

# A shining example of a year-round getaway

## Latest Domes exhibit plays on all of your 'Senses'

By Eileen Mozinski Schmidt  
Special to Conley Media

### BACKYARD TOURIST

Be a tourist in your own backyard of the world. The column will periodically feature places you would take a visitor. Maybe it's time to go again or for a first time.

are still a highly visible part of the Milwaukee area. There are five full-time horticulturists at the location along with support staff who care for the conservatory collection, outdoor gardens and green roof, the website said.

The Domes are currently open and fully functioning. Diefenbach said reservations and masks are no longer required.

The spring floral show at the Show Dome will run until May 29 and has a focus on mindfulness and engaging the senses, according to Diefenbach, who said the Show Dome display changes five times a year.

The show features floral displays designed to stimulate all five senses. (See the accompanying pullout story for more on the spring show).

In June, a symposium will focus on the parks system more broadly and sustainability, Diefenbach said.

"It really will be focused on how community members can engage and support and ensure they are around for generations to come," she said.

Organizers hope the walk through the Milwaukee parks will ensure "the community understands why our park system is so unique," Diefenbach said.

Recently, the county engaged a vendor to do a mesh inspection of the domes, one piece of the work being done to ensure the structural integrity of the facility, Diefenbach said.

She said there is also a study planned to test the glazing for the domes.

"This is happening over the course of the next months," Diefenbach said.

Coming up, a restoration walk will be held at 9 a.m. May 13 focusing on native habitats in Three Bridges Park and a plant program will be offered at 2 p.m. on May 14.

The plant program, "Carnivorous Plants — An Appetite for Bugs" will explore the world of insect-eating, or carnivorous, plants, according to the Domes website.

"Sink your teeth into this subject through live plants, puppets, crafts and a look at their amazing adaptations in



Photos submitted by Friends of the Domes

The Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, referred to as "The Domes," was built in a phased approach in the late 1950s and 1960s, according to Christa Beall Diefenbach, executive director of Friends of the Domes. The Show Dome (above) was completed in December of 1964, the Tropical Dome (top right) in February of 1966 and the Desert Dome (top center) in October of 1967, according to the conservatory website. First Lady Mrs. Lyndon B. (Lady Bird) Johnson dedicated the facility to the people of Wisconsin in 1965, the conservatory website said.

the natural world," the site said.

And this summer is the Fairy Show, which begins on Saturday, June 11.

Overall, Diefenbach said the number of visitors has risen in recent months.

Doris Maki, Mitchell Park Domes Director, said in the release that visitor numbers in 2022 have rebounded to pre-pandemic levels.

Diefenbach said the increased numbers have been "wonderful."

"People are so happy to be able to come back and visit The Domes," she said, adding that visitors can rely on a changing array of things to see and enjoy at The Domes.

"We'll be here all year and always have something new," Diefenbach said.

### The Domes

- A link for dates of upcoming Show Dome themes: <https://milwaukee.domes.org>
- A link to educational programs: <https://milwaukee.domes.org/education>
- For more information about The Friends of the Domes, visit: [www.MilwaukeeDomes.org](http://www.MilwaukeeDomes.org)

### 'Senses' Spring Floral Show

When: Through May 29  
Where: Mitchell Park Domes, 524 S. Layton Blvd.,

Milwaukee  
**What:** The show features floral displays designed to stimulate all five senses. "Colorful hydrangeas and violas provide a treat for the eyes; hyacinths and lilies add aro-

mas to the show; wind chimes will hang from the gazebo and a variety of fruiting plants, including lemon, pomegranate and grape vines can be found around the perimeter," a press

release said. "Visitors will also be able to touch and smell fragrant herbs and in the gift shop, they will find plant-based essential oils as well as loose leaf tea from Milwaukee's Urban Tea Co."

**Admission:** \$8 adults, \$6 juniors, \$5 students, free for children younger than 5. Milwaukee County residents receive discounted entry with ID. Admission is free for members of the Friends of

the Domes.  
**Hours:** The Mitchell Park Domes opens 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends. Last entry is one hour before close.

## Coming home for Harley-Davidson's 120th Anniversary festival

Anniversary festival geared for July 13-16, 2023



CELEBRATING 120 YEARS

MILWAUKEE — Harley-Davidson will celebrate its 120th anniversary by launching the Harley-Davidson Homecoming event, an annual four-day festival filled with music, food and moto-culture.

The inaugural event will take place at multiple venues throughout the Milwaukee area on July 13-16, 2023, and welcomes riders, enthusiasts, and fans to meet in Milwaukee for a huge celebration.

"We invite everyone, riders, non-riders and fans around the world, to join us in Milwaukee next summer for the Harley-Davidson Homecoming where we will celebrate 120 years of our incredible brand," said Jochen Zeitz, chairman, president and CEO of Harley-Davidson said in a news release. "This will be the first in a series of unforgettable annual events in Milwaukee. Stay tuned for more details in coming months, and we look forward to celebrating with you

in 2023." To find lodging options in Milwaukee visit [www.visitmilwaukee.org/harley-davidson-homecoming-2023/](http://www.visitmilwaukee.org/harley-davidson-homecoming-2023/). Camping and RV parking information is available at Wisconsin Campgrounds <https://www.wisconsin-campgrounds.com/>. Note that most reservations are not available to book until one year in advance of an event.

Harley-Davidson recently launched "The Road to Harley-Davidson Homecoming Challenge" where riders and non-riders alike can participate in chances to earn virtual badges, win daily and monthly prizes, and enter a sweepstakes for a chance to win a grand prize trip to Milwaukee to participate in the Homecoming event.

For sweepstakes Official Rules, program and prize details and more information regarding The Road to Harley-Davidson Homecoming Challenge, download the Harley-Davidson App, or visit [H-D.com/ride](http://H-D.com/ride).

## SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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

Level: Intermediate

**Here's How It Works:** Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 44 Dull

1 Dairy buy finishes

5 Aesop's 45 British

works stable

11 Valhalla

VIP

12 Friend of

George

and Jerry

13 Lady of

Spain

14 Firstborn

15 Lift,

stateside

17 Salon stuff

18 Sailing

boats

22 Analyze

grammar

24 Pitch

25 Copying

26 "The

Matrix"

hero

27 Join

the big

leagues

30 Vigilant

32 Clear sky

33 Gear part

34 Wire

38 Sweet-talk

41 Miss

Marple

42 Dis-

inclined

43 Gorillas

and

gibbons

D	E	C	O		B	A	A	B	A	A	
I	V	A	N		A	L	L	E	N	S	
V	E	S	T		S	L	E	E	T	S	
A	S	H		J	I	N	X				
				B	R	A	C	E	W	I	T
C	H	A	I	R		W	R	A	T	H	
L	O	S	S		I	S	E	E			
A	L	I	K	E		S	C	H	M	O	
Y	E	S		S	Q	U	A	B			
				S	P	U	N	A	L	E	
S	A	F	A	R	I		A	S	A	P	
I	G	O	T	I	T		S	I	Z	E	
N	O	P	E	T	S		K	N	E	E	

### Yesterday's answer

16 Pub

30 Poker

17 Rascals

19 Pinot or

31 Legislative

5 Yard

Merlot

holdup

20 Lusty look

35 Sediment

6 Brass and

21 Place for

36 Over

7 Unjust

22 Book unit

37 Clutter

23 Bunches

38 Motor part

8 Use deceit

28 Snappy

39 Director

9 Print units

answer

DuVernay

10 Ready

29 Ultimatum

40 Airport

to go

words

sight

### THURSDAY EVENING

	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
NBC	4 TMJ4 News at 5 (N)	Nightly News	TMJ4 News at 6 (N)	Milwaukee Tonight (N)	Law & Order: Legacy (N) '14' (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (N) '14'	Law & Order: Organized Crime (N) '14'	TMJ4 News at 10 (N)	The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon '14'	Seth Meyers				
BOUNCE	4.2	Movie ★★ "Brown Sugar" (2002) Taye Diggs. (CC)			Movie ★★ "Mad Money" (2008) Diane Keaton. (CC) 'PG-13'	Movie ★★ "Set It Off" (1996, Action) Jada Pinkett. (CC) 'R'								
GRIT	4.3	Fargo	Fargo	Tales of Wells Fargo	Movie ★★ "Pale Rider" (1985, Western) Clint Eastwood. (CC) 'R'	Movie ★★ "Riding Shotgun" (1954) (CC) 'NR'								
COURT	4.4	(4:00) Court TV Live (N) (Live) (CC)			Closing Arguments with Winnie Politan (N) (CC)	Forensic	Forensic	Closing Arguments with Winnie Politan (CC)						
FOX	6	FOX 6 News at 5 (N) (CC)	FOX 6 News at 6	TMZ (N) (S) 'PG' (CC)	MasterChef (N) (S) 'PG' (CC)	(8:01) Call Me Kat '14'	Welcome to Flatch	FOX 6 News at 9 (N) (CC)	FOX 6 News at 10	You Bet Your Life	(11:05) Seinfeld	(11:35) Seinfeld (S)		
ANTEN	6.2	One Day	One Day	3's Comp.	3's Comp.	B. Miller	B. Miller	Jeffersons	Jeffersons	Johnny Carson (CC)	Alice 'PG'	Alice 'PG'	Maude 'PG'	Maude 'PG'
PBS	10	Mediterranean	PBS NewsHour (N) (S)	R. Steves	Adelante	Old House	Old House	Outdoor	WI Foodie		MotorWeek	Legacy List With Matt		
CREATE	10.2	R. Steves	Moveable	Sara's	Mexican	Milk Street	Moveable	Cook	Kitchen	R. Steves	Travel	Roadtrip	Best of Joy	Moveable
PBS KIDS	10.3	Molly	Elementary	Wild Kratts	Wild Kratts	Odd Squad	Odd Squad	Arthur 'Y'	Arthur 'Y'	Cyberchase	Pink	Pink	Elinor	Donkey
ABC	12	WISN 12 News at 5	ABC World News at 6	WISN 12 News at 6	Draft Special	2022 NFL Draft Coverage of Round 1 of the draft from Las Vegas. (N) (S) Live (CC)							WISN 12 News at 10	(11:05) Jimmy Kimmel Live! (S) '14' (CC)
MOVIES	12.2	Locked Up Abroad '14'	The Last 24 '14' (CC)	Dateline (S) '14' (CC)	Dateline (S) 'PG' (CC)	News	Dateline (S)	Killer in	Killer in	Killer Kids '14' (CC)				
CW	18	FamFeud	FamFeud	FamFeud	FamFeud	Walker "Bygones" 'PG'	Legacies (N) '14' (CC)	National	National	National	National	DailyMailTV	DailyMailTV	
MNT	18.2	Goldbergs	Goldbergs	Last Man	Last Man	Dateline (S) '14' (CC)	Chicago P.D. (S) '14'	Two Men	Two Men	King	King	Creek	Creek	
COMET	24.2	Farscape (S) 'PG' (CC)	The Outer Limits (S) '14'	The Outer Limits (S) '14'	The Outer Limits (S) '14'	The X-Files '14' (CC)	The X-Files '14' (CC)	The X-Files '14' (CC)	The X-Files '14' (CC)	The X-Files '14' (CC)	The X-Files '14' (CC)	The X-Files '14' (CC)	The X-Files '14' (CC)	
PBS	36	Amanpour and Company (S) (CC)	Around the Farm Table	Wisconsin Foodie	World News	BBC News	Lewis "Reputation" The death of a young math student. (S) 'PG' (CC)				BBC World News (S)	PBS NewsHour (N)	Breakthrough	
WORLD	36.2	France 24	Newsline	Movie "Big Sonia" 'NR'	America ReFramed 'PG'	New Leash	Hamilton	PBS NewsHour (N) (S)	The Day	BBC World	America ReFramed 'PG'			
CBS	58	News	CBS Evening News	Jeopardy! (N) (S) 'G'	Wheel of Fortune 'G'	Young Sheldon	United States	(8:01) How We Roll 'PG'	How We Roll 'PG'	Bull Bull is sidelined with a back injury. (N) (S) '14'	CBS 58	(10:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert	James Corden	
MeTV	58.2	Addams	Happy Day	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Andy G.	Andy G.	Gomer Pyle	Green Acre	Heroes	Heroes	C. Burnett	Perry Mason 'PG' (CC)	Twi. Zone
IND	58.3	Sheldon	Sheldon	Big Bang	Big Bang	Dateline (S) 'PG' (CC)	Dateline "The Farm" (S)	CBS 58 News	Law & Order: SVU	black-ish	black-ish			



# The pick of the orchard

From picking your own apples to enjoying fall festivals, area has lots to offer

By Eileen Mozinski Schmidt  
Special to Conley Media

For apple enthusiasts, southeastern Wisconsin offers a variety of options for procuring the fruit while enjoying the outdoors.

At Basse's Taste of Country Farm Market in Colgate, the second annual Apple & Sunflower Fest will be held today through Sunday.

"People seem to really enjoy it because we have two events going at the same time," said Roger Basse, one of the owners of the family owned and operated business.

At Apple & Sunflower Fest, admission includes a one-quarter peck bag visitors can fill with some of the varieties of apples available. And Basse said visitors can walk the fields and take photos.

For an additional cost, visitors can pick sunflowers or a bucket full of apples. The event will also include a beer garden.

Depending on crop supply remaining following the festival, another weekend may be scheduled, according to Basse, who said updates, including cancellations due to weather, will be posted on the business website.

Basse's Taste of Country typically draws visitors from around the region, including Chicago, Green Bay and Madison, according to Basse, who said he likes to use the tag line "we grow memories" to describe the experience of a visit to the location.

"The apples are going to be eaten, the sunflowers will die, but the memories last forever," he said.



Submitted photo

Apples and caramel apples on display in a recent year at Basse's Taste of Country in Colgate. The second annual Apple & Sunflower Fest will be held today through Sunday and a second weekend of the festival may be scheduled depending on supply, according to owner Roger Basse.

## Longevity and variety

Retzer Nature Center in the Town of Genesee will also host an event this month. The Friends of the Nature Center will host Apple Harvest Festival from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18.

It is the 34th year for the event, according to Emily Heller, communications coordinator at Waukesha County Parks & Land Use.

She said participating orchards choose their best apples to send to the festival.

The apple crop has been good this year despite the drought, according to Ray Burg, who owns Rim's Edge Orchard in Germantown with his wife Jan Burg.

"We have a really good



© www.rimsedgeorchard.com

Submitted photo

A previous year's crop at Rim's Edge Orchard in Germantown. The orchard offers apple picking on Fridays through Sundays until into November. Staff is on hand to show visitors how to pick, according to owner Ray Burg.

crop," he said, adding that the orchard uses irrigation for watering and some of the trees were also hand watered this year.

The orchard offers apple picking on Fridays through Sundays until into November. Staff is on hand to show visitors how to pick.

"It's extremely easy," Burg said. Visitors "can stay for an hour if they like or if

they want to pick a quick bag it can take five minutes."

He said the orchards draws visitors from Richfield, Germantown, Menomonee Falls and Milwaukee and Chicago areas.

"We're located near Holy Hill, so we get a lot of sightseers," said Burg, who said the orchard includes around 30 different apple varieties,

including some older lines.

"I would say of the heirlooms, our strawberry apple is the oldest," said Burg, estimating it dated back to the 1800s.

"If people want to try a different type of flavor, it has a pretty unique flavor," he said.

The orchard operators also make their own honey, and the site has an observa-

tion area where visitors can watch the bees at work.

At Patterson Orchards in New Berlin, a farmers market is available including a variety of fruits and vegetables, according to owner Jay Patterson.

"We have a nice big farmers market with a lot of fresh fruits and veggies. We grow our own apples, pears and plums," he said.



Submitted photo

Festival City Symphony will return Sept. 22 with Pajama Jamboree, aimed at bringing classic music to kids.

## Sept. 22 concert opens Festival City Symphony's free Pajama Jamboree season

MILWAUKEE — Festival City Symphony will begin its "Pajama Jamboree" season with "Why We Love the Orchestra," a free concert on Sept. 22 at 7 p.m. in the Bradley Pavilion of the Marcus Performing Arts Center.

The concert will feature a wide-ranging repertoire of lively music from composers Leroy Anderson, Johann Strauss II, Georges Bizet, John Williams, Aaron Copland, John Philip Sousa and more. FCS Music Director Carter Simmons will conduct the symphony.

Attendees should enter through the main entrance on 929 N. Water St. If they park in the Marcus Center lot, the third-level skywalk can be used. For safety, face masks are required for all in attendance.

All Pajama Jamboree concerts have free admis-

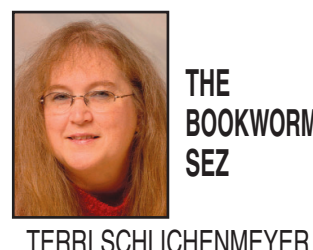
sion. Geared toward children and their families, these popular programs are each one hour in length and include narration to educate children about the music and instruments of the orchestra.

Casual dress is encouraged, including pajamas, teddy bears and blankets. Pajama Jamborees are best suited for children in K4 through fifth grade.

Milwaukee's Festival City Symphony, the oldest performing symphony orchestra in the area, showcases area professional musicians. Its mission is to educate the community and extend the reach of classical music with reasonable pricing and informative formats that embrace people of all ages.

For more information, visit festivalcitysymphony.org or call 262-853-6085.

## 2 books dig in into farming's roots



THE BOOKWORM SEZ

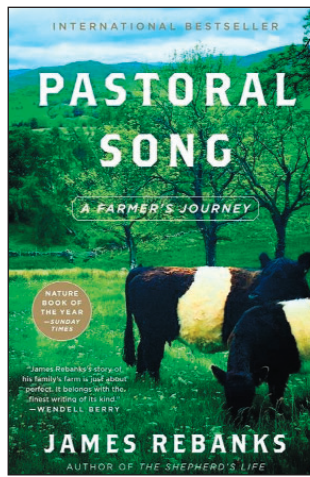
TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

"Pastoral Song" by James Rebanks  
c.2020, HarperCollins  
\$28.99 / \$35.99 Canada  
304 pages

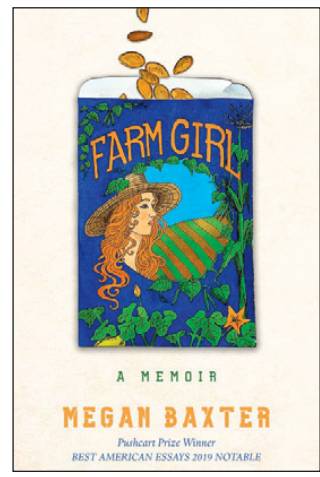
"Farm Girl: A Memoir" by Megan Baxter  
c.2021, Green Writer's Press  
\$19.95 / \$26.95 Canada  
255 pages

"Til the cows come home. For most people, that indicates a lengthy amount of time but for you, it sounds positively peaceful. It reminds you of wildflowers, fresh-plowed dirt, green grass, and your head nestled into the side of a bovine. It makes you want to feel sun-warmed earth and smell new-mown hay. It makes you want to read these great books.

Imagine a farm with no tractors, nothing but rich fields and contented cows. It's the stuff of 19th-century paintings and stories but for author James Rebanks, it was normal:



his grandfather farmed like that, with his hands in the land and on his animals. In "Pastoral Song," Rebanks writes of bringing those "old ways" back. It wasn't without effort, though: when Rebanks inherited his grandfather's land, it wasn't the same as it was a century before — but then again, neither was farming. His grandfather struggled to survive on the land, maybe because his methods were not modern or moneyed or forward enough; so much of farming is chemical now, machinery-driven, corporate and futuristic, as compared to how it used to be. And yet, with this in mind, Rebanks set about to bring back a way of life



that's uncommon in his rural English countryside, and by the time you get to his final chapter, you'll wish you were there. "Pastoral Song" is a lushly meditative and wonderful story that's perfect for any farmer and every wannabe with a dream.

But what if your dream lies on one side of the country and your heart is on the other side? That was the dilemma Megan Baxter writes about in "Farm Girl": she was living with the man she adored in Portland and their lives were complicated but she couldn't leave him. Meanwhile, her mind kept returning to the New England farm she loved. It was small, by some

standards — just 40 acres of certified-organic land between Vermont and New Hampshire, and she missed it. The farm's berries and tomatoes were memorable, but so were the bad things that would happen, just as they do anywhere.

Yes, there was pain on the farm in Vermont, and it was quite different than the pain she was experiencing in Oregon. Frustrated, on the edge of bitter, Baxter quit college, and her mother didn't understand. She only wanted her daughter to "be happy."

That would come. Baxter knew where she really needed to be.

"Farm Girl" is a book with feet on separate coasts and longing for both to work out. It's a tiny bit of history and science here, in prose that's almost poetic, even when the angst storms in and the balance between Baxter's lives tips. Readers holding their breaths can exhale then, wistfully, mournfully, lingering.

If these books don't quite fit what you're looking for, be sure to ask your favorite bookseller or librarian for more ideas. The shelves are full of books on the farm life. There's plenty for you to take home and enjoy.

## Milwaukee Film's Hispanic Heritage Month celebration set for Sept. 17 at food truck park

MILWAUKEE — As Milwaukee Film's Hispanic Heritage Month nears its start of films from Sept. 15-Oct. 15, mark Sept. 17 as the official kickoff celebration. From 4 p.m.-8 p.m. Sept. 17, there will be music and food at the Zucalo Food Truck Park, 636 S. 6th St., Milwaukee.

Sin Fronteras (Cinema without Borders) program presents local DJ Loop, 5 Mercado MKE vendors including MKE Rag, Alquimia Skincare, Lupu Designs, Designs by Lali, and Ina Maka Holistic Crystal Jewelry. There will be food, drinks and sweet treat goodie bags from Tasha's Cake Service.

## North Point Lighthouse to host return of Occasional Artists Art Show

MILWAUKEE — The North Point Lighthouse will celebrate the return of the Occasional Artists Art Show with an event from 5-8 p.m. Friday featuring artwork for exhibition and sale by Julia Taylor and eight other local artists. Proceeds will benefit the North Point Lighthouse & Museum, 2650 N. Wahl Ave., considered a Milwaukee maritime treasure with its climbable 74-foot tower. The Occasional Artists Art Show displays art by a group of working professionals who pursue their passion for art and photography in their free time. For more information, visit northpointlighthouse.org.

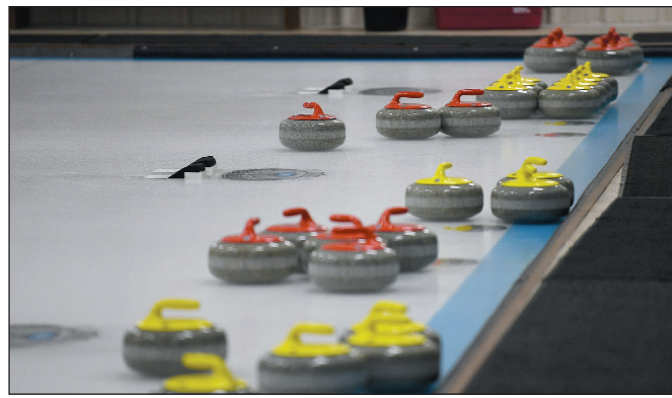




The Milwaukee Curling Club held the 69th Milwaukee Men's Bonspiel this past weekend featuring 32 teams from the Midwest and Canada competing in the three-day tournament at Cedarburg. 128 competitors took part in the event.

"The skill part is easier. The strategy has more nuances; it is like billiards combined with bowling technique."

— Kristin Smith,  
immediate past president of the Milwaukee Curling Club,  
which curls in Cedarburg



Stones pile up at the edge of the rinks waiting to be put in play at the Milwaukee Curling Club home ice in Cedarburg.

Photos by Mark Justesen/Conley Media



Matt Goelzer (center) releases the stone as teammates Jim Darths (left) and Chris Schallmo ready themselves to sweep.



Milwaukee Curling Club member Matt Goelzer lines up his shot.

# Curling: A winter sport for everyone

## Centuries-old pastime served up on ice

By Eileen Mozinski  
Schmidt  
Special to Conley Media

### A social sport

As Craig Sharkus sees it, curling is a sport of finesse.

"You don't need to be the strongest or fastest or tallest," said Sharkus, who said he began curling in middle school in 1979 or 1980 in a junior program in the Kettle Moraine Curling Club.

He has been a member of the Delafield-based club ever since.

"I fell in love with the sport and I've never wanted to do anything else," said Sharkus, who said the appeal is a combination of enjoyment of the game, social connections surrounding the sport and the chance to keep playing throughout one's life.

"It's a sport where you can play from a junior level up to age 100" or beyond, he said.

With the Winter Olympics underway, spectators may have tuned into some of the curling competition and be interested in trying their own hand at the sport. The American team was led into the opening ceremony for the 2022 games by Superior native and curler John Shuster as one of the nation's flag bearers.

The American curler, who is appearing in his fifth Olympic Games according to the Team USA website, is known personally to some at the Kettle Moraine club, according to Steve Everett, Jr., who coordinates communications for the club.

Intermingling of players of all levels is one of the unique features of curling, he said.

Sharkus agreed. "It's a sport where I can take three people to a tourna-

ment and you can be playing against someone that's been to nationals and you can be competitive," he said.

The Kettle Moraine Club typically sees an influx of younger members following a Winter Olympic Games, according to Sharkus.

He also runs a business, Rock on Curling, offering products and gear for players. He sells out of a store in the Kettle Moraine club and through his website to players worldwide.

The socialization after bonspiels, or tournaments, is a fun part of the curling culture, according to Sharkus.

Pennie Everett, wife of Steve Everett, agreed. She noted how her children will connect with other players at their own tournaments.

"They sit down and have dinner with their opponents. They're all friends. It's really cool to see," she said.

She was volunteering at the club on a recent weekend this month, when players had gathered for the club's Kettle Moraine Classic Bonspiel.

Everett described how the local club had welcomed her family when they started in the sport in 2017 and noted how people of all ages can play.

"You could technically curl with four generations. What other sport can you do that?" she said.

### The curling tradition

The first record of curling was found in Scotland and the Netherlands several centuries ago, according to the World Curling Federation

website.

Sharkus said nods to the Scottish history can sometimes be found in modern clubs.

"A lot of clubs will bring in a bagpiper and for the finals the music will get piped onto the ice. It's really cool," he said.

The Milwaukee Curling Club has tapped into this history.

The club, based in Cedarburg, is the oldest continually operating club in the United States and therefore was invited to Kinross Curling Club of Scotland in recent years, according to Kristin Smith.

"That club in Scotland had their 500th anniversary and invited all of the oldest clubs of countries. We had a team that attended," said Smith, immediate past president of the Milwaukee Curling Club.

The Milwaukee Club has celebrated its 187th anniversary, according to Smith, whose aunt and uncle played in the Milwaukee area in the 1950s and she learned as a child with her parents in Green Bay and central Illinois before returning to the Milwaukee area.

After college, she started curling again in the late 1980s. Like Sharkus, Smith touted the social aspect of the sport.

"It's a great social sport. A great way to get involved," she said, noting there are lots of opportunities to participate.

"I could curl nine times a week in mixed or women's events," she said.

In Wauwatosa, the curling club celebrated its 100th anniversary this month, according to the club website. This year is also the 75th anniversary of the Tosa Juniors program, the site said.

The Olympic Games do tend to drive some interest, according to Smith, who noted that the Milwaukee Club offers learn-to-curl sessions throughout the season.

She said the club is home to a wide variety of people, from

### Learn to curl

■ The Kettle Moraine Curling Club offers sessions for those looking to learn the sport. The next is 6 to 9 p.m. Feb. 20 at the club at 2630 Oakwood Road, between Nagawicka Lake and Highway 83 in Delafield. Register online. All participants need are clean tennis shoes to prevent salt from getting on the ice. The club offers all other equipment needed. The temperature on the ice is in the mid-30 degrees. Visit [kmcurlingclub.com](http://kmcurlingclub.com) to register or for more information.

■ The Milwaukee Curling Club is hosting learn to curl sessions in February and March. The club offers use of equipment needed. Visit [milwaukeecurlingclub.com](http://milwaukeecurlingclub.com) to register or for more information.

### Membership

■ The Kettle Moraine Curling Club is always open to new members. Visit [kmcurlingclub.com](http://kmcurlingclub.com) to learn more. The club's season typically runs from early October through March. The club is offering a special membership deal in honor of the Olympics for potential members now through March, according to Sharkus.

■ To register for membership in the Milwaukee Curling Club, visit <https://milwaukeecurlingclub.com/signup.php>.

■ For information about the Wauwatosa Curling Club, including membership and upcoming bonspiels, visit [wauwatosacurlingclub.com](http://wauwatosacurlingclub.com).

younger couples to earlier retirees and more.

"It's a mixed bag of people," said Smith, who said learning to curl has some parallels to golf.

"It takes time, the mechanics. It's like golf where you get better and better," she said.

### 'Nuanced' strategy

The Milwaukee Club hosts four area high schools attend the club for physical education classes. For classes and learn to curl sessions, the club provides equipment for participants, including brooms, grippers and sliders for shoes, according to Smith, who said the curling stones are permanent fixtures of the club.

While the time it takes to master the sport varies by individual, Smith said a general time frame for getting a good handle on curling is about three years.

"The skill part is easier. The strategy has more nuances; it is like billiards combined with bowling technique," she said. "If you make it through three years you're going to be doing pret-

ty well."

Smith described the sport's strategy as "open."

"In curling you talk a lot in front of your opponents," she said. "That is thought-provoking."

Teams are made up of four players, which she said adds to the social component of the game.

"You can jump in a car and travel all over the country and curl," Smith said.

She agreed with Sharkus that the team and social aspects of the game are a real draw.

"The fun aspect, I can't even describe it," she said. "There's no other sport like it. You'll feel it when you come to the club."

Sharkus echoed the thought.

"I think everybody needs to give it a try. You just don't know what you're missing," he said.

And Tom Godar, of Oconomowoc and a member of the Kettle Moraine Curling Club, noted that curling is a way to stay active during Wisconsin's long winter.

"It makes the winter fly by," he said.

## 'Law of the Land' corrals 16 old-fashioned Westerns for fans of the genre

"Law of the Land: Stories of the Old West" by Elmer Kelton c.2021, Forge Books \$27.99 / \$37.99 Canada 306 pages

There aren't a lot of things a lawman likes better than crossing a name off a Wanted list and Fitz Battles was about to do that. Giles Pritchard was an outlaw and

to Fitz, that made Pritchard just plumb worthless. Problem was, Pritchard had help and in "The Fugitive Book," that meant more no-good outlaws for Fitz to eliminate.

All Grant Caudell wanted was his money back, now that he'd caught up with "Slack" Vincent. Vincent had tricked Caudell out of his money and without it, Caudell would lose his fami-

ly's farm. The problem was, the sheriff had the outlaw locked up and in "Jailbreak," Vincent was about to hang — unless there was a little more trickery ...

Old George Simmons wanted trouble. He just wanted to cook for the Slash R cowboys and be unbothered. So in "Biscuits for a Bandit," an outlaw rider learns that it's best not to rile the camp

cookie ...

Everybody knew that the Apache One-Ear was ferocious. Lieutenant Monte Fowler already lost many soldiers to One-Ear's band in a massacre the likes of which Fowler wasn't eager to repeat. But One-Ear was still out there causing trouble, and in "Apache Patrol," Fowler's the only man who can lead G Troop to stop him. ...

In many of the sixteen short stories inside this book, there's a fiendish twist at the end, as if the late author Elmer Kelton consulted with the late Rod Serling on each tale's crafting. Many are so Twilight-Zone-ish, in fact, that they almost don't seem entirely like westerns.

And yet — they are. There are cowpokes and sheriffs in these tales, purdy gals, worn

saddles and beloved horses, outlaws and rifles, and blood-thirsty killers.

Despite the lack of modern PC-ness, the twists in these tales may bring old-fashioned westerns to a new audience. For sure, if you're already an oater fan, getting "Law of the Land" would behoove you.

— Terri Schlichenmeyer,  
The Bookworm Sez