



Wisconsin Teachers of Local Culture

October 7, 2011

LOTS going on, along with many good resources

LOCAL CULTURE IN THE NEWS

Milwaukee RiverWalk named a Great Public Space

[Great Places in America](#)

American Planning Association

Milwaukee RiverWalk was planned as a down-to-earth public space where residents could take peaceful walks, dine outdoors, and access the river for fishing, kayaking, and canoeing. It has been more successful than anyone involved with the unique public-private initiative ever imagined. Construction of the \$35 million pedestrian-only walkway, which has one of the most innovative bridges found anywhere, increased the value of adjoining property by more than \$500 million. Removal of a dam at the northern end of the walkway, a cleanup of river pollution, and wastewater treatment improvements have enhanced water quality and helped restore fisheries to the river.

Niagara Escarpment "8th Natural Wonder of Wisconsin"

OnMilwaukee.com

"Few geological features are as impressive as the Niagara Escarpment, a nearly 1,000-mile-long cliff that begins (or ends, depending on how you look at things), in east-central Wisconsin, running northeast alongside Lake Winnebago, forming almost all of the Door Peninsula and continuing north east through Canada and into upstate New York."

Central Wisconsin man determined to teach kids about their rural heritage and promote reading

Wisconsin Public Radio

"A central Wisconsin man has turned his retirement into a quest to teach school kids about their rural heritage and get them interested in reading."

Berlin schools put brakes on replacing Indian nickname after judge's ruling

Oshkosh Northwestern

"Berlin School officials have put the state-ordered replacement the district's Indian nickname and logo on hold after a judge overturned a similar order in southeast Wisconsin last week. The school district had decided begin the process of selecting a new name after the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction ruled last month that the district's long-held Indian mascot promotes stereotyping, pupil harassment and discrimination. The ruling came on Sept. 16, and within days, the School Board made the decision not to fight the ruling. The district would start casting about for a new identity to replace the Indian that had been in place since 1939."

Historical society grant aims to preserve small-town gems

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

"The Wisconsin Historical Society is receiving a \$500,000 gift to pay for the preparation of National Register of Historic Places nominations in the state. The gift is from the Jeffris Family Foundation which will endow a fund named in honor of Henry Fuldner, an attorney at Godfrey and Kahn who died in 2009. Fuldner was a founding member of the American Heritage Society of the Milwaukee Art Museum."

On Wisconsin: WDRT part of cultural fabric in Viroqua area

Wisconsin State Journal

"The morning began with classical music from Franz Joseph Haydn and J.S. Bach, segued into gospel and then bluegrass before a locally produced, serial comic drama called "Sleepy Coulee" took a six-minute turn on the broadcasting schedule. For two hours on Thursday, there was talk about honey bees. WDRT-FM (91.9) has been on the air for just over a year but has quickly become a part of the cultural fabric of this region known for its artisans, organic farmers and independent spirit."

President Issues Nat'l Arts and Humanities Month Proclamation

BroadwayWorld.com

"By supporting the fields that feed our imagination, strengthen our children's education, and contribute to our economy, our country will remain a center of creativity and innovation, and our society will stand as one where dreams can be realized."

OPPORTUNITIES

American Indian Health and Diet Project

Decolonizing Diet Project

November 1-5

"In honor and support of the Decolonizing Diet Project, the American Indian Health and Diet Project invites all interested parties to join in the mini-challenge of eating only pre-contact

foods during the first week of November. As you know, November is Native American Heritage Month. During this week, participants in the mini-challenge can focus on one tribe or, because some foods may be expensive, out of season, contaminated, endangered, or not available, you may choose to eat only one or two indigenous meals per day or perhaps widen meal possibilities by choosing any foods indigenous to the Western Hemisphere."

EVENTS

Ward Irish Music Archives hosts American Sheet Music Conference

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

October 7 - 9

"The Ward Irish Music Archives will host the 7th annual American Sheet Music Conference this weekend at the Irish Fest Center, 1532 Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa. Dealers and collectors of antique sheet music from across America, as well as teachers, professors and artists, are expected at the conference."

Exhibit displays artwork made by veterans

Racine Journal Times

October 8

"Family Service of Racine and Spectrum Art Gallery present "One Thousand Words," a powerful exhibit featuring works from Family Service of Racine's One Thousand Words Veterans Art Therapy Program. The art exhibit will be held from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, at Spectrum Art Gallery, 600 21st St. (DeKoven Center)."

Exhibit coming to University of Wisconsin-Manitowoc spotlights Native American topics

Manitowoc Herald Times Reporter

October 26 - 28

"Over the last few years, Richard Plass has led the effort to educate the public about mascots and logos depicting Native Americans in both erroneous and historically correct ways. Plass, a Menominee/ Stockbridge-Munsee from northern Wisconsin, has collected a plethora of posters, shirts, artwork and other materials to illustrate the issue. A published poet, actor, educator, activist and musician, Plass will bring his knowledge and wisdom to the University of Wisconsin-Manitowoc from Oct. 26-28 with his exhibit."

Day of the Dead Celebration

Milwaukee

October 28 - November 18

"Latino Arts' annual Day of the Dead celebration features a bright and eclectic collection of ofrendas (altars) prepared by local, regional, and international artists. Exhibiting presenters

share their tributes to lost loved ones as a celebration of their lives and accomplishments, often decorating their altars with their loved ones' personal effects and favorite items. Día de los Muertos celebrations frequently feature colorful floral arrangements, photographs, and skeleton iconography."

Día De Los Muertos Parade

Milwaukee

Friday, October 28

Staging at 4:00 p.m.; Procession at 5:00 p.m.

"Milwaukee's second annual Day of the Dead Parade will build on the successes of last year's debut. Starting at the United Community Center, the parade participants will take their colorful tributes to the Día de Los Muertos celebration, including costumes, stilt walkers, puppets, music, and dancers, on a tour of the neighborhood to the Walker's Point Center for the Arts and back to the Latino Arts Auditorium for a sneak peek at our annual Ofrendas exhibition. The celebration continues with live music in UCC's [Café el Sol](#).

History and Traditions of Day of the Dead

Latino Arts Gallery, Milwaukee

Nov. 10, 6 pm

"The Dia de Los Muertos celebration continues to gain traction in the community, as evidenced by growing cultural awareness and an ever-building attendance in Latino Arts' annual Day of the Dead exhibition and performance. Because of the personal nature of individuals' and families' Day of the Dead festivities, traditions may vary, but the importance of the celebration's roots hold true. Join us for the free lecture as we explore the customs and meaning behind the Day of the Dead."

RESOURCES

New Curriculum from the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association

Wisconsin Social Studies Teachers and Administrators Listserv

"The Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association has designed a new curriculum. This web-based curriculum is a Wisconsin-specific set of lesson plans based entirely on the cranberry industry in our state. The Learn about Cranberries curriculum is designed for third, fourth and fifth grade students and it explores the social heritage, science and technology of this important agricultural system in Wisconsin."

Culinary traditions from a Norwegian-American family

Wisconsin Historical Society Press

"Part cookbook, part immigrant story, and part family memoir, "[Gudrun's Kitchen: Recipes from a Norwegian Family](#)" (Paperback: \$22.95, ISBN: 978-0-87020-462-3) features hundreds of Gudrun Sandvold's recipes for comfort food from a time when families and friends gathered at the table and connected with one another every single day. This book is much more than a guide to Norwegian culinary traditions; it is an important contribution to immigrant history and a vital documentation of our nation's multicultural heritage."

Community Works Journal

A Resource Journal of Learning Experiences that Build Community

Catch the most current issue (Summer 2011) with all its great articles before they update to the Fall edition.

Learn Hebrew – Sukkot Video

Learn about the holiday of Sukkot (coming up on Oct. 13) while also learning Hebrew in this teaching video.

Words of America: A Field Guide

Humanities, September/October 2011

"The American story is told in American words, the words in journalism, novels, poems, films, diaries, letters, everyday conversation, tweets, and the back-porch tales one generation tells another. Each American word has its own story too, and America has great storytelling dictionaries, historical dictionaries filled with chronologically organized quotations to illustrate the forms, meanings, and uses of American speech. These dictionaries are informative and readable: Anyone with the time and interest can sit for hours in an easy chair and browse American culture word by word. One such dictionary, the ***Dictionary of American Regional English***, covers regional and local speech for the whole United States: It is the treasure-house for the all-American word hoard."

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