Wisconsin Gazette ocom

Curtains up
Three world premieres take
first bows on the stages of
the Alchemist Theater,
Milwaukee Rep and

Skylight Music Theater. page 32

Progressive.

ALTERNATIVE.

March 12, 2015 | Vol. 6 No. 8





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40 **Keeping wonder alive** A retrospective for Milwaukee artist JoAnna Poehlmann drops into the artist's fascinating world.

News with a twist

HOLLYWOOD HARVEST

Will consumers be more likely to eat asparagus endorsed by Jessica Alba or kale if promoted by Colin Kaepernick? Partnership for a Healthier America, created in conjunction with first lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! effort, hopes so. The group recently announced a celebrity campaign to promote consumption of fruit and vegetables. The idea is to put as much thought and money into marketing healthy foods as chips and candv.

DOCKING DÉCOR

Ikea recently announced plans to sell home furnishings — desks, lamps and tables — capable of wirelessly charging smartphones, tablets and other electronics. The Swedish company also plans to offer a kit to convert furniture into wireless dock-

ing stations so home office workers can get the job done from the Lazy Boy.

OH O'REILLY

Bill O'Reilly operates under the belief that if he shouts something loud enough, his Fox fanatics will take his word as truth. That doesn't work with journalists, who have devoted a lot of energy to disproving O'Reilly's claims to be on the spot and in danger during his correspondent days. Most recently, CNN published a taped telephone from 1977 that reveals O'Reilly was not outside the Florida home where an associate of Lee Harvey Oswald committed suicide. O'Reilly, in his book Killing Kennedy, said he was on a porch when he heard a gunshot from inside the home where George de Mohrenschildt committed suicide. But on the recording, O'Reilly is told of the death and he says

WiGWAG



Florida the next day.

BAD BLUFF

Lincoln, Police in Nebraska, arrested a man for possessing less than an ounce of marijuana allegedly found after he was stopped on suspicion of drunken driving. The report said police found the pot in a plastic sour cream container labeled "Not Weed."

TUNNELING IN TORONTO

The discovery of an underground bunker in Toronto set off a social media frenzy. Authorities said the tunnel measured about 2 yards high, 3 yards wide and 10 yards long and contained plywood walls, a sump pump, a generator and a lot of discarded beverage cans. Police set up surveillance to identify the inhabitants and eventually learned that two young men built the tunnel simply because they wanted a hang out. "They started out as goal to make a cool place and that's what they did," said police Constable Victor Kwong.

PLAYING WITH PISTOLS

Inspired by the punishment of a kid who brought a gun fashioned from a Pop-Tart to school, Nevada Assembly Republicans are backing a bill that would bar schools from barring students from playing with toy firearms on school grounds. Nevada Assemblyman Jim Wheeler is sponsoring AB121, which would forbid schools from punishing students who play with toy guns or pretend to use a firearm. The bill also extends protections to students who wear clothing with images of firearms, use hand gestures to imitate a gun or brandish partially-eaten pastries in the shape of a posted a screencap of the weapon. Educators could still punish students for eating Pop-Tarts in class.

TOURISM CAM-PAINS

Promotional commercials for urban tourism can be saccharinesweet at times, but one anonymous Milwaukee blogger has swung the pendulum very far in the other direction. Since March 3, a Tumblr page has been presenting itself as a parody of Visit Milwaukee's website, posting mean and misleading campaign slogans that alternately mock the tourism site or critique Milwaukee, such as "1st in segregation!" or "Valuing your right to drive drunk over an effective public transportation system since 1958." Visit Milwaukee has already filed a complaint with Tumblr regarding the use of its logo on the blog, which we know because the blog complaint.

By Lisa Neff, Louis Weisberg & Matthew Reddin



PHOTO: COURTESY

CANNACON

Tommy Chong of Cheech and Chong was among the celebrities to attend a recent three-day marijuana expo in Seattle. Entrepreneurs debuted a number of new products, including a pot-infused barbecue sauce, hash oil, smoke wipes, facial creams, seeds and munchies. The next expo will be held in Denver in June.



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Riding out winter, gearing up for fights



Riders join in a North Coast Cycling Association on a frozen Lake Superior. The NCCA hosts a free ride from Bayfield to Madeline Island — the largest of the Apostle Islands — on the Ice Road on Saturdays in winter, at least for as long as the ice lasts. "I am excited about all the ice biking that is happening in the area," said NCCA president Joe Groshek. "Our mission is to get people out riding bikes. All people, all types of bikes and all types of riding." For more, go to northcoastcycling.org.

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

One recent morning while motorists were scrapping ice off their windshields, Bill Hartz hopped on his Schwinn hybrid and rode the scenic route to work. "I took the long way and went down by the lake to watch the sun rise," said Hartz, who lives in Riverwest and works at Marquette University.

That same morning, Paula Schewe cycled 4 miles into work on her Surley fat-bike, stopping on the way at the Shorewood Colectivo for coffee and granola bars with some biking buddies. "I get to work on a riding high, there's really nothing like it," said Schewe, who works at a retail shop on Milwaukee's Capitol Drive.

And on that icy morning, Steve Czerwinski daydreamed about the arrival of

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spring, about pumping up the tires on his Trek Bike and cruising on the Capital City State Trail.

Wisconsin is one of the best biking states and Madison is one of the 10 best biking cities in the country, said Czerwinski, a cycling enthusiast since his sixth birthday, when he got a BMX bike coveted by every kid in his neighborhood. "In a couple of weeks, with spring, everyone will see why. For cyclists, this is just a superb time of year to be in Wisconsin."

March madness exhilarates cyclists. Warm-weather riders tune up their bikes, register for tours and update their gear. Four-season cyclists change out their rides or their tires, and also their clothes, as they shift from winter to spring.

Schewe has cycled, literally, through 12 Milwaukee winters. "The first year, my friends thought I was crazy and my parents thought it was because I didn't have enough money for a car — which was kinda true," she said. "But it's just a way of life for me. If you know how to dress, and you learn how to ride, and you take care of your bike, it's all good."

Bike retailers, mechanics and association members report a recent uptick in winter bicycling in Wisconsin. The explanations: refinements in cold-weather gear, attention to infrastructure, the popularity of fat-bikes with jumbo tires that seem to float on snow, rising gasoline prices and environmental awareness.

Hartz said he's long cycled in warm weather to work, where he'd otherwise have to pay \$65 a month to park a car. "A few years back, I decided to see how far into winter I could go," he said. "It turns out — all the way through to spring. This is my third winter."

Cycling, he said, is "far cheaper than a car, less crowded than a bus and gets you out in the fresh air for exercise year-round"

And it's also a way of life, Czerwinski would add.

Czerwinski doesn't ride through the winter, but he thinks about riding all winter. And he saves what he can from tips to kickoff the spring season at regional bike expos. "There's Bike-o-Rama, that's big," he said. "And Wheel and Sprocket, that's the biggest. Everyone goes." This year, Czerwinski is considering trading up his bike, an opportunity offered by the Wheel & Sprocket Bike Expo Sale at the Wisconsin State Fair Park next month.

Six years ago, the university student and barista relocated from Kentucky, ranked No. 48 on the League of American Bicyclists' list of bike-friendly states to Wisconsin, ranked No. 3.

He'd like to see Wisconsin reach No. 1. So Czerwinski is taking an interest in political goings on at the capitals — in Madison and in Washington, D.C.



PHOTO: BUDGET BICYCLE CENTER OF MADISON/

The Velocipede, circa 1869, is on display in "Shifting Gears" at the Wisconsin History Museum in Madison.

GEARING UP FOR FUNDING FIGHTS

Conservative Republicans at the state and federal levels this year launched initiatives to weaken biking programs. So the National Bike Summit this month was bringing bike advocates to Capitol Hill to:

- Encourage federal lawmakers to cosponsor the Vision Zero Act to prevent traffic fatalities and the Transportation Alternative Program Improvement Act to provide more local control on transportation priorities and funding decisions.
- Counter a campaign to strip bicycle funding from the transportation bill.
 Congress could vote in May on the anticycling initiative, which is backed by rightwing groups with strong ties to the fossil fuel industry and billionaires David and Charles Koch.

"Despite billions in Highway Trust Fund shortfalls, Washington continues to spend federal dollars on projects that have nothing to do with roads like bike paths and transit," read a letter signed by representatives of Tea Party Nation, the Heartland Institute, Club for Growth, American Energy Alliance and Americans for Prosperity seeking to eliminate federal transportation money for cycling programs.

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, who has strong political and financial ties to those in this conservative coalition, is at the forefront of the campaign to puncture the state's bicycling program.

Earlier this winter, at the start of his second term as governor and an apparent run for the White House, Walker offered a budget that proposed:

- Cutting \$2 million from the Transportation Alternatives Program.
- Gutting the Stewardship Fund used to buy and preserve conservation and recreational land for the public.
- Repealing the Complete Streets Law mandating that bicyclists and pedestrians be considered whenever a road is built or rebuilt.

RIDING from prior page

State Sen. Chris Larson, in a statement responding to Walker's proposals, said repealing the Complete Streets Law "jeopardizes pedestrian and bicyclist safety, resulting in fewer safe places for our neighbors to bike." Larson added that cutting TAP "will result in fewer pro-bike projects, some of which seek to create more safe ways for children to get to their schools."

Larson said, "The governor's budget lacks a long-term, sustainable vision for our state. In fact, at the same time the governor is seeking to curb the growth and popularity of cycling in the state of Wisconsin, he is also borrowing \$1.3 billion to pay for large highway projects. Each day, I grow more amazed by how backward Walker's priorities are for Wisconsin."

Dave Cieslewicz, executive director of Wisconsin Bike Fed, has described Walker's budget as "a direct assault on biking."

Bike Fed is collaborating with many organizations and lawmakers to protect the programs, according to Cieslewicz, who served two terms as mayor in Madison.

Czerwinski said he plans to get involved in the pro-biking push.

"Maybe there will be a bike-in," said Georgia Cramer, of Kenosha, who also is interested in crusading for cycling.

Cramer, interviewed by *WiG* via Facebook, is a recreational rider — bicycling is a family activity on the weekends. But she wants to see bicycling opportunities



Cyclists ride past curious onlookers in Green Bay, circa 1890.

Shifting gears: A cycling exhibit

Did you know? As early as the 1890s, Wisconsin served as a tourist destination for bicyclists and was home to a national bike racing champion.

The state's cycling history is documented and celebrated in "Shifting Gears: A Cyclical History of Badger Bicycling" at the Wisconsin Historical Museum in Madison. The 2,800-square-foot exhibit features apparel and gear, rarities and oddities, images and interactive displays and 23 bicycles either made in Wisconsin or tied to Wisconsin's cycling history.

The show opened in late February and continues at the capital city museum until Oct. 10. The exhibit then moves to the History Museum at the Castle in Appleton.

For more, go to historicalmuseum.wisconsinhistory.org.

— Lisa Neff

expanded in Wisconsin. Like a majority of bicyclists, Cramer said she'd ride more if she felt safer on the roads, and she'd allow her children to ride more if she felt more secure in their safety.

BIKING FOR ALL

"I love riding. And some of my fondest childhood memories are of riding my bike in the summer," she said. "Government should do more, not less."

Earlier this month, the nonprofit People For Bikes released a study showing 34 per-

cent of Americans ages 3 and older rode a bike at least once in the last year and, of those who ride, 70 percent rode six days or more.

The survey also found that a majority worry about being injured on the road and 48 percent of adults in the U.S. don't have access to an operational bicycle. The statistics are higher for people of color, according to a groundbreaking report, "The New Majority: Pedaling Towards Equity," from the Sierra Club and the League of American Bicyclists. The research, for example,

showed that efforts to improve infrastructure for cycling can skirt communities of color, contributing to a higher fatality rate for Hispanic and African-American riders.

The study also outlined the benefits of bicycle access and examined transportation costs. The average family with an income of less than \$50,000 spends about 28 percent of its annual income on housing and 30 percent on transportation. The average yearly cost of operating a car is \$8,220; the average yearly cost of operat-

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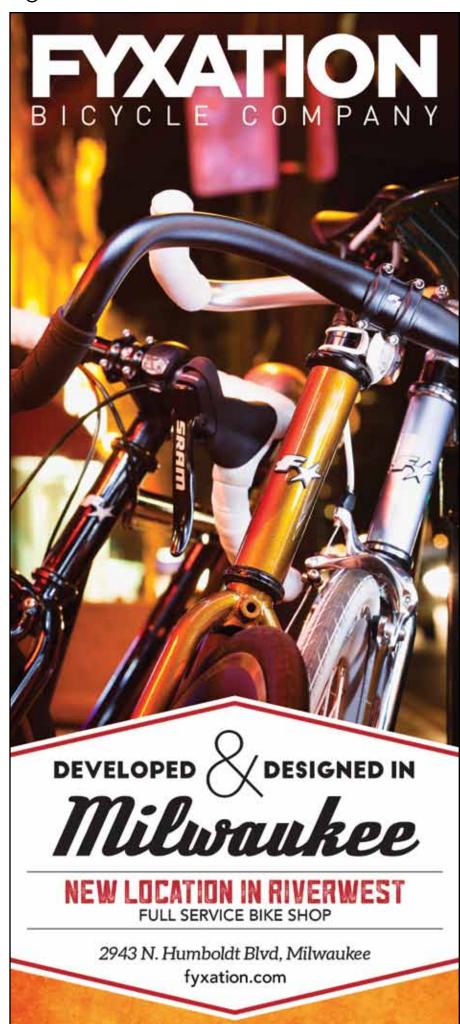




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ing a bike is \$308.

Such statistics and real-life situations motivate Wisconsin cyclists to promote projects such as Bublr Bikes, the Milwaukee bike rental program, and participate in efforts such as Milwaukee's Vulture Space, a nonprofit do-it-yourself bike shop that redistributes repaired bikes in the community; the Milwaukee Bicycle Collective, which educates and encourages the re-use and recycling of old bikes; and DreamBikes

in Madison and Milwaukee, which since 2008 has employed and trained dozens of teens while refurbishing and returning more than 10,000 bikes to the community.

"I'm for a bike for everyone, because biking is just good for your health, mind, for the environment and it's economical," said Czerwinski, the guy who spent that recent icy morning daydreaming about riding out winter and cycling into spring.

RIDE ON: A CYCLING CALENDAR

Wheel & Sprocket Bike Expo Sale, the largest bike sale in the nation, cycles into Wisconsin State Fair Park April 10–12.

This is the 31st year for the sale, which will feature thousands of bikes and thousands of accessories, as well as seminars with cycling experts, a trade-in, trade-up program and connections with riding groups, tour sponsors, advocacy organizations and biking buddies.

Admission is free to the exposition center, 640 S. 84th St., Milwaukee.

For more, go to bikeexposale.com.

Other opportunities on the cyclist's calendar

- Bike-O-Rama Midwest Bicycle Show and Sale, March 13-15, Alliant Energy Center, 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way, Madison, bikeorama.com.
- North Coast Cycling Association Lake Superior Ice Road Bike Rides, Saturdays until the ice melts, Bayfield. northcoastcycling.org.
- Wisconsin Cycling Association Team Wisconsin Spring Classic, April 25, Hales Corner. wicycling.org.
- WCA La Crosse Criterium/Road Race, May 2-3, La Crosse. wicycling.org.
- WCA Wheel and Sprocket Criterium, May 16, Neenah. wicycling.org.
- American Diabetes Association 100K Tour de Cure, May 16, Madison. main. diabetes.org.
- WCA Kenosha Velosport Criterium, May 17, Silver Lake. wicycling.org.
- DreamBikes Elvis Ride into Miller Park, May 27, Milwaukee. facebook.com/ dreambikesmilwaukee.
- UPAF/United Performing Arts Fund Ride for the Arts, Milwaukee, May 31. upafride. ora.
- 26th Annual Trek 100: A Ride for Hope Benefit for Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer fund, June 6, Trek Bicycle headquarters, Waterloo. trek100. org.
- Bicycle Club of Lake County Ramble, June 14, Kenosha County Fairgrounds, Wilmot. www.bikebclc.com.
- Annual Lupine Junefest, June 13, W.S. Carow Park, Mercer. mercercc.com.
- Tour of America's Dairyland competitive road race, June 18-28. tourofamericasdairyland.com.

- 30th Great Annual Bicycle Adventure Along the Wisconsin River/GRABAAWR, June 20-27. facebook.com/grabaawr.
- 17th annual Bike Northwoods, July 11-17, Iron River. facebook.com/bikenorthwoods.
- Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Scenic Shore 150 Bike Tour, July 18-19, Mequon to Sturgeon Bay. scenicshore150. org.
- Tour Da Goose Bike Ride, June 27, Watertown. tourdagoose.com.
- Wisconsin AIDS Ride, July 30-Aug. 2. www.actride.org.
- Ride to Read Bike Ride, Aug. 8, Portage. kiwanisridetoread.com.
- 37th annual SAGBRAW/Schramm' Annual Bicycle Ride Across Wisconsin, Aug. 1-7. facebook/sagbraw.
- 32nd annual Bike MS: Toyota Best Dam Bike Tour, Aug. 1-12, Milwaukee to Madison. bestdambiketour.org.
- Ganther Race the Lake, Aug. 16, Fond du Lac. *dutrirun.com*.
- 32nd annual Cream City Cycle Club Century, Aug. 30, Waterford. www.creamcitycycleclub.com.
- Annual Chocolate Chase, Sept. 5, Middleton. teamsurvivormadison.org.
- 37th annual Door County Century, Sept. 13, Sturgeon Bay. www.doorcountycentury.com.

There are many other biking activities in the state, including tours, races, weekly road rides and benefits. For more, visit Bicycle Federation-Wisconsin at wisconsinbikefed.org.

— Lisa Neff

FREEWHEELING

The League of American Bicyclists awards points for policies and programs, infrastructure and funding, education and encouragement to rank "bicycle friendly" states.

On the 2014 list, Wisconsin ranks No. 3, after Washington at No. 1 and Minnesota at No. 2. Wisconsin moved up from No. 8 in 2013.

Alabama was No. 50. Montana was at No. 49 and Kentucky at No. 48.

Lisa Neff

Walker signs 'right-to-work' into law

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

So-called "right-to-work" legislation sped through the Wisconsin Senate and raced through the Assembly on a fast track to Republican Gov. Scott Walker.

Just four years ago, Walker said he had no plans to attack private sector unions as he gutted public employee unions. But the governor signed the bill on March 9.

In video shot in 2011, during the debate over Act 10, Walker said, "The bill I put forward isn't aimed at state workers and it certainly isn't a battle with unions. If it was, we would have eliminated collective bargaining entirely or we would have gone after the private-sector unions. But we did not because they are our partners in economic development. We need them to help us put 250,000 people to work in the private sector over the next four years."

Now Walker, who is courting the conservatives who are influential in GOP presidential primaries, is an advocate of the legislation, which makes it a crime — punishable with a jail sentence of nine months — to require private-sector workers who aren't in a union to pay dues.

"The governor is not just a flip-flopper,

'Right to work will lower wages, increase workplace deaths and erode the base of the middle class.'

he is a master manipulator," said state Rep. Katrina Shankland, D-Stevens Point. "There is little doubt that Gov. Walker is using this issue to curry favor with rightwing funding sources and distract from his \$2.2 billion budget deficit and a state economy that lags behind most of the nation."

GOP legislative leaders began preparing to introduce right-to-work legislation after sweeping the November 2014 midterm elections.

For months, Walker claimed to be cool to the concept. But, as he opened campaign offices in Iowa and New Hampshire, he came out in support of an extraordinary session to take up the legislation.

The Senate took up the measure first, holding a hearing at which opposition to "right-to-work" legislation was about 70-1 but shutting down public comment despite hundreds of people who were still waiting to speak.

The Senate passed SB 44 by a vote of 17-15 in late February, drawing congratulations from Americans for Prosperity Wisconsin director David Fladeboe, who called the legislation "long overdue" and claimed the vote was in the best interest of working-class families. Proponents say the legislation is about worker freedom and improves Wisconsin's standing with

business interests.

Opponents say the legislation creates dangerous workplaces, damages unions and depresses wages.

"Right to work will lower wages, increase workplace deaths and erode the base of the middle class by crippling the ability of workers to team up and join together through their unions for a strong voice in the workplace," said Stephanie Bloomingdale, secretary-treasurer of the Wisconsin AFI-CIO

The Assembly Labor Committee on March 2 heard hours of testimony, mostly from opponents of the measure.

Three days later, at about 2 p.m. on March 5, the full Assembly opened debate. Democrats drove the debate, delivering speeches through the night and into the morning, with the deadline for a vote looming at 9 a.m. on March 6.

Rep. Chris Taylor, a Democrat from Madison, was among the final speakers during the debate, and she focused on "freedom" and "heroics" and called "right-to-work" an "out-of-state idea" promoted by billionaires.

Democratic Minority Leader Peter Barca called the legislation "right-wing extremism on steroids."

But when the roll was called, the vote was 62-35 for the bill. No Democrats voted with the GOP majority.

Outside the Capitol, opponents of the bill staged a demonstration on March 5, one of many held in Madison over a two-week period. Wisconsin State AFL-CIO representatives addressed the ralliers, along with AFSCME member Shannon Maier, Young Black and Gifted member Eric Upchurch, Beloit ironworker Anthony Anastasi and Burger King employee Corneil White.

"Our fight is for the state and soul of our country," said Bloomingdale.

Opponents also crowded into the Capitol, shouting, "Wrong for Wisconsin." They delivered petitions signed by thousands and circulated a report from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and University of Wisconsin Extension showing lower household incomes in right-to-work states.

"The evidence clearly demonstrates that so-called 'right-to-work' laws intensify the race to the bottom and further erode the middle class," said Dane County Executive Joe Parisi.

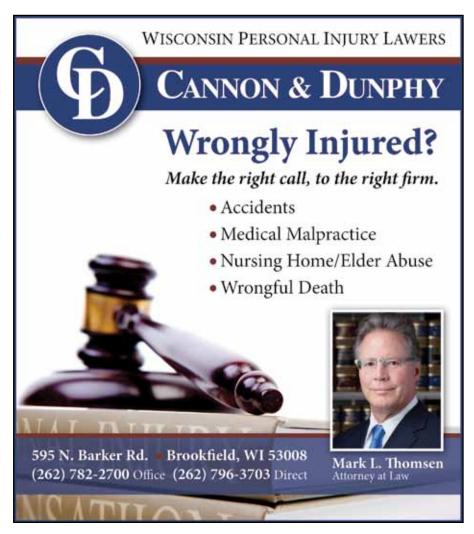
Right-to-work laws exist in 24 other states, including Michigan and Indiana and have been upheld by several courts of appeal.

With Walker's signature, Wisconsin's measure took effect immediately.

The next day, the Wisconsin state AFL-CIO and two local labor unions filed a lawsuit, seeking to block the law. Their argument is that it is unconstitutional because it requires unions to act on behalf of workers who are no longer required to pay union dues and therefore receive an unfair benefit. A hearing is set for March 19 in Dane County Circuit Court.



Opponents of "right-to-work" legislation hold signs in an upper level of the State Capitol in Madison March 2. The Assembly passed the bill on March 6. The Senate passed the bill a week earlier. The governor signed it on March 9.



Gogebic puts plans for Northwoods mine on hold



People gather for a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources hearing in the Hurley High School gym on Gogebic Taconite's proposed iron ore mine in the Penokee Range of northern Wisconsin. Dozens of people spoke against the proposal, citing concerns about possible environmental damage to the pristine area.

By Lisa Neff

Staff write

The company that sought to open a massive iron ore mine in northern Wisconsin is instead packing up its office. The Gogebic Taconite mining company announced the closure of its office in Hurley and said further investment in the venture is unfeasible.

The decision, announced in a press statement by Gogebic president Bill Williams, brings to a halt the effort to transform land in the Penokee Hills in the Iron/Ashland county border into an iron mine. The proposal, brought forward in 2011 and advanced by Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker and Republican legislators, drew strong opposition from environmentalists and Native American tribal members in the region. The development was planned for the Bad River Watershed, where many streams flow to Lake Superior and through the wild rice beds of the Bad River Ojibwe Reservation.

Williams, in the press statement, said Florida-based Gogebic would continue to investigate the possibility of pursuing the mine but it couldn't justify the office expense: "Our extensive environmental investigation and analysis of the site has revealed wetland issues that make major continued investment unfeasible at this time."

"It took Gogebic Taconite roughly four

years to determine what has been obvious to local Wisconsin citizens and the Bad River Tribe from day one, when a giant open pit iron mine was proposed for the pristine Bad River Watershed: mining in this area is not feasible," said Shahla Werner, director of the Sierra Club-John Muir Chapter in Wisconsin.

In 2013, with Walker backing the project, the GOP-controlled Legislature passed a bill easing environmental regulations to clear the way for the mine. The votes followed Gogebic's \$700,000 investment in the Republican Party of Wisconsin during the recall elections.

But Gogebic still faced obstacles, with regulatory reviews, tribal resistance, environmental opposition and local government concerns.

At one point, Gogebic hired an armed paramilitary force to guard the proposed mining area after Native American tribal leaders established an "education center" nearby

But the strong opposition continued.

Last summer, the Wisconsin Federation of Tribes asked the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to stop the mine under the Clean Water Act. The same approach effectively halted the proposed Pebble Mine in Alaska.

Environmental advocates refrained from declaring victory, but they cheered the latest development.

"From the first rumor of this mining company coming into Wisconsin's Northwoods five years ago, there was no debating the significant risk to natural resources the mine posed," stated the Clean Wisconsin advocacy group. "The value of the Northwood's wetlands, trout streams, lakes, wild rice beds, majestic forests, clean drinking water and the beauty of Lake Superior is immeasurable, and it would have been jeopardized by Gogebic Taconite's plans for an open-pit iron mine. We hope lessons will

be learned from this experience, and that Wisconsin won't soon go down the path again of weakening environmental laws for the risky and shortsighted plans of a single company."

In a statement released after Williams announced the office's closure, Walker spokeswoman Laurel Patrick called the development unfortunate. "We remain committed to working with companies interested in creating quality, family-supporting jobs in Wisconsin," the statement read.

Werner said Gogebic and the state GOP used the mining proposal for "Walker's personal political gain to give false promises of jobs they had no intentions of delivering to people in northern Wisconsin."

And now, Werner continued, "We have the responsibility to work together to develop real, sustainable jobs in tourism, clean energy, forestry, family farming, health care, education and more that won't sacrifice our land, water and wildlife for future generations."

Environmentalists also are working for permanent protections in the area and to change the measures adopted to favor the Gogebic project.

"We will work to repeal the laws written by Gogebic Taconite based on false science and equally false promises that gutted environmental protections for this single proposal," said Dave Blouin, mining committee chair with the Sierra Club-John Muir Chapter. "Gov. Walker and the Republican Legislature...are willing to sacrifice northern Wisconsin in exchange for campaign donations to further their political ambitions. The governor and the GOP-led Legislature gave Gogebic Taconite everything it wanted and gave state residents nothing in return."

The Sierra campaign will focus on repealing Act 1 and Act 81, enacted in 2013.



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9

Net neutrality passes FCC

Internet activists scored a major victory this winter when the Federal Communications Commission agreed to rules that would ban service providers from creating Internet fast lanes.

"This is a victory for free speech, plain and simple," said Gabe Rottman of the American Civil Liberties Union. "Americans use the Internet not just to work and play, but to discuss politics and learn about the world around them. The FCC has a critical role to play in protecting citizens' ability to see what they want and say what they want online, without interference."

What "net neutrality" means and what is likely to happen next ...

THE ISSUE: Net neutrality is the idea that Internet service providers won't block or slow Web traffic, instead allowing all data to have equal access to its networks. That means you won't be more inclined to watch a particular show on Amazon Prime instead of on Netflix because Amazon struck a deal with your service provider to load its data faster.

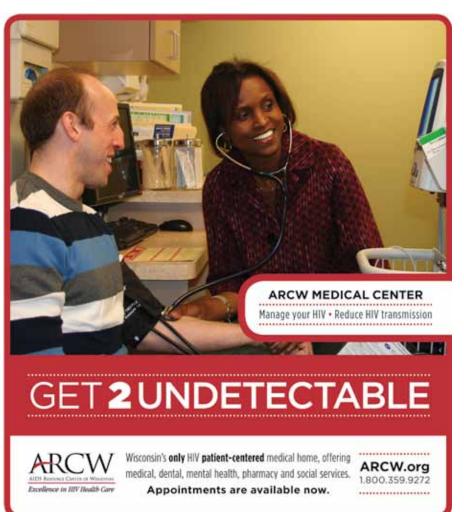
THE PLAN: The FCC put the Internet in the same regulatory camp as the telephone, regulating it like a public utility. That means whatever company

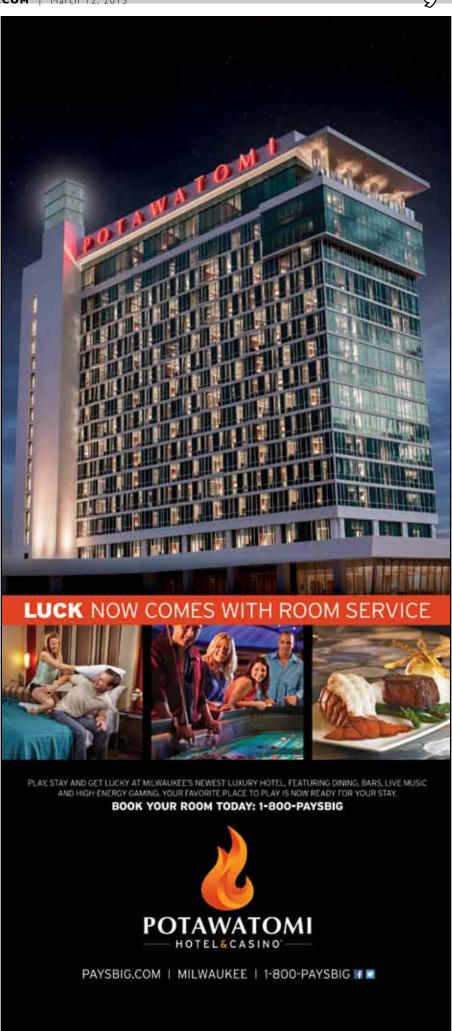
provides your Internet connection, even if it's to your phone, will now have to act in the public interest and not do anything that might be considered "unjust or unreasonable." Regulators say reclassifying the Internet as a telecommunications service under the 1934 Communications Act will empower the FCC to go after Internet service providers if they start blocking or slowing Web traffic.

NEXT STOP: Some of the big Internet providers, or possibly a group of them, likely will sue. And it's likely they will ask the courts to block implementation of the new rules. That legal wrangling could go on for years. Meanwhile, congressional Republicans who oppose the regulation will hold a Senate hearing on March 18.

HOW THIS AFFECTS YOU: Consumers are unlikely to notice anything different about their Internet service. What the FCC regulations do, however, is usher in a new era of government oversight where Internet service is deemed a public right.

— from AP reports





Supreme Court marriage argument set for April 28

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

The U.S. Supreme Court is set to hear arguments on four marriage equality cases on April 28.

Plaintiffs' briefs in support of marriage equality were filed on Feb. 27. Next, briefs from the states defending anti-gay marriage bans will be filed on March 27, followed by plaintiffs' responses on April 17.

The filing schedule puts the high court on track to hear oral argument in the cases — DeBoar v. Snyder from Michigan, Obergefell v. Hodges from Ohio, Tanco v. Haslam from Tennessee and Bourke v. Beshear from Kentucky — on April 28, with a decision

Already a series of friend-of-the-court briefs have been filed, the most recent from the American Bar Association, which urges the justices to rule that the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment requires a state to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

The ABA's amicus brief supports the Michigan and Kentucky cases for marriage equality and is based on the ABA policy adopted as early as 1973 that advocates for the elimination of discrimination based on sexual orientation. Five years ago, the

'The Alabama Supreme **Court** is determined to be on the wrong side of history.'

400,000-member ABA adopted a policy urging the elimination of legal barriers to same-sex marriage.

"ABA members who represent same-sex couples know from experience the numerous obstacles same-sex couples face in ordering their affairs and providing security for themselves and their children in the most basic aspects of life: parenting, dealing with sickness and old age, paying taxes, passing on a legacy to their heirs and the myriad other legal and practical issues," the brief states. "Although lawyers can sometimes counsel their clients on ways to avoid or limit the effects of (marriage bans), they know from experience that no legal 'work-around' can cure the discriminatory effects that necessarily result when a state denies formal recogni-



PHOTO: DENNIS I. NEUMANN FOR UNITED TRIBES

U.S. Attorney General Holder attends a forum in North Dakota. Holder recently published an op-ed in USA Today about the Justice Department's amicus brief support marriage equality. "Nothing," Holder wrote, "justifies excluding same-sex couples from the institution of marriage.

tion of a same-sex couples' commitment through marriage."

ALABAMA SHOWDOWN

The day the national bar association filed the brief, the Alabama Supreme Court put a stop to probate judges issuing marriage licenses to gay couples. It was the latest development in a showdown

between the state and federal courts in a Southern state famous for showdowns on civil rights matters.

The state supreme court, led by rightwing Chief Justice Roy Moore, ordered probate judges to stop issuing licenses weeks after a federal judge overturned the state's ban on gay marriage.

The state's highest court said it's order would stand until the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on the issue.

"Even as nationwide marriage equality is on the horizon, the Alabama Supreme Court is determined to be on the wrong side of history," said Shannon Minter, legal director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights and the attorney for the same-sex couples challenging Alabama's ban.

Same-sex couples can legally marry in 37 states and the District of Columbia.

More than 200,000 people signed

the People's Brief, a friend-of-the-

court brief circulated by the Human

Rights Campaign and filed with the

U.S. Supreme Court in support of mar-

signed the document written by attor-

ney Roberta Kaplan, who successfully

argued before the Supreme Court

against the Defense of Marriage Act.

brief ... is a piece of evidence that this

country is ready for marriage equal-

ity," said HRC president Chad Grif-

fin. "Through this historic document,

the American people, LGBT and allies

alike, are standing shoulder to shoul-

Each and every signature on this

HRC said citizens in 50 states

PEOPLE'S BRIEF

riage equality.



Gentle, Loving Compassionate Health Care JUST FOR CATS





der to insist on fairness for all." Edith Windsor, the plaintiff in the Supreme Court case that cleared the way for federal recognition of samesex marriages, was the first to sign.

Lisa Neff



with 88Nine Radio Milwaukee's Stephen Kallao

What's your favorite thing to do

My favorite thing to do in the winter is take photos. I really do cherish the changing of the seasons, and finding beauty behind the grey and white. Second favorite: Get custard, it's just as good in 10 degree weather as it is in the sweltering heat.

What's your favorite Milwaukee destination to take an out-of-town guest?

It almost always ends up being the Domes. Particularly in winter it's a nice escape from the cold, and once we're done there are great sledding hills around Mitchell Park. Sledding is an underrated joy for adults.

What are your 2 favorite bands that you can hear on 88Nine?

There are so many great bands I love that we play, but if you had to press, Cold War Kids and Field Report have fantastic new albums we're playing songs from right now.

Right-wing CPAC reels in presidential hopefuls

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

April Fool's arrived a month early, with the staging of the three-day Conservative Political Action Conference, the tea-partyinfused gathering best known as CPAC.

Organizers of the annual event cast out and hooked about a dozen presidential hopefuls, including Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, who placed second in the presidential straw poll after U.S. Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky.

Walker made headlines early on in the event, after saying in a speech that Wisconsinites who demonstrated against his antiunion campaign in 2011 prepared him to confront global terrorism as a commander in chief. "If I can take on 100,000 protesters, I can do the same across the world," Walker told the CPAC crowd of conservative activists gathered in National Harbor, Maryland, just outside Washington, D.C.

Back in Wisconsin, Walker's remark provoked some laughter and some fury.

"Gov. Walker has shown time and again that he will do and say anything to get elected," said Scot Ross of One Wisconsin Now. "Apparently that includes labeling teachers, nurses, firefighters or anyone from Wisconsin who disagrees with his agenda as a terrorist. His comments are an insult to the hard-working Wisconsinites who love their state and their country and are exercising their rights as Americans to disagree with their government."

Walker addressed the audience the first day of the conference, which opened with a coffee reception for Ben Carson, who later in the week, riding high on his reception, announced he had formed a committee to explore a presidential run.

The agenda also included speeches by Carly Fiorina, Ted Cruz, Chris Christie, Bobby Jindal and Sarah Palin.

And there were panel discussions and workshops: "Broadening the Conservative Base," "Hacking Facebook and Twitter," "When Should America Go to War?" "Asset Forfeiture: Sheriff of Nottingham at your Doorstep," "Occupy Unmasked," "Climate: What Tom Steyer Won't Tell You" and "There's No I in Teamsters."

One of the mothers of the Christian right movement, Phyllis Schlafly, signed copies of her book, Who Killed the American Family? and the NRA hosted a get-together called the "Good Guys Reception."

All that was Day 1.

Day 2 brought Newt Gingrich, Laura Ingraham, Sean Hannity, Marco Rubio, Reince Priebus, Jeb Bush and Rick Perry to the Potomac Ballroom for speeches; Walker to a coffee reception and Donald Trump to a meet-and-greet in the CPAC Theater. The activists - about 3,000 people attended - ended their day watching a screening of Hillary the Movie, the anti-Clinton propaganda film sponsored by Citizens United.

The focus on the final day was the straw poll sponsored by the right-wing Washington Times. Paul received 25.7 percent of the votes and won his third consecutive victory at CPAC. Walker had 21.4 percent. Cruz had



At the Conservative Political Action Conference in National Harbor, Maryland, Adam Gabbatt holds images of former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum, left; former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin; U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas; Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker; Donald Trump; New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie; U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla.; former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush; U.S. Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky.; and former Texas Gov. Rick Perry.

11.5 percent, followed by Carson at 11.4 percent and Bush at 8.3 percent.

Outside, advocates for LGBT equality, immigration reform, reproductive freedom and the environment demonstrated.

Progressives also participated in a CPAC protest from afar. Conference organizers had encouraged attendees to ask questions of speakers and panelists on Twitter using the hashtag #CPACQ, but that campaign was quickly hijacked and the Twitter feed filled with jokes, mocking statements and memes like:

- How do I explain to my liberal nephew #Obamacare is destroying jobs when he keeps using facts on me? #CPACQ.
- #CPACO Have You thanked Ronald Reagan, GHWB and Oliver North for all the good crack-cocaine U have to share at
- . Does the first C in CPAC stand for Crazy? #CPACQ.

Reddest red, bluest blue states

Gallup, in its annual State of the States review, identifies the most Republican states as Wyoming and Utah and the most Democratic states as Massachusetts and Maryland.

Where does Wisconsin fall? Wisconsin is colored gray on the Gallup map and identified in the analysis as "competitive."

The study is based on the political party identification and leanings of state residents in 2014. Gallup also looked at trends in past

The results are based on Gallup Daily interviews throughout 2014 with more than 177,000 adults. People were asked whether they identified with the Republican or Democratic party. If they identified as Independents, they were asked whether they leaned to the Democratic or Republican

Gallup said, "The rank order of the states based on their partisanship has been fairly consistent over time. Since Gallup began reporting on state party identification seven years ago, nine states have ranked in the top 10 most Democratic every year."

The polling firm reported more variation in the top 10 Republican states.

Lisa Neff

Most Democratic

- 1. Massachusetts
- 2. Maryland
- 3. Rhode Island
- 4. New York 5. Vermont
- 6. California
- 7. Hawaii
- 8. Delaware
- 9. Illinois
- 10. Connecticut and New Jersey tie

Most Republican

- 1. Wyoming
- 2. Utah
- 3. Idaho
- 4. South Dakota
- 5. Montana
- 6. Alabama
- 7. Kansas 8. Tennessee
- 9. North Dakota
- 10. Nebraska

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Protests follow fatal police shooting of Madison black teen

AP and WiG reports

Almost 2,000 university, high school and middle school students walked out of their classes on March 9 to join a demonstration against the fatal police shooting of unarmed biracial teen Tony Robinson in the state capital.

Students also amassed in the Capitol rotunda, waving signs and chanting, "Black lives matter," which has become a standard slogan in dozens of protests around the country over the past several months — all of them organized to draw attention to a spate of police killings of unarmed black men, including Dontre Hamilton in Milwaukee.

Robinson, 19, was shot and killed by Madison police officer Matt Kenny. According to a police report, Kenny responded to a call at about 6:30 p.m. on March 6 complaining about a person "yelling and jumping in front of cars." A second call to police said the man was "responsible for a battery," Madison Police Chief Mike Koval said during a press conference on March 8.

The police report said Kenny, who is white, went to an apartment on Willy Street looking for the suspect and forced his way inside after overhearing a disturbance. There, he encountered Robinson, who struck Kenny in the head and knocked him to the ground before Kenny fired at him, according to the report.

Koval said police are investigating to determine how many shots were fired and to analyze the incident.

Robinson's killing was the second incident in which Kenny used lethal force in his career. Eight years ago, he killed a white man who pointed a pellet gun at him.

'(Robinson) was unarmed. That's going to make this all the more complicated for the investigators, for the public to accept.'

Kenny was exonerated of wrongdoing in that case and even awarded a commendation for it.

The March 6 incident was also Robinson's second run-in with the law. At the time of his death, he was on probation for an armed break-in during 2014.

COMPLICATED

During a March 8 press conference, Koval acknowledged that the fact Robinson was unarmed was "going to make this (case) all the more complicated for the investigators, for the public to accept."

His concern quickly proved to be true. Peaceful protests and rallies were ongoing in the days following the killing. The city of Madison's website was shut down on the night of March 9 and its email systems were disrupted by what city officials said might have been a cyberattack related to Robinson's killing. Officials said the attack is similar to those experienced by other cities after officer-involved shootings.

The cyberattack affected in-car laptops



DUOTO, ADVIOUN HADT

A younger sibling of Tony Robinson places flowers on a memorial to his brother on March 9. The display is outside the apartment building where the unarmed, 19-year-old Robinson was shot by a Madison police officer several days earlier.



PHOTO: AP/MICHAEL P KING

Demonstrators walk down Madison's South Ingersoll Street on March 9 to protest the shooting of Tony Robinson by a Madison police officer.

used by law enforcement across the county, in addition to Madison's system.

Since his initial press conference, Koval has reaffirmed his pledge to uncover the details of the case. He's apologized to Robinson's family and prayed with Robinson's grandmother.

Robinson's uncle Turin Carter said his family wanted a thorough investigation, but added that family members do not endorse anti-police attitudes.

"We understand that law enforcement is necessary and mandatory and we need to change our mindset about the police," Carter said in a news conference outside the house where Robinson was shot.

Robinson, a 2014 graduate of Sun Prairie High School, was well-liked, according to Olga Ennis, a neighbor and family friend. "He wouldn't hurt a fly," Ennis said.

She said many in the community don't trust police officers. "We're afraid of the cops," she said. "Who do you call for help now?"

Mayor Paul Soglin called the shooting "a tragedy beyond description" in a statement. "I hope as the pain eases that something constructive will come of this," he told the Wisconsin State Journal.

Robinson's shooting came days after the U.S. Justice Department cleared Darren Wilson, the white former Ferguson, Missouri, officer who shot and killed 18-year-old Michael Brown, who was black and unarmed, of federal civil rights charges. A second report found patterns of racial profiling, bigotry and profit-driven law enforcement and court practices in the St. Louis suburb.

There have been several high-profile deaths of black suspects killed by police officers in recent months. In New York City, Eric Garner died after officers put him in a chokehold and a video showed him repeatedly saying, "I can't breathe." A police officer in Cleveland fatally shot 12-year-

old Tamir Rice, who had been pointing a pellet gun at a playground. And although Milwaukee police determined the officer who fatally shot Dontre Hamilton acted in self-defense, he was fired for ignoring department policy and treating Hamilton as a criminal by frisking him.

The Young, Gifted and Black Coalition, which has organized the protests in Madison, said "black people are eight times more likely to be arrested than white people" in Madison. The *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*'s Politifact found the statement holds true for all of Dane County.

Koval has assured protesters that his department would defend their rights to gather, but he's implored the community to exercise "responsibility and restraint."

Koval said he understood the anger and distrust taking hold in the community. He said that "for those who do want to take to the street and protest," his department would be there to "defend, facilitate, foster those First Amendment rights of assembly and freedom of speech."

Koval also asked protesters to follow what he said was the lead of Robinson's family in asking for "nondestructive" demonstrations. The Dane County NAACP issued a statement calling for "calm and vigilant monitoring of events as they unfold."

Late on the afternoon following Robinson's shooting, people filled the Fountain of Life Covenant Church for a community meeting. Family members took the stage and read a statement prepared by Robinson's mother Andrea Irwin.

"I can't even compute what has happened," Irwin's statement said. "I haven't even had a chance to see his body."

She was not present, and the statement said she was taking time to grieve with her children. Robinson's grandmother, Sharon Irwin, was on the stage as the statement was read, but left immediately after.

Shooting exposes Madison's racial divide

By Scott Bauer

AP writer

Madison takes pride in being named one of the best places in the U.S. to live, raise a family and retire. It's also known as a liberal haven with a long history of progressive politics.

But the fatal shooting of an unarmed biracial man by a white police officer in the heart of one of the city's most liberal neighborhoods is forcing a renewed discussion about the racial divide in a community where African Americans make up 7 percent of the population but account for a disproportionate share of arrests, incarcerations and children in poverty.

"Madison relies on its progressive history and past to ignore the current realities," said Sergio Gonzalez, a 27-year-old graduate student at the University of Wisconsin. "It's unfortunate it takes the death of a 19-year-old to open up the eyes of Madison."

Tony Robinson was shot and killed by police officer Matt Kenny (see story, prior page).

The Associated Press had described Robinson as black based on police descriptions of him as African American. But at a news conference, family members repeatedly emphasized that he embraced a biracial identity. His mother is white and his father is black.

Since the shooting, the police chief and mayor — both white — have struck a conciliatory tone with black leaders, who have organized peaceful protests. The police chief apologized without acknowledging any wrongdoing by the officer or the department. An investigation by the state Department of Justice is ongoing.

Those who have worked for years on addressing Madison's racial disparities hope that the shooting brings new attention to underlying problems in the city.

A 2013 report by Wisconsin Children and Families analyzed census data to paint a picture of two Madisons — one where white people were thriving and blacks were struggling.

The report showed that the unemployment rate for blacks in Dane County, which includes Madison, was 25 percent in 2011, compared with 5 percent for whites. That was a larger divide than both the state and national average.

Other statistics are even more striking. The percentage of black children living in poverty in Madison was 58 percent over a three-year period ending in 2013, compared with 5 percent for white children. Nationally, 38 percent of black children were living in poverty over that time.

"This is one of the best places in America, and I love this community," said Michael Johnson, leader of the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County. "But until we solve some of the issues in this city, we can't call ourselves progressive."

Tony Robinson suffered from anxiety, ADHD

evidence that Tony Robinson suffered from attention deficit disorder and tended to be an impulsive risk-taker.

Documents connected to his conviction for armed robbery show he was diagnosed with ADHD, anxiety and depression, and was prone to boredom and anger.

According to a criminal complaint, Robinson was among a group of five people who staged a home invasion robbery in Madison in April 2014 in hopes of finding marijuana and money.

Police captured Robinson as he fled the apartment. He told investigators he carried a BB-gun pistol with him during the robbery and stole a TV and an Xbox 360 from the apartment. Judge Josann Reynolds sentenced him to three years' probation in December.

The robbery case file includes a letter from Robinson's grandmother, Sharon

The Associated Press has identified Irwin, asking the judge to sentence Robinson to probation, saying he's impul-

> "He didn't want to go yet did it anyway," she wrote. "That is one of his issues. Impulsive. The other is being a follower."

> His attorney in the armed robbery. Michael J. Short, wrote in a memo to the judge seeking a shorter probation term that Robinson had taken special education classes.

> "He was an easy choice for the seasoned co-defendants to manipulate into participation," Short wrote.

> His aunt, Loren Carter, wrote a note to the judge asking for mercy in sentencing. She wrote that Robinson grew up poor without his father but was a "kind-hearted, incredibly intelligent young man with hopes and dreams to become successful and to move forward in life."

- Todd Richmond

POLICE CHIEF BLOGS ABOUT HIS SORROW OVER SHOOTING

Madison Police Chief Mike Koval has taken to his blog to express his sorrow over the fatal shooting of an unarmed 19-year-old man.

Tony Robinson, who was biracial, was shot by an officer Friday night. Police say the officer was responding to a call of a man jumping in and out of traffic and a reported battery, and that he was assaulted by Robinson when he forced his way into Robinson's home.

In a post March 10 on his official blog, Koval says his principle in police work has always been that "the police are the public and the public are the police.'

Koval says he hopes Robinson's family and friends can someday forgive the shooting. He says his police department anxiously awaits the results of an outside investigation.

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Makeover with Marsala, color of the year

WiG reports

Pantone is coloring 2015 in "Marsala," a robust and earthy wine red that the company has named the color of the year.

Designers: The color is Pantone 18-1438.

Consumers: Expect to see

Marsala everywhere — except the bargain basements, where you'll find the color next year.

"While Pantone 18-3224 Radiant Orchid, the captivating 2014 color of the year, encouraged creativity and innovation, Marsala enriches our

mind, body and soul, exuding confidence and stability," said Leatrice Eiseman, executive director of the Pantone Color Institute.

"Much like the fortified wine that gives Marsala its name, this tasteful hue embodies the satisfying richness of a fulfilling meal, while its grounding red-brown roots emanate a sophisticated, natural earthiness. This hearty, yet stylish tone is universally appealing and translates easily to fashion, beauty, industrial design, home furnishings and interi-

Complex and full-bodied without overpowering, Marsala provides a unifying element for interior spaces. Add elegance to any room by incorporating the rich and welcoming hue

in accent pieces, accessories and paint. Marsala's plush characteristics are enhanced when the color is applied to textured surfaces, making it an ideal choice for rugs and upholstered living room furniture.

Nurturing and fulfilling, Marsala is a natural fit for the kitchen and dining room - making it ideal for tabletop, small appliances and linens throughout the home. The hue will be especially prominent in striping and floral patterns found in printed placemats, dinnerware, bedding and throws.

Already Marsala has been a hit on the runways, with fashion designers Daniel Silverstain, Hervé Léger by Max Azria and Dennis Basso incorporating the hue into their collections. The impactful, full-bodied qualities of Marsala make for an elegant statement when the color is used on its own or as a compelling accent when paired with many other colors.

With the ever-growing popularity of floral prints and striping, variations of this hue will undoubtedly carry into men's and women's clothing throughout the year. Marsala also is a popular choice for jewelry and fashion accessories - handbags, hats, footwear and the burgeoning market of wearable technology.

This highly varietal shade combines dramatically with neutrals, including warmer taupes and grays. Because of its burnished undertones,

MARSALA next page









MARSALA from prior page

Marsala is compatible with amber, umber and golden yellows, greens in both turquoise and teal, and blues in the more vibrant range.

And the rich contrasting color is ideal for use in graphic design and packaging. Eyecatching, but not overwhelming or bright, consumers are drawn to the hue, making it an alluring shade at point-of-purchase. As packaging becomes increas-



PHOTO: PANTONE
Marsala is Pantone's
2015 color of the year.

ingly more artistic, Marsala will be a natural fit for both high- and low-tech materials, including on-shelf periodicals as well as printed assets, like calendars and stationery.

Pantone said the selection of the color of the year requires careful consideration and a global search for color influences.



PHOTO: PRNEWSFOTO/PANTONE

Pantone recently released its color planner for autumn/winter 2016/2017: Reveal: An Exploration of "Real" and "Unreal" Color.

TRENDING FOR 2016/17

Looking ahead to the fall/winter of 2016/17, the Pantone Color Institute offers a color planner containing eight trend palettes:

- > **Black**. Newly appreciated as a prestige color, black is the pulsating force behind the forecast and the perfect canvas on which other colors are revealed.
- > White. Appearing in cool and warm guises, white is important because of its properties as opposed to its actual color.
- > **Grays.** Essential to the palette, grays stretch across a variety of hues, warm and natural, muted and hard.
- > Green. Greens take two directions: the first is a more yellowish and oliveoil-led direction while the second is cooler, sometimes glassy, but also more mineral, cool and Nordic.
- > **Yellow.** Yellows are important for the season because of their warming presence and their effects on surface and texture.
- > Orange. Now suffused with spicy hues, shades in the orange family display influences of caramel, cinnamon and saffron.

- > **Purple.** Penetrating all levels of design, purples, in a variety of berry colors, are now a lifestyle as opposed to a fashion shade and are critical to the palette.
- > Blue. Becoming more sophisticated, blues move away from the more classic indigo shades to those that are infused with gray or green.
- > **Brown.** From nutmeg and tan to the red infused winey red browns, the browns continue to be very important across all materials and surfaces.
- > **Red.** A safe option for those looking to add bright color, red is a well-received and well-understood pop color that is being combined in new ways.
- > Pastels. Pastel shades leap from nuanced neutrals to stronger and more assertive color.
- > Metallics. Metallics remain important. However, for the season, they are as pragmatic as they are decorative, combining with light or texture to enhance, bring movement and textural dimension.
 - WiG

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- Chef Demos at the Fresh Cooking Patio sponsored by Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
- Green Landscaping Ideas at the Sustainable Solutions Idea Center by Breckenridge



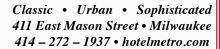
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Student scientists study living dead

In the event of a zombie outbreak, don't muddle around watching Atlanta burn or New York City fall. Run for the Rockies.

A team of students at Cornell University created a model for how a zombie outbreak might develop in the United States. The modeling shows the safest places to safeguard the human brain are remote locations, especially the Northern Rockies.

The research team presented its work modeling the statistical mechanics of zombies on March 5 at a meeting in San Antonio. Texas.

"Modeling zombies takes you through a lot of the techniques used to model real diseases, albeit in a fun context," said Alexander Alemi, a graduate student at the New York state university.

Alemi, Matthew Bierbaum, Christopher R. Myers and James P. Sethna conducted the research, which involved a full-scale simulation of an outbreak in the United States and an analysis. They summed up their findings in an abstract published in the Bulletin of the American Physical Society: We "discover that for the realistic parameters, we are largely doomed."

But doomsday doesn't come as quickly as many "living dead" films and graphic novels suggest. In the Cornell research, cities would fall quickly, but the outbreak would take weeks to penetrate into less densely populated areas and months to reach the Northern Mountain time zone.

"Once the zombies invade more sparsely populated areas, the whole outbreak slows down — there are fewer humans to bite, so you start creating zombies at a slower rate," said Alemi. "I'd love to see a fictional account where most of New York City falls in a day, but upstate New York has a month or so to prepare."

To reach their determination, the researchers made a lot of computations, employing models that address complex interactions between people and groups and then large-scale simulations of the progress of the disease outbreak.

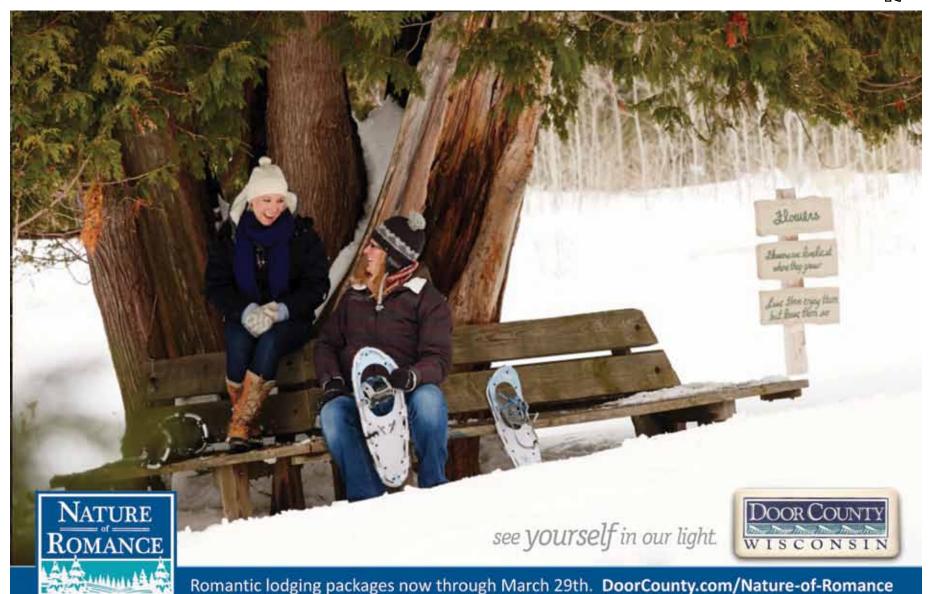
"Each possible interaction — zombie bites human, human kills zombie, zombie moves — is treated like a radioactive decay, with a half-life that depends on some parameters," Alemi said. "And we tried to simulate the times it would take for all of these different interactions to fire, where complications arise because when one thing happens it can affect the rates at which all of the other things happen."

— Lisa Neff

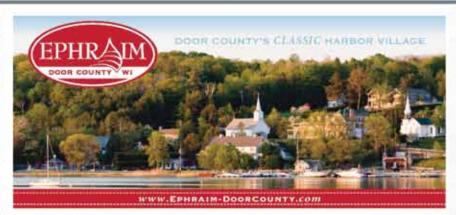


All Saturdays in March 10 to 6

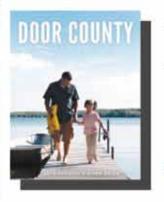












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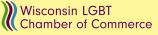
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EDITORIAL

Selling names of state parks is obscene

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker created a \$2.2 billion deficit by reducing taxes on his wealthy cronies, and now he is scrambling to mend the gap as he gears up for a presidential run. He knows that a spreadsheet awash in red ink is an albatross around the neck of a tea party leader, but so is raising taxes. That leaves him with few options.

It would be fun for progressives to watch their nemesis twisting in the wind if not for the fact that the future of our state and the quality of our lives are at stake. Winning a political battle is no compensation for losing the very things that make us proud to be Wisconsinites, such as our pure, abundant natural resources, our strong academic system and our reputation for good government and workers' rights.

One idea that the Walker crew has floated to address its self-generated crisis deserves credit for sheer audacity: Issuing bonds to pay for more than \$1.3 million in unneeded highway development after turning down \$810 million in federal grants to develop a high-speed rail system. Other ideas deserve credit for their creativity, including slashing \$300 million from the University of Wisconsin system in exchange for giving the systems autonomy to raise tuition so high that few state residents could afford to attend UW-Madison.

But perhaps the most creative idea put forth so far by his administration is selling to corporations the naming rights for our state parks. When we posted this idea, proposed by DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp, on our Facebook page, our readers came up with clever suggestions: Koch Devil's Lake State Park scored some likes, as did Viagra Land and Ex-Lax Cavern.

But the idea of naming rights for state parks really isn't funny. It would be the worst kind of slap in the face

to name our parks after the cartel of polluters who are among Walker's most ardent supporters. What could be more cynical than using our most beautiful natural sites to provide branding opportunities to the corporations and individuals who are hell-bent on destroying our natural resources purely for greed?

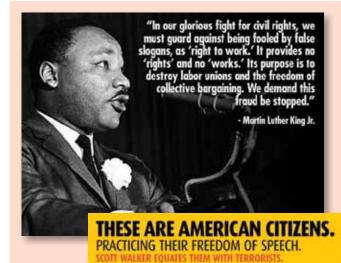
Of course, Stepp has to do something. Walker's budget proposes eliminating funding for managing the state parks. Along with the naming rights scheme, Stepp also plans to raise user fees for park visitors and campers, restricting access to the people's land based on affordability.

Walker has already politicized the Department of Natural Resources. Stepp, who owns a construction business with her husband, was an outspoken critic of the agency, which she labeled as "anti-development," before Walker named her to head it.

Walker's proposed budget freezes any future purchases of Wisconsin land and resources for conservation. It also turns the DNR into essentially an advisory board that has no authority to make policy decisions, including decisions to protect the environment and wildlife.

Instead, he now has the authority to sell out the state's resources to polluters and prospective exploiters. In effect, that leaves Walker and, by extension, his corporate backers, in charge of the state's resources. In that sense, putting the names of Walker's corporate backers on our state's most cherished natural attractions could be the most honest thing the man has ever done.

But it's still reprehensible. Only Walker could find a way to pimp out Mother Nature. We now know what we've long suspected: When it comes to his fulfilling his political ambitions, there's nowhere too low for Walker to stoop.



WiG's WEB PICKS



ON THE RECORD

"Today is a red-letter day for Internet freedom." — TOM WHEELER, Federal

Communications Commission Chairman, on the commission's

decision to impose the toughest rules yet on broadband service to prevent companies like Comcast, Verizon and AT&T from creating paid fast lanes and slowing or blocking web traffic.

"He's looking at this as showing he still can be king of the hill, because we don't have the votes to override."

 U.S. SEN. JIM INHOFE of Oklahoma on a bill President Barack Obama vetoed that would have approved of the construction of the Keystone XL oil pipeline.

"If I can take on 100,000 protesters, I can do the same across the world."

— WISCONSIN GOV. SCOTT Walker, explaining at the Conservative Political Action Conference in Washington, D.C., how dealing with non-violent demonstrators at the state Capitol prepared him to deal with global terrorism.

"I want to like him but Scott Walker is kind of a dumb ass."

 MARK SALTER, speechwriter on John McCain's 2008 presidential campaign, posting on Facebook during the CPAC event.

"O'Reilly and his boss, Fox News chief Roger Ailes, are not worried about damage to Bill O'Reilly's credibility, or about his viewers deserting him. Their loyalty to him isn't based on a spotless record of factual accuracy; it's based on the fact that O'Reilly is a medium for their anger and resentments.

 PAUL WALDMAN, *Plum Line* blogger, writing about Fox News personality Bill O'Reilly's distortion of his reporting experience.

"Heil Hitler!"

— FRAZIER GLENN MILLER, a man charged with capital murder, allegedly made the declaration after fatally shooting three people at Jewish sites in Overland Park, Kansas. Miller also is known as Frazier Glenn Cross and he founded the Carolina Knights of the Ku Klux Klan in his native North Carolina and later the White Patriot Party.

"Before Antarctica was much of a wild card. Now I would say it's less of a wild card and more scary than we thought before."

— IAN JOUGHIN, University of Washington ice scientist, discussing new research showing the "irreversible" and "unstoppable" melting of ice in West Antarctica.

"When Sen. Mikulski decided that she was going to wear pants while casting her votes, it was the rule that had to change, not her. She fought for us before we even got here, walked into rooms women had not been welcome in before, and made sure to keep her foot stuck in the door."

 U.S. Sen. Patty Murray of Washington state, after learning of Barbara Mikulski's,
 D-Maryland, decision not to seek re-election.



Walker dismantles care systems

Opinion

JAMAKAYA

While Gov. Scott Walker struts around the country campaigning for president, bombshells from his proposed state budget continue to shred the lives and hopes of millions of Wisconsinites.

The latest example of reckless overreach by Walker is his proposal to overhaul the state's long-term care system for people with disabilities and the elderly. It had the usual elements of "shock and awe." It forecloses public input, regional control and transparency. It rewards campaign contributors and destroys an effective public service that was decades in the making.

Changes in the longterm care system came as a complete shock to everyone involved. People with disabilities, the elderly and their loved ones, caregivers, health providers, managed care organizations, advisory bodies, the state's Division of Long Term Care and even Walker's own Secretary of Health Services Kitty Rhoades were blindsided by the proposed changes.

Rhoades insisted that the changes — which she could not enumerate — were all for the best and that the details would be worked out during negotiations with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The feds cover 58 percent of the costs of Wisconsin's Medicaid program.

Meanwhile, Rhoades abruptly canceled meetings of the state's Long Term Care Advisory Council. The council is made up of consumers, administrators and service providers. Walker is not interested in their input. He is dictating the terms and has the votes in the GOP-controlled Legislature to have his way.

The current long-term care system took years of development and is based on active input from the individuals whose lives are most impacted. The programs are cost-effective, outcomes are good, satisfaction levels are high (an astonishing 95–97 percent), and the regional managed care organizations have won

respect for their responsiveness and accountability.

Among dozens of dastardly deeds, Walker's budget eliminates IRIS, a program that allows consumers to choose their own caregivers and support services within their allotted budget. Self-determination and independent living have been central goals of the disability rights movement. Just as those values have finally made inroads into changing the traditional top-down, medical model of long- term care, Walker is kicking them to the curb.

A \$19 million cut to Personal Services translates to 1 million fewer hours of personal care for our elderly and disabled neighbors.

Leave it to Scott Walker: not only do his policies threaten the welfare and self-determination of our most vulnerable citizens, they also destroy jobs. The budget eliminates the eight long-term care districts and requires Managed Care Organizations to provide services statewide. This opens the door to contracts with big national insurers — no doubt, campaign con-

tributors — displacing the regional MCOs that have built trust with consumers. More than 3,000 local jobs could be lost.

Big insurers will direct care with all their usual restrictions and arbitrary decisions. Changes in doctors and caregivers will be traumatic for elderly and disabled people. The budget also removes legislative oversight of Medicaid programs. Public oversight is being handed over to the state commissioner of insurance. How convenient.

Walker is like the proverbial bull in the china shop, wiping out valuable assets Wisconsinites have built over many years — worker protections, our university system, natural resources and, now, a long-term care system considered a model for the nation. It will take generations to undo the damage.

For a detailed summary of disability-related impacts and information on public hearings on the budget, go to www.disabilityrightswi.org.

Coalition fights for cycling, against cuts



DAVE CIESLEWICZ

The Bike Fed has been hard at work trying to restore what would be lost if Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's budget passes unchanged.

With your help, we're making progress. So keep up the pressure. If you haven't contacted your state senator and representative yet, please do that soon, as we go through public hearings.

We also want to let you know that we have friends. The Bike Fed is part of larger coalitions of groups who are helping make common cause on these issues.

On the fight to restore the Stewardship Fund, which has been key in building and improving two-dozen state trails around Wisconsin, we're part of a coalition being led by the League of Conservation Voters and Gathering Waters, which is a group that represents land trusts. Land trusts are nonprofit organizations that help buy and preserve land for habitat protection and other public purposes. This is a strong coalition and we're feeling optimistic about our chances for success.

On our issues in the transportation budget — repeal of Complete Streets and the \$2 million cut to the Transportation Alternatives Program — we're working with two groups. One is the Move Wisconsin Alliance, a group made up of the Wisconsin Urban and Rural Transit Association, the Sierra Club, AARP, 1000 Friends of Wisconsin and various faith groups.

The other group we've

joined is called the Transportation Investment Coalition and it's made up of more business-oriented organizations like road builders, chambers of commerce, private sector employers and economic development associations. It also includes labor unions, the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, the Wisconsin Counties Association and the Wisconsin Towns Association.

As you might imagine one group that includes the Sierra Club and another that includes chambers of commerce might not always see eye-to-eye and we're probably the only organization that is a member of both. But that's how the Bike Fed views biking. We want to build the big tent of cyclists. We see how these two groups can work together toward the same goals and,

frankly, we don't see how either can be successful without the other.

So, know that we're working hard to push back the governor's negative provisions on biking, but you should also know that we're not fighting alone.

Dave Cieslewicz served two terms as mayor of Madison, where he set the city on a path for platinum status as one of the best biking cities in North America. Before that he started his own nonprofit, 1000 Friends of Wisconsin, which focuses on land use and transportation policy. He has been an adjunct professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Urban and Regional Planning, where he teaches a class called Bikes, Pedestrians and Cities. He is the executive director of Wisconsin Bike Fed, found at wisconsinbikefed.org.

NATIONAL BRIEFS



PHOTO: AP PHOTO/JACQUELYN MARTIN

TO RAISING HELL, NOT MONEY: U.S. Sen. Barbara Mikulski, a tough and dogged daughter of working-class Baltimore who rose to become the longest-serving woman in the history of Congress, said she had one question as she weighed seeking a sixth term: "Do I spend my time raising money, or do I spend my time raising hell?" The 78-year-old Maryland Democrat decided not to seek re-election in 2016.



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JUSTICE DEPARTMENT: EXTENSIVE RACIAL BIAS BY FERGUSON POLICE

A Justice Department report released in early March says blacks in Ferguson, Missouri, are disproportionately subject to excessive police force, baseless traffic stops and citations for infractions as petty as "manner of walking along roadway."

The full report serves as a roadmap for significant changes by the department, which commanded national attention after one of its officers shot and killed an unarmed black man, 18-year-old Michael Brown, last summer.

Brown's killing set off weeks of protests and initiated a national dialogue about police use of force and their relations with minority communities. A separate report cleared the officer, Darren Wilson, of federal civil rights charges. A state grand jury already declined to indict Wilson, who has since resigned.

Similar federal investigations of troubled police departments have led to the appointment of independent monitors and mandated overhauls in the most fundamental of police practices. The Justice Department maintains the right to sue a police department if officials balk at making changes, though many investigations resolve the issue with both sides negotiating a blue-print for change known as a consent decree.

Since the report was released, a municipal judge resigned, the city manager resigned, and the police chief was reported to have tendered his resignation as WiG went to press.

UNIV. OF OKLAHOMA SEVERS TIES WITH FRAT OVER RACIST VIDEO

The president of the University of Oklahoma severed the school's ties with a national fraternity and ordered that its on-campus house be shuttered after several members took part in a racist chant caught on video.

President David Boren said he was sickened and couldn't eat or sleep after learning about the video. Posted online, the video shows several people on a bus participating in a chant that included a racial slur, referenced lynching and indicated black students would never be admitted to OU's chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

The Oklahoma football team decided to protest rather than practice following the video posting. At the team's indoor practice facility, coach Bob Stoops led the way as players, joined by athletic director Joe Castiglione, walked arm-in-arm, wearing black. Meanwhile, a top high school recruit withdrew his commitment to the university after seeing the video.

Boren attended a pre-dawn rally organized by students and lambasted the fraternity members as "disgraceful" and called their behavior "reprehensible." He said the university was looking into a range of punishment, including expulsion.

"This is not who we are," Boren said at a midday news conference. "I'd be glad if they left. I might even pay the bus fare for them." National leaders of Sigma Alpha Epsilon said that its investigation confirmed members took part in the chant and announced it would close the local chapter. The national group said it was "embarrassed" by the "unacceptable and racist" behavior.

Other investigations of SAE chapters are ongoing in Illinois and Texas.

IN OTHER NATIONAL NEWS...

- PERVASIVE DISCRIMINATION: A new report from the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law found that 21 percent of LGBT people who interacted with police reported encountering hostile attitudes from officers and 14 percent reported verbal assault by the police.
- POLICING PRIORITY: The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing submitted a report to the White House containing 59 recommendations on how to improve ties between law enforcement and local communities. The ACLU responded, "Most of the recommendations are essential and should be nonnegotiable. For us to see meaningful change, local authorities must first implement data collection systems to improve transparency, use of force policies that emphasize de-escalation, eradicate all forms of biased policing and improve community engagement and oversight to provide accountability."
- COURT-ORDERED INTEGRATION: A judge in Hartford, Connecticut, approved an agreement mandating the state and city implement new initiatives aimed at eradicating the racial and ethnic segregation faced by Hartford students. The ruling stems from the landmark Connecticut school desegregation case Sheff v. O'Neill.

• MCDONALD'S MENU CHANGE:

McDonald's says over the next two years it will start using chicken raised without antibiotics important to human medicine and milk from cows that are not treated with the artificial growth hormone rbST.

- ALABAMA ANTI-ABORTION INITIA-TIVE: The governor of Arkansas has signed the first abortion restriction of 2015. The bill restricts medication abortions by preventing them via telemedicine, which allows doctors to provide care to patients remotely.
- HOG WASTE INVESTIGATION: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is investigating the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources for alleged civil rights violations. The review was prompted by environmental complaints of discrimination against people of color in the state's lax regulation of hog waste disposal.
 - from WiG and AP reports

WALKER WATCH



PHOTO: GAGE SKIDMORE

GUNNING FOR WAITING PERIOD:

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, in an interview with the pro-gun National Rifle Association, said he supports Republican lawmakers in their push to eliminate Wisconsin's 48-hour waiting period for handgun purchases. The Legislature is considering a bill that would eliminate the 40-year-old law that requires a wait time from when a background check is submitted to the Department of Justice to when a handgun is acquired.

OFF THE PATH: In an interview with Fox News Sunday, Walker said his views have changed on immigration reform. Walker said he now believes creating a path to citizenship for the 11 million immigrants illegally living in the United States is amnesty. "I don't believe in amnesty. My view has changed. I'm flat out saying it. Candidates can say that," Walker said.

TO WHAT DEGREE: The latest survey from Public Policy Polling shows that 62 percent of Americans want their president to hold a college degree. That

could mean trouble for Walker — who is degree-less — in a presidential general election, but it's less important in the quest for the GOP nomination. PPP found that 81 percent of Democrats want their president to have a degree, but Republicans were evenly divided at 45 percent.

WALKER WHO?: An Associated Press-GfK poll conducted at the end of January found that two-thirds of Americans were unfamiliar with two Republicans who have attracted lots of attention for their performance in polls this year — Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker and antigay conservative darling Ben Carson.

SHIFTING GAS POLICY: To score points with lowa voters, Gov. Scott Walker has changed his stance on federal ethanol requirements. As a gubernatorial candidate in 2006, Walker opposed the federal mandate that transportation fuels include a minimum amount of renewable energy, primarily corn-based ethanol. Now that he needs political support in lowa, a state that depends heavily on corn grown for ethanol, he has shifted gears and said he is "willing to go forward on continuing the renewable fuel standard."

ON ABORTION: During his gubernatorial re-election campaign, Walker declined to say whether he would sign a ban on abortion after 20 weeks. After attending the Conservative Political Action Conference, Walker changed his mind March 3. In a letter released by an anti-abortion group, the governor said, ... further protections for mother and child are likely to come to my desk in the form of a bill to prohibit abortions after 20 weeks. I will sign that bill when it gets to my desk and support similar legislation on the federal level. I was raised to believe in the sanctity of life and I will always fight to protect it.

Lisa Neff, AP and WiG reports

REGIONAL BRIEFS



PHOTO: WIKICOMMONS

HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT: Devil's Lake State Park is officially an historic place. The U.S. Department of the Interior and the Wisconsin Historical Society approved the park for listing on the state and national registers of historic places. Devil's Lake, developed by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression, is the second Wisconsin park to be listed. The first was Copper Falls, in Ashland County, which was approved in 2005.

FEINGOLD SIGNALING A RUN FOR SENATE

Former U.S. Sen. Russ Feingold is sending signals that he may be considering another run for office, telling his Facebook followers that he plans to travel around Wisconsin extensively to talk about his future after leaving his State Department post.

While the Democrat didn't say whether he will try to recapture the U.S. Senate seat he lost in 2010 to Republican Sen. Ron Johnson, his Facebook post combined with other recent comments he has made are fueling speculation that he intends to do just that.

Feingold was seeking a fourth Senate term when he lost to Johnson. Democrats anxious for his return to politics had hoped he would run against Republican Gov. Scott Walker both in the 2012 recall and last year, but Feingold declined.

Feingold's decision to leave his special envoy to the Great Lakes Region of Africa post after 18 months at the State Department is fueling speculation that he's interested in running for the Senate again. He stoked the speculation during his farewell speech, when he thanked his assistant, Mary Irvine, whom he described as his "once, current and I hope future chief of staff."

IN OTHER REGIONAL NEWS...

• CONSERVATION CRISIS: The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' leader is defending proposals in Gov. Scott Walker's budget to shut down the state's land stewardship program, strip the agency's board of its power and eliminate science positions in front of the Legisla-

ture's finance committee. DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp, a Walker appointee, testified in early March that Walker's plan to strip the DNR's board of its policymaking powers and turn it into an advisory body would eliminate red tape and insisted eliminating 18.4 positions within the DNR's Science Services Bureau won't change the agency's commitment to science.

- OCCUPY CAPITOL: University of Wisconsin students opposed to Scott Walker's university system proposals announced the occupation of a legislative budget briefing. The students registered opposition to a proposal to make the UW System a public authority, which would give it independence from most state laws and oversight. They also protested a proposed \$300 million cut to UW.
- CONCEAL, CARRY ON CAMPUS: The Constitution Party of Wisconsin wants the state Legislature to allow people to carry concealed weapons on school grounds. Currently, Wisconsin law prohibits concealed weapons on school campuses.
- COUNTERING CARP: U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis., joined a bipartisan group of lawmakers led by Sen. Debbie Stabenow of Michigan to introduce legislation to stop Asian carp and other invasive species from entering the Great Lakes. The Defending Our Great Lakes Act would give federal agencies broad authority to take immediate actions to stop the spread of Asian carp and other invasive species.
- from WiG and AP reports

DISCRIMINATING & DODGING

The Human Rights Campaign is already tracking likely Republican candidates on LGBT issues. What does the HRC report say about Gov. Scott Walker's record? "The reality is that he has a history — both as governor and in prior offices — of working to obstruct and even roll back basic rights for LGBT Americans."

MARRIAGE: Walker has consistently opposed marriage equality — by supporting the constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage and supporting the appeal when the ban was overturned.

DISCRIMINATION: Walker, as Milwaukee County executive, opposed

basic rights for LGBT couples, including visitation rights. As governor, he sought to roll back the state's domestic partner registry by dismissing the state attorneys hired to defend the nominal program. He repealed a measure that protected state workers from wage discrimination based on sex.

HIV/AIDS: He proposed eliminating an HIV/AIDS prevention program by saying the mission was not a "core function" of government. He campaigned on his opposition to the domestic partner registry.

CONVERSION THERAPY: Unclear.

ADOPTION: Unclear.

ANTI-BULLYING: Unclear.

— Lisa Neff

CELEBRATING LEADERSHIP & HONORING BAYARD RUSTIN

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GUEST SPEAKER: Mandy Carter is a southern African-American

lesbian social justice activist with a 47-year history of social, racial and LGBT justice organizing. She is the national coordinator of the Bayard Rustin Commemoration Project of the National Black Justice Coalition.

Bayard Rustin, a beloved American leader in social movements for civil rights and tGBT rights. was honored last year with the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Join Diverse and Resilient to celebrate his legacy and to honor LGBT leaders working to make Wisconsin-and the world-a better place.

Leonard Sobczak, president of Eastmore Real Estate and CEO of Wisconsin Gazette is the recipient of this year's Bayard Rustin Leadership Award.

CELEBRATE ALL OF OUR AWARDEES

Joshua-Paul Miles, Youth Leadership Award Austin Kieler, Young Adult Leadership Award Chris Ahmuty, Adult Leadership Award Melissa Bollow-Temple, Acceptance Journeys Award Proud Theater, LGBT Sustainability Award Kathy Flores, LGBT Staff Award AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Community Partner Award

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COMMUNITY BULLETINS

DIVERSE, RESILIENT, DREAM: Diverse & Resilient on March 19 presents the LGBT Leadership Awards, honoring those "who have demonstrated leadership in improving the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in the state of Wisconsin."

During the celebration, Leonard Sobczak will receive the Bayard Rustin Leadership Award in recognition of "his longstanding commitment to LGBT wellness, environmental issues, and civic and political causes. Sobczak is a quiet yet strong force for change and he leads as an out gay man."

A philanthropist who has contributed money and time to numerous progressive groups and political candidates, Sobczak is the president of Eastmore Real Estate and CEO/principal of the Wisconsin Gazette. He is currently vice president of the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters and served on the State of Wisconsin Transportation Projects Commission. He formerly was chair of the Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission.

Bayard Rustin was a leader in the civil rights movement, a mentor and adviser to Martin Luther King Jr. and the chief organizer of the 1963 March on Washington.

Diverse & Resilient also is honoring Joshua-Paul Miles, Austin Kieler, Chris Ahmuty, Melissa Bollow-Tempel, Proud Theater, Kathy Flores and AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin.

"Reviving the Dream" takes place at Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin. For more, go online to www.diverseandresilient.org.

ROCK AND WIN: The winners of the recent 13th annual WMSE Rockabilly Chili contest in Milwaukee are Hue Vietnamese for "most unique," Beans & Barley for "best veggie," McBob's for "best heat" and Water Street Brewery for "best meat" and "best display." For more, go to wmse.org.

CINEMA AND CRISIS: The Milwaukee VA Medical Center screens the Oscarwinning Crisis Hotline: Veterans Press 1 at 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on March 12 at the center auditorium, 5000 W. National Ave. For more, go to veteranscrisisline.net.

HEALTH AND SCIENCE: Milwaukee Public Library and the Clinical and Transnational Science Institute of Southeast Wisconsin hold a series of "Science Cafes" at the central library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, through the spring. The focus is on health disparities. For more, go to ctsi.mcw.edu.

DIVERSITY SUMMIT: Carthage Col-



lege continues its third annual Diversity Summit this month, with programs planned March 17 and March 18 on the

Kenosha campus. For more, go to carthage.edu.

LABOR CONFERENCE: The Wisconsin Labor History Society is planning its 34th annual conference on April 11 at the Madison Labor Temple, 1602 S. Park St., Madison. For details on registration, go to wisconsinlaborhistory.org.

CLEANUP CAMPAIGN: Milwaukee Riverkeeper announced the 2015 Spring River Cleanup on April 18 at locations throughout the Milwaukee watershed. For more, go to milwaukeeriverkeeper.org.

WRITING IN WISCONSIN: The University of Wisconsin-Madison Writers' Institute takes place March 27-29 at the Madison Concourse Hotel in Madison, Instructors include novelist John Dufresne, poet Marilyn L. Taylor and agents from Fuse Literary, Red Sofa Literary and the Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency. For more, go to uwwritersinstitute.wisc.edu.

NO LABELS: To coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Selma March this month, the Ad Council launched a new series of public service advertisements for the Love Has No Labels campaign. The digital-first campaign is designed to further understanding and acceptance of all communities regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age and ability. The new video PSAs encourage audiences to examine and challenge their own implicit bias. Partners include the Anti-Defamation League, Southern Poverty Law Center, National Women's Law Center, Human Rights Campaign, American Association of People with Disabilities, American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, Muslim Advocates and AARP. For more, go to lovehasnolabels.com.

BIDEN ON BOARD: Vice President Joe Biden addressed the Human Rights Campaign's Spring Equality Convention on March 6 in Washington, D.C. Biden spoke with staff and volunteers of the nation's largest LGBT civil rights group. For more,

NEW LEADERS: The national Gay-Straight Alliance Network announced the appointments of Ginna Brelsford and Geoffrey Winder as co-executive directors. Winder has been involved with GSA Network since shortly after its founding in 1998. Brelsford has served as GSA network's finance and administrative director for almost four years. For more, go to gsanetwork.org.

Lisa Neff

Send community announcements to Lisa Neff at Imneff@wisconsingazette.com.

Ut on the town March 12 - 26 A curated calendar of upcoming events

'ELMER GANTRY' March 13 and March 15

The Florentine won two Grammys for a recording of its last staging of *Elmer Gantry*, a contemporary opera based on the early 20th-century novel about a small-time preacher's fall from grace. So it makes sense that they're bringing back the production this year, with a brand-new cast and a director, Frank Kelly, whose experience with the opera dates all the way back to workshops in 1992. The critically acclaimed score, influenced by gospel and folk music, remains the same, though, so don't miss this rare opportunity to hear it live. At the Marcus Center, 929 N. Water St., Milwaukee. Tickets range from \$27 to \$121 and can be purchased at 800-326-7372 or florentineopera.org.



PHOTO: RICK BRODZELLER

NEWBERRY CONSORT 5 p.m. March 14

The Newberry Consort, artists-in-residence at Chicago's Newberry Library, more than double their ranks for an exciting concert of 13th-century cantigas at Early Music Now. The songs, all dedicated to the Virgin Mary, were commissioned by Alfonso X, a king of Castile, after he prayed to her for relief from a life-threatening ailment and subsequently recovered. The Consort will perform more than a dozen of the 400-plus songs, incorporating projected images from the original manuscripts. At the UWM Zelazo Center, 2419 E. Kenwood Blvd., Milwaukee. Tickets are \$28 or \$44 for preferred seating, and \$10/\$15 for students. Call 414-225-3113 or visit earlymusicnow.org to order.



'LAVINIA' March 19 to March 21

In 1876, the Wisconsin Supreme Court denied Lavinia Goodell admission to the state bar for the sole reason that she was a woman. But that wasn't the end of her story. The Madison Theater Guild tells the tale of Lavinia in this new play, which will subsequently travel throughout Wisconsin. At the Bartell Theater, 113 E. Mifflin St. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at 608-661-9696 or bartelltheatre.org.

'MKECARRIES' March 13 to March 28

This devised work by Cooperative Performance Milwaukee depicts the lives of five Milwaukeeans: an African-American dockworker on the Northside, a Riverwest painter, a nurse from rural Wisconsin, a Mexican immigrant reconnecting to his culture through food and a homeless woman on the city streets. All five of their stories will play out simultaneously over the course of an hour, and audience members can choose whether to follow one all the way through or pick and choose. There's no way to get the whole story each cycle, but the stories will loop three times and patrons are encouraged to stick around and see more. At 143 N. Broadway. Tickets are \$15, \$5 for additional hours, or \$20 for "item tickets," which last all night and include audience participation. Visit cooperformke.com for more details.



STOP KISS March 13 to March 28

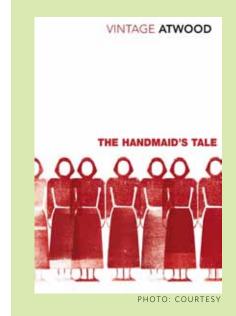
First kisses are always memorable, but the one at the heart of Stop Kiss is tragically so. The play, being staged by Milwaukee LGBT theater company Theatrical Tendencies, is centered around a first kiss between Sara and Callie that prompts an angry bystander to viciously attack them, leaving Sara in a coma. The play jumps back and forth between the lead-up to that incident and its aftermath, making it more a story about these women's connection than one person's attempt to sever it. At Soulstice Theatre, 3770 S. Pennsylvania Ave., St. Francis. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at theatricaltendencies.com.



'BEAUTY AND THE BEAST' March 17 to March 22

Beauty and the Beast isn't a tale quite as old as time, but the classic fairy tale has been a lucrative member of Disney's repertoire for more than 20 years. The stage version of the 1991 Disney film is as magical as the original, with a half-dozen new songs and lavish visual effects but the same enchanting story. The national tour travels through Milwaukee for one week, so when that last rose petal falls for the last time on March 22, it'll all be over for the foreseeable future. At the Marcus Center, 929 N. Water St. Tickets range from \$30 to \$103 and can be ordered at 414-273-7206 or marcuscenter.org.

Dut on the town



'THE HANDMAID'S TALE'

March 20 to March 29

In Margaret Atwood's dystopian feminist novel The Handmaid's Tale, a young woman called Offred has been stripped of her identity and forced to serve as the birth mother for a military commander and his sterile wife. The novel is told exclusively from her point of view, and Joe Stollenwerk's stage adaptation follows Atwood's lead by presenting the story as a one-woman-show, performed by local actress Kelly Doherty with The World's Stage Theatre Company. At the Underground Collaborative in Grand Avenue Mall, 161 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$12 for students/seniors and \$18 at the door. Visit handmaidmke.bpt.me to

'AVENUE A' Through March 29

After a season of plague and cosplay, The Quasimondo Physical Theatre is going slightly more traditional with Avenue A, an urban-set drama about an ex-con trying to form his own version of family in the big city. The problem: a blast from the past, in the form of an old prison friend making one last visit. It's a premise that suggests travel in dark directions, but The Quasimondo promises this story will be as much a "mordantly funny" tale as a gritty rebirth epic. At Studio G in Grand Avenue Mall, 161 W. Wisconsin Ave. Tickets are \$15, \$12 for students, and can be purchased at thequasimondo.com.

'TEN DOLLAR HOUSE'

March 20 to April 15

Today, Mineral Point is a thriving artist's community and home to many restored buildings from the past. But it wouldn't have been possible without gay couple Bob Neal and Edgar Hellum. *Ten Dollar House* tells the story of how Bob, a London interior decorator who returns to his hometown in 1934, and Edgar, the local man he hires to help him restore a single rock cottage, met and dedicated their lives to reshaping their town. At Broom Street Theater, 1119 Williamson St., Madison. Tickets are \$11 and can be reserved at bstonline.org.

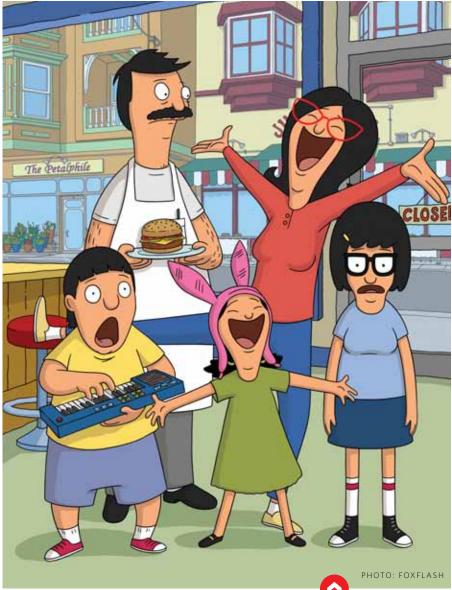


EQUINOX 7:30 p.m. March 20

Present Music celebrates the return of spring with this multimedia concert event. Live art will be created by UMW faculty artist Brooke Theile with visual artists Shannon Molter and Dean Valadez, the Hearing Voices vocal ensemble will return, and PM will perform a brand-new commission: *Luminescence*, by rising composer Molly Joyce. At Turner Hall Ballroom, 1040 N. Fourth St., Milwaukee. Tickets are \$35, \$25 or \$15, with half-offfor students, and can be purchased at presentmusic.com.

'FLAUTISTICO' 8 p.m. March 20

Flutist Stephanie Jutt, the artistic director of Bach Dancing & Dynamite Society, will step away from chamber music for this one-night-only celebration of Latin American and Spanish culture. Flautistico will feature music from Argentina, Venezuela, Mexico and Spain, along with spoken word, tango performances and an original multimedia art installation by Carolyn Kallenborn. At the Overture Center, 201 State St., Madison. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at 608-258-4141 or overturecenter.org.



'BOB'S BURGERS' LIVE 8 p.m. March 21

Bob's Burgers wouldn't be what it is without the comedians behind its characters, but the show's cartoon style makes them hard to picture while you're watching. Bob's Burgers Live changes that, bringing the voices behind the whole Belcher family, including H. John Benjamin, Kristen Schaal and Eugene Mirman, to the Riverside Theater stage. It's an event that'll feature individual stand-up performances, audience Q&As and an in-character table read of a script. At 116 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee. Tickets range from \$30 to \$50 and can be ordered at pabsttheater.org or 414-286-3663.

A curated calendar of upcoming events March 12 - 26

CAMERON CARPENTER

8 p.m. March 21

To find an organist who is also a showman is a rare thing. Cameron Carpenter qualifies. The electronic organist frequently reshapes both the classical organ repertoire and jazz and pop standards to suit his whims, resulting in an eclectic new take on classical music. At the Overture Center, 201 State St., Madison. Tickets range from \$30 to \$40 and can be purchased at 608-258-4141 or overturecenter.org.



'STUPID FU##ING BIRD' 7 p.m. March 23

American Players Theatre wraps up its "Winter Words" play reading series with Aaron Posner's sort-of adaptation of Chekhov's The Seagull. The premise of Stupid Fu##ing Bird is much the same as the original, but Posner takes Chekhov's mopey, dramatic Russians into the present day, ripping out Chekhov's subtext and making it all metatext, as much a comment on his source material as the state of theater and the 21st century as a whole. Plus, it's hilarious. At APT's Touchstone Theatre, 5950 Golf Course Road, Spring Green. Tickets are \$15 and can be ordered at americanplayers.org.



MARY NOHL DAY

10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. March 21

The Milwaukee Public Museum celebrates the life and art of Wisconsin artist Mary Nohl, who turned her Fox Point home into a fantastical wonderland of art and sculpture for most of her life until passing away in 2001. Nohl historian Debra Brehmer and married author/ illustrator team Tina and Carson Kugler will give a series of presentations about the Kugler's new picture-book biography In Mary's Garden and Nohl's work, now being conserved and cared for by Sheboygan's John Michael Kohler Arts Center. Visit mpm.edu for more details.

'LOW DOWN DIRTY BLUES' March 22 to May 24

The performance times for this Stackner Cabaret show are the same as usual, but Low Down Dirty Blues feels more like an after-hours experience than anything else. Four multitalented performers will team up for this passionate celebration of the blues, with songs by Muddy Waters, Ma Rainey, Sophie Tucker and more up for grabs. It's the Milwaukee Rep's latest show in the vein of Ain't Misbehavin' and Blues in the Night, so if those got your toes tappin' in prior years, Low Down Dirty Blues may be right up your alley. At 108 E. Wells St. Tickets start at \$40 and can be ordered at 414-224-9490 or milwaukeerep.com.

ELSEWHERE IN WIGOUT:

'Giselle': Set in the 1940s, the Milwaukee Ballet's remount of this romantic tale will blend classical and contemporary dance. March 26-29. See page 31.

'Another Tale of Eddie': Alchemist Theatre kicks off a brand-new narrative trilogy with this story of a New York City grifter who falls for one of his marks. Through March 28. See page 32.

'Five Presidents': This world premiere commissioned by the Milwaukee Rep from West Wing writer Rick Cleveland offers a peek into the psyches of five singular individuals who've held the highest office in the land. Through April 5. See page 34.

'The Snow Dragon': A young, physically abused foster boy's rage opens up a portal to another dimension, where he must vanquish an oppressive dictator to find the key to his real-world problems, in this world premiere opera at the Skylight. Through March 29. See page 35.



'The Mikado': Milwaukee Opera Theatre puts a new twist on the classic Gilbert & Sullivan comedy, performing it with musical accompaniment from a stageful of percussion instruments and a lonely trombone. March 19-29. See page 36.

'Masterworks IV': The latest installment of the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra's Masterworks series invites Israeli cellist Amit Peled to play a program including Schumann's Cello Concerto in A minor and Pablo Casals' "Song of the Birds." March 20. See page 38.



Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce and Madison Marriott West

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2015

4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

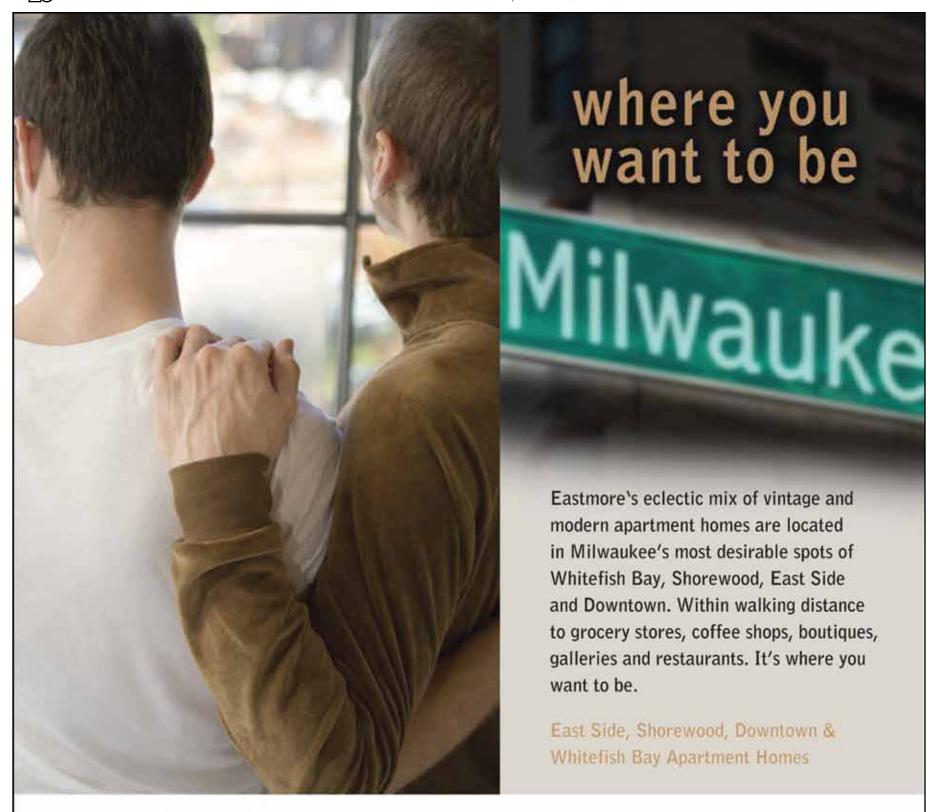
Hosted by: Madison Marriott West 1313 John Q Hammons Drive, Middleton WI

Event is open to the public. Tickets are \$5.00

You can register to attend or learn more online at www.WisLGBTWeddings.com.









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Irish whiskey: Perfect for a 'spirited' St. Paddy's Day



PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

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By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

At the end of the 19th century, Irish whiskey was one of the most popular whiskeys in America, but its fortunes tumbled, along with those of other alcohol products, with the advent of Prohibition in 1920. Today Irish whiskeys are on the rebound, but they still may be one of the spirit world's best-kept secrets.

In the United States, bourbon producers abound, with more micro-distilleries opening every day. Scotland boasts more than 100 distilleries and a reputation for fiery, heavily peated single malts with flavors that sometimes stagger the imagination.

Ireland, on the other hand, has just 10 distilleries either in production or under construction. But what the country may lack in quantity it more than makes up for in quality, and St. Patrick's Day marks the perfect occasion to begin an Irish whiskey journey.

According to the Irish Whiskey Act of 1980, for whiskey to be labeled "Irish," the alcohol-by-volume level at distillation must be less than 94.8 percent and dis-

tilled from a yeast-fermented mash of cereal grains so that the resulting whiskey retains a nose and flavor of the materials used. The whiskey must be aged at least three years in wooden casks with a capacity not exceeding 185 U.S. gallons. And, of course, it must be distilled in either the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland (part of the United Kingdom).

Irish whiskey on the market today weighs in at either 80 proof (40 percent alcohol) or 92 proof (46 percent alcohol). Most brands are aged in former bourbon, brandy or sherry kegs, which add nuances of their previous occupants to the whiskey. Many are triple-distilled for added smoothness; most scotches are distilled only once.

The Irish didn't discover the process of distillation, but history credits them with establishing one of the first stills and producing what most consider the first commercial whiskey.

Old Bushmills Distillery, located in County Antrim on Northern Ireland's northern

WHISKEY next page

Old Bushmills Distillery, on the northern coast of Northern Ireland, is considered the oldest commercial distillery in the world.



Cost per person: \$45 plus tax and tip

Reservations are needed to attend this event.

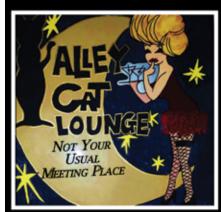
FIVE O'CLOCK

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MARCH ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS

Friday Entertainment in the Alley Cat Lounge 8 pm Saturday Entertainment in the Main Bar at 9 pm, March 21st in the Alley Cat Lounge



Fri. March 13th Christopher's Project

Sat. March 14th Gabriel Sanchez

Fri. March 20th Tweed Funk

Sat. March 21st Hunger Task Force Benefit

featuring Kris Crow and Hors D'oeuvres

9pm -11pm \$15 tickets in advance. \$20 at the door

Fri. March 27th Kenny Walker & A Touch Of Fire

Sat. March 28th Marcel

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PHOTO: COURTESY

WHISKEY from prior page

coast, was licensed to distill whiskey in 1608 by King James I of England, making it the world's oldest commercial distillery. In 1784, then-owner Hugh Anderson registered the name and now-familiar pot-still trademark.

Today, the Irish Isle's northernmost distillery produces six different varieties of Old Bushmills, topping out with a 21-year-old single malt that's been aged in bourbon and sherry barrels. The amber elixir pours with a caramelized toffee and dark chocolate nose, while raisin and fruit notes slip slyly across the tongue for an almost licorice finish. Sublime.

The whiskey is rare and, when found, often priced in the \$200-plus per bottle range. New Irish whiskey fans will find a better — and less expensive — point of entry with a traditional bottle of Bushmills.

Bushmills whiskey is a blend of tripledistilled single malt and lighter Irish grain whiskey. Expect a spicy aroma with vanilla overtones, a palate warmer with a touch of honeyed sweetness that finishes with a bit of spice.

Thirsty for more? Here are four more interesting alternatives to fire up your St. Paddy's Day revelries:

Tullamore Dew 12 Year Old Special Reserve, owned by scotch-maker William Grant & Sons, is one of the better more common brands, with a smooth refinement brought on by the oak aging process, giving the whiskey vanilla and caramel notes. An elegant distillate, the whiskey's name sounds like a reference to moisture on the grass. However, the "dew" actually stands for the initials of early owner Daniel E. Williams.

The **Old Bushmills 1608** is a rare find these days. It was produced in 2008 to celebrate the distillery's 400th anniversary. The whiskey approaches the palate smoothly and finishes with floral, almost fruited notes — largely due to the skill with which the distillers managed the natural esters in the fermented wort from which it

was produced. At 92 proof, there is more to the 1608 than there is to Tullamore Dew, but the whiskey displays similar skill in the making.

Tyrconnell Single Malt Irish Whiskey offers a distinct departure. Named after a famous racehorse that beat 100-to-1 odds to win the National Produce Stakes in 1876, the whiskey is distilled by the Cooley Distillery (now owned by Beam Suntory), in County Louth. Although a single malt, the whiskey has not been peated and lacks the distinctive scotch-like nature. There is an essence of iodine and candied violets in the nose. One can also sense citrus on the palate and a transparent structure that gives Tyrconnell its unique character.

The Redbreast 12 Year Old Single Pot Still, produced by the New Midleton Distillery in County Cork, is a favorite among whiskey aficionados. A product of the same distilling complex that produces the more familiar Jameson Irish Whiskey, Redbreast is aged in former bourbon or oloroso sherry casks, each of which imparts a slightly different character to the distillate. With iodine on the nose and the flavor of peat on the palate, Redbreast also has citrus and spice notes playing against a backdrop of smooth refinement, with a complex flavor that lingers a bit before vanishing.

HOW TO TOAST YOUR IRISH FRIENDS

If you really want to impress your Irish friends — or at least your Irish bartender — on St. Pat's Day, hoist your glass and say "Sláinte!" A common shortening of the longer Irish Gaelic toast "sláinte mhaith," the word "sláinte" — pronounced "SLAHN-cha" — essentially means "to your good health."

That toast and \$5 might just get you another shot of Jameson.

Lamb, Guinness and soda bread offer

a fresh take on Irish stew

By Alison Ladman

Associated Press

Chicken and dumplings is a wonderfully simple, deliciously comforting dish — a thick, meaty stew bubbling away beneath a patchwork of moist, pillowy dumplings.

So we decided to channel that comfort for a dish suited for St. Patrick's Day. Taking inspiration from classic Irish ingredients and dishes, we came up with this over-the-top savory lamb stew with a rich broth made from beef stock, Guinness beer and fresh rosemary.

And dolloped over the top? Soda-breadstyle dumplings that are at once hearty and tender.

Like most stews, this one only improves with age. For a do-ahead option, prepare the stew as directed, but chill it after the puréeing and recombining steps. When ready to serve, return the stew to a simmer, then proceed with the dumpling portion of the recipe.

Guinness Lamb Stew with Walnut Irish Soda Bread Dumplings

INGREDIENTS

2 pounds lamb stew meat, cut into 1½-inch pieces

Kosher salt and ground black pepper

- 1 pound mixed mushrooms, sliced
- 1 large yellow onion, diced
- 2 medium carrots, peeled and diced
- 2 celery stalks, diced
- 1 small potato, peeled and diced
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 tablespoon finely minced fresh rosemary

DIRECTIONS

Season the lamb with salt and pepper. Heat a large Dutch oven or heavy bottomed pot over medium-high. Add the lamb and sear until well browned. Use a slotted spoon to transfer the lamb to a plate. Add the mushrooms and cook until well browned and tender, 8 to 10 minutes. Use a slotted spoon to transfer mushrooms to a bowl.

Add the onion, carrots, celery, potato, cumin and rosemary to the pot. Cook until beginning to brown, 6 to 8

12-ounce bottle Guinness beer 3 cups low-sodium beef stock

½ cup chopped toasted walnuts

1 1/2 cups white whole-wheat flour

3/4 cup all-purpose flour

3/4 teaspoon baking soda

1½ cups buttermilk

1 600

3 tablespoons butter, melted



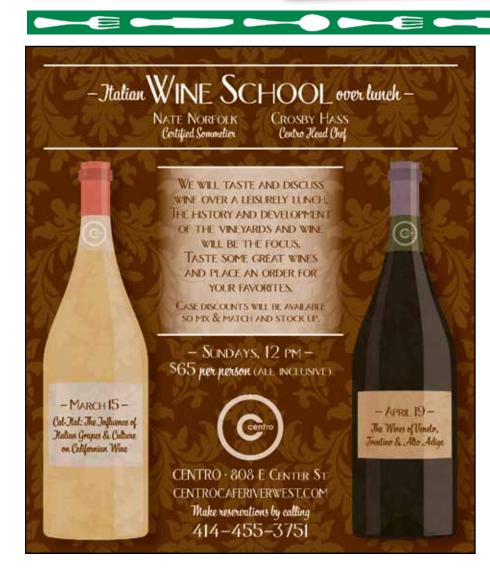
minutes. Return the lamb to the pot.
Add the Guinness and broth. Cover and cook for 45 to 60 minutes, or until the lamb is tender and the vegetables are cooked through. Using tongs, transfer the chunks of lamb to the bowl with the mushrooms.

Working in batches if necessary,

Working in batches if necessary, ladle the vegetables and broth into a blender and blend until smooth. Return the mixture to the pot, along with the lamb and mushrooms. Return to a low simmer.

In a medium bowl, stir together the walnuts, both flours, salt and baking soda. In another bowl, whisk together the buttermilk, egg and melted butter. Gently mix the buttermilk mixture into the flour mixture. Using a spoon or a cookie/ice cream scoop, dollop the dough on top of the stew. Cover and cook for about 10 minutes, or until the dumplings are cooked through.

Start to finish: 1 ½ hours | Servings: 6

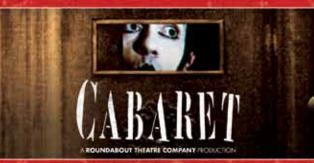






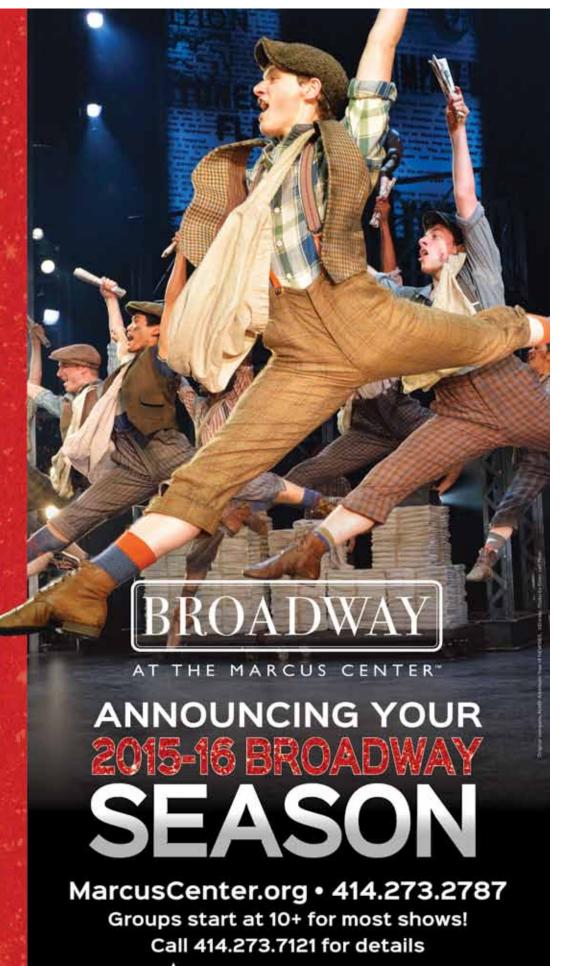












ACROSS AMERICA MILWAUKEE Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

Milwaukee Ballet's 'Giselle' makes grand jeté into 1941

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

In 1841, composer Adolphe Adam wrote the music for *Giselle*, the consummate ballet of mid-19th-century Romanticism. The story of heartbreak, loss and forgiveness is timeless. A young peasant girl falls in love with a nobleman who encourages her affections but is betrothed to another. When she discovers this, she dies of heart failure, only to be resurrected by the Wilis, supernatural beings that dance men to death for betraying women. But in the end, Giselle forgives the nobleman, forcing him to live with his sins.

The theme was all in a day's work for composers and choreographers of the day. But Milwaukee Ballet's Michael Pink has something unique in mind.

In his version of *Giselle*, set to be remounted more than 10 years after its North American premiere in 2004, Pink gives the ballet an update. Instead of setting the scene in 1841, he jumps ahead to 1941 — when nothing in Europe was as it had ever been before.

The new time period forces a shift in details. Giselle's village becomes a ghetto and its inhabitants prisoners, while the visiting nobles are transformed into an occupying military force whose nationality is not explicitly named but isn't tough to figure out. A mixed-gender corps of Wilis, who are already-murdered victims of that army, rise from the grave to avenge not only Giselle's death but also their own.

The Wilis also represent Pink's most significant change to the choreography. Pink says he has armed them with an array of modern dance movements to counter the classical ballet steps of the principals and bring some contemporary fire to the 170-year-old work.

"We began thinking about this when I was still at the Northern Ballet (in Leeds, U.K.)," Pink says. "This treatment makes the whole production more contemporary and relevant for our time, just as it had relevance to its original 19th-century audience."

Pink is a stickler for making his productions more than eye candy, and on this ballet he worked with several collaborators to add gritty authenticity to the performance. With a score rearranged by Gavin Sutherland to give the performance more of "a Kurt Weill feel," Pink set about trying to give the mood and atmosphere the right timbre for both the period and proceedings.

"In preparation I've been working with Jewish groups to find out what life was like in a ghetto," Pink says. "It was very dark, but there also were moments of beauty."

Pink tapped Jody Hirsh, director of education at Milwaukee's Jewish Community Center, to get the period aspect of his production correct. He also turned to actor James Zager to be the show's dramatic coach and help his dancers with character development.

"I wanted to make sure the performers were as competent as actors as they were as dancers," Pink says.

Members of the occupying force will be uniformed but without the familiar Nazi insignia out of deference and respect to those who suffered under German occupation, according to Pink. But they will carry rifles, so there will be no doubt about their intentions.

"Nothing too graphic will happen, so there is no need for audience members to have any concerns," Pink says. "But it will create a powerful image to which those audience members will relate."

The other dramatic shift — the inclusion of Pink's modern dance moves for the Wilis — makes an equally bold statement. Even

though the ballet still has a historical context, the contemporary aspect is meant to remind audience members that ethnic cleansing continues in different corners of the world and it's something no one can afford to ignore.

Pink says the full company is put to work in this production, with Luz San Miguel dancing the role of Giselle and David Hovhannisyan dancing the role of Albrecht, her lover. Patrick Howell performs the part of Hilarion, a rival for Giselle's love, and Valerie Harmon will play Giselle's mother. There also will

ON STAGE

The Milwaukee Ballet's production of *Giselle* runs March 26-29 at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N. Water St., Milwaukee. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. evenings and 1:30 p.m. Sunday. For tickets and more information, dial 414-273-7206 or visit milwaukeeballet.org.

be five street musicians performing as part of the cast, bringing a little lightness to the lives of those living in the ghetto.

Giselle could serve as a good point of entry for ballet newbies because of the way its treatment enables audience members to benefit from a distinct narrative, Pink says.

"I think because it's telling a story that people can relate to the history of, this would provide easy access for those unfamiliar with ballet," Pink says. "This one offers enough reality that people will understand it, and the juxtaposition of neoclassical to contemporary dance is very visually engaging."



PHOTOS: RACHEL MALEHORN & TIMOTHY O'DONNELL (ABOVE); RICK BRODZELLER (BELOW)

Above: Luz San Miguel will reprise her role as Giselle in the Milwaukee Ballet's new production. Below: Dancers perform in the Milwaukee Ballet's 2004 production of *Giselle*, also set in 1941.

Alchemist goes punk with NY Stories Trilogy

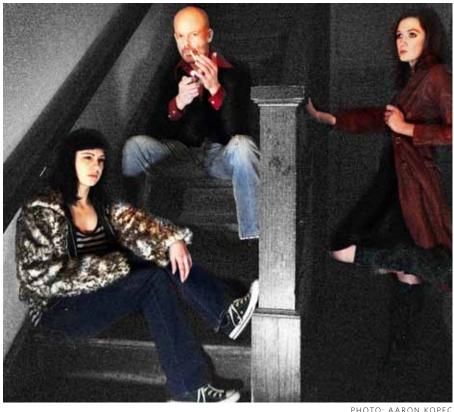


PHOTO: AARON KOPEC

Izzy (April Paul, left), Eddie (David Sapiro) and Rose (Shannon Nettesheim) are recurring characters in the New York Stories Trilogy, beginning with Another Tale of Eddie.

The Alchemist Theatre has always had a sort of devil-may-care attitude, with co-owner Aaron Kopec writing or commissioning whatever strikes his fancy whether horror story, classic Shakespeare or zany comedy.

In 2015, he's going full rock and roll, 1970s style.

Throughout the first half of the year, the Alchemist is staging an ambitious trio of plays: the New York Stories Trilogy, three punk-rock-tinged tales that exist in the same theatrical universe. Each depicts a different splinter of '60s and '70s NYC, including the Andy Warhol scene, discos and grimy bars. Many of the characters recur.

Kopec says the idea is an offshoot of a series of unsuccessful attempts to write a single play about Warhol. "Each time I'd get to about the halfway point and realize there's just no way to do it in one show," he says. "The scene gets too big, too quick."

But sitting in a Vegas lounge just over a year ago with co-owner Erica Case, Kopec decided to let the scene get too big and devote an entire season to it.

Originally, Kopec says, he planned to write all three shows himself. He did end up creating the opening show, Another

King of Pop. But in the process of crafting the third and final play, The Scene You Need, he found himself consulting with frequent Alchemist performer and Wisconsin Hybrid Theatre producer Charles Sommers, who ended up writing the play.

While the plays are designed to be seen one after the other, each stands alone, complete with a fictional author (Adian Zix for Kopec, and Neil Monk for Sommers), unique lounge renovation and distinctive tone.

Another Tale of Eddie, the introduction to the Alchemist's universe, is a hyperrealistic, gritty opener. Its title character Eddie (David Sapiro) is a down-on-hisluck artist who came to New York City as a musician chasing a woman and is now an aspiring writer who's hit rock-bottom. He's gotten tangled up with Izzy (April Paul), alongside whom he's become a very bad purse-snatcher and grifter.

That's how he meets Rose (Shannon Nettesheim), an easy mark whom Eddie ultimately falls for after he and Izzy steal an item more valuable than they could have imagined. As they try to get it back, Kopec says, the trio form an unexpected bond, complicated by Izzy's unrequited affections for Eddie and each individual's poor choices throughout the play.

EDDIE next page



ONE CALL THAT'S ALL

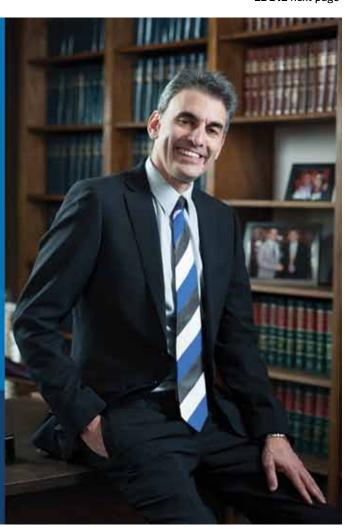
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EDDIE from prior page

"Each of the characters, including Rose, have these moments where they can make the right decision and not completely destroy the other people, but they constantly make the wrong decision," Kopec says. "Yet at the end, even though they've all made the wrong decisions the entire time and should be killing each other, there's still a love and a really neat relationship."

Kopec's worldbuilding for the trilogy starts with *Eddie*. Chris Knapp, a writer with Wisconsin Hybrid Theatre, has written a novella about Eddie (an earlier tale of Eddie, if you will) available at the bar, along with a demo of songs "by" Eddie. Of course, per usual, that bar won't technically be the Alchemist's bar. It'll be a recreation of the iconic punk rock lounge CBGB, complete with graffiti-tagged walls, a live band and junkies trying to sell fake Rolexes.

It won't stay that way long. For The King of Pop, a poetic story about Warhol and Bob Dylan (also written by Kopec but credited to the character Eddie), Kopec will deck out the lounge like Warhol's NYC studio The Factory. And for The Scene You Need, a black-box style series of interconnected vignettes that carry on Eddie, Izzy and Rose's stories while adding new characters, Kopec will try something he hasn't ever done before: redesign the lounge in the middle of the performance, introducing it to audiences as Studio 54 at the top of the show and completely transforming it back into CBGB by intermission.

"It's going to be a little crazy," Kopec says, but it's another way to shake up what's expected of the Alchemist.

That's a topic that's on his mind in more ways than one this year. The New York Stories Trilogy marks a deliberate break from the horror-themed shows that have been trademarks of the Alchemist's line-up for several years. The group's upcoming production of *The Rocky Horror Show Live* in the fall is being billed as the

"final" Halloween show. Kopec is deliberate in saying he's not tired or sick of doing shows like that, but it's equally clear his ambitions are expanding.

"I think people have enjoyed the Halloween shows, and I don't want to take that away from them," Kopec says. "But there's other things that I want to do. ... One thing I want to avoid is getting into any kind of rut or pattern, or being 'that guy who does that thing.""

There's even the possibility that Kopec might take the Alchemist's productions out of the Alchemist next year. One idea he's considering is having a season of extremely intimate shows that aren't announced as much as hinted at — a "scavenger hunt," of sorts. For example, he says, they might write a short show that consists of two people having a conversation in a restaurant, where you have to go to the restaurant and ask to be seated near the actors to see the show.

The idea hasn't gotten past the conceptual stage yet — for one thing, Kopec says, "I'm not yet convinced that's not the worst idea in the world" — but it's certainly a very punk rock segue from a punk rock season.

ON STAGE

The Alchemist Theatre's premiere of Another Tale of Eddie will run through March 28 at 2569 S. Kinnickinnic Ave., Milwaukee. Performances are at 7:30 p.m., and tickets are \$25 and include an item from the bar. Future plays in the New York Stories trilogy include The King of Pop (April 30 to May 16) and The Scene You Need (June 18 to July 11). See all three shows to save \$15 and get a set of bonus items. Visit thealchemisttheatre.com to order tickets or get more information.







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The Rep goes behind closed White House doors

By Matthew Reddin

Staff writer

It's rare when every living U.S. president gets together in a room. In the nation's history, it's only happened a handful of times, when either political obligation or tragedy summons the country's current and former commanders in chief to the same physical location.

It's the sort of thing that gets you wondering: What passes for small talk in a room full of presidents?

That's the question that led Rick Cleveland to write *Five Presidents*, the world premiere opening this month at the Milwaukee Rep. The play takes place on the day of Richard Nixon's funeral, April 27, 1994, when the five remaining living presidents — Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton — assembled to pay respects.

Cleveland's been a playwright for years, but he's best known for his TV work on such shows as Six Feet Under, House of Cards and The West Wing — the latter of which marks the origin point for Five Presidents. While working on the show's first season, he came across Shadow, the thenrecently released book by Bob Woodward about those same five presidents, and he was struck by its cover photo depicting them at Nixon's funeral.

The idea of writing a play about that



Playwright Rick Cleveland is best known for his TV writing, on such shows as The West Wing and House of Cards.



PHOTO: TIM FULLER

The five presidents alive at the time of Richard Nixon's funeral — Ford, Carter, Reagan, Bush and Clinton, swap stories and grievances in Rick Cleveland's world premiere play.

moment lodged in his mind and grew richer as time passed and more details about the presidents' lives were revealed. "In 1994, when you see that photograph and Clinton's on the cover," Cleveland says, "we don't know anything about Monica Lewinsky. ... You can barely believe (George W. Bush) will be elected governor of Texas, let alone president. ... You have no idea that an African-American is going to get elected president in (14) more years."

But the play might still be gestating if Cleveland hadn't bumped into Mark Clements. Clements had directed a play of Cleveland's when he was the artistic director of Derby Playhouse in the U.K. When the two sat down for lunch in the winter of 2012, Clements asked if Cleveland had any ideas for a play. The Rep commissioned him to write *Five Presidents* shortly afterward.

Cleveland says the play has evolved steadily over the years, but one thing

that's stayed constant is a dedication to presenting these five men as authentically as possible. The Washington pols he befriended during his TV career served as benchmarks for accuracy: Would he be embarrassed to invite former press secretary Dee Dee Myers to see the play, or U.S. Sen. Chuck Schumer?

"I want to write a play that if they see it, they'll go, 'That's credible. I can believe that would be discussed, or happen.'"

That's why most of the play's dialogue comes from actual conversations between the presidents on stage, albeit not from that exact date. "They have said it to somebody else, or they may have said it another day," Cleveland says, "but they said it."

The play's behind-closed-doors nature also allows Cleveland to show sides of the presidents that they don't expose to the general public and to bring up grievances new and old. Clinton, for example, is a

Southern Democrat who doesn't fit in with any of the other presidents except Carter — whom he's recently snubbed by sending Nixon on diplomatic missions instead. Carter is still upset about the Iranian hostage crisis, which cost him his election and was wrapped up 20 minutes after Reagan's inauguration. Bush is still stunned by his electoral loss too, only a little more than a year earlier.

It's a mix of conflicts that Cleveland says coalesced into an acclaimed run with the Arizona Theatre Company, co-producing the world premiere with the Rep. Watching the play develop there, Cleveland says he has a few tweaks to make for the Milwaukee run. He also has a sense of why the play's been so successful — and it isn't, he says, about the quality of the play at all.

"It's a nonpartisan portrayal of five men who have only been portrayed in a partisan way. ... I think what the audience is finding so applause-worthy is that this is not the politics that they're going home to and watching on Fox News or MSNBC or CNN. This is a more empathetic portrayal."

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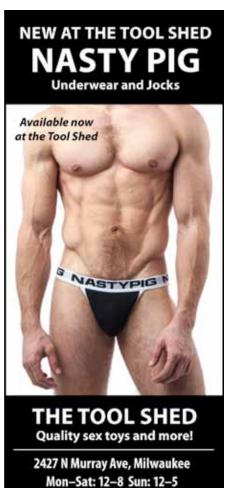
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ON STAGE

The Milwaukee Rep's world premiere of *Five Presidents* runs through April 5 at 108 E. Wells St. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. weekdays, 8 p.m. Fridays, 4 and 8 p.m. Saturdays and 2 and 7 p.m. Sundays. Tickets start at \$20 and can be ordered at 414-224-9490 or milwaukeerep.com.

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Skylight's 'Snow Dragon' takes its first flight

By Kirstin Roble

Contributing writer

Skylight Music Theatre will take a bold step this month, staging its first world premiere opera since artistic director Viswa Subbaraman took over the company in 2013. The Snow Dragon, by Thai-American composer Somtow Sucharitkul, is a fantasy epic about a boy who can travel between his world and a realm of eternal cold — and also a real-world drama illuminating the sensitive issue of domestic abuse.

Subbaraman says the collaboration has been a long time coming for the Skylight. He and Sucharitkul had previously worked together on The Silent Prince, an opera produced by Subbaraman's former company Opera Vista in Houston. The two had initially been in negotiations to produce a sequel. The Dragon Prince, in Milwaukee.

"I loved the story of The Silent Prince and thought (The Dragon Prince) would be a great show to bring to our stage," Subbaraman says. "However, when the actual writing began, it was clear that the show wasn't going to fit. It required three times the cast and orchestra — we needed to go in another direction."

But the collaboration didn't die there. Shortly after, Sucharitkul emailed Subbaraman to propose a different idea: that the Skylight produce an opera using one of his short stories instead.

The one they picked was "The Fallen Country," a 1982 story that Sucharitkul would later publish as a novel of the same name. The short work follows Billy Binder (Luke Brotherhood), a young foster child who visits social worker Dora Marx (Colleen Brooks). As Dora gets to know Billy, she learns about a strange world he says he inhabits, filled with snow dragons, princesses and a powerful Ringmaster ruling over everything. The world feeds on Billy's anger, giving him short bursts of strength while he is there. Due to the domestic abuse he faces regularly in his own world, Billy has more than enough anger to sup-

"The Fallen Country's" focus on Billy's real-world issues was part of why Subbaraman was drawn to the story, seeing it as an opportunity for the Skylight to shed light on a difficult topic in an interesting way. "(This story) deals with the most fantastical ideas while still being grounded in reality," Subbaraman says. He says his cast and crew have been working with employees at Children's Hospital of Milwaukee to learn how to more realistically and sensitively portray their characters. They plan to invite several of those people back to the Skylight for pre-show discussions during the run.

Subbaraman says Sucharitkul reflects the story's tough subject material by threading harmonic dissonances through the otherwise-tonal beauty of the score. He's also given both Dora and Billy "sound worlds" that accompany their appearances on stage.



The Snow Dragon may be a fantasy epic with magic, dragons and evil warlords, but it also includes a naturalistic portrayal of real-world issues, with its lead character Billy Binder a victim of domestic violence and his ally Dora Marx a jaded social worker.

"Dora's music uses twelve-tone serial music (which isn't based on a tonal center, as major and minor keys are). It depicts a very deep analytical mindset," Subbaraman says. "On the other end of the spectrum, Billy's music is very jagged, with lots of leaps, but still tonal. This shows his inner turmoil.

"As the opera goes on, their music starts to overlap, showing that Dora is beginning to inhabit Billy's world as he becomes part of hers."

The Skylight's design team will be largely responsible for depicting the world of the Fallen Country, and one of the elements Subbaraman says is most exciting is how they'll be portraying the Snow Dragon herself. To better demonstrate what Billy is seeing and trying to convey to Dora, the role will be physically performed by Cassandra Black, as well as by a large puppet on stage designed by scenic designer William Boles and created by props director

To say Subbaraman and his team, including stage director Matthew Ozawa, are excited is an understatement — but it's nerve-wracking too. For the artists involved, The Snow Dragon is an opportunity to be the very first person to perform in this work, for better or worse, and audiences will be signing on for something never heard before.

It's a challenge Subbaraman says is very different than the work usually done at the Skylight. "There's no firm or set ways for anything," he says. "You have the pages of

music, and that's it — no recordings or previous performances to use for guidance. Everything is a first."

If all goes well, the Skylight won't be the only company staging The Snow Dragon this year. Subbaraman says plans are in place to send the production to Bangkok, Thailand, to perform for the King in July. Logistics for that trip are still being finalized, though, so Wisconsin audiences are probably better off attending the Skylight's world premiere run.

ON STAGE

The Skylight Music Theatre's world premiere of The Snow Dragon will run through March 29. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. evenings and 2 p.m. for Sunday matinees, and tickets range from \$23 to \$64. Call 414-291-7800 or visit skylightmusictheatre.org for more information.



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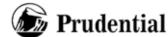
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MOT's Mikado marches to the beat of its own drum



PHOTO: MILWAUKEE OPERA THEATRE

The Milwaukee Opera Theatre's *Mikado* will take audiences to a "percussion paradise," where orchestration and environment alike are defined by drums and more.

By Julie Steinbach

Contributing writer

In its history as a company, Milwaukee Opera Theatre has gained a reputation for high-energy, imaginative productions. Their latest undertaking may be one of the most traditional in the opera canon — Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Mikado* — but when MOT stages the classic, it comes with a twist: a complete reinterpretation of the score and story that sets it in a "percussion playground" where rhythm rules.

Artistic director Jill Anna Ponasik says she and music director Ruben Piirainen, with the help of Skylight Music Theatre percussionist extraordinaire Michael "Ding" Lorenz, have put together a version of the comic opera that makes percussion instruments the true stars of the show. The entire score has been reorchestrated to be performed by an array of percussion instruments including drums, cymbals and bells (along with a single trombone), and their instruments will stand in for a traditional set to create the show's environment.

"Everything comes back to: 'Is there a musical solution?'" Ponasik says. "Even the props may be percussion instruments. We keep trying to answer every question with percussion."

The Mikado in its original form tells the tale of the inhabitants of a bureaucratic village in Japan called Titipu, prevented from pursuing their true loves by arcane legalities, including a ban on flirting. Ponasik says MOT's 10-person cast will forgo the Asian setting as well as a separate orchestra, and each performer will be responsible in turn for utilizing the many percussion instruments — despite no one in the cast actually being percussion-savvy.

"We're trying to approach it with childlike enthusiasm," Ponasik says, adding that their rearrangement of the score lends itself to a less formal presentation. "We didn't sit down the way you would with a reorchestration of a typical classical piece, but it's more like — here's a pile of instruments, everyone pick one!"

Such a progressive, unique approach will certainly present a challenge for the ensemble, but Ponasik says it will give the opportunity to grow in ways that wouldn't be possible with a straight, unaltered performance of *The Mikado*.

"One of our goals at MOT is to transform the landscape of lyric theatre," she says. "If we're going to let opera change and grow, we have to keep trying to do it in different ways."

Ponasik and her cast say their reinterpretation is still evolving as opening night approaches, and some pieces are still midtransformation. "The songs will adjust to the means of the instruments we have. The music will stay as written, and some songs will adjust more than others.

"I do think that what we make will be surprising and new and will be unlike any Mikado that has ever existed before this," Ponasik says. "It will be uniquely Milwaukee Opera Theatre."

As they say, nothing could possibly be more satisfactory.

ON STAGE

Milwaukee Opera Theatre will perform *The Mikado* March 19-29 at Next Act Theatre, 255 S. Water St. Performances will be at 7:30 p.m. with some 2 p.m. matinees. Tickets are \$28 or \$22, with \$15 preview and industry night seats. Visit milwaukeeoperatheatre.org for more details.

Ringling to remove elephants from circus by 2018



By Tamara Lush

AP writer

Animal rights activists were stunned when the parent company of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus announced it would eliminate elephants from its circus performances by 2018.

"Monumental and long overdue," was how the Animal Welfare Institute put it.

"Startling and tremendously exciting," The Humane Society of the United States said in a statement.

And the International Fund for Animal Welfare called it "a giant step in the right direction."

But activists soon focused on the timing, questioning why it will take three years to phase out the elephants from the traveling circus shows.

"Many of the elephants are painfully arthritic, and many have tuberculosis, so their retirement day needs to come now," wrote Ingrid E. Newkirk, president of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, in a statement. "If the decision is serious, then the circus needs to do it NOW."

Executives at Feld Entertainment, Ringling's parent company, say it will take three years to build proper facilities for them on the 200-acre plot of land in central Florida that's already being used as an elephant conservation center. They have repeatedly denied that the elephants are mistreated in any way in the circuses.

"Each elephant requires a certain amount of space and a certain amount of barn area," said Stephen Payne, Feld's spokesman, adding that permits, drainage issues and other logistics must be worked out. The company intends for the elephants to live out their years on the property, and since one elephant is 69, they must plan for the long haul to care for the crop of gentle giants.

The decision to phase out elephants comes at a time when cities across the United States are cracking down on exotic animal displays.

Even before the announcement this month that the elephants will be phased out, company officials had said they were pulling out of certain cities because of newly enacted bans. The company's three

shows visit 115 cities throughout the year, and company president Kenneth Feld said it's expensive to fight legislation in each jurisdiction. It's also difficult to plan tours amid constantly changing regulations, he said.

"All of the resources used to fight these things can be put toward the elephants," Feld said during an interview at the conservation center. "We're not reacting to our critics; we're creating the greatest resource for the preservation of the Asian elephant."

Feld executives said the decision to end the circus' century-old tradition of showcasing elephants was difficult and debated at length. Elephants have often been featured on Ringling's posters over the decades.

Feld owns 43 elephants, 29 of which live at the company's 200-acre Center for Elephant Conservation in central Florida. Thirteen animals will continue to tour with the circus before retiring to the center by 2018. One elephant is on a breeding loan to the Fort Worth Zoo.

Carol Bradley, the author of the book Last Chain on Billie: How One Extraordinary Elephant Escaped the Big Top, which is about a non-Ringling circus elephant, said she believes the Feld family "realized it was a losing PR battle."

"This is an enormous, earth-moving decision," she said. "When I heard the news, my jaw hit the floor. I never thought they'd change their minds about this."

In 2014, Feld Entertainment won \$25.2 million in settlements from a number of animal-rights groups, including the Humane Society of the United States, ending a 14-year legal battle over allegations that Ringling circus employees mistreated elephants.

The initial lawsuit was filed in 2000 by a former Ringling barn helper who was later found to have been paid at least \$190,000 by the animal-rights groups that helped bring the lawsuit. The judge called him "essentially a paid plaintiff" who lacked credibility and standing to sue. The judge rejected the abuse claims following a 2009 trial.

The circus will continue to use tigers, dogs and goats, and a Mongolian troupe of camel stunt riders joined its Circus Xtreme

show this year. More motorsports, daredevils and feats of human physical capabilities will likely be showcased as well.

In 2008, Feld acquired a variety of motor sports properties, including monster truck shows, motocross and the International Hot Rod Association, which promotes drag races and other events. In 2010, it created a theatrical motorcycle stunt show called Nuclear Cowboyz. Roughly 30 million people attend one of Feld's 5,000 live entertainment shows every year.

Ringling's popular Canada-based competitor, Cirque du Soleil, features human

acts and doesn't use wild animals.

And while Ringling is phasing out the elephants, other, smaller circuses in the U.S. — and in countries such as Russia, France and Thailand — still use elephants.

Feld owns the largest herd of Asian elephants in North America. It costs about \$65,000 yearly to care for each elephant.

Feld said initially the conservation center will be open only to researchers, scientists and others studying the Asian elephant.

He said he hopes it eventually expands "to something the public will be able to see."



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WCO concert features historic Casals cello

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

When the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra takes the stage March 20 at Madison's Overture Center, the attraction won't just be the guest musicians, it'll be the guest instrument.

Guest cellist Amit Peled will join maestro Andrew Sewell and his musicians for the concert, along with the prized Goffriller cello, an 18th-century instrument considered one of the rarest and greatest of its breed.

He'll take the instrument through its paces with works by Mozart, Schumann and other composers, including Pablo Casals, the renowned Spanish Catalan cellist who is best associated with the instrument. In fact, the Casals work they'll perform is "Song for the Birds," a traditional Catalan tune he re-arranged for cello and often played on Goffriller's instrument before his death in 1973.

Peled, a professor of music at the Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, has the cello on loan from Casals' widow Marta Casals Istomin and is in the midst of a recital tour called an "Homage to Pablo Casals."

Sewells says the Goffriller cello, crafted in 1733, should be considered comparable to the well-known Stradivarius violin. "It's an equally valuable and very special Italian instrument." The cello's creator, Matteo Goffriller, was a Venetian luthier well-known for the quality of his instruments.

Casals first acquired the instrument in 1913 and played it for the next 60 years. Peled received the cello in 2012.

"What's special about this instrument is the way it replicates the human voice," Peled said.

"A Stradivarius or a Guarneri (another rare, high-quality violin) will have this golden tone more like an Italian tenor. This cello is like an old man reciting poetry. It's earthy, it's sandy, but it's very beautiful."

The appeal of the cello is as much about its history as its sound, Peled says. Casals made some of the first recordings of Johann Sebastian Bach's works on this instrument, and its tonal quality allows a musician to play it very softly without sacrificing any performance quality, he adds.

"It's as if someone were talking to you, and it gets straight to your guts, rather than your heart," Peled said. "You can feel it in your body."

Peled's portion of WCO's March 20 program also will include "Tarantella," composed by Bohemian cellist David Popper,



ON STAGE

The Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Andrew Sewell and featuring cellist Amit Peled, will perform March 20 at the Capitol Theater in the Overture Center for the Arts, 221 State St., Madison. For tickets, call 608-258-4141 or visit wcoconcerts.org.

and Schumann's Cello Concerto in A minor. The pieces offer contrasting performance opportunities for Peled as well as a happy reunion for the maestro, Sewell says.

"Peled is an awesome cellist with a big sound, and he is a superb musician," Sewell says. "We have performed both the Haydn C major concerto and the Boccherini concerto together with the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, and so the chance to perform a romantic work like the Schumann seemed absolutely spot on."

Popper's "Tarantella" and Casals' "Song of the Birds," which open the concert's second half, provide beautiful contrasts to Schuman's romanticism, Sewell adds.

The pieces break up the program in what Peled calls a more historical approach, one that stresses variety with the intent to entertain.

"We've kept the Schumann and added the Popper, which is normally played on

piano and cello, and given it some cool orchestral arrangements," Peled says. "This comes from a tradition when classical concerts were meant to entertain, with one central musical 'entrée,' if you will, surrounded by a lot of little 'desserts.""

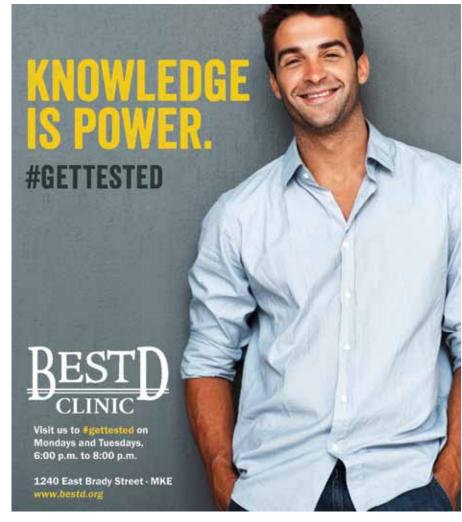
The evening opens with the Suite for String Orchestra by Frank Bridge, an English composer whose work Sewell describes as "sublime, challenging and exhilarating." Mozart's Symphony No. 40 in G minor closes the evening.

"This is Mozart at his best — a classical gem," Sewell says. "One cannot fault the beauty of the first and last movements."

Peled and the 1733 Goffriller cello will be the highlight of the concert, but Peled says he thinks Casals would have seen the evening as a true celebration of beautiful music from several composers. Peled says Casals would have appreciated the variety in the program.

"We all need Shakespeare, but sometimes we just need a stupid movie and pizza," he added. "The secret to a classical program is balance, and sometimes we just need to relax."





Chazen to show prized Shakespeare folio

By Jay Rath

Contributing writer

One of the most prized books in the world — the very first collection of William Shakespeare's plays — is coming to Wisconsin. UW-Madison's Chazen Museum of Art has announced that First Folio! The Book that Gave Us Shakespeare, a national traveling exhibition, will visit Madison in 2016.

The tour marks the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death, and the exhibit at the Chazen will be the only showing in the state

The First Folio includes 36 of Shake-speare's dramatic works. Only about 800 copies are believed to have been printed in 1623. And only 233 are known to exist today.

The book is so valuable that a single copy was auctioned in New York in 2001 for an amount that, adjusted for inflation, would now equal \$8.13 million.

"The First Folio" is not the book's name but an indication of its printing method — each page of a folio is folded over once before binding. The book's actual title is Mr. William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, & Tragedies (sic).

When displayed in Madison, the First Folio will be opened to one of the most quoted monologues in the world, the "To be or not to be" soliloquy from *Hamlet*.

"Shakespeare influences so many aspects of our culture. We'll present the First Folio in a broader context, with a selection of objects from the Chazen's permanent collection," says museum director Russell Panczenko.

American Players Theatre, the classical theater troupe in Spring Green, plans to partner with the Chazen in offering contextual appreciation.

"At APT, we often talk about doing Shakespeare's plays beneath the same stars that Shakespeare and his players first performed them," says Carrie Van Hallgren, the company's managing director. "By the same token, to be able to see the actual words that Shakespeare wrote on a page here with us 400 years later and thousands of miles away will reinforce the common truths he so eloquently wrote about. To visit this tangible piece of Shakespeare's world will be a great opportunity for both our company and our audience."

While some of Shakespeare's plays

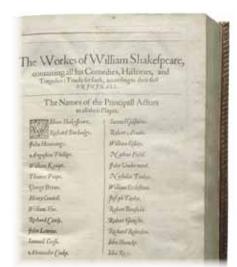


PHOTO: FOLGER SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY

The First Folio, which includes 36 of Shakespeare's plays, was printed in 1623.

were previously published, often without the playwright's approval, the First Folio is considered to have collected the best, most reliable examples of the original handwritten texts. The material was gathered by two of Shakespeare's colleagues seven years after the playwright's death. Without the effort, later generations might not have known 18 of Shakespeare's plays, including Macbeth, Julius Caesar, Twelfth Night, The Tempest and As You Like It.

Among the university's related holdings is a rare later edition of collected Shakespeare plays, known as the Second Folio and published in 1632. This collection incorporates many subsequent changes to the texts.

One notable feature in the First Folio: It contains what may be one of only two accurate depictions of William Shakespeare. The other is a bust in Holy Trinity Church at Stratford-upon-Avon, where Shakespeare was buried.

The Madison exhibit is part of a tour that will bring the First Folio to all 50 states and Puerto Rico with the support of the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., in partnership with the Cincinnati Museum Center and the American Library Association.

Exhibition dates will be announced in April

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Fifty years of fascination: JoAnna Poehlmann at RedLine

By Kat Murrell

Contributing writer

How do you keep wonder alive over the course of decades?

If you ask Milwaukee artist JoAnna Poehlmann, the answer is about sensing joy and the nuances of nature. Her career has spanned more than 50 years, and even at this point, her buoyant spirit finds nary a dull moment.

"I always have this wonderful quote from Leonard Bernstein in the back of my mind," Poehlmann says. "When he was at the end of his career he said, 'I am at the peak of my decline.' I just love that because I relate to that. I know it's coming to the end but I'm just going to get everything packed into the time I have left and it's just so much fun."

The warmth of Poehlmann's personality is reflected in the RedLine Milwaukee exhibition JoAnna Poehlmann: Now and Then, curated by Milwaukee artist Jeff Redmon. Densely packed drawings, prints and assemblages represent Poehlmann's versatile pursuits. While the medium varies, past and present seem always on her mind through the immediacy of the natural world and inspirations of artists spanning the ages.

Poehlmann's skill in drawing objects with extreme precision is a feat in itself, but her wry humor keeps a feeling of play in the foreground. This is a woman who enjoys a good pun, visually and verbally. "Crab Cakes" is an artistic one-liner, pairing a luscious array of frosted desserts next to a picture of a crab, modeled after the German Renaissance artist Albrecht Dürer.

More rebus-like is "Pins and Needles." It pairs an image of Rogier van der Weyden's "Lady Wearing a Gauze Headdress" (ca. 1435) with an exquisite rendering of a hedgehog. You get "needles" from the latter—thanks to annotations like "he can swim when the need arises," and "poets have called the hedgehog 'small Saint Sebastian," the Christian saint pierced by arrows. And the pins? Look closely and spot the delicate gold pin in the headdress of van der

Weyden's lady.

Poehlmann brings her viewers into an enthusiastic game of acute observation and artistic reference points. Tiny, three-dimensional tables and chairs are set for favored figures. "Teatime for Christo" is appropriately wrapped in plastic, a nod to Christo and his partner and wife Jeanne-Claude's work, such as "Wrapped Reichstag." "Breakfast with Beuys (Homage to Joseph Beuys)" would make the feltloving artist feel right at home, as the furniture is covered in the stuff.

In the entirety of this extensive retrospective, no work lacks a name. Poehlmann says she "never lets anything out of my house unless it has a title." Her affection for language also informs the making of books. An accordion-fold format is often favored as it allows for easier display. While the idea of a book might suggest something flat, in Poehlmann's hands a book develops sculptural additions. "A Sofa Sized Painting (After Manet)" is one example; the back of the book is a shallow box with a miniature couch. It certainly gives new meaning to "sofa-

To visit JoAnna Poehlmann: Now and Then is to drop into the artist's world for a little while. There is a timelessness to her work that exists outside of art trends, despite stretching across decades. Poehlmann is intensely true to her own interests. To capture what she sees and cast it with charming wit, is what defines her career.

"I'm never bored," she says. "It's so exciting, there's so much to draw; I'll never get a chance to do all that I want to. When you're on a roll, you can hardly wait to get up in the morning to complete something or get an idea started. It's just a joyous lifestyle. I'm so grateful."

JoAnna Poehlmann: Now and Then has been extended through May 30 at RedLine Milwaukee, 1422 N. 4th St.



ART GAZE — MILWAUKEE

Wevden.

NEW EXHIBITIONS

'Private Spaces Public Authority'

Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum 2220 N. Terrace Ave.

For those who admire the details of old architecture, this exhibition will be a trove of delights. The City of Milwaukee Public Housing Authority has provided materials from its collection of pieces from the former Elizabeth Plankinton mansion. The stately home was built in the 1880s, a time when the Aesthetic movement was in full swing and the phrase "art for art's sake" was a serious notion that inspired domestic settings. Examples of glass, ceramics, and woodwork provide notes for musing on the intersection of art and architectural utility. Through June 7.

'The Women Behind the Paint: Colleen Kassner and Friends'

Grand Avenue Club 210 E. Michigan Ave.

This retrospective exhibition of paintings by Colleen Kassner emphasizes portraiture as a document of the joys and struggles of life. Kassner credits art with assisting her in dealing with mental illness, opening a path of catharsis, stability and meditation on strength of spirit. Also on view are works by members of the Grand Avenue Club, an advocacy group for those addressing issues of mental illness in their lives. *Through May 1*.

Kat Murrell





MOWA captures a state's love for the polka

By Barry Adams

Wisconsin State Journal

Photographs of accordions, tubas and Pabst Blue Ribbon signs may not be the norm for an \$11.2 million art museum that features nationally recognized sculptors, painters and other media artists.

They fit right in at the Museum of Wisconsin Art, located along the Milwaukee River and just east of West Bend's quaint downtown.

Since late January, the museum's second-floor Hyde Gallery has been home to Polka Heartland: Photographs by Dick Blau.

In 2013 and 2014, Blau, a professor of film at UW-Milwaukee, traversed Wisconsin with Rick March, an author, musician and musicologist from Madison. Blau and March, whose book, Polka Heartland, is scheduled to be released in October, set out to capture the styles of the state's diverse polka scene.

More importantly for Blau was documenting the feeling and emotion of the official state dance.

"It's really about the way people make a kind of social happiness with one another," Blau said by phone from his home in downtown Milwaukee. "It produces a feeling of warmth, euphoria and happiness."

Wisconsin has its own Polka Hall of Fame with such notables as "Tuba Dan" Jerabek, Vern Meisner, Don Peachey and Louie Bashell. Polka festivals can be found around the state in Ellsworth, Wisconsin Dells and Pulaski. The tiny village of Willard, east of Eau Claire, celebrated its 40th annual event last year while the Wisconsin State Polka Festival at Olympia Resort in Oconomowoc is set for May.

In June, there's the Roger Bright Polka Festival in New Glarus, Polish Fest in Milwaukee and in Madison, the Essen Haus, a year-round pit stop for polka bands from around the country.

Blau's exhibit features 27 photos, some more than 3 feet high and nearly 6 feet long, but there is no musical accompaniment. Instead, visitors take in the images in relative quiet, much like they would with other exhibits in the 32,000-square-foot

That's not to say polka music is absent from the colorful exhibit.

When the photo gallery debuted, more than 650 people filled the museum, many of them dancing to The Squeezettes, a Milwaukee band named polka artist of the year in 2012 and 2013 by the Wisconsin Area Music Industry and featured in Blau's photos. On March 14, the Brewhaus Polka Kings performed at the museum for what was dubbed "Polka Saturday."

"It's going to be a flat-out polka dance," Graeme Reid, the museum's director of collections and exhibitions, told the Wisconsin State Journal. "It is very much a part of Wisconsin's intrinsic culture."

The Museum of Wisconsin Art was founded in 1961 when it was known as the West Bend Gallery of Fine Art. The museum was established by the Pick family to collect and exhibit the work of a relative,

Carl von Marr, who was born in Milwaukee in 1858 but was trained in Munich, Germany.

For much of the museum's history, it was located in a 20,000-square-foot space in what had been the corporate headquarters for West Bend Insurance. In 2007, the museum changed its name to the Museum of Wisconsin Art and announced plans to build a new facility. Fundraising began in 2008 as the economy began to tank but in 2012, ground was broken on property that had been home to an outlet mall. The museum opened in April 2013 and last year had 35,000 visitors compared to 2,900 the last full year in the previous museum building.

"It's had phenomenal growth," says Laurie Winters, MOWA CEO and executive director. "It's a platform for Wisconsin artists."

When I visited last week, I not only took in the work of von Marr but of painter John Steuart Curry, who in 1936 was appointed as the first artist in residence at the Agricultural College at UW-Madison. Curry traveled the state where he promoted art and painted rural scenes from the era. There also was work from the Cedarburg Artists Guild and in the atrium, sculptures of canoes by Truman Lowe, a Ho-Chunk from Black River Falls.

Blau's polka photos are in contrast to the rest of the museum's artwork but just

Blau's and March's travels took them to Turner Hall in Monroe, Martin's Tap in New Berlin and Amerahn's Ballroom in Kewaskum. There were stops at Pulaski Polka Days, the Laak Ballroom in Johnsonville and to the now-defunct Las Vegas Latin Club in Oregon, south of Madison.

That's where the band, the Mazizo Allstarz, came decked out in sharkskin suits and used electronics and a brass section but had no accordion. A mirrored ball, fog machine, laser lights and well-dressed dancers added to the ambiance of the club, located in a former indoor athletic facility.

Blau's photos captured it all, even though his shots were taken while seated at a table because he didn't want to intrude.

"It was quite an exotic experience," Blau says. "It's different stylistically and represents something most people haven't seen. I think people in Wisconsin aren't really aware of how large and vital the Latino population has become."

When Blau created his first book on polka, Polka Happiness, he shot in Buffalo, New York, and it primarily consisted of Polish polka bands. It also was 1992 and he was limited to a film camera with flash to make small black-and-white images.

Polka Heartland is shot in color, using natural light and with a digital camera that allowed for much larger images.

"It actually changes the relation of the viewers to the images because it allows them entrance into them, and that's not possible when you have smaller pictures,' Blau says. "It makes them want to dance."



PHOTO: DICK BLAU

Dick Blau's photographs capture modern polka lovers across Wisconsin.



'Blurred Lines' verdict could have chilling effect on music industry

By Anthony McCartney

AP entertainment writer

A verdict saying Pharrell Williams and Robin Thicke copied Marvin Gaye's music to create their hit song "Blurred Lines" could ripple across the music industry, potentially changing how artists work and opening the door to new copyright claims.

An eight-person jury determined Tuesday that Williams and Thicke copied elements of Gaye's 1977 hit "Got to Give It Up" and ordered the pair to pay nearly \$7.4 million to the late R&B legend's three

The music industry may feel new constraints in the coming years as artists and lawyers — sort through the verdict and its implications.

Howard King, lead attorney for Thicke and Williams, said in closing arguments that a verdict for the Gave family would have a chilling effect on musicians trying to evoke an era or create an homage to the sound of earlier artists. Williams contended during the trial that he was only trying to mimic the "feel" of Gaye's late 1970s music but insisted he did not use elements of his idol's work.

'Today's successful verdict, with the odds more than stacked against the Marvin Gaye estate, could redefine what copyright infringement means for recording artists," said Glen Rothstein, an intellec- the verdict. tual property attorney.

He said the decision sets a precedent because "paying homage to musical influences was an acceptable, and indeed commonplace way of conducting business and even showing respect for one's musical idols, (but) after today, doubt has been cast on where the line will be drawn for copyright infringement purposes.'

Music copyright trials are rare, but allegations that a song copies another artist's work are common. Singers Sam Smith and Tom Petty recently reached an agreement that conferred songwriting credit to Petty on Smith's song, "Stay With Me," which resembled Petty's hit "I Won't Back Down."

In the "Blurred Lines" case, the Gaye family will seek an injunction against the song, giving them leverage to negotiate for royalties and other concessions such as songwriting credits.

Nona Gaye, the late singer's daughter, wept as the verdict was read and later told reporters: "Right now, I feel free. Free from Pharrell Williams' and Robin Thicke's chains and what they tried to keep on us and the lies that were told."

Larry Iser, an intellectual property lawver who has represented numerous musicians such as Jackson Browne and David Byrne in music copyright cases, criticized

"Although Gave was the Prince of Soul, he didn't own a copyright to the genre, and Thicke and Williams' homage to the feel of Marvin Gaye is not infringing," Iser said.

King, the pair's lawyer, said record labels are going to become more reluctant to release music that's similar to other works - an assertion disputed by Richard Busch, the lead attorney for the Gaye family.

"While Mr. Williams' lawyer suggested in his closing argument that the world would come to an end, and music would cease to exist if they were found liable, I still see the sun shining," Busch said. "The music industry will go on.'

So, too, will Williams' career, said Joe Levy, editor-at-large at Billboard.

"For Pharrell, the story moves on," he said. "It will move on quickly."

Williams is a seven-time Grammy Award winner, and the songs he's performed or produced have sold more than 100 million copies worldwide. His hit "Happy" has helped make him a household name, as has his work as a judge on NBC's music competition show, The Voice.

"It's much to Pharrell's advantage that he is at a high point in his career," Levy

Thicke's career may have more issues as a result of Tuesday's verdict because



Pharrell Williams, who wrote most of "Blurred Lines" and must pay \$7.4 million to the estate of Marvin Gaye.

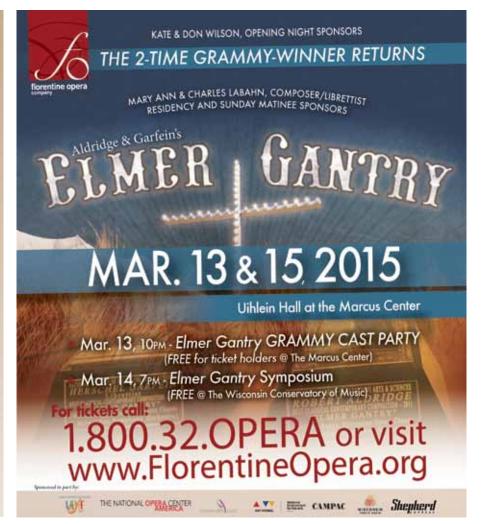
"Blurred Lines" was a global hit and his follow-up effort failed to connect with audiences, Levy said. Despite the song's popularity, feminists have criticized it, saying it promotes rape culture.

While the verdict will likely make musicians and record labels more cautious, it won't stop artists from using others' works as inspiration, Levy said.

Despite the decision, he predicted that "Blurred Lines" will continue to make plenty of money for Williams, Thicke and, in all likelihood, the Gaye family.

"People aren't going to stop playing it," Levy said. "It's not just going to disappear."





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PARTY

The Sets List



ALABAMA SHAKES

8 p.m. March 15 at the Riverside Theater, Milwaukee. \$35. pabsttheater.org. 7:30 p.m. March 17 at the Overture Center, Madison. \$40. overturecenter.org.

A thunderbolt dressed in blue jeans. That's what a New York Times critic called Alabama Shakes after the band's breakout debut at the CMJ Music Marathon in 2011, opening up for a bunch of bands who haven't had a tenth of their meteoric success since. The gig was a game-changer for the blues rock act, fronted by lead singer and guitarist Brittany Howard, and after two Grammy noms in 2013 (they lost a tighter-thanusual race for best new artist to fun.) they band is starting 2015 with a big tour and a bigger album, Sound & Color, on the horizon.



SHARON ISBIN & ISABEL LEONARD

8 p.m. March 21 at Wisconsin Union Theater's Shannon Hall, Madison. \$10 to \$50. uniontheater.wisc.edu.

What's better than one talented artist celebrating the music of Spain? How about two? Guitarist Sharon Isbin (above) and operatic vocalist Isabel Leonard have united to perform a program of magnificent works from the Spanish classical guitar tradition. Separately, they're dazzling performers who've strummed and sang for the biggest performance venues in their field, so just imagine what they can do together.



TV ON THE RADIO

8:30 p.m. March 24 at the Pabst Theater, Milwaukee. \$32.50. pabsttheater.org.

Even after a near-15 year career, TV on the Radio hasn't been able to spin its critical acclaim into breakout sales. Which is a shame, because the Brooklyn four-piece is one of the most diverse, eclectic rock 'n' roll acts touring today, blending jazz, soul, hip-hop and electro-pop sounds into a chaotically groovy whole. Then again, word of mouth has it the live act is even better than the records, so maybe everyone who's picking up albums instead of concert tickets are the ones missing out.



GROUP OF THE ALTOS

9 p.m. March 14 at Company Brewing, Milwaukee. No cover. groupofthealtos.com.

Group of the Altos tried to pretend to be an everyday indie band when it shortened the name down to just "Altos" a few years back. But when you're a postrock instrumental act with anywhere from 12 to 17 members at a time, there's no benefit to pretending to be an everyday indie band when you're an extraordinary one. They band is back to the full name now, but better still, it has a new LP: R U Person or Not, which gets the band singing for the first time and loving it on each of the eight tracks. The album officially dropped Feb. 23, but Group of the Altos will celebrate its release with Dead Rider at Company Brewing.

BRIT FLOYD

8 p.m. March 18 at La Crosse Center, La Crosse. \$30 to \$50. lacrossecenter.com. 8 p.m. March 22 at Overture Center, Madison. \$44. overturecenter.org. 8 p.m. March 26 & 27 at the Riverside Theater, Milwaukee. \$35. pabsttheater.org.

Brit Floyd is one of the biggest Pink Floyd tribute acts and certainly in contention for the most entertaining. This year, to celebrate the 50th anni-

versary of the band's 1965 founding, Brit Floyd is going all out, with a brand new light show, bigger stage production and the same caliber of performance applied to Floyd albums including *The Dark Side of the Moon, Wish You Were Here* and *The Wall*. Shine on, you crazy diamonds.

Music reviews

KELLY CLARKSON :: 'PIECE BY PIECE'

One of Kelly Clarkson's greatest strengths is her restlessness. With her career at a pop pinnacle in 2007, she



dove headfirst into dark self-analysis on My December, with mixed results. Now, in the wake of regaining her pop crown with Stronger, Clarkson is again exploring new territory on Piece By Piece. "Someone" sounds like past hits — until it's drenched in big synths. "Invincible," co-written by Sia, features the rising star's background vocals. "Run Run Run" opens as a

simple piano ballad with John Legend and then becomes something slightly sinister by the end. Just when the new sounds may seem a bit overwhelming, Clarkson returns to familiar territory on "Nostalgic" and lead single "Heartbeat Song." Through it all, one of the best voices in pop rings through clear and sharp.

BRANDI CARLILE :: 'THE FIREWATCHER'S DAUGHTER'

After charting in the Top 10 with Bear Creek, singersongwriter Brandi Carlile left the Columbia label for artist-



focused ATO. Her new album sounds as intimate as a living room concert. Carlile recorded songs in single takes, so there's rough edges, but they can't ruin the emotional appeal of songs such as "The Things I Regret." This album remains firmly rooted in Americana, but that leaves plenty of room to stretch out. The Firewatcher's Daughter goes from Melissa Ether-

idge rock ("Wherever Is Your Heart") to old-timey lifeand-death meditations ("Wilder (We're Chained)").

OF MONTREAL :: 'AUREATE GLOOM'

of Montreal leader Kevin Barnes says Aureate Gloom came from turmoil in his personal life, and this disjointed



collection of songs sounds that way. Stylistic shifts are nothing new for fans of the band, but at its best, of Montreal albums find emotional coherence. Here the only uniting factor is an appreciation of early 1970s glam and punk. There are memorable tracks, like the angular bounce of "Bassem Sabry," named for the Egyptian journalist and civil rights

campaigner who tragically fell to his death in April 2014. "Monolithic Egress" takes the listener on an engrossing, sprawling journey through abrupt tempo changes and moods. But those peaks help to point out that the rest of the album is instantly forgettable.

THE BANG BANG :: 'THE BANG BANG'

Milwaukee-based blues rock band The Bang Bang played its first live gig almost a year ago and has been



gearing up for this self-titled debut ever since. The music is bluesy but there is plenty of straightforward rock energy to pull in a wider base. From opening track "Sweet Melody," lead vocalist Katie Rash balances a throaty growl with a pure tone that sounds equally at home on the quieter, slowly surging "The Way." With the national success of Alabama Shakes, blues-

rock is in vogue again, and The Bang Bang is a great local indulgence.

— Bill Lamb



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can predict how much longer winter will last. And, as we all know, Neptune moves so slowly through the cosmos (with an orbital period of 165 years) that it takes her a few months just to put on her shoes, much less get out the door.

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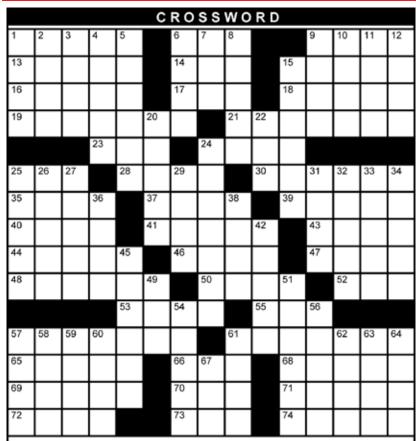
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- 1. Tire pattern
- 6. Small lump
- 9. Confidence trick
- 13. Blood line
- 14. Hockey legend
- 15. With ample space
- 16. Full of vigor
- 17. Bearded antelope
- 18. Deserving of respect?
- 19. Frozen song
- 21. *Final Four destination
- 23. Bird word
- 24. Result of tying
- 25. Gastrointestinal tract
- 28. Type of word
- 30. Overthrow
- 35. All over again
- 37. Harry Potter's mark
- 39. Plural of pileus
- 40. ____ Sorvino
- 41. North Pole workers
- 43. Precedes "pong"
- 44. Our mother?
- __-de-camp
- 47. *ESPN analyst and former coach Greenberg
- 48. As opposed to federal
- 50. Chronic drinkers
- 52. Movie theater candy
- 53. Do this upon a star
- 55. Also
- 57. *Do you fill this out?
- 61. *16, e.g.
- 65. Dough or cabbage
- 66. American Nurses Association
- 68. Critically
- 69. Early anesthetic

- 70. Tolstoy's given name in Russian
- 71. Tsar's edict
- 72. Sound of relief
- 73. Pilot's deadline
- 74. Avatar's creator

DOWN

- 1. *Profile of most NCAA March stars
- 2. Profligate
- 3. At a previous time, archaic
- 4. V.C. Andrews' Flowers in the.
- 5. *Host of 2015 First Four play-in games
- 6. Canceled
- 7. Mantel piece
- 8. *Mascot of #29 Down
- 9. Musical compositions for one
- 10. Musical finale
- 11. End of grace
- 12. Gore Vidal's Breckinridge
- 15. High quality hay for cattle
- 20. "If it's good for the , it's good for the gander"
- 22. 1990s catchword
- 24. Puck, "that shrewd and sprite"
- 25. *8 of these in Sweet 16
- 26. Uniate, alternative spelling
- 27. It can be firma or incognita
- 29. *School with most titles

- 31. Hearts and diamonds,
- 32. Applied, as in one's trade
- 33. Slow, musically
- 34. *Elite number
- 36. W on a bulb
- 38. Do over
- 42. Brief fight
- 45. Street salesman
- 49 Tall tale
- 51. Woodlouse
- 54. Like old cracker
- 56. Japanese port
- 57. *What the ref did to his whistle
- 58. Babe
- 59. Advil target
- 60. Captain and his party
- 61. Mount Vesuvius output
- 62. Dutch cheese
- 63. "Or ____!"
- 64. Textile worker
- 67. *Winners' memento



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We posted... you commented...

Undercover investigation at dairy farm in Wisconsin prompts new animal welfare policy at Great Lakes

SUZANNE BROWN This is so difficult to read. I hope reform doesn't take three years or more. No reason for that.

KRISTA JEAN KLAAS-SINGH The dairy/meat industry needs massive overhauls, which should include criminal background checks on any person working with livestock. Violent people should not work with animals.

DANE PEPLINSKI I'm not going to buy from them until that scum is out in iail.

TERESA ANN How fricken disturbing I couldn't even watch but a few seconds of the video! Wtf is wrong with our society to think that would be at all okay ... no empathy for animals means no empathy for humans!

NANCY MALONEY We need much tougher animal cruelty laws.

Unarmed black teen shot in Madison, sparking protests

RICHARD DEMARIO How about we demand education and stop, forcing young people into crime? Criminals are bred by lack of education and poverty. Something forced on black people for generations and now the rest of us as well.

TREVOR NAGLE The cop forced entry without backup and without knowing anything about the individual within the dwelling. Piss poor policing!

AMY KONGSLIE This doesn't seem like straight behavior. How was this kid impaired? Psychologically, emotionally, chemically ...

CURTIS PIERCE I read up until the point the article indicated he "assaulted the officer" enough said.

SANDY ACKERMAN Until you've put yourself in that position ... don't pretend to know what they "should do" or use at the EXACT moment.



Feedback from our digital platforms.



@wigazette



ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

'MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE' OPERA PREMIERES IN MINNESOTA

The Manchurian Candidate has been a hit novel once and a hit movie twice, but it's never hit the stage of an opera house — until now. The Cold War thriller has been reshaped into a contemporary opera by Pulitzer-winning composer Kevin Puts (for his first opera, no less) and librettist Mark Campbell, and will be making its world premiere at the Minnesota Opera. The highly anticipated opera has not had any subsequent productions announced, but producers were in attendance at the premiere, so this Candidate may be running in districts across the nation soon enough.

HARRISON FORD SURVIVES CRASH LANDING OF WWII-ERA PLANE

Harrison Ford, the star of the *Indiana Jones* and *Star Wars* franchises, may engage in risky business on screen, but his personal life got a bit more dangerous when a World War II-era plane he was piloting crashed on a golf course shortly after taking off from Santa Monica Municipal Airport. Ford suffered non-lifethreatening injuries in the crash and is expected to recover. Reportedly, the plane lost engine power in mid-air and Ford was required to make an emergency landing

on a nearby golf course, where he was given initial help by doctors who happened to be playing a round.

STAGE ADAPTATION OF KING'S 'MISERY' TO STAR BRUCE WILLIS

Years after the terrible flop of *Carrie*, Stephen King's work will once again arrive on Broadway. *Misery*, starring Bruce Willis as the author kidnapped by a crazed fan (Elizabeth Marvel), will start a New York run in the fall. The story will again be adapted by William Goldman, who translated King's novel into the Academy Award-winning Rob Reiner film starring Kathy Bates and James Caan. Dates and a theater will be announced later.

CRAIG FERGUSON DELAYS RIVERSIDE SHOW TO FILM TV PILOT

It's good news and bad news for local Craig Ferguson fans: The comedian and former Late Late Show host has pushed back his show scheduled for the Riverside Theater on March 22 in order to try tomake a return to TV. Ferguson is currently starring in the ABC pilot The King of 7B as a recluse who ventures outside for the first time in 20 years, and the filming schedule conflicts with the Milwaukee show. Ferguson will now appear at the



PHOTO: RODNEY BUREE

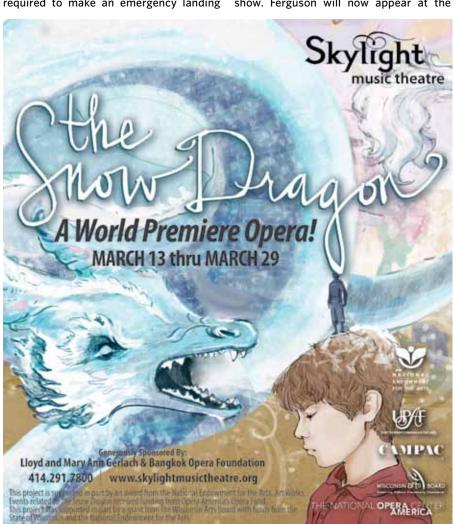
Milwaukee's 2015 Jazz in the Park lineup includes new Door County act Wifee and the Huzz Band, and will run Thursdays at Cathedral Square Park from June 4 to Sept. 3.

Riverside on May 30. Previously purchased tickets will be honored for that date.

JAZZ IN THE PARK SEASON ANNOUNCED

Milwaukee's annual jazz festival series, Jazz in the Park, has unveiled its 2015 season, its 24th in the city. Major local and national headliners include Incendio, an LA-based group that blends flamenco and Celtic music with rock and classical sounds; new Door County act Wifee and the Huzz Band; jazz blues quintet Davina and The Vagabonds; and Chicago-based José Valdes & The Mambo All-Stars. Jazz in the Park runs Thursdays at 6 p.m. from June 4 to Sept. 3 at Cathedral Square Park and is a free event. A full lineup can be found at easttown.com.

- from WiG and AP reports







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