



Riverwest Currents

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FREE!

News You Can Use • Riverwest, Harambee and The East Side

Vol 23 Issue 5 May 2023

Woodland Pattern: Community and Advocacy for Artists



Our Wonderwall

@@@Our Place

Jenny & Laura

By: Alyssa N. Salcedo

Woodland Pattern is a non-profit organization in the city of Milwaukee that aims to create a community for all artists. They've worked closely with artists, both locally and nationwide, in an attempt to share their work and inspire others to continue to create. Executive Directors Laura Solomon and Jennifer Gropp give insight into the inner workings of Woodland Pattern and how they have advocated for artists in the city of Milwaukee. Their recent efforts in fighting for the preservation of literary artworks at the Wisconsin Center highlight the importance of this organization.

Woodland Pattern was founded in 1979 at the height of the Fluxus Art Movement. Woodland Pattern was founded with the idea that all art is one, and gives artists a space to collaborate with each other regardless of their discipline.

Executive Directors Laura Solomon and Jennifer Gropp, in collaboration with their team of directors and curators, work to cultivate relationships and friendships with artists, and host events that help to bring the community together creatively. Woodland Pattern works closely with community members and local schools in order to host events that allow people of all ages to come together and develop their own artistic abilities.

The community at Woodland Pattern works hard to bring in local artists, and gives those involved in the community the opportunity to propose events that help connect artists in the area. Solomon and Gropp also make an effort to pair regional Artists with other artists across the country. This allows them to highlight artists in Wisconsin and expand their connection as wide as possible.

Woodland Pattern has been able to host a wide array of events including poetry readings, writers groups, poetry groups, and youth events. Some memorable events include appearances by well known artists from across the country. Tongo Eisen-Martin, the current poet laureate of San Francisco, visited Woodland Pattern in 2019 and shared his unique way of reciting poetry with the community. Eileen Myles, a poet, novelist, and art journalist, and Nate Lippens, author of the novel *My Dead Book*, both recently participated in a reading at Woodland Pattern. This event was the first to fill Woodland Pattern's space to full capacity since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Eileen Myles fills the house in April with fellow reader Nate Lippens

Woodland Pattern's efforts remained strong during the pandemic, and they were able to continue to host events despite all of the obstacles standing in their way. Woodland Pattern was able to shut down before the national emergency was called. After shutting down, they found new ways to integrate more technology into their organization. They created a digital filing system, launched their website and online store, and continued to host scheduled events virtually. Throughout the pandemic, Woodland Pattern's community advocacy

did not waver. They were able to distribute care packages and activity books to local schools and family homes to keep their younger community members actively engaged. During this globally difficult time, Woodland Pattern also released a series of writ community members a creative outlet during such isolating times.

To this day, Woodland Pattern continues to advocate for artists across Milwaukee. Woodland Pattern recently played a key role in the preservation of literary artworks at the Wisconsin Center. After receiving news of the potential removal of these literary artworks, Woodland Pattern immediately objected. They arranged meetings to discuss ways to reclaim these literary artworks and were able to receive funding to create a book where these artworks can be preserved and enjoyed for generations to come. The Wisconsin Center district CEO, Marty Brooks, invited Solomon and Gropp, along with Jill Sebastian, the artist responsible for the installation, to devise a plan for relocating and reimagining the installation. Solomon, Gropp, and Sebastian collaborated to submit a proposal for the relocation of this installation. The proposal

is currently under negotiation. Solomon and Gropp were surprised by the support that they received from the community in their efforts to preserve these literary

artworks. They shared that they wouldn't have even been able to have these meetings and find ways to save the literary pieces if there wasn't such a large community outcry. When asked about the importance of these literary art installations Solomon shared that "This installation is 400 years of Wisconsinites being able to share their voices and communicate with each other". The preservation of these literary artworks is crucial, and Woodland Pattern is doing everything in their power to advocate for these artists and ensure that this piece of Wisconsin's history is protected. (photo p.8)

Woodland Pattern has scholarships available for every class and workshop that they offer, making their community more accessible for people of all socioeconomic backgrounds. Woodland Pattern is also always looking for people to get involved and propose ideas for new writers groups or reading groups. Executive Directors Solomon and Gropp shared that they don't just simply host events for the community, but rather aim to host events with the community. Woodland Pattern gives young artists the freedom to develop their skills in a Non academic environment. This makes it so that the competition that a traditionally academic environment encourages is removed and gives people the opportunity to explore creatively without the added pressure. Gropp stated, "Poetry is not about fear and it's not about competition". Woodland Pattern is a community where you can turn to your peers to learn, explore, and develop your skills in a safe environment.

On June 11th, Woodland Pattern will be participating in the Locust Street Festival of Music and Art. They will have many attractions available for the community to interact with. One attraction in particular gives local writers the opportunity to contribute to a community poem. Each person who wishes to contribute can write a line of poetry that will be woven into one large poem written completely by community members.

If you would like to learn more about Woodland Pattern's History or explore their upcoming events, you can visit their website at <https://woodlandpattern.org/>

Welcome first time contributor, Alyssa N. Salcedo. Photo by Vj, or Eudemon or Vince, or all three. Inspiration subconscious.

Eileen Myles photo by Marla Sanvick

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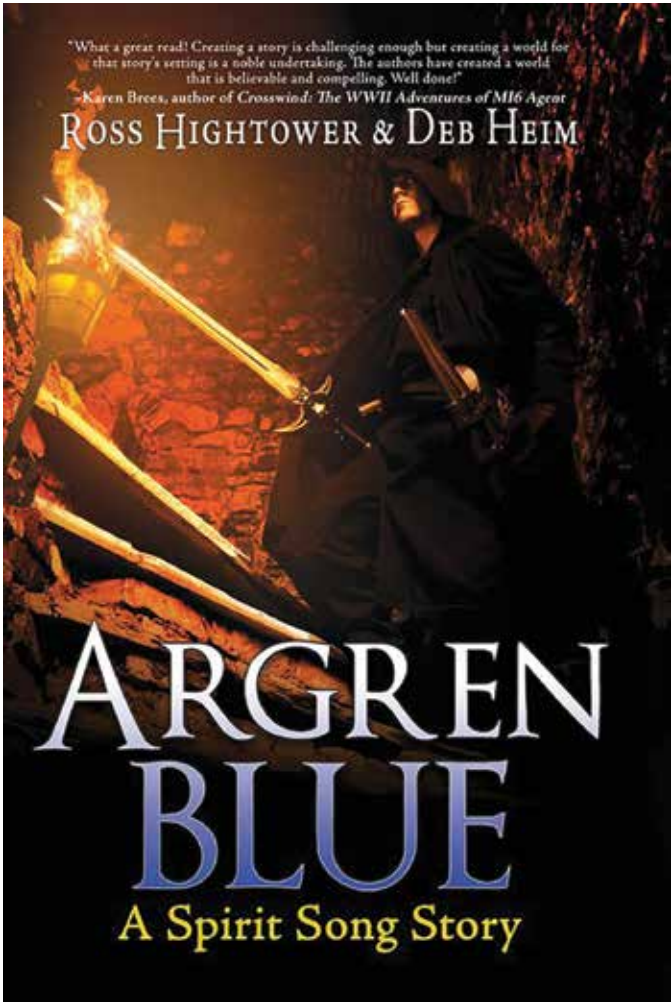


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"What a great read! Creating a story is challenging enough but creating a world for that story's setting is a noble undertaking. The authors have created a world that is believable and compelling. Well done!"
—Karen Brees, author of *Crosswind: The WWII Adventures of MI6 Agent*

ROSS HIGHTOWER & DEB HEIM



**ARGREN
BLUE**
A Spirit Song Story

Book Release at
Black Husky Brewery
Sunday June 4th, 2 to 4 pm

Announcing a book release for the fantasy novel *Argren Blue*, a prequel story to *Spirit Sight*, Sunday June 4th from 2-4 pm. In addition to a reading from the book, we have engaged local actors to stage a scene, Tim and I will sing a ballad based on the text, *Black Husky* will brew a firkin of "Alleoss ale" (again based on the book), and the reading will be followed by a reception for other local authors. Deb Heim

When Alar joined the resistance, he dreamed of throwing the imperial oppressors out of Argren. But as the inexperienced rebels reel from one disaster to another, Alar wonders if the Empire notices them at all. Until the day he discovers he has powers not seen since the great heroes of the past.

As he explores his newfound abilities, an imperial witch appears to ask the rebels

to rescue prisoners from an Inquisition prison. The plan is crazy, but the rebels have been riding the ragged edge of crazy for years. Though their surprising success revives their dreams, they may come to regret drawing the Empire's attention.

When a powerful inquisitor sends novice Harold Wolfe to root out the nascent rebel group, Harold has to wonder why. As a half-breed, Wolfe, is persecuted for his humble origins. By the time he discovers the trap, it's too late to escape the tangled web involving the rebels, a mysterious assassin, a corrupt imperial governor, and foreign mercenaries, all vying for a cache of priceless art.

While Harold looks for a way out, Alar and the rebels fight for their land, their people, and their freedom.

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MISSION STATEMENT

Riverwest Currents is dedicated to keeping readers informed about issues and events important to those who live, work, and play in and around our neighborhood. We believe Riverwest and Milwaukee are good places to make a home or set up a shop. We want to help promote safe and affordable neighborhoods, embrace urban aesthetics, respect diversity, and help make Riverwest residents aware of opportunities available to them.

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O.W.L. (Older.Wiser.Local)

is a program created to serve, enlighten and educate area seniors (50 and up).

OWL is sponsored by the Jazz Gallery Center for the Arts, along with Bader Philanthropies.

IN-PERSON GATHERINGS:

Time: **Thursdays 1:00PM to 4:00PM**

Place: Jazz Gallery Center for the Arts, 926 E. Center Street, Milwaukee 53212

All people, ages 50 and up, welcome.

Gatherings are free of charge, with free refreshments! Masking and distance is encouraged at this point.

OUR RADIO SHOWS:

Debut on **Tuesdays 7pm** on Riverwest Radio, WXRW, **104.1 FM**. Stream the show live on *riverwestradio.com*, if you can't get radio reception.

If you miss the radio broadcast, you can catch it anytime at:

<https://www.riverwestradio.com/show/owl-older-wiser-local/>

(Scroll under SHOWS, alphabetically to OWL)

MAY 2023

Tuesday May 2 (RADIO) Karen Beaumont presents: *Questions Artists and Healers Ask #2*

Thursday May 4 (IN-PERSON) Vince Bushell of the Riverwest Currents: *May '23 Issue*

Tuesday May 9 (RADIO) *See You/See Me, Portraiture Exhibition* at JGCA: Artist/Curator Talk

Thursday May 11 (IN-PERSON) Joan McGovern Tender presents *Healthy Keto Diet*

Tuesday May 16 (RADIO) Karen Beaumont presents *Echolocation* (Short Story with Music)

Thursday May 18 (IN-PERSON) Writing-Therapy for Healing Childhood Trauma

Tuesday May 23 (RADIO) Mikro Naut and Amy present *"The A.M. Book Report,"* Discussing Books on Media Mind-Control

Thursday May 25 (IN-PERSON) *"Do It Yourself"* Art-Making Workshop

Tuesday May 30 (RADIO) Karen Beaumont presents *George Frederic Handel* (Music, Poems, and Education)

OWL is sponsored by the Jazz Gallery Center for the Arts, along with Bader Philanthropies.

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RIVERWEST
Currents



Riverwest Elders Remember Their Grandmothers

At 90 years old, she was a featured soloist at the 1937 Chicagoland Music Festival in Soldier Field!

Mother’s Day Remembrances of my Grandmother

from Thallis Hoyt Drake (now 96)
Mary Electa Stocking (1848-1940) was born in Michigan, the youngest of twelve and -- eventually -- mother of seven. Life took her to Chicago where she was among the throng that witnessed the funeral cortege of Abraham Lincoln in 1865.
In 1867 she married George Harris Fergus. Later she told of frantically wheeling her first two children in a baby buggy away from their home during the Great Chicago Fire, in October of 1871.
Her youngest child, my mother (1888-1964), was widowed in 1935, after which my sister and I spent a great deal of time with our beloved “GrandMary”, as she was known to everyone. She showed us how to sew and embroider, drilled us on our multiplication tables, played cards and, with her guitar, taught us many of the Civil War songs she knew so well.
At 90 years old, she was a featured soloist at the 1937 Chicagoland Music Festival in Soldier Field!



Grandma’s Candlesticks from Stuart

On Friday, October 28, 1892, between 5:30 and 5:40 pm, an explosion occurred at the Union Oil and Paint Co. at Water St. and St. Paul Ave. The resultant fire spread quickly, urged on by strong winds.
Living with her family in the adjacent neighborhood was a young Jewish girl, Anna.
As the fire consumed the wooden structures in the surrounding area, the family realized their home would soon be reduced to ashes. The only hope was to flee as quickly as possible. The items the family chose to rescue were the brass Sabbath candlesticks. No time to pack other things. By midnight, 440 buildings covering a 20-block area had been burned. Families, mostly Irish, sought shelter in hotels, schools or with family elsewhere. Five people were killed. The fire was visible in Chicago and Sheboygan.
Anna grew up and married an assistant Milwaukee City Attorney, and bore several children, one of whom was my mother. After her husband’s early death, Anna opened a dry goods store, the family living above the store. I knew grandma well, but she rarely spoke of that fire. She lived to be 93 and was much loved by all the family. The candlesticks are now in the possession of our older granddaughter as her own legacy.



Riverwest Elders Guiding Vision: *We are a diverse group of Riverwest and nearby neighbors, over 50 years old. We come together to share wisdom, live to our full potential and give back to the community.”*

“Bousha”. And Rose

My Grandmothers

from Eileen Ciezki
We called my maternal grandma “Bousha”. Agnes came to this country from Poland in 1913, and met my grandpa John, who was also an immigrant from Poland. They had 13 births and 10 children survived. I remember my Bousha was round as a dumpling, a pierogi. And I loved that only she called me “Eileenka”. She had a heavy accent, spoke mostly Polish and was the best chicken soup maker and the warmest hugger. I lost her in my life when I was only 10, but photos of her and grandpa are always nearby.
My paternal grandma, Rose, lived a much longer life -- 93 years. I was blessed to have her in many chapters of my life. Her parents emigrated from Poland, so her English was very good, no accent, but out came the Polish whenever she wished a private conversation with grandpa. Together they had 6 children.
Family gatherings with 10 aunts and uncles and eventually 26 cousins always fit in their small south side bungalow. I remember her faithfulness and devotion; she attended 4am mass every day at the church only a block away. Her 8pm bedtime seemed very early to me but made sense for her early rising.
I still yearn for her potato dough prune-filled paczkis. She was an awesome sweets baker and always let me and cousins help. Church breakfasts for the Catholic Order of Foresters were under her direction. And all the girl cousins were recruited to help in the kitchen as early as 6am, then go to Mass, then afterwards help serve breakfast.
Sleepovers were the best, with shopping trips by bus, down Mitchell Street. Oh, the love and the memories! Photos of Rose and Alex are always in the living room.

...she invited us to lunch in a charming little restaurant and I remember having hot cross buns. This Easter I bought a package of hot cross buns from Sciortino’s bakery, in memory of Esther.

My Grandmother Memory

from JoAnn
My grandmother memory is really about my step-grandmother, as my biological grandmother died of pneumonia when my father was 9 years old. My grandfather then married Esther Jacobsen.
When my dad was 12, my grandfather was killed getting on a streetcar in Chicago. The children, including my father, were shipped out to children’s homes as my stepmother had no money to care for them.
Esther became a private duty nurse and eventually cared for the wife of George Havens, who was an architectural engineer at Marshall Fields. The wife died and Mr. Havens asked Esther to marry him, although she was several years older. She did, and eventually outlived him as she lived to almost 105.
When my sister and I were living in a children’s home in Chicago, and Esther and her husband were living in Evanston, Illinois, she invited us to lunch in a charming little restaurant and I remember having hot cross buns. This Easter I bought a package of hot cross buns from Sciortino’s bakery, in memory of Esther.
P.S. They were delicious!

“It begins out there where I chop off the chicken’s head.”

Where Our Food Really Comes From

from Mike
My grandma knew where food really came from. When some people think of their grandmothers, they might remember a place to go for freshly baked cookies, right out of the oven. I remember something else.
As a kid, I accompanied my mom to the grocery store many times. Canned goods, cereals, cookies, fresh fruits, and veggies, all exactly labeled and tidily organized on shelves. Fresh meats in cellophane, looking clean and sanitized, nothing like any real creature that had ever been alive. Only the chicken bore a trifling resemblance to something living, but then only to my own pale, hairless, goosebump-covered forearms.
So, imagine my surprise when, visiting my grandma on her farm, she gave me the gritty backstory of those white cubes floating in the chicken soup she had spooned into my bowl. How does a chicken end up like this? I wondered. “You see,” she said in a factual tone as she opened the backdoor, revealing the chicken coop and old flat-topped stump with the rust-stained surface. “It begins out there where I chop off the chicken’s head.” Thanks to my grandma, I learned early on where our food really comes from. My grandma was reality



They shot a chicken with their bow and arrow and rode off to prepare their meal.

Life Long Ago from Joe

My paternal grandmother was born in 1875 on her family’s farm, located in what is now the Bishop’s Woods area of Brookfield, Wisconsin. Before she died in 1950, she told a story of when she was a young girl. Some Indigenous Indians on horseback rode into the farmyard and said that they were hungry. They shot a chicken with their bow and arrow and rode off to prepare their meal.

RW Elders May Calendar

May 9, East Library 2320 N Cramer St., Corner of North Ave & Cramer
Noon-1:30 pm “The Nuts and Bolts of Estate Planning”
Presenter: Jennifer R. Imediegwu, Esq.
Attorney at Law –Member National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys
The Leopolds have heard her presentation and were very impressed.

May 25, Noon- 2pm
4th Thursday Birthday Lunch
Milwaukee Sail Loft 649 East Erie Street
On the River near Lake Michigan

Riverwest Elders Remember Their Grandmothers



Most of the jjajjas (grandmothers) arrive at the garden on foot; others ride on the back of a boda-boda (motorcycle), holding fast to the young drivers.

Every Grandmother - A Library

It is a warm day in Kangulumira, a small Ugandan village. The red clay soil in the community garden is soft from the previous night's rain. Most of the jjajjas (grandmothers) arrive at the garden on foot; others ride on the back of a boda-boda (motorcycle), holding fast to the young drivers. These grandmothers, left – in the words of one of the jjajjas – “isolated, abandoned and alone” to raise their grandchildren after the AIDs-related deaths of their adult children, have become part of Grandmothers Beyond Borders, a Milwaukee-based non-profit dedicated to lifting the lives and easing the hardships of Ugandan women elders and their families.

In finding each other through GBB, these women who have lost so much to AIDS, famine and warfare, malaria and upheaval, have regained their desire and determination to make a better life for the youngsters in their care. In finding each other, they have found the capacity to reach out and support those in even greater need. They embody the power of community as they form collectives, as they share and distribute seeds and seedlings and tend their garden plots, as they make micro-loans for sewing projects and craft supplies, as they sit together under the shade of a banana tree to weave baskets to sell at markets. They have become grassroots elder women leaders in their villages.

On this day in April, they greet a small group of GBB board members visiting them from Milwaukee by chanting “You are welcome... You are welcome” while extending their hands and arms in friendship and sisterhood.

They have gifts for us: carefully folded banana leaf packets, each one filled with roasted ground nuts, tied with sisal. A gentle rain covers us in a mist that sparkles when the sun peeks through. One of the grandchildren runs up to us to say hello. He looks from the jjajjas to the visitors and tells us, “In school, we learned that every grandmother is a library. When we lose a grandmother, we lose a library.” Then he runs off to play with the other children.

As our visit ends, we help the grandmothers pack up their belongings. Some will return home on foot, others on the back of a boda-boda. Watching the jjajjas

board the motorcycles, one member of our team observes, with a bit of amazement in his voice, “There’s trust on both sides of that equation.” These women elders may not be related to anyone in the group of visitors, yet the connection of the heart is as strong as any we have ever experienced in our personal family trees. Each one is our grandmother – and our library. Janine

It is good to get beyond our mental and physical borders and see the world anew.

Your grandmothers in Uganda share the same caring for community that the grandmothers in America can and should emulate. The simpleness of life without all the paraphernalia that clutters the west is evident in your description. Humankind exists because of the library of our minds and language we share. Age brings wisdom that looks back and forward at the same time I like the connection it makes across the globe. Vince



Bloodroot

Sanguinaria canadensis
Illuminates our family of origin's divine strengths and weaknesses so we are free to choose our own way



She wore black dresses, a sweater over her shoulders, perhaps a pearl necklace. We assumed she planted the garden and cleaned the house in the same dresses, but with a full apron, of course.

My Grandma Katy from Lorraine

My grandmother, Katy (Koos) Jacobs, was a very quiet, regal sort of woman. She wore black dresses, a sweater over her shoulders, perhaps a pearl necklace. We assumed she planted the garden and cleaned the house in the same dresses, but with a full apron, of course. We knew her in the early 1950’s as a 35–40-year-old woman. To us, she was “Grandma”. She kept the candy jar filled, served a glass of juice or coffee to visitors, and kept the wood burning kitchen stove hot for a winter cup of tea. “Us kids” would run into the kitchen just to see the flames when the door opened for the new log. Grandma never got down onto the floor to build a Lincoln Log cabin or sat at the kitchen table to color a picture with us. She would call and we’d go over to pick fresh tomatoes, green beans, peas, and potatoes. When the currants (not the newspaper, but a berry) ripened, we all had to come along to help pick them. It was an endless task of lifting leaves and seeking the ripe berries hidden beneath. My sister and I would start out with enthusiasm, but soon grew weary, eventually just giving up to go follow a cricket or look for carrots to pull. My grandmother was a woman of her time. She lived her life as the proper daughter of a successful family-owned sod farm in Racine.

Angie, Maimie,Naomi

My grandmothers were Adensam and Bushell -Angie and Maime- but Grandma to us. Maime would bake an excellent home made bread every week and Grandpa would deliver it. And a treat of caramels to boot. Angie would make pan sized potato pancakes cooked with lard as shortening. Cousin Johnny was chubby, cousin Vince was skinny and lanky. I could barely wolf down one but Johnny would always go for two. Grandmas like the kids to be chubby. Grandmas start out as mothers. And here is one, mother, grandma, and great grandma. Dear to so many. Written when she was still here. Her answer to Eudemon’s question, speaks to her life and purpose in it

Vince

Naomi - What is happines?

The mythos of Eudemon...exploring the liminal spaces of Riverwest...meeting the ordinary folk and having a good time. Eudemon turned around and turned around again and he was in another place: a place where time was taking a stroll. Four women on the far side of 80 sat in a kitchen-like room. Eudemon sat down with them. Lunch was just finished. One of the ladies was remarking how good that meat was, and could someone please find

out what it was so they could have it again. One of the ladies was Eudemon’s mother. She was with these stranger friends because of that little problem with memory that turns time upside down with old things seeming so near and new things so confusing. Eudemon engaged the group in conversation. Next to him sat Lou, short for Louise. Lou was a flirt. “Would you believe I’m almost 90,” she said. Ruby sat on the other side of Eudemon and smiled and rolled her eyes a bit at Lou. One lady sat quietly, not even volunteering a name, as if what does it matter, having a name.

Eudemon’s mom, Naomi, kept talking about the still life pattern of the wallpaper valance. She found it fascinating. Lou offered up opinions on her place in time: “Age has nothing to do with anything. It’s the way you want to present yourself, and I’m not going to believe my age. The hell with the calendar. I’m playing forty. “I like freedom and when you get married you’re not free. I paddle my own canoe.” Lou stated she had had several husbands. Eudemon pondered on what happiness was to these ladies caught in their own time warps. So he asked them. Ruby said, “Happiness is being with people you like.” Simple enough. Lou offered, “Happiness is being with someone who is happy.” Contagious. And then Eudemon asked Naomi, his mom, what happiness was. She turned her head. She seemed a bit confused. But then she smiled and said, “They all applauded when they brought out the cake that I made. I felt like a million dollars.” Everyone smiled. Eudemon felt a tug back into his time and space and he stood up and said goodbye to the ladies.

Lou with a wry smile called out, “You only go around once. And once is enough.” Eudemon strolled the halls with his mom. Picture boxes were on the walls with sepia images of young women getting married and babies and children and a life distilled into a few photographs in a box. He kissed his mom goodbye. He turned around and he turned around again and looked at his mom. But her eyes were gone and she was in another place and time.

Fragrant Wood Violet
Now showing in your woods
Viola soroia



The fragrance of flowers. violets, roses, lilies of the valley, cherry blossoms, often remind us of sweet memories. Lilacs in spring Apple blossoms TOO

A Walk in Riverwest -- an Ethnic and Cultural Melting Pot

by Cari Taylor Carlson
Distance - Two miles
Start - Corner of N. Humboldt & E. Center St.
Parking - On the street
Restaurant - Café Corazon, 3129 N. Bremen St.
Highlights - A plethora of eclectic homes
[and the delightful Snail Crossing Park

Riverwest, a diverse neighborhood in Milwaukee, is immediately west of the Milwaukee River. Its boundaries are E. Capitol Dr. on the north, N. Holton St. on the west, and the Milwaukee River on the east and south. It's a neighborhood where different ethnic groups came to work, then planted their family roots and remained as Riverwest residents for generations.

The first settlers arrived in the early 1800s and formed a community close to Capitol Drive. Dams built at Capitol and E. North Ave. provided power for industry, and soon there was a paper mill, a flour mill, and jobs for those early settlers. Because these workers needed a place to live, the village of Humboldt, named after German explorer Alexander von Humboldt, provided the needed housing. The Humboldt Plank Road, also named for said explorer, was the route used to bring goods from the city, which was at the time south of North Avenue.

Sometime in the 1860s, the Capitol dam was destroyed by floods, and by 1870 the river was primarily used for recreation. This lasted until 1930, when the combination of Prohibition and increasing pollution ended its popularity as a recreational corridor.

As Robert W. Wells wrote in This is Milwaukee, "By the time Milwaukee had become a city, the settlers had already managed to pollute their environment ... Acting Mayor Smith signed an ordinance making it illegal for anyone to bring such disease as cholera to Milwaukee ... It turns out, however, that the ordinance was ineffective as most bacteria in those days were unable to read."

Wealthy Germans began to build their summer residences west of the river, including the Kern family, who made their fortune in the flour business. Kern Park, at the northern end of Riverwest and the location of the former estate of the Kern family, once housed tuberculosis patients and their families in the Kern's 20-room mansion. In 1911, patients paid \$5 to \$10 to sleep for a week in the temporary sanitarium known as the Social Workers' Tuberculosis Sanitarium. It operated until 1915, when it was moved to the Milwaukee County Grounds.

In the 1880s, early Polish settlers followed the Germans and built more modest homes. Tanneries and factories along the river, south of the North Avenue dam, provided jobs for the Polish and opportunities for recreation. The popular beach at Gordon Park and Pavilion at the edge of the river provided swimming, and in winter ice skating. and even a ski jump.

Upstream steam boats carried folks to Blatz Park, and beer pavillion in what is now called Pleasant Valley across from Hubbard Park in Shorewood

In the 1890s, the Poles established their own church, St. Casimir, and in 2003, the St. Casimir Parish merged with St. Mary of Czestochowa to form Our Lady of Divine Providence.

At tje turn of the century, 1900 that is, Riverwest was becoming more densely populated by the thrifty Poles, with their small cottages and Polish flats. Victorian homes were being built just north of



4th of July Parade down Locust Street to Gordon Park



Garden Park - Locust & Bremen across from Black Husky Brewery



Our Lady of Divine Providence/ St. Casimir- beautiful inside and out



Snails Crossing - the park built by a 1000 volunteers and the dream of Marina Lee



River lands provide hiking , biking,w

the North Avenue dam on the former plank road, now Humboldt Boulevard.

Frank Whitnall, father of Charles Whitnall, had a 20-acre estate north of E. Locust Street, where he grew plants in multiple greenhouses. This neighborhood, not as populated as the rest of Riverwest, was the birthplace of Charles Whitnall, known as the "Father of Milwaukee Parks." Gordon Park and Gordon Circle were named after Charles' only son, Gordon.

In the 1920s, Italians came to Riverwest, many of them former residents of the Brady Street neighborhood across the river. They were followed by Puerto Ricans, African Americans, and, in the 1970s, another group that migrated to the neighborhood and stayed: artists looking for inexpensive spaces to live and work.

Riverwest was becoming one of the most diverse neighborhoods in Milwaukee.

It is also a neighborhood that almost had more bars than you could count. From mom and pop, to hipsters and gay friendly and everything in between.

The Walk

This walk starts at the Uptowner Bar at the northwest corner of E. Center St. and N. Humboldt Blvd. The street name Center suggests it's the center of something, but that's not the case. It was named after Alexander Center, a prominent local citizen. There was once a trolley on Center that began service in 1909 and traveled via Humboldt and Locust to its destination at Lake Park. The trolley lasted until 1937, when it was replaced by buses in the same year that Roy Pinkley, vice president of transportation for the electric company, stated,

"Streetcars are the backbone of the transportation system ... They are the most efficient vehicles for handling mass transportation. I don't see the end of them in Milwaukee." (Carl Swanson, Lost Milwaukee.)

From the Uptowner, walk one block west on Center, turn left on N. Weil St. and right on E. Clarke St. Here you will see Our Lady of Divine Providence, formerly St. Casimir. The building, completed in 1893, was built by Polish immigrants and constructed with Cream City brick. It was completed in 1899. Slightly darkened brick is the only sign of age on this elegant and very large church.

Continue west on Clarke to N. Fratney St. until you come to the Riverwest Co-op, a natural foods store and café where the motto is "Food for People, Not for Profit." It's located in a former Schlitz Tied House, once a brewery-owned bar. Tied refers to "tied" to Schlitz Brewery, one of many houses built by Schlitz on corners like this one in Riverwest.

Return to the church at N. Bremen St. and turn left. At Locust, look for Black Husky Brewery on the corner. Here is a brewery where dogs are welcome, but don't look for pizza and bar food. If you need something to eat with your beer, bring it yourself and enjoy it on the outdoor patio. Often a food truck will be in the vicinity, or you could always order something to have delivered to the bar.

Now turn left on Locust and walk to Woodland Pattern at 720 E. Locust, a nonprofit bookstore where the owners promote poetry, books from indie publishers, and the arts. Every year in January, Woodland Pattern sponsors a two-day Poetry Marathon with more than 300 participants,

mainly poets, along with a few musicians.

Return to Bremen and continue walking north. Along the way notice the small cottages, Polish flats, and duplexes in this densely populated part of Riverwest. At 3000 N. Bremen, you will come to SnailsCrossing Park, named for a quilters' pattern that represents the blend of ethnic groups in Riverwest. "Crossing" refers to its location at a former railroad crossing. The park is special because neighbors and children pitched in to help build it. Like the neighborhood, it was created by a diverse group of helpers.

Turn right on E. Burleigh St. and right again on Humboldt. You will pass Colectivo (a popular local café and coffee roaster), Gordon Park, and the Uptowner where you started. Continue south on Humboldt to E. Meinecke Ave. Turn left on Meinecke and left again on Gordon Place. At 2443 look carefully for the octagon-shaped house, the last remaining eight-sided house in Milwaukee. This type of pre-Civil War design was the rage in the 1800s when people believed they promoted good health thanks to multiple windows that brought fresh air inside from the outside.

Return to Humboldt and the Uptowner, where you began this stroll through the center of Riverwest.

There is so much more to see in this neighborhood west of the river. Stay a while and check out the shops, the restaurants, the bars, and the breweries in this neighborhood where anything goes, the people are friendly, everyone fits in, and the vibe is cool.

Café at the Pfister and the Lobby Lounge

424 E. Wisconsin Ave.
414-273-8222
Café hours-(seated-dining-area): 6am-2pm
Lobby Lounge hours: Monday-Thursday, 12pm (noon) -12am// Friday, 11am-1am // Saturday, 9am-1am // Sunday, 9am-12am (midnight) thepfisterhotel.com

Review by Cari Taylor Carlson

When you come for lunch at the Pfister Hotel you have two choices, the Café or the Lobby Lounge. They have different personalities, each a prototype of a certain kind of dining experience.

Before you sit down to enjoy your meal, look around at the lobby of this historic hotel that's been a landmark on Wisconsin Avenue since 1893. Guido Pfister and his son Charles wanted to build an elegant hotel in downtown Milwaukee that also connected to the local arts community. This explains why you see the extravagant architecture of Henry C. Koch plus some of the Pfister's extensive collection of Victorian art. Don't forget to look up to see the gorgeous painted ceiling, the chandeliers, and the grillwork on the balcony. If elegance was the Pfister's goal when they envisioned this grand old dame, The Pfister in 2023 has more than fulfilled father and son's original vision of a magnificent hotel on Wisconsin Avenue.

wearing a bow tie sipped a martini.

Until 2pm, the café menu is available in the lounge; after, there's an abbreviated menu for the lounge that's similar to the café menu with a few additions such as Zaffiro's Pizza, an Olive and Cheese Board, Shrimp Cocktail, a Grilled Wisconsin Cheese Sandwich, and for a very special occasion, Grilled Bone-In Filet with potato

Before you sit down to enjoy your meal, look around at the lobby of this historic hotel that's been a landmark on Wisconsin Avenue since 1893. Guido Pfister and his son Charles wanted to build an elegant hotel in downtown Milwaukee that also connected to the local arts community.

They might be puzzled by the 2023 menu. You wouldn't see an Impossible Burger, Tuna Poke Tacos, or Caramel Macchiato on a menu at the turn of the century. This is not a place where you come for fancy food in either the café or the lounge. It's simple food with something to please everyone because after all, this is a hotel. If you are looking for a more upscale meal at the hotel, you'll have to wait until 4pm when the Mason Street Grill opens.

The Café has an extensive menu that's organized into several categories: Pick Two Lunch Combo; Signature Dishes; Salads; Flatbreads and Wraps; Sandwiches; and All Beef Hot Dogs. There are several vegetarian options such as the Vegan Quinoa Bowl with dried apricots, mushrooms, kale, and pecans, served in a basil vinaigrette, and Avocado Toast topped with a poached egg.

We ordered Tomato Soup, Chicken Caesar Salad, and the Asian Salad. Two cheddar crostinis accompanied the soup, an appropriate cheesy pairing with the soup that tasted healthy, creamy and tart from the San Marzano tomatoes and fresh basil. The Caesar Salad was filled with many tender chunks of chicken, the dressing hinted of garlic, and the romaine lettuce was fresh. A generous layer of shaved parmesan finished the salad making it a delicious and classic Caesar.

For the Asian Salad, the chef used several kinds of lettuce including radicchio and red cabbage. It combined teriyaki marinated chicken with mandarin oranges, peanuts and sesame seeds, a tasty symphony of sweet, tart, crunchy, and bitter. The ginger dressing and crisp wontons made this a salad I would order again.

When I brought a friend for lunch a week later, the Lobby Lounge looked too inviting to pass and so we stayed. We sat at a table across from the fireplace where a young family had settled on the two couches with coffee and soda. We noted a couple at a table behind us make a toast with champagne, and at the bar, a solo man

frites and tarragon mustard sauce for \$57.

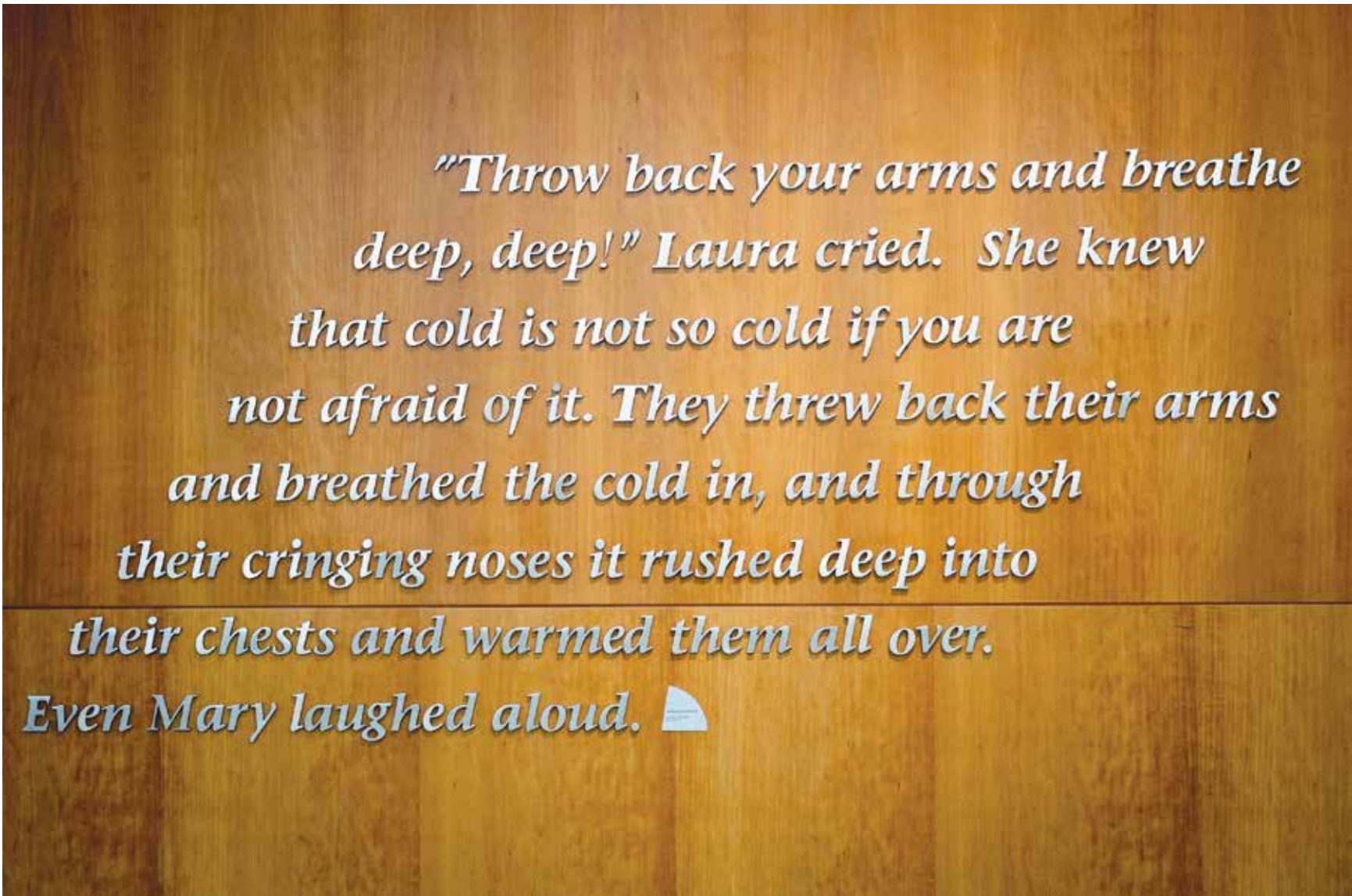
We ordered from the café menu, the Friday Fish Fry and the Signature Senator's Tuna, a sandwich favored by a former regular, Herb Kohl. The Spotted Cow Beer-Battered cod was classic, tender fish inside the light puffy batter and served with creamy slaw and a large pile of fries.

Senator Kohl knew what he was doing when he chose the tuna salad sandwich. It was fat with tuna and sliced tomatoes that had been peeled, an impressive detail added to an ordinary sandwich.

We finished with Carrot Cake. It was fruitcake-dense and rich with abundant raisins and nuts, then coated with a thick decadent layer of cream cheese frosting.

As we left the Lobby Lounge, we noticed a couple deep in cozy armchairs with coffee and books. Not a phone in sight. There was something about the Pfister that felt like a lost century, a genteel ambiance where you could find tomato soup, an All-Beef Hot Dog, and a retro tuna salad sandwich.





Quote by Laura Ingalls Wilder, Wisconsin Center Installation - *Portals*...Image by Meg Strobell

The preservation of these literary artworks is crucial, and Woodland Pattern is doing everything in their power to advocate for these artists and ensure that this piece of Wisconsin’s history is protected. *(Pull quote page1)*



Woodland Pattern

Donate a tie! - Buy a tie!

720 E Locust St, Milwaukee, WI 53212

Hours: Phone: (414) 263-5001

Saturday	12–7 PM	Sunday	12–7 PM	Monday	Closed
Tuesday	12–7 PM	Wednesday	2–7 PM	Thursday	12–7 PM
Friday	12–7 PM				

Woodland Pattern is participating in the 44th Annual Locust St. Festival. There will be a Poetry Reading with Freddy LaForce of VA Press and other Riverwest poets from 12-12:45 at the Black Husky/ Rockhaus stage.

From 11:30am to 8pm Woodland Pattern will host multiple free activities, as well as a book sales and raffle. There will be a “poetry pot” where community members can write lines of poetry to later be pulled and combined into a community poem.

For youth there will be an ongoing “exquisite puppet” workshop where children can help build a portion of a moveable art piece.

Purchase of a raffle ticket includes a “Community Ties” neck tie, \$3 each or 2 for \$5. Three book packages from Woodland Pattern will be raffled as well, with all winning tickets drawn at 6pm.



Riverworks in the Community

by Ruth Weill

Friends of Gordon Park

Meetings are at 6pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Gordon Park Pavilion, located at 2828 N. Humboldt Blvd. Save Saturday, June 24, for the Slide into Summer event, celebrating the new playground equipment. If you are interested or have questions, please email friendsofgordonpark@gmail.com or find The Friends of Gordon Park on Facebook.

The Beerline Trail

The Beerline Trail, the old rail line that runs through Riverwest and Harambee, is on its way to being a world class linear park. Riverworks, along with residents and various stakeholders, have worked diligently for over a decade to make the dream a reality. Look forward to the 2023 Music on the Beerline Series taking place every 3rd Friday, July through September. Also, The Friends of the Beerline Trail along with Riverworks is hosting Cornhole Tournaments on the 4th Thursday beginning in June, at 6pm on the Beerline Plaza. If you are interested in learning more about the Beerline Trail, please visit www.beerlinetrailmke.org

53212Marketplace

The Mother's Day Edition is on Sunday, May 7, at The West River Collective, 3700 N Fratney Street, home of Amorphic Beer. 11am-4pm. With over 25 vendors, one can find unique local gifts for everyone (especially Mom, you know). Don Pastor Taco Truck will also be on site for all your hunger needs.

In Harambee

Saturday, June 3 from 12-3pm is the Harambee Tot Lot, located on 1st and Keefe, ribbon cutting event with family friendly activities. Look for more information about a Pop-Up Farmers Market on June 28th at the Tot Lot as well.

Beautification

Join Riverworks on Saturday, May 20 from 10am-12pm for the 2023 Bloom & Groom event located on the Beerline Plaza 3350 N Holton Street for a wide variety of affordable flowers and vegetable plants. Special thanks to Bliffert Lumber and Hardware for being such an awesome community partner.



Riverwest Farmers Market

The market begins June 4, running each Sunday (except for July 2) from 10am-3pm through October. Located on the 2700 block of North Pierce Street since 2020. One can find organic and conventional produce, flowers, prepared food, bakery, eggs and meat, coffee, kombucha, sauces, marinades, pickled veggies, jams, cheese, body products, art, jewelry and so much more. Please visit <https://www.facebook.com/RiverwestMarket> for the most updated information or reach out to info@riverwestmarket.com



Wire columns protect the young samplings from deer browsing.

If you would like to volunteer to do supervised restoration in Gordon Park adjacent to the bike trail in Gordon Park and the Milwaukee River lands please check out our volunteer site on-line. Education and restoration and volunteerism goes a long way toward a more diverse and healthy environment.



Please visit RRF's website
for volunteer orientation and hours:

<https://www.riverrevitalizationfoundation.org/>



Riverwest (April 27, 2023) – In the coming weeks, the iconic **Falcon Bowl** at **801 E. Clarke St.** is getting a little TLC. Rest assured, the changes won't be drastic. The Riverwest institution will retain its every man feel but the interior will have just a bit more style to its name. Importantly, the business will stay open during the refresh.

"We love what the Falcon Bowl represents and its place in the Riverwest neighborhood. We're embracing its history and authenticity and are actually using the bowling alley as our design template," says Dan Gnadt, one of Falcon Bowl's new operators. "During the refresh, we're continuing business as usual so you can still stop by for a drink, come in to bowl or book our hall for an event."

The renovations began in April and should be nearly completed by mid-June – just in time for a June 24 Falcon Bowl celebration (details to follow).

The bar area will receive much of the attention and it will reflect the style of the basement bowling alley with its mid-century modern vibe. The six-lane alley has classic 1950's pink and white bank seating, mod-shaped scoring tables and a vintage diamond motif.

The refreshed bar area will bring the pink, white and green color scheme from the downstairs to the upstairs. The floor will be pink and green checkerboard tile, the oval bar will feature orange Naugahyde stick-legged chairs and have a sleek soffit above that follows the shape of the horse-shoe-like shaped bar. The lighting will be replaced with period fixtures and the décor will feature throwback bowling-related pieces. In addition, a side lounge/bar area will be carved out of the existing space.

The banquet hall will receive significant upgrades, including enlarging the stage installing air conditioning, removing the 1960s metal ceiling tiles to expose the original wood ceiling and medallions, and installation of all new lighting including classic chandeliers. The refresh also includes removing five different kinds of mismatched paneling that were put up over the decades and construction of new bar.

Outside, a space that was previously used for catchall storage will be turned into a large 1,100 square foot patio and beer garden.

Lynn Okopinski, a long-time Riverwest resident who ran Falcon Bowl until she retired just a few months ago, has been assisting the new operators in the transition. Lynn has said "I was rooting for Dan to be the next operator. He's a bowling guy and that's the kind of person who should be running this place."

While the operators plan to add a few

more Milwaukee-brewed beers, there are currently no plans in place to offer food.

"When people ask if we have big plans for Falcon Bowl, our answer is we plan to honor what's already been established," says Gnadt. "We don't want to mess with an institution that so many people already know and love. That being said, there are two operational changes that we're excited about and are firsts for Falcon Bowl. Falcon Bowl now has a website and we are upgrading the registers so we can take credit cards."

Falcon Bowl Then & Now

The Falcon Bowl traces its history back to 1882 when a corner bar was first built on the site. Fast forward decades to 1945 when the location was purchased by The Polish Falcons of America, a fraternal organization which at one time helped the fledging neighborhood Polish immigrants assimilate. The facility became home to Nest 725 - the local chapter of the Polish Falcons.

In 1982, Falcon members John and Lynn Okopinski began renting the space from The Falcons. John ran the bar, bowling alley and hall until his death in 2011 when Lynn took over. Lynn continued to operate the business for another decade plus.

In the summer of 2021, the three-story, 12,500-square-foot Falcon Bowl was listed for sale. It was purchased in 2022 by the Riverwest Investment Co-op (RIC) and later that year the team of Daniel Gnadt, Bill Desing and Russ Grabczyk was selected to operate the business. Gnadt and his wife, Amy, are the owners of **South Shore Bowl** in Cudahy and **Castle Lanes** in Racine. Amy is onsite at Falcon Bowl to handle the day-to-day operations and has been tapping into Lynn's knowledge and expertise the past few months. Bill and Russ both grew up in Riverwest and their families have deep roots in the neighborhood. Russ' family moved in in the 1940s and Bill's mother was literally born in Riverwest on Holton Street 94 years ago and today lives on Weil Street.

The Falcon Bowl is the fifth oldest continuously sanctioned bowling alley in the country and its six lanes were first certified in 1915. In 1956, its human pinsetters were replaced with automated ones that had been used in the 1952 PBA national bowling tournament that was held at what is now the UWM Panther Arena.

The events hall will be renovated including an upgraded bar and air conditioning.

Falcon Bowl Offerings

The Banquet Hall is available to rent for weddings, bands, birthday parties, bar mitzvahs, sheephead tournaments, taekwondo graduations, spaghetti dinners,

swing dances, and any else you can think of!

Falcon Bowl merch, including a baseball jersey, hoodie, crew t-shirt, trucker hat and beanie, is available at falconbowlmke.com.

Contact Falcon Bowl at falconbowl@gmail.com.

The Falcon Bowl bar is open Tuesday – Saturday, 4 p.m. to close.

Open bowling is available on Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday from 4 pm to close .

The interior redesign at Falcon Bowl has a mid-century modern vibe and was created by Matthew Kerr Design.

Falcon Bowl is owned by the Riverwest Investment Co-op and operated by Daniel Gnadt, Bill Desing and Russ Grabczyk of Falcon Bowl, LLC. Falcon Bowl is a Riverwest institution that dates back to 1882 and is known and loved for its neighborhood bar, vintage six-lane basement bowling alley and rental hall that hosts everything from weddings, concerts, to swing dancing to sheephead tournaments. Falcon Bowl gets its name from the fact that it was the headquarters for the Polish Falcons Nest 725, a fraternal organization, from 1945 to 2020. For more information, visit falconbowlmke.com.



The Hall will be getting a new bar with a fresh look.



New elements at Falcon Bowl include an outdoor patio, the ability to pay with a credit card and the business' first-ever website.

QWERTYFEST MKE

Here is something new.

How many of you know that the typewriter was invented in Milwaukee by Christopher Latham Sholes?

And his keyboard was one we call the QWERTY is still in use today.

Former Currents comics editor and writer and illustrator from way back when, Tea Krulos is one of the organizers of the event.

I am not suprised that Tea is involved in these quirky QUERTY events. And the other folks involved add even more interest. The following is per Tea's message to the Currents.

This festival will celebrate Milwaukee history as well as contemporary artists, musicians, performers, and businesses. My co-organizer is Molly Snyder (Senior Editor, OnMilwaukee.com) and we have a number of other people actively participating in organizing the event.

QWERTYFEST breaks down like this: opening night party on Friday, June 23 (National Typewriter Day) with a

Clackathon-performance/competition hosted by Anja Notanja Sieger and music by Nineteen Thirteen.

Saturday (June 24) features workshops at The Bindery, and a day at Forest Home Cemetery with a special tour, presentations, and a QWERTYFEST Market in Forest Home's historic chapel.

Sunday (June 25) features a Type-writer Brunch Open Jam, free and open to anyone who wants to bring a typewriter to brunch at Company Brewing.

Times and location details need to be worked out, so watch for more information.

Info and tickets can be had at:"
Buy a ticket: We have tickets for individual components of the fest and also an ALL CAPS Pass (\$75) that includes the Friday night party, tour and presentations at Forest Home, a copy of QWERTY Quarterly, and other swag like a tote bag, sticker, etc.:
<https://milwaukeekrampusnacht.ticketbud.com/qwertyfest-mke>

Performing at Linneman's on Saturday, May 20th with The Swivels

Announcing the debut of Milwaukee's explosive new band:

COMBUSTOR



Combustor is a Milwaukee-based combo formed in 2022, made up of veteran indie/punk/alternative musicians **Clancy Carroll** (guitars, vocals), **Marc Graves** (drums, percussion) and **Bobby Mitchell** (bass, vocals). The members' past endeavors include: The Haskells ("Taking The City By Storm" EP), The Ones ("Tightrope" 45), Dominoes ("Lies" EP), 3 On Fire ("How Many, How Long" 45), Clancy Carroll Band ("Honesty" EP) and a very long list of others.

With influences as varied as Ramones, Prince, Stooges, James Brown, Buzzcocks, Miles Davis and Grand Funk Railroad, Combustor's focus on songwriting and heady mix of old school rock, melodic punk, powerful pop and funk is certain to engage.



Combustor's self-titled release drops May 19th, 2023 on CD and LP. "Combustor" was recorded at **Kneezland Studios** through the course of 2022, co-produced with **Paul Kneezers**, and will be available at finer record stores on **Splunge Communications, Inc. Records** www.splungecomm.com

Combustor's debut and record release show will be in Milwaukee on **Saturday, May 20th** at **Linneman's Riverwest Inn**, 1001 E. Locust St. with Milwaukee-based funky rock and rollers, **The Swivels**.



Splunge Communications, Inc.
P.O. Box 7122, Milwaukee, WI 53211

CONSTRUCTION FORECAST

North Humboldt Boulevard

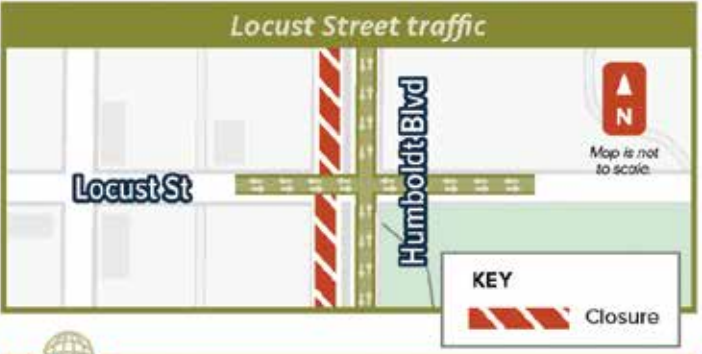


NORTH HUMBOLDT BOULEVARD - EAST NORTH AVENUE TO EAST KEEFE AVENUE

East North Avenue to East Keefe Avenue

Two-Week Construction Look Ahead

- Continued storm sewer work
- Sidewalk and curb reconstruction
- Common excavation beginning at Keefe Avenue moving south.
- Electrical work including pull boxes, conduits, and concrete bases.
- Westbound Locust Street, west of Humboldt Boulevard, is now open to traffic.
- Eastbound Locust Street, west of Humboldt Boulevard, is scheduled to close to traffic early May.



Find information about this project online at:
<https://tinyurl.com/HumboldtBlvd>

WHOM TO CONTACT

Alyssa Tapia, Public Involvement

phone: (262) 853-0350 email: mkeprojects@devorpr.com

The project team thanks you for your patience and cooperation throughout this project!



Please note that all work is weather dependent and subject to change.

What seems like an never ending project is moving along.

It was not a horrible winter for construction and the work has a good start on the repaving from Keefe to Locust on the west side of the street.

The intersection at Locust Street and Humboldt is a pinch point. They have kept both lanes open recently, but often traffic backs up at the intersection due to the narrowness of the lanes and lack of turning lanes.

Note! East bound locust is the focus at this point and is set to be closed during paving of the intersection.

There are a lot of workers in the area and for your and their protection **slow down**. Line of sight for turning traffic is limited by machinery and safety barrels.

I have heard many folks express frustration and that is understandable.

This is a once in a lifetime repaving of one of the oldest streets in Milwaukee.

12 May 2023

MAY 2023 CALENDAR

MAY 2023 CALENDAR file

1 MONDAY
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Overcoats
BREMEN CAFÉ Comedy Open Mic, 8pm. Then Music Open Mic w/ Ouzman
COMPANY BREWING Wisconsin's Hardest Trivia, 7pm. Win prizes if you've got the smarts!
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Essential Yoga w/ Laura (Noon)
LINNEMAN'S Poet's Monday! Doors 7pm, performances start 7:30pm. \$3 cover. Featured poet: PJ Rockwell
MAY DAY MARCH -- Days without Latinxs and Immigrants General Strike Meet at 11am at Voces de la Frontera (Mitchell St. near 6th) and join the Peace Action WI Solidarity Contingent
PINK HOUSE STUDIO Super Gentle Yoga w/Sarah (9:30-10:30am); Yoga w/Sarah (6-7:15pm)
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Foundations w/Tracey 6pm

2 WEDNESDAY
BLACK HUSKY BREWING Milwaukee's Worst Trivia, 7pm. At least there's beer to help you through it and you have a chance to win a \$10, \$20 or \$30 gift card!
BREMEN CAFÉ Karaoke w/Trixy Mercury
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 TRX Plus w/ Rob (Noon)
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Food Distribution at St. Casimir's Church INDOORS -- 4-6pm. Proudly serving the 53212, 53211, 53217, 53202, and 53203 zip codes!
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Volunteer food distribution hours: 2:30 or 3:30 - 6:30pm
MIRAMAR THEATRE R&B Tuesday. 21+. 9pm
PINK HOUSE STUDIO GIA Grace in Action 4 Everybody (9:15am); Keep It Simple Yoga (6pm)
RIVERWEST RADIO WXRW 104.1FM Riverwest Elders OWL (Older. Wiser. Local.) Karen Beaumont presents: Questions Artists and Healers Ask #2. Tune in or stream live at 7pm at riverwestradio.com.
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Basics w/Hart 6pm
SHANK HALL Fucked Up, Dark Thoughts, Gnawing. 8pm, \$25
UPTOWNER Dave Bayles Trio 7-9pm
WOODLAND PATTERN *hybrid* Conversation: Next Act Theatre's production of God's Spies. Join the cast members and director from Next Act Theatre's production of God's Spies by Bill Cain, along with two Wisconsin-based writers, for a conversation about creative practice in times of crisis. 7pm

3 THURSDAY
ART*BAR Karaoke, 9pm-midnight
BLACK HUSKY BREWING Valley Fox, 6:30-8:30pm
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Yoga for Stiff Bodies w/Cynthia (12:30pm & 6pm)
LINNEMAN'S Acoustic Open Stage -- Doors, 7pm. Sign-up, 7:30pm. Show starts at 8pm. Featured performer: Freddy Penn
PINK HOUSE STUDIO GIA Grace in Action 4 Everybody (9:15-10:30am); Yoga w/ Kat (11am-Noon)
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Basics w/Haley 6pm
SHANK HALL Kenny Roby, 8pm, \$15
THE GIG Wednesday Night Music Jam, 9-11pm
VILLA TERRACE, 2220 N Terrace Av, Documentary film showing -- "Concert Of Wills: Making Of The Getty Center". Chronicles the conception, construction and completion of one of the most eagerly anticipated architectural undertakings of the 20th century. A rare look at a creative process in action, where different aesthetic philosophies meet head on and are passionately defended. 6:30pm. \$20-25
WOODLAND PATTERN *in person* Reading Group: Ping Pong Book Club. Reading aloud together from the poetry collection How To Wash a Heart How by Bhanu Kapil. 6-7pm

4 THURSDAY
ANODYNE COFFEE ROASTING CO., 224 W Bruce St Laney Lou and the Bird Dogs with special guests Sugar Bush. \$10
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Breakup Shoes w/special guest Worry Club
BREMEN CAFÉ SSAANN (10pm); Shell Bells (11pm); Mom Cher (12 midnight)
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Upper Body Strength w/ Robert (11:30 am)
JAZZ GALLERY CENTER FOR THE ARTS, 926 E. Center St., Riverwest Elders OWL (Older. Wiser. Local.) in-person gathering, 1-4pm. Vince Bushell of the Riverwest Currents: May '23 Issue
LINNEMAN'S Sam Rodewald's birthday show w/ Kevin Farinelli, 5PM to Nowhere, Jorge Valentine. \$10, 7:30pm start
MIRAMAR THEATRE Cal Scruby Cal Scruby "Casino Tour '23" 7pm. All ages.
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Gentle,

Healing, Supportive (7:30pm)

5 FRIDAY
ART*BAR Live music w/ Martha Groves Perry & the MGP Band, 9pm. Janelle McAfee opens.
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect The Big Wu w/ special guest Sugar Bush
HIGH DIVE, 701 E Center LUXI // the LOL // Future Trash, \$10 suggested, 9pm
INSPIRATION STUDIOS, 1500 S. 73rd St, West Allis OPENING RECEPTION: Wehr Nature Center Camera Club Photography Exhibit (exhibit runs through May 28). 6-9pm
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Move and Meditate w/ Paula (Noon)
KENILWORTH 508 THEATER, 1925 E Kenilworth Spalding Gray: Stories Left to Tell. Theatre Gigante presents a moving tribute to the life and work of the acclaimed, groundbreaking writer/monologist/actor, Spalding Gray. 7:30pm
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Volunteer food sort hours: 8:30-10:30am
LINNEMAN'S Dead Dead Swans, Dandy L. Freling, Old Wolves. \$10, 8pm.
MAD PLANET Friday Night Retro Dance Party, 9pm, \$7
MIRAMAR THEATRE Noizu
PINK HOUSE STUDIO GIA Grace in Action 4 Everybody (9:15am); African Dance w/ Roxanna and Yaya (6-7:15pm)
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga All Levels w/Tracey 9am
SHANK HALL IV and The Strange Band, The Goddamn Gallows. 8pm, \$20 adv / \$25 doors
WOODLAND PATTERN *in person* Screening: aCinema's May Program. 7pm. \$Give what you can.

6 SATURDAY
ALL SAINTS CATHEDRAL, 818 E Juneau Spring Tea 2023! 2pm. Come join us in this 150th birthday year for the Cathedral. Ticket cost with reservations: \$15 per adult/ \$6 for children 12 and under. Reserve an entire table for 8 guests for \$100. For reservations, call Lyn at 414-651-4612, or email hungerbooksale@gmail.com. Ticket costs at the door will be \$20.
ART*BAR Live Music w/ Johnny T-Bird, 9pm
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Brian Dunn w/ special guest Brennan Wedl
BREMEN CAFÉ Floor Model 9:30pm, Scummies 10:30pm, Vulgar Commons 11:30pm
CIRCLE A Alive at 8: The Flood Brothers + Francesca & Tom Duo // DJ at 10
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Nada Yoga: Sound Bath Experience with Jordan Moon. 1:30pm. Tickets are \$40. Seating is limited. Register online at www.invivowellness.com
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 FREE Community Class Yoga. 11:30am - 12:30pm. Register online at www.invivowellness.com
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Every Day Strength w/ Laura (10:30 am)
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Food Distribution at St. Casimir's Church parking lot -- 8:30-10:30am. Proudly serving the 53212, 53211, 53217, 53202, and 53203 zip codes!
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Volunteer food distribution hours: 7:30-11:30am
LINNEMAN'S Signalfire, Grace Under Water. \$10, 8pm
LION'S TOOTH BOOKS, 2421 S Kinnickinnic Kids' event with Oliver Bestul, author of The Zodiac Dozen book series. 2pm
MAD PLANET Non-Pop!
MIRAMAR THEATRE The Widdler
SHANK HALL Lost Orange Cat, Panalure. 8pm, \$10
STAND FOR PEACE at Layton & Howell Join with Peace Action of Wisconsin in our 20th year of standing for peace, noon until 1pm
THE COFFEE HOUSE, 2717 E Hampshire The Casa Kemnitz Jam for Casa Maria, 7:30-9:30pm
WOODLAND PATTERN *hybrid* Poetry Reading: Brenda Cárdenas and Béatrice Szymkowiak. 7pm, \$give what you can

7 SUNDAY
ANODYNE COFFEE ROASTING CO., 224 W Bruce St Sons of the Never Wrong. \$10 adv /\$15 doors
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect The New Amsterdams / Kevin Devine w/special guest Brother Bird
BLACK HUSKY BREWING More details to come but mark your calendar. IN-PERSON ONLY AS ALWAYS Riverwest 24 Lottery Day: 10am tickets start; 11am VIPs can register; 12pm tickets start being called. Music and jokes and beers. 12-3pm DJ Buzz from WMSE will be spinning records. Food from Rose Mob Grill. Cash & check only. Make a Profile at www.riverwest24.com if you dont have one yet!
BREMEN CAFÉ Bingo with Tony, 6pm
CIRCLE A Alive at 8: Connor LaMue + Old

Pup + Johanna Rose // DJ at 10
INSPIRATION STUDIOS, 1500 S. 73rd St, West Allis Von Trio Classical Guitar Concert, 4pm
PINK HOUSE STUDIO Dance in Kern Park, 11am-12:30pm. Meet near the tennis court.
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Foundations 10:30am
SHANK HALL Daniel Rodriguez, Trapper Schoepp, 8pm, \$15
THE GIG Bluegrass Sunday, 1-4pm
UPTOWNER Alex Wilson Blues Band 3pm

8 MONDAY
BREMEN CAFÉ Comedy Open Mic, 8pm. Then Music Open Mic w/ Steph
COMPANY BREWING Wisconsin's Hardest Trivia, 7pm. Win prizes if you've got the smarts!
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Essential Yoga w/ Laura (Noon)
LINNEMAN'S Poet's Monday! Doors 7pm, performances start 7:30pm. \$3 cover. Featured poet: Mypoeetry Speaks
PINK HOUSE STUDIO Super Gentle Yoga w/Sarah (9:30-10:30am); Yoga w/Sarah (6-7:15pm)
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Foundations w/Tracey 6pm

9 TUESDAY
BLACK HUSKY BREWING Milwaukee's Worst Trivia, 7pm. At least there's beer to help you through it and you have a chance to win a \$10, \$20 or \$30 gift card!
BREMEN CAFÉ Pinball Tourney 6pm; later, Karaoke w/Trixy Mercury
EAST LIBRARY, 2320 N Cramer St. Riverwest Elders host a presentation, "The Nuts and Bolts of Estate Planning", by Jennifer R. Imediegwu, Attorney at Law and Member, National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. Noon to 1:30pm.
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 TRX Plus w/ Rob (Noon)
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Food Distribution at St. Casimir's Church INDOORS -- 4-6pm. Proudly serving the 53212, 53211, 53217, 53202, and 53203 zip codes!
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Volunteer food distribution hours: 2:30 or 3:30 - 6:30pm
MIRAMAR THEATRE R&B Tuesday. 21+. 9pm
PINK HOUSE STUDIO GIA Grace in Action 4 Everybody (9:15am); Keep It Simple Yoga (6pm)
RIVERWEST RADIO WXRW 104.1FM Riverwest Elders OWL (Older. Wiser. Local.) See You/See Me, Portraiture Exhibition at JGCA: Artist/Curator Talk (7pm)
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Basics w/Hart 6pm
SHANK HALL Tejon Street Corner Thieves, 8pm, \$15
UPTOWNER Dave Bayles Trio 7-9pm

10 WEDNESDAY
ART*BAR Karaoke, 9pm-midnight
BREMEN CAFÉ Wayward Kites, 5PM to Nowhere
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Yoga for Stiff Bodies w/Cynthia (12:30pm & 6pm)
LINNEMAN'S Acoustic Open Stage -- Doors, 7pm. Sign-up, 7:30pm. Show starts at 8pm. Featured performer: Sean Hendley
PINK HOUSE STUDIO GIA Grace in Action 4 Everybody (9:15-10:30am); Yoga w/ Kat (11am-Noon)
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Basics w/Haley 6pm
THE GIG Wednesday Night Music Jam, 9-11pm
WOODLAND PATTERN *online via Zoom* Community Group: Readshop -- reading from Robin Blaser's The Holy Forest, 6pm. \$give what you can

11 THURSDAY
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Man or Astro-Man? w/special guest Devils Teeth
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Upper Body Strength w/ Robert (11:30 am)
JAZZ GALLERY CENTER FOR THE ARTS, 926 E. Center St., Riverwest Elders OWL (Older. Wiser. Local.) in-person gathering, 1-4pm. Joan McGovern Tender presents Healthy Keto Diet
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Gentle, Healing, Supportive (7:30pm)
SHANK HALL Sophie B. Hawkins, 8pm, \$25
WASHINGTON HEIGHTS NIGHT MARKET Outdoors on Washington Blvd between 53rd & 54th Streets. Every 2nd Thursday, May through August. Featuring a mash-up of local food and drink, music, handmade artists, crafters and makers, farm/produce vendors, small businesses and performers.

12 FRIDAY
ANODYNE COFFEE ROASTING CO., 224 W Bruce St Louie & The Flashbombs with Wire and Nail and Bing Bong. \$10, 7pm

Riverwest Currents

ART*BAR OPENING: Geek Art! Live Music from the Flood Brothers, 9pm.
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Robbie Fulks
BREMEN CAFÉ Past is Prologue 9:30pm, Bug Moment 10:10pm, Pretending 10:50pm, Garden Home 11:30pm

COMPANY BREWING Waldemar w/ special guests North Warren and Next Paperback Hero. Doors 9:30pm / Show 10pm / \$10
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Move and Meditate w/ Paula (Noon)
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Volunteer food sort hours: 8:30-10:30am
LINNEMAN'S Riverwest Records Showcase w/ The Breadmen, The Midnight Purchase, Ricky Thump, Mike Brumm & Billy O'Neill. \$10 adv / \$15 day of show. 8pm
MAD PLANET Friday Night Retro Dance Party, 9pm, \$7
MIRAMAR THEATRE Wreckno
PINK HOUSE STUDIO GIA Grace in Action 4 Everybody (9:15am); African Dance w/ Roxanna and Yaya (6-7:15pm); Ecstatic Dance w/live DJ (7:30-9:45pm)
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga All Levels w/Tracey 9am
SHANK HALL The Silent Comedy, American Restless, Alley Eyes. 8pm, \$15

13 SATURDAY (World Migratory Bird Day)
ANODYNE COFFEE ROASTING CO., 224 W Bruce St Elephonic Album Release with Chris Haise Band and The Belle Weather. \$15, 8pm.
ART*BAR Live Music w/ Joseph Michael, 9pm
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Rat Bath, The Nile Club, Bug Moment
BREMEN CAFÉ Bremen Bazaar (12-7pm); BremSin w/ The Brewcity Bombshells
CIRCLE A Alive at 8: M545 + Smart Shoppers // DJ at 10
FONDY FARMERS MARKET, 2200 W Fond du Lac 9am to 1pm. Fondy proudly accepts SNAP benefits, WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Vouchers.
INSPIRATION STUDIOS, 1500 S. 73rd St, West Allis OPEN GALLERY: Wehr Nature Center Camera Club Photo Exhibit, 11am-1pm
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Steel Mace / Gada Flow Workshop with Robert McDonial. 1pm. Tickets are \$30. Register online at www.invivowellness.com
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 FREE Community Class Yoga. 11:30am - 12:30pm. Register online at www.invivowellness.com
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Every Day Strength w/ Laura (10:30 am)
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Food Distribution at St. Casimir's Church parking lot -- 8:30-10:30am. Proudly serving the 53212, 53211, 53217, 53202, and 53203 zip codes!
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Volunteer food distribution hours: 7:30-11:30am
MAD PLANET The Get Down
SHANK HALL Hoodoo Gurus, 8pm, \$35
STAND FOR PEACE at Wisconsin & Prospect Join with Peace Action of Wisconsin in our 20th year of standing for peace, noon until 1pm
THE COFFEE HOUSE, 2717 E Hampshire Portage Road Songwriters Guild, 7:30-9:30pm

14 SUNDAY (Mothers Day)
ART*BAR Peace Action Network's Mother's Day Peace Event, 3pm. Featuring singer Dorothy James and Debra Gillespie of Mothers Against Gun Violence on creating a more peaceful Milwaukee. \$25 per person -- Make your reservations today for the buffet lunch. Call 414-269-9525 or email pamrichard35@gmail.com.
BREMEN CAFÉ Bingo with Tony, 6pm
PINK HOUSE STUDIO Dance in Kern Park, 11am-12:30pm. Meet near the tennis court.
PINK HOUSE STUDIO Milw. Psychedelic Society Meeting, 4-5:30pm
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Mothering Yourself through Yoga w/ Tracey 10:30am
THE GIG Bluegrass Sunday, 1-4pm
UPTOWNER Alex Wilson Blues Band 3pm
WEST RIVER COLLECTIVE, 3700 N Fratney 53212 Marketplace / Mother's Day Edition. 11am-4pm. With over 25 vendors, one can find unique local gifts for everyone (especially Mom, you know). Don Pastor Taco Truck will also be on site for all your hunger needs.

15 MONDAY
BREMEN CAFÉ Comedy Open Mic, 8pm. Then Music Open Mic w/ Parker
COMPANY BREWING Wisconsin's Hardest Trivia, 7pm. Win prizes if you've got the smarts!
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Essential Yoga w/ Laura (Noon)
LINNEMAN'S Poet's Monday! Doors

MAY 2023 CALENDAR

7pm, performances start 7:30pm. \$3 cover.
Featured poet: Nick Ramsey
LION'S TOOTH BOOKS, 2421 S Kinnickinnic Jim Ruland in partnership with Rushmore Records. Journalist and author of "Corporate Rock Sucks: The Rise and Fall of SST Records" and "Make It Stop: A Novel" 8pm
PINK HOUSE STUDIO Super Gentle Yoga w/Sarah (9:30-10:30am); Yoga w/Sarah (6-7:15pm)

16 TUESDAY
BLACK HUSKY BREWING Milwaukee's Worst Trivia, 7pm. At least there's beer to help you through it and you have a chance to win a \$10, \$20 or \$30 gift card!
BREMEN CAFÉ Karaoke w/Trixy Mercury
GORDON PARK PAVILION, 2828 N Humboldt Friends of Gordon Park monthly (3rd Tuesday) meeting, 6pm. Kickoff event w/ food, drink, and silent auction fundraiser. More info at Friends of Gordon Park -- Facebook page
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 TRX Plus w/ Rob (Noon)
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Food Distribution at St. Casimir's Church INDOORS -- 4-6pm. Proudly serving the 53212, 53211, 53217, 53202, and 53203 zip codes!
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Volunteer food distribution hours: 2:30 or 3:30 - 6:30pm
MIRAMAR THEATRE R&B Tuesday. 21+. 9pm
PINK HOUSE STUDIO GIA Grace in Action 4 Everybody (9:15am); Keep It Simple Yoga (6pm)
RIVERWEST RADIO WXRW 104.1FM Riverwest Elders OWL (Older. Wiser. Local.) in-person gathering, 1-4pm. Karen Beaumont presents Echolocation (Short Story with Music)
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Basics w/Hart 6pm
SHANK HALL Larry McCray, 8pm, \$25
UPTOWNER Dave Bayles Trio 7-9pm

17 WEDNESDAY
ART*BAR Karaoke, 9pm-midnight
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Me Nd Adam w/ special guests the Whips and West Nile Crows
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Yoga for Stiff Bodies w/Cynthia (12:30pm & 6pm)
LINNEMAN'S Acoustic Open Stage -- Doors, 7pm. Sign-up, 7:30pm. Show starts at 8pm. Featured performer: Ditch Weed Diesel
PINK HOUSE STUDIO GIA Grace in Action 4 Everybody (9:15-10:30am); Yoga w/ Kat (11am-Noon)
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Basics w/Haley 6pm
THE GIG Wednesday Night Music Jam, 9-11pm
VILLA TERRACE, 2220 N Terrace Av, Garden Lecture Series: Restoration of Washington DC's Yoshino Cherry Trees with Ron Henderson. 6:30-8:30pm. \$20-25. Visit villaterrace.org to learn more.
WOODLAND PATTERN *in person* Reading Group: Ping Pong Book Club. Reading aloud together from the poetry collection How To Wash a Heart How by Bhanu Kapil. 6-7pm

18 THURSDAY
ANODYNE COFFEE ROASTING CO., 224 W Bruce St Dan Bern. 8pm, \$20
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect David Wax Museum w/ special guest Jacob Slade
INSPIRATION STUDIOS, 1500 S. 73rd St, West Allis Kith & Kiln Theatre presents BEETLEJUICE (movie and musical revue), 7pm
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Upper Body Strength w/ Robert (11:30 am)
JAZZ GALLERY CENTER FOR THE ARTS, 926 E. Center St., Riverwest Elders OWL (Older. Wiser. Local.) in-person gathering, 1-4pm. Writing-Therapy for Healing Childhood Trauma
LINNEMAN'S Cynthia Starich ft. Chris Hanson & the Gang. \$12, 8pm
SHANK HALL Arts Fishing Club, 8pm, \$15
WOODLAND PATTERN *hybrid* Poetry Reading: Crisosto Apache and Kinsale Drake, 7pm, \$give what you can

19 FRIDAY (Endangered Species Day)
ART*BAR Live Music w/ Kevin Farinelli, 9pm
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Them Coulee Boys
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Move and Meditate w/ Paula (Noon)
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Volunteer food sort hours: 8:30-10:30am
LINNEMAN'S Holly Haebig w/ Never Deadbeat Poets and more special guests. \$10. 8:30pm
LION'S TOOTH BOOKS, 2421 S Kinnickinnic Discussion of "Owning Grief" local author Gael Garbarino Cullen. 5:30pm
MAD PLANET Friday Night Retro Video

Dance Party ft. Goth Barge & Zerocool, 9pm, \$7
PINK HOUSE STUDIO GIA Grace in Action 4 Everybody (9:15am); African Dance w/ Roxanna and Yaya (6-7:15pm)
SHANK HALL Bad Year, Doubter, Tiqummy, The Keystone.s 8pm

20 SATURDAY
ART*BAR Live Music w/ the Breadmen
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Chatham Rabbits
BEERLINE PLAZA, 3350 N Holton Riverworks 53212 Bloom & Groom, 10am-Noon. Get your 2023 gardening season started with us! Come and shop our wide variety of affordable flowers and vegetable plants.
BREMEN CAFÉ Hemlock Chaser 10pm, The Tragedies 11pm, Second Hand Souls 12am midnight
CIRCLE A Alive at 8: Fallen Down Angels + Blaine Schultz // DJ at 10
COMPANY BREWING 8 Year Anniversary (Block) Party!
FONDY FARMERS MARKET, 2200 W Fond du Lac 9am to 1pm. Fondy proudly accepts SNAP benefits, WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Vouchers.
INSPIRATION STUDIOS, 1500 S. 73rd St, West Allis OPEN GALLERY: Wehr Nature Center Camera Club Photo Exhibit, 11am-1pm
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Restorative Yoga Thai Massage Workshop with Ricky Heldt. 1pm. Tickets are \$40. Register online at www.invivowellness.com
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 FREE Community Class Yoga. 11:30am - 12:30pm. Register online at www.invivowellness.com
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Every Day Strength w/ Laura (10:30 am)
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Food Distribution at St. Casimir's Church parking lot -- 8:30-10:30am. Proudly serving the 53212, 53211, 53217, 53202, and 53203 zip codes!
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Volunteer food distribution hours: 7:30-11:30am
LINNEMAN'S The Swivels present "The Combustors" CD Release, \$10, 8pm
LION'S TOOTH BOOKS, 2421 S Kinnickinnic "All Butts are Good Butts" book release party with Rachel Duggan, 4-6pm
MAD PLANET Dance Party: Michael Jackson vs. Prince. 9pm, \$7
MILWAUKEE FRIENDS MEETING, 3224 N. Gordon Pl. Drop in to learn about the upcoming visit of the Golden Rule Peace Boat and the drive against nuclear weapons. Refreshments, short video, games, music. Noon-2pm.

MILWAUKEE FRIENDS MEETING, 3224 N. Gordon Pl. Drop in to learn about the upcoming visit of the Golden Rule Peace Boat and the drive against nuclear weapons. Refreshments, short video, games, music. 2pm.
OLD GERMAN BEER HALL, 1009 N Old World Third Street (MLK Drive) The Squeezettes, 8:30-11:30pm
PINK HOUSE STUDIO, 601 E Wright St One Universe -- solo performance by Sarah Moore. Doors 7:30pm. Show starts at 8pm.
SHANK HALL Diet Lite, Scam Likely, North Warren. 8pm, \$15.
STAND FOR PEACE at 92nd & Burleigh Join with Peace Action of Wisconsin in our 20th year of standing for peace, noon until 1pm
THE COFFEE HOUSE, 2717 E Hampshire Mike Ward, 7:30-9:30pm
WOODLAND PATTERN *hybrid* Panel Discussion: Genre: Urban Arts' Revolutionary Art and Culture Residency presents Conversations with MKE Creatives. 3-5pm. \$give what you can

21 SUNDAY
BREMEN CAFÉ Bingo with Tony, 6pm
SHANK HALL Ed Driscoll, 7pm, \$20
THE GIG Bluegrass Sunday, 1-4pm
UPTOWNER Alex Wilson Blues Band 3pm

22 MONDAY
BREMEN CAFÉ Comedy Open Mic, 8pm. Then Music Open Mic w/ TBA
COMPANY BREWING Wisconsin's Hardest Trivia, 7pm. Win prizes if you've got the smarts!
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Essential Yoga w/ Laura (Noon)
LINNEMAN'S Poet's Monday! Doors 7pm, performances start 7:30pm. \$3 cover. Featured poets: Timothy Kloss
PINK HOUSE STUDIO Super Gentle Yoga w/Sarah (9:30-10:30am); Yoga w/Sarah (6-7:15pm)
PINK HOUSE STUDIO Dance in Kern Park, 11am-12:30pm. Meet near the tennis court.
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Foundations w/Tracey 6pm

23 TUESDAY
BLACK HUSKY BREWING Milwaukee's Worst Trivia, 7pm. At least there's beer to help you through it and you have a chance to win a

\$10, \$20 or \$30 gift card!
BREMEN CAFÉ Karaoke w/Trixy Mercury
GORDON PARK PAVILION, 2828 N Humboldt Friends of Gordon Park community meeting, 6pm.
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 TRX Plus w/ Rob (Noon)
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Food Distribution at St. Casimir's Church INDOORS -- 4-6pm. Proudly serving the 53212, 53211, 53217, 53202, and 53203 zip codes!
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Volunteer food distribution hours: 2:30 or 3:30 - 6:30pm
MIRAMAR THEATRE R&B Tuesday. 21+. 9pm
PINK HOUSE STUDIO GIA Grace in Action 4 Everybody (9:15am); Keep It Simple Yoga (6pm)
RIVERWEST RADIO WXRW 104.1FM Riverwest Elders OWL (Older. Wiser. Local.) in-person gathering, 1-4pm. Mikro Naut and Amy present "The A.M. Book Report," Discussing Books on Media Mind-Control
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Basics w/Hart 6pm
SHANK HALL Ondara, Kiely Connell. 8pm, \$25
UPTOWNER Dave Bayles Trio 7-9pm

24 WEDNESDAY
ART*BAR Karaoke, 9pm-midnight
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Fenne Lily & Christian Lee Hutson w/ special guest Work Wife
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Yoga for Stiff Bodies w/Cynthia (12:30pm & 6pm)
LINNEMAN'S Acoustic Open Stage -- Doors, 7pm. Sign-up, 7:30pm. Show starts at 8pm. Featured performer: Matt Johnston
PINK HOUSE STUDIO GIA Grace in Action 4 Everybody (9:15-10:30am); Yoga w/ Kat (11am-Noon)
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Basics w/Haley 6pm
SHANK HALL Robert DeLong & Dreamers, Carr. 8pm, \$25. \$99 VIP Experience.
THE GIG Wednesday Night Music Jam, 9-11pm
WOODLAND PATTERN *online via Zoom* Community Group: Readshop -- reading from Robin Blaser's The Holy Forest, 6pm. \$give what you can

25 THURSDAY (Shavuot begins at sundown)
ANODYNE COFFEE ROASTING CO., 224 W Bruce St DAYBREAK DAYDREAM Release w/ Motel Breakfast and Fellow Kinsman. 8pm, \$12.
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Willie Watson
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Upper Body Strength w/ Robert (11:30 am)
JAZZ GALLERY CENTER FOR THE ARTS, 926 E. Center St., Riverwest Elders OWL (Older. Wiser. Local.) in-person gathering, 1-4pm. Do It Yourself Art-Making Workshop
LINNEMAN'S Seal Party w/ Body Futures, The Chocolateers. 8pm, \$10
MILWAUKEE SAIL LOFT, 649 E Erie Riverwest Elders Birthday Lunch (4th Thursday every month). Noon-2pm.
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Gentle, Healing, Supportive (7:30pm)

26 FRIDAY
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga All Levels w/Tracey 9am
ANODYNE COFFEE ROASTING CO., 224 W Bruce St Radio Radio: 45th Anniversary Tribute to The Cars. 8pm, \$12
ART*BAR Live Music w/ Greg Herriges, 9pm
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Emmitt James w/ special guests Nilexnile and A.C. the Ruler
INSPIRATION STUDIOS, 1500 S. 73rd St, West Allis OPEN GALLERY: Wehr Nature Center Camera Club Photo Exhibit, 6-8pm
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Move and Meditate w/ Paula (Noon)
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Volunteer food sort hours: 8:30-10:30am
LINNEMAN'S Vinz Clortho, \$10, 9pm.
MAD PLANET Friday Night Retro Dance Party, 9pm, \$7
PINK HOUSE STUDIO GIA Grace in Action 4 Everybody (9:15am); African Dance w/ Roxanna and Yaya (6-7:15pm)
SHANK HALL No Can Do - A Tribute To The Music of Hall & Oates, 8pm, \$12 adv / \$15 doors

WOODLAND PATTERN *in person* Open Mic: resound return. A place to incubate new work and dust off old poems. Hosted the last Friday of every month. 7pm, \$give what you can

27 SATURDAY
ART*BAR Live Music w/ Carl Erikstrup, 9pm
CIRCLE A Alive at 8: Substance 101 // DJ at 10

FONDY FARMERS MARKET, 2200 W Fond du Lac 9am to 1pm. Fondy proudly accepts SNAP benefits, WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Vouchers.
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 FREE Community Class Yoga. 11:30am - 12:30pm. Register online at www.invivowellness.com
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Every Day Strength w/ Laura (10:30 am)
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Food Distribution at St. Casimir's Church parking lot -- 8:30-10:30am. Proudly serving the 53212, 53211, 53217, 53202, and 53203 zip codes!
KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER, 924 E Clarke Volunteer food distribution hours: 7:30-11:30am
MAD PLANET Y2K - A 2000 Dance Party
MIRAMAR THEATRE Totally Cashed, Social Cig, Scam Likely, Tigera
SHANK HALL The Skies Are Shifting, Past is Prologue, Endswell, Spoy. 8pm, \$10
STAND FOR PEACE at Lincoln Memorial & Lafayette Hill Join with Peace Action of Wisconsin in our 20th year of standing for peace, noon until 1pm
WOODLAND PATTERN *hybrid* Poetry Reading: Syd Staiti and Camille Roy, 7pm, \$give what you can

28 SUNDAY
ANODYNE COFFEE ROASTING CO., 224 W Bruce St Fox and Branch. 11am. Free!
ANODYNE COFFEE ROASTING CO., 224 W Bruce St Will Dailey's 10 Dollar Song tour with special guests TBA. 6pm, \$10
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Robot Witch
BREMEN CAFÉ Bingo with Tony, 6pm
LINNEMAN'S Peace Through Music: A John Lennon Tribute. \$10. Benefit for Wisconsin's Anti Violence Effort (WAVE) & The National Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence. 7-11pm
PINK HOUSE STUDIO Dance in Kern Park, 11am-12:30pm. Meet near the tennis court.
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Foundations w/Tracey 10:30am
SHANK HALL Zach Rushing, Dustin Sims, Jesse Peyton. 8pm, \$30
THE GIG Bluegrass Sunday, 1-4pm
UPTOWNER Alex Wilson Blues Band 3pm
WOODLAND PATTERN *in person* Workshop: The Funny Books: Making Your Own Comic Strip with Jessica Campbell, 1-4pm. \$50 (\$45 members)

29 MONDAY (Memorial Day)
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Pedro the Lion w/ special guest Erik Walters
BREMEN CAFÉ Comedy Open Mic, 8pm. Then Music Open Mic w/ Steph
COMPANY BREWING Wisconsin's Hardest Trivia, 7pm. Win prizes if you've got the smarts!
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Essential Yoga w/ Laura (Noon)
LINNEMAN'S No Poet's Monday! Happy Memorial Day!
PINK HOUSE STUDIO Super Gentle Yoga w/Sarah (9:30-10:30am); Yoga w/Sarah (6-7:15pm)

30 TUESDAY
BLACK HUSKY BREWING Milwaukee's Worst Trivia, 7pm. At least there's beer to help you through it and you have a chance to win a \$10, \$20 or \$30 gift card!
BREMEN CAFÉ Karaoke w/Trixy Mercury
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 TRX Plus w/ Rob (Noon)
MIRAMAR THEATRE R&B Tuesday. 21+. 9pm
PINK HOUSE STUDIO GIA Grace in Action 4 Everybody (9:15am); Keep It Simple Yoga (6pm)
RIVERWEST RADIO WXRW 104.1FM Riverwest Elders OWL (Older. Wiser. Local.) in-person gathering, 1-4pm. Karen Beaumont presents George Frederic Handel (Music, Poems, and Education)
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Basics w/Hart 6pm
UPTOWNER Dave Bayles Trio 7-9pm

31 WEDNESDAY
ART*BAR Karaoke, 9pm-midnight
BACK ROOM @Colectivo/Prospect Lakeview
INVIVO WELLNESS, 2060 N Humboldt Av Ste. 300 Yoga for Stiff Bodies w/Cynthia (12:30pm & 6pm)
LINNEMAN'S Acoustic Open Stage -- Doors, 7pm. Sign-up, 7:30pm. Show starts at 8pm. Featured performer: Samwise Baker
PINK HOUSE STUDIO GIA Grace in Action 4 Everybody (9:15-10:30am); Yoga w/ Kat (11am-Noon)
RIVERWEST YOGASHALA Yoga Basics w/Haley 6pm
THE GIG Wednesday Night Music Jam, 9-11pm
WOODLAND PATTERN *in person* Reading Group: Ping Pong Book Club. Reading aloud together from the poetry collection How To Wash a Heart How by Bhanu Kapil. 6-7pm

NEIGHBOR SPOTLIGHT: Jo Yanish

by Lee Gutowski

Jo Yanish is a wife, mother (to sons Edward and Sam), artist, jewelry designer/maker and businesswoman whose company, Flattery Works, sells unique, fun, and elegant jewelry made from “alternative and classic” materials. For our interview, Jo invited me to join her at her home on Weil Street in Riverwest. We had a great chat, a couple of drinks, and a tour of the house that she and her husband, Bill Hogan, have shared since 1985. Well, that’s not quite right -- they got married in 1985, but they lived for a while in a rented apartment about a mile north while they were rehabbing their 1885-built Weil Street house, “from the sewer pipe to the roof ridge.” The finished product is filled with light, comfort, and Jo’s artwork (as well as that of friends and family).

“We’ve been married for 37 years, but we’ve only spent about 20 years actually together,” Jo informed me with a wry grin. That’s because the couple worked for about 10 years truck driving. “Bill and I traded off on that. We had a child at home (Edward, now 33), so this way, he always got a full-time parent at home with him. Bill and I each got to be a parent, and then got some time away from being a parent. It was the most even, in my opinion, that our marriage has ever been. Because if you think you’re doing the hard job this week, next week you can do my job. And I’ll do your job. That way, we truly knew what the other was going through in life.”

Jo spent her early childhood summers in Hayward, WI, at the circa-1903 cottage that her parents bought when their family was young. “Dad was a high school teacher and had the summers off. My parents bought the cottage, which was on a double lot, and started in on their dream of building their retirement home there. Unfortunately, my dad didn’t make it. He died at 47.”

At the time of her father’s death, Jo was living with her mother and brother in Downer’s Grove, IL. By about a year later, her mom was able to get the Hayward house finished and move the family up to Hayward.

Jo was 9 years old when they moved Up North. Until then, “we had only been up there for the summers, and we just thought it was the best place in the world. But were we shocked at what winter was like!” Her mom did not like to drive “in any snow at all,” and Jo really got to know what cabin fever is. Never one to sit around and wait for something to do, she started joining groups like forensics and drama all through middle and high school.

A Liberal Arts degree got her a job ... driving truck

When she was graduating from high school, she had diverse interests ranging from engineering school to becoming a marine biologist. But a friend of hers suggested “we should get into art! So, we went to school together at Cardinal

Stritch. I ended up with a bachelor’s degree ... which allowed me to become a truck driver, a construction worker, a delivery person,” Jo laughed good-naturedly. She also worked in a leather shop, a costume shop, a framing shop ... “but the arts have always been in there somewhere.”

“In my mid-40s I was thinking, just how long to I want to keep up this pace, plus if I get injured ... I’m out of luck. I thought, let’s try and find something gentler. And I wanted to be on the same schedule as Sam (her now 24-year-old son). That’s when I applied to Tamarack Waldorf School right near here at Brady and Humboldt and ended up becoming a kindergarten assistant.”

Art was always there

All along the way, Jo created art. In college she got really into stone sculpting; she also has been a visual artist for decades. She started designing and creating jewelry as well, and started her jewelry business, Flattery Works, in 2008. In the beginning it wasn’t much of a money maker, and she needed to continue working at Tamarack and doing other things.

Jo was selling her goods at the many craft shows throughout Wisconsin during the summer months, when she wasn’t working her job at the school. Having grown up in Hayward, she sold her jewelry and trinkets every June at Hayward’s annual (for 70-plus years) Musky Fest. “Hayward is a renowned place for fishing, and the fishing tackle jewelry I started making, well, I really started doing it as a joke. But the fishing tackle items really took off and became my best-selling stuff. And that’s what allowed me to quit my day job! You just never know ...”

By 2014, when she went full-time, her jewelry business was bringing in three times as much as her day gigs. But that first winter after she went “jewelry only,” she “sat around biting my fingernails and watching the bills pile up,” because there’s nothing to do, craftshow-wise, in this area over the winter.

A great idea: skip winter and have 2 summers

“When I started the jewelry business, I quickly realized that what I needed was to have two summers and skip winter. And I was joking about it back then, but then I finally figured out how to do it,” Jo explains. It started with an artist friend of hers taking some of Jo’s jewelry to sell at a show in Florida. After discussing it with her friend, in 2014 the two of them went together to hit Florida shows for the winter season.

Jo eventually was able to buy a travel trailer, and now she goes down to Florida every year and camps her way down the peninsula, selling her goods along the way. She starts in mid-January at the Manatee Festival in Crystal



River, in the northern part of the state. “Then I work my way down to Tampa Bay, where I have friends who do something called Frivolous Fruit Products ... now I’m like a part of their family. I stay at their place and can come and go as I please – I even have the key code!”

In 2020, Jo started heading all the way down to Key West. She discovered the Big Pine Flea Market, which is at about Mile Marker 30 on Overseas Highway, on (you guessed it) Big Pine Key. “It’s great, you can park as long as you like, as long as you’re working the flea market ... I’m basically dry camping down there, where I have to get my own water, have to do RV dumps. Bill put solar panels on the trailer and now I can go for about a week at a time, dry camping.

“So now I spend winters in Florida, spring and fall here in Riverwest, and summers up in Hayward at the cottage.”

In closing, Jo told me, “You know, my dad died so young. So my philosophy in life – what I learned from that – is that life is short, and you never know how short it’s going to be. So get out there and live it.”

Postscript: Jo texted me a quick message the day after we did the interview. She wanted to mention that Riverwest resident Charles “CC” Carmichael “also sells for Flattery Works with me. He’s a great salesperson because he doesn’t try to sell anything. He tells everyone how wonderful they are, does his rhythm and rhyme about the jewelry, and throws in a few jokes. In the end, they buy something special and go away delighted.”

I can vouch for that. Jo and CC make a great team.

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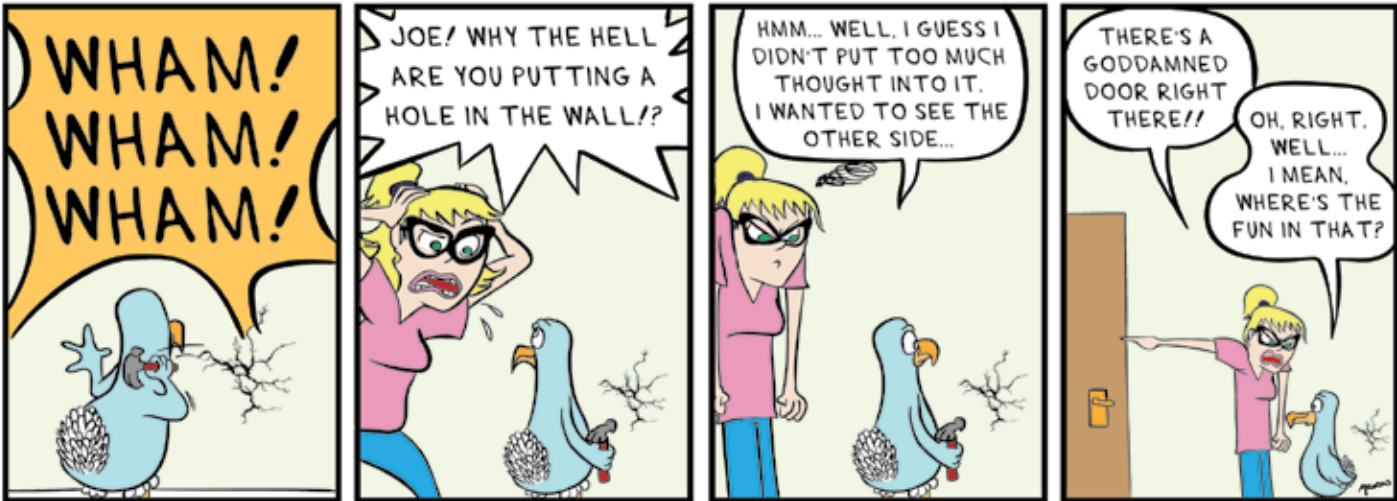


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