

A Wisconsin Salon Tory Folliard Gallery presents its biggest show of the year. page 31

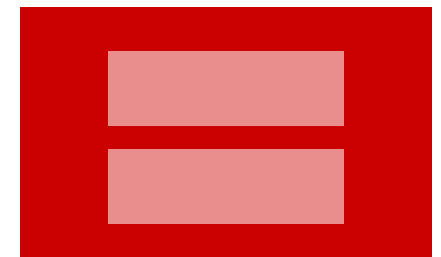


PROGRESSIVE. ALTERNATIVE.

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'Best-of' lists are mad about Madison

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A bill banning discrimination against LGBT people is gaining momentum in Congress.

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WiG's pet section includes stories about choosing birds as pets and the trend toward allowing dogs and cats to spend their final moments at home.



32 MKE Comedy Festival

Founder Matt Kemple gives 10 reasons why you should catch the 10th installment.



38 Meryl Streep rocks hard

The acclaimed actor sings again in 'Ricki and the Flash,' about a rock star trying to help her estranged family.

News with a twist


WIGWAG

By Lisa Neff and Louis Weisberg

TWEETING TYPOS

Twitter users had a gas responding to a recent tweet from the *Boston Globe*. Providing an update on the killing of four Marines at a recruitment center in Chattanooga, Tennessee, the *Globe* said: "Ed Reinhold, FBI, says FBI has investifarted about 70 leads already." Responses to the typo soon followed. One tweeted: "The FBI is off to a good fart, but sulfur they haven't found any connections. Time to stop methane around and step on the gas!"

RUNWAY PAY GAP

While the pay gap between men and women stubbornly persists, it's refreshing that there's one industry in which the women kick the guys' butts on payday: modeling. *Forbes* compiled figures that show female models make millions more than their male counterparts. The highest paid female supermodel is Gisele Bundchen (now retired), who brought home

\$47 million worth of bacon in 2014. Sean O'Pry, the most handsomely compensated male model, earned only \$1.5 million in 2013.

NUNS VS. KATY PERRY

A legal fight continues in Los Angeles, where two Catholic nuns say they so object to Katy Perry that they must object to the pop star's proposed purchase of the Sisters of the Most Holy and Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary's convent. The property is valued at \$15 million and consists of eight acres and a villa. The nuns say they would be violating their canonical vows if they were forced to sell to Perry. The alternative is to sell to a developer.

LOVING LEO

Leonardo DiCaprio announced on Twitter that the environmental foundation he created after filming *Titanic* is handing out \$15 million to such groups as Amazon Watch, Save

the Elephants and the World Wildlife Fund. "The destruction of our planet continues at a pace we can no longer afford to ignore," DiCaprio said. His foundation supports projects in more than 40 countries.

LOWER LEARNING

A philosophy professor left his job at Bethel College in Mishawaka, Indiana, after the evangelical school adopted a statement affirming a belief in God as the creator of humanity. The professor had managed an online forum focused on the intersection of faith and science. He said he was leaving so he wouldn't cause any tension.

POTTYPOCALYPSE

A truck hauling portable toilets containing human waste crashed on an Interstate in Bellingham, Washington, causing a 5-mile backup. A HAZMAT team pumped up 20 gallons of

the mess. The Washington State Department of Transportation tweeted that traffic was "constipated" during the "pottypocalypse."

MATH AND MARIJUANA

Evergreen Cannabis in the Evergreen State of Washington got hit with a violation after a store clerk sold pot to a minor. The penalty for such a sale is a \$2,500 fine and a 10-day suspension from sales. The co-owner identified the problem as a math error. The clerk miscalculated when trying to determine from a driver's license the age of the customer, who was just a few months shy of 21. We know what you're thinking.

SWEET PRINCE

Prince William, second in line to the throne of England, made history by taking a job as a civilian. He'll give all his earnings to charity. The prince of a guy is piloting an air ambulance, with a four-days-on,

four-days-off schedule to balance work, family and royal life. William said work as a medical emergency helicopter pilot is a natural progression from his service as a Royal Air Force search-and-rescue pilot.

STUBBORN SNOW

August is upon us, but don't tell that to the dirt-covered snow that still hasn't completely melted since being dumped at a defunct Buffalo railroad station after last November's record-breaking storm. Two snow piles nearly 10 feet high in some spots are still melting. The two piles resemble earthen berms because the snow is covered with a thick layer of dirt with grass growing on it.

BACKSPLASH

San Francisco now has nine public walls covered with a repellant paint that makes pee spray back on the offender's shoes and pants. It's the city's latest attempt to clean up urine-

soaked alleyways and walls. Signs reading "Hold it! This wall is not a public restroom. Please respect San Francisco and seek relief in an appropriate place," hang above some walls. The paint has proved effective on walls in Hamburg's St. Pauli quarter, where beer drinkers often can't be bothered to find a bathroom.

RODMAN'S GOT TRUMP'S RUMP

When former Bull Dennis Rodman tweeted his support for Donald Trump's presidential bid, maybe it was payback. Not so long ago, all the sane people in the world took Rodman to task for his "basketball diplomacy" trips to North Korea. During one such trip, he sang "Happy Birthday" to BFF Kim Jong Un and blamed an American missionary imprisoned there for his arrest. But Trump called the trips "smart," saying Rodman is "a lot better than what we have" in the White House.



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Federal court looks at N.C. voting law

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

"This is our Selma," the president of the North Carolina NAACP said, rallying activists and denouncing Republican efforts to suppress the vote 50 years after the brutal, bloody marches for voting rights in the South.

The Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, the leader of the state NAACP, joined other civil rights activists in mid-July in a massive march in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. They were marking the start of a federal trial over a state law restricting when and how people can vote. The outcome of the trial could have sweeping implications for voting rights nationwide.

"North Carolina was the first state to pass a restrictive voting law after the Supreme Court weakened the Voting Rights Act of 2013, and it is the worst voter suppression law the country has seen since 1965," Barber said. "The people of North Carolina are standing up — in the courts and on the streets — because we refuse to accept the revival of Jim Crow tactics used to block access to the ballot for African-American and Latino voters."

When first introduced in 2013, the North Carolina measure consisted of 12 pages and called for requiring voters to present photo IDs. That measure, inspired by a model bill drafted by the right-wing American Legislative Exchange Council



PHOTO: AP/CHUCK BURTON

Demonstrators march through the streets of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, on July 13, after the beginning of a federal voting rights trial challenging a 2013 state law.

— which is heavily influenced by the billionaire brothers David and Charles Koch — proved objectionable to progressives.

But it got much worse.

After the Supreme Court ruling in the *Shelby County v. Holder* voting rights case,

lawmakers expanded the bill to 40 pages. The measure — H.B. 589, which passed along party lines — shortens the early voting period by a week, eliminates same-day registration, prohibits counting provisional ballots cast out of precinct, expands the ability to challenge voters, eliminates a pre-registration program for teenagers and requires photo IDs.

Post-*Shelby*, other state legislatures reduced access to the polls and created new restrictions on voting. But in North Carolina, lawmakers rolled all the right-wing voting restrictions advocated by ALEC into an omnibus measure that passed swiftly, with minimal public comment, just before the end of the 2013 legislative session. At the time, critics compared Republicans' drive in North Carolina to the suppression strategy carried out by Republicans in Wisconsin. Since 2011, Wisconsin has twice reduced in-person early voting, introduced restrictions on voter registration, changed residency requirements, eliminated straight-ticket voting, limited opportunity to obtain an absentee ballot by fax or email and imposed a voter ID requirement.

In the North Carolina House, every Democrat asked to speak against the bill.

"The whole Democratic caucus, after the bill passed, stood up and bowed their heads in a moment of silence," said state Rep. Henry "Mickey" Michaux, who testified at the trial.

As in Wisconsin, the ACLU and the League of Women Voters organizations in North Carolina are leading the challenge to the voter suppression law, along with the Southern Coalition for Social Justice.

They maintain the law violates Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act and the 14th and

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Debate club: Presidential primary debates to begin

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

Time to fire up the meme-machine and turn on the truth-o-meter.

The 2016 presidential candidates are about to get some prime-time exposure, although the crowded field in the Republican Party means the debaters will get about 8 minutes of exposure in the first two-hour debate.

That debate takes place at 8 p.m. on Aug. 6 on the Fox News Channel, with the candidates onstage at Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland.

Will it be as wildly entertaining as the last round of GOP presidential debates, when the field included Ron Paul, Newt Gingrich, Michele Bachmann, Rick Santorum, Herman Cain, Tim Pawlenty and, of course, Mitt Romney?

With the aggressive and unpredictable Donald Trump likely to be at center stage, flanked by Jeb Bush and Scott Walker, the answer seems a definite "yes."

On Aug. 6, only the top 10 candidates in an average of five national polls will make the debate cut. As *WiG* went to press, the top 10 included Trump, Bush, Walker, Rand Paul, Marco Rubio, Ben Carson, Mike Huckabee, Ted Cruz, Chris Christie and Rick Perry.

Rick Santorum, John Kasich and Bobby

Jindal could make the stage if the number is expanded due to ties in the polling. Carly Fiorina, Lindsey Graham and George Pataki were registering at less than 1 percent and seemed likely to be sidelined.

The moderators include Bret Baier, Megyn Kelly and Chris Wallace.

In November, Fox Business News and the *Wall Street Journal* will host a debate in Wisconsin. The details are still being worked out.

The GOP presidential primary debate schedule — abbreviated to 12 from the 27 held in the 2012 cycle — also includes:

- Sept. 16, a CNN/Salem Radio debate at the Reagan Library in Simi Valley, California. Jake Tapper and Hugh Hewitt will moderate. In this debate, only the top 10 candidates in the polls can participate.
- Oct. 28, a CNBC debate at the University of Colorado in Boulder.
- Dec. 15, a CNN/Salem debate in Las Vegas.
- January 2016, a Fox News debate in Iowa.
- Feb. 6, an ABC/*IJReview* debate at St. Anselm College in Manchester, New Hampshire.
- Feb. 13, a CBS News debate in South Carolina.

The first GOP presidential debate takes place at 8 p.m. on Aug. 6. Fox News is broadcasting the event from Cleveland.



PHOTOS: WIKIPEDIA

Thomas Dewey, left, & Harold Stassen.

DO YOU KNOW?

The first presidential primary debate was between New York Gov. Thomas Dewey and former Minnesota Gov. Harold Stassen on May 7, 1948, just four days before a Republican presidential primary in Oregon. Dewey was favored to win the nomination, but Stassen challenged the conventional wisdom with early victories in Wisconsin and Nebraska. An estimated 40 million people listened to the debate on the radio.

— Lisa Neff

- Feb. 26, an NBC/Telemundo debate in Texas.
- March 2016, a Fox News debate, with the details to be determined.
- March 10, a CNN debate in Florida.

The schedule for the Democratic primary candidates — Hillary Rodham Clinton, Bernie Sanders, Lincoln Chaffee, Jim Webb and Martin O'Malley — is still being set, with debates in Iowa and New Hampshire this summer and South Carolina and Nevada later in the year.

The Iowa caucus is on Feb. 1, 2016, and the New Hampshire primary is on Feb. 9, 2016. Wisconsin voters weigh in on April 5, 2016.

VOTING from prior page

15th amendments to the U.S. Constitution by discriminating against voters of color.

Throughout the trial, witnesses repeatedly testified that lawmakers' intent with H.B. 589 is to make it more difficult for black and Latino voters to register and cast ballots by eliminating opportunities and access used at disproportionately higher rates by voters of color.

Other challenges to other voter suppression laws have argued that lawmakers' intent was to make it more difficult for people who traditionally vote Democratic to cast ballots. In North Carolina, the focus is on race and racism, not partisanship.

In 2012, about 900,000 North Carolina voters cast ballots in the seven days of early voting eliminated a year later by the Legislature. About 70 percent of those voters were African-American. Lawmakers knew that percentage before changing the law. They also knew that an estimated 200,000 votes were lost in Florida in 2012 after cuts to early voting.

In the 2012 and 2008 elections, more than 90,000 North Carolina voters used same-day registration. African-Americans relied on same-day registration at twice the rate of white voters — another fact known to lawmakers before they eliminated same-day registration.

Before 2013, if a voter appeared at the wrong precinct, North Carolina used to count the ballot for all offices in which the person would be eligible to vote — including statewide offices and for president.

Now ballots cast at the wrong precinct are discarded.

UW-Madison professor Barry Burden, the director of the Elections Research Center, told the court about the "calculus of voting," a model used to determine the financial, educational and psychological costs of voting. "In general, disruptions to voting habits raise costs and deter participation," he said. "What may appear to be equal costs imposed by a restriction on voting practices are, in fact, more acute for black and Latino voters. These groups are doubly burdened because they have fewer resources needed to overcome those costs and vote."


North Carolina, in its defense, has maintained that the changes in H.B. 589 are "neutral on their face" — the same claim made for poll taxes and literacy tests.

"The law teaches that it is the impact that matters ... not whether a law explicitly says African-Americans or Latinos are not allowed to vote," said Penda D. Hair, co-director of the Advancement Project, a national civil rights group.

The state also has said H.B. 589 was needed to curb voter fraud, but the state elections board said from 2000 to 2014 there were two claims of voter impersonation out of 35 million votes.


"Any fair reading of the sequence of events before the bill's passage leads to the conclusion that (the legislators) were voter suppressors in search of a pretext," Hair said of the North Carolina process. "There was no legitimate problem they were trying to solve."

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Obama commutes sentences, seeks fairer system

From WiG and AP reports

President Barack Obama is pushing for bipartisan action to change the criminal justice system in ways that go far beyond the limited executive powers that he's used to reduce harsh prison sentences for dozens of non-violent offenders.

In a recent speech to the NAACP's annual convention in Philadelphia, the president called for legislative action to reduce unduly harsh sentences, eliminate disparities in the way justice is applied and lessen taxpayer costs to house prisoners.

"We're at a moment when some good people in both parties — Republicans and Democrats — and folks all across the country are coming together around ideas to make the system work smarter, make it work better," Obama said. "There's a lot more we can do to restore the sense of fairness at the heart of our justice system," he added in a video released by the White House.

Obama commuted the sentences of 46 drug offenders, 14 of whom had been sentenced to life, including Wisconsinite Stephen Donovan.

The 58-year-old Donovan, of Oak Creek, was convicted in 1992 for conspiring to deliver cocaine purchased through a network with connections in Florida and Chicago. Under new sentencing rules in the War on Drugs era, he was given a life sentence without parole. He filed two appeals

— one in 1994 and another in 1996 — and then a petition for clemency.

Donovan's attorney, Robert Dvorak of Milwaukee, is involved with the Clemency Project, which has organized 1,500 volunteer lawyers to help advocate for thousands of prisoners.

"It's heartening to see President Obama using his constitutional clemency powers for the good of non-violent federal prisoners who received excessively long sentences," said Cynthia Roseberry, director of the project.

Yet, she continued, "many non-violent prisoners are still serving unduly harsh prison terms based on repudiated laws and policies. That means we have quite a lot of work ahead, as do the offices of the pardon attorney, the deputy attorney general and the White House."

While some Republicans in Congress are showing new interest in criminal justice legislation, not all GOP legislators saw the president's commutations as a positive step.

U.S. Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner of Wisconsin, a member of the House Judiciary Committee who has proposed bipartisan legislation, accused the president of issuing commutations as a politically motivated stunt.

"Commuting the sentences of a few drug offenders is a move designed to spur headlines, not meaningful reform,"

'Many non-violent prisoners are still serving unduly harsh prison terms based on repudiated laws and policies.'

Sensenbrenner said.

Since Congress enacted mandatory minimum sentences for drug crimes in the 1980s, the federal prison population has grown from 24,000 to more than 214,000, according to Families Against Mandatory Minimums, a group seeking sentencing changes.

And the costs, Obama says, are over \$80 billion a year to incarcerate people who often "have only been engaged in nonviolent drug offenses."

"Congress simply can't act fast enough," said Julie Stewart, president and founder of FAMM. She said that while Obama's executive actions have picked off some of the most egregious sentencing inequities, significant legislative action is needed to stop the flow of people "going to prison year in and year out, serving too much time."

Support from tough-on-crime Republicans in any such effort is critical, Stewart said.

Todd Cox, a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress, a liberal advocacy group, said there is momentum from both ends of the political spectrum to address the over-criminalization that has "resulted in people being put in prison who frankly shouldn't be there."

His group is part of the Coalition for Public Safety, whose members and backers range from the liberal American Civil Liberties Union to the conservative Koch brothers.

In recent years, as the crime rate has dropped, long drug sentences have come under increasing scrutiny and downward trends already are appearing.

The Supreme Court has made sentencing guideline ranges advisory rather than mandatory. Obama signed the Fair Sentencing Act in 2010 to cut penalties for crack cocaine offenses. And last year, the independent Sentencing Commission, which sets sentencing policy, reduced guideline ranges for drug crimes and applied those retroactively.

Overall, Obama has commuted the sentences of 89 people, surpassing the combined number of commutations granted by the previous four presidents. But that's still a sliver of all those seeking clemency: Justice Department statistics show that roughly 2,100 commutation petitions have been received so far this fiscal year and about 7,900 are pending.

FOR THE RECORD

"The United States accounts for 5 percent of the world's population, we account for 25 percent of the world's inmates. And that represents a huge surge since 1980. A primary driver of this is mass incarceration phenomenon is our drug laws — our mandatory minimum sentencing around drug laws. And we have to consider whether this is the smartest way for us to both control crime and rehabilitate individuals."

— President Barack Obama in a speech on July 16 at the El Reno Federal Correctional Institution in Oklahoma

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Equality Act to ban bias introduced in Congress

By Lisa Neff
Staff writer

U.S. Rep. John Lewis looked back to the civil rights struggles of the 1960s and followed the movement's arc — some would say the rainbow's arc.

"I fought too long and too hard against discrimination based on race and color not to fight against discrimination based on sexual orientation," the Democratic congressman from Georgia said on July 23, joining activists, politicians and other leaders in introducing the Equality Act.

The Equality Act comprises comprehensive federal legislation to expand the civil rights law to protect LGBT people from discrimination.

Lead sponsors include Democratic U.S. Sens. Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin, Jeff Merkley of Oregon and Cory Booker of New Jersey and Democratic U.S. Rep. David Cicilline of Rhode Island. The measure has 39 co-sponsors in the Senate and more than 140 co-sponsors in the House, including Wisconsin's Mark Pocan.

"Thanks to the Supreme Court's recent ruling, a same-sex couple can be married in any state," said Merkley. "But there's more to the story. In many, many states that couple can be married on Saturday, but lose their jobs on Monday because their employers object to who they love."

The Equality Act would expand the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include sexual orientation and gender identity as explicitly protected classes. The measure would establish protections against discrimination based on an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity in matters of employment, housing, access to public places, federal funding, credit, education and jury service.

In addition, the measure would prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex in federal funding and access to public places.

"The time has come for full federal equality — nothing more, nothing less," said HRC president Chad Griffin. "The tragic reality is that millions of LGBT Americans face persistent discrimination in their lives each and every day. ... Congress must pass the Equality Act to ensure that LGBT people and their families are just as safe at work or at school as they are in their marriages. This bill will guarantee all LGBT Americans have the clear, permanent and explicit protections from discrimination that they deserve."

There is no comprehensive federal policy against discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. Across the country, a patchwork of protections exists, leaving 50 percent of LGBT Americans at risk of being fired, denied housing or refused service.

Only 19 states and the District of Columbia ban bias based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Three additional states — Wisconsin is one — prohibit

'This patchwork of state laws leaves far too many people vulnerable to discrimination.'

discrimination based only on sexual orientation and not gender identity.

"This patchwork system of state laws leaves far too many people vulnerable to discrimination in the workplace and other areas of daily life," said Pocan, who is gay.

Surveys show strong public support for measures banning discrimination against LGBT people and for the politicians who vote for such bills.

In mid-July, HRC released new polling showing likely voters support workplace non-discrimination protections 78 percent to 16 percent. This includes support from 90 percent of likely Democratic voters, 64 percent of likely Republican voters and 70 percent of observant Christians. Moreover, nearly 60 percent of voters are less likely to support a candidate who doesn't support such protections for LGBT people, including 61 percent of Independent voters and 58 percent of Catholic voters.

"A growing number of Americans believe their LGBT family members, friends and neighbors deserve to be treated like everyone else in the United States," said Baldwin, who is gay.

Before the Equality Act news conference, Apple Inc., the Dow Chemical Company and Levi Strauss & Co., announced support for the bill.

In its statement, Apple said, "We believe in equal treatment for everyone, regardless of where they come from, what they look like, how they worship or who they love. We fully support the expansion of legal protections as a matter of basic human dignity."

The news conference was held at the U.S. Capitol in a room named for Lyndon Johnson, who signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

James Esseks, director of the LGBT Project of the American Civil Liberties Union, said on July 23, "Today is a historic day that has been decades in the making. The Equality Act would transform the lives of countless women and LGBT people. Our country's most basic promise of equal treatment under the law will never be real if you fear losing your job, being kicked out of your home, denied access to health care or turned away from a business because of who you are. Both the lack of clear and explicit federal protections for LGBT people and the lack of protections for women in core areas of American life are unacceptable. We urge Congress to take up this landmark bill and make our country a more just nation for all."

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Progressive Madison reigns atop 'best-of' lists

By Louis Weisberg and Lisa Neff

Staff writer

For nearly 70 years, Madison has been regarded as one of the nation's best places to live — for a variety of reasons. With the proliferation of "best-of" lists floating around cyberspace today, the capital city's drawing more plaudits than ever.

Check the charts. Madison is one of the "happiest, healthiest" cities in America, as well as one of the greenest, friendliest, queerest, bikeable places in the United States, according to numerous surveys rating the city from a variety of perspectives.

Madison gets high marks for conservation practices and environmental enthusiasm. Nerdwallet named it the "Greenest City in America" in 2014. The Wyland Foundation ranked Madison in the top 12 for "water conservation."

Meanwhile, Smart Growth America identified Madison as the No. 1 "most-compact mid-sized city in the U.S."

That last achievement helps explain Madison's iconic reputation among cyclists. *Bicycle Magazine* rated it as a top "bike-friendly" city, as did the League of American Bicyclists and WalkScore.

Madison also is celebrated by "best of" list-makers for its marathon course, stand-up paddle boarding, swimming, outdoor ice-skating rinks, numerous places to swim and, of course, as a college football town.

The support for sports and recreation helps explain why Madison tops charts for health and wellness, including coming in at No. 3 on Livability.com's list of 10 healthiest cities in 2015.

Forbes says Madison is one of the "most livable" cities in the United States, and AARP says Mifflin West in Madison is one of the most livable neighborhoods in the United States. The Milken Institute says Madison is one of the best places to retire. *The Advocate* magazine says it's one of the queerest communities in the country.

Which brings us to happy.

Earlier this year, *National Geographic* selected Madison as one of the 10 happiest cities in the world. And, a couple of years ago, Prevention.com looked at cultural opportunities, recreational amenities, employment, housing, disease incidence and crime to evaluate the happiest cities in the United States. Madison placed No. 8 in the top 10 happiest communities and No. 1 for cities, under the headline, "Safe, Sound and Well Fed."

The list-makers said, "Laid out on an isthmus surrounded by two sparkling lakes, Madison is known for its natural beauty. But it didn't win for its good looks. Madison's low crime rates (2,633 crimes per 100,000 residents) and easy-to-find, budget-friendly healthy foods make it our No. 1 pick for city life."



PHOTO: MADISON BCYCLE

Making Madison even more biker-friendly is Madison BCycle, an urban bike-sharing program launched in 2011 that allows members to check out bikes from one of 35 stations in the city.

The top ranking was awarded despite the fact Madison experiences nearly twice the number of below-freezing days (164) than the average U.S. city (88).

"It really has to do with just creating a welcoming place," says Mayor Paul Soglin.

Like the vast majority of the city, Soglin is politically progressive. The city and surrounding Dane County reliably vote Democratic by wide margins. The area's liberal leanings make it a frequent target of conservative barbs.

PROGRESSIVE AND CREATIVE

But conservatives could learn an economic lesson from Madison and Dane County, which not only have the state's lowest unemployment rate (2.9 percent), but also a high rate of entrepreneurs start-

ing up new companies. Madison was cited by famed urban studies theorist Richard Florida as a city that's prospering due to its thriving "creative class," by which he means a high concentration of high-tech workers, performing and visual artists and LGBT people. He theorizes that such residents create a dynamic urban environment that not only attracts more creative people, but also businesses and capital.

Madison is well positioned to foster that kind of environment. UW-Madison, which the Center for World University Rankings recently ranked 25th globally, is a catalyst for drawing intellectual and creative human capital to the city. Madison enjoys a wealth of knowledge-based spinoff businesses in biotechnology and other high-tech industries.

MADISON next page

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MADISON from prior page

Tourism also plays a significant role in Madison's economic success, raking in a \$1.1 billion annually, says Judy Frankel, director of public relations and communications for the Greater Madison Convention & Visitors Bureau. The area is the state's second-largest tourist draw.

Dane County accounts for 56 percent of private-sector job growth in the state, according to Dane County Executive Joe Parisi.

Many people choose to remain in Madison after graduating, and some return eventually, Soglin says. Frankel did just that. She graduated from UW-Madison and was living in New York when her husband got a job offer in Madison. Remembering how much she liked the area, she agreed to the move.

That was in 2001

For a city its size, Madison offers a wealth of attractions — most of them free. Those with paid admission keep price points affordable. The city is particularly notable for its foodie reputation, which includes cuisines from all over the world, and for its music and performing arts venues. Outdoor activities also draw visitors. There are more than 200 miles of biking and hiking trails in and around the city and a large number of places to swim.

MORE BIKES THAN CARS

The mayor says the city's progressive attitude deserves a lot of credit for the its vaunted quality of life. Madison invests in itself and has a lot to show for it: State Street Mall, the Capitol Concourse, excellent public transit, public art and performances, and public spaces, for example.

DID YOU KNOW?

Dane County is the fastest growing in the state. In 1960 the population was 222,095. Today it's 516,284.

One of the best things about Madison is that it's "not chopped up by an interstate highway," Soglin says. Although the city has about 225,000 residents, they're compactly located, making it possible to get around by bicycle. The city boasts an excellent system of bike paths that are heavily utilized: The city has more bikes than cars.

"We've done a better job than most cities in not succumbing to the tyranny of the auto," Soglin says. "We've got the highest per-capita levels of transit ridership, we excel in terms of the number of people who use a bicycle, particularly in terms of commuting."

The city is surrounded by beautiful rural areas that are easily within reach for city residents. "From virtually anyplace in the city, you're on a safe 15-minute ride into the countryside by bicycle," according to Soglin.

Parisi says the areas surrounding Madison add significantly to the city's quality of life. "You can go back and forth between the urban and rural," he says. "You can live in a downtown high-rise or out in the country."

People are drawn to the combination. Dane County, with about 500,000 residents, is not only the state's most prosperous county but also it's fastest growing. In fact, 70 percent of the state's growth is occurring in Dane County, Parisi says.



COVER BOY: In 1948, Madison was named by *Life* magazine as the best place to live in the nation. A story about the city appeared in the Sept. 6, 1948 issue, which featured this cover. In the picture, local model Jeanne Parr Noth holds her son Chris Noth in the backyard of her parents' near west side home. Chris Noth grew up to become Mr. Big on HBO's *Sex and the City*. The photograph was taken by the legendary Alfred Eisenstaedt, best known for his iconic shot of an American sailor kissing a young woman in Times Square on the day Japan surrendered, ending World War II.

with needs, including the homeless, Soglin says. In Madison, as in Milwaukee, social problems are exacerbated by pervasive racial segregation and the uneven distribution of wealth.

"One of the things we have to focus on is making sure that everyone has access to the best of Madison," Soglin says.

Rukiya Swan experienced firsthand what life is like in Madison for a woman of color. After living there most of her life, she recently relocated to Waukesha, where she's already seen more African-Americans in what she calls "power positions" than she did in Madison, she says. Swan says many of the amenities that make Madison so attractive to white people are irrelevant to people like her.

"I value bike paths and all that other stuff," she said, "but you don't see too many of us on the bike paths because we're working hard to stay afloat in Madison."

"I totally understand why people come to Madison, and I totally understand why it's highly rated. The cost of Madison is in line with the things that it offers. But the catch is that it's not affordable half the time. You probably need to make a good \$17 an hour to have good housing."

The county is also surprisingly agricultural. In addition to being one of the largest dairy-producing counties in the nation, Dane has a growing number of farms that fulfill the area's growing appetite for organic and local food, as well as the farm-to-table movement.

"Growing up here, I didn't realize how great I had it until I started traveling," Parisi says.

ACKNOWLEDGING CHALLENGES

As wonderful as it is, Madison is far from utopia. It has not escaped the problems that plague other urban areas in America.

The city draws a large number of people

MADISON next page

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MADISON from prior page

Swan said that racism in Madison is complex and covert, which she believes makes it harder to change.

People who would never think of themselves as racists don't realize how racist attitudes are engrained in their psyches, she explains. Without realizing it or intending it, they're making decisions that are detrimental to people of color. Swan feels that their refusal to recognize the impact of their decisionmaking makes them resistant to change.

"The first step is to recognize it, then you can change your behavior," she says.

The police shooting of an unarmed young biracial man in Madison sparked peaceful demonstrations and drew national media coverage. The story raised eyebrows among people who weren't accustomed to seeing the city as the kind of place where such things happen.

Dane County works overtime, Parisi says, to improve the lives of all its citizens, including those who face the socio-economic hurdles that disproportionately affect people of color.

"We don't sweep problems under the rug," Parisi says. "We put a lot of time



PHOTO: COURTESY
Dane County Executive Joe Parisi.

and effort and resources into addressing challenges before they become challenges. Roughly one half of our \$530-million budget goes to human services, including helping the elderly and disabled."

In comparison, other counties in the state generally designate 10 to 20 percent of their budgets to human services, according to Parisi.

Dane County has created what it calls "early childhood zones," places where social workers and social service agencies partner to help families in crisis.

The county has aggressive programs to help end the cycle of poverty and underachievement that stymie kids from underprivileged or dysfunctional households.

"We step up and help families that are facing poverty or homelessness," Parisi says. "When you come together as a community and partner to help those kids when they're out of school, they're going to do better in school."

The county is committed to fighting mental health crises, which Dane County schools have identified as one of their greatest challenges, Parisi says.

"We've created mental health teams in three school districts," he explains. "Men-

tal health workers are in the schools to help the staff in the case of a crisis, to help de-escalate the situation and get that child (causing the crisis) and their family connected to mental health services.

"These workers who are in the schools help to identify early on who might be at risk for mental health problems, and we have workers there to work with them. It's through many active partnerships like this that the quality of life is created and maintained."

The money and effort that Dane County is putting into addressing socio-economic problems is a reflection of its overriding commitment to progressivism. Maybe

someday the strategies that the county is using to create better schools and more supportive communities will help cities throughout the nation.

That's something Madison would really be proud of.

DID YOU KNOW?

Agriculture provides jobs for 17,294 Dane County residents and accounts for \$3.4 billion in economic activity. The county's agricultural sector contributes \$1.3 billion to its total income and pays income \$80.6 million in taxes, not including property taxes.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Arctic Passage is a new exhibit at the Dane County Zoo featuring polar bears, grizzlies and other animals that inhabit the far north. Diners at the zoo's restaurant can watch the bears swimming in a glass-sided aquarium as they eat. Zoo admission is free and the zoo is used help educate kids about the environment.

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NATIONAL BRIEFS

POLL: SUPPORT FOR SAME-SEX MARRIAGE FALLS

The U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in June that legalized same-sex marriage nationwide left Americans sharply divided, according to an Associated Press-GfK poll.

The poll also found a near-even split over whether local officials with religious objections should be required to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples, with 47 percent saying that should be the case and 49 percent say they should be exempt.

Overall, if there's a conflict, a majority of those questioned think religious liberties should win out over gay rights, according to the poll. While 39 percent said it's more important for the government to protect gay rights, 56 percent said protection of religious liberties should take precedence.

The poll was conducted July 9-13, less than three weeks after the high court ruled states cannot ban same-sex marriage.

According to the poll, 42 percent support same-sex marriage and 40 percent oppose it. The percentage saying they favor legal same-sex marriage in their state was down slightly from the 48 percent who said so in an April poll. In January, 44 percent were in favor.

Asked specifically about the Supreme Court ruling, 39 percent said they approve and 41 percent said they disapprove.

GOP LAWMAKERS WANT PLANNED PARENTHOOD BRIEFING

A Republican-led House committee wants a briefing from the Planned Parenthood official whose secretly recorded discussion of how her organization obtains tissue from aborted fetuses for research has ignited a new GOP political offensive on abortion. GOP leaders of the House Energy and Commerce Committee said comments by Dr. Deborah Nucatola "raise most troubling questions with regard to your organization's practices when performing abortions and whether those practices are consistent with federal law."

Meanwhile, Planned Parenthood has reprimanded Nucatola and apologized for her "tone and statements."

The group says it only retrieves organs with the consent of patients and says it has broken no laws, which forbid the commercial sale of fetal tissue and ban a late-term abortion procedure opponents call "partial-birth abortion."

IN OTHER NATIONAL NEWS ...

• **OAK FLAT FIGHT:** Oak Flat in central Arizona is sacred land to the San Carlos Apache tribe. But Congress traded it away last year to make way for Rio

Tinto's huge copper mine. In July, members of the Apache Stronghold caravaned across the United States — from Arizona to D.C. — to protest.

• **WAGE GAP PROTEST:** More than 165,000 people signed a petition demanding the Securities and Exchange Commission require companies to disclose their CEO-to-median worker pay ratio, a mandate of the Dodd-Frank Act of 2010. MoveOn, Credo Action and the AFL-CIO circulated the petition.



• **SCIENTISTS FOR SPECIES ACT:** Two dozen scientists wrote to Congress in

mid-July urging protections for gray wolves and Mexican gray wolves. The letter said state management plans — including one in Wisconsin — have been disastrous for the Great Lakes and Wyoming wolf populations.

• **DUELING STATEHOUSE RALLIES:** About 2,000 people gathered at the South Carolina statehouse in mid-July. Some were aligned with Black Educators for Justice, which organized a rally celebrating the removal of the Confederate flag from the Capitol grounds. Others were with the Loyal White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and they waved Confederate flags.

• **PENTAGON PREDICAMENT:** The nation's obesity epidemic is causing significant recruiting problems for the U.S. military, with one in three young adults nationwide too fat to enlist, according to report issued in July by a group of retired military leaders. Obesity is among the leading causes of military ineligibility among people ages 17 to 24, the report notes. Others are a lack of adequate education, a criminal history or drug use.

— from WiG and AP reports



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REGIONAL NEWS



PHOTO: PIXABAY

CORNY AND SWEET: Illinois lawmakers unanimously agreed in the 2015 legislative session to make sweet corn the state vegetable. Earlier in July, Gov. Bruce Rauner signed the measure — requested by a fourth-grade class from Plainview — into law. Another measure with bipartisan support made pumpkin the official state pie.

WALKER SIGNS BILL BANNING ABORTIONS BEYOND 20 WEEKS

One week after launching his bid for the 2016 presidential nomination, Gov. Scott Walker signed a bill that outlaws non-emergency abortions at or beyond 20 weeks of pregnancy.

The governor's signature makes Wisconsin the 15th state to pass such a ban. There is no exception in the new state law for pregnancies resulting from rape or incest.

Walker's signature came just nine months after he ran a television ad during his gubernatorial re-election campaign in

which he said whether to obtain an abortion is a decision between a woman and her doctor.

The new law — which cleared the Republican controlled Legislature without any Democratic support — is expected to be challenged in court. Walker, speaking with reporters after the bill signing, said he was confident it would survive any legal challenge, calling the five-month ban a "reasonable standard."

"For people, regardless of where they might stand, when an unborn child can feel pain I think most people feel it's appropriate to protect that child," Walker said.

But Kaylie Hanson, speaking for the Democratic National Committee, said the new law was nothing more than a "timely favor" for the Republican base days after Walker joined the presidential race.

Under the new law, doctors who perform an abortion at or after 20 weeks in non-emergency situations could be charged with a felony punishable by up to \$10,000 in fines and three and a half years in prison. Doctors could also be sued for damages.

BRINGING BACK A LEGEND

Pabst Brewing Co. says it is coming home to open a new brewery and restaurant next year on the site of its original Pabst Brewery in Milwaukee.

The Los Angeles-based beer company

said it plans to sign a multiyear lease on a building within the former Pabst brewery complex near downtown Milwaukee and expects to open it to the public in summer 2016.

Pabst traces its roots to 1844 in Milwaukee, but closed its brewery there nearly 20 years ago. The company's brands include its flagship Pabst Blue Ribbon as well as Lone Star, Rainier, Ballantine IPA, Schlitz, Old Style, Stroh's and Old Milwaukee.

The new brewery would make many of Pabst's pre-Prohibition brands, as well as new craft beers inspired by recipes from the company's archives. The brewery will include a tasting room, beer garden and a restaurant and bar.

"The launch of this brewery in Pabst's original home represents a long-awaited return to our roots," current owner and CEO Eugene Kashper said in a statement.



Menominee County's unemployment rate was the highest at 11.1 percent, followed by Iron County at 9.2 percent. Madison and Dane County had the lowest unemployment rates for both a city and county at 3.5 percent.

▪ **DRAGONFLIES TAKE FLIGHT:** Federally endangered dragonflies raised in a laboratory over the past several years were released in July at a forest preserve in Illinois, where scientists believe they'll be a good match with the small population still there. The Hine's emerald dragonflies, which for decades were believed to be extinct, were carefully raised at the University of South Dakota over the past four to five years after eggs were collected from a dragonfly in southwestern Wisconsin. No more than 320 of the insects remain in Illinois.

▪ **MILES FOR MARIJUANA:** Patients in Minnesota gained access to medical marijuana in the state on July 1. However, only three of eight dispensaries were open in July, requiring long drives for some. Also, there are concerns about costs and the short list of qualifying conditions.

▪ **POT VOTE:** Menominee Indian Tribe members will have a chance to weigh in on whether marijuana should be legal for recreational and medicinal use on the reservation in northeastern Wisconsin. The tribe plans a referendum to find out how its members feel about legalizing the drug. A two-question referendum on Aug. 19-20 will ask tribal members whether medical marijuana and recreational use for adults 21 or older should be legal on the reservation. In 2013, the U.S. Department of Justice issued the Cole Memorandum, allowing tribes to grow or sell marijuana on reservations if they follow eight guidelines.

— L.N. and L.W.

IN OTHER REGIONAL NEWS ...

▪ **WISCONSIN REPORTS RISE IN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE:** Unemployment rates for June increased in most Wisconsin cities and counties. The state Department of Workforce Development reported that unemployment rates increased in 27 out of the state's largest 32 cities last month. Racine was hit the worst, with its unemployment rate rising to 7.6 percent, up from 7.4 percent in May. Milwaukee's unemployment rate was the second highest at 7.4 percent, up from 6.9 percent the month before. Unemployment rates also rose in 51 of the state's 72 counties.



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

PEACE ACTIVISTS TO MARCH IN WISCONSIN

Peace activists, including those with the Wisconsin Coalition to Ground the Drones and End the Wars, will march about 90 miles — from the Dane County jail to Volk Field in Douglas — to protest the military's deployment of drones.

The Wisconsin Air National Guard is headquartered at Volk. Pilots on the base are trained to remotely operate drones used for reconnaissance, surveillance and targeting.

The march is set to take place Aug. 18-25, with walkers traveling about 12-16 miles a day.

A vigil is planned at the gates of Volk Field on Aug. 25.

For more information, email Joy First at joyfirst@gmail.com.



PHOTO: MILWAUKEE COUNTY PARKS

BEACH AND BLESSING: Milwaukee's Bradford Beach is the site of We Are Water 2015. The evening summer celebration on Aug. 9 includes a blessing of the water, with music and illumination by the Overpass Light Brigade. For more, go to We are Water 2015 on Facebook.

IN OTHER COMMUNITY NEWS ...

• **PEACE IN THE PARK:** Peace Action's annual Lanterns for Peace and Peace Benefit Concert takes place on Aug. 8 in Milwaukee's Washington Park. For more, check Annual Lanterns for Peace on Facebook.

• **SOCIAL JUSTICE SPEAKER:** The First Unitarian Society of Madison hosts national Interfaith Worker Justice execu-

tive director Ruby Lopez for a forum on Aug. 4. For more, go to www.fusmadison.org.

• **LAKE MICHIGAN MONIES:** The Fund for Lake Michigan recently awarded \$1.9 million in grants to improve Lake Michigan beaches and natural areas. Plans include the restoration of Cat Island in Green Bay and the revitalization of Simmons Beach

in Kenosha. A legal settlement over the construction of the coal-fired Oak Creek power plant requires We Energies, Madison Gas and Electric and WPPI Energy to contribute \$4 million annually to the fund. For more, go to www.fundforlake-michigan.org.

• **FARMRAISER FUN:** Milwaukee-based Victory Garden Initiative holds a Farm-

Raiser at 4 p.m. on Sept. 19 at Concordia Gardens on Milwaukee's near west side. The event features music and local restaurants offering takes on VGI fresh produce. For more, go to victorygardennitiative.org.

• **PLANET HOLLYWOOD:** The Sierra Club formed an arts and entertainment council to raise awareness and money for the nonprofit's mission to "explore, enjoy and protect the planet." "The Sierra Club is about people. Millions of people from all walks of life banding together to protect our planet and our democracy," said council member Susan Sarandon in a statement. For more, go to sierraclub.org.

• **TO D.C. FOR THE DOGS, AND MORE:** Animal rights advocates gather outside Washington, D.C. July 30-Aug. 2 for a national conference. Organizers plan a series of lectures, workshops, strategy sessions and a marketplace. For more, go to arconference.org.

— Lisa Neff

Send community news to lmneff@wisconsin-gazette.com.



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Wisconsin LGBT
Chamber of Commerce

EDITORIAL

John Doe ruling leaves state with lawless elections

It came as no surprise when the Wisconsin Supreme Court decided to end a John Doe investigation into the illegal coordination of fundraising activities between Gov. Scott Walker's 2012 re-election campaign and the independent "dark money" groups that support him. After all, the court's conservative majority had collected \$8 million in donations from the political groups being probed.

The decision overturned a law banning the coordination of fundraising and campaign activities between political groups. But will the ruling have a significant effect on the way political campaigns are conducted in Wisconsin?

We think not.

In the U.S. Supreme Court ruling *Citizens United*, political groups were empowered to raise limitless funds from anonymous sources. But campaigns are still subject to a law placing limits on how much an individual can give to them directly. In making the dividing line between campaigns and dark money groups porous, Wisconsin's high court exponentially amplified the amount of money a candidate can use directly.

Now, almost anything goes for political campaigns in Wisconsin. This is the culmination of years of Republicans chipping away at laws designed to curb the influence of money in politics.

To be clear, the law was firmly on the side of the John Doe prosecutors, who contended that when Walker directed donors to contribute money to the Koch-brothers'-backed Wisconsin Club for Growth instead of directly to his campaign, they were illegally coordinating. But in a majority opinion that seems to have been written in the Twilight Zone, Gableman denied that the law banning advocacy groups from coordinating with campaigns could have existed, because it would have violated donors' freedom of speech.

But the law was already hazy. Illegal coordination has been going on all along, and authorities have simply ignored it.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vermont, recently introduced a bill to more effectively ban coordination between super PACs and political candidates by strengthening the definition of "coor-

dination." We trust that U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin will support the bill, and we urge concerned citizens to barrage U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson with calls to do the same.

Gableman's opinion did bring campaign coordination out of the closet. Candidates in the state no longer have to fake playing by the rules, which will make them bolder and more audacious than ever in manipulating elections.

It's worth noting that Gableman also ordered the destruction of all the records that prosecutors painstakingly gathered for the case at taxpayer expense. He not only had his benefactors' backs, but Walker's as well, shielding him from potentially damaging revelations.

A pattern is emerging among Republican corporatists like the court's judicial skills. If they don't like a law, a policy or an agency, they simply cut it out of the picture like a philandering ex-husband.

The ruling in this case mirrors recent efforts by Wisconsin Republicans to eliminate the pesky Government Accountability Board, the Legislative Audit Bureau and even the state's open records law. Those proposals were dropped after stirring unforeseen public outrage, but they're still in the works.

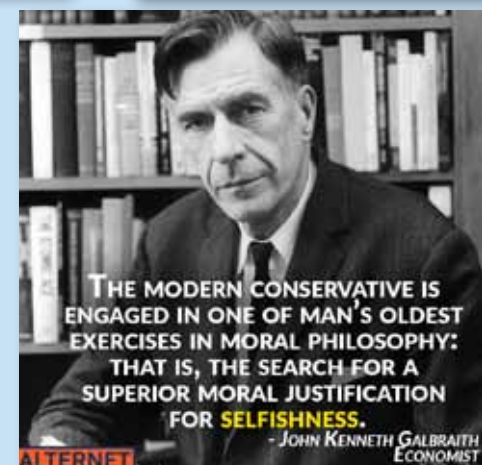
Gableman topped off his ruling with a dollop of shameless ass-kissing. He praised the defendants in the case for their bravery in filing a self-serving lawsuit to further their influence over public policy. He contorted the greediest and shadiest of political players into champions of free speech.

Is it a coincidence that two of those defendants spent a total of \$2.25 million helping to elect Gableman, who was deemed unqualified by several legal groups and ran a racist campaign ad so misleading that it spurred a lawsuit filed by the Wisconsin Judicial Commission and Citizen Action of Wisconsin?

Absolute power corrupts absolutely, and that's what we have in Wisconsin. Until the iron-clad rule of corporatist Republicans is broken, we expect more chipping away of campaign rules and sunshine laws until there's nothing left — or until people start paying attention and demand reform.

WiG's WEB PICKS

Some of our favorite recent pictorials from cyberspace



ON THE RECORD



“(Sodomy) will be mandated to be taught to the children in the schools, at an early age, starting in kindergarten. They will be encouraged by their teachers to participate in anal sex.”

— DR. STEVEN HOTZE, president of the Conservative Republicans of Texas, explaining to the press how the Supreme Court’s legalization of same-sex marriage will affect children.

“Uh, I’m the governor, I don’t have anything to do with it right now, but thank you.”

— GOV. SCOTT WALKER’S response to a 13-year-old undocumented Mexican during a presidential campaign appearance in Plainfield, Iowa. The teen had asked Walker why he had joined a lawsuit to block President Obama’s decision to overhaul immigration law.

“VH1 wanted me to do a big thing and go back to the house I grew up in. So we knock on the door and a big f*g lives there now!”

— WWE hall of famer HULK HOGAN speaking during a sexual encounter with his best friend’s wife. The liaison, which also included frequent use of the racial slur word, was secretly recorded and made public by *Gawker*.

“Spouses matter. When your spouse is not in-sync with you — particularly on cultural issues, moral issues — (you) tend not to be as active on those issues.”

— Republican presidential candidate RICK SANTORUM attacking Scott Walker over his wife’s support for same-sex marriage. Tonette Walker has a lesbian cousin she describes as “like a sister to me” growing up. She and her sons attended the cousin’s same-sex wedding; Walker attended the reception.

“One of the things that preceded the failure of the nation state of Syria and the rise of ISIS, was the effect of climate change and the mega-drought that affected that nation, wiped out farmers, drove people to cities, created a humanitarian crisis that created the symptoms — or rather, the conditions — of extreme poverty that has now led to the rise of ISIS and this extreme violence.”

— Democratic presidential contender MARTIN O’MALLEY in an interview with Bloomberg. Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus called the statement, which is based on a report published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, “absurd.”

“Today Republicans are systematically and deliberately trying to stop millions of American citizens from voting. What part of democracy are they afraid of? I believe every citizen has the right to vote and I believe we should do everything we can to make it easier for every citizen to vote.”

— Democratic presidential candidate HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON speaking at historically black Texas Southern University.

“Why do Republicans let Donald Trump run for President! What are his Credentials! He’s a Loud-mouth Asshole, Who’s terrified of Windy Days!”

— CHER tweeting her assessment of the GOP presidential frontrunner.



Democracies die behind closed doors

Opinion

JAMAKAYA

Before the ink was dry on Wisconsin’s 2015-17 budget, Gov. Scott Walker and the GOP were planning to tighten their stranglehold on state government.

With comfortable majorities in both houses of the Legislature and a Supreme Court majority bought with campaign cash, the GOP had free rein to slash revenue, de-fund public education and services, end regulations protecting the environment and give millions more to private voucher schools and phantom “job creators.”

Despite cuts to programs most Badgers hold near and dear, the Legislative Fiscal Bureau shows the final budget with a \$210 million deficit. (On the presidential campaign trail, Walker is bragging it shows a \$500 million surplus.) How did fiscally responsible Republicans create a deficit? Because of the huge tax cuts they

instituted in the last budget that will roll out over the next few years.

Republican legislators tucked into the budget dozens of non-fiscal policy changes with no notice or public hearings. When media reps and citizens asked where these originated and who wrote them, they stonewalled, saying — unbelievably — that they had no idea.

Annoyed by requests for accountability, Assembly Speaker Rep. Robin Vos responded with a proposal to gut Wisconsin’s open records law. His proposal would have made secret all records related to any deliberations about legislative proposals. It even declared that this veil of secrecy applied to all legislative deliberations for the past century!

Republican leadership shamelessly introduced this item at 5 p.m. on the day before the three-day Fourth of July weekend, hoping no one would notice. The state’s media and watchdog groups spread the word quickly, and a firestorm of protest

forced the GOP to drop the measure.

The GOP majority is likely to re-introduce this open records repeal, probably in a modified form to reduce opposition and to achieve its goal in an incremental fashion. GOP leaders have already indicated they hope to eliminate two other pillars of non-partisan public oversight: the Legislative Audit Bureau and the Government Accountability Board.

The Legislative Audit Bureau reviews state-funded programs and contracts for compliance with budget allocations and proper accounting practices. LAB audits revealed that UW System campuses were sitting on \$648 million in reserve. LAB exposed the lack of paperwork and follow-up at the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp, which has given millions to companies that were supposed to create jobs.

The Government Accountability Board has a broad mandate, and I expect the GOP to try to peel away and then elimi-

nate its responsibilities one by one. GAB is charged with oversight of Wisconsin’s elections, including campaign finance, lobbying and ethics laws. Its website is amazing. You can find out where to vote, how to run for office, how to file an ethics complaint. You can look up campaign contributions and violations, review lobbying activity reports and much more.

Targeting the open records law and the work of the LAB and GAB constitutes an all-out assault on public oversight that will lead to a more brazen, dictatorial one party state.

“Democracies die behind closed doors,” said federal Judge Damian J. Keith in a 2002 ruling. “When government begins closing doors, it selectively controls information rightfully belonging to the people. Selective information is misinformation. The Framers of the First Amendment ‘did not trust any government to separate the true from the false for us.’ ... They protected the people against secret government.”

Justice delayed is justice denied

Opinion

U.S. SEN. TAMMY BALDWIN
U.S. REP. GWEN MOORE

(Editor’s note: U.S. Rep. Gwen Moore and U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin are calling on the Justice Department to expedite its review of the killing of Dontre Hamilton in Milwaukee. Below is a letter the two lawmakers wrote to U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch.)

We write to express our concern about the slow pace of the federal review of potential civil rights violations in the officer-involved shooting death of Dontre Hamilton, and federal “pattern and practice” review of the Milwaukee Police Department. We respectfully encourage the Department of Justice

to expedite these reviews and to provide the Hamilton family with an update on the status of its efforts around Dontre’s death.

It has been more than fourteen months since that tragedy occurred. It has been more than six months since Milwaukee County District Attorney John Chisolm declined to file charges against Office Christopher Manney in relation to the shooting and U.S. Attorney General Santelle announced a federal review of the case. However, according to the Hamilton family, they have not received any updates as to the status of this review.

Furthermore, U.S. Attorney Santelle began to solicit information from members of the Milwaukee community as early as October 2012 in support of a potential “pat-

tern and practice” investigation of the Milwaukee Police Department. This announcement came after the July 2011 in-custody death of Derek Williams, which the medical examiner ruled a homicide. While we understand that the Justice Department continues to solicit community complaints about the conduct of the Milwaukee Police Department, we share the concern and frustration of the Milwaukee community with the pace of this review.

We continue to hear from Milwaukee constituents who are fearful and distrustful of law enforcement, particularly after the deaths of Derek Williams and Dontre Hamilton. We believe tangible progress on these federal investigations will help to restore trust between the Milwau-

kee Police Department and the broader community and can lead to the implementation of policies and practices that will better protect our officers and better serve the people of Milwaukee.

Law enforcement personnel have extremely difficult jobs and they put their lives on the line every day to help keep our communities safe. In Milwaukee, there has been an alarming increase in violence in recent months and, now more than ever, we must ensure that there is trust between police and the people they serve to help reduce crime and strengthen this community.

Thank you again for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to working with you going forward.

Kenosha Pride March




PHOTOS: LARRY ZAMBA

Kenosha shows its pride

Kenosha's third annual Pride March began with a pre-parade rally in Simmons Library Park on July 18. Officials addressing the rally included Ald. Anthony Kennedy, state Rep. Todd Ohnstad and former mayor and state Rep. John Antaramian, who's a mayoral candidate for 2016. Several dozen people, holding banners and signs, then made their way down the sidewalk along Sheridan Road en route to downtown. The march received strong support from the community. Numerous drivers honked for and cheered on the marchers, as did people working at businesses along the route. A post-march event featured entertainment, including Jazmine Roberts, Angel Deveroux, Phoenix Rayvon, Rob G, Sensation, Billy Star Roberts, Bizzare, and Serenity Blanco. Parade organizer Dan Seavers said he'd like to make next year's parade a larger street march, but acknowledged there were major obstacles, including fundraising. — Larry Zamba

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Madison Pride parade and rally on Aug. 9

By Jay Rath

Contributing writer

Madison celebrates LGBT pride with a parade on State Street and around the state Capitol on Aug. 9.

"It should be a really fun time, and we think we're going to have an even bigger parade this year," said Steve Starkey, executive director of the Madison-based OutReach LGBT Community Center, which is organizing the event. More than 2,000 marched in 2014.

"It's been awhile since we've done it on State Street," he added.

Plans are still coming together, but the Madison Police and Fire departments may participate, as well as a variety of floats and the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile.

"At noon, people with floats will convene in the 500 and 600 block of State and, at 1 p.m., we will kick off and march up to the Capitol Square," Starkey said. "We'll circle the square and, when we get back to the top of State Street, we will stop. And then there will be a rally on the Capitol steps."

The grand marshal of the parade is Christina Kahrl, Chicago ESPN Sports reporter and a board member of Equality Illinois.

The rally's master of ceremonies will be former state Rep. David Clarenbach.

While serving in the Wisconsin Assembly in 1982, Clarenbach wrote and helped pass the nation's first law prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations on the basis of sexual orientation.

The theme of this year's parade and rally is, "The 'T' is not silent. Respect transgender lives!"

"Now that marriage equality has been achieved — even though there's still a lot of opponents and it's still probably an uphill battle to get married in a lot of places — we feel like transgender rights is the really important next step in terms of gaining acceptance," Starkey said. "In the LGBT umbrella, they're still the least accepted and the most oppressed of the LGBT — the most at risk."

OutReach does a lot of work with the Madison Transgender Association. "We realized that our transgender clients suffer the most depression," Starkey said. "They're harassed on the buses, they're harassed on the street. They often get fired from jobs. Unemployment in that community is very high. Suicide is much higher than in the general population."

The first Madison Pride Parade took place in 1989. It's been held nearly every year since. Care was taken to avoid scheduling the parade during similar events in other cities, so that as many people as possible could participate.

All are welcome to join the parade.

"Most people (who) march will march with a particular contingent, but I think a lot of times the contingents are happy to just have people join with them," Starkey said.

Related events include:

- At 10:30 p.m. on Aug. 14, Woof's nightclub, 114 King St., launches its eighth annual "Spit-n-Seamen" boat cruise on Lake Monona. Tickets are \$50 and are available at the club.

- Woof's King Street Pride Block Party takes place 4 p.m.-midnight on Aug. 15. The fundraiser last year raised \$3,000. Woof's is just off the Capitol Square.

- At 9 p.m. on Aug. 15, Plan B nightclub, 924 Williamson St., holds its sixth anniversary party. The event features Katya from the television series *RuPaul's Drag Race*.

- From 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Aug. 15 and Aug. 16, the fifth annual Madison Pride Volleyball Tournament takes place at Callahan's Sports Pub, 1902 Bartillon Drive, on the city's west side.

The 2015 OutReach Pride Parade marches rain or shine.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.lgbtoutreach.com. Donations are accepted at the event and anytime online.

To volunteer or help sponsor the parade, contact info@lgbtoutreach.org.



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Trump casts harsh spotlight on Scott Walker's record

From AP reports

Real-estate magnate Donald Trump has a new target in the Republican presidential primary: Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker.

Trump has been going out of his way to bash Walker, apparently out of revenge for being called a "dumb dumb" by one of his fundraisers.

"I'm being very nice to him. And today

I read this horrible statement from his fundraiser about Trump. I say, 'Oh, finally I can attack. Finally. Finally.' I would have never done this," Trump said in the middle of a speech in Iowa.

"Wisconsin's doing terribly," Trump said. "First of all, it's in turmoil. The roads are a disaster because they don't have any money to rebuild them. They're borrowing money like crazy," he said. "I wrote this stuff all down, although I don't need it because I have a really good memory — but they projected a \$1 billion surplus and it turns out to be a deficit of \$2.2 billion. And money all over the place. The schools are a disaster and they're fighting like crazy because there's no money for the schools. The hospitals and education is a disaster."

"I love Wisconsin, it's a great place. But he's putting debt up to gills," Trump said of Walker on CNN's State of the Union. "The school system is a disaster because they don't have any money. I mean, Walker's state, Wisconsin, is a catastrophe from an economic and a financial standpoint."

DEVELOPMENT AGENCY WOES

At the same time that Trump was drawing attention to the realities of Walker's Wisconsin, major media were picking up on the disastrous performance and scandals of the governor's flagship "job-creation" agency.

Walker created the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation in response to what he described as an economic emergency when he took office in 2011. As the agency's chairman, Walker appointed its top officials and six members of its 15-person board.

But his agency is in disarray amid allegations of botched underwriting, ineffectiveness and favoritism.

WEDC is the poster child: \$1.2 million in grants and loans for a company that said it could turn dirty plastic forks and ketchup-stained napkins into jobs. The company,

Green Box NA Green Bay LLC, said its world-changing technology would produce recycled products, electricity and even diesel from fast-food waste and promised to employ 116 people.

But Walker's agency appears not to have looked adequately into Green Box. Company founder Ron Van Den Heuvel owed millions of dollars in legal judgments to banks, business partners, state tax officials and even a jeweler. Patents it said it owned are listed as belonging to other entities, according to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Four years later, Green Box is in court-ordered receivership. The company's attorney told a court that sheriff's deputies seized five truckloads of documents from its offices as part of an investigation, according to the Green Bay Press Gazette.

"It just keeps getting worse," said Peter Barca, a Democratic assemblyman and minority leader who sits on the agency's board. "Never in my wildest imagination would it occur to me that WEDC would give out loans with so little oversight."

The WEDC arose out of Walker's 2010 campaign pledge to abolish the state Commerce Department. But staff bolted during the new agency's transition and the new agency lost track of \$8 million in overdue loans. A 2013 state audit found that the agency routinely failed to adhere to its own rules or state law when awarding cash to businesses.

Internal emails obtained by The Associated Press and interviews with former employees reveal continued struggles to keep track of basic paperwork or push back on questionable award applications.

The handling of the Green Box loan suggests continued problems. As recently as February, the economic development agency considered awarding Green Box additional incentives.

Green Box initially told AP that it was in good standing with the state before acknowledging the litigation. It said the

agency's lawsuit is meritless. Its founder offered the AP a tour of a paper plant in eastern Wisconsin and documents verifying its technology, but AP declined after Green Box failed to show it owned the plant and required AP to sign a confidentiality agreement.

Other development projects have come under scrutiny for political ties, with major Walker donors receiving handsome payouts.

In one instance, top Walker aides lobbied the agency to make a \$500,000 deal to a troubled, high-risk company owned by a Walker donor. First reported by the Wisconsin State Journal, the ill-fated \$500,000 loan was made to construction company Building Committee Inc., whose owner, William Minahan, gave Walker's campaign \$10,000 one day before the 2010 election. Walker appointees pushed the agency to give Minahan even more money — even after the agency learned that Minahan had pledged agency funds to pay for a lease on a Maserati sports car. The company defaulted on the loan from the state.

Walker's office has said the governor did not know about the agency's efforts on behalf of Minahan's company.

Uproar over the agency's recent audit and the details of the troubled loan to Building Committee Inc. has cast a shadow over the development agency's future. But Walker appointees and allies — who dominate the agency's board — say that the agency's troubles are now mostly behind it.

Regarding the Green Box loan, "I can't defend it, I won't defend it," said board member Ray Dreger, a Walker appointee. But though the agency "certainly is an effort in progress," Dreger credits Walker with having led it in the right direction.

"He's been very active. He's had the hands on," Dreger said. But he added that as far as the administration of the agency, "of course, he's really not involved."

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PET Gazette



Caring for winged friends

By Katherine Roth

AP writer

Atina Cote's three birds roam freely in her home, participate in making bird treats and bird toys, nibble playfully at her fingers as she types at her computer keyboard and even join her in the shower.

When she walks in the front door, she says, her beloved Beeker, Schroeder and Charlie joyfully sing, "Hey Bird! Hey Bird!"

"We're one big happy flock," says Cote, of Toronto, who has a tattoo of Beeker, her spectacled parrotlet, on one shoulder. (Schroeder is a cockatiel and Charlie a black-capped conure.)

"Birds make great pets, but it's important that you have plenty of time for them," she said. "Each one has its own personality and they really want to hang out with you as much as possible. You can teach them tricks, and they eat a lot of the same food we do. They're hilarious and loads of fun."

"Particularly when you start out with a young hand-raised bird, it really becomes a part of the family," she said.

Of course, it's not all pretty feathers and sweet songs. Cote admits her lifestyle "is not for clean freaks."

"They poop on you and throw their food around. I have to clean the splattered fruits and vegetables off the walls and floors. It's a constant battle, but I love it," she said. The birds tend to keep to a small area of her apartment, and she puts down towels there to make cleaning up easier.

Although birds have never been as popular a pet in the United States as dogs or cats, their fans say that's a shame and that people just don't know what they're missing.

"Birds are the best pets ever. They're very smart, and while a dog will adore you

no matter what you do, birds recognize you for who you are. If you do something stupid, a bird will look at you and kind of go, 'Really?'" said Jamie Whittaker, a pet shop owner and president of the Austin, Texas-based American Federation of Aviculture.

And while pet birds demand lots of time and attention, they don't have to be walked. Cote periodically gives her birds' wing feathers a light trim so they can fly around her home but can't fly away.

YOUR FIRST BIRD

If you're thinking of buying a pet bird, make sure it hasn't been imported, since trade in wild birds is illegal in many states, according to Jim Breheny, director of the Bronx Zoo, in New York City. "A pet bird bred in captivity and hand-fed by aviculturalists makes for a much happier, healthier pet," he said.

He also warned that even captive-bred and hand-fed larger parrots, such as cockatoos and macaws, can be noisy and destructive if they don't get huge amounts of attention.

They bond with their owners, and if they are passed from one owner to another, their behavior grows even worse, Breheny said.

"You need to be prepared to take on not only their physical care but also their emotional health. Larger parrots can live to be 70 years old. It's a demanding pet that you may have to make provisions for in your will," he said.

Beginners might want to consider smaller, more readily available birds like zebra finches, society finches, budgies, parakeets or cockatiels, which are domestically produced and have lifespans in the teens to 20 years, Breheny said, adding that



PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA

A spectacled parrotlet from Colombia (above) and a cockateile (left).

even finches and budgies will spread hulls, dander and feathers on the floor.

"And if you want to hand-train a budgie or parrot, you almost have to clip its wing feathers occasionally, because if captive birds escape they can get hurt very badly," he said.

Novices should find a mentor, Whittaker said.

"When you get that first bird, make sure you have someone who understands birds, who you can turn to for advice. That person can be anyone with a lot of experience with birds," she said.

Bird clubs and magazines are also great sources of information, she said.

It's best to let a bird have its own cage, Whittaker said, but if you have more than one in a cage, stick with the same species and gender.

In selecting a first bird, look for one that truly interests you.

"Honestly, if it's a bird that fascinates you, that you just relate to and think is super neat, that's the best bird for you," Whittaker said.

ONLINE

The American Federation of Aviculture lists bird breeders at afabirds.org.

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Saying good-bye in the comfort of home

By Terrence Petty

AP writer

When Dr. Meg McNabb, a veterinarian, arrived at our front door, I knew where I would find Echo, our dying tabby cat: upstairs in her favorite bedroom, beneath the chaise lounge. I climbed the stairs first while McNabb and my wife waited downstairs.

I peeked beneath the chaise. Echo peeked back. I picked her up, sat on a bed and put her on my lap. She lay there, spent. She looked me in the eyes. I assured her everything was OK. I told Echo that her humans were going to miss her. My wife Christina brought Meg McNabb upstairs.

The veterinarian let the events unfold as naturally as they could. Echo stayed on my lap. "What a sweet little peanut," McNabb said before injecting Echo first with a sedative and then with an overdose of barbiturates. While my hand rested on Echo's soft, tiger-striped flank, I felt her last breath.

As we humans become closer to our pets, our ways of parting with them are evolving. Many people are now choos-

ing to have their animal companions put down at home, reflecting a heightened sensitivity to what pets might be thinking and feeling.

"Doing this at home creates much less stress," says McNabb, a veterinarian with Compassionate Care Home Pet Euthanasia Service in Portland, Oregon. "It's also a way to make it a more meaningful process."

Kathleen Cooney runs an online directory of veterinarians who perform in-home euthanasia services. Over the past five years, the directory has grown to more than 350 services nationwide.

"Five years ago we were struggling to find people to put on our directory. Now it's growing by maybe five a month," said Cooney, a Colorado veterinarian who specializes in pet euthanasia.

Vets who perform this service need patience. And compassion. When they show up to put down a pet, the owner often doesn't know what to expect.

"We like to let the family shape and mold the experience," says Cooney.

As grim as the deed is, performing this service can be rewarding for vet-

erinarians. They get to see a more intimate side of humans' relationship with their pets than they would at a clinic.

Some humans send off their beloved pet with a party. "It might be like an Irish wake, with people laughing and telling stories," says Cooney.

Rituals are not uncommon. McNabb, who euthanizes perhaps 70 pets each month, has witnessed Wiccan and Buddhist ceremonies during house calls.

My wife and I had previously had two cats put down, both times at a clinic. As Echo became sicker, as she lost interest in food and water, and after an overnight stay at an emergency hospital failed to stop the downward spiral, we talked seriously about when and how to have her euthanized.

Echo was an exceptionally timid cat. When someone visited, she'd scamper beneath the chaise upstairs. Trips to



PHOTO: PETAR DOYNOV

the clinic were a torment for her — the pet carrier, the half-hour drive, alien hands groping her.

We decided Echo's final moments should be as dignified and calm as possible. In-home euthanasia costs more than

GOOD-BYE next page

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GOOD-BYE from prior page

having it done at a clinic. But for us, it was the best way.

When McNabb arrived, she explained the technical aspects and we talked about how we wanted it done. McNabb told me to take my time talking with Echo. She would be ready when we were.

Echo gazed at my face as I soothed her. We humans have no idea what our pets are thinking when we speak to them, especially cats, with their supposed indifference. But living with cats has made me suspect that our words mean a lot to them. When Echo was healthy, nearly every morning she'd come to me when I was sleeping and pat my mouth with her paw, until I spoke to her.

As I held Echo that last time, all kinds of thoughts and feelings rushed through my brain: sadness, of course, but also a sense of wonder, of a heightened connection.

Echo's death left two cats in our household. One of them, Gatteau, also became grievously ill. When the time was right, we again called McNabb to our home.

Our remaining cat Miranda is a beauty, with long black hair. She likes to strike grand poses whenever she favors us with her presence, as if she were Nefertiti's reincarnation. Miranda is 16. She aced her last physical. But when the time comes, we know how to reach Meg McNabb. And we'll probably have a party, one that is appropriate for a feline queen.

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PET BRIEFS

AUSSIE OFFICIALS SNARLING OVER CELEBRITY DOG SMUGGLING

Johnny Depp's wife Amber Heard has been charged with illegally bringing the couple's two Yorkshire terriers to Australia — an incident that captured global attention after the nation's agriculture minister angrily ordered the pooches to get out of the country or face death. Heard was charged with two counts of illegally importing Pistol and Boo into Australia and one count of producing a false document, the Commonwealth Department of Public Prosecutions said. The importation charges carry a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a fine of \$75,000. The false document charge, which relates to information on an incoming passenger card, carries a penalty of up to one year in prison and a fine.

Depp is in Australia to resume filming of the fifth movie in the *Pirates of the Caribbean* series.

Australia has strict quarantine regulations to prevent diseases such as rabies from spreading to its shores. Bringing pets into the country involves applying for a permit and quarantine on arrival of at least 10 days.

"If we start letting movie stars — even though they've been the sexiest man alive twice — to come into our nation (with pets), then why don't we just break the laws for everybody?" said Agriculture Minister Barnaby Joyce. "It's time that Pistol and Boo buggered off back to the United States."

ST. LOUIS TO GET 'CAT CAFE'

Mauhaus Cat Cafe and Lounge will allow patrons to enjoy feline companionship while they sip coffee or tea. The cafe is expected to open next year. The cats will come from Tenth Life Cat Rescue, whose director, Elizabeth Frick, says the cats will spend time in a foster home to make sure they're friendly before they are placed in

the cafe. Cat cafes started in Taiwan and spread first to Japan and then across the world. Frick says they are ideal for people who can't have cats at home for various reasons.

JOE BIDEN GETS CARRIED AWAY WITH POOCH

Vice President Joe Biden is on the mend from a minor bruise after a little canine roughhousing. Biden was seen recently with a dark, penny-sized contusion just below his lower lip. The bruise didn't appear to be a serious injury. The vice president's office says Biden got the bruise from playing with his German shepherd named Champ.



CHUNKY PUPS

There was too much puppy fat on about one quarter of the top dogs in Britain's biggest dog show, according to a new analysis that provides more evidence the U.K.'s obesity epidemic is widening to the country's canines. Researchers analyzed nearly 1,000 photos of dogs between 2001 and 2013 that placed in the top five at Crufts, the U.K.'s national dog show. While show dogs are supposed to be ideal specimens, the study authors estimated 25 percent of the dogs were too chunky. Previous studies have suggested more than half of Britain's pet dogs are too heavy, often just like their human owners.

—from AP reports



PHOTO: COURTESY

Johnny Depp, above, as Capt. Jack Sparrow in the *Pirates of the Caribbean* movie series. The actor got in trouble with Australian authorities for smuggling his two Yorkshire terriers into the country while there filming the series' fifth installment.

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▶ **Out on the town** *July 30 - Aug. 13*

A curated calendar of upcoming events



'ART TO ART: TRUE STORIES' 7:30 p.m. Aug. 1 and 2

Danceworks' Art to Art series has become a summer tradition, pairing dancers and choreographers with artists from other disciplines to create unique, genre-bending works. In this year's installment, though, the company wants to get real. All of this year's entries must be based on true stories — be they about themselves, their families or historical figures and places. It'll truly be an interesting evening of dance. At 1661 N. Water St., Milwaukee. Tickets are \$15, \$18 for reserved seats and \$11 for students/seniors. Visit danceworksmke.org or call 414-277-8480 to order.

PHOTO: DANCEWORKS



WMSE RECORD RUCKUS

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 2

Vinyl collectors, take note: WMSE is hosting its very first Record Ruckus in August. The one-day event will serve as an opportunity for Milwaukee labels to show off their rosters both in-person and as recorded, and also attract collectors and vendors from across the Midwest to sell and trade discs, gear and art. It's a prime opportunity for devotees to hunt for hidden gems. At MSOE Kern Center, 1245 N. Broadway. Admission is free. Visit wmse.org for more information.



'DASHA KELLY'S CRIMSON SUMMER' 7 p.m. Aug. 4

One of Milwaukee's most beloved writers and poets, Dasha Kelly, will offer an intimate performance excerpted from her latest work. Her new novel *Almost Crimson* tells the story of a young woman who came of age caring for a severely depressed mother, struggling to forge a better future for herself. At this unique event, Kelly will immerse guests into scenes from that novel, weaving her story under a starry summer sky. At the Marcus Center's rooftop Fitch Garden, 929 N. Water St., Milwaukee. Tickets are \$23 and can be purchased at marcuscenter.org or 414-273-7206.



WISCONSIN STATE FAIR Aug. 6 to 16

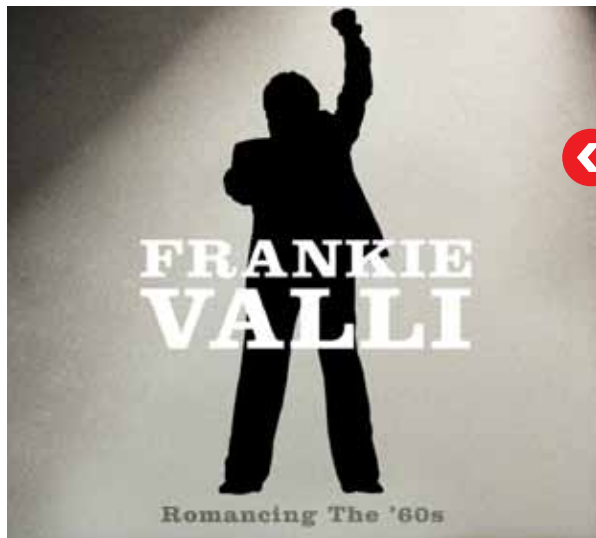
How do you describe the Wisconsin State Fair? It's not just a week-and-a-half-long concert series, packed with acts like Boston, Jason Derulo, and Kenny Rogers. Or just a smorgasbord of food options, from traditional cream puffs and cheese curds to new concoctions like deep-fried maple bacon cookie dough or a peanut butter bacon bison burger. Or just the biggest carnival of the year, with midway games, amusement rides and daredevil Nik Wallenda, attempting his longest walk ever on a tightrope stretching 1,560 feet long over the Milwaukee Mile racetrack. Perhaps short and sweet is the best approach: Trust us. You should drop in. At 640 S. 84th St., West Allis. Admission is \$12, \$7 for seniors/students/military, \$6 for children 6 to 11. Visit wistatefair.com to purchase tickets.

Out on the town

'DANCEWORKS ON TAP: HEART & SOLE'

7:30 p.m. Aug. 7 and 8, 2:30 p.m. Aug. 9

Danceworks has been in the pursuit of "tappiness" for 15 years, and the company will celebrate that anniversary at this year's Danceworks On Tap event. *Heart & Sole* will feature choreography by company dancers and alumni, all built around the exploration of love and relationships. To this company, tap dance is a language like any other — and they've got a full night of stories to tell. At 1661 N. Water St., Milwaukee. Tickets are \$15, \$18 for reserved seats and \$11 for students/seniors. Visit danceworksmke.org or call 414-277-8480 to order.



'TIMELINE 2015' Through October 3rd

RedLine Milwaukee is notable as an artists' workshop as well as a unique gallery setting. The new exhibition *TIMELINE* presents 11 artists-in-residence working in a variety of two- and three-dimensional mediums with independent visions and a collaborative spirit. Along with seeing the work, the public can become involved through RedLine's art classes. An upcoming session on Aug. 8 offers a chance to learn a painterly form of etching known as spitbite aquatint. The registration deadline is on Aug. 5 and more information is available online at redlineartmke.org.



PHOTO: REDLINE MILWAUKEE

Art by Carley Huibregtse is on view at *TIMELINE*.

FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS

7:30 p.m. Aug. 9

The Four Seasons was one of the hottest rock 'n' roll acts of the mid-20th century, but who'd have thought they'd still be a part of the cultural consciousness in the 21st? Or that lead singer Frankie Valli would still be able to parlay that recognition into a continuing career, even in his 80s? The hit musical *Jersey Boys* explains, in part, the phenomenon, illuminating the Four Seasons' lives like never before. But it's the songs — tunes like "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Rag Doll" and "Can't Take My Eyes Off You" — that explain it better. They're too good to forget, and Valli's still able to prove it half a century after the band first rose to fame. At the Overture Center, 201 State St., Madison. Tickets range from \$65 to \$125. Call 608-258-4141 or visit overturecenter.org to order.

MORNING GLORY FINE CRAFT FAIR

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 8 and 9

One of the nation's top craft fairs returns to the grounds of Marcus Center and Red Arrow Park, packing them with the work of regional and national fine craft artists. The event, now entering its fifth decade of existence, provides a home for artists working in ceramics, jewelry, sculpture, photography, glass, printmaking and numerous media to share and sell their wares. There are 130 artists set to show up this year. So there's bound to be some gorgeous work waiting to catch your eye. At 929 N. Water St., Milwaukee. Admission is free. Visit marcuscenter.org for more details.



MORNING
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FINE CRAFT FAIR

KEEP READING FOR...

Milwaukee Comedy Festival: The 10th annual Milwaukee Comedy Festival is the biggest yet, expanding throughout the city and bringing stand-up comedian Brian Posehn to Milwaukee. Aug. 6 to 9. See page 32.

'The Seeds of Banquo': Local theater artist Angela Iannone's spent years crafting a cycle of plays about Edwin Booth, the greatest American actor to ever walk a stage, but her tale of Booth tackling Macbeth marks the first time she's produced one in Milwaukee. Aug. 13 to 29. See page 34.

'Boeing Boeing': Milwaukee Chamber Theatre kicks off its season with this farce about an incorrigible bachelor whose easy life is upended once all three of his flight attendant fiancées arrive in town on the same day. Aug. 13 to 30. See page 36.



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A curated calendar of upcoming events *July 30 - Aug. 13*

IRISH FEST *Aug. 13 to 16*

Most cities have their biggest Irish bash in March, but not Milwaukee. That honor is saved for Irish Fest, a four-day celebration of all things lucky and green. For this 35th anniversary year, the festival invites back old favorites like Gaelic Storm and the city's Trinity Irish Dancers, along with a variety of new acts performing both traditional Irish music and in the folk or Americana genres. At 200 N. Harbor Drive. Tickets are \$17, \$12 for seniors and free for children; Thursday and Friday tickets are only \$5 and two-day passes can be purchased for \$25. Visit irishfest.com to order or for more details.



KANOPY DANCE AND FRIENDS *5 p.m. Aug. 13*

Kanopy Dance is set to bring its elegant, humorous and romantic style to Madison's Capitol Square — and they aren't coming alone. Groups representing the dance styles of four different cultures — Mexico (DanzTrad and SolStars), the Middle East (Sadira & Riad Dance), Ireland (Madison Irish Dancers) and Brazil (Omulu Capoeira) — will unite with Kanopy for an evening of diverse modern performances. At 30 on the Square, 100 N. Carroll St. Admission is free. Visit kanopydance.org to learn more about the company.

DANE DANCES *5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Aug. 7, 14, 21 and 28*

One of Madison's most beloved traditions, Dane Dances, is a social event that unites the city's communities, bringing citizens from across the isthmus and beyond together on the roof of Monona Terrace. Held on all four Fridays in August, this annual event features local country, funk, jazz, R&B and salsa artists, each hoping to get you to do one thing: dance like there's no tomorrow. This year's acts include Latin band MadiSalsa, the jazzy Eddie Butts Band, disco/funk-influenced VO5 and the soulful Megan Bobo & The Lux. At 1 John Nolan Drive, Madison. Admission is free. Visit danedances.org for a full schedule.



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Dish it Out!

Traveling the Lake Michigan beer trail

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

There was a time in the early 20th century when just about every little Wisconsin town could be counted on for two things: a church and a bar. But now, the rapid rise of craft brewing means that in many towns, the third constant is a brewery.

Set out in any direction in the Badger State and you won't have to drive far before you bump into a brewery.

If the direction you're driving is north along the Lake Michigan shoreline, you can find some suds brewed by some of the state's most interesting brewers.

Traveling north on U.S. Hwy. 43 from Milwaukee, your first stop beyond Ozaukee County will be Sheboygan, home to **3 Sheeps Brewing Co.** Founder and brewmaster Grant Pauly is a third-generation brewer whose grandfather in 1926 rescued the bankrupt Gutsch Brewery, renamed it the Kingsbury Breweries and took the brand national. In 2011, Pauly was delighted to follow in his grandfather's footsteps.

Pauly's flavor palate goes far beyond anything his grandfather's brewery cultivated. 3 Sheeps made its mark with award winners like Baaad Boy Black Wheat Ale, Ewephoria Ginger Chocolate Stout and Really Cool Waterslides IPA.

It's taking a step further with its yearly Nimble Lips Noble Tongue series, which last year included an India pale ale infused with squid ink. The latest entry in the limited run series — called "Hoedown!" — is an imperial black wheat cherry ale infused with ancho and chipotle chilies that promises to be even more invigorating. The bar Hops Haven, a

separate enterprise that occupies part of the brewery's building, has all the 3 Sheeps brands on tap.

Travel a little further north to Manitowoc and you will find the **Courthouse Pub**. The brewpub, across the street from the Manitowoc County Courthouse, is a full-service fine dining restaurant. The menu features everything from soups, salads and sandwiches to coconut shrimp (\$19.95), cinnamon-encrusted pork (\$23.50) and Jonathan's Pride (\$29.95), a 7-ounce grilled fillet topped with a mushroom demi glaze and four shrimp.

On the brewery side, the Courthouse Pub offers 10 different beers. In addition to a Munich Helles and Bavarian Weiss, the brew kettles also churn out Imperial Butternut Ale, made with caramelized butternut squash, and Black Peppered Lager, seasoned with black pepper for a spicier finish.

The Pub Belgian, made with coriander and orange peel and weighing in at 19 percent alcohol by volume, will knock your proverbial socks off.

Hwy. 43 veers west just beyond Manitowoc. Hop off the interstate at Exit 171 and head east to Denmark. **Chatterhouse Brewery**, one of the state's newest breweries, opened there in January.

Details online are still a bit sketchy, but the Chatterhouse brewers ultimately promise to produce six distinct beers. The first three just hit the market. You should be able to find Chatterhouse Ale, Hard Cider and No Sacrifice Gluten Free Ale at George Street Connection, 614 George St., in the Green Bay suburb of DePere.

BEER TRAIL next page



PHOTO: 3 SHEEPS BREWING CO.

Sheboygan's 3 Sheeps Brewing company is run by Grant Pauly, a third-generation brewer who cultivates some truly unique beers.



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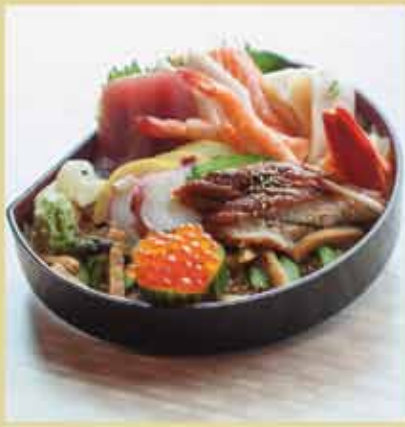
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BEER TRAIL from prior page

From the brewery, head north to Cty. Rd. P and west on Hwy. 29 to Hwy. 42, traveling north to Algoma. There you will find another of the state's newer breweries, this time attached to one of Wisconsin's most historic brewing legacies.

In 1967, Dr. Charles Stiehl bought an old property in Algoma on the banks of the Ahnapee River and started Wisconsin's first commercial winery, specifically to make wine out of Door County cherries. But the award-winning von Stiehl Winery built its business on the bones of what was once the **Ahnapee Brewery**.

The original brewery dates back to 1868, when Civil War veteran Henry Schmiling began brewing beer in what was then a little mill town. Descendants Aric and Brad Schmiling revived the Ahnapee brand, brewing their beer at the former Carnival Guernsey Dairy northwest of town and serving it in a small garage-turned-taproom adjacent to the winery.

Selections on tap may include Little Soldier, an amber ale brewed in honor of Henry Schmiling; Fun Guy, a brown ale brewed with north woods mushrooms; Two Stall, a chocolate milk stout named in honor of the

tasting room; and Helles in Red, the brewery's Munich Helles-style beer, aged in red wine barrels. Wines from von Stiehl also are available.

Continue north on Hwy. 42 to Sturgeon Bay, the gateway to Door County. Keep your eyes open for **Starboard Brewing Co.**

Starboard, owned by former homebrewer Patrick Surfus and his wife Amanda, is a nanobrewery, where the couple brews only a single barrel of beer at a time. Needless to say, the offerings rotate frequently and the brewers follow whatever whim makes sense to them.

Current items on tap you should watch for include Back Forty, a high-gravity (higher alcohol) amber ale brewed with locally sourced wood-fired maple syrup and cherrywood-smoked malts; Paladin, a well-balanced black India pale ale brewed with Midnight wheat and a blend of West Coast hops; and Fugglestout, a classic Belgian beer brewed with extra malt and turbinado sugar to increase the gravity and make it a proverbial "liquid bread."

Further north on Hwy. 42, **The Shipwrecked Brewpub** dominates what passes for a busy corner in downtown Egg Harbor. It's the only brewpub in Wisconsin reported to be haunted.

Built in 1882 as a saloon to serve the then-booming timber trade, the brewpub underwent a variety of owners and hospitality businesses, even catering to gangster Al Capone at one point. Among the ghosts rumored to haunt the establishment are two federal agents killed by Capone's men in the tunnels that run under the establishment, and not one, but two reportedly illegitimate Capone children.

Today, the brewpub serves hearty pub fare, as well as a variety of beers brewed on the premises. The selection includes the obviously named Lighthouse Light, Bayside Blonde, Peninsula Porter and a tasty cherry wheat ale brewed with locally grown Montmorency cherries.

Egg Harbor is on the peninsula's Green Bay side. For your final stop, find your way over to Baileys Harbor on the Lake Michigan side. That's where **Door County Brewing Co.** is located.

Owned and operated by John McMahon and sons Danny and Ben, the brewery had its followers even before it had a facility. The beers they brew are as colorful in nature as they are flavorful on the palate.

Among the selections you will find: Polka King Porter, a dark, roasty-flavored beer dedicated to local character and polkaholic Freddie Kodanko. There also is Little Sister Witbier, a Belgian-style white spiced with coriander and orange peel.

And make sure you don't miss Goat Parade, a high-gravity smoked imperial stout brewed with cherrywood smoked malt and added molasses and brown sugar for added sweetness (and strength). The beer is named for Earl and Clegg, described by the company as "the most bad ass goats in Door County." Well, of course they are, and of course it is!

BREWERIES FEATURED

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Starboard Brewing Co.

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The Shipwrecked Brewpub

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WIGOUT!

Tory Folliard showcases a strong roster Salon-style

By Kat Minerath

Contributing writer

To be completely enveloped in art, simply visit the Tory Folliard Gallery. The Salon Show is a powerful presentation of the gallery's roster, presenting 40 artists and more than 100 pieces. More importantly, it's a perfect opportunity to appraise some of the Milwaukee and regional scene's more prolific artists.

The Salon Show's title is a reference to the classical Paris Salon, an annual art exhibition held nearly every year from the late 17th to the late 19th century. To be included as part of the Salon was an entrée into the world of professional art.

The style of hanging a Salon exhibition was quite different from what is usually practiced in museums today. Pictures of different sizes and compositions were packed together on the walls, hung densely rather than in neatly spaced horizontal rows as is now more customary.

The exhibition at the Folliard Gallery follows the Salon style in its installation. Its numerous works are arrayed in intriguing juxtapositions. Figurative images mingle nicely with abstractions, and the subject matter riffs freely and without restraint.

It's more the way one might display art in the home, according to Folliard. Rarely do people arrange their living room walls as a thematic show. Instead, works arrive one by one as a collection is built, and are placed amid the others as best suits the group.

Similarly, the arrangement of this exhibition is determined more by what pieces look good with each other than any other criteria. Many pieces from the gallery's inventory have been shown before, but they are accompanied by a fair number of new works.

Paintings by Terrence Coffman balance on the edge of abstraction. His series *View From My Studio Rooftop* is a set of compositions structured like landscapes, with a band of sky and clouds often suggested by streaks of blue and white. What really drives the



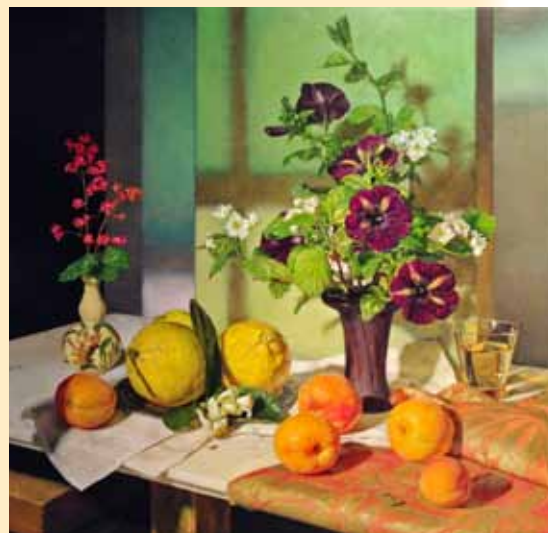
T.L. Solien's acrylic and collage piece "Thirst."



Terrence Coffman's "View From My Studio Rooftop #28."



Fred Stonehouse's "Schneemann."



PHOTOS: KAT MINERATH/TORY FOLLIARD GALLERY
Jeffrey Ripple, "Late in the Day in June," oil on panel.

energy in Coffman's work is his interplay of color and forceful brushwork. Sometimes the lingering texture of bristles is apparent, in other passages the traces of a palette knife sliding across the canvas surface are left, dragging through smooth layers of rich hues.

While Coffman is lyrical and expressionistic, Derrick Buisch's abstract paintings find clarity in their linear forms. They are more like drawings in bright pigment on vivid, solid backgrounds. "HolidayHead-Two" is a large painting of nonobjective forms, mostly curves and circles and a central spiral in orange that hovers over teal.

Obviating any need for narrative, there is a sense of exuberance that comes from his sparse compositions.

Conversely, the paintings of Mary Alice Wimmer and Jeffrey Ripple are extraordinary in their sense of realistic detail. Wimmer's "Earthly Delights II" is a watercolor that continues the traditions of still life with its arrangement of fruit, flower and insects. Ripple's talent with color also results in compositions that capture the nuances of flowers, food and table settings, but more significant in his work is the quality of light that emanates from a piece like "Late in the Day in June."

For works that veer a bit more deeply into imagination, take note of the mixed media work of T. L. Solien and paintings by Fred Stonehouse. Solien creates acrylic and collage pieces like "Thirst," in which a black-and-white puppy with floppy ears à la Snoopy and a Picasso-like eye sits over a small teapot amid an ambiguous space of floating circles. Stonehouse explores his interest in the slightly macabre in "Shneemann," where a skeleton bundled and hooded in brown hangs out amid a wintry landscape.

Bringing things back to earth are selections of landscapes. "An Unexpected Snowfall" by William Nichols is a vast canvas of wintry woods punctuated by a few yellow leaves still clinging to trees. Jan Serr's new series depicts fallen leaves on a black background, rendered in a myriad of autumnal colors that mingle amid lush green grasses.

Sculptures punctuate the exhibition, mimicking some of the two-dimensional works' stylistic elements. Bill Reid's whimsical animals in painted steel are brightly anthropomorphized characters. In earthier tones, Mark Chatterley's series called *Bevy* offers various sizes of ceramic birds, their bodies smoothed together while their bumpy heads emerge with curious eyes and dark beaks.

The Salon Show illustrates a variety of creative approaches, and the only thing pulling it together is the most important thing: a high quality of execution. This is the largest exhibition of the year for the Tory Folliard Gallery, and one that succeeds in every opportunity to showcase the high caliber of its artists.

The Salon Show continues through Sept. 5 at Tory Folliard Gallery, 233 N. Milwaukee St.

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Alexander Walker and **Emmett J.P. Lundberg** discuss their anthology of essays from the transgender male community, **Finding Masculinity: Female to Male Transition in Adulthood**, at Boswell, Fri Aug 14, 7 pm.



Journalist **Tom Witosky** chronicles the fight for marriage equality in the co-authored **Equal Before the Law: How Iowa Led Americans to Marriage Equality**, Fri Aug 21, 7 pm, at Boswell.



"A bold new feminist voice," journalist **Rachel Hills** is at Boswell on Wed Aug 26 for her book about the sex lives of millennials, **The Sex Myth: The Gap Between our Fantasies and Reality**.

Architecture and design come together in **James Schnepf's Palm Springs Modern Living**: photographs of iconic residents, their homes, and their stories. Talk and slide show at Boswell on Thu Aug 27, 7 pm.



Two of our favorite writers pair up for a night of literary delights. **Nina Revoyr**, author of **Wingshooters** and the new **Lost Canyon**, appears with **Joe Meno**, returning to Boswell for **Marvel and a Wonder**, both on Wed Oct 7, 7 pm.



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Matt Kemple's 10 reasons to see the 10th annual Milwaukee Comedy Festival

By **Matthew Reddin**

Staff writer

Ten years ago, no one would have thought of Milwaukee as a comedy hub. One of the reasons that's slowly changing is the Milwaukee Comedy Festival.

First produced in 2006 as the Sketch and Improv Comedy Festival, this annual event now draws talented artists from across the country to perform with their equally talented peers from the Badger State. In celebration of the festival's 10th anniversary, *WiG* sat down with Matt Kemple, founder and producer of the festival and its parent organization, Milwaukee Comedy, to pin down the top 10 reasons you should attend.

1 There's a ton of people making you laugh

It's actually a little crazy for Kemple to think about how big the festival's gotten. This year's event, running Aug. 6 to 9, will feature 26 acts spread across seven shows — one Thursday at 8 p.m., two Friday at 8 and 10 p.m., three Saturday at 6, 8 and 10 p.m. and a Sunday night finale at Turner Hall Ballroom at 8 p.m., with nationally acclaimed comic Brian Posehn wrapping it all up.

Those comedians — about 120 in total —



2 And a lot of them are from Wisconsin

From the very beginning, Kemple says, the Milwaukee Comedy Festival has been as much about supporting local acts as bringing in performers from out of town. But doing so could have caused an imbalance if those local acts weren't as good as their fellow comedians.

If anything, Kemple's had the opposite problem. "(Wisconsin) people actually compare to the acts we're getting from New York, Chicago, LA — these major comedy cities," he says.

This year's festival roster is nearly split down the middle, with 12 acts from Milwaukee, Madison or Green Bay, and every one of

come from improv, stand-up and sketch comedy disciplines, and represent some of the best independent groups working in the United States. Kemple is fond of saying that each year's festival is the "biggest and best yet," and it helps his case that every year he's right.

3 It all starts with beer

Kemple says the festival has had a small kickoff event for the past several years, but Lakefront Brewing is helping step it up a notch. On Wednesday, Lakefront will host a brewery tour at 7 p.m. followed by an all-local stand-up show, with music by Milwaukee bluegrass band The Grasping at Straws.

Partnering with Lakefront allows Kemple to solve the conundrum he's always faced with these kickoff events: how to make them a big deal without overshadowing the festival. "To have it at a different venue, you can make it its own thing," he says. "It's a perfect combination."

4 This year, there are extra laughs for the taking

Milwaukee Comedy is partnering with Milwaukee Record for bonus shows that double as pre- and post-festival parties. These "Extra Laughs" shows will take place at four Milwaukee venues — Bremen Cafe in Riverwest; Club Garibaldi in Bay View; Var Gallery in Walker's Point; and 42 Lounge in downtown Milwaukee.

Kemple says these gigs are a formal execution of informal afterparties organizers have tried to assemble in previous years, but also can be an opportunity for comedy-lovers who can't make it to a particular show to still see some of their favorite local comedians in their own neighborhood. They're also cheaper than a regular show — Bremen and 42 Lounge's sets are free, while Garibaldi and Var Gallery will charge a \$5 cover unless you've already bought a festival ticket.

5 You can watch your "Whoremones" rage

Kemple says he's been hoping to schedule a live comedy podcast taping at the festival for several years, and his inaugural guests are certainly attention-getters. "Whoremones," a self-described "anti-feminist, feminist podcast," is hosted by Jaqi Ferback and former Milwaukeean/porn star Alia Janine, and features the duo discussing their different points of view on sexuality, feminism and life. They'll record the Milwaukee Comedy episode at Next Act at 4 p.m. Saturday.

Before she left the city, Janine hosted a podcast for OnMilwaukee and interviewed Kemple in advance of last year's festival. That's when they started talking about collaborating this year. "(Janine) just has no filter and she will talk about anything. ... Jaqi

COMEDY next page

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COMEDY from prior page is very reserved — so their dynamic is great.”

6 Learning is funny-damental

Local comedians hoping to up their game shouldn't need a push to pay attention to the festival this year, but if you're looking for one anyway, consider this: Milwaukee Comedy will be hosting improv workshops led by two of the country's most talented artists. On Saturday, Cleveland's Missy Whitis will help students develop better instincts for long-form improv. And Sunday will feature TJ Shanoff, a director with almost two decades' experience in musical improvisation.

They're more targeted and challenging workshops than the festival's featured in the past, but Kemple says as the festival has grown, he's found beginners' workshops aren't as good a fit anymore. The caliber of visiting performers has gone up and local artists have more than enough opportunities to take their first comedy steps in the rest of the calendar year.

7 There's fun swag!

If getting to see a bunch of awesome comedy isn't incentive enough, you'll be pleased to learn Milwaukee Comedy's sponsors have supplied them with lots of goodies to give away. But you'll have to be willing to play along, because Kemple isn't interested in just handing out prizes to random patrons: "It's a Comedy Festival; it shouldn't just be something boring."

So if you want nerdy prizes like a *Big Bang Theory* Clue board game, come prepared to answer nerdy questions. Or "Name That Song" to pick up 88Nine passes. Or win an Irish dance-off for Irish Fest tickets. Or just come ready for anything — because Kemple has a bunch of other swag he's not quite sure how to give away yet, but if you want it, you'll have to earn it.

8 Did we mention Brian Posehn?

For the first time, this year's Comedy Festival will feature a major national headliner to wrap up the weekend: Brian Posehn, a stand-up comedian also known for his roles on *The Sarah Silverman Program* and a variety of films. Posehn was one of a few acts Kemple says he brought to Turner Hall for consideration and he discovered that they'd already been trying to book him. The Sunday night slot turned out to be a perfect fit for everyone.

"(Posehn's) not just a really funny guy," Kemple says. "His level of humor really fits what our audience is looking for. He's smart, kind of nerdy, but also can be pretty disgusting sometimes."

Opening for Posehn are two of Wisconsin's top stand-up artists. Hosting is Ryan Mason, a Milwaukeean who moved to Madison a few years ago and has since returned — better than ever, according to Kemple. Then there's Geoffrey Asmus, an eccentric Madisonian who's already delighted a Turner Hall crowd opening for Kyle Dunnigan this year. "It was very important to us to make sure those slots were filled by people that were from Wisconsin. We wanted to give a local comic an opportunity to open for somebody different."

9 It's cheaper than ever

OK, OK, reducing advance tickets from \$15 to \$14 and door tickets from \$20 to \$18 doesn't sound like much, but if anything, they should be higher. A \$14/\$18 price point means the festival costs the same as any other show produced by Milwaukee Comedy during the year (excepting the Posehn show, \$20 before fees), an incentive for people to get out and see a show.

"We feel like it's the right price for the right value. ...I would rather have a lower ticket price and be able to have more people come and fill the seats more," he says.

The biggest comedy junkies can get an even better deal on the festival's all-access passes — for \$50, you can get into

any show in the festival (including Sunday and the special events) and receive first-choice seats, along with other goodies.

10 And you're helping a community blossom

Kemple says it's hard to overstate how much of an impact the festival has had on the local comedy community. A decade ago, there weren't any local clubs that would put on performers; now it's the norm that businesses will seek out local comedians, largely through the network Kemple and Milwaukee Comedy has been able to create.

More and more, that makes the festival not just about being a single weekend of good comedy. It's a sampling of what audiences can find throughout the year in their own backyard, and a way to help fund Milwaukee Comedy's efforts to support it and grow even further.

Kemple isn't sure what the Milwaukee Comedy Festival will look like in another 10 years, or even next year. But if his audience keeps growing the way it has, there's only one way it can go: bigger and better.

ON STAGE

The Milwaukee Comedy Festival runs Aug. 6 to 9, with a kickoff event Aug. 5 at 7 p.m. at Lakefront Brewery, 1872 N. Commerce St. Mainstage shows are at Next Act Theatre, 255 N. Water St., while Sunday's 8 p.m. show is at Turner Hall, 1040 N. Fourth St. Tickets are \$18, \$14 in advance. For a full schedule or to purchase tickets, visit festival.milwaukeeecomy.com.

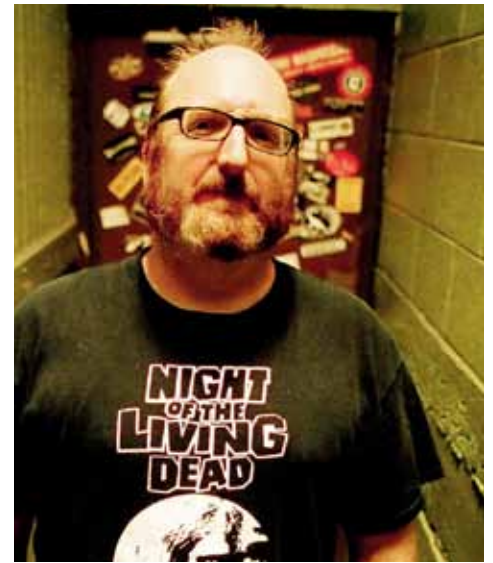


PHOTO: DAVID S. SHIELDS

Brian Posehn, known for playing Brian Spukowski on *The Sarah Silverman Show*, will close the Milwaukee Comedy Festival on Aug. 9th.

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Edwin Booth play cycle seeks to redeem the name of America's greatest actor

By **Matthew Reddin**
Staff writer

Edwin Booth is arguably the most acclaimed, most beloved and most talented American actor to ever strut the boards, a tragedian who was a pioneer of naturalistic acting. Yet today that reputation is buried beneath the weight of his brother's name: John Wilkes Booth.

It's in part to pull Edwin out from under his brother's shadow that local theater artist Angela Iannone began writing a series of plays featuring him at work: the Edwin Booth Cycle. But her four plays — the latest of which, *The Seeds of Banquo*, will soon make its world premiere in Milwaukee thanks to Theater RED — are more than just a PR campaign. They're an opportunity to examine a time long past but not truly so different from our own, through the life of a man who examined and embodied it better than any other creative artist in the period.

"The history of America in the 19th century," Iannone says, "is the history of the Booth family."

Edwin was born into a clan that became one of the earliest theatrical families in America. In addition to himself and his brother John, Edwin's father Junius Brutus Booth and elder brother Junius "June" Jr. were both actors, and his sister Asia married the actor John Sleeper Clarke. But Edwin towered over them all. "There was Edwin Booth and there was everyone else," Iannone says. "He was that much better."

Edwin had already become America's most beloved actor by the time John assassinated President Abraham Lincoln in 1865 as part of an attempted coup. His brother's crime nearly derailed Edwin's career — he went into seclusion for eight months, only leaving his hotel room at night. But after that time, he wrote a public letter asking his audiences to permit him to return to the stage, as acting was the only gift he possessed and it was the only career he believed he could pursue. They did. His first show was a production of *Hamlet*, and when he walked on stage, Edwin received a 5-minute standing ovation.

Iannone says that in contrast to our modern era, where John's name is legendary and Edwin's is secondary, 19th-century audiences truly separated Edwin from his brother's acts. "During that time period, America was not as fascinated either with evil or with murderers as they are now," she says. No one had any interest in figuring out why evil people like John acted the way they did, she says, and because Edwin had a strict rule that John's name never be mentioned in his presence, he never expounded upon it himself.

It's a rule Iannone has tried to follow in her four plays about Edwin. Only one, *This*

Prison Where I Live, explicitly deals with John's ghost haunting Edwin — for Edwin truly believed his brother, along with his father and his first, beloved wife, were always with him as he went about his life. Her first, *The Edwin Booth Company Presents...*, features John but takes place in the 1850s, before the war; her third, *Irving & Booth in Othello*, is set long after the assassination.

The Seeds of Banquo gets slightly closer, but only obliquely. Like all four of Iannone's Booth plays, it depicts Edwin (John Glowacki) in rehearsal for a Shakespeare play — in this case, *Macbeth*, a meditation on the nature of evil that Edwin would have been uniquely suited for exploring. "Who better to be dealing with that kind of question than the older brother of the man who brought down a government?" Iannone asks.

All of Iannone's plays share a devotion to presenting Edwin's circumstances as they actually occurred, aided by Iannone's access to the Hampden-Booth Theatre Library, the preeminent research library for 19th-century American theater and home to Edwin's correspondence and promptbooks. Many playwrights would simply take the setting and write the rest themselves, but Iannone says she wants

to stick with portraying things as they happened whenever possible. "The truth is so much more interesting and it's also so much more strange," she says.

For *The Seeds of Banquo*, Iannone will be following Edwin's actual directorial notes for his 1870 production of *Macbeth*, and the set and technical elements will follow those same specifications. She's also included alongside Edwin actual members of his cast — Lawrence Barrett (Cory Jefferson Hagen), second only to Edwin on stage; Elizabeth Crocker Bowers (Marcee Doherty-Elst), an acclaimed actress brought out of semi-retirement to play Lady Macbeth; and the young ingenue Minna Gale (Sasha Katharine Sigel). Shoehorned in is comic actor Owen Fawcett (Bryan Quinn), a contemporary who fortuitously was in a melodrama up the street in 1870 and could be easily inserted into the mix.

This particular production of *Macbeth* happened to coincide with the first pregnancy of Edwin's second wife, which Iannone says she's taken as an opportunity for Edwin to ponder questions of inheritance — critical ones both for him as an actor and for him as the brother of an assassin.

Iannone's decision to produce the play here is a fortuitous one for several reasons, the greatest of which is that she'd had no anticipation of ever staging one of



PHOTO: DAVID S. SHIELDS

Edwin Booth is considered by many the greatest American actor of the 19th century, but his brother's assassination of President Abraham Lincoln would haunt him to his dying day.

ON STAGE

Theater RED will produce the world premiere of *The Seeds of Banquo* Aug. 13 to 23 at Soulstice Theatre, 3770 S. Pennsylvania Ave., St. Francis. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at theaterred.com. A portion of all sales will be donated to the Players Foundation for Theatre Education in New York City.

her Booth plays in Milwaukee, due to their period costuming needs, historical context and elevated language and motifs. *The Edwin Booth Company Presents...* was conceived and produced as a project for UW-Whitewater, while her other two plays have had readings and workshops in Milwaukee and at Door Shakespeare but were ultimately picked up for full stagings by Titan Theatre Company in New York City, with *This Prison Where I Live* produced in 2014 and plans to stage *Irving & Booth in Othello* in progress.

"There is not another theater in town who has a mission to explore plays with those particular parameters," she says. "I'm not trying to be snarky on that. But Theater RED has a mission for exploring literary and intellectual content, positive roles for women and supporting local playwrights. Not only is that my only door in, that was my only interest."

But Iannone was steered toward Theater RED after seeing their production of *A Lady in Waiting*, a Maid Marian-centric adaptation of the Robin Hood legend, decided to work with them on *Banquo*.



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Classic farce 'Boeing Boeing' kicks off MCT's season

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Milwaukee Chamber Theatre takes a look back at the "swinging '60s" through the lens of classic French farce with *Boeing Boeing*, the opening production of its 2015-16 season.

Light and "airy" in more ways than one, author Marc Camoletti's 1960 play (also made into a 1965 film starring Tony Curtis and Jerry Lewis) is a perfect match for the languid late-summer season, according to MCT's artistic director C. Michael Wright.

"*Boeing Boeing* has been on my radar ever since it was revived so successfully on Broadway in 2008," says Wright. "I especially love that, even though it takes place in Paris, one of the characters is from Wisconsin."

The play finds swinging bachelor Bernard (Brian J. Gill) at home and at play in his adopted city of Paris, where he bounces in and out of the lives of three beautiful airline stewardesses. As they must in any farce, things go awry — when Robert (Ryan Schabach), an old school chum from Wisconsin, and all three of Bernard's "fiancés" (Amber Smith, Samantha Sostarich and Anne Walaszek) arrive in Paris simultaneously. The comedic situation creates a juggling act that even Bernard's loyal housemaid Berthe (Marcella Kearns) can't help manage.

Wright says *Boeing Boeing* is a quintessential farce, with the slamming doors, changing portraits and unraveling of seemingly well-laid plans that the genre is known for. "A farce is a comedy that aims at entertaining the audience through situations that are highly exaggerated," Wright says. "Farce is also characterized by physical humor and is often set in one particular location, where all events occur."

According to Michael Cotey, who is directing the show, "farce is almost always about watching flawed people getting punished one way or another for their vices and

vanities. That's the joy for us as audience members, seeing that rug being pulled out from underneath."

Despite its relative lightness and the seeming ease of its execution, farce is not an easy genre to get right, Cotey says

"Farce, for as ridiculous as it all is, requires absolute fidelity," he says. "The characters are absolutely committed to getting what they want. Whatever gags and funny bits we eventually come up with must be grounded in the situation, however absurd or twisted or improbable it all might seem."

Stage farce also differs from farce portrayed on film because of its cumulative effect, Cotey adds. As the comedy progresses, the tension rises to a boiling point and the director and cast must stay on point throughout the production to make sure that no missed cues deflate that comedic tension. A single misstep can derail a production, Cotey says.

In farce, there is no opportunity to wink at the audience and join in the fun, Cotey says, so the director and cast must fully commit to the insanity of the plot. Through proper execution, they allow the audience to find the humor teetering at the edge of the seeming chaos.

"A friend of mine told me that farce is all math, so we're probably going to spend a lot of time in rehearsal talking about really funny moments like it's algebra," Cotey says. "That's going to feel tedious at times, but our job is to do the play with precise fidelity and trust that the laughs will come."

Given the quality of the original material, Cotey is convinced his talented cast will be able to achieve the production's goal.

"Hopefully, through all of this the audience not only finds it all funny, but also feels helpless to stop the situation as it snowballs down hill for all the characters involved," Cotey says. "And all of this involves absolute precision."



ON STAGE

Milwaukee Chamber Theatre's production of Marc Camoletti's *Boeing Boeing* runs Aug. 13 to 30 at the Cabot Theatre at the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Tickets range from \$15 to \$40, with \$5 discounts for students and seniors, and can be purchased at 414-291-7800 or milwaukeechambertheatre.com.

MCT'S NEW SEASON

Boeing Boeing kicks off Milwaukee Chamber Theatre's 2015-16 season, which is packed with plays that range from funny to edgy. Themed "Looking for Love (In All the Wrong Places)," the season's roster includes the following productions:

Dear Elizabeth is playwright Sarah Ruhl's intimate look at 30 years of letters between poets Elizabeth Bishop and Robert Lowell, played by local actors Carrie Hitchcock and Norman Moses. The play runs Sept. 23 to Oct. 18 in the Studio Theatre.

Married actors Jim Pickering and Tami Workentin celebrate the holidays togeth-

er on stage with **Love Stories**, an evening of three one-act plays including *Village Wooing* by George Bernard Shaw, *The Jewish Wife* by Bertolt Brecht and *Here We Are* by Dorothy Parker. Performances run Nov. 25 to Dec. 20 in the Studio Theatre.

The new year begins with **Slowgirl**, author Greg Pierce's edgy new work about owning your past and getting on with your life. The play runs Feb. 24 to March 20 in the Studio Theatre.

The season ends with **Fallen Angels**, Noel Coward's sharp-tongued drawing room comedy about two married women who discover their mutual love is dropping in for a visit. The production runs April 14 to May 1 in the Cabot Theatre.

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INDUSTRIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Off the Wall dares to stage a chaotic, less saccharine 'Spring Awakening'

By Matthew Reddin

Staff writer

Spring Awakening has always been a challenging play to me. Its music is undeniably beautiful, but just about everything else leaves me uncertain — the book's occasionally saccharine interpretation of its edgy, often-troubling source material (a early 20th-century play of the same name), the widely varying tone of its scenes, the presumably intentional uncertainty of whether the rebellious teens or restrained parents are right.

Some theater companies see a challenge like that and turn aside for something less ambiguous. So Off the Wall Theater deserves credit right off the bat for tossing this grenade of a play into our lazy summer.

Even more, director Dale Gutzman and his cast should be commended for daring to make this play more than a recreation of its successful Broadway production and subsequent tour — even when the bold choices they make don't hit the high target Gutzman has set.

Set in a German town of the 1890s, *Spring Awakening* depicts a group of youths as they come to sexual and emotional maturity in a time when discussion of those topics was severely restricted and condemned. While multiple storylines spring up throughout the show, the main plot follows Melchior (Claudio Parrone Jr.), an ambitious and brilliant youth with decidedly anti-establishment views, Wendla (Alexandra Bonesho), a young girl kept ignorant of all things sexual by her mother but nonetheless physically drawn toward Melchior, and Moritz (Patrick McCann), a close friend of Melchior's whose poor standing in school threatens to derail his life's course.

Any director of *Spring Awakening* would be a fool to put any actor but their best in those pivotal roles, and Gutzman is no fool. Bonesho and Parrone set the bar high, both musically and physically. She imbues Wendla's every interaction with Melchior with a terrified inquisitiveness that never completely fades even when her horror outweighs her curiosity; he carries a brooding darkness throughout the play that makes it difficult to consider Melchior this musical's hero even before his interactions with Wendla collapse into violence.

McCann is only a few steps behind, a weaker musical range than his co-actors and some strange directorial choices in the second act are the only things keeping him from an even foot race. But where his notes sometimes fail, his honest, earnest commitment to conveying Moritz's anguish take over, and his words come wrenched from his throat with a cutting growl or an anguished howl.

The traditional conceit of *Spring Awakening* is to stage its rock 'n' roll musical numbers (composed by Duncan Sheik, with lyrics by book-writer Steven Sater) as if its performers are 21st century rock 'n' rollers too, complete with modern-day micro-



PHOTO: OFF THE WALL THEATER

The complex relationship between Wendla (Alexandra Bonesho) and Melchior (Claudio Parrone Jr.) drives the plot of *Spring Awakening*, Off the Wall's summer musical.

phones. Not so here. Gutzman wastes no time making visual excuses for why these 1890s teens sing 1990s-esque tunes, nor is his tiny space truly suited for pretending to be a concert hall.

By and large this works. Some of the larger ensemble numbers feel strange — although that's perhaps more due to the fact that a dozen actors bouncing about a stage as big as your average living room, lofted high enough above the audience that some of their heads look in serious jeopardy of smashing into the ceiling, is more immediately intimidating than intriguing.

Of course, that chaos is surely what Gutzman and his cast are going for. But it's too bad a production that seems to understand how to wrestle with the implications of its source material as well, if not better than, its most famous iteration doesn't know how to do so with any subtlety. Gutzman's teens are all out of control; his adults (all played by himself and Jocelyn Ridgely) are all so in control it's turned them either corrupt or ineffectual. His stage is small enough that his actors can go unplugged and still be heard over the orchestra, yet that intimacy is only used as a tool to alarm audience members or a means by which to amplify the brutality and sorrow.

None of this is a reason not to see *Spring Awakening*. Quite the opposite. It's merely a tribute to the fact that *Spring Awakening* remains a challenging play — but one companies and audiences should be challenged by more often.

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MERYL STREEP
RICKI AND THE FLASH
AUGUST

Meryl Streep rocks harder than ever in 'Ricki and the Flash'

By Jan Janssen
The Interview Feed

She's become a Hollywood legend for playing great women, mastering accents and generally making her mark as the greatest actress on Earth. But now it seems that Meryl Streep is enjoying a second life as a musical performer.

Having sung in *Postcards From the Edge* and *Ironweed*, Streep again wowed critics and audiences alike with her singing in 2008's hit musical, *Mamma Mia!* Last year, she displayed her vocal agility in *Into the Woods*, where she pushed her voice "beyond all my expectations." Now she's playing hard-rocking singer/guitarist in *Ricki and the Flash*, a feel-good comedy directed by Oscar-winning filmmaker Jonathan Demme.

Streep stars as Ricki, a gifted musician who neglected her family to pursue rock 'n' roll stardom and returns home to attempt a belated reconciliation. Streep's real-life daughter Mamie Gummer plays Ricki's daughter Julie while Kevin Kline plays Pete, Ricki's long-suffering ex-husband. Real-life rocker Rick Springfield and former *Gossip Girl* player Sebastian Stan also co-star.

"This film was so much fun to make and I was so happy to work again with

my former screen husband, Kevin Kline (in *Sophie's Choice*)," Streep says. "Ricki is an old-school rocker who sings in bars and belts out songs of famous bands. I spent six months working on my guitar technique and I had such a great time doing covers of Bruce Springsteen and Tom Petty hits."

Now 65, Meryl Streep is in the middle of a career renaissance that began with her Oscar-nominated performance in *The Devil Wears Prada* in 2006 and continued with roles in *Julie and Julia*, *The Iron Lady* (which earned Streep her third Academy Award), and *August: Osage County*. Streep and her sculptor husband Donald Gummer live in the Tribeca area of New York. Two of their four children are actively pursuing acting careers: daughters Mamie (*Side Effects*) and Grace Gummer (*Margin Call*, *Frances Ha*).

At the April Women in the World Summit in New York, Streep had the following observation about how women have been historically short-changed in literature and film: "From the time we're little girls, we read all of literature, you know, all of history. It's really about boys, most of it. But I can feel more like Peter Pan than Tinkerbell. ...I wanted to be Tom Sawyer, not Becky."

Ricki and the Flash opens in wide release on Aug. 7.

Meryl, would you say your singing career seems assured with films like *Into the Woods* and the upcoming *Ricki and the Flash*? (Laughs) I'm not so sure. But I'm trying hard to hold my own. It's funny how things have worked out this way because my mother had ambitions of being a lounge singer and my father composed music and played the piano. I had a great singing teacher, Betsy Parrish, in graduate school and that's where I understood a lot about how profoundly your emotions connect to your breathing and to music. She was a huge inspiration to me and enabled me to appreciate that singing and acting are very similar in that singing makes you reach into your deepest feelings. Singing is an extension of everything that you do when you're acting.

You also get to work with your daughter Mamie in *Ricki and the Flash*? That's such a delight for me. I'm so proud of Mamie and of Grace, who were willing to follow in their mother's profession

STREEP next page

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STREEP from prior page

despite all the pressure and attention that comes with being Meryl Streep's daughters. They're very strong-willed and determined young women. I only want them to be happy in life and I'm very supportive of their work because they made their decision knowing that they would always have to deal with that added burden.

Although you've made your mark in the history of cinema for playing great women and historical figures, you changed gears later in your career and started doing comedies. And lately you're been doing more musical and lighter roles? Doing serious drama was something that grew out of the fact that when I graduated from drama school, there were a lot of very good, very serious films being made and those were the best roles that were available or were being offered to me. I never did those kinds of serious roles in drama school but after I played in *The Deer Hunter* and *Sophie's Choice* I was locked into playing very serious women and I never had a chance to do any comedies. I didn't have a choice. But later on, when I was raising my children I became tired of only playing certain kinds of very dramatic roles and I wanted to play in lighter kinds of films. Now I'm simply amazed that I've been able to find so much work and play many different kinds of characters at an age when this industry tends to forget about women. I'm thrilled!

You've earned every honor and accolade that any actor could ever hope to win in the film business. Do you ever feel that you had to sacrifice too much of your family time for the sake of maintaining such a legendary career? I think there's a bias against women when it comes to discussing the idea of making sacrifices. That question doesn't arise when it comes to men — a man has always been seen as someone who works hard and has a full-time occupation.

I think women should have the same opportunity and not have any stigma attached to them if they choose to pursue their careers. Life is all about making choices and I'm very happy with mine. I have had a wonderful time raising four children and I've also been lucky to have the support of a wonderful husband.

You did relax your workload when your children were teenagers, though? It started even before that. When my children were younger, I turned down any project that involved my having to be away from our home for long periods of time. That was just out of the question for me. I wanted to enjoy my life at home and I would only do a film which wouldn't last longer than two months and where I would still fly back on weekends to be with my children.

Being with my husband and my children always brought me the greatest joy and happiness in life. I love acting, of course, but I had already achieved a lot of success by the time my children were growing up so I didn't have the urgency I had to prove myself. I was also very exhausted by the grind of studio meetings and the pressure to keep finding the best films. It left me feeling miserable at

times. So I decided to cut back and do different kinds of films. Also, when you reach 40, at least in my day, it was considered the beginning of the end of your career playing leads. So that was another factor.

What do you account for your career renaissance over the past decade or so? I don't really know but I'm not complaining. I think that once my children were all grown up and didn't need mommy to look after them anymore, it was the right moment to go back to work with as much passion and dedication as I ever had. Except maybe I don't stress myself as much before every film!

What's the secret of having a long and happy marriage, as in your case with Donald Gummer? We're kind of the perfect odd couple. Don is a man of few words — I'm the one who keeps up a constant stream of chatter in the house. He listens very patiently and then goes back to his work. He also loves me as I am, eager and overactive, even at my age. He's the definition of the introverted and introspective artist. I'm very expressive and more exuberant. We complement each other beautifully that way.

Do you still get a kick out of acting? Yes. The best thing about it is when you're playing a scene and you actually become your character and lose yourself in that moment. That's when you know you've been successful at what you've worked very hard to accomplish in your profession. Those are the truly thrilling moments.

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Singer/songwriter Paul Anka still does it 'his way'

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Every career has its watershed moments, times when the nature, direction and fortunes of a life change forever. Singer/songwriter Paul Anka says one of his was a 1968 meeting with Frank Sinatra.

"Sinatra used to tease me about writing a song for him, but I was just a kid and he was eons older," says Anka, who turned 74 on July 30. "I didn't have the balls to do that, but it was always in the back of my mind, always on my radar."

The dinner with Old Blue Eyes that changed everything took place one night at the Fountainsbleau Miami Beach Hotel, where a young Anka was performing. With the music scene changing and his Rat Pack days fading, Sinatra was ready to quit the business, but he had a legal obligation to produce one more album. Anka had one last shot to get Sinatra a song.

"He was working with Don Costa, who was my record producer," says Anka, "I flew home to New York, sat down at my IBM Selectric and started writing."

Anka began the song at 1 a.m. and didn't finish until 5 a.m., creating a new set of English lyrics for the French song *Comme d'habitude* ("As Usual"), the rights to which he already had purchased. He called Sinatra in Las Vegas and the elder singer invited Anka to come out and introduce him to the song, which he did.

"Two months later, (Sinatra) called me up and played his recording of my song," Anka remembers. "I started to cry."

The song, "My Way," reignited Sinatra's flagging career, while significantly raising the stakes for the formerly pompadoured pop star, whose songwriting skills and international career had already set him apart from his teen heartthrob contemporaries.

The Canadian-born Anka had burst on the scene in 1957 with "Diana," a love song about a girl from his church that he barely knew. A

variety of hit singles followed, making him one of the biggest teen idols of his day.

"When I started, pop music was in its infant stage and there was no *American Idol* reference like there is today," Anka says. "I was driven by music and didn't know how I was going to make it happen for me, only that I was going to try."

Anka had studied drums and piano in high school to hone his musical chops, while a short stint as a cub reporter for the *Ottawa Citizen* strengthened his writing skills. He built a successful singing career in Italy and Germany concurrent with his U.S. successes, but it was really the songs he wrote for himself and others set him apart from other performers.

"I was the writer and a lot of my contemporaries weren't," Anka says. "I was not a great looking little kid or an idol. I wrote, produced and had this musical sound, and that's where my comfort level was."

Like "My Way," some of Anka's best-known songs were written for other performers.

Anka wrote "She's A Lady" especially for Tom Jones, and the song has gone on to become the Welsh singer's signature tune. "Do I Love You?" became a hit for Donna Fargo and "I'm Not Anyone," a song Anka wrote for Sammy Davis Jr. Anka performs it during his concerts in duet with video footage of Davis.

"I wrote 'It Doesn't Matter Anymore' for Buddy Holly, which he recorded right before he died," says Anka of the Clear Lake, Iowa,

"I knew (Michael Jackson) as a kid because his family used to bring him to Vegas to see all the shows. As he got older as a musician, we knew he was one of the guys who had the goods to really bust out."



PHOTO: ANNIE LEIBOVITZ

Paul Anka, songwriter for artists including Frank Sinatra, Tom Jones and Michael Jackson, will perform at Potawatomi's Northern Lights Theater.

plane crash that took the Lubbock, Texas, singer's life in 1959. "The song was kind of cool for me at the time, but the whole experience is very poignant now."

He wrote instrumental pieces, the most famous of which may be the theme song for Johnny Carson's version of *The Tonight Show*. He also wrote the main title for *The Longest Day*, the 1962 war epic about the D-Day invasion, as well as had a small role in the film.

Anka in 1983 co-authored two songs with Michael Jackson, "I Never Heard," which was retitled and released in 2009 as "This Is It," and "Love Never Felt So Good," released posthumously in 2014. Working with Jackson was a different kind of creative experience, Anka says.

"I knew him as a kid because his family used to bring him to Vegas to see all the shows," Anka says. "As he got older as a musician, we knew he was one of the guys who had the goods to really bust out."

Jackson had no formal musical training, which gave him a completely different approach to songwriting, Anka says. His business practices also were suspect, and Anka had to threaten a lawsuit in order to receive co-author credit and royalties for the songs they wrote together.

"He stole the tapes, but because he kept them I got two hits out of it," Anka says. "His writing was personal, youthful and childlike, but there was a genius there and I knew no one else had that kind of sound and music."

However, Anka's experience with Jackson, who died of a drug overdose in 2009, reinforced the importance of what it means to be a writer as well as a performer, something

that always had been the cornerstone of Anka's career.

"When you're a writer, you think differently," Anka said. "The marriage of the lyric to the note as you sing evokes how all of us are moved by music and what is released from the brain is really what drives the audiences' response."

In addition, the singer adds, songwriters can't afford to be too literal in their interpretation.

"In music, the heart is this and the heart is that, but the heart doesn't do a goddamn thing except pump blood," Anka says. "But you can't sing, 'You're breaking my brain 'cause you're leaving me.' That just doesn't work."

What does work, Anka says, is a solid base of musical skills and awareness of things around you and how they make you feel. As a writer, matching singing styles to specific songs — Sinatra's form of phraseology to the clipped, personalized verses of "My Way," for example — adds credibility, authenticity and insight to the process.

"As a musician, you have to stay curious," Anka says, "and these days remember that it's not about the technology, it's about the music."

ON STAGE

Paul Anka takes the stage Aug. 11 and 12 at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino's Northern Lights Theater, 1721 W. Canal St., Milwaukee. For more information and tickets, visit paysbig.com.

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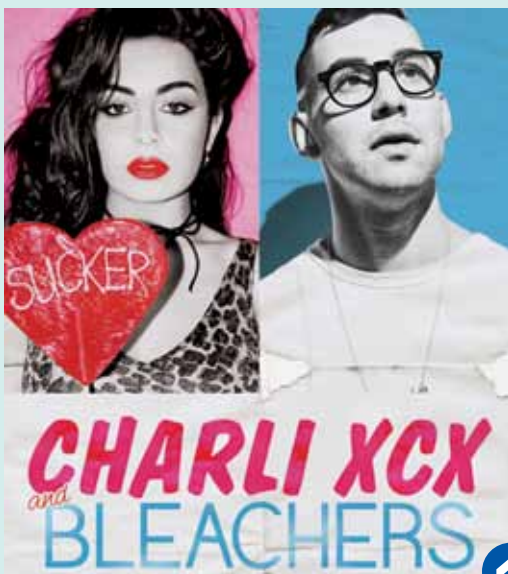
9 p.m. Aug. 1 at Cactus Club, Milwaukee. \$8. cactusclub.dostuff.info.

"Spectacular" is a very dramatic way to describe your album release party, but could a glam rock band do anything less for a debut record? This Milwaukee-based, sequin-studded act will be unveiling their self-titled debut, packed full of songs inspired by witchcraft, comic books and beat poetry and sung by their manically soulful front-woman Molly Roberts. They'll perform with their fellow Wisconsinites, power pop band Haunted Heads, as well as the "space-grunge, metal-punk" The Dead Deads, from Nashville.

MÖTLEY CRÜE

7 p.m. Aug. 7 at BMO Harris Bradley Center, Milwaukee. \$17 to \$97. bmoharrisbradleycenter.com.

The Crüe is through. After 34 years, the hard rock and glam metal rebels of Mötley Crüe are apparently calling it quits, embarking on a final tour of debauchery before hanging up their guitars. Who knows whether they'll stick to that — the band signed a "cessation of touring agreement" banning them from performing after 2015, but they know better than anyone that rules are made to be broken. But if you're a fan of the foursome, better safe than sorry. Alice Cooper is opening.



CHARLI XCX AND BLEACHERS

7:30 p.m. Aug. 5 at the Rave, Milwaukee. \$31 for two tickets, \$36 for VIP pair. therave.com.

It takes a lot to get a Rave recommendation these days, but we'd be telling you to catch this show if Charli XCX and Bleachers were playing the O'Donnell Park garage. Their Charlie and Jack Do America tour brings Milwaukeeans the opportunity to get twice the bang for their buck — catching both the '80s-tinted side project that turned out to be as good as fun. (or maybe better than?) and the British songwriter-turned-star who hopped from featured spots on "Fancy" and "I Love It" to her own big smash: "Boom Clap," from *The Fault in Our Stars*' soundtrack. Hey, at least they're in the Eagles Ballroom, right? Psych pop songwriter BØRNS opens.



DIANA KRALL

7:30 p.m. Aug. 8 at the Riverside Theater, Milwaukee. \$60 and \$75. pabsttheater.org.

Fans of Diana Krall's goosebump-evoking jazz stylings were disappointed last November, when she cancelled her new album and her fall tour, including her Milwaukee gig, due to a severe case of pneumonia. Now that she's back to full strength, she's making good on her promise to return, appearing at the Riverside Theater this month. Her style may be different than fans are used to, but it's not due to the impromptu hiatus — Krall's latest album, *Wallflower*, is an unabashed pop record featuring covers by some of Krall's greatest fellow performers.



Music reviews

JILL SCOTT :: 'WOMAN'

The talented R&B vocalist Jill Scott has taken a long, roundabout path to her fifth studio album, *Woman*. But it is worth the wait. Never content with the grooves of conventional R&B, she smooths things out on "Fool's Gold," digs deep into gospel wailing on "You Don't Know," and explores Prince-influenced territory on the slinky "Beautiful Love." "Closure" gets irrepressibly funky, a kiss off to a former love. If there is a thread that holds the entire album together, it is the exploration of love and sex in all its forms.

Jill Scott is wise and experienced, and her voice is a treasure.



THE BIRD AND THE BEE :: 'RECREATIONAL LOVE'

The Bird and the Bee first gained attention for sophisticated hipster pop influenced by classic '60s bachelor pad music. Their most recent album was a recreation of classic Hall and Oates songs. Fortunately, on their fourth studio outing, they return to original work. The more elegant side of '80s pop is an obvious touch point, on perky upbeat tunes like "Will You Dance?" and "Jenny," but with a resonant, contemporary sheen. This just might be one of your favorite soundtracks for summer 2015.



TITUS ANDRONICUS :: 'THE MOST LAMENTABLE TRAGEDY'

I was first introduced to this New Jersey punk band after they released their 2010 album *The Monitor*. The music was deeply intellectual, fueled by raw instrumental energy. This time, their sprawling 90-minute extravaganza seems a few steps too far. *The Most Lamentable Tragedy* is a journey into the heart and manic-depressive mind of bandleader Patrick Stickles a la the Who's *Quadrophenia* or Hüsker Dü's *Zen Arcade*. Like those, the work pivots between enthralling and infuriating. Listening to *The Most Lamentable Tragedy* is a feat of endurance not enjoyment, as the band veers off at times into hymns, drone and indecipherable self-indulgence. Some of the songs are top-level punk and garage rock, but too much borders on unlistenable.



table Tragedy is a feat of endurance not enjoyment, as the band veers off at times into hymns, drone and indecipherable self-indulgence. Some of the songs are top-level punk and garage rock, but too much borders on unlistenable.

BENJAMIN CLEMENTINE :: 'AT LEAST FOR NOW'

Song titles like "Winston Churchill's Boy," "Then I Heard a Bachelor's Cry," and "St. Clementine-On-Tea-and-Croissant" might make listeners to *At Least For Now* believe they're in for a challenging, pretentious listening experience. And that's a fair criticism. But Benjamin Clementine's voice demands to be heard. He has been praised by the likes of Paul McCartney and Bjork, and compared to luminaries like Nina Simone. The album could use greater attention to detail in its production — the incessant piano pounding is especially trying — but it is clear a promising talent has come to fruition in one of the most intriguing debuts of the year.



— Bill Lamb

Think outside of the big-box: Shopping local boutiques

By **Kirstin Roble**

Contributing writer

While the days are still warm and sunny, take the opportunity to flip your wardrobe. Boutiques all along the Lake Michigan coast have opened their doors to shoppers, and there are great options for bargain hunters and fashionistas alike.

For clothing, take a short trip up the interstate to Mequon. **REDD Boutique**, formally E Street Denim, features a plethora of popular and lesser known brands, including Free People, Sanuk and J Brand. For the bargain-conscious shopper, a separate room features racks of sale items. New items are added throughout the year, with sales starting around \$5. There's bound to be something for every individual style.

Another out-of-the-city option not far from Milwaukee is **Zing Boutique** in Port Washington. The store provides a cultured experience amid a pleasurable local atmosphere in this small town.

Upon visiting the art deco-designed store, a customer is greeted by a bright array of accessories, handbags and a selection of shoes. Featured brands include Tory Burch and Oka-B, as well as unique accessories that will add to any summer ensemble, regardless of the occasion.

If you're getting a jump on holiday shopping, a trip to **Aras, Beks and Pottiers III** gift boutique in Sheboygan can provide answers for even the pickiest of recipients.

Aras, Beks and Pottiers III features items by area artisans as well as Sheboygan-themed apparel.

The range of gifts is impressive. A small sampling of their selection includes scented jewelry from Tiny Hands food jewelry, sandals and slippers from Minnetonka Moccasins, and apparel from the brand Live for Life. Items for the home and handmade soaps add to the already extensive list. This boutique also offers goods online, potentially saving you the drive.

It is not only the adults in the house in need of new clothes and accessories for the summer months. The littlest shoppers and their families will want to head to Racine to visit **RG Natural Babies**. This family-owned business has been offering customers a range of products since it opened its new location in 2010. Store manager Michelle Schimian said in a recent email interview that the company prides itself on offering organic and all-natural products.

Items range from diapers to organic crib mattresses to essential oils. The variety even extends into "daddy's corner," offering a number of gifts items for the men in a baby's life. "We strive not to just be a store, but a place where parents can come and have support," Schimian says. "Having a baby changes your life and we want to be a place to make the transition a little easier with the support new parents



PHOTO: BARBARA POTTER

Sheboygan's Aras, Beks and Pottiers III is just one of many boutiques near Milwaukee.

need." RG Natural Babies also sells items through its online store.

In Milwaukee, the **Stephanie Horne Boutique** provides a cornerstone of fashion in Milwaukee's Third Ward district. Customers visiting the boutique can expect a variety of classic and contemporary trends, from brands such as Lumiere, Tart, Citizens of Humanity and Trina Turk.

Also, Stephanie Horne Boutique is a place to go for any and every occasion, from a casual afternoon stroll at German Fest to a summer wedding at Villa Terrace. Plus, prices range to fit every budget.

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652 S. Pier Drive, Sheboygan
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ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS



While *Sharknado 3: Oh Hell No!* was not as successful as *Sharknado 2*, Syfy is still planning a fourth film.

RATINGS TAKE A BITE, BUT 'SHARKNADO 3' STILL A SUCCESS

Fearsome sharks rained down once more in the latest *Sharknado* TV movie, but they didn't create the ratings deluge of last year's installment. An estimated 2.8 million viewers tuned in for Syfy's campy *Sharknado 3: Oh Hell No!*, a decline of 1.1 million people from the 3.9 million who watched 2014's *Sharknado 2*. The sequel was still the day's No. 1 cable program, and had double the first-viewing audience of the original 2013 movie, a surprise hit with its blend of offbeat casting and over-the-top storytelling and special effects.

But just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water — Syfy says a fourth movie is planned.

'AMERICAN PSYCHO' MUSICAL SET FOR BROADWAY DEBUT

The producers of the musical based on the novel *American Psycho* are hoping to slay Broadway audiences. Producers announced the show, based on Bret Easton Ellis' novel about a yuppie serial killer, will open in a yet-unnamed Shubert theater this winter, with previews starting on Feb. 19.

The book for the stage version was written by Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa, with music and lyrics by Duncan Sheik, a '90s one-hit-wonder with "Barely Breathing" and the songwriter of the Tony Award-winning musical *Spring Awakening*. The show, directed by Rupert Goold, made its premiere in London in December 2014.

While Christian Bale starred in the 2000 film version, Benjamin Walker will play the title role of Patrick Bateman. His Broadway credits include starring roles in *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (alongside Scarlett Johansson), and he's also starred in films including *Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter* and *Flags of Our Fathers*.

LOCAL JAZZ MUSICIANS TO PLAY SUMMERFEST GROUNDS

Organizers announced that the Summerfest Grounds will host a free one-day jazz festival, Visions on the Lake, from 2 to 6 p.m. on Aug. 2. Co-presented by Milwaukee World Festival and Milwaukee Jazz Fusion, a community group dedicated to advancing

jazz in Milwaukee, the event is the second installment of Visions on the Lake, which debuted in 2013. Milwaukee Jazz Fusion also presents the annual Bay View Jazz Fest in conjunction with Bay View Gallery Night.

Local performers include the Sam Belton Quintet, Opus and Manty Ellis and the Jazz Foundation of Milwaukee.



ADULT COLORING BOOKS GROW IN POPULARITY

Think coloring books are just for kids? Think again. This favorite childhood activity has recently become a popular trend for adults, especially among millennials. Adult coloring books have even risen into the ranks of Amazon's top 10 bestselling books list.

Adult colorers say the activity is calming or allows them to "zone out." Some bookstores have even begun hosting coloring events for adults as a way to capitalize on the trend.

— from AP and WiG reports

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ALL SIGNS:
JAN. 1 - DEC. 31

On July 16, 2014, Jupiter entered Leo, and a journey began.

The lion slipped from its cage easily, heedless of the portentous planets above its head. For 12 months, she wandered the American wilderness, aimless. The winter found her encountering a fellow traveler, and the spring bearing his cub.

And as the summer passed, and Jupiter began to tiptoe out of Leo, the lion and her cub found themselves drawn toward Milwaukee, fulfilling a destiny neither of them could truly comprehend.

Oh, like you have a better explanation?

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				3			9	
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	8			2				
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		7	2			1		

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

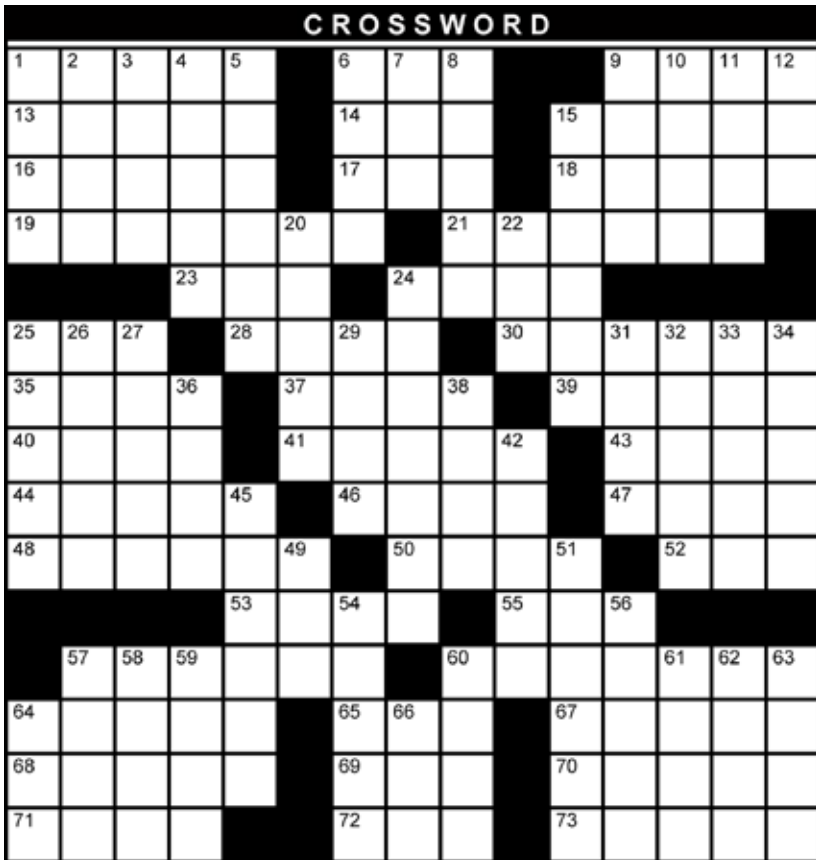


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ACROSS

- 1. Cockatoo's cousin
- 6. Where you can be wrapped in seaweed
- 9. African migrants
- 13. Bakery smell, e.g.
- 14. Type of English course
- 15. Distinct time period
- 16. Smaller than an SUV
- 17. It marches one by one?
- 18. Memory break
- 19. *Makes it easy to find thematic messages
- 21. *Online self
- 23. Pine juice
- 24. Freight horse cart
- 25. *It hunts on social media for terrorists
- 28. Famous French couturier
- 30. Forty-niner's reward
- 35. Tolkien creatures
- 37. Neuter
- 39. Fruit-peeling device
- 40. Common "pro" follower
- 41. Father of dialectical idealism
- 43. Edible root of Pacific islands
- 44. Soft palate hanger
- 46. RC, e.g.
- 47. Good's counterpart
- 48. More often than not
- 50. Franz Schubert's creation, e.g.
- 52. Snakelike fish
- 53. Type of stalk Jack climbed
- 55. Come into possession

- 57. *Noun now a verb on Facebook
- 60. *Content exchange
- 64. An excuse, especially in eyes of law
- 65. Bugling ungulate
- 67. Australian horse
- 68. MC Hammer's "2 ____ 2 Quit"
- 69. Hawaiian dish
- 70. Dispatch boat
- 71. Bonny ____
- 72. *Throwback Thursday
- 73. Used for raising

DOWN

- 1. * ____able
- 2. Acreage
- 3. Puts one over
- 4. Wet nurses
- 5. Found in classifieds
- 6. Smelting waste
- 7. *Pinterest action
- 8. Rose oil
- 9. Stairway to river in India
- 10. Wine valley
- 11. CCCP
- 12. "Monkey ____, monkey do"
- 15. Highlight
- 20. Imitative
- 22. Dread of some parent drivers
- 24. European soldier
- 25. *Discussion site
- 26. "Good job!" to performers
- 27. Sudden occurrence of

- disease
- 29. Crude group?
- 31. Flight destination
- 32. Final resting place
- 33. Bone-chilling
- 34. *Online troublemaker
- 36. Table mineral
- 38. *Crowd-sourced helper
- 42. *An L in LOL
- 45. Even though
- 49. Japanese capital
- 51. Saint Lawrence ____
- 54. Highly skilled
- 56. Crossbeam
- 57. Dog parasite
- 58. Semis
- 59. Avian wader
- 60. SNL bit
- 61. Pelvic bones
- 62. Famed loch
- 63. Small cave
- 64. Tide alternative
- 66. Tennis shot

Answers on pg. 42.

9	3	1	6	8	2	7	5	4
5	7	8	3	1	4	6	2	9
4	9	2	6	5	7	1	3	8
1	5	1	3	7	2	4	6	9
7	2	6	4	8	6	5	3	1
8	1	5	6	4	9	3	1	4
8	2	7	6	5	9	6	4	8
3	1	5	8	6	7	9	4	8
5	6	2	8	6	4	7	1	3
7	4	3	1	9	2	5	8	6
1	6	8	3	7	5	9	4	2

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Justices who dismissed John Doe investigation received over \$8 million from the groups being probed

NATHAN METZ: Government should not be for sale to anyone, but the bought-and-paid-for SCOTUS ruled that money is speech and corporations are people.

CONNIE WEEKS: They would sell their souls to the devil! They SHOULD RECUSE THEMSELVES IF THEY RECEIVED MONEY FROM THEE GROUPS! No morals or ethics among them.

CLIFF HUDSON: Surprised. Hell no.

JUDY BAASSLER: What happened to Democracy?

Donald Trump trashes John McCain's military service, saying he's only a hero because he got captured

SUE GORES GRUBER: I think Trump is just another "egomaniac" who loves to hear himself talk, thinks he has all the answers, and won't back down to anyone. He's just like all the other Republican candidates. I am not a fan of McCain, but I do respect him for his service, and I think Trump was absolutely wrong to make that comment about him.

MARSHA LAMBERT: Donald Trump has shown his colors ... He never served in the military and yet he comes out and disparages a veteran.

LYNNE TRUE SIMON: Although I am not a fan of McCain, Trump is out of line about this.

TERRIS MUHAMMAD: Trump is appealing to a segment of the American population that has been conditioned for and receptive to his message. He has no concerns for his detractors.

Wisconsin Supreme Court's ruling expands the role of donors in elections, while shielding them from disclosure

ERIK OSBERG: So much for a democratic WI. Through gerrymandering and legal action conservatives have taken over the state even though they got less votes than their rivals.

BRIAN FITZGERALD: So much for checks and balances.

JAMES PRESTON: It's a gop run state of Wisconsin. Across the board ,games set match. Scotus, hear us

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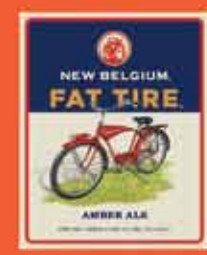
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IMPORTANT

Health Update

RE: invasive meningococcal disease (commonly called "meningitis")

What is IMD (invasive meningococcal disease)?

A vaccine-preventable illness caused by bacteria.

When diagnosed early it can usually be treated effectively with antibiotics.

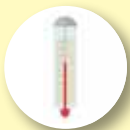
It's spread by direct contact with saliva (spit) and other fluids from the mouth and nose.

Men whose recent partners include men from Chicago could be potentially exposed.

Condoms do not offer protection from IMD!

If you think you may have been exposed while visiting the Chicago area during May or June, avoid having sex, kissing, sharing drinking glasses, sharing cigarettes or similar activities, and seek medical attention as soon as possible.

Watch for the symptoms:



Sudden onset of high fever.



Unusual skin rash.



Severe pain in the abdomen, arms, leg or back.



Headache and stiff neck.



Vomiting and increased sensitivity to light.



Sleepiness, confusion or unclear thinking.



Increase among gay men in Chicago!

Meningococcal disease is rare, but outbreaks do occur.

Recent deaths in Chicago among MSM of color, some with HIV disease, point to risks for Milwaukee men as well. The bacteria can be sexually transmitted, but it can be spread through saliva. While only 3 to 4% of households with one case have a secondary case, these rates are still 500 to 800 times higher than usual community rates.

What does that mean? Contact us or the health department if you suspect any exposure.

Vaccinations for the disease are available through the **Milwaukee Health Department**.

Diverse & Resilient Testing Hours:

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