received this much attention, it was over a defining moment in Marquette's history, one that could have set the university on the course that has finally collided with McAdams' Dark Ages social views.

In spring 2010, the university rescinded an offer to out lesbian scholar Jodi O'Brien to become dean of Marquette's College of Arts and Sciences. The university's unprecedented cancellation of a signed contract prompted protests by students, condemnation from faculty members and a firestorm of controversy throughout higher education. The university's action imperiled at least one state grant and nearly resulted in censure from numerous academic associations, even after Marquette President Fr. Robert A. Wild apologized to O'Brien and settled with her for an undisclosed amount of cash.

McAdams' blog was ground zero for provoking the blowback over having a lesbian in leadership at the Roman Catholic university. But although McAdams won that battle, he lost his overriding antigay war.

In the wake of the O'Brien scandal, the university expanded



Marquette University professor John McAdams in PBS' 2013 NOVA production *Cold Case JFK*. McAdams is known for his research on JFK's assassination as well as his orthodox Roman Catholic social views.

its anti-discrimination policy to include LGBT students, staff and faculty. It also began offering domestic partner benefits to the partners of employees in same-sex relationships.

Gay-positive cultural events appeared on campus, including *The Laramie Project*, a play about the real-life killing of gay college student Matthew Shepard in Wyoming. Lesléa Newman, the author of *Heather Has Two Mommies*, presented the 2011 Starshak Lecture on campus.

Predictably, McAdams responded to all of these progressive developments with a vitriolic sneer, proudly positioning himself as the Vatican's unofficial on-campus representative. His efforts always received kudos from the right, particularly from the angry white men who listen to local hate radio.

So it's not surprising that McAdams was taken aback by the university's reaction over his latest anti-gay attack. On his blog, he acknowledges that he expected to get in more trouble over his statement that "feminists grossly exaggerate the incidence of campus date rape" than over Abbate.

Perhaps Marquette has simply had enough of McAdams' divisive-

ness, his endless needling of colleagues and minority groups, his lack of collegiality and tolerance for secular thinkers.

The university has changed considerably during his 30 years there. Most recently, it named Michael Lovell, the highly praised former chancellor of UWM, as its first layman president. Has Lovell, who backed equality during his tenure at UWM, decided to clean house?

Marquette, the state's largest private university, got quite a scare over its rescission of O'Brien's contract. The censure it faced over the incident would have jeopardized its hard-won stature as a major research university.

Maybe Marquette's new leadership is more interested in focusing on academic leadership and providing a quality education than in standing in the way of social progress. Maybe the distraction that is John McAdams has finally become too big a thorn in the side of the university's future.

Or maybe the university simply wants to receive attention for scholarship instead of backward political vitriol that makes it harder for academics there to be taken seriously.

Making clothing to warm cold pets

By Jennifer Forker

AP writer

It's that time of year when many dogs need a little extra protection against the weather — a coat or a sweater.

Among the dogs most in need of outerware are small breeds, such as Chihuahuas, pugs and Shih Tzus, several kinds of terriers, and some larger, shorthaired breeds like greyhounds and Doberman Pinschers.

You can buy cold-weather doggy wear, of course. And websites such as Pinterest and Etsy abound with homemade examples, along with other items of clothing for dogs - including dresses, costumes and even blue jeans with suspenders.

There are do-it-yourself instructions online for repurposing sweaters, long-sleeve turtlenecks and T-shirts into warm dog coats and sweaters. Or start from scratch with a pattern and fabric.

Monica Mansfield, a veterinarian in Medway, Massachusetts, recommends using soft fabrics against a dog's skin fleece works great — and checking any garment bought or made for hard edges or hurtful places. Make sure the clothes aren't too snug.

"We can only guess what feels comfortable to dogs," says Mansfield. But "if you run your hands against everything that's touching the dog's skin to make sure there's nothing poking and

no prickly thing on it, the vast majority of dogs will accept them and enjoy wearing them."

Short-haired dogs, especially the little ones, probably need to wear their extra coats outside when temperatures

> dip below 35 or 40 degrees, says the vet. "All the smaller dogs deserve a sweater," she

The ideal garment has wool

on the outside and fleece on

the inside, she says, for both

Karen Vesk of Erie, Pennsyl-

vania, makes dog coats for her

two Dobermans — partly to

provide warmth but also to allay

others' concerns about her two

big dogs. "It's fun to dress them

up, but also people think of

Dobermans as big, tough dogs,"

Vesk says. "You can't take a dog

seriously who's wearing a cup-

warmth and comfort.

Vesk makes her dogs' coats because large-breed coats are difficult to find, she says, and are often costly. Her dogs have large chests and small waists, so she adapts out-of-print commercial patterns she finds on eBay (find them new at fabric stores). She uses mostly remnant-table fleece and Velcro closures.

Vesk recommends using a simple poncho pattern with a strap-and-Velcro closure. She measures the dog's chest around, and the length

from the neck to the base of the tail.

Toby, 4 - m o n t h old standard poodle, wears an elaborately knitted sweater while greeting customers at the Knit Knack yarn shop in Arvada, Colorado. Fashionable

dog knits abound at free online pattern-sharing sites — try

Knitty or Ravelry and in books such as "Top Dog Knits" by Jil Eaton (Breckling Press, 2010).

A knit-store dog needs to wear the wares, says Toby's owner, Ruthie Kolb, who works several days at the shop, "I thought he might need a classv.

cabled sweater.'

The sweater also comes in handy after Toby's fur is shaved, as it was recently. "When the temperature is minus 1 (and we're) walking to the shop, as it was this morning, the sweater helps keep him warmer," Kolb says. "He doesn't seem to mind

While Vesk's two dogs love the attention they receive while walking in their coats, other dogs may need help becoming accustomed to outerwear.

"Use the old treat method," advises Vesk, "and then they associate putting on their coats with a treat. Eventually, they'll get used to it."

Do not clothe furry, winterloving breeds, the vet warns. Dogs such as huskies, malamutes and golden retrievers with thick coats don't need winter wear

"The way their fur is — they have triple or quadruple thickness —it's like having four coats on already," Mansfield says.

And don't even think about clothing a cat.

"I think they'd just be annoyed," says Mansfield.



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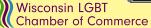
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EDITORIAL

The realities of free speech

in Paris on Jan. 7 demonstrates what happens when the freedoms of speech and religion collide with extremism. The French collision involved Muslim radicals, but, here in the United States, we have a growing movement of rightwing extremists who need to understand the First Amendment guarantees provided by the Constitution's Bill of Rights.

The First Amendment does not guarantee unfettered rights to either the freedom of speech or religion. It simply prohibits the government from interfering with the lawful exercise of those freedoms.

Over the holidays, we ran an outside writer's opinion piece at wisconsingazette.com that called for overturning the Second Amendment. Almost immediately, we received hundreds of shocking, profanity-laced comments threatening violence against the author and us. Many commenters attempted to publish the author's address and phone number. Some called for his

When we deleted dozens of those comments, we were accused of violating the responders' rights to free speech. Nowhere does the Constitution say that any publication is obligated to publish content that it finds offensive, and a government that forced us to do so would be in violation of our freedom of the press.

In this issue of WiG, we have a story

The horrific massacre of journalists (page 12) about an anti-gay student relationships is the underpinning of at Marquette University who claims that his free speech was violated when the teaching assistant of an ethics class refused his request to initiate a class discussion about the immorality of same-sex marriage.

The First Amendment does not permit students to hijack classrooms and turn them into forums for their controversial religious views. Just because the government does not prevent individuals from speaking their thoughts does not mean that everyone else has to publish them, give them a soapbox or even listen to them.

Similarly, the First Amendment's guarantee of free religion does not mean that everyone is obligated to bow to everyone else's religious views. In fact, it means the opposite.

As marriage equality gradually becomes the law of the land, we see county clerks refusing to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples all in the name of "freedom of religion."

But in conferring on individuals the right to practice any religion they choose, the Constitution does not say they can silence or discriminate against people who hold different beliefs. In fact, it would be impossible to guarantee religious freedom if this were the case, because the dominant religion could seek to prevent citizens from practicing other faiths.

We find it absurd that prohibiting people from engaging in same-sex

a major spiritual belief system. But for a large portion of fundamentalist Christians, condemning other people's sexual practices is at the core of their faith, and we believe they are entitled by the Constitution to hold that view. They are not entitled, however, to discriminate against fellow citizens whose religions teach otherwise or against people who practice no religion and don't care how LGBT people conduct their personal lives.

The jihadists who gunned down 12 people at the offices of the newspaper Charlie Hebdo in Paris believed that they were exercising their religion. The paper had repeatedly mocked Islam, and fundamentalist Muslims hold that blasphemy is punishable by death just as the Roman Catholic Church held for centuries. America's fundamentalist Christians, some of whom have advocated successfully for making homosexuality a capital crime in other countries, should take a long look in the mirror and think about this incident. So should gun activists who call for Second Amendment critics to be put to death simply for speaking their minds.

While Fox News is using the massacre in France to call for a denunciation of Islam, we are more concerned about the followers of Fox News. They must learn where their rights end and the rights of others begin.

WiG's WEB PICKS Some of our favorite recent pictorials from cyberspace







ON THE RECORD

"Some of the things he said in that interview, I didn't agree with — and I've even said so. We love everybody. In this business, there are a lot of people who are gay."

— WILLIE ROBERTSON, son of homophobic Duck Dynasty patriarch Phil Robertson, telling Larry King that he's not entirely on board with the judgments expressed by his father in a 2013 GQ interview. Willie Robertson went on to say that he's "trying to figure out" whether being gay is a choice.

"The Holy Scriptures teach us that the creation of this marvelous design concerns all that is around us, and all that came out of the thoughts and heart of God. Paradise is open to all creatures, and there we will be vested with the joy and love of God, without limits. And it's so beautiful to think of being face to face with He who gives strength to the soul."

- POPE FRANCIS suggesting that all animals go to heaven.

"They will not have this fundamental idea that you can question things, that you can think critically, that you can use skeptical thought to learn about nature. These children have to suppress everything that they can see in nature to try to get a world view that's compatible with the adults in whom they trust and rely on for sustenance."

- BILL NYE, aka the "Science Guy," telling News-Max TV's The Midpoint that "creationism" is raising a generation of children who "can't think" and who "will not be able to participate in the future in same way" as those who are taught evolution.

"My reading of the Bible finds plenty of reminders that it's better to teach someone to fish than to give them fish if they're able. ... Caring for the poor isn't the same as taking money from the federal government to lock more people into Medicaid."

- GOV. SCOTT WALKER talking to the Wall Street Journal about Obamacare and Medicaid. Contrary to Walker's statement, Jesus gave fish to a crowd of 5,000 people in one miracle and told fishermen where to cast their nets on another in order to help them. Further, Walker's statement to WJS confused the Bible with a Chinese proverb that says, "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime."

"I Met God, She's Black."

dency in 2016.

- A slogan printed on T-shirts and painted on posters all over Manhattan by New Yorker DYLAN CHENFELD, a self-described Jewish atheist.

"(Should) sodomy be elevated to the same constitutional status as race and religion? My answer is 'no.' The statement that the governor must stand up for all people on all matters is just silly."

- Former Florida Gov. JEB BUSH writing in an editorial that appeared in the Miami Herald in 1994. He went on to compare LGBT people to "polluters." pedophiles, pornographers, drunk drivers and developers without proper permits." Bush said recently that he'd choose his words differently today but emphasized that he still opposes marriage equality. Bush has launched an exploratory campaign for the presi-



Illegal abortion: Back to the future?



Forty-two years ago this month, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 7-2 that most restrictions on abortion were unconstitutional. The reasonable compromise of Roe v. Wade has been under attack ever since.

The Roe v. Wade decision cited an individual's right to privacy and a physician's right to practice medicine without government interference "in the absence of compelling state interests." The court defined state interests as including the health of a woman and the potential life of a fetus after six months' gestation.

The ruling allowed a woman to decide for herself during the first trimester whether to terminate her pregnancy. During the second trimester, regulations related to clinical settings could be imposed in the interests of protecting the woman's health. In the third trimester, when viabil-

ity of the fetus (ability to live outside the womb) was assumed, the state could restrict abortion except when necessary to preserve the life or health of the woman.

This wise decision is being shredded out of existence through public funding cuts; parental and spousal notification laws; mandatory waiting periods; compulsory, unscientific "counseling"; bogus, invasive screening procedures; onerous restrictions on abortion clinics: intimidation of patients and clinic personnel; assassinations of doctors.

What awaits us if abortion is again criminalized?

In the decades before Roe, up to 1.2 million American women obtained illegal abortions every year. Five thousand women - mothers, daughters, sisters, wives - died annually as the result of illegal abortions, whether self-induced or performed by any unqualified hack looking to make a buck.

Thousands more women were injured seriously enough to require medical

The results of desperate do-it-vourself and back-allev abortions could be perforated uteruses, internal burning and scarring from caustic substances like lye, and lifethreatening sepsis.

"Pro-life" activists display big, colorful pictures of fetuses to dramatize their position. Pre-Roe legalization advocates had more horrific pictures to share: gruesome photos of women's dead bodies, naked, contorted, bleeding out, abandoned in basements and alleyways.

The highly publicized ordeal of Sherri Finkbine in 1962 spurred public concern.

Finkbine the mother of four children, worked as "Miss Sherri," the host of the local version of Romper Room in Phoenix. Suffering from nausea and insomnia with her fifth pregnancy, she took a drug her husband had obtained in Europe — a toxic drug later banned for use by pregnant women: thalidomide.

Finkbine felt worse as her pregnancy progressed and tests revealed the fetus to be seriously deformed. Finkbine requested a therapeutic

abortion (the only type available and rarely granted). An Arizona hospital first assented, then reneged. Finkbine appealed to a judge, who dismissed her case. She had to travel all the way to Sweden to finally obtain an abortion.

By 1970, only two states allowed abortion in the first months of pregnancy. Outside New York and Hawaii, only women who could afford the cost of travel to those states could obtain abortions. Women who selfaborted or obtained illegal abortions were criminals, risking prosecution, endangering themselves and living in fear and shame

In the wake of Roe v. Wade, safe, legal abortion saved thousands of women's lives. Since 1980, abortion rates have declined due to more effective contraception and access to family planning services.

In Wisconsin today, Gov. Scott Walker and GOP legislators are destroying both family planning and abortion services. To resist these backward, damaging efforts, go to www.ppawi.org and get involved.

Madison police can do better with race relations

YOUNG GIFTED AND BLACK COALITION

An open letter to Madison Police Chief Michael Koval.

In comparison to departments in other cities, you have done well in protecting our right to free speech at our weekly actions.

Our targeting of the police department relates to the violence that black people have faced at the hands of police in the murders of Dontre Hamilton in Milwaukee, Eric Garner in New York City, Michael Brown in Ferguson, and countless others, but it also relates to the violence of heavy policing and arrest rate disparities in Madison.

Although Madison's model of community policing and attempt to build trust between the community and police may be a step above other communities, our arrest rates and incarceration disparities still top the

nation. The relationship that ing, and our steps forward as tion, sleeping, retail theft for we desire to have with the police is simple: no interaction. Our ultimate goal is to be able to hold our own communities accountable and to expel what we consider an occupying force in our neighborhoods. Our people need opportunities for selfdetermination, not policing.

The situation in New York City, where police have decided to police less, has led to no changes in the crime rates. Thus we can draw the conclusion that decreasing policing in our communities will not lead to an increase in crimes. It is also safe to assume that decreasing policing in our communities will lead to a decrease in the disparity rates we see in Dane County.

We understand that the system of policing and incarceration is closely linked to the system of slavery and the continued oppression of black people. Our ultimate goal is finding alternatives to incarceration and polica community should reflect the values of community control and self-determination.

One of our publicly stated demands is for the immediate release of 350 black people from the Dane County Jail, with the ongoing demand to keep this number out of the jail in order to remove 350 beds from the facility. ... If there was no structural racism, the jails and the arrest rates should be proportional to the demographics of the population. ...

One of the key reasons black people are incarcerated is poverty. Jails should not function as poor houses: 45 percent of people in jail are incarcerated because they have not paid bails of \$1,000 or less. ... The proof of this is that people with money, who have bails of both less and more than \$1,000 are not kent in iail

This includes arrests for crimes of poverty such as public urination, intoxicasurvival, and low-level citations....

We want to see a plan for how the Madison Police Department is going to do the following to: dramatically reduce the number of police contacts with black and poor people; significantly increase voluntary referrals to community-led resources and programs that are alternatives to incarceration; and cut in half the number of black and poor people incarcerated.

Given that the arrest rate shows that blacks are eight times more likely to be arrested whites, we demand that disparity be cut in half by the end of 2015. ... To do this will require an immediate and thorough public review of all Madison Police Department policies and practices.

All Power to the People.

For the complete letter, go online to www.wisconsingazette.com.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



PHOTO: MICHIGANRADIO.ORG

GROUP OFFERS REWARDS, SEEKS TO PROTECT WOLVES

A recently established group is offering a \$1,500 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone who illegally kills a wolf in the Great Lakes region.

Great Lakes Patrol created the reward in response to wolf killings in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The appearance of Facebook sites promoting unlawful attacks on wolves also factored in the offering.

Great Lakes Wolf Patrol was founded in 2014 to monitor state-sanctioned wolf hunts and worked with Wisconsin's Department of Natural Resources to investigate illegal wolf trapping in October.



In other community news...

- ACLU of Wisconsin plans a series of workshops at Milwaukee libraries to educate individuals about their rights and responsibilities during encounters with law enforcement. Workshops are set for 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 20 at the Center Street Library, on Jan. 26 at the Central Library, and in Spanish on Jan. 27 at the Forest Home Library. For more, go to www.aclu-wi.org.
- Clean Wisconsin was among the Midwestern organizations and energy representatives to meet with top officials from the White House Council on Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency in December to

- address the EPA's Clean Power Plan.
- Wisconsin Warriors, a women's football team in southeastern Wisconsin, is raising money with the sale of advertising in its 2015 program. The team is part of the Independent Women's Football League and preparing for its 2015 season. For more, email sponsorship@wiwarriors.com.



PHOTO: SEN. TAMMY BALDWIN

PLAYOFFS PAYDAY

U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, made good on a friendly wager with U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis., after the Green Bay Packers defeated the Dallas Cowboys 26-21 in the NFL Second Round Playoffs on Jan. 11. Cruz, as promised, treated Baldwin to Blue Bell ice cream and Shiner Bock beer. "The Packers have left few to question who really holds the title of 'America's Team," said Baldwin in a news release. "I appreciate Senator Cruz's courage to bet against the Packers, and his generosity in defeat. If he's looking for a hug I hear there's a Cowboy fan in New Jersey who needs one too."

A GREAT DEAL OF POSITIVE WORK TO DO

The 31st annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration, coordinated by the MLK Steering Committee, begins at 1 p.m. on Jan. 18 at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N. Water St., Milwaukee. The only cities that have celebrated King's birthday annually since 1984 are Atlanta and Milwaukee. The theme for this year's program is "We Have A Great Deal Of Positive Work To Do," which was taken from A testament of Hope, The Essential Writings and Speeches of Martin Luther King Jr. For more, call 414-273-7121.



PHOTO: COURTESY

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Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of premature death in the United States.





REGIONAL BRIEFS

LOW PUBLIC FUNDING FACTOR IN STATE'S FALLING HEALTH RANKING

Wisconsin has fallen to 23rd - down three places from a year ago - in annual health rankings compiled by the United Health Foundation.

The state was the seventh-healthiest when the organization's rankings first began in 1990, and Wisconsin ranked 11th as recently as 2009 — the year before Republican Scott Walker was elected governor.

UHF gave Wisconsin high marks for relatively low rates of diabetes and physical inactivity, along with a strong high-school graduation rate. The state's negatives are binge drinking, a high infectious disease rate and low public-health funding.

The decline in 2014 was partly due to a sharp rise in whooping cough cases. Also, Wisconsin has 26 percent more children living in poverty than in 1990, although infant mortality rates have improved.

LEGAL COSTS SOUGHT FROM GAY MARRIAGE FOES

The lawyers who successfully fought to undo Wisconsin's ban on same-sex marriage are seeking to recoup \$1.2 million in legal costs.

Led by the American Civil Liberties Union, a group of same-sex couples sued Gov. Scott Walker, then-Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen and other state officials to overturn the state constitutional ban. A U.S. District Court judge overturned the amendment in July 2014 and the U.S. Supreme Court later let that decision stand, effectively legalizing same-sex marriage in Wisconsin and four other states.

In a filing, the plaintiffs asked the court to award \$1.2 million for attorney fees and other expenses from the case.

The Wisconsin State Journal reported that the plaintiffs argued that those large costs are due to the state's vigorous defense of the ban.

WALKER ASKS GOP TO GO EASY ON 'RIGHT TO WORK'

Gov. Scott Walker is telling Republican state senators he wants them focused on his agenda rather than passing "right-towork" legislation. Walker said debating "right-to-work" early in the session would distract from his focus.

But Republican Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald has said he wants to take up the issue quickly, because it's too important to delay. It's one of the primary laws being pushed by the American Legislative Exchange Council, the largely Kochfinanced group that directs Republican lawmakers at all levels of government.

Critics charge that Walker, who may run for president, is trying to have it both ways on "right-to-work" laws in order to avoid offending voters. Despite urging the Legislature to back off on such a law, Walker has not promised to veto a bill if one passes.

A coalition of more than 300 construc-

tion-related businesses has formed to oppose "right-to-work," which the coalition dubbed "right-to-work-for-less" laws because they starve unions to death by prohibiting them from charging fees to the workers who benefit from the higher wages and benefits that they negotiate.

In other Wisconsin news ...

- Anti-abortion groups announced their agenda for the new legislative session and it includes a so-called fetal pain ban, which would bar abortions after the 20th week of pregnancy, based on the disputed theory that fetuses can feel pain after that point of development. Another priority for the right-wing groups is amending the Constitution to prohibit the state from punishing anyone for exercising his or her right of conscience and refusing to perform an abortion.
- The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin, in a report released on Jan. 6, recommends the state Legislature make voter registration less difficult and allocate increased funding for the training of local election officials. Election observers last November reported long lines of people waiting to register at many polling places and some sites had significant problems as a result.
- · U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, D-Madison, asked the U.S. Government Accountability Office to review Wisconsin's school voucher program. A GAO review could shed light on the program's shortcomings, Pocan's office said in a news release. The non-partisan review would help to better inform the national discussion on the importance of supporting public schools.
- The Advocate magazine released its list of "Queerest Cities" in America and placed Madison on the list at No. 5. "LGBT-friendly metropolises like New York and Los Angeles are not the only places where we live and thrive — and nightlife and gay ghettos aren't the only factors that make for great LGBT living," said Matthew Breen, editor-in-chief. "We seek the unexpectedly queer-friendly places in America, using criteria that change each year. The results are always a surprising."
- from AP and WiG reports

NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT: U.S. Rep. Glenn

Grothman, R-Wis., is among the six new members of the 114th Congress to be named to the "Faces of Inequality" list compiled by the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's larg-



est LGBT civil rights group. HRC said the former state senator "doesn't shy away from opportunities to spread his message of hate toward LGBT people."

NATIONAL BRIEFS

FHWA ADMITS DRIVING BOOM WENT FLAT

The Federal Highway Administration has cut its forecast driving estimates by between 24 percent and 44 percent and recognizes that a driving boom has yielded to years of far slower growth.

The number of miles driven by the average American declined nearly 9 percent from 2004 to 2014, resulting in about a half trillion fewer total miles driven in 2014 than if driving had continued to increase at earlier rates.

U.S. Public Interest Research Group — U.S. PIRG — said the FHWA's new forecast is a major departure from the agency's past record of "chronically predicting aggressive and inaccurate increases in driving." One analysis showed that the U.S. Department of Transportation issued 61 driving forecasts in a row that overshot the mark.

The FHWA's new forecast suggests that driving per person will remain flat. The benchmark is important because excessively high estimates of future driving have been used to justify spending on new and wider highways. Meanwhile, policymakers pay little attention to repairing existing roads, and don't invest enough in other modes of travel.

"The agency plays the vital role of guiding decisions for future infrastructure investment," said Phineas Baxandall, senior analyst at the U.S. PIRG. "By recognizing changing travel behavior and the preferences of a rising millennial generation, America can avoid billions in unnecessary spending for

additional highway capacity that shouldn't be a priority."

Gabe Klein, a former director for Chicago and D.C. transportation departments, added, "I know from experience these forecasts have great importance in shaping debates and policy on every level of transportation funding. USDOT is clearly stating that a broadbased policy of building more road capacity for cars is not fiscally responsible or what the public needs or wants."



Zimmerman's mug shot.

ZIMMERMAN ARRESTED —

AGAIN

George Zimmerman, whose acquittal of murdering an unarmed black teen in 2013 made him a hero on the political right and a symbol of what's wrong with so-called "stand your ground" laws on the left, was arrested on Jan. 9 for allegedly throwing a wine bottle at a woman.

The incident is the latest in a series of domestic violence accusations that Zimmerman has faced.

Zimmerman, 31, was arrested

for aggravated assault at his home in Florida. At a subsequent court appearance, he was ordered to avoid contact with the woman, who was not identified. The judge also ordered Zimmerman to stay out of Volusia County, Florida, where the woman lives.

Zimmerman was acquitted in 2013 of a second-degree murder charge for shooting the unarmed teenager Trayvon Martin.

Since his acquittal, Zimmerman has had several brushes with the law, including:

- He was arrested for alleged aggravated assault, battery and criminal mischief after a woman said he pointed a gun at her face during an argument, smashed her coffee table and pushed her out of the house they shared.
- Zimmerman was accused by his estranged wife of smashing an iPad during an argument at the home they had shared. The dispute occurred days after Shellie Zimmerman filed divorce papers.
- Zimmerman has been pulled over three times for traffic violations since his 2013 acquittal.

In other national news ...

 The White House waded into a controversy over revelations that the House of Representative's No. 3 Republican — Steve Scalise of Louisiana — spoke to a white supremacist group 12 years ago. Critics said the GOP's leadership choice "says a lot about who they are." Meanwhile, Color of Change was petitioning House Speaker John Boehner to find a new majority whip.

- Democratic California Gov.
 Jerry Brown proposed that the
 state should strive to get at
 least 50 percent of its electricity from renewable sources by
 2030. The state already ranks
 third in the nation for wind and
 first for installed solar capacity.
- Kansas legislators may soon consider proposals to ban abortions after a fetal heartbeat is detected early in a pregnancy and to require women to wait three days before obtaining abortions. The Republican-dominated Legislature has strong anti-abortion majorities in both chambers, but fetal heartbeat legislation previously has split even abortion opponents. Kansans for Life, the most influential anti-abortion group at the Statehouse, has not endorsed the idea, fearing it could result in lawsuits and court rulings that set back attempts to restrict abortion.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said on Dec. 29 that Endangered Species Act protection may be warranted for monarch butterflies. The agency will conduct a one-year status review on monarchs, which have declined by 90 percent in the past 20 years.
- A 29-year-old woman described as a "beautiful, young, loving mother" was fatally shot by her 2-year-old son at a northern Idaho Wal-Mart in late December. The boy reached into Veronica J. Rutledge's purse and fired a gun, killing the woman, who had a concealed weapons



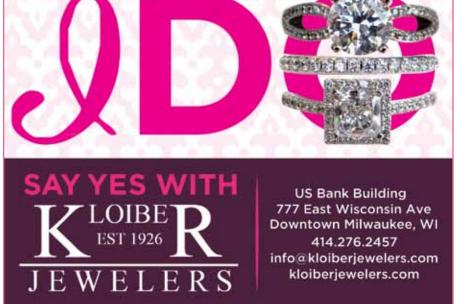
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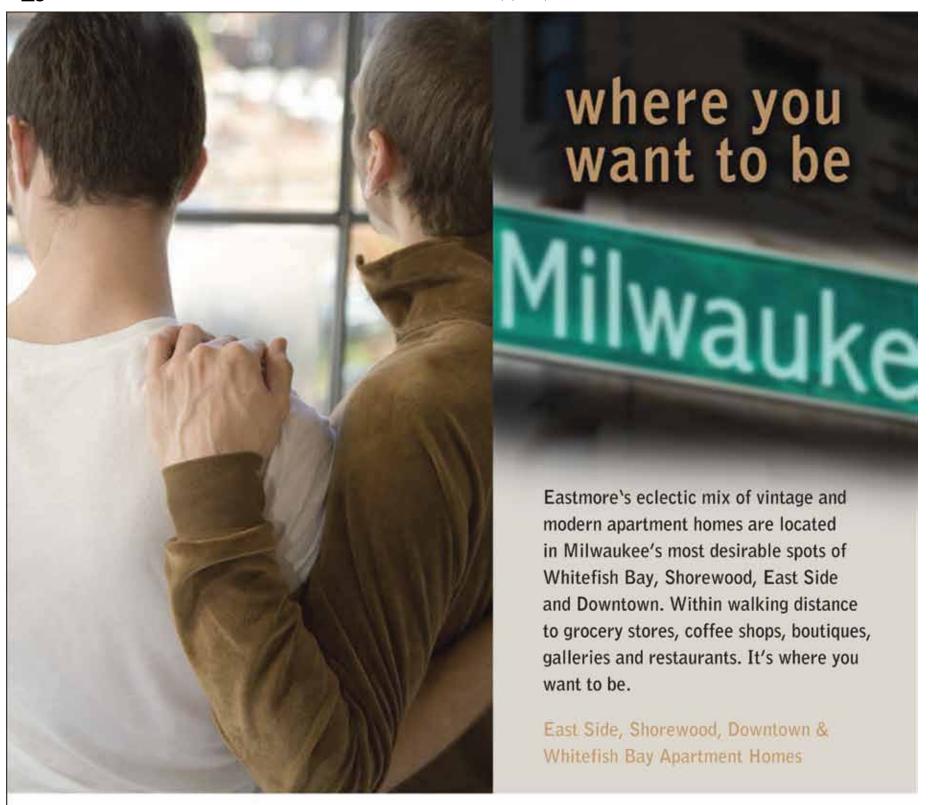
Equality in the Deep South: Apple CEO Tim Cook, the first openly gay CEO of a Fortune 500 company, is donating a "substantial" sum of money to support an LGBT equality campaign in Alabama, Arkansas and Mississippi. Cook is from Alabama.

permit for the handgun.

- Scientists, including researchers with the U.S. Geological Survey's National Wildlife Health Center in Wisconsin, are trying to figure out what's behind the deaths of seabirds that have been found by the hundreds along the Pacific Coast since October. Mass die-offs of Cassin's aucklets have been reported.
 - from WiG reports



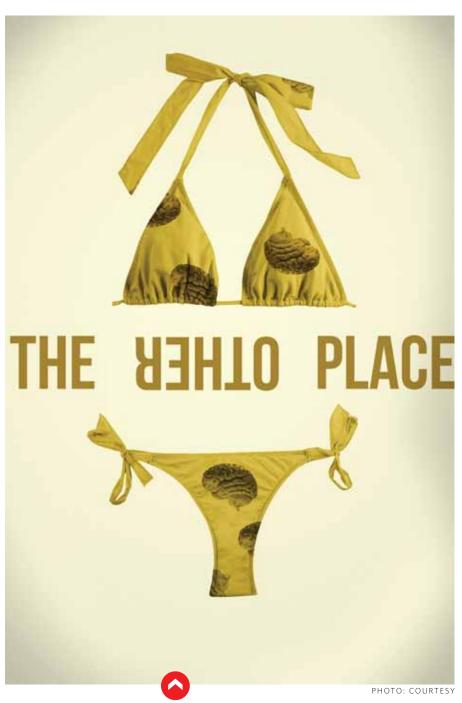






you're more at home

Out on the town Jan. 15 - 29 A curated calendar of upcoming events



'THE OTHER PLACE' Jan. 15 to Feb. 1

The Other Place is a mystery play, but it's no whodunnit. Instead, the mystery is in the head of Juliana Smithton, a neurological research scientist whose life seems to be falling apart around her — or has already collapsed? Madison's Forward Theater dares to ask the question in this dynamic play, where the boundaries of fact and fiction are blurred and Juliana's past threatens to encroach on her increasingly unstable present. At Overture Center, 201 State St. Tickets range from \$25 to \$44, and can be purchased at 608-258-4141 or overturecenter.org.

'MACBETH' Jan. 15 to 31

Sure, Soulstice Theatre could have cast Macbeth traditionally. But where's the fun in that? Much better, instead, to cast the play with female actors, shifting the question from what kind of men Macbeth and his compatriots will be to what kind of women they'll be — and reminding us that our society still perceives a difference between the two questions. At 3770 S. Pennsylvania Ave., St. Francis. Tickets are \$20, \$18 for students, seniors and military. Call 414-481-2800 or visit soulsticetheatre.org.

'TRUE WEST' Jan. 15 to 31

Two brothers square off at 20 paces in *True West*, the Alchemist Theatre's first theatrical effort of the year. The character study by Sam Shepard pits Austin, a screenwriter housesitting for his mother, against his manipulative brother Lee, who tries to steal his brother's chances at selling his screenplay to a Hollywood producer. At 2569 S. Kinnickinnic Ave., Milwaukee. Tickets are \$25, \$24 in advance (with 1 bar item included). Visit thealchemisttheatre.com.



PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

BEETHOVEN'S 'PASTORAL' 8 p.m. Jan. 16 and 17

If they wanted to return with fanfare, the MSO and its conductor Edo de Waart could easily accommodate. Instead, their first program of 2015 promises something better: Beethoven's peaceful, contemplative Sixth "Pastoral" Symphony, a five-movement work that calls to mind the Austrian countryside. They'll also present film music pioneer Erich Wolfgang Korngold's brilliant Violin Concerto with guest artist Daniel Hope as well as *Garages of the Valley*, a new microtonal work by Mason Bates co-commissioned by the MSO. At the Marcus Center, 929 N. Water St. Tickets range from \$22 to \$102 and can be ordered at mso.org or 414-291-7605.

on the town

'STARGIRL' Jan. 16 to Feb. 15

Jerry Spinelli's classic YA novel about a young nonconformist and the classmate entranced by her finds new life in this theatrical adaptation at First Stage. Set in the present day, Stargirl begins with the unexpected appearance of an eccentric homeschooled girl at 11th-grader Leo Borlock's high school, only the first event in a chain that will change both of their lives forever. At the Marcus Center, 929 N. Water St. Tickets range from \$12 to \$27 and can be ordered at firststage.org or 414-267-2961.

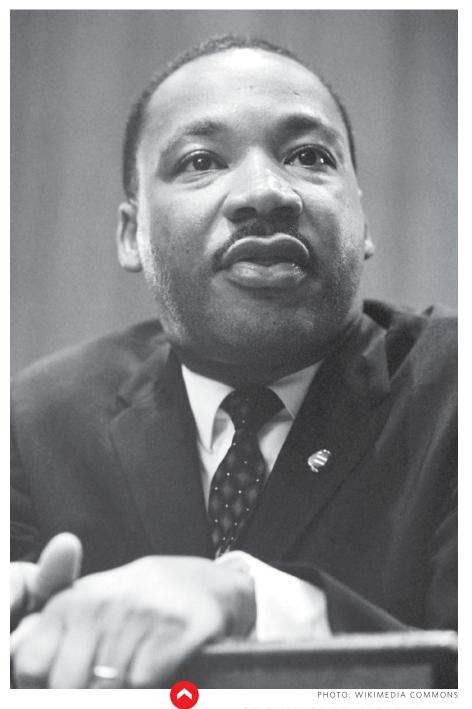
BREWCITY BRUISERS 2015 DEBUT

7 p.m. Jan. 17

Brew City's queens of the roller derby track lace up for a brand-new season. The Bruisers' four home teams — the Crazy 8's, Maiden Milwaukee, the Rushin' Rollettes and the Shevil Knevils — will do battle Saturday night, in just the first of five bouts set to determine which army of rollergirls will reign supreme in 2015. At the UWM Panther Arena, 400 W. Kilbourn Ave. Tickets are \$18, or \$15 for kids, seniors and military; advance buyers earn a \$3 discount. To order or for full season information, visit brewcitybruisers.com.



PHOTO: COURTESY



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TRIBUTE TO MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

3 p.m. Jan. 17

Bel Canto Chorus pays tribute to the ideals of the slain civil rights leader the best way they know: through song. This public concert seeks to bridge the gulf of segregation and prejudice that still exists almost 50 years after King's death through a variety of songs that illuminate and celebrate his dreams for his country. At Holy Redeemer Institutional Church of God in Christ, 3500 W. Mother Daniels Way, Milwaukee. Free. Visit belcanto.org for more details.

31ST ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

1 p.m. Jan. 18

This year's celebration of Dr. King is dedicated to the same principle as Milwaukee's first, more than three decades ago: to keep his legacy alive by highlighting Milwaukee youths' interpretations of his life and words. Kids and teens will be honored for their entries in the annual art, speech and writing contests, with cultural arts organizations featuring performances from the MYSO Calypso Steel Band, traditional artists of Native American and West African dance, a youth mariachi band and the Milwaukee Chinese Youth Orchestra. At the Marcus Center, 929 N. Water St. Free. Visit marcuscenter.org for more details.

A curated calendar of upcoming events January 15-29



'THE BEAUTIFUL DARK'

Jan. 23 to Feb. 7

Half timely family drama, half dark, tortured monologue, Mercury Players Theatre's *The Beautiful Dark* is a tragedy centering on Jacob, a young man unexpectedly expelled from college. The reason is originally unknown, until his ex-girlfriend reveals the secret driving his mind and his monologues: He's written a play about a mass school shooting, with a lead character unmistakably similar to himself. At the Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin St., Madison. Tickets are \$18 to \$20 and can be purchased at bartelltheatre.org.

This South Boston-set, class-conscious play may have its darker moments, but writer David Lindsay-Abaire's trademark black comedy twist is what made Good People a hit on Broadway in 2011. Frequent Milwaukee Rep actor Laura Gordon will lead the production as Margie, a native of the neighborhood who's broke, unemployed and forced to turn to a more successful former boyfriend to save her family from financial ruin. It's a role that should fit Gordon perfectly — she's already played it, to great acclaim, at Madison's Forward Theater in 2013, and there's no reason to suspect the Rep's production will go any differently. At the Quadracci Powerhouse, 108 E. Wells St. Tickets start at \$20 and can be ordered at 414-224-9490 or milwaukeerep.com.



Ghost hunter Steve Gonsalves will join Jason Hawes at the Pabst Theater this January.

BLUE MAN GROUP Jan. 23 to 25

They won't say a word, but that doesn't mean Blue Man Group won't entertain Madison audiences when they show up at Overture Center this January. The otherworldly three blue men have been performing versions of their experimental music and comedy act throughout the country since their first iteration in 1987, with different, anonymous actor-musicians rotating in and out of the trio. If you "blue" the opportunity to see them before, don't do the same again. At 201 State St. Tickets range from \$40 to \$100 and can be ordered at overturecenter.org or 608-258-4141.



January 15-29



MILWAUKEE BALLET II 2 and 7:30 p.m. Jan. 24

To make it on stage as part of a company as talented as the Milwaukee Ballet, you need training — and one of the best places to get it is in-house. The Milwaukee Ballet II company is stacked with young performers training to join the Milwaukee Ballet or other professional companies, and this South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center concert is one of the highlights of their year. This time around, they'll perform the romantic *Chopiniana*, a ballet featuring the music of Frédéric Chopin, as well as a contemporary world premiere. At 901 15th Ave., South Milwaukee. Tickets range from \$10 to \$30. Call 414-766-5049 or visit southmilwaukeepac.org to order.



PHOTO: UW-MADISON CINEMATHEOU

'CITIZEN KANE' 7 p.m. Jan. 24

The UW Cinematheque will start 2015 by screening a film considered one of the greatest ever made: *Citizen Kane*, the thinly disguised take on the life of newspaper magnate William Randolph Hearst. It's their way of kicking off the centennial anniversary of director Orson Welles' birth in 1915 (full story, page 31), which will be further honored with additional screenings of his greatest films throughout the year. At 821 University Ave., Madison. Free. Visit cinema.wisc.edu for more details.

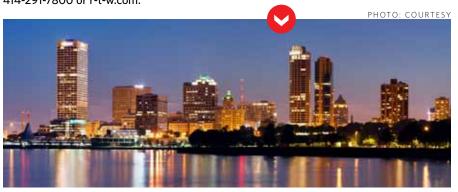
'THE KREUTZER SONATA'

Jan. 24 to Feb. 15

Renaissance Theaterworks taps longtime Milwaukee actor Jim Pickering as the narrator in this tale of lust and obsession. Adapted from a short story written by Leo Tolstoy, the play consists of a nearconfessional monologue delivered by the traveler Pozdnyshev about a terrible act he committed, accompanied by a pianist and violinist playing the Beethoven sonata the play is named for — and, tragically, is the fueling force behind the narrator's actions (full story, page 34). At the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway, Milwaukee. Tickets are \$36 and can be purchased at 414-291-7800 or r-t-w.com.

CITY OF MILWAUKEE 169TH BIRTHDAY PARTY 5:30 p.m. Jan. 29

The Milwaukee Press Club hosts this celebration of all things "Milwaukee Made," a tribute to the people, places and products that make Milwaukee great. Set at one of those places — the gorgeous Grain Exchange — and featuring gourmet food stations from Bartolotta Catering along with complementary beer and birthday cake, it's sure to draw in some of those people as well, making this one of the biggest social events of the season. At 225 E. Michigan St., Suite 5. Admission is \$35, and RSVPs should be sent in by Jan. 23. Visit milwaukeepressclub.org for additional info.



Disstit Onto

Breweries big and small go gluten-free

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

In Madison, as elsewhere, the craft beer movement is booming, and Trevor Easton is one more veteran homebrewer who's decided to go commercial.

But Easton's tiny **Greenview Brewing**, one of several located in the House of Brews facility on Madison's east side, has one distinct difference from its competition. Bottling under the "Alt Brew" label, Greenview is the only area brewery — and one of only a few in the country — to exclusively brew gluten-free beer.

By definition, gluten-free beer is made from ingredients that do not contain glycoproteins — aka the offending gluten. Glycoproteins are found in barley, wheat and other cereals used to make bakery goods and beer. Gluten-free beer exchanges a malted barley base for other foundational ingredients like millet, rice or sorghum.

It's largely health issues that have motivated the creation of gluten-free beer. The cereals used in traditional brewing can trigger symptoms for those who are merely gluten sensitive, as well as those who suffer from celiac disease, a genetic autoimmune disorder that damages the small intestine. Left untreated, celiac disease also can lead to other autoimmune disorders, neurological conditions, short stature or intestinal cancers, according to the Celiac Disease Foundation, and complete abstinence from gluten is the only known way to combat it.

That's the reason veteran brewer Easton set up Greenview Brewing. His wife, Mau-

reen, was diagnosed with celiac disease in 2007, forcing him to cease his home operation. But in May, he started brewing gluten-free beer using his own one-barrel nano-brewery system, which he says is isolated from other House of Brews operations in order to avoid cross-contamination with gluten.

Easton currently distributes beers on a limited basis in 22-oz. "bombers" in Madison, Stoughton and Whitewater. Two brews currently on the market are his **Hollywood Nights Blonde IPA** and a more traditional-tasting **Farmhouse Ale.**

Other Wisconsin brewers also have experimented with gluten-free beer. **Sprecher Brewing Co.**, based in Glendale, brews **Mbege** and **Shakparo** ales based on traditional West African beer recipes.

Both brands, originally created for Milwaukee's African World Festival, were created from a base of sorghum and millet, traditional beer ingredients in regions like West Africa where barley and wheat aren't as abundant. The beers weren't purposefully made to be gluten-free, but it's a happy byproduct.

New Grist Pilsner Style Beer, brewed by Milwaukee's Lakefront Brewery, follows the rice-and-sorghum formula to remain gluten-free. Described as "a crisp, refreshing session ale" on Lakefront's website, New Grist has won a half-dozen awards since its introduction in 2006. (See sidebar, page 26.)

One more Wisconsin entry into the cat-GLUTEN next page



Greenview's Alt Brew label makes gluten-free beer in small batches, distributed on a limited basis in Madison, Stoughton and Whitewater.





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GLUTEN from prior page

egory is **Stevens Point Brewery's JP A'Capella Gluten Free Pale Ale**. But be advised, this sorghum-based ale has gotten seriously mixed reviews, so it might not be best as your first taste of gluten-free beer.

Here are other gluten-free beers of interest:

Estrella Daura, bottled in Barcelona, may be the best-known, most widely available gluten-free beer on the global market. It may also be the most critically decorated, winning top awards from the International Taste & Quality Institute in Brussels, the World Beer Championship, and the World's Best Gluten-free Lager Award at The Beverage Tasting Institute's World Beer Awards.

New Planet Gluten-free Beer, a brewery in Boulder, Colorado, offers a line of gluten-free craft brands, including pale, amber, blonde and brown ales, as well as a raspberry and Belgian ale. Fans laud the variety and heartiness of the lineup.

When U.K. entrepreneur Derek Green was diagnosed with celiac disease in 1988, he vowed he wouldn't give up his beloved ale. But it took 16 years and a chance meeting with an eminent Belgian professor of brewing before he could come up with a gluten-free beer he liked. Not surprisingly, he named it **Discovery**, and it helped launch **Green's Gluten Free Beers.** Today there are nine different varieties, but Discovery, an amber ale with subtle caramel and nut nuances, still plays a central role.

Epic Brewing Co. claims it has brewed "a gluten-free beer for everybody," and that may be the best way to describe **Glutenator**. The Salt Lake City brewer has eschewed sorghum, the most common ingredient in gluten-free beer, for a blend of light-bodied millet, brown rice, sweet potatoes and molasses, along with plenty of American hops. Like most craft beers, it must be tasted to be understood and appreciated.

Sam Calagione, owner and beer wizard at **Dogfish Head** in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, decided glutenfree beer needn't be just an experiment in grain. Utilizing a sorghum base like most brewers, he also added honey and strawberries, giving his **Tweason'ale** a unique profile. Think of it as almost a cider, but not quite.

Lakefront's gluten-free redefines brewing parameters

Russ Klisch, co-owner of Milwaukee's Lakefront Brewery, believes in everyone's right to enjoy a beer. And he knows a market niche when he sees one.

So in 2006, when Klisch learned that a brewery worker's family member had been diagnosed with celiac disease, it prompted him to explore possibilities for gluten-free beer.

At the time, the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau required beverages to contain at least 25 percent malted barley in order to be legally sold as "beer," which prohibited anyone with celiac disease from imbibing in his brews. Lakefront could have produced a line of gluten-free alcoholic beverages (as did Bard's Tale, a brewery in Minnesota), but Klisch decided instead to try and change the TTB policy.

He came up with a plan for a gluten-free beer and submitted it to the bureau, ultimately convincing TTB officials to create a new category, accommodating beer brewed without malted barley. Their entry in that category, New Grist, now accounts for about 25 percent of the

brewery's total production of nearly two dozen brands, according to Matt Krajnak, Lakefront's communications director.

"New Grist is brewed with the intent of tasting like a pilsner," Krajnak says. "It's made with sorghum and rice, so the flavor profile is quite different from, say, our Klisch Pilsner. The high amount of fermentable sugars in the sorghum and rice extracts make it drier than Klisch Pilsner.

"New Grist also has a slight tanginess, or tartness, reminiscent of a cider, which, I think, is characteristic of malted sorghum. I've had other sorghum beers, like Green's Quest Tripel, which is delicious, that have the same tanginess."

New Grist earned a Gold Award for Experimental Beer at the 2006 Great American Beer Festival. Five years later, the beer earned a silver medal in the Gluten Free Beer category at the same event, a step that acknowledged a change in the law and indicated the increased appearance and appeal of glutenfree beers across the country.

- Michael Muckian







Kohler Co. launches new, locally focused foodie event

By Anne Siegel

Contributing writer

When Wisconsin's needlesharp winds start to pierce the parka, it's time for a midwinter getaway. But if you're a foodie, don't head south this January try looking in a more northerly direction, toward a new culinary event in Kohler, Wisconsin.

In response to the growing farm-to-table movement, The American Club, a luxury spa and resort run by the Kohler Company, is hosting a new event, Wisconsin Food Favorites. The event, to be held Jan. 23-24, will focus on Wisconsin cuisine of all sorts, kicking off with the most elaborate Friday fish fry you'll probably find anywhere and ending Saturday with a cook-off featuring area brews and Johnsonville brats. Several chefs from the Kohler kitchens, including the famed Immigrant Room, will demonstrate their skills.

According to event organizers, Wisconsin Food Favorites is a spin-off of its popular Food & Wine Experience, now in its 15th year. That event, held in October, attracts nationally known chefs, as well as those from the Mid-

west ,for an endless variety of Design Center and venues like food-related events.

Design Center and venues like the elegant Wisconsin Room and

"At our newest, culinarythemed event in January, we wanted to start with a much smaller, casual and more focused approach," says Tricia Rathermal, Kohler Company special events manager. "Our goal was to showcase some of the best things this state has to offer, with food demonstrations geared to products you can pick up at the supermarket."

While Rathermal acknowledges that most outsiders still associate Wisconsin with beer, brats and cheese, she said that's only a small part of Wisconsin Food Favorites. The event includes cooking demonstrations, a taste of pure Wisconsin maple syrup, jams, nationally recognized cheeses and a version of the state's signature drink, the old-fashioned, created by Death's Door Spirits.

As much a part of the event as the food is the Kohler property itself. Different events will be held throughout the resort, with the Friday fish fry taking place at the Blackwolf Run clubhouse, the Saturday cook-off at Kohler Design Center and venues like the elegant Wisconsin Room and Winery Bar playing host to additional dining and demonstrations.

For many of these businesses, it's the first time they'll be featured at a Kohler-sponsored event, thanks to the Wisconsin focus. "We were looking for a way to partner with local businesses — many of which are located in our backyard — that didn't always 'fit' with our other events throughout the year," Rathermal says. She added that many out-of-state visitors had expressed an interest in trying local foods. "They definitely want to try things that you can only get here," she noted.

Saturday morning's event, for instance, will feature Wisconsinmade maple syrup from Meuer Farms, located near Chilton (about a 45-minute drive north of Kohler). As hungry guests gobble up maple-covered pancakes, waffles and French toast, Meuer Farms owners Dave and Leslie Meuer will be on hand to answer questions about the maple sugar-making process. Dave Meuer plans to bring props such as

KOHLER next page



Kohler's Wisconsin Food Favorites is a local companion to the Food & Wine Experience.

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KOHLER from prior page



PHOTO: KOHLER CC

Kohler's Wisconsin Food Favorites is a local companion to the Food & Wine Experience.

IF YOU GO

Wisconsin Food Favorites will be held at The American Club, 419 Highland Drive, Kohler. Prices vary by event from \$24 to \$40 and a full schedule can be found at kohlerathome.com. Visit the website or call 800-344-2838.

maple tree sap sacks, taps, and a video to accompany his presentation.

At Meuer Farms, maple syrup-making is an old-fashioned, labor-intensive process. Once the sap is gathered from sugar maples, it must be boiled down in a process that requires the constant heat of a woodburning fire. "During maple-sugaring time, that fire is checked and restocked with wood every 15 minutes," Dave says.

Later in the afternoon, Bertram's Jams, Jellies and More will be available for sampling at a tea party. The event combines the sweet and savory, with tea sandwiches served along biscuits and scones topped with the company's products.

Jayne Bertram-Ries and Randy Ries started selling pepper jelly (using her mom's recipe) at farmer's markets in 2010. They were such a hit that the Sheboygan-based business now offers about 40 jams and jellies throughout the year. The "secret" to their success, Bertram-Ries says, is using only the finest ingredients, like tart, award-winning cherries from Door County.

That successful pepper jelly — described by Jayne as a mild mix of sweet and spicy — also will be featured at the tea party. More best-sellers planned include a citrus jelly using locally picked raspberries, Michigan blueberries and oranges, and several wine-infused jams, some featuring wines produced right in Door County.









Pleasant under glass Botanical gardens offer respite from the winter

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Exotic insects chirrup and buzz as they flit among the palms, ferns, figs and tropical flowers. They patrol the jungle for other pests, provide food for the various species of birds breeding in the canopy and occasionally land in the hungry clutches of pitcher plants, Venus flytraps and other floral carnivores.

Meanwhile, just beyond the thermal glass that encloses the jungle, snow swirls across the icy Wisconsin landscape.

Bolz Conservatory, a part of Madison's Olbrich Botanical Gardens, is known locally as the "glass pyramid." It's one of a number of area conservatories offering plant and animal life from around the world. As temperatures drop and snow blankets the landscape, you can still experience the tropics, arid desert landscapes or spring gardens without purchasing a plane ticket.

What better way to shake the snow from your soul?

INSIDE THE GLASS PYRAMID

Olbrich's Bolz Conservatory offers 10,000 square feet of mixed tropical flora and fauna. The pyramid rises 50 feet at the center — high enough to house its 20-foot waterfall and the towering royal palms that

take center stage among 650 plants, which include about 80 plant families and more than 475 species and cultivars from a variety of equatorial zones.

Operated jointly by the City of Madison Parks Division and the Olbrich Botanical Society, the conservatory's environment is controlled by an external weather station that measures the impact of the sunlight and temperatures outdoors to create an indoor environment suitable for its tropical inhabitants. Exterior shades and misting nozzles help maintain an indoor humidity level of 60 percent and temperatures that range between 65 and 80 degrees yearround.

The conservatory, which opened in November 1991, anchors Olbrich Gardens' 16 acres. The gardens begin to stir in early March, when outdoor beds devoted to roses, dahlias, perennials, annuals and irises begin showing signs of life.

At the park's far reaches, shimmering golden in the sun, stands the Thai Pavilion & Garden. The pavilion was a gift to the University of Wisconsin-Madison from the Thai government and the Thai chapter of the Wisconsin Alumni Association. UW-Madison has one of the largest Thai student populations of any U.S. college or university.



PHOTO: KAI STANECKI/TRAVEL WISCONSIN

Visitors enjoy a tropical moment at Madison's Olbrich Botanical Gardens.



PHOTO: MILWAUKEE COUNTY PARK

Mitchell Park's domes are illuminated inside and out by LED lighting.

UNDER THE DOMES

Milwaukee's Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory invites visitors into three landmark, LED-illuminated domes, each housing a distinct environment.

The tropical dome houses jungle flora from five continents. On any given day, as many as 50 different species might be blooming there. A rushing waterfall, tropical birds and 500 varieties of orchids add to the ambience.

The arid dome is home to one of the Midwest's finest collections of cacti and succulents, as well as an oasis of pampas grass and desert palms. Visitors can stroll through environments replicating arid regions of Africa, Madagascar, the Canary Islands, Bolivia, Mexico and Peru.

The third environment, nicknamed the "show dome," offers five seasonal displays annually. From poinsettias and holiday lights at Christmas to hundreds of lilies at Easter, the displays offer brilliant colors and fragrant aromas to help combat the winter blues.

The domes were built over a period of eight years, from 1959 to 1967, based on a design submitted by local architect Donald Grieb. Each dome offers 1 acre under glass and 750,000 cubic feet of space, rising 85 feet — that's seven stories — from the lobby level. A team of five full-time horticulturalists and eight support staffers tend the plants daily.

In addition to being located in Milwau-

kee's first permanently named city park, the domes are the world's only conoidal (beehive-shaped, as opposed to geodesic) glass houses, according to park officials. Grieb's unique design offers a superior angle for solar heating and more interior height for tree growth.

More visibly, they also provide a glittering addition to the Milwaukee skyline. Each dome was outfitted with a latticework of LED lights in the late '00s, bringing the Domes into the 21st century and re-attracting visitors to the Milwaukee landmark.

This time of year, the Mitchell Park Domes and Olbrich Botanical Gardens give visitors the opportunities to shake off the winter doldrums with a dose of tropical air, desert foliage and enough plant life to know that spring is just around the corner.

At the very least, the weather is much more pleasant under glass, and the verdant growth offers a tangible tonic for the frostbitten heart.

IN BLOOM

Olbrich Botanical Gardens are located at 3330 Atwood Ave. on Madison's East Side. For hours and other information, call 608-246-4550 or go to olbrich.org.

Mitchell Park Conservatory (The Domes) is located at 524 S. Layton Blvd. on Milwaukee's South Side. Phone 414-257-5611 or visit milwaukeedomes.org.

'Ghost Hunters' will haunt Milwaukee's Pabst Theater

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

When Steve Gonsalves first saw Ghostbusters, the 1984 Bill Murray comedy about four hapless souls who chase paranormal specters and save New York City from the powers of darkness and a giant Stay Puft Marshmallow Man, his life's course became clear.

"I needed to be one of those guys!" Gonsalves says.

Last year Gonsalves celebrated the 10th anniversary of *Ghost Hunters*, Syfy's wildly popular reality TV show in which he, lead investigator Jason Hawes and a full team of enthusiasts explore, document and try to explain paranormal activity in homes, hotels and other locations across the United States.

The full team has yet to visit in Wisconsin, but Gonsalves and Hawes will haunt Milwaukee's Pabst Theater on Jan. 23 with "Ghost Hunters LIVE," an evening of inside glimpses and video outtakes of their collective paranormal experiences — which Gonsalves says are as funny as they are frightening.

Gonsalves says he's never met a ghost he didn't like. In fact, he says, he's never met a ghost at all.

"People think ghosts are people who lived on Earth and passed away, but I've never seen one ever," says Gonsalves, who handles technology and data analysis for the Ghost Hunters team. "I trust Jason with my life and if he comes to me and says, 'I just saw this head come out at me,' I do think he saw it. But I don't believe in anything until I see myself."

What Gonsalves has experienced are unexpected lights, noises both vague and thunderous, unexplained smells and even physical contact, all of which fuel his fascination with an otherworldly realm.

"I've seen spontaneous fires ignite for no reason, have been touched and pushed, and have seen things that can't be explained," Gonsalves says. "I do believe in the paranormal and that's what keeps me looking."

One particular experience stands out in Gonsalves' mind. It happened when the Ghost Hunters were investigating the remnants of Alcatraz, the former prison on an island in San Francisco Bay. The prison closed in 1963 and is now a tourist attraction managed by the National Park Service.

One of the former prison cells and an adjoining corridor emitted a strong soapy odor that the crew could not explain. They dismissed it, only to discover later that it was the key to an apparition.

"The head tour guide told us that the cell belonged to an inmate — and he may have been the Birdman of Alcatraz, but I'm not sure — who was only allowed out of his cell to take a shower," Gonsalves says. "He bathed many times a week for 10 years, moving from his cell to showers

down that same corridor. Can we consider those smells as a sign that his energy was still hanging around?"

Gonsalves' career path to Ghost Hunters included stints as an EMT, police officer, jewelry maker, drummer and even a Pizza Hut manager. But he also studied the paranormal wherever he could, including work with renowned parapsychologist William G. Roll. Gonsalves learned that sightings and other paranormal experiences are all about the energy that "haunts" the room.

"If you're using the technological devices you need to know how energy works," Gonsalves says. "Everything is covered with static electricity. When it moves it becomes electromagnetic and gauges we use read what's left of the energy."

That energy could be recent, or it could be years old, Gonsalves says. Reading the energy that is left behind by human activity may be the equivalent of "seeing a ghost," and residue from the past activity — human and otherwise — can contribute to paranormal presences, he says. "Not many investigators know what to look for and how to interpret it," Gonsalves adds.

Gonsalves' interest in the science of paranormal studies dates back to age 20, when he formed a New England paranormal group. He met Hawes, head of what is now the Atlantic Paranormal Society, and eventually the pair joined forces. They worked together for about eight years before being

approached to film *Ghost Hunters*, and they and their team, a mix of police officers, professors and former plumbers, are among the few people worldwide making a living exploring paranormal activity.

For Gonsalves, the drama of his job comes in the history behind the sightings, as well as their ability to help the families of the alleged specters come to terms with deceased family members still lurking about. Video footage of a ghost haunting a zoo in Alexandria, Louisiana, for example, was clearly identified as "Les," the former zoo proprietor, by his surviving family members, who wept in relief because they had then come to terms with his death.

Not all the video crew members believe in the paranormal, but Gonsalves says none of them are ever afraid when they are onsite investigating supposed apparitions.

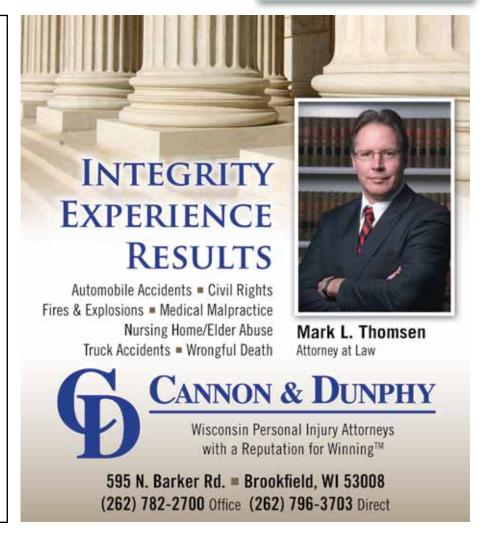
"It's very much like police work," the ghost hunter says. "When you see that apparition moving down a dark hallway, you don't fear it. you chase it."

But then that's easy for a group of modern-day Ghostbusters to say.

ON STAGE

"Ghost Hunters LIVE" appears at 8 p.m. on Jan. 23 at Milwaukee's Pabst Theater, 144 E. Wells St. Tickets are \$30, \$100 for meet-and-greet seats. Call 414-286-3205 or visit pabsttheater. org for more information.





Welles centennial celebrated in Madison, Kenosha

By Jay Rath

Contributing writer

A century ago, on May 6, 1915, Kenosha found itself the birthplace of one of the greatest film directors of all time: Orson Welles.

It's a centennial set to be celebrated in force this year, both there and in another of Welles' hometowns: Madison, where he lived for a year in his youth.

Madison's celebration kicks off this month. The University of Wisconsin-Madison Cinematheque will present Welles' first film, *Citizen Kane*, in a free screening on Jan. 24.

It's only the first foray into Welles' work, which Cinematheque director of programming Jim Healy says will continue weekly, with screenings of *The Magnificent Ambersons* and *The Stranger* on Jan. 31, and subsequent films including *Othello, The Lady from Shanghai, F for Fake,* and *Touch of Evil* presented later in February.

"We've never really done a Welles series before, so this is a great occasion," says Healy. He added that the Wisconsin Film Festival, in April, will feature additional presentations, before the Cinematheque returns to a weekly schedule. "In the summer we'll focus on his acting roles in films that other people directed, and in the fall look at Welles rarities."

Later in the year, Kenosha's Citizen Welles Society will have a monthlong



PHOTO: UW-MADISON CINEMATHEQUI

Orson Welles, seen here in his documentary *F for Fake*. The film screens in Madison this February as part of the Welles centennial celebration.

celebration of the director beginning on his birthday. Some of the biggest events planned are a live performance of Welles' famous *War of the Worlds* radio broadcast, a Welles Film Festival hosted by UW-Parkside and Carthage College and a variety of other Welles-inspired activities — including magic acts, a lifelong passion of his.

Welles' time in Wisconsin was brief — he moved to Chicago with his family in 1919, and his year in Madison between 1925 and 1926 was an anomaly that immediately

NOW SCREENING

The UW-Madison Cinematheque will screen *Citizen Kane* at 7 p.m. on Jan. 24, in room 4070 of Vilas Hall, 821 University Ave. Admission is free. The Orson Welles series will continue on Saturdays into February, and continue into the Wisconsin Film Festival April 9-16. Visit cinema.wisc.edu for more details.

preceded his arrival in Woodstock, Illinois, the town he would ultimately consider his home.

But even in his brief time in Madison as a fourth-grade public school student, Welles drew attention. A *Capital Times* story from that year summed him up in the headline "Cartoonist, Actor, Poet and Only 10," describing accomplishments like impromptu, four-hour performances, oil paintings that showed "keen insight and interpretation" and original poetry recitations.

"Orson has many ambitions," reported *The Capital Times*. "At the present time he cannot decide what he will be when he grows up."

Another Welles anniversary takes place this year. He died in Hollywood 30 years ago, on Oct. 10, 1985.



Death Blues re-meditates on mortality at Alverno

By Julie Steinbach

Contributing writer

Jon Mueller and William Ryan Fritch used to be complete strangers.

Mueller, a percussionist best known for his work with post-rock groups Pele, Collections of Colonies of Bees and Volcano Choir, and Fritch, a San Franciscobased film score composer and experimental multi-instrumentalist, shared only a record label when they crossed paths by happenstance. The two took a chance on collaboration, diving into each other's worlds.

The result? The ongoing Death Blues project: an edgy, up-front examination of the mortality inherent in the human condition, set to reveal its latest incarnation

ON STAGE

Jon Mueller's Death Blues will perform on Jan. 31 at 8 p.m. at the Pitman Theatre, 3431 S. 39th St., Milwaukee. Limited-edition copies of the book/LP Ensemble will be available at the event, including a digital download of the album with two exclusive tracks. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at alvernopresents.alverno.edu.

at Alverno Presents on Jan. 31.

Mueller's Death Blues project was first seen at Alverno in 2012. Then, Mueller says, it was in the form of an elaborate, hands-on presentation, spanning multiple rooms and requiring audience members' participation.

This time around, Mueller and Fritch's project will be staged in a more traditional concert setting. They'll perform a version of their September release *Ensemble*, a record and essays compilation that caps several years of Death Blues releases. But while the structure of the concert is different, its nature remains the same, Mueller says, a study of how we react to realizing our lives will ultimately end.

"What happens when we thoroughly hold and understand that our lives are finite?" Mueller says. "How does this understanding of our end shape our present? How do we become more 'present'?"

Although the score for *Ensemble* is entirely through-composed, for this performance it will be reduced and reworked to suit a smaller instrumentation, including Fred Lonberg-Holm on cello, Jaime Fennelly on harmonium, Jim Warchol on hammered acoustic guitar, Marielle Allschwang on vocals and Nathaniel Heuer on upright bass.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Percussionist Jon Mueller premiered his Death Blues project at Alverno in 2012.

In order to transform the album, originally created by Mueller and Fritch alone, Mueller says he asked the collaborating musicians to listen to the album and synthesize a way in which each of their individual instruments will fit into the texture of the work for live performance. The result, he expects, will be a surprise for both audience members who've already heard the record and the performers themselves, with some on-the-spot reimagining likely in rehearsal for the performance.

While this version of Death Blues won't be as interactive as the original, Mueller says there will be nonmusical elements for the audience to engage with, including visual imagery during the performance.

It's all meant to coincide with Mueller's central thesis: that the beauty of having an expiration date forces you to live with the present in mind and in action, and live mindfully in the face of shared human hardships.





The Sets List

JUKEBOX THE GHOST

8 p.m. Jan. 19 at Turner Hall Ballroom, Milwaukee. \$10. pabsttheater.org.

Indie pop trio Jukebox the Ghost has been hanging on the periphery of cultural awareness for almost a decade, cranking out sunshiney pop like "Somebody" and "Half Crazy" worthy of audiences that haven't quite solidified yet. But with their new self-titled album, they're making their biggest play yet for the big time, and you can see them for a little price they shouldn't be able to charge for much longer. '00s emo fans who've moved on to loving emotional folk music, take note: Twin Forks, the Americana act featuring Dashboard Confessional frontman Chris Carrabba, opens.

JOSÉ JAMES

8 p.m. Jan. 16 at Overture Center's Capitol Theatre, Madison. \$35-\$45. overturecenter.org.

José James is a talented musician in his own right, expertly gifted in synthesizing jazz and hip-hop with a dash of soul style. But at his Overture gig, he's paying tribute to an artist he'd surely admit was more talented than he'll ever be: Billie Holiday, the "finest interpreter of the human heart" who's ever sang a note into a microphone. Bring along an instrument of your own, and you can join Madison's New Breed jazz band for a jam after the show.

RAILROAD EARTH

8 p.m. Jan. 18 at the Pabst Theater, Milwaukee. \$23, \$25 day of show. pabsttheater.org.

Some bands you see because they're masterful musicians. Some you see for the experience. With Railroad Earth, one of the country's greatest jam bands, you get both. The bluegrass-rooted band isn't afraid to stretch its musical range into country, jazz, Celtic and rock music, and the result is a groovy mix of styles that must be seen to be believed. Horseshoes & Hand Grenades opens.

PABLOVE 6

7 p.m. Jan. 17 at Turner Hall Ballroom, Milwaukee. \$20. pabsttheater.org.

Tributes to The Smiths, Morrissey and The Replacements. A set by slick electro pop act GGOOLLDD, one of the best bands to show up in Milwaukee last year. Music veterans Chris Connelly, Matt Walker and (Garbage's lead vocalist) Shirley Manson teaming up to play the music of David Bowie. Best yet, proceeds go to improving the lives of children with cancer. Why wouldn't you want to hit up Pablove's sixth annual benefit concert?

COLD WAR KIDS

8:30 p.m. Jan. 27 at the Majestic, Madison. \$25. majesticmadison.com. Like lots of indie rock bands, Cold War Kids made a big splash with their debut album, 2004's Robbers & Cowards, and then got flak for not making exactly the same



7:30 p.m. Jan. 24 at Cedarburg Cultural Center, Cedarburg. \$14, \$16 day of show, \$10 students. cedarburgculturalcenter.org.

Yes, it seems strange that chamber folk superstar-in-themaking S. Carey is playing a show in Cedarburg. But it's actually the biggest gig scheduled in his upcoming Living Room Tour, and more importantly, the only one the Wisconsin native and Bon Iver alum is playing in his home state for the foreseeable future. So get thee to Ozaukee already.

LOCAL COVERAGE

8 p.m. Jan. 16 at Club Garibaldi, Milwaukee. \$5. clubgaribaldi.com.

If you're not already a little familiar with Milwaukee-area bands, Local Coverage might be a bit confusing. The Milwaukee Record-sponsored event challenges eight Milwaukee bands or rappers to cover another artist in the group, daisy-chain style, as a way to shake things up. But lean into that confusion. It's not often eight acts this talented'll play on the same bill, even if they're not playing their own stuff. Proceeds benefit Girls Rock Milwaukee.

Music reviews

MEGHAN TRAINOR:: 'TITLE'

With her major label debut Title, Meghan Trainor proves "All About That Bass" was no fluke. If you're familiar with



the chart-topping single, you already know the 21-year-old singer-songwriter is inspired by doo-wop and '60s girl groups. Title mixes that inspiration with contemporary lyrics about female empowerment. Not everything works well, most notably Trainor's stab at funk: "Bang Dem Sticks." But follow-up single "Lips Are Movin" and the self-deprecatingly humorous

"Walkashame" more than make up for the low moments. Other standouts include the charmingly wistful "3 AM" and "Like I'm Gonna Lose You," with John Legend. Kudos to Epic Records for moving Trainor from the songwriters' bench to the spotlight.

MARK RONSON :: 'UPTOWN SPECIAL'

Though well-respected for his work with Amy Winehouse, British producer and artist Mark Ronson has not gained the



appreciation his main work deserves stateside. Uptown Special should make him a household name. Much of the album slides into the groove mined by "Uptown Funk!," with lead vocals by Bruno Mars. Three tracks go to vocalist Kevin Parker of Australia's Tame Impala, while Andrew Wyatt of the Swedish pop group Miike Snow gets three of his own. And on "Feel Right,"

rapper Mystikal delivers a blistering James Brown-inspired vocal. Uptown Special is a January gem that will appeal to serious audiophiles and mainstream pop fans alike.

JUKEBOX THE GHOST :: 'JUKEBOX THE GHOST'

The quirky, clever, self-deprecating line, "I should have known right from the start that we were made for ending,"



says a lot of what you need to know about Jukebox the Ghost. The pop rock band's self-titled fourth album is packed full of memorable, pianodriven melodies and lyrics that are wise, funny and occasionally a bit sad. The melodies sink in quickly, only to let go when the next track unleashes its equally catchy chorus. Occasionally the band reaches for more anthe-

mic territory — for instance, on "The Great Unknown," or "When the Nights Get Long," a catchy track reminiscent of Bastille. But generally Jukebox the Ghost doesn't reach for the grand, charmingly remaining down to earth instead.

THE SOIL & THE SUN:: 'MERIDIAN'

Lead vocalist and guitarist Alex McGrath formed The Soil & the Sun with his wife Ashley in 2008, and the Grand



Rapids, Michigan, group has since grown into a seven-member collective. There is something irresistibly gorgeous about Meridian, their debut LP. Its members accurately describe their sound as "experiential, orchestral, spiritual rock." Lush vocals envelop the listener like lapping waves. Intricate percussion provides a base for dense string, guitar and oboe instrumenta-

tion. It's an album you can get lost in, and a harbinger of a bright future. Catch the group live at Turner Hall on Jan. 21.

Bill Lamb



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'Kreutzer Sonata' a duet of lust and obsession

'Pozdnyshev faces

all his decisions

his perspective,

and there's a good

chance that those

are inaccurate.'

By Matthew Reddin

Staff writer

A performance of Beethoven's "Kreutzer" Sonata requires two artists: one on violin, one on piano. A performance of Nancy Harris' Kreutzer Sonata, adapted from Leo Tolstoy's novella of the same name, requires a third: a gifted actor who can stand within the gaps of that sonata and tell a tale of a man driven to obsession by the passions such a work of art can evoke in its performers and

At Renaissance Theaterworks, director and co-founder Marie Kohler has such an actor: Jim Pickering, a veteran of Milwaukee's stages since he joined the Milwaukee Rep's resident company in the '70s.

In The Kreutzer Sonata, Pickering will play the narrator Pozdnyshev, the play's only speaking role. He's a 19th-century Russian, fresh out of prison, and he's found himself on a passenger train with the show's audience, inexplicably compelled to share his story with them. Beethoven's sonata, and the act it inspired, haunts him, and fragments of it performed by pianist Colleen Schmitt and violinist Joe Ketchum — drift in and out from behind a series of scrims.

It's a boldly theatrical start, one of the many reasons Pickering says he was so attracted to the role. "I love music. I love Beethoven. I love Russian literature. I love working with Marie," Pickering says. "And I needed a job. What a great combination."

He and Kohler found that the novella is unlike Tolstoy's more famous works Anna Karenina and War and Peace. Written and actions from in the later years of his life, The Kreutzer Sonata came at a time when Tolstoy was growing into a religious eccentric, turning away from things of the world like music and sensuality, Kohler notes. It's an opinion she says is often shared by his narrator, who blames a blend of

the two for driving him to commit his great crime. But Tolstoy and his narrator aren't always in sync.

"Ever since it was written," Kohler says, "people have struggled to figure out how much is Tolstoy, and how much is the piece of art. ... But the more I study not only the play, but the background material, the more you can see it's very carefully crafted. He knows when he's setting his narrator up to be an idiot and he knows when he's obsessive."

Kohler believes Pozdnyshev's obsession is the focal point of Harris' adaptation, which makes the titular sonata as much a character as the narrator himself. That's in part why she's decided to hire live musicians, rather than use recordings, and invited music director Jill Anna Ponasik to collaborate closely



with Pickering as well as Schmitt and Ketchum on where to insert portions of the sonata. "Jim has an innately musical sense ... an instinctive sense of when to enter, after a musical phrase. And that's something you can't always count on," she says.

The Kreutzer Sonata is an interesting choice for Renaissance at first glance, a one-man show adapted from a male author's novella produced by a company dedicated to women's roles and women's stories. But Kohler says it's precisely in that imbalance that Harris' words and her own direction can access issues of male jealousy and a woman's desires. "(Pozdnyshev) faces all his deci-

sions and actions from his perspective, and there's a good chance that those are inac-

And even when it goes to unsettling places, there's still that cornerstone: the "Kreutzer" Sonata, a thing of beauty as hauntingly compelling as Pozdnyshev's tale.

ON STAGE

Renaissance Theaterworks' production of The Kreutzer Sonata runs Jan. 24 through Feb. 15 at the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway, Milwaukee. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. weeknights, 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$36 and can be purchased at 414-291-7800 or r-t-w.com.

Soulstice Theatre stages a ladies' 'Macbeth'

By Matthew Reddin

Staff writer

Of all Shakespeare's plays, Macbeth is among the most gendered, its characters struggling with the ways their society expects them to act like men or women.

So it's fitting that Soulstice Theatre's foray into all-female Shakespeare takes the form of the "Scottish Play," with every role played by a woman as a woman — albeit a woman still forced to choose between presenting as masculine or feminine.

Director Catherine Jones explains: Her take on *Macbeth* sets the play in a period shortly after World War I, when the young men of Europe went to battle in the trenches. Her conceit suggests they never returned, forcing the women who remained to realign themselves within their society's patriarchy, choosing during puberty whether they will take on masculine gender identities (allowing them to wage war or rule) or feminine gender identities (allowing them to remain womanly but relegating them to the domestic sphere).

It's a change that alters the nature of the play, without changing a word of Shakespeare's regicidal text. "Our Lady Macbeth (Alicia Rice) has chosen to present feminine, so the way she expresses herself has to be in these very gentle ways," Jones says. "(With) Macbeth (Amy Hansmann), because she's trying to fit into this patriarchal social structure, everything's coded as masculine — you want to be king, you have to be male."

The result, she adds, is that the play's two main characters, as well as many others, are forced to grapple with the way they choose to express their genders, not their biological sexes. This more nuanced approach shines the spotlight directly on the implications of Shakespeare's gendered language — especially when the women start to challenge each other's manliness or womanliness.

Changing every male role in Macbeth

to a masculinely coded female role is an interesting dramaturgical experiment, but Jones says she knew it was one that would pay off when the show's announcement drummed up a flood of interest even before she held auditions. Once she had a cast assembled, she says, they got together for a table read to discuss the play's subjects and ended up discussing gender in modern society for several hours.

But Jones says that in many ways, getting to have such a rich discussion and exploration of women's and gender issues is almost incidental to her and Soulstice's original goal: finding a way to provide more opportunities for women to be on stage. During the show selection process, Jones says, most Shakespeare plays have to be discounted, because his works have so few opportunities for women. But this year, she came up with the idea of performing an all-female production, and *Macbeth's* fixation on gender roles made it a clear frontrunner.

It also gave her the opportunity to have "ladies with swords" — not as tongue-incheek a rationale as it sounds.

Jones says female actors tend to have less training than male actors in stage combat, and what experience they do have tends to be against men, and often couched in domestic violence scenarios. Making all *Macbeth's* characters women offered her and fight choreographer Christopher Elst a chance to change that for the dozen-and-a-half women in the cast.

To further suggest the monosexual nature of the play's society, Jones says Elst specifically choreographed stage conflicts to reflect the different way women spar with each other, a more brutal and vicious style that lacks macho posturing.

"Violence as an expression is usually a masculine trait; women usually have to mask that," Jones says. "So in a society where you are allowed to be violent, and even encouraged, they're going to take every opportunity to do so."



PHOTO: ALI KAHN

In Soulstice's all-female production, Macbeth (Amy Hansmann, left) and her wife (Alicia Rice) struggle with the roles they've chosen for themselves in a man-less society.

It's certainly not an ordinary interpretation of the Bard's work — but as an opportunity to have multiple women playing characters with greater depth than the witches three, Jones says, it's a royal treat.

ON STAGE

Soulstice Theatre's production of *Macbeth* opens Jan. 16 and runs through Jan. 31. Performances are Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., and tickets are \$20, \$18 for students/seniors/military. For more information or to order, call 414-481-2800 or visit soulsticetheatre.org.

PLAYBILL SKYLIGHT MUSIC THEATRE







Urban wood becomes an aesthetic treasure at Lynden

By Kat Murrell

Contributing writer

City dwellers may not be lucky enough to have a full forest in their backyard, but it's likely they don't have to wander far from their front door to encounter a tree. Trees beautify the urban landscape, lending a soft organic grace to the concrete, angular environment surrounding them even as they serve as crucial parts of the ecosystem.

The current exhibition at the Lynden Sculpture Garden, *Urban Wood Encounter*, asks us to think about those trees at a very different part of their life cycle — the arboreal afterlife.

Trees that grow naturally in cities or are planted for decoration aren't typically harvested for lumber, so after they die, they often end up as woodchips or are hauled off to a landfill. It's a wasteful process that costs 3 billion board feet of lumber a year nationwide. According to Dwayne Sperber of Wudeward Urban Forest Products, who spoke to Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine in 2012, "That's enough wood to create over 250 million coffee tables, or enough flooring for 2 million homes, annually."

Urban Wood Encounter brings together 15 artisans and furniture makers from the region who show exceptionally crafted tables, chairs, cabinets and even a dramatic arched floor lamp — all made from reclaimed urban wood. The designs of the pieces are largely traditional but with some

extraordinary flourishes of woodworking skill.

As these pieces are all unified by their origin as urban trees, it makes sense that the natural surface of the wood is emphasized. The lustrous surface grain of Kevin Geise's large, wall mounted "Elm Cabinet" gleams warmly like velvet, glowing with extraordinary slivery and gold tones, yet is cool, smooth and silken to the touch.

A low rectangular bench and chairs with crisscrossed metal legs and arms by Greta de Parry and Mike Jarvi is sleek with a sort of Scandinavian aesthetic. They call the set "Folded" and their attention to detail is the reason. At the corners where the planes of wood change directly, such as the transition from the chair back to the seat, the wood takes on a three-dimensional twist, mirroring a draped fabric. Here in the more resistant form of wood, de Parry and Jarvi make these folds look delightfully effortless.

The exhibition is very much about materials and craft, with few metaphorical or symbolic gestures. An exception is Dan Barsch's "Tea Ceremony." Made from elm, ash, and a Douglas fir from a Milwaukee warehouse, the table is a substantial slice from a tree trunk and measures about 48 inches in diameter. The natural bark finishes the table's edge, but a large fractured opening is bridged by three added pieces of wood. They are finished with a rich reddish stain in contrast to the natural blonde and



PHOTO: KAT MURRELL

Dan Barsch's "Tea Ceremony," a 48-inch table made from elm, ash and a Douglas fir.

light coffee tones of the fir's inner rings. The added pieces highlight this break in the wood and make a focal point out of what could be regarded as an imperfection. It follows the Japanese notion of *wabi-sabi*, which regards signs of wear and time as elements that create character and unique beauty.

This blend of different woods in discreet details is present in other works as well. Linh Hoang and Vanessa Sunta show a shelving unit that uses padauk, a tropical wood, inserted into split areas of a maple board. It is a detail that gives a lift to a very simple, functional piece. Their work is part of the Project Space, a complementary room to the exhibition which features more modular furniture. The underlying premise in this space also involves the use of urban wood and environmentally conscious materials.

If you are now thinking differently about the furniture in your home and the environment outside your window, an upcoming workshop, "From Tree to Table," offers the

ON VIEW

Urban Wood Encounter continues through Feb. 21 at the Lynden Sculpture Garden, 2145 W. Brown Deer Road. The "From Tree to Table" workshop will be held on Jan. 24 from 1-3:15 p.m. The cost is \$30/\$25 for members. Materials are supplied and advance registration is required. Visit lyndenscupturegarden. org for more information.

opportunity to create your own piece in the spirit of this exhibition. Participants will enjoy a Tree Walk at the Lynden, and then a session with designer Joseph La Macchia where they will make a simple four-legged footstool out of ash wood. This workshop echoes the transformative effects of the furniture on view, where the intervention of skilled craft turns what could be sadly wasted into something beautiful.





ART GAZE — MILWAUKEE

Gallery Night guide

It's time to brave the winter chill and check out exciting new exhibitions around town. Here are a few highlights to see on this Gallery Night and Day, Jan. 16 and Jan. 17.



DUOTO: COLIDTES

Lois Bielefeld: Androgyny opens Jan. 16 at Portrait Society Gallery.

'LOIS BIELEFELD: ANDROGYNY'

Portrait Society Gallery, 207 E. Buffalo St., Fifth Floor

In photography, video and audio, the character of male and female identity is blurred and blended, combining aesthetic interest with social reflection. Also on view will be the annual installation of the Winter Chapel, with two versions this year: one by Bruce Knackert and the other by kathryn e. martin.

'ENGENDERED'

Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, 273 E. Erie St.

This wide-ranging group exhibition explores gender, identity and sexuality. As described by curator Niki Johnson, "The bedroom, the body and the queer take center stage, creating a space in which the subordinate experience becomes empowered."

'JOANNA POEHLMANN: NOW AND THEN'

RedLine Milwaukee, 1422 N. Fourth St.

This impressive retrospective includes nearly 400 drawings, assemblages and sculptural works that pay homage to nature and famous names in art history.

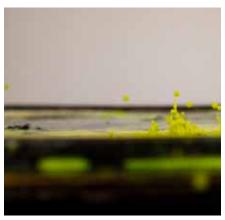


PHOTO: COURTES

Bass Structures: The Mark of Sound will be curated at 88Nine.

'BASS STRUCTURES: THE MARK OF SOUND'

88Nine Radio Milwaukee, 220 E. Pittsburgh Ave

Audio and visual combine in paintings made by loud pulses of sound shot through paint. The results are curated by Jeff Redmon, and the Gallery Night festivities will culminate in "a multidimensional DJ battle" from 9 p.m. to midnight.

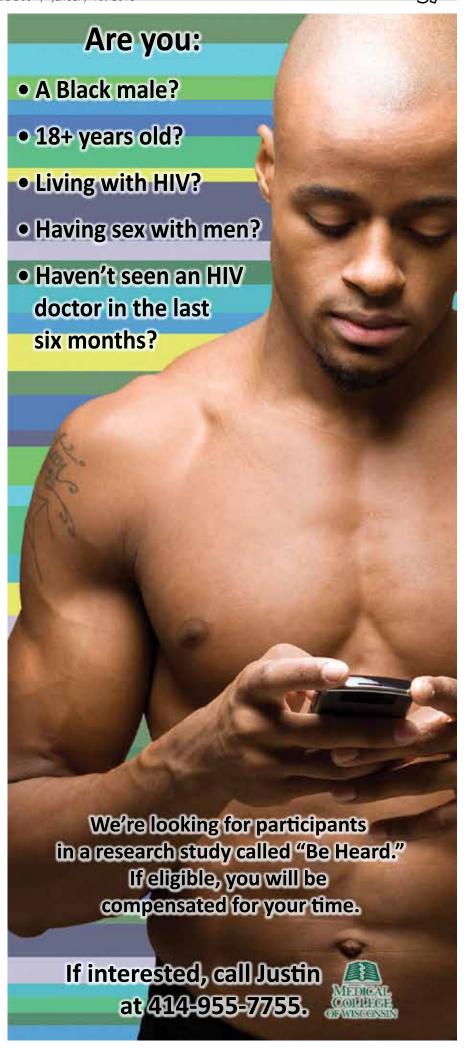
'SANTIAGO CUCULLU: NEW WORK' 'SCREENS AND MIRRORS: NEW PAINTINGS BY CLAIRE STIGLIANI'

Dean Jensen Gallery, 759 N. Water St.

Two provocative contemporary artists take over both floors of the gallery with paintings, sculpture, video, and other media inspired by pop culture, personal stories, and more.

- Kat Murrell





ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS



Idina Menzel stars in If/Then as two versions of a city planner who returns to New York.

IDINA MENZEL'S 'IF/THEN' TO CLOSE ON BROADWAY IN MARCH

Broadway musical *If/Then*, a star vehicle for Idina Menzel of *Rent*, *Wicked* and *Frozen* fame, will close March 22 after 401 performances, at an expected loss. The contemporary musical was a follow-up to *Next to Normal* for lyricist/writer Brian Yorkey and composer Tom Kitt, and tells parallel stories

of a city planner who moves back to New York to restart her life, splitting in its introductory moments. The show had reunited Menzel with two *Rent* alums (director Michael Greif and co-star Anthony Rapp), but never took off critically or at the box office, despite Menzel's meteoric return to the public eye with her hit song "Let It Go."

STUDY: WHITE MEN GET MOST FIRST-TIME TV DIRECTING GIGS

According to a Directors Guild of America study, the vast majority of first-time directors for TV series are white men. Of the nearly 500 directors hired for their initial job from 2009 to 2014, 82 percent were men, and 87 percent were white, in contrast to 18 percent women and 13 percent minority. In a statement about the study, Directors Guild president Paris Barclay said employing first-time directors represents a major opportunity to make a difference diversifying the ranks of directors. Instead, Barclay said, the industry is retaining the status quo that favors white males as TV directors.

FACEBOOK'S MARK ZUCKERBERG STARTS BOOK CLUB

Mark Zuckerberg is attempting to add a little more "book" to Facebook. The Facebook founder and CEO announced on his page recently that he has vowed to read a book every other week in 2015, with an emphasis on learning about different beliefs and cultures, and challenged Facebook users to do the same. The first book in his program, Moises Naim's *The End of Power*, published in 2013, quickly went out of stock on Amazon, and Zuckerberg's "A Year of Books" page has more than 240,000 likes.

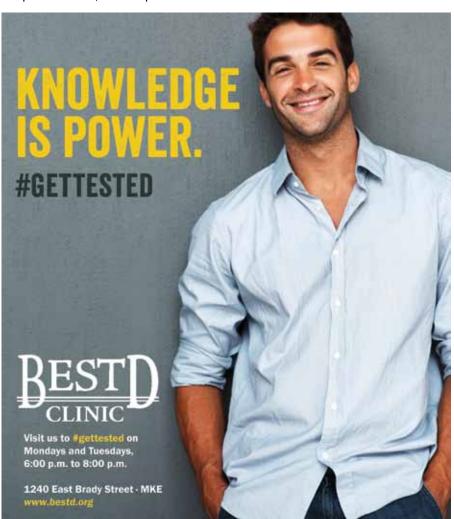
With his club, Zuckerberg challenges none other than book club queen Oprah Winfrey, whose recommendations have been able to make or break authors since 1996. Clubs have also been started by *Good Morning America*, the *Today Show* and other media outlets.

UWM PROFESSOR NAMED WISCONSIN POET LAUREATE

The Wisconsin Academy announced this month that University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee professor of English Kimberly Blaeser will serve as the state's poet laureate through 2016. Blaeser, of Anishinaabe ancestry, has written three published poetry collections and has been frequently anthologized. According to the Wisconsin Academy, her works focus on "literal observation and the power of metaphor," and she is currently at work on a series of "Picto-Poems" that pair her poetry with nature and wildlife photography.

Wisconsin has named poet laureates since 2000, originally to serve 4-year terms. Their service was later reduced to two years. The program is now stewarded and supported by the Wisconsin Academy after it was defunded by Gov. Scott Walker in 2011.

- Matthew Reddin

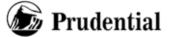


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ACROSS

- End, retailer
- 6. Down Under bird
- 9. Obscenity
- 13. Hang around for
- 14. Bamboozle
- 15. Worn by some British soldiers on ceremonial occasions
- 16. Gang
- 17. Skirt's edge
- 18. Gung-ho
- _, José and Luciano
- 21. *Athos, Porthos and _
- 23. Bit of binary code
- 24. Again
- 25. Public health approver
- 28. To give approval in writing
- 30. African tree
- 35. Hurts
- 37. Kind of bean
- 39. *Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin meeting spot
- 40. Genealogist's work
- 41. Sign of cancer?
- 43. Unit of pressure named after Torricelli
- 44. Wife of Abraham
- 46. Muscle quality
- 47. ____-fry
- 48. Type of tax
- 50. *They officiated LeBron, Wade and Bosh's games
- 52."I ____ with my naked eye"
- 53. Test choice

FAMOUS TRIOS

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- 55. Denouement 57. *The Good, ____ and the Ugly
- 60. *Chico, Harpo and _
- 64. Skyward
- 65. Female forest ruminant
- 67. Continental divide
- 68. Recorded
- 69. "... ___ he drove out of sight"
- 70. Piquant
- 71. Joannie Loves Chachi actress
- 72. *___, blue and yellow
- 73. Earl of

- I. Nordic native
- 2. Military no-show
- 3. *Employer of Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins
- 4. *The Bee Gees' most popular genre
- 5. Beer garden mugs
- 6. Reverberated sound
- 7. *___, Curly and Larry
- 8. Unnerve
- 9. One who makes deceitful pretenses
- 10. *Gaspar, Balthasar and Melchior
- 11. Luau strings, pl.
- 12. Craggy peak
- 15. Marine trade route
- 20. Of or relating to deism
- 22. Johnny ____, nickname for a

- Confederate
- 24. Twisted Sister: "We're not
- gonna take it _____"
 25. *____, Stinky and Stretch
- 26. English physicist who studied quantum mechanics
- 27. Make aware
- 29. Caused by defects in uric acid metabolism
- 31. Cereals or grains
- 32. Ink stains
- 33.A vacation or
- 34. *Robin, Maurice and Gibb
- 36. Scorch
- 38. Steak condiment
- 42. Send to a specialist, e.g.
- 45. Situation that is ideal for rapid development
- 49. Gershwin
- 51. Alarm button
- 54. Bovine milk dispenser
- 56. Italian title, pl.
- 57. Ski lift
- 58. Arizona Indian
- 59. Level
- 60. Turned to the right, like a horse
- 61. British tax
- 62. Passionate dislike
- 63. December stone
- 64. Downed a sub, e.g.
- 66. Miner's bounty

Answers on pg. 37

