



## Reaching out to save the monarch butterfly

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# News with a twist



## SAY 'BANANA'

British photographer David Slater wants Wikipedia to take down a series of photos that a crested black macaque took of itself in 2011. Wikipedia's editors are refusing, saying the photo is in the public domain because Slater was clearly not the photographer, and monkeys, while clearly Instagram stars in the making, can't own a copyright.

## GIVE HIM THE FINGER

The Iowa Board of Medicine has fined a Mason City surgeon for operating on the

wrong finger of a patient. The board issued a warning and imposed a \$2,500 fine on Dr. Rene Recinos, who performed surgery on the patient's right ring finger that was supposed to be performed on the patient's right middle finger. At least the patient can still give the doctor the finger he deserves.

## FULL DANCE CARD, BUT EMPTY HEART

Mischa Badasyan, a 26-year-old, Berlin-based gay performance artist, says sex resulting from hookup apps like Grindr leave him feeling lonely and adrift. So, beginning in September, he'll have sex with a different man every day for an entire year in a performance piece titled "Save the Date." The work will explore the contemporary phenomenon of being with so many people sexually yet feeling alone. Badasyan hopes to acquire a small token from each sexual partner that he will then put on display.



# WIGWAG

By WiG staff

## 'A JUG OF WINE AND THOU'

A Texas woman allegedly stole a bottle of \$3.99 wine to get arrested and see her jailed boyfriend. Police say Alicia Walicke stole a bottle of wine from a gas station, and then stood outside the station drinking the wine and waiting for police. An arrest affidavit says the woman told police she just wanted to see her boyfriend, who was arrested hours earlier.

## FEELING 'FULL'

Eighteen in 10. Gulp. Travis Mizejewski of Amery, Wisconsin, won this year's Brat Days Festival brat-eating contest in Sheboygan. He ate 18 brats in 10 minutes, coming back from a second-place finish last year to win first this summer. Mizejewski won \$500 for himself, \$500 for charity and a year's supply of Johnsonville Sausage. Asked after the contest how he felt, he said, "Full."

## CHECK OUT AT NOON

The compound built for but never occupied by Warren Jeffs, the leader of a polygamous sect who is in jail for sexually assaulting girls he claimed were his wives, is now a bed-and-breakfast. The Utah property is called America's Most Wanted Suites and Bed and Breakfast. Rooms cost \$85-\$200 a night. The lodging is owned by a former bodyguard of Jeffs, who said it doesn't "have any spooky history."

## 'C'AWKWARD

A Welsh company called Dirty Bird Fried Chicken somehow made things even more awkward than the name suggests, when it unveiled a new, phallic-looking logo. Owner Neil Young insists the logo was merely meant to be a playful rendering of the letters "d" and "b" arranged in the shape of a rooster, but marketing materials include aggressively sexual phrases like

"Touch my breast" and "Lick my thigh."

## HOLY ECSTASY

You'd think a church would be off the scouting list of locations for a porn shoot, but a film crew recorded at least two videos of a woman caressing her breasts while holding a Bible and rosary at an Austrian church. The Austrian Times reported that a priest alerted authorities after parishioners recognized their church in the background (while "surfing the Internet," they say). But it wasn't until images from the video were played on local television that a tipster who recognized the woman's breasts stepped forward. It's going to be a long week at confession.

## INTERNET CONNECTIVITY PROBLEMS

In an interview with *Wired* magazine, whistleblower Edward Snowden revealed that the nationwide blackout of Syria's Internet during

the country's 2012 civil war wasn't, as assumed, done deliberately by the government to quash rebels. It was actually done by the NSA during an attempt to gain access to the nation's digital communications for surveillance. Instead the NSA disabled it completely by accident.

## RUSTLING FOR RELIGION

An evangelical Christian church in Colorado says it strives to meet the needs of people who "embrace the western cowboy culture." So, the baptisms are done in a horse trough. Spurs are welcome. Horses are found outside. The preacher likes to be called "Trail Boss." And the offering plate is an old cowboy boot. We'd joke that the Wild West Cowboy Church sounds like a great place for the fetish crowd, but the church caters to cowboys and "patriots," as in the gun-toting members of the Southern Colorado Patriots Society.

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# Midwest candidates trumpet farm roots in campaigns

By Catherine Lucey

AP writer

For candidates in the Midwest, almost nothing tops a photo opportunity with a barnyard animal or a colorful anecdote about life on the farm.

Take Illinois venture capitalist Bruce Rauner, who talks about his dairy farmer grandfather as a role model in his Republican bid for governor. And then there's Iowa U.S. Senate candidate Joni Ernst, a Republican who got national attention for an ad touting her hog castration skills.

Most Midwest voters don't work on farms. But many office-seekers seem to be stretching their bios for a barnyard background to establish common-man authenticity.

"It's the classic 'I grew up in a log

cabin," said Sue Dvorksy, a former chair of the Iowa Democratic Party.

Sometimes the connection requires some tractor pulling. Rauner is a millionaire with two Ivy League degrees, but his official biography stresses he "knew how to ride a horse at 6, milk a cow at 8, and shoot a rifle at 10."

Recently the Iowa governor and lieutenant governor, who do have rural backgrounds, began asserting their animal slaughter resumé.

"I held the hogs while the veterinarian castrated it," Gov. Terry Branstad said at a June news conference.

Then Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds chimed in: "I didn't castrate hogs, but I do know how to skin a chicken, and I can do that pretty well."

So far, neither has demonstrated those skills on the campaign trail.

Nowhere is a rural record more desirable than Iowa, even though

two-thirds of the population lives in urban areas. Candidates here trek around farms, gobble pie at state fairs and talk farm subsidies. While Ernst's ad became fodder for late-night comedy, it also propelled her to victory in a five-way GOP primary.

Ernst, a lieutenant colonel in the Iowa National Guard who was raised on a farm, now faces Democratic Rep. Bruce Braley in the battle to succeed Tom Harkin, who is retiring. The two are locked in a dead heat, and Ernst's campaign has tried to brand Braley as a lawyer who doesn't understand rural issues.

Braley's campaign has countered that he was raised in a small town, his grandfather was a farmer and he worked agricultural jobs as a youth.

Since then, Republican operatives have tried to hit Braley with a story on a dispute he had with a neighbor at his vacation community over her chickens.

"Bruce understands what rural Iowa is all about because that's where he came from," said Braley campaign spokesman Jeff Giertz.

Candidates in nearby states also are reaching for rural connections.

In Nebraska, Republican Pete Ricketts selected Lt. Gov. Lavon Heidemann as his

running mate in the governor's race, citing his dairy farming experience.

Wisconsin Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mary Burke cites her ancestors as she seeks to topple Republican Gov. Scott Walker.

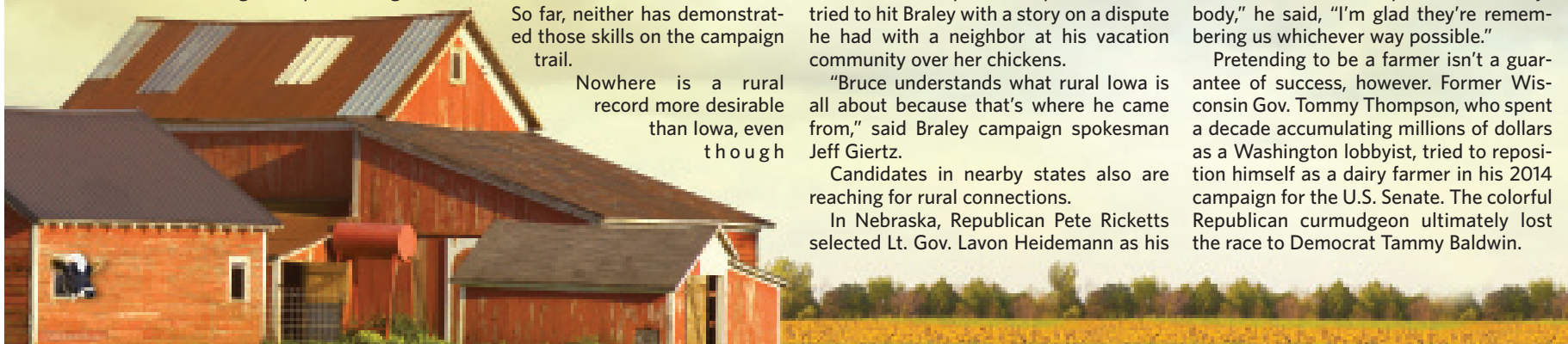
"My great-grandparents were farmers," said the former Trek Bicycle executive as she petted cows at the Rock County Fair.

The candidates must be careful not to overreach. Of Rauner, Ken Snyder, a Chicago-based Democratic media consultant, notes: "Everybody knows he didn't make \$53 million last year as a farmer."

To the folks actually raising hogs, the fixation with farming may not be a bad thing, said Chris Peterson, a lifelong farmer from Clear Lake, Iowa.

Since candidates "pander to everybody," he said, "I'm glad they're remembering us whichever way possible."

Pretending to be a farmer isn't a guarantee of success, however. Former Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson, who spent a decade accumulating millions of dollars as a Washington lobbyist, tried to reposition himself as a dairy farmer in his 2014 campaign for the U.S. Senate. The colorful Republican curmudgeon ultimately lost the race to Democrat Tammy Baldwin.



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# Wisconsin Unites for Marriage coalition forms

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

A new statewide coalition aimed at securing the freedom to marry for same-sex couples in Wisconsin launched as activists, attorneys, couples and constituents prepped for oral arguments in the equality case before the U.S. appeals court in Chicago.

The Wisconsin Unites for Marriage Coalition is a partnership of the ACLU of Wisconsin, Fair Wisconsin and Freedom to Marry. Coalition representatives this month vowed an unprecedented grassroots education campaign with the goal of winning the freedom to marry for all couples.

Launch celebrations took place on Aug. 7 in Appleton, Eau Claire, La Crosse, Madison and Milwaukee, with religious leaders, civil rights advocates and attorneys attending, along with the same-sex couples who sued the state.

"This is the first time since the 2006 campaign against the constitutional amendment that we have had a diverse statewide coalition working together to achieve the freedom to marry for same-sex couples," said Katie Belanger of Fair Wisconsin, which with Lambda Legal recently won its defense of the state's domestic partnership registry. "We are thrilled to join forces with Wisconsin's leaders in the business and faith communities, and state and national partners in the movement for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality, as we move Wisconsin forward together."

Chris Ahmuty, executive director of ACLU Wisconsin, added, "Wisconsin Unites for Marriage gives a voice to couples, their friends and families, and everyone committed to freedom and equality. You don't have to be a plaintiff or lawyer to be heard as we make history together."

The ACLU of Wisconsin and the national ACLU

are representing same-sex couples who sued Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker and others in government for the right to marry in Wisconsin or for Wisconsin to recognize their out-of-state marriages. They are challenging the constitutional amendment barring same-sex marriages that was approved by voters in 2006.

In early June, a federal district judge in Madison overturned the amendment, a decision that for a few days cleared the way for more than 500 gay and lesbian couples to marry in the state.

The weddings ended and the status of the marriages were put in peril as Wisconsin Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen, a Republican who is not seeking re-election in November, pursued an appeal.

That appeal is before the U.S. Seventh Circuit Court in Chicago, with oral argument set for Aug. 26 with a panel of three judges. The appeal is being taken up along with a marriage equality case from Indiana.

The coalition is planning rallies around Wisconsin on the eve of the arguments. It also is planning to bring the plaintiffs to Chicago on Aug. 25 for a rally outside the federal courthouse, and for the arguments the next day.

"To be honest, before we won the case in federal court, we didn't realize how much marriage meant — mostly because we could never let ourselves imagine it, because it wasn't a reality for us for so many years," said Judi Trampf, a plaintiff in the suit.

Her partner, Katy Heyning, added, "But now more than ever, I think about what would happen if something happened to Judi. In the eyes of the legal system, we'd be little more than two people who knew each other. After 25 years of commitment, living together and loving each other — we'd be nothing."

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# Wisconsin program helps mentally ill find jobs

By Bob Dohr

Wausau Daily Herald Media

The nation's unemployment rate — currently 6.2 percent — is a statistic that gets plenty of scrutiny.

But it pales in comparison to 82 percent. That's the U.S. unemployment rate among people with a serious mental illness, according to a recent report from the National Alliance on Mental Illness. And five professionals at North Central Health Care in Wausau have dedicated themselves to turning those numbers around.

Most adults with mental illness want to work, according to the report, and six in 10 can succeed with the right support. But only 1.7 percent received supported employment services in 2012.

These specialists are working across Marathon, Lincoln and Langlade counties to help patients in North Central Health Care's mental health community treatment program find and hold jobs. The clients have a range of mental illnesses, including schizophrenia, depression, anxiety and bipolar disorder.

Among them is a 22-year-old Wausau woman who's now working part-time at a yogurt shop and a 35-year-old client from Wausau who landed a custodial job in Weston, both of whom said the work has given them a new purpose and focus in life.

Retail, cleaning, accounting and factory work are just some of the types of jobs available to clients, says Christine Seidler, an employment supervisor at North Central Health Care. But Seidler says the common theme is that the jobs always are based on the client's interests.

"We do (what we call) a career profile, and get to know that person," Seidler says. "We get out in the community with them. What are their skills? What are their abilities? What is their dream job? How can we connect what they're doing now to what their dream is?"

It's a program based on a model of supported employment known as "Individual Placement and Support," started in 2001 by the Johnson & Johnson-Dartmouth Community Mental Health Program. The program began as a pilot in three states and now is used in 14 states, including Wisconsin, along with the District of Columbia.

North Central Health Care's supported employment program was created in 2010 with a three-year, \$110,000 grant from Johnson & Johnson-Dartmouth and is sustained through Medicaid and Wisconsin's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation funding.

Seidler says IPS employment serves about 75 of the approximately 400 North Central Health Care clients, and nearly 30 of those are currently employed.

Katie Walker of Wausau is one of them.

Walker, 22, who suffers from bipolar disorder and schizophrenia, works five to six hours a week at Cherry Berry yogurt bar, cleaning, stocking products and helping

customers with the checkout process. It's a job she's happy to have.

"I like getting out and working," Walker says. "It gives me something to do during the day so I'm not bored. It's nice working for money instead of depending on Social Security."

But Walker says there are challenges.

"There's some difficulties with getting to work on time sometimes," she says. "There's difficulties in keeping relationships, so it's hard to have good references."

Pat Philipsek, operations manager at Cherry Berry, says one of the company's goals is to provide a family-friendly atmosphere, and they're willing to train employees to cultivate that despite limitations.

"It doesn't make a difference to us; it depends on the person, how well they can interact with people," Philipsek says.

## PROVEN RESULTS

Seidler says evidence shows that those who obtain competitive employment have increased income, improved self-esteem, and are able to feel like they're contributing members of their community.

"The old theory used to be, 'Oh, my gosh, they're too ill to work, it's going to increase their anxiety, it's going to make them sicker and it's going to cause them stress,'" Seidler says. "The evidence shows — and we've seen in the last four years — the exact opposite. We see decreased use of alcohol and substance (abuse), we see a decrease in symptoms, we see (an) increase in self-esteem and hygiene."

Wausau's Matthew Paul, 35, who suffers from schizophrenia, landed his custodial job at the Woodson YMCA Aspirus Branch through North Central Health Care's supported employment program.

"It gives me some kind of purpose, being scheduled to work," Paul says. "It keeps you busy. The money's nice, too."

Paul said the best part of the program is employment specialist Kari Pfender, the woman who helped him get the job.

"She's the one that got out there and found a job for me to do," Paul says. "Without her help, it wouldn't have been possible."

Walker also had positive things to say about her job coach, Karissa Nelson.

"She's helped me find a job and she helped me keep my job," Walker says of Nelson. "She's always been there if I had any problems. She's basically my go-to person for work and work-related stuff."

That type of work hasn't gone unnoticed. Seidler says the team was recently recognized by their peers in Wisconsin with a best-practices award for their collaboration with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation in helping mentally ill clients obtain employment in their communities.

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# Bye, bye Bachmann

By Lisa Neff

Staff writer

U.S. Rep. Michele Bachmann is a hit-maker on the left.

Seriously. "Click." "Click." "Share." Times a million.

News about Bachmann — and occasionally satire about the Minnesota politician that gets mistaken for authentic news — generates big hits on liberal blogs, forums monitoring the religious right and alternative press websites. Case in point, a *Wisconsin Gazette* story about Bachmann — "Hysterical Michele Bachmann flees teenage gay activist" — generated the second most hits in the history of *wisconsin Gazette*.com, as well as a lot of "LOL" remarks on Facebook.

And now, we're readying to say bye, bye Bachmann, who is not running for re-election in Minnesota's 6th Congressional District. A GOP primary took place Aug. 12, with Tom Emmer winning the nomination. Democratic-Farmer-Labor candidate Joe Perske and independent John Denney also are campaigning for the seat that Bachmann secured in 2006 with a resumé that included state senator, tax litigation attorney, stay-at-home mom, evangelical Christian, anti-abortion activist, home school advocate and staunch opponent of LGBT equality.

In a profile of Bachmann for a "Time 100"

issue, Rush Limbaugh accurately characterized her as a "strong spokesman for unapologetic conservatism."

In 2012, Bachmann made a brief run for the presidential nomination. As a leader of the tea party movement, she made a strong start in Iowa, but after a series of highly publicized gaffes and inconsistencies made a poor showing in the caucus. After ending her bid, Bachmann still said she "was the perfect candidate."

Last spring, Bachmann announced she wouldn't run for a fifth term in the House. The president is limited to serving eight years in office and so eight years is enough for the House, she explained, adding that her close 2012 congressional race and the multiple investigations into her presidential campaign committee's financing did not factor in her decision.

Soon after, the bye-byes began.

At a dinner held this spring in Monticello, Minnesota, Bachmann was honored with best wishes and thanks, including from actor and Republican Jon Voight and Democratic U.S. Sen. Al Franken, who both appeared in a video tribute. Bachmann told her well-wishers it was time to move on: "I believe that there is no success without a successor."

But is this "bye" a farewell to Bachmann the politician?



PHOTO: AP PHOTO/THE ST. CLOUD TIMES, DAVE SCHWARZ

**U.S. Rep. Michele Bachmann wipes her eyes while watching people pay tribute to her during a 6th Congressional District event earlier this year in Minnesota. The event was her swan song, attended by GOP activists who helped launch her career.**

Maybe not.

Her presidential campaign continues to spend money and her congressional campaign committee had about \$1.54 million at the end of the second quarter.

Bachmann has amped up her profile this summer — heading to the southern U.S. border to stake out a tea party position on deporting immigrant children, headlining with Sarah Palin and Ted Cruz at a conservative summit in Denver, making the rounds on conservative shows to share views on immigration, health care, religion and, yes, the "gay agenda." In a recent interview on the conservative *Faith and Liberty Talk Show*, Bachmann claimed the "gay agenda" now includes "multiples in marriage. Not just

two, but multiples in marriage. ...I think they also want to abolish age-of-consent laws, which means ... we would do away with statutory-rape laws so that adults would be able to freely prey on little children sexually. That's the deviance that we're seeing embraced in our culture today."

And, in late July, Bachmann told RealClearPolitics she could run for president in 2016. "The only thing that the media has speculated on is that it's going to be various men that are running," Bachmann said. "They haven't speculated, for instance, that I'm going to run. What if I decide to run? And there's a chance I could run."

Bachmann expanded on her remark in a post on Facebook, saying her point is "the media has failed to consider that there are a number of strong, accomplished, intelligent Republican women who could be in the mix for 2016."

She added, "At this time I have indicated no intention to once again run for the top spot in 2016. Right now my focus remains on serving the remainder of my term representing Minnesota's 6th Congressional District."

But still, the speculation is on.

## DID YOU KNOW...

U.S. Rep. Michele Bachmann, R-Minn., and her husband Marcus Bachmann, a Christian counselor who has advocated the use of "ex-gay" therapy, campaigned for Democrat Jimmy Carter in 1976. They were drawn to Carter because he is a born-again Christian. However, Bachmann decided she was a Republican after reading Gore Vidal's novel *Burr*, according to Biography.com: "He was kind of mocking the Founding Fathers and I just thought, 'What a snot.' I just remember reading the book, putting it in my lap, looking out the window and thinking, 'You know what? I don't think I am a Democrat. I must be a Republican.'"



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# Women's self-defense classes feature Russian Systema technique

By Wes Manko

Special to WiG

Young women who are starting college and living on their own for the first time can feel particularly vulnerable to assault. Learning an effective self-defense system is empowering and confidence-boosting.

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Throughout Russia's history, the nation had to repel invaders from the south, east and west. All attackers brought their distinct styles of combat and weaponry. The battles took place on different kinds of terrain. The Russians often were greatly outnumbered by enemies.

Facing such challenges, Russian warriors developed a style of combat combining confidence with innovative and versatile tactics that were practi-

cal and effective against any type of enemy and under all circumstances. The style is natural and freeform. It has no strict rules, rigid structure or limitations (except for moral ones).

Designed for fast learning, Systema is based on instinctive reactions that utilize each individual's strengths and physical characteristics. Systema instructors also teach some special military forces and law enforcement personnel.

Vladimir Vasiliev is the director and chief instructor at Systema Headquarters in Toronto, Canada. Born in Russia, he received combative training and Systema training before moving to Canada, where he founded the first school of Russian Martial Art outside Russia.

Vasiliev has since personally trained and certified well over 500 Systema instructors and schools in more than 30 countries worldwide.

As taught by DEFENSEWORKS in Milwaukee and Madison, Systema focuses on the type of attacks one is likely to face on the street, with the goal of ending them as quickly as possible. Systema incorporates the principles of force redirection, balance

disruption and injury avoidance. Significantly, it also focuses on preparing mentally to deal with an attack that comes from any angle — whether sitting, standing, walking, lying down or in a car. There are no uniforms, no long-term contracts, no paperwork or membership fees, no belts and no test fees associated with Systema.

DEFENSEWORKS provides three-hour self-defense seminars and women's self-defense seminars for businesses and nonprofit organizations, as well as private lessons. These seminars include lectures on violence prevention, verbal de-escalation and escape tactics from dangerous situations. Clients include Harley-Davidson, Trek Bicycle and the Girl Scouts of America.

*Wes Manko is a nationally published author and certified Systema Russian Martial Art instructor. He also serves as an adjunct faculty teacher of women's self-defense at Mount Mary University. Manko is owner of DEFENSEWORKS, which provides woman's self-defense seminars and anti-bullying seminars to organizations and individuals.*



## LESSONS IN SAFETY

Self-defense expert Wes Manko will present two seminars in Systema, a Russian self-defense program, for women only. The Milwaukee seminar is noon-3 p.m. on Sept. 7 at Milwaukee Urban Acupuncture, 2600 N. Booth St., in Riverwest. The Madison seminar is noon-3 p.m. on Sept. 14, at Madison Fit Body Boot Camp, 5617 Odana Road. The cost to attend is \$40 at the door, or \$30 with pre-registration (prior to Sept. 4 in Milwaukee, prior to Sept. 10 in Madison). Gazette readers can receive a \$10 discount when registering by using the code word WIG. To register or obtain more information, phone 414-332-0599 or go to [www.defenseworks.us](http://www.defenseworks.us). Space is limited, so email [wes@defenseworks.us](mailto:wes@defenseworks.us) reserve a position.



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# Wisconsin butterfly lovers join movement to save the monarchs

By Kelly Meyerhofer

HTR Media writer

Some people raise dogs or cats for their cuddly companionship. Others opt for fuss-free fish. Carol Stokes and Lori Beilke choose to mother monarchs.

Though butterflies are not as loyal as traditional pets, nor are their demands as simple as fish, love for the insects prompts the women to raise them summer after summer.

Beilke's been raising the butterflies since she was 7 years old, while Stokes started only a couple of years ago, the (Manitowoc) *Herald Times Reporter* reported.

Stokes took interest after her sister received a grant to open a butterfly garden.

"And then it became an obsession," she laughed. "I call myself a monarch midwife."

Up went more than 20 butterfly cages in her sunroom. Out went part of her lawn, which she replaced with a butterfly garden and milkweed plants.

Milkweed is all a monarch needs for sustenance; monarchs lay their eggs on the plant and it's the only food the larva can eat.

The caterpillar stage is most taxing on Beilke, who checks on her bugs up to four times a day as they munch through leaf after leaf of milkweed.

"The (caterpillars) are at your mercy," Beilke explained.

Over a period of nine to 14 days, each insect increases its body mass almost 2,000 times as it grows, shedding its skin five times to allow for this rapid increase in size, said Karen Oberhauser, a butterfly biologist at the University of Minnesota.

Next, each pupates and becomes a chrysalis — that's science speak for cocoon. The women then wait another nine to 14 days for the butterfly



PHOTO: SUE PISCHKE, HERALD TIMES REPORTER

**Carol Stokes releases one of the four monarch butterflies that hatched at her home in Manitowoc on July 28.**

to emerge. After letting the butterflies' iconic orange and black wings dry for a couple of hours, the ladies release them into the wild.

Stokes transfers the monarchs from their cage to her finger and onto a flower.

"Use your legs," she instructed them during the release.

Most monarchs only live for a couple of weeks before mating and dying. The last generation, born in late August, gets to live for seven to nine months but forfeits mating in order to migrate to Mexico. The butterflies fly back north in the spring, where they mate and die.

"It's amazing to watch all the different stages of life and know you helped them along," Stokes said.

## DECLINE OR ADAPTATION

Despite the women's efforts, monarchs seem to be in steep decline across the nation, a disturbing trend that's persisted for much of the past decade, Oberhauser said.

She attributes this drop primarily to habitat loss, which includes the wintering sites in Mexico but also the mating region, which spans from the East Coast through the Corn Belt. A report released earlier this

year by the World Wildlife Fund in conjunction with the Natural Protected Areas Commission and Mexico's Environment Department stated the number of monarchs wintering in Mexico had dropped to its lowest level since studies began in 1993: only 1.65 acres in the forests west of Mexico City.

There are multiple causes for the reduction in habitat, which is now considered a statistical long-term trend rather than a combination of seasonal events. Farmers spraying pesticides to eradicate weeds have simultaneously eliminated a majority of milkweed plants. Illegal logging in Mexico also contributed to the plummeting numbers.

Still, some experts dispute that the monarch populations are declining at all.

"It's a difference of opinion on how to interpret the data on hand," said Andrew Davis, an assistant research scientist at the University of Georgia. "The lower numbers are mostly at sites in Mexico, which is only one of the stages of a monarch's life cycle."

He went on to say he has noticed an increased number of monarchs sited at coastal states throughout the winter, which suggests the monarchs are simply adjusting to the temperature change and making a shorter migration.

"It's not good or bad," he said. "It just is. Monarchs are adapting to a changing environment."

In Milwaukee, the best known monarch preservation efforts are centered around the Milwaukee County Grounds, where a group known as the

Friends of the Monarch Trail have been able to protect a portion of the monarch habitat in the area. It's a portion of Wauwatosa under development — UWM's Innovation Campus, a business incubation research park, is currently being built on the grounds — but since 2008 the group of volunteers has been working to ensure remaining portions of the habitat stay intact, protesting against nearby concrete crushing by the Department of Transportation and planting milkweed.

No matter how the data are deciphered, there are still many questions about this critter with a brain the size of a pinhead. Their monthslong migration makes the butterflies one of the most beloved insects.

"I would hate to think that someday there wouldn't be monarchs," Stokes said.

While Oberhauser said it is unlikely the species will become extinct, the conservation work done by private citizens is boosting butterfly numbers.

Stokes released only 35 monarchs last summer, but this summer is already up to 133 with another month to go. Beilke usually raises up to 600 monarchs each summer. Despite the amount of work the job entails, both said they will be back at it next summer.

"The last release of the summer is always a relief because I know I'll get a break," Stokes said. "But it's also sad because I know I won't see them again till next spring."

Published as an AP Member Exchange.

## MIGRATION CELEBRATION

As part of their efforts to spread awareness and advocate on behalf of monarch butterflies, the Friends of the Monarch Trail will be hosting the seventh annual Migration Celebration 4-7 p.m. on Aug. 24. The event will feature performances by Moving for Monarchs, a traveling dance project increasing awareness of the decline in monarch habitats, as well as guided tours of the trail, milkweed plants for sale and live music and food. The event is free to attend. More details can be found at [themonarchtrail.org](http://themonarchtrail.org).



# Harvest time

## Wisconsin ranks No. 8 in number of farmers markets

There are few better places to buy summer vegetables, fresh cheese curds and homemade baked goods than Wisconsin, which has the eighth-most farmers markets of any state in the nation, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture this summer put the Dane County Farmers Market in Madison in the spotlight. The market held on the square surrounding the state Capitol is the largest producer-only farmers market in the country, meaning all of the roughly 160 vendors must grow or make their own products. They can't sell items purchased from others.

The market serves as an example "of how farmers markets can be a huge success for the local economy and the farmers and consumers," said Anne Alonzo, who leads USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service.

Nationwide, the number of farmers markets registered with the USDA has grown from about 3,700 a decade ago to 8,268 this year. In Wisconsin, the number of markets has grown from 170 to 295 in that time.

Here are a few other things to know about farmers markets and the USDA's efforts to promote sales of locally produced food:

• **"THE FACE OF AGRICULTURE":**

Alonzo describes farmers markets as "the face of agriculture," with 150,000 farmers and ranchers nationwide selling directly to consumers.

"I think the best part is that these farmers markets help local economies because the food is produced, it's processed, it's distributed and it's sold there, and so it stays in the local economy and the money stays there, leading to what we believe is strong economic development

and job creation," she said.

• **FIND A FARMERS MARKET OR CSA:** Alonzo has been in Wisconsin in part to promote the USDA's online National Farmers Market Directory, which consumers can use to find markets near them. The agency plans to launch a similar directory of community-supported agriculture, or CSA, programs next year.

CSAs typically provide weekly deliveries of produce and other products, such as eggs or honey, to people who buy season-long subscriptions.

"We think there's a lot of benefits to both farmers and consumers vis-a-vis CSAs," Alonzo said. "Farmers can distribute their products during the hours that work for them, and they receive payment for the products early in the season, which helps the farms' economic planning. And this gives consumers access to ... a wide variety of fresh, local food."

More than 12,000 farms nationwide offered CSAs last year, she said.

• **FOOD HUBS:** The next big thing in the local food movement is likely to be the growth of food hubs, where farmers who can't make deliveries or aren't interested in marketing can bring food to be packaged and sold. The number of food hubs nationwide has doubled since 2009 to more than 300.

The USDA is working to put together a directory of them as well.

"We're really excited about these new business models," Alonzo said. She added, "I think it's a win-win. It's a win for the farmers, it's a win for the food hub and it's a win for consumers because ... it makes a lot of sense."

— AP

MILWAUKEE JIM WHITE/REUTERS/GETTY IMAGES

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## REGIONAL BRIEFS



PHOTO: COURTESY

**TARGETING PUPPY MILLS:** Legislation proposed by three suburban Chicago third-graders to better protect pets is now Illinois law. Democratic Gov. Pat Quinn signed the measure, which increases fines for mistreating or abusing animals. Supporters say it targets unethical operators of puppy mills.

#### ORAL ARGUMENTS SET IN JOHN DOE APPEAL

Oral arguments in the appeal of a federal judge's ruling halting an investigation into Gov. Scott Walker's recall campaign and other conservative groups have been set for Sept. 9, exactly two months before the Republican stands for re-election.

The Seventh U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals set the date.

No charges have been filed against Walker or anyone else as a result of the investigation, which began in secret in 2012 but has since been largely revealed through court filings and other public statements.

Prosecutors have said in court filings that they are looking into allegations of illegal campaign activity involving Walker's campaign, Wisconsin Club for Growth, the state

chamber of commerce and conservative groups during the 2011 and 2012 recalls.

Special prosecutor Francis Schmitz described what he called a "criminal scheme" by Walker to evade campaign fundraising and coordination laws, according to a document written in December but made public in June. An attorney for Schmitz subsequently said Walker was not a target of the probe and that document laid out a legal theory, but that no determination had been made to bring any charges.

Walker, a potential 2016 candidate for president, has said repeatedly he did nothing wrong and that his political opponents, including Democratic challenger Mary Burke, are slandering him by referring to his involvement in an alleged "criminal scheme."

#### UW-STEVENS POINT TO BAN TOBACCO FROM CAMPUS

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is going tobacco-free. Starting Aug. 25, no one will be allowed to use tobacco on campus property, including parking lots and sidewalks.

UW-Stevens Point health officials say the plan is designed to encourage healthier lifestyles. They say they'll help students quit using tobacco, providing counseling and free or reduced-cost nicotine replacement products such as nicotine gum and prescription medication.

More than 700 college campuses across the United States have banned tobacco. Next year, the number will grow to include state-sponsored colleges and universities in Illinois. Gov. Pat Quinn signed legislation Aug. 17 that will ban smoking there as of July 1, 2015.

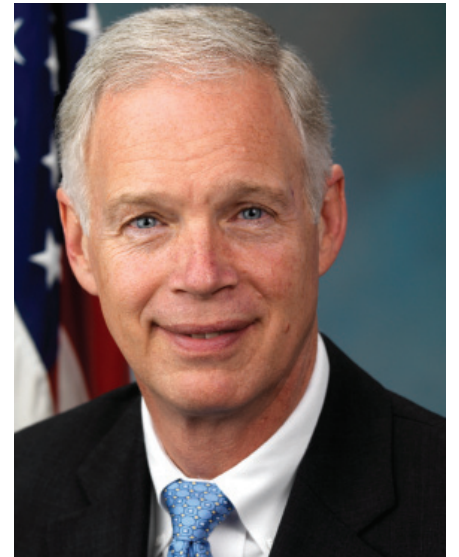


PHOTO: COURTESY

U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wisconsin

#### IN OTHER REGIONAL NEWS ...

• **U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson**, R-Wis., says he is appealing the dismissal of his federal lawsuit challenging rules that call for congressional members and their employees to seek government-subsidized health insurance through small-business exchanges under the Affordable Care Act.

• **A Marinette domestic abuse shelter** was renamed for a counselor who was murdered by her boyfriend. The Rainbow House will now bear the name of 45-year-old Patricia Waschbisch, who was stabbed to death in April 2013. Her boyfriend, Brent Kaempf, was sentenced in January to life in prison without parole.

• **A federal judge** is sending the Archdiocese of Milwaukee's bankruptcy case to mediation. The archdiocese filed for bankruptcy in 2011, saying it would not have the money to pay if lawsuits filed by victims of clergy sexual abuse went against it. More than 500 abuse victims have since filed claims in bankruptcy court.

• **A Davenport, Iowa, task force** settled on the future site of a memorial park honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The park will be located across the street from the site where King spoke in 1965.

• **Scientists** are traveling throughout western Minnesota to conduct a population survey of native bees this summer. Counting bees allows scientists to study the relationships between population changes and pesticide use, disease and habitat disruption. In the past, scientists mainly focused on honeybees, but now they're taking a look at more than 350 species of bees that call Minnesota home.

• **Milwaukee Public Schools** will offer free breakfast and lunch for all of the district's 156 schools this year, regardless of income, thanks to a program through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Last year, 83 percent of MPS students were already eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, close to double the Wisconsin average.

— from WiG and AP reports

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## PROGRESSIVE SPORTS BRIEFS



PHOTO: AP PHOTO/JAE C. HONG

**Basketball Wives LA star Tanya Young Williams, center, officiates the wedding ceremony for NBA referee Violet Palmer, right, and her partner Tanya Stine on Aug. 1 in Los Angeles. In an interview with The Associated Press, Palmer says she came out to her fellow NBA referees in 2007. She has not tried to keep her sexual orientation a secret from the league since that time.**

### SPURRING CHANGE: SAN ANTONIO SPURS HIRE FIRST FEMALE NBA ASSISTANT COACH

The San Antonio Spurs recently hired Becky Hammon as an assistant coach, making her the first full-time, paid female assistant on an NBA coaching staff.

When Hammon retires from her 16-year WNBA career at the end of the San Antonio Stars' season, she will move to the staff of the defending NBA champions, working with Gregg Popovich on scouting, game-planning and the day-to-day grind of practice.

"Nothing in my life has really ever been easy. I've always been someone who did it uphill," Hammon said. "I'm up for challenges. I'm up for being outside the box, making tough decisions and challenges. ... And I'm a little bit of an adrenaline junkie. Throw those all in there and this was the perfect challenge and opportunity."

### NBA REF MARRIES HER LONGTIME PARTNER

Violet Palmer made her biggest call yet: The NBA referee married her partner of 20 years on Aug. 1.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Palmer said she came out as a lesbian to her fellow NBA referees in 2007. She has not tried to keep her sexual orientation a secret from the league since that time.

"This is actually the big formal coming out," Palmer said. "We are saying to the world, to everyone, here's my wife of 20 years. This is the big coming out."

Palmer married celebrity hair stylist Tanya Stine in Los Angeles. The ceremony was officiated by *Basketball Wives LA* star Tanya Young Williams, the ex-wife of former NBA All-Star Jayson Williams.

Palmer broke barriers in 1997 when she

became the first female to referee an NBA game. Under scrutiny from her first tipoff, Palmer instantly proved she could withstand the grumbling and ref baiting that comes with forging a career in a men's game.

Palmer said she had been open about her sexual orientation in the NBA for years. There was never a formal public coming out because she didn't want it to overshadow her work blowing the whistle on every star from Shaq to Kobe to LeBron.

### ARIZONA STATE FOOTBALLER SARAFIN COMES OUT AS GAY

Arizona State offensive lineman Edward "Chip" Sarafin has told a local magazine he is gay, making him the first active Division I football player to come out.

A fifth-year senior, Sarafin told Phoenix-based *Compete* that he began telling teammates about his sexual orientation last spring.

"It was really personal to me, and it benefited my peace of mind greatly," he said in the magazine's August issue.

The walk-on lineman follows the precedent set by St. Louis Rams linebacker Michael Sam. Sam told teammates he was gay during his playing days, although he did not come out publicly until after finishing his career at Missouri.

Numerous other athletes have come out as gay the past couple of years, opening the door for players like Sarafin to do it without much fear of repercussions from teammates or coaches. Brittney Griner, the WNBA's no. 1 draft pick in 2013, casually came out as a lesbian shortly after joining the Phoenix Mercury. Massachusetts sophomore Derrick Gordon became the first active, male, openly gay Division I basketball player when he came out in April. And

Jason Collins became the first openly gay player to play in an NBA game after signing with the Brooklyn Nets last season.

### IN OTHER SPORTS NEWS ...

- **The NHL**, in a first of its kind report, says that climate change threatens hockey, a sport that many pros began playing on the frozen ponds and lakes of North America. "The NHL represents the highest level of hockey in the world," said Commissioner Gary Bettman. "But before many of our players ever took their first stride on NHL ice, they honed their skills on the frozen lakes and ponds of North America and Europe. ... Major environmental challenges, such as climate change and freshwater scarcity, affect opportunities for hockey players of all ages to learn and play the game."

- **NFL teams**, to guard against another bullying scandal, held sensitivity sessions during training camp. The focus during the pre-season has been on St. Louis, where the first openly gay player in NFL history, Michael Sam, is in training. The team has treated Sam just like most of their players, despite the extra attention seventh-round draft pick has been getting from the press.

- **NFL innovations** coming this season that fans might notice: Teams will deliver pre-

and post-snap photos to coaches and players on the sidelines. The uprights will now extend to 35 feet above the crossbar, up from 30 feet. All seven game officials will now be able to communicate with each other during NFL games via wireless microphones. And the referee will be able to consult with the vice president of officiating during replay reviews.

- **The 95th season** of the NFL kicks off in Seattle on Sept. 4, with the Packers taking on the Seahawks. Pharrell Williams and Soundgarden will perform a pre-game show outside the stadium. Ariana Grande will sing the anthem and Bob Costas will lead the broadcast team.

— from *WiG* and AP reports

### TOUCHDOWN TRADITION

The Green Bay Packers this summer unveiled a bronze statue outside Lambeau Field that honors one of the team's traditions: the Lambeau Leap.

The sculpture pays tribute to the post-touchdown celebration of a player jumping into the stands behind the end zone.

Former Packers safety LeRoy Butler is credited with starting the ritual on Dec. 26, 1993, in a game against the Los Angeles Raiders.

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## { Editorial }

# Michael Brown and the politics of racism

When Barack Obama was elected president in 2008, progressives were overcome with optimism. Finally it seemed as if America was entering a post-racial era. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream of an America where people are not judged by the color of their skin felt within reach.

But progressives failed to factor in how deep and visceral the roots of racism are in America. Progressives don't tune in to the right-wing echo chamber or attend tea party rallies. So we were naively unprepared for the "take back our country" rhetoric that came to dominate right-wing politics. And we were aghast at the escalating vehemence of the war against what remains of the nation's social safety net — a war that's supported by poor whites even though they comprise 42 percent of the people who utilize public-assistance programs.

We never imagined that so many poor whites would derive more pleasure from looking down on people of color than from being able to provide their children with health care or a college education. Nor did we imagine that so many poor white conservatives would give a free pass to the billionaires who brought the world's economy to its knees, destroying their own futures.

But by the time yet another unarmed black man was fatally shot in Ferguson, Missouri, earlier this month, we knew exactly what to expect. We were not surprised that Ferguson police rolled in with military assault vehicles and battleground weaponry to quell demonstrations and lootings. We expected that conservative whites would respond with outrage directed not at the slaying of 18-year-old Michael Brown but rather at the local black community's anger over the shooting. We knew it was inevitable that the conservative spin

machine would gin up to try justifying Brown's death even before Ferguson's wily police chief released a surveillance video of him allegedly robbing a convenience store.

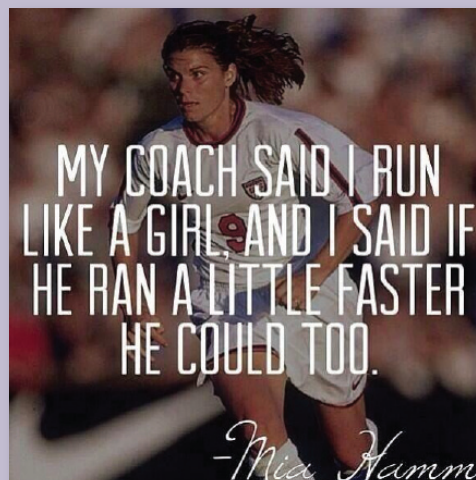
Our black president has been a dream-come-true for Republicans who've vowed allegiance to Wall Street and displayed disdain for Main Street. Ever since Obama's election, corporate-backed Republicans have craftily exploited racism to bridge the economic gap and unite poor whites with their wealthy cousins.

Michael Brown is one of four unarmed black men who have been killed by police in the past month. Police or vigilantes kill an unarmed black man in America every 28 hours, according to a study by the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement that divided the number of such victims in the past year by the number of hours.

We hope the increasing attention being paid to the killing of unarmed blacks in America will prompt more people of color and their progressive supporters to vote in November. But we fear the reverse will happen — that more racist whites will rush to the polls, propelled by their reinvigorated fear of blacks conjured by the turmoil in Ferguson.

After enduring six years of unprecedented right-wing extremism in the wake of Obama's election, we are no longer naïve. Racism is clearly the most effective card that leaders on the political right have to play, and they will continue to use it without apology. They've replaced the "N"-word with more polite wterms such as "inner-city blacks" and "urban youth," but the evil of racism is as strong among them today as it's ever been.

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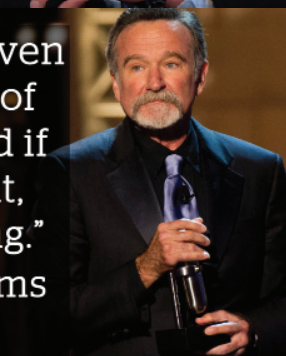
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## ON THE RECORD

“The district court broadened the definition of the ‘existing right to marry’ as one that includes the right of people to ‘select the partners of their choosing’ for marriage, without regard to sex. If the right to select ‘partners of their choosing’ is the criterion used to invoke marriage as a fundamental right, then marriage restrictions on age, polygamy, and consanguinity are also ripe for challenge.”

— The TEXAS CONSERVATIVE COALITION, a 63-member caucus of the state Legislature, writing in an amicus brief filed with the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in a marriage equality case. The Texas legislators contend that the legalization of same-sex marriage could provide legal justification for incest and sex with children.

“Jesus teaches us to put the needs of the poor ahead of our own. Our needs, even if legitimate, will never be so urgent as those of the poor, who lack the necessities of life.”

— POPE FRANCIS speaking out yet again against materialism in an Angelus message that was quoted by the *National Catholic Register*.

“The militarization itself is part of a larger trend. ... That is a willingness or a policy among domestic police in the United States of using more force more often for increasingly petty offenses. It is a mentality that sees the people they are supposed to be serving not as citizens with rights but as potential threats.”

— RADLEY BALKO, *Washington Post* reporter and author of *Rise of the Warrior Cop*, talking to NBC’s Chris Hayes about the use of military weaponry against protesters in Ferguson, Missouri.

“To put it in perspective, the sales we’re seeing now are like what we see around Christmastime.”

— STEVE KING, owner of Metro Shooting Supplies in Bridgeton, Missouri, which is 9 miles from Ferguson, telling the *Huffington Post* that gun sales are eight to 10 times higher than at the store’s other locations. The boost in sales followed the police shooting of unarmed black teen Michael Brown and the subsequent protests in Ferguson.

“Dad was, is and always will be one of the kindest, most generous, gentlest souls I’ve ever known, and while there are few things I know for certain right now, one of them is that not just my world, but the entire world is forever a little darker, less colorful and less full of laughter in his absence. We’ll just have to work twice as hard to fill it back up again.”

— ZELDA WILLIAMS, daughter of Robin Williams, in a public statement following the actor’s death at the age of 63.

“Last week, this week, maybe next week, (Mo’ne Davis) owned the sports conversation. How often do you get to say this about a 13-year-old girl? It’s the easiest type of story to identify as a cover story.”

— CHRIS STONE, managing editor of *Sports Illustrated*, explaining his decision to make Davis the first Little League player to appear on the cover of SI this week. The eighth-grade pitcher for Philadelphia’s Tancy Dragons became the first girl to throw a shutout in World Series history in her first game.

## To be or not to be: pondering suicide

## Opinion

JAMAKAYA

Suicide freaks us out.

It does so because most of us know someone who has attempted suicide or succumbed to it. Many of us have experienced depression or have loved ones who struggle with it.

It especially freaks us out to see someone as apparently happy and successful as Robin Williams take his life. It’s sad and shocking. It hurts, and comfort is hard to find.

My father committed suicide by carbon monoxide poisoning when he was 48 and I was 14. My brother, who dragged my dad from the garage that day, shot himself in the head at age 33. Three close friends have died by their own hands, losses that weigh heavily because they occurred more recently.

There are many things to clean up in the aftermath of

a suicide, from the physical premises to the emotional mess. Days of shock give way to questions, introspection, guilt, sometimes shame or blame. We’ve seen it played out in the American media in the past few weeks.

My mother felt guilty for our family’s collapse, yet she had struggled to keep a sick husband and three children afloat with little income. There was mental illness in the family tree and both my father and brother suffered for a long time from a host of burdens, all exacerbated by substance abuse. There were several “interventions” with them that didn’t work.

As a girl, I had no idea what to do about my father, who suffered a rapid mental and physical deterioration from alcoholism. Telling him I loved him didn’t help. As a young woman, I steered clear of my brother because his drug use (booze and cocaine) scared the hell out of me. I was always worried

he would hurt someone. It turns out he only hurt himself.

I’ve had decades to ponder these events and what I have learned is neither new nor comforting: Despair can be overwhelming and you can’t always help people. You should certainly try, but sometimes people can’t be helped. There are so many things in our lives that screw us up and drag us down, and some of us just don’t make it.

For more helpful advice, I think *An Unquiet Mind* and *Night Falls Fast* by Kay Redfield Jamison are the smartest, most compassionate books about suicide. Jamison is a professor of psychiatry who lives with bipolar disorder and has attempted suicide. As such, her writing is informed by professional expertise and personal experience. She is someone who has been there and really understands the pain and all the issues around suicide.

Thinking about Robin

Williams, I remembered a wonderful passage in a biography of Virginia Woolf. One of the most important writers of the 20th century, Woolf was dogged by mental illness her whole life and killed herself at age 59.

In most writing about her, Woolf is depicted as a tragic figure, often defined by her suicide. Author James King said the fact that Woolf achieved the literary success and philosophical influence she did while struggling with mental and emotional illness for 59 years “constitutes another kind of greatness.”

I love that he recognized her survival as an achievement in itself, and I think we should celebrate Williams in the same way. What fortitude he had to sustain those hilarious comedy routines and to remain active and creative as long as he did! How blessed we were by his presence.

Find more opinion on [wisconsin Gazette.com](http://wisconsin Gazette.com).

## Power plant pollution is a lung health hazard

## Opinion

HAROLD P. WIMMER &amp; THOMAS FERKOL

Few things are more frightening for a parent than racing to the hospital with a child who can’t breathe.

Few things are more difficult for a physician than telling a family that a loved one will not recover from an asthma attack.

We work with people who know those experiences far too well and — because of those experiences — we support reducing carbon pollution.

The American Lung Association and the American Thoracic Society members and volunteers understand the impact of polluted air. We know that, as a nation, we have to do more to protect the ability of people to

breathe, and that requires us to reduce carbon pollution from power plants.

It isn’t enough for physicians to educate patients about the health risks of air pollution and for parents to keep their children with asthma indoors on bad air days. We must reduce pollution before it takes a further toll on our children and families.

As a nation, we have cut air pollution by over 70 percent since 1970, but today more than 147 million Americans (nearly half of the U.S. population) still live where the air is unhealthy to breathe. Warmer temperatures from climate change will make it even harder to reduce air pollution in many places, and increase the likelihood of drought, wildfires and other threats to our health.

Fortunately, we can fight those threats.

Recently, hundreds of people attended public hearings hosted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Denver, Atlanta, Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C., to speak out in support of the proposed Clean Power Plan to place first-ever limits on power plant carbon pollution. They spoke up because they recognize that reducing carbon pollution benefits the health of communities across the nation.

The EPA’s Clean Power Plan provides states with tools to reduce the carbon pollution from power plants by 30 percent, moving us forward in the fight against climate change. But the plan would do more than that. When fully implemented, the carbon reduction plan would also reduce lethal air pollutants such as nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide and mercury by 25 percent, preventing up to 6,600 pre-

mature deaths and 150,000 asthma attacks in children each year. The plan would also help prevent heart attacks, hospital admissions and missed days of work or school due to illness.

Public health experts call this prevention. For the rest of us, it’s just simple common sense. That’s why both our organizations support efforts of the EPA to establish national limits on carbon pollution.

If we, as a nation, act responsibly now to reduce carbon pollution, we can simultaneously improve our air quality now and prevent many of the adverse health and environmental impacts for future generations.

Harold P. Wimmer is the national president and CEO of the American Lung Association and Dr. Thomas Ferkol is president of the American Thoracic Society.

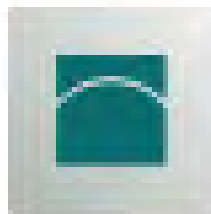




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WISCONSIN GAZETTE ENTERTAINMENT

## Jason Yi goes BIG with installation in Madison's Museum of Contemporary Art

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Pedestrians passing by the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art's State Street Gallery last month saw what might have looked like a construction zone. Instead, they were witnessing the birth of art.

Using scrap wood and duct tape, Milwaukee artist Jason Yi spent three weeks this summer creating an enormous abstract landscape designed to dominate the museum's main gallery, located in Madison's Overture Center for the Arts.

Jason S. Yi: *A Fragile Permanence* officially opens at 6 p.m. on Aug. 22, but residents of downtown Madison have long known that the South Korean-born artist was creating something special behind the gallery's plate glass windows. Yi maintained an open-door policy while working, answering questions and explaining his artistic aesthetic to curious onlookers. Both the transparency and interactivity have been part of the exhibit.

"I did something similar late last year at the Haggerty Museum of Art at Marquette University, but nothing of this scope and magnitude," says Yi, an instructor at the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design. "This will be my last installation like this."

For the installation, Yi has used scrap materials to create a sculpture that resembles a snow-covered mountain range. A complex wooden framework is covered by miles of inch-wide white duct tape, creating a cascading "skin" that flows down the constructed frame from ceiling to floor.

During the creative process, blue duct tape was used to outline an approximate footprint for the construction, but that outline and a rough idea of the outcome were the only preconceived notions Yi brought to the work. "I knew to some degree what I meant to create, but the vision evolved throughout the creation process," Yi says. "I call it a 'random mess,' but in the best sense of the word."

The construction is only part of the installation. Yi accented the walls and windows of the gallery with stylized "lightning bolt" lines of silver Mylar tape. On the textured wall surface, the tape reflects distorted images of light and motion, while on the smooth window glass, the tape acts as a mirror.

"There is a balance between the tape and the physical structure," Yi says. "The structure's mass tries to balance the weightlessness of the tape on the wall with what is happening in the middle of the room. It's a



PHOTO: COURTESY JASON S. YI

Artist Jason S. Yi working on a model for *A Fragile Permanence* in his studio. Part of his process involved working publicly, so he could talk about his work with passersby.

balance, or maybe a protagonist/antagonist relationship between the two elements."

Yi says the mountainous nature of his work is a deliberate choice. His father was a landscape painter, and Yi says that style of art has influenced his own.

"This installation is meant to resemble a landscape, which conjures up different connections between people and cultures," Yi says. "Seeing our environment in a different way can tell us a little more about who we are and about our relationship with other people."

The structure is designed so that viewers can easily circumnavigate it, and experience the space in new ways, Yi says. The utilitarian materials, common to anyone who's created a DIY project, also provide a familiar entry point.

In MMOCA's lobby, two other Yi works serve as visual "appetizers" to the installa-

tion. The entry way is flanked by a foil-and-bubble-wrap "cloud," sitting atop a framework, and a quartet of pegboard pieces textured to resemble a topographical map.

"I wanted to create an installation designed to take over the gallery space as well as correlate with the lobby space," Yi says. "I am interested in how the different visual elements speak to each other."

Yi was also interested in the interactions with passersby. Working outdoors eight to 10 hours a day, five or six days a week, he's had more than a few conversations about his installation.

"The interactive aspect of the installation allows me to talk to passersby while I create," the artist says. "They tend to see all the work that goes into the piece and feel sorry for me, so I can share the challenges of the creative process as well. I appreciate that."



PHOTO: CLAIRE LARKINS

Jason Yi's bubble-wrap cloud

### ON VIEW

Jason S. Yi: *A Fragile Permanence* is on display at Madison Museum of Contemporary Art's Gallery through Nov. 9. Yi will lead a discussion during an Aug. 22 reception 6-9 p.m. The discussion, free to MMOCA members and \$10 for non-members, includes music and refreshments. All other exhibition days are free and open to the public. For more information, visit [mmoqa.org](http://mmoqa.org).





# Following the Klondike Gold Rush Trail

PHOTO: TRAVEL YUKON

The White Pass & Yukon Route.

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Disembarking from our Holland America cruise ship in Skagway, Alaska, we didn't realize that our upcoming detour through the Yukon Territory would follow the trail of the most important U.S. event to occur on Canadian soil since the War of 1812.

Neither did we realize that the stunning scenery and wildlife were just a preview to the natural wonders ahead in Denali National Park.

But I'm getting ahead of myself. First, you need to know something about Skagway's history.

In July 1897, the steamer *Excelsior* pulled into San Francisco harbor with a passenger list that included a dozen or so grizzled, weather-beaten prospectors with mud-caked boots. They were hauling a king's ransom stuffed into dilapidated suitcases, packing crates and canvas bags. At a time when the U.S. was undergoing one of the worst economic recessions in its history, they'd stumbled upon gold in an unknown area called the Klondike. Their story ignited gold fever among a financially strapped public that was hungry for hope — and just plain hungry.

Between 1897 and 1898, an estimated 100,000 men and women from all walks of life attempted the arduous trek through nearly 500 miles of Canadian wilderness to the Klondike in search of gold. The "stampede" came from all walks of life — from seasoned outdoorsmen to a female dentist from Chicago. Even the mayor of Seattle, who was attending a conference in San Francisco when he heard about the gold strike, was smitten. Without even

returning home, he telegraphed his resignation and headed north.

The Skagway of today, located in Alaska's panhandle, looks nothing like the barren cove that first greeted the stampede at the end of the 90-mile-long Lynn Canal. But a town soon arose, and the remnants survive. The U.S. National Park Service created the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park at the site, preserving nearly 100 buildings scattered through the community of about 1,000 residents.

Despite the gift and specialty shops, the main street looks much like it did as a post-gold-rush settlement. In addition to the historical buildings (free tours are held hourly), there are restaurants, a small brewery and even a brothel museum upstairs from The Red Onion Saloon, a bustling bar/restaurant that was once the community's busiest house of ill repute.

Legend has it that a doll behind the bar represented each of the 10 girls available for rent upstairs. When the girl was with a client, the doll was laid on its back. When she was available, the doll was set upright. All that and more is discussed during the Red Onion's separate-fee tour, which leaves on the hour.

"It's time to answer the questions you've all been wanting to ask," an elaborately costumed "madame" announces to a saloon crowded for lunch with mostly middle-aged couples. "It will cost you \$10 to spend 20 minutes with me, but conversation is all you're going to get. But don't worry — I give good tour."

More than a few eager participants — mostly men — follow her upstairs and into the seamier side of Skagway history.

## HEADING NORTH

Skagway was one of two starting points for stampede headed north. They traveled up White Pass to the headwaters of what would become the Yukon River. From there they could raft, sail or float their way to the gold fields outside Dawson City.

A shorter, steeper route began at Dyea, originally located west of Skagway. From there, prospectors traveled up the Chilkoot Trail to arrive at roughly the same place.

Both routes were too steep for pack animals, so the prospectors had to pack in their supplies on their own backs.

The trails ended in Canada, whose government required that all travelers have a year's worth of specific supplies when crossing the border. Those supplies, enumerated in a list by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, weighed roughly 1 ton. Given that the average stamper could carry a pack of only about 50 lbs., as many as 40 trips up the steepest part of the pass were required to comply with the law, which was strictly enforced. Those trips, many of them undertaken during the winter, often took weeks to complete.

At the time, there was great debate as to which trail was the better choice; eventually the White Pass won out with the construction of the White Pass & Yukon Route Railroad. Dyea disappeared altogether, with few remnants to mark its existence. But Parks Canada has preserved much of the 33-mile Chilkoot Trail.

## WHITE PASS AND YUKON ROUTE

Although our luggage was heavy, we didn't have a ton of goods when we boarded a White Pass & Yukon Route train for a ride through the pass. The narrow-gauge

railway, now maintained largely for tourists, took us the next leg of the journey, offering a bird's-eye view of the boulder-strewn trail that proved the bane of so many stampede.

The route rises 2,864 feet from its base at Skagway, and the railroad travels an extensive series of switchbacks, many offering dizzying views of the countryside. From some fairly comfortable seats, we looked down on the rough trail that the prospectors traveled and into the deep trough that was named Dead Horse Gulch for the estimated 3,000 equines that lost their lives en route to the summit.

We made our two-hour railway ascent on July 22. Once we reached Fraser and entered Canada, we traded our train for a motor coach and began the two-day journey to Dawson City. The Yukon, a land mass roughly the size of California, is home to 37,000 people. Of that population, 27,000 live in White Horse, the capital of the territory. We spent the first night there.

The long journey to Dawson City passed through magnificent scenery carved by what our driver called the "Wisconsin glacier." Although the ice had traveled as far south as the Badger State, no landscape at home resembles the Yukon's wide, vast valleys and towering peaks.

At last, we were getting a view of what the great white north had in store for us. Although not yet snow-covered in July, it was greater than anything we could have imagined.

See **Dawson City**, next page



# Dawson City, Gold Rush Central

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

A valley cut by a river creates a large V between mountain ranges; one cut by a glacier is more U-shaped — and much wider.

We've seen many river-cut ranges in the Rocky Mountains, but we'd never seen a glacier-cut valley until traveling through Canada's Yukon Territory. It took our breath away.

The Yukon shares many topographic features with neighboring Alaska, including massive, glacier-formed landscapes. It looks like a playground carved by giants.

Traveling through the Yukon, we passed a series of crystalline lakes reflecting stunning peaks spread across an expansive horizon. The Yukon is a vast territory, but only 10,000 people live outside the capital city of Whitehorse. The bears easily outnumber them.

We saw black bears ambling through the brush and, in one case, chewing on yarrow by the roadside. It regarded us with curiosity as we peered through the vehicle windows. The sighting began our week in bear country, and our guide gave us some advice in case we came across any ursine residents while hiking.

"If the bear is brown, lie down," he said. Brown bears, also known as grizzly bears, like their meat fresh. If they think you're dead, they likely will leave you alone.

"But if the bear is black, fight back," he added. Black bears come in a variety of colors, including shades of brown and some with blue-tinted fur, called "glacier bears." Black bears are carrion-eaters, and if they think you're dead — well, you're one less carcass they have to kill before consuming.

But if either bear is a sow protecting her cubs, then all bets are off.

## CLIMBERS AND MINERS AND BEARS

The Klondike stampeders in search of gold had more to worry about than bears. Those who reached the top of White Pass or the Chilkoot Trail with the ton of gear required to enter Canada still had some 500 miles to travel to the gold fields.

Fortunately, wide, swift rivers lace the southern Yukon, including the Yukon and

Klondike rivers. Once the river ice had broken up — a natural event that occurred in May of each year — the stampeders could build a boat, barge or raft and float their gear to Dawson City, which was Gold Rush Central. Fortunately, the Yukon River flows into the gold fields, easing the end of an arduous passage.

By spring of 1898, 7,124 craft of all types had been built and were ready for the spring thaw. When the ice broke up on May 29, the stampeders set sail, and the population of Dawson City exploded to nearly 30,000 residents. What was formerly a tent city at the confluence of the Yukon and the Klondike began to develop permanent roots.

These days the community is anything but a city, with about 1,300 year-around residents and a nearly equal amount of workers during the peak summer tourist months. In keeping with its historic past, the streets of Dawson City are not paved and consist of a hard-packed clay. What sidewalks exist are plank boardwalks maintained for their historic value.

History is what the city is about, and it's a history that's lived well beyond the Gold Rush era. The main street bustles with residents and tourists, many of them German. Dawson also has a thriving arts community and hosts its own independent film festival each year. As the one-time capital of the Yukon Territory, which is not a Canadian province because it can't financially support itself, Dawson has a dramatic and important story to tell.

## FINDING PERMANENCE

As the gold miners prospered, so did Dawson City. It briefly claimed the title of largest city between Winnipeg and Fairbanks. Typical boomtown businesses took root, including saloons, gambling dens and brothels. In fact, several remnants of the city's Paradise Alley, a brothel that consisted of 70 individual cabins lining the back of Main Street, are a central part of the informative Parks Canada tour. But other entrepreneurs flourished as well, especially those who made money outfitting miners — and then buying back their goods when newcomers didn't strike it rich. Profits



PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

## Downtown Dawson City.

and prices soared as commercial steamship lines began supplying Dawson with more goods and services than residents of this frontier outpost ever thought they'd see. The community grew.

The Klondike gold rush lasted two years until mid-summer 1899, when word that gold had been found in Nome on Alaska's west coast emptied Dawson of its treasure seekers. But by then the city had become permanent, with its own opera house, post office and bank. It still prospers today.

Pierre Berton, one of Canada's most famous writer/historians, and author of multiple editions on the Klondike, grew up in Dawson. His ancestral home has been preserved as a writers' colony.

We ended our visit at the cabin of Canadian poet Robert. W. Service, "the Bard of the Yukon," whose words have come to

characterize the beauty and attraction not only of his home country, but of wild places everywhere.

In fact, Service's poem, "The Spell of the Yukon," sums up our feelings about our journey better than we ever could:

*There's a land where the mountains are  
nameless,  
And the rivers all run God knows where;  
There are lives that are erring and aimless,  
And deaths that just hang by a hair;  
There are hardships that nobody reckons;  
There are valleys unpeopled and still;  
There's a land—oh, it beckons and  
beckons,  
And I want to go back—and I will.*

And so will we.

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# Artbeat in the Heat celebrates its fifth year of bringing diverse art and music to Bay View

By Matthew Reddin

Staff writer

Bay View residents and visitors don't have to wait until September's Bay View Bash for a colorful street festival. The artists at Milwaukee Artbeat, a Bay View collective, present the fifth annual Artbeat in the Heat on Aug. 23. A slew of artists and musicians will turn South Greeley Street into festival central.

Event organizers and visual artists Amanda Iglinski and Ryan Laessig say the event is designed to split its focus between visual art and music. A variety of vendors in tents and musicians will set up around Hide House — a Bay View building that offers studio space for artists.

The location keeps the event tucked away off the main street, making it more of an enclave than other street festivals. "People sit there with their family all day, and just hang out, and listen to music, and eat food, and look at art," Iglinski says. "What else would you rather do?"

This year's musical lineup features everything from rock and hip-hop to bluegrass and ska. On the schedule are such bands as the WAMI Award-winning Max & the Invaders, Annie B and the Complication, Kane

Place Record Club and Fresh Cut Collective.

Featured artists work in a variety of media, including spray paint, leather, blown glass and terrariums. Also on tap are skateboard demos sponsored by Sky High Skate Shop, the painting of a mural to be hung from the side of Hide House and a variety of food trucks.

"Diversity is definitely the name of the game," Laessig says. "You can go to a show on Friday night at this bar or that bar, and it's all the same type of music: rock or jazz or whatever. So we want to make sure we get everybody that's interested in some type of music to come out and have a good time."

Laessig says the event started out as a small block party, but has grown over the years into the summer event for the neighborhood, largely due to its appeal as both a family and adult event.

"From like noon to 4 or 5, come with the family," Laessig says. "And then, once the sun starts to go down, put the kids with the baby sitter and come out with your friends and have a good time."

Iglinski credits musician and Artbeat founder Annie B. with the original idea for the festival, which grew out of smaller

shows she organized for artists to display and discuss their work. Artbeat still hosts at least one of those shows annually, usually in February or March.

"We decided that we needed to do one big show a year — with art, music, dance and everything," Iglinski says. "We try (to) create as many types of art as possible."

The annual Artbeat in the Heat festival raises money for a different nonprofit each year — this year's recipient is Groundworks, a group that cultivates urban gardens and promotes other greening initiatives.

Laessig says Hide House has grown into an arts hub for Bay View, and the community has responded in kind, building Artbeat in the Heat into a popular event.

"The neighborhood definitely gets behind it," he says. "It's cool that it can happen at the Hide House, because it is kind of like an arts and music incubator."

## ON STAGE

Artbeat in the Heat is centered around Hide House, 2625 S. Greeley St., Milwaukee, noon-10 p.m. on Aug. 23. Admission is free. Go to [milwaukeeartbeat.org](http://milwaukeeartbeat.org) for more information.

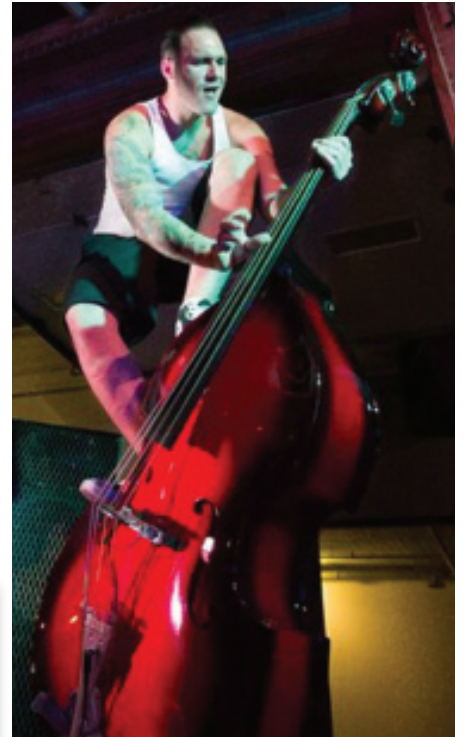


PHOTO: COURTESY ARTBEAT

God's Outlaws, last year's headliners.



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BY **Bruce Arntson** | DIRECTED BY **JC Clementz**

*The Doyle & Debbie Show* finds a washed-up country star and his newex, Debbie (who he met last month at a VFW) dusting off their microphones in this sublime parody and performing 16 hilarious original songs.

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## ART GAZE — MILWAUKEE

## Public art project gives voice to historic Mitchell Street

By Kat Murrell

Contributing writer

A few years ago, visual artist Sonja Thomson and storyteller Adam Carr teamed up for a temporary public art piece called *Here, Mothers Are*, which relayed in words and installations the stories of families in the neighborhood around 24th and Locust streets. The project was a precursor to their latest endeavor, *Listening to Mitchell*. This time, they recount the memories and testimonials of historic Mitchell Street.

Beginning in October 2012, Thomson and Carr approached neighborhood organizations, receiving particular assistance from the neighborhood business improvement district. They forged connections with area residents to uncover the often hidden experiences of the street and its surroundings. The result is a project that begins with a storefront at 723 W. Mitchell, where 18 channels of recorded audio mix the voices of interviewees with a display of pictures that reappear throughout the installation on Mitchell between Fifth and 12th streets. Though the sound installation in the storefront is currently only open by appointment, it will be part of Doors Open Milwaukee on Sept. 21.

The most significant parts of *Listening to Mitchell* are viewable on the street in the

form of printed photographic images. Some are the size of large posters, others are small pieces approaching postcard size. By calling 414-921-2622, the visitor can listen to the 20 audio clips drawn from numerous interviews with area residents. This brings a virtual media component to the physicality of place. A printed brochure, with succinct descriptions of the participating locations and businesses, is like a conversational guide, placing the visitor between art viewer and local tourist.

Carr enthusiastically described the responses elicited from visitors. Some adults noted the subtle insertion of the pictures into the urban street scene, but children proved to be the most observant. Perhaps this reflects the way that grown-ups view the thoroughfare in utilitarian terms, a way of moving from point A to B. The project encourages a slower pace in order to consider the lives lived among those points.

Placemaking is a term that has been popping up in the vernacular of art-speak lately, and this project is one that is inseparable from its physical place. The cultural background of the neighborhood is a mix of Latino, Asian, African, Native American, European and American influences, woven together. The highlighting of personalities and personal stories is a move



PHOTO: KAT MURRELL

Milwaukee's Mitchell Street, the subject of the *Listening to Mitchell* sound/art exhibit.

toward mindfulness that applies not only to Mitchell Street but to any locale. The practice of living and looking is a complex one, and while most stories of the people and

places around us will never be fully known, the project is a gesture one that broadens awareness of the layers of lives so close to our own.

## ON THE STREET

*Listening to Mitchell* is installed in various places on Mitchell Street between Fifth and 12th streets. It will be part of Doors Open Milwaukee on Sept. 21. Sonja Thomson will lead a one-hour tour that day beginning at 4 p.m. The tour will begin at the Modjeska Theater and tickets are required. For more, go to [listeningtomitchell.wordpress.com](http://listeningtomitchell.wordpress.com).

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## ART GAZE — MADISON

# New management approach will keep Bartell Theatre's drama on center stage, not backstage

By Jay Rath

Contributing writer

The Bartell Community Theatre is not only changing management, it's changing its entire approach to management.

"In the last year, things are so different," says Bartell president Steve Noll. "Everyone likes each other. There's no drama."

"Liking each other" may not seem like a bold management strategy, but at the Bartell it is. The theater has an unusual organization structure that puts governance in the hands of its "participating theater companies" (PTCs), currently the Madison Ballet, Madison Theatre Guild, Mercury Players Theatre, StageQ and Strollers Theatre. Traditionally, those five companies have kept the overarching theater weak, arguing it exists for them, not the other way around, and viewing each other as direct competitors.

That will change, as the result of the Bartell's board of directors authorizing a committee to both search for an executive director and define new responsibilities for the theater. "We're going to brand more as the Bartell first and a PTC show second," says Noll, whose background is as a professor of marketing at Madison College. "It is 180 degrees from what it was. All the PTCs are now very cooperative. They share things. They don't compete; they collaborate."

Noll says the agreement came in part due to an acknowledgement that audience members are increasingly coming to the theater not to see a work by any particular PTC, but rather because they know a show is happening "at the Bartell." Yet the company has never been able to market itself as a facility, or even fundraise.

The shift was catalyzed by the departure of Sarah Hoover, the venue's longtime managing director, who left last autumn to attend a graduate theater program in Ireland. With her departure, Noll says, a unified box office has been set up by Bartell employee Steve Vig, removing the prior system that divided ticket sales among the five companies.

Vig likely will stay on through



PHOTO: JAY RATH

**Madison's Bartell Theatre. The Bartell's overarching organization will reorganize to promote collaboration — not competition — among its five member companies.**

the transition, while an all-new executive director position will be created in the near future. "We really need someone who's focused on fundraising," says Noll. "At the same time, it has to be somebody who's familiar with the logistics of keeping a

theater up and running."

But as important as the reorganization is, Noll says the board of directors is going to take its time defining the new management role.

"If we could get someone on board even Jan 1, I think that

would be kind of pushing it," Noll says. "It will probably be sometime after that."

#### ON THE WEB

For more information about the Bartell Theatre or its members, visit [bartelltheatre.org](http://bartelltheatre.org).

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# DisH it Out!

## Portuguese wines an excellent, overlooked value

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

It pours light, bright and floral, with clean transparency, tropical fruit notes and a slight effervescence as subtle as it is necessary.

Meet vinho verde. Although it hails from northern Portugal, a country known for its rich, complex ports, vinho verde (literally “green wine,” but usually translated “young wine”) is anything but. Its vibrant, youthful sparkle is the perfect way to stretch the pleasures of the season as summer winds down.

It's also a good excuse to consider the wide array of exceptional Portuguese table wines. One of Europe's oldest wine regions, Portugal is home to dozens of varietals, many unfamiliar to the casual wine drinker.

Although Portugal is the world's fifth-largest wine exporting country, its wines

are often hard to find. Here are a fewinhos verdes and ports well worth looking for.

**Gazela Vinho Verde (\$7)** is one of the most available wines of its type and an excellent example of the craft. Aromatic and engaging, the wine's slight fizz helps bubble its tropical fruit flavor and well-balanced acidity to the top. Serve thoroughly chilled on warm afternoons for total refreshment.

Gazela also produces a **Vinho Verde Rosé (\$10)**. The rosé shares many of the same characteristics, but with a palate suggestive of strawberries and bananas. It is vinho verde with added depth and its own unique character, a fine complement to its paler, more playful sister.

**Anjos de Portugal Vinho Verde (\$8)** ratchets the style up a notch with a fuller mouthfeel and more luscious fruit palate. Produced from loureiro (30 percent), arinto (30 percent) and trajadura (40 percent)

grapes, the wine embodies vinho verde's characteristic freshness and vibrancy with a more exciting depth.

As much fun as vinho verde can bring, Portugal's red wines offer equally pleasant surprises in both flavor and value. In the 17th century, wine merchants from England added a brandy to Portugal's red wines, fearing they would spoil on the long voyage between Lisbon and London. Thus were born ports, the fortified Portuguese wines that have become after-dinner staples.

Modern winemaking and shipping techniques have eliminated the need to fortify the wine, so many of Portugal's red dinner wines maintain a port-like character without the alcoholic punch. Given their relatively low price and unique flavor profiles, those wines represent the best of both worlds.

The **2009 Grão Vasco Dão Red (\$11)** is one such find, grown in the Região Demarcada do Dão, a mountainous region in central Portugal with an equally maritime and continental climate.

The wine is blended from touriga nacional, tinta roriz, Jaen, alfocheiro and tinta pinheira grapes, and pours a medium ruby red, with hints of plum and black cherry on the nose. Those notes and a hint of balsamic carry-over to the palate, characterized by elegance, smoothness and well-balanced tannins and acidity.

The Douro region is the country's prime port-producing area, and its dinner wines

sport many of the same characteristics. The **2011 Tons de Duorum Red (\$13)** pours ruby red with violet overtones. Produced from a touriga franca (50 percent), touriga nacional (30 percent) and tinta roriz (20 percent), the wine sports a nose of raspberry, blackberries and prunes. The palate includes spicy overtones gained from French- and American-oak aging.

The **2011 Churchill's Estates Douro (\$18)** takes the red wine quotient up a few notches. Produced by John Graham's Churchill Graham Port Co., known for its fine ports, the Douro taps into the same winemaking skill and award-winning vineyards.

This Douro, produced from nearly the same grape blend as the Tons de Duorum, pours a deep garnet color with hints of fresh cherries and sweet basil on the nose. The palate boasts red fruit tempered by the influence of aging within French oak casks.

The **2011 Vila Santa Reserva (\$20)** may be one of the few remaining wines made from foot-stomped grapes. The grape blend includes Aragonês, trincadeira, alicante bouchet and cabernet sauvignon, and the resulting juice is aged in French oak.

Expect a big powerful wine that pours a deep garnet. Ripe black fruit flavors on the nose and palate blend with a spiciness contributed by the oak. The elegant, full-bodied wine can stand with the best of the world's reds — and for a fraction of the price.



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# Vancouver's foodie scene flourishes

By Michael Muckian

Contributing writer

Vancouver, B.C., is Canada's westernmost major metro area and one of the nation's most popular foodie destinations. Vancouver restaurants combine the best culinary influences the province has to offer, including ethnic diversity, creative innovation and a commitment to environmental sustainability. The dining scene is defined but not constrained by tradition and West Coast style.

If you ever find your way to Vancouver, and you should, consider this a starter list of some of the city's best restaurants, based on input from area chefs. All prices below are in Canadian currency.

As a coastal city, Vancouver heavily features seafood on its menus. Founded by entrepreneur and environmentalist Harry Kambolis, **C Restaurant** (2-1600 Howe St., 604-681-1164) taps the seas for much of its cuisine, created under the guidance of executive chef Nicholas Hipperson. He's cultivated relationships with local farms and specialty food providers.

Dinner at C might start with a North Arm Farm beet salad served with fennel walnut powder, goat cheese and a balsamic gel (\$12) or seared scallops served with chili emulsion, veal sweetbreads, asparagus escabeche, veal glace and "piggy puffs" (\$17).

For dinner, try the wild B.C. albacore tuna with braised beef cheeks, wilted romaine, anchovy pine nut puree, fried capers and salsa verde (\$29). If you're especially flush, order C's Seafood Tower, a three-tier selection of local sustainable seafood (\$95).

Kambolis is a founding member of the Vancouver Aquarium's Ocean Wise sustainable seafood program, and his commitment shows in his menus.

For a menu that brings a sunnier profile, try **Cioppino's Mediterranean Grill & Enoteca** (1129 & 1133 Hamilton St., 604-688-7466.) Chef Pino Posteraro has created an award-winning approach to Italian food and wine, garnering Vancouver's Best Chef award. He's created a wine list that's 62 pages.

A Lago, Italy, native who once studied to be a cardiologist, Posteraro brings intense academic scrutiny to his restaurant. He also revels in the simplicity of letting his ingredients speak for themselves, generally with outstanding results.

For an appetizer, try the tender, spicy Pacific octopus served with white Tuscan beans and spelt (\$18.95) or a green salad with Dungeness crab, avocado, cucumbers and cherry tomatoes (\$18.95). Entrée favorites include Haida Gwaii halibut caught off the northern B.C. coast and served with garlic, lemon and capers (\$40), and spaghetti *alle vongole*, made with Baynes Sounds Manila clams in a parsley-white wine-garlic sauce (\$30).

You also will find grilled veal porterhouse served in a savory herb sauce (\$40) and wild boar from Alberta served two ways



PHOTO: BARBARA HELGASON

**Vancouver's ethnic diversity and innovative spirit make it a foodie's paradise.**

(\$38).

The multi award-winning **West Restaurant** (2881 Grandville St., 604-738-8938) offers art-filled contemporary décor and two chef's tables for diners who want to watch the kitchen in action. Executive chef Quang Dang, who learned his trade as a sous chef at West, draws on his combined Scottish and Vietnamese roots to create a menu that shows originality and sophistication.

For appetizers, try the spring pea soup with crispy Oyama prosciutto and whipped creme fraiche (\$15.50), hand-picked biodynamic greens and shaved root vegetables (\$14.50) or a sustainable caviar selection (market price). Outstanding entrées include herb butter-roasted Ling cod with chorizo, white beans, romaine hearts and salsa verde (\$29.50), and brown butter-roasted venison with arugula bread salad served in a red wine reduction sauce (\$44.50).

Delectable desserts by pastry chef Rhonda Viani include oat panacotta with fresh Okanogan plums, plum wine sauce and oat crumbles (\$13.50) and a strawberry tart with rhubarb compote, goat cheese mousse and strawberry-fig ice cream (\$13).

Chef Michel Jacob brought a touch of his native France to Vancouver when he opened **Le Crocodile** (100-909 Burrard St., 604-669-4298). The restaurant is an homage of sorts to Jacob's Restaurant au Crocodile in his hometown of Strasbourg, France, where he began as a young restaurateur. That restaurant won three stars from the *Michelin Guide*.

Expect the same high quality French cuisine at his Vancouver eatery, where you'll find superb culinary craftsmanship and fine-dining service under the watchful eye of a smiling green cartoon reptile. Consider starting with a duo of foie-gras, including a foie-gras terrine and foie-gras crème brûlée prepared with icewine, gelée and toast

(\$28). Or try the gravalax of Atlantic char served with heirloom tomatoes, fresh basil and balsamic dressing (\$18).

For your entrée, order the slow-braised rabbit legs in a civet sauce with double-smoked bacon, glazed shallots and mushrooms (\$30). Or try the grilled tiger prawns and sea scallops served over angel hair pasta with fresh mussel velouté (\$29.50). Hearty eaters may want to dig into the one-and-a-half-pound Atlantic lobster — steamed, shelled and served with a sauté of market vegetables and morel mushrooms in a white butter sauce.

Last fall, *Vancouver Magazine* named the more economical **Farmer's Apprentice Restaurant** (1535 W. Sixth St., 604-620-2070) as the city's best eatery. Chef/owner David Gunawan's imaginative menu honors sustainable agriculture and organic products from local farmers and artisan producers. All dishes are meant to be shared and arrive in the order that the kitchen prepares them.

The menu is more like an ingredients list than a dish description. Under "vegetables/grains," you'll find padron peppers, radishes, tonnato and burnt onion (\$12) and spring red wheat berries, mushrooms, fried egg and chard (\$14). Under "seafood," you'll find smoked octopus, cherries, celery and puffed quinoa (\$15) and Dungeness crab, cherry tomatoes, kohlrabi and tomatillo gazpacho (\$16).

Meat selections include chicken liver parfait, walnuts, beets and summer greens (\$12) and roasted bone marrow, onions, plums and pickled mushrooms (\$13).

With its emphasis on ingredients rather than style or technique, Farmer's Apprentice Restaurant presents a unique culinary aesthetic. It represents one of the many reasons Vancouver is an exceptional restaurant destination.



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## ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

**ROBIN WILLIAMS' DAUGHTER BULLIED OFF SOCIAL MEDIA AFTER FATHER'S DEATH**

Robin Williams' daughter abandoned her social media accounts following what she called "cruel and unnecessary" messages after her father's death.

Zelda Williams, 25, wrote that she was stepping away from Twitter, Tumblr and Instagram "for a good long time, maybe forever" after at least two users posted disturbing images and verbal attacks.

Well-wishers and fans online rallied to Zelda Williams' defense, and the accounts of both alleged bullies were suspended. Facebook, which owns Instagram, said the photos violated its policies and were "being actively flagged and removed across both platforms as they pop up," while Twitter went further, suspending a number of accounts and announcing an expansion of policies to support family members of deceased users.

**BON IVER BECOMES EPHASIS**

Wisconsin native Justin Vernon is best known by the moniker of Bon Iver, the name of the indie folk band that propelled him to popularity. But his new gig finds him swapping names once again.

For the new indie hip-hop supergroup Jason Feathers, Vernon will be taking on the alter ego of Ephasia, a "heavily-seasoned guitar-crooning lost-cowboy," according to

a news release issued by the group to promote its new album *De Oro*. Ephasia will be performing in the group alongside the band's namesake "Jason Feathers aka Creflo" (actually Minneapolis rapper Astronautalis) and drummer/piano man "Toothpick" (fellow Bon Iver musician S. Carey).

**SOBELMAN'S UNVEILS BIGGEST BLOODY MARY YET, COMPLETE WITH FRIED CHICKEN**

Sobelman's Pub & Grill has created some pretty impressive bloody marys — starting with the "Bloody Masterpiece," a Bloody crowned with a mini cheeseburger. But the latest Frankenstein creation takes the cake.

The "Chicken Fried Bloody Beast" consists of a jug-sized bloody mary, with garnishes including celery, sausages, bacon-wrapped jalapeño cheeseballs and an entire fried chicken. Patrons willing to effectively risk their lives consuming the creation can purchase one for \$50, with \$5 going to Hunger Task Force.

**ALLISON WILLIAMS HEADED SKYWARD AS NBC'S PETER PAN**

NBC has picked its Peter Pan: high-flying *Girls* star Allison Williams. The network announced Williams will play the boy who refused to grow up in *Peter Pan Live!*, airing Dec. 4. The 26-year-old actor-comedian plays Marnie Michaels on HBO's *Girls*, as well as guest roles on *The Mindy Project* and *The League*, and is the daughter of NBC News anchor Brian Williams. "I have wanted to play Peter Pan since I was about 3 years old, so this is a dream come true," said Williams, adding, "What could go wrong in a live televised production with simultaneous flying, sword fighting and singing?"

NBC recently announced that Oscar winner Christopher Walken will play the villainous pirate Captain Hook.

The musical version of *Peter Pan* has a long tradition on NBC. It opened on Broadway in 1954, starring Mary Martin as Pan and Cyril Ritchard as Captain Hook in a pair of Tony Award-winning performances. They reprised those roles in two live telecasts on NBC in 1955 and 1956, followed by a videotaped production in 1960. *Peter Pan Live!* will serve as a follow-up to NBC's live version of *The Sound of Music* last year, featuring Carrie Underwood.

**GAGA ON BENNETT DUET CD: JAZZ COMES EASIER THAN POP**

Lady Gaga is a bona fide pop star, but the singer says recording jazz music is the easier experience. Gaga has spent two years recording an album of jazz standards with Tony Bennett called *Cheek to Cheek*, to be released Sept. 23. "I've sung jazz since I was 13 years old, which is kind of like my little secret that Tony found out," Gaga said in an interview. "So this is almost easier for me than anything else."

Gaga made the comments with Bennett by her side ahead of the duo's taped perfor-

mance at Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City for PBS, which will air in the fall.

The album's first single is a cover of Cole Porter's "Anything Goes." Other selections on *Cheek to Cheek* include "It Don't Mean a Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing)," "Sophisticated Lady," "Lush Life" and the title track. This will be Gaga's first LP release since last year's *Artpop*, and Bennett's first since *Viva Duets*, a collaborative Latin album he released in 2012.

**'LIFE PERFORMANCE' BENEFITS AIDS GROUP**

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin presents "Life Performance: Acts Against AIDS" at 5:30 p.m. on Aug. 22 at the Sharon Lynn Wilson Center for the Arts in Milwaukee.

The event features performing artists recognizing ARCW's 30-year fight against AIDS in Wisconsin. Performers include Valerie Harmon and David Hovhannisyan of the Milwaukee Ballet, Milwaukee Chamber Theatre's Norman Moses, First Stage Children's Theater, mezzo-soprano Leslie Fitzwater and baritone Kurt Ollmann, Jeffrey Peterson and Paula Foley Tillen on piano and the One Voice Community Choir.

For more, go to [ticketing.wilson-center.com](http://ticketing.wilson-center.com).

**FXX CELEBRATES SIMPSONS SYNDICATION WITH 12-DAY BINGE-WATCH MARATHON**

A 12-day marathon of *The Simpsons* begins on FXX at 9 a.m. on Thurs., Aug. 21, with the episode "Simpsons Roasting on an Open Fire." The marathon goes on to include all 25 seasons, 552 episodes and one feature-length movie at 10:59 p.m. on Sept. 1, making it the longest Simpson marathon ever.

The *Simpsons* marathon celebrates FXX's acquisition of the syndication rights to the cartoon series, which the network bought last year in what was called the "biggest off-network deal ever," according to Rolling Stone. RS also reported that FXX will launch *SimpsonsWorld*, which will give authenticated users access to every episode on their computers, smartphones, tablets and similar devices..






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