



QUARTERLY ISSUES REPORT

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January 2024

October, November, December -2023

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC ISSUES

Lake Effect: October 10, 2023

Once a major node of Milwaukee's manufacturing industry, city leaders are now looking for a new blueprint for the Corridor. Once the site of major manufacturers like Briggs & Stratton, A.O. Smith and Badger Meter, these manufacturing giants either closed or moved out of the area. Most recently, Master Lock announced that it will be winding down operations and leaving the area by March 2024. Rich Rovito, a contributing writer for Milwaukee Magazine, wrote about the area's recent development [progress](#). He spoke with Sam Woods. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 15 minutes)

Lake Effect; October 12, 2023

One major part of Milwaukee's Hispanic and Latino community is the history of organizing and fighting for migrant workers' rights. Jesus Salas is a noted labor leader who has had a hand in nearly every major labor and education call to action in the Milwaukee area since the 1960s. Salas cofounded Obreros Unidos (Workers United) and was the first Latin CEO of United Migrant Opportunity Services (UMOS). He's also taught bilingual courses at Milwaukee Area Technical College for two decades and was a lecturer at UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee. Salas is retired from teaching and still lives in Milwaukee, where he continues to be active in Latino community organizations. He spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 15 minutes)

Lake Effect: October 23, 2023

Pull-tabs charge money in exchange for game pieces that can be unzipped or pulled to reveal cash prizes. However, not all game pieces contain prizes. While the common prize amounts are typically smaller, the maximum is \$250. The tabs are legal because of how they're designed and set up. The creators of the pull-tab machines navigate around Wisconsin state statute 100.16, which addresses gambling laws in the state. Joy Powers spoke with Tea Krulos about the history and legality of pull-tabs. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 15 minutes)

Lake Effect: November 13, 2023

Wisconsin lives up to its reputation as America's Dairyland, producing a quarter of the country's cheese. Wisconsin is also home to 6,000 dairy farms statewide. June is the perfect time to visit some of the state's cheesemaking landmarks like the [Dairy Heritage Center in Plymouth](#), which is the cheese capital of the world. There's a dairy farm in Thorp, Wisconsin that's open to the public for tours. It's called [Marieke Gouda](#), which is owned by Marieke Penterman. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes)

Lake Effect: November 28, 2023

Wisconsin recently topped [a list of states](#) where investors are interested in buying properties, which could be bad news for traditional home buyers. The market is already saturated with people looking for homes, while the number of homes has failed to increase with demand. Add in mounting inflation and this increase in companies buying single-family homes for investors, and you have a market that Rob Stafslie describes as the worst he's ever seen. He spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes)

Lake Effect: December 6, 2023

A new [report](#) from the Wisconsin Policy Forum shows that teacher salaries haven't kept up with the rising cost of living. Last school year, teachers' median gross pay was about \$59,000. If pay had kept up with inflation, teachers would be making more than \$67,000. "That median teacher pay just continues falling further and further behind inflation," says the report's author, Policy Forum Senior Researcher Sara Shaw. "Likely because districts aren't receiving the revenue to keep up with ongoing costs." She spoke with Emily Files. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 10 minutes)

Lake Effect: December 5, 2023

Zoning and land use regulation can be a dense topic, but what our city looks and feels like is heavily influenced by zoning. As part of the City of Milwaukee's long-term plans, the Milwaukee Department of City Development's [Growing MKE](#) initiative is recommending changes to the city's zoning process to encourage gradually building more housing and make the city more walkable. For Sam Leichtling, the city planning manager for Milwaukee's Department of City Development, the initiative is forward thinking. He spoke with Sam Woods. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 20 minutes)

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Lake Effect: October 3, 2023

Steve Vavrus is director of Wisconsin's State Climatology Office and is one of the scientists contributing to the effort. Vavrus came from his native Indiana to UW-Madison as a graduate student in 1990. "When I started here as a grad student, climate change was talked about in the future tense. Even though there had been some climate change, it was mostly like 'Well someday or in the future this is likely to happen,'" Vavrus recalls. He spoke with Susan Bence. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 5 minutes)

Lake Effect: October 4, 2023

Organic Valley — known for its milk, butter and other assorted dairy products — got its start in La Farge, Wisconsin. Today the co-op touts its status as the nation's largest cooperative of organic farmers from whom sustainability is a mantra. Now [Organic Valley](#) is relying on its 1,600 farms to help reach a goal — to be carbon neutral by 2050. That would mean reducing greenhouse emission at the source and storing the rest. Susan Bence spoke with Marina Dvorak. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 5 minutes)

Lake Effect: October 23, 2023

Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson recently announced the city was awarded \$12 million in federal funding to add to our urban forest. The city will focus on planting trees in neighborhoods that lack canopy cover. There are about 70 arborists and apprentices on Milwaukee's forestry team that will tackle this work, and only four of them are women — Hannah Novicki is one of them. She spoke with Susan Bence. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 7 minutes)

Lake Effect: October 26 2023

Wisconsin's Natural Resources Board approved a new wolf management, in the meantime the [Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission](#) GLIFWC is teaming up to learn whether wolves play a critical role in the ecosystem. Can wolves help control the spread of CWD in white-tailed deer? Scientists gathered at a [research station](#) in north central Wisconsin. Michael Menon was one of the researchers in the room. He's the UW-Madison PhD student chosen to conduct the wolf study that's being funded and co-led by the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission. He spoke with Susan Bence. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 7 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 7, 2023

Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley signed a [resolution](#), declaring the board's intent "to state clearly and unequivocally that Milwaukee County land and waterways deserves to be protected and maintained to be healthy, robust and resilient." He spoke with Lina Tran. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 7 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 14, 2023

Bats are one of the smallest and most threatened mammals in the United States. The species has been hit hard by a fungus called white-nose syndrome. It first appeared in New York in 2006 and Wisconsin saw the impact about eight years later with a steep decline in the bat population. Bats play an essential role in our ecosystem. They're pollinators and seed dispersers and eat many pesky insects — just some of the reasons researchers are hoping to build the population back up. This past August, a team of researchers, some from Virginia Tech and others from Wisconsin's DNR, huddled within a screened tent

about an hour northwest of Milwaukee. They spoke with Susan Bence. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 10 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 20, 2023

Echo has cared for the water for as long as they can remember. Growing up along the St. Croix River, they remember taking boat trips with their family to clean up the trash throughout the waterway. "Since I was a kid, whether consciously or subconsciously, I've been trying to find a pathway in life that would put me around water as much as possible," Echo says. "Now we're here, and I think I'm closer now than I have ever been before." Echo, a UW-Milwaukee Freshwater Sciences graduate student, teaches young people at the K-12 level about freshwater systems and conservation through their underwater performances as Mermaid Echo. She spoke with Xcaret Nunez. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 11 minutes.)

Lake Effect: December 13, 2023

Many of us look forward to gathering around our Christmas trees for the holidays. But as December 26th rolls around, we start to ask ourselves: what are we going to do with this thing? "I am the person to answer that question. I have a live tree every year and have done so for at least the past 25 years and it is always a pleasure for me to recycle and reuse my tree," says Venice Williams from [Alice's Garden](#) and *Dig In!* Contributor. She shares her top ways to reuse a Christmas tree with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes.)

In the News: December 15, 2023

Some Wisconsinites are among the more than 70,000 people trying to address the climate crisis at the annual UN climate change conference. This year's event, called [COP28](#), is being held in Dubai. It's gathered business leaders, climate scientists, Indigenous peoples and other stakeholders for the world's only multilateral decision-making forum on climate change. One of the Wisconsinites on the COP28 scene is Jonathan Patz. He served as inaugural director of the Global Health Institute at UW-Madison and was lead author for the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (Morning Edition 6:45 and 8:45am – Approximately 5 minutes)

EDUCATIONS ISSUES

Lake Effect: October 17, 2023

During the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a massive reshuffling in where K-12 students went to school. Wisconsin public schools saw their biggest enrollment drop in 35 years, while private and home school numbers took off. The Wisconsin Policy Forum has a new [report](#) on where students went over the last three years. The research shows that between 4,500 and 11,600 students have gone “missing” from school enrollment data. Senior researcher Sara Shaw says public school enrollment declined by about 32,000 between fall 2019 and fall 2022. Private and homeschool enrollment can account for about 11,000 of those students, and the declining birth rate can account for between 9,600 and 16,800 students. She spoke with Emily Files. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 18, 2023

With the proliferation of school choice programs across the county, the line between public and private education has blurred. That’s the argument of a new book by education journalist Cara Fitzpatrick, titled *The Death of Public School*. "If you can go to Catholic school for your entire K-12 education and have that be paid for with public dollars, at what point is that public education?" Fitzpatrick says. "And in a way, isn't that a sort of death of public school? Fitzpatrick's book chronicles the rise of school choice, including voucher programs that use taxpayer funding for students’ private school tuition. She spoke with Emily Files. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 15 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 24, 2023

In its landmark 1954 decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, the U.S. Supreme Court found school segregation unconstitutional. But the path to desegregating schools hasn’t been straightforward. In the following decades, states that had resisted desegregation were forced to follow the law. New segregation academies popped up in small towns throughout the south, like Leland, Mississippi - a town of about 6 thousand people in the Mississippi delta .Leland’s experience desegregating its public schools is the subject of a recent documentary from PBS, called [The Harvest](#). It features a number of the students who were part of the first generation of kids desegregating schools, including [Pam Pepper](#) — a U.S. District Court Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin. Pepper was one of the few white students who returned to Leland’s public schools. She spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 30, 2023

Milwaukee Area Technical College’s longtime president is stepping down. Vicki Martin announced she’ll retire at the end of this school year, after 10 years leading the school. Martin says she's most proud of her work to increase scholarships at MATC. During her tenure, MATC launched a [free tuition promise program](#). It guarantees free tuition for students who meet certain criteria. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 15 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 8, 2023

People looking to become special education teachers in Milwaukee have a new paid opportunity to do so. UW-Madison is partnering with Milwaukee Public Schools on a [Special Education Teacher Residency program](#). Students in the 14-month program will earn a master’s degree while completing a 10-month teaching residency in MPS. They’ll be paid a \$46,500 living stipend and will be eligible for free tuition through UW-Madison’s [Teacher Pledge](#).

In return, students must commit to teaching in MPS for three years after graduation. Emily Files spoke to UW-Madison Special Education Professor Kimber Wilkerson. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 10 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 13, 2023

Wisconsin lawmakers increased public school funding this year and next [by \\$325 per pupil](#). But that isn't enough to pay the bills for school districts. Because of budget deficits, some districts are considering school closures. Others are turning to taxpayers for more money. Wauwatosa School District Superintendent Demond Means [emailed parents](#) a few weeks ago with a warning. Because of a budget shortfall, the district might have to close an elementary school in the future. He spoke with Emily Files. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 5 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 16, 2023

More than 30 years ago, Wisconsin signed a law that required schools to teach about Native American history, culture and tribal sovereignty. It's known as [Act 31](#). The law was created in part because of violent controversy over Ojibwe (also known as Chippewa) spearfishing rights. J P Leary, a UW-Green Bay associate professor of First Nations Studies, recounted the spearfishing controversy in his book, "[The Story of Act 31](#)." He spoke with Emily Files. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes.)

Lake Effect: December 4, 2023

Next summer, incoming high school seniors at some Wisconsin schools will get college acceptance letters before they even apply. The UW System is launching a direct admissions program, which admits high school seniors based on a student's GPA and course completion. "They won't actually be applying for admission," says UW System Associate Vice President for Enrollment and Student Success Julie Amon. "They'll just be told, 'Based on your high school grades, based on your high school courses, we want you at a UW university.'" She spoke with Emily Files. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes.)

In the News: December 22, 2023

Milwaukee Public Schools [will move](#) to one calendar next school year, with a Sept. 3 start date. The move will help MPS avoid [school cancellations due to excessive heat](#), and it will save the district about \$2 million in busing costs. But, some high school teachers and students are worried about the change. MPS Chief Human Resources Officer Adria Maddaleni talked with Emily Files (Web story only, no run time)

In the News: December 15, 2023

How should Milwaukee Public Schools go about teaching deaf and hard of hearing students? That is the question a task force is exploring after complaints from the Deaf community and parents of deaf children, which [were aired](#) at an April school board meeting. Advocates for deaf students have been critical of MPS's separate oral language and sign language programs and have said MPS doesn't put enough priority on teaching deaf students to sign. Emily Files spoke to Laurie Goll, mother of a deaf student (Morning Edition 5:45 and 7:45am Approximately 5 minutes.)

LOCAL AND REGIONAL POLITICAL ISSUES

Lake Effect: October 11, 2023

NPR's Scott Detrow has covered Republican and Democratic presidential campaigns, Congress, the White House and even the war in Ukraine from Kyiv. Detrow talked with WUWM's Maayan Silver about his transition and what history does and does not tell us about how to approach the 2024 election. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 19 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 17, 2023

Maayan Silver spoke with Jeff Mayers, of Wis Politics and dug into the GOP's latest legislative efforts in Wisconsin. Republicans who control the State Legislature are split over how to deal with Megan Wolfe remaining as nonpartisan head of the bipartisan Wisconsin Elections Commission. He talked about that procedurally sticky conflict as well as what's at the root of GOP legislators' newly discussed anti-trans and anti-naked-bike-riding bills. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 15 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 17, 2023

The conflict in Israel and Palestine that has escalated again in recent weeks weighs heavy on many around the world, including those with Wisconsin ties. One includes a Jewish woman with Milwaukee connections who lost her niece to the Hamas terror attacks in the south of Israel. Another is a Milwaukee man who lost his sister to Israel's retaliatory missile attacks in the Palestinian territory of Gaza. She spoke with Maayan Silver. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 23, 2023

For the past decade, gerrymandering has come to define our political landscape. Gerrymandering is when district lines are drawn to political advantage or disadvantage a party or politician. Although gerrymandering is always political, it's not always partisan. A new report from the University of Chicago analyzes how three cities — Milwaukee, St. Louis, and Chicago — have historically used gerrymandering as a way to punish political speech and reward political favors. [Robert Vargas](#) is an associate professor of sociology at the University of Chicago, and he led the research team writing the report on gerrymandering in local governments. He spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 10 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 16, 2023

This week marks two years since the passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The law invested billions in infrastructure projects around the country, including many here in Wisconsin. Senator Tammy Baldwin voted for the law and sees a noticeable impact that it's had on families and communities in Wisconsin. "We have secured \$275 million in funding to clean up the Milwaukee estuary to reverse decades of legacy pollution and protect our freshwater resources, our public health and frankly, our way of life," says Baldwin. She talked with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 11 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 20, 2023

JR Ross of WisPolitics.com, spells out what's at stake in a new redistricting lawsuit brought by Democrats challenging Wisconsin's GOP-drawn state legislative maps. Some takeaways? GOP legislators want to stall the case, certainly at least until after the 2024 election, and if Democrats do succeed in getting the court on their side, they'd have a better shot at flipping the state senate rather than the assembly. Find out why this is and more, along with the latest on the bipartisan Brewers package. He spoke with Maayan Silver. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 14 minutes.)

Lake Effect: December 11, 2023

The 2024 election is looming large over Wisconsin, which many consider a bellwether state for the presidential election. But one city in particular, could decide the fate of the presidency and our nation. Milwaukee is the largest and most diverse city in Wisconsin and although it has reliably voted for Democratic candidates in the past, the power of that voting block has dwindled in recent years. [Dan Simmons](#) is a local journalist, who recently wrote about this for the [New Republic](#). He spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 11 minutes.)

Lake Effect: December 12, 2023

For the first time in a long time, the fiscal outlook is looking bright for Milwaukee County after facing critical shortfalls for decades. The deal was made, in part, due to the work of Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley. He spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 16 minutes.)

Lake Effect: December 18, 2023

A Milwaukee County judge is elected to the Wisconsin Supreme Court in a nationally watched contest. Shared revenue to local governments goes up, but so will Milwaukee sales taxes. And the Milwaukee Brewers get a half-billion-dollar gift from the state that should keep the team in the city for decades. WisPolitics Editor JR Ross looks back and ahead with Chuck Quirnbach. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes.)

HEALTH CARE ISSUES

Lake Effect: October 9, 2023

[Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers](#) provide patient-centered health care, health education, and social services to thousands in the Milwaukee community. They aim to make sure the care they provide is free from any linguistic, cultural or economic barriers. Their flagship clinic near Milwaukee's south side on South Cesar Chavez Drive will be able to serve even more people in its mission, thanks to the expansion that will be completed by the fall of next year. The expansion will not only add more space but provide more in-house services such as a new pharmacy, behavioral health services, wellness classes, and much more. The clinic's expansion is made possible in part by a \$4.7 million donation and a longtime partnership with Froedtert Health, says Sixteenth Street president and CEO Dr. Julie Schuller. She spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 24, 2023

No matter how you interact with athletes — be it a coach, parent, spectator, or trainer — being able to identify and treat a potential concussion is an important skill to have. [The Center for Simulation and Innovation](#) out of [Concordia University](#) aims to change both the learning and training landscape through the use of a new technology. One of their most recent projects is called the Field Assessment Simulator - tool for anyone interested in learning about concussions. The tool is part of a [ConcussionSIM](#) Platform, creating realistic simulations of concussion symptoms to practice assessments in a safe, controlled environment. By using the Field Assessment Simulator, participants can quickly and accurately identify the signs and symptoms of a concussion, work through assessment tests and make treatment decisions. Dr. Cindy Fenske, the executive director of the Center for Simulation and Innovation, spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 6, 2023

861 Wisconsinites died by suicide last year according to [new data](#) from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, and one in 10 American adults reported seriously considering suicide in June of 2020 according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. One of the best ways to spread awareness about success prevention is to talk about suicide, suicidal ideations and the common misconceptions surrounding it. Milwaukee native Jeannine Rivers Colburn is a suicide prevention consultant, author, and speaker. Her passion for advocating for mental health stems from her lived experience as a suicide attempt survivor. She spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 7, 2023

In the United States, suicide is the 11th leading cause of death and is a leading cause of death among young people. In Wisconsin, more than 900 people died by suicide in each of the past two years, according to the Wisconsin department of Health Services. Suicide is a critical public health issue — but it can be prevented. "Suicide itself is a complicated health issue and you know so prevention is also complex," says [Dr. Sara Kohlbeck](#), the director of the Division of Suicide Research and Healing at the Comprehensive Injury Center at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW). She spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 8, 2023

Democratic State Senator Kelda Roys and Democratic State Representative Jodi Emerson took steps to expand access to fertility treatment, when they introduced the Wisconsin Building Families Act. It aims to remove economic barriers by requiring health plans to cover fertility treatment and preservation services. Similar measures have been passed in 21 other states. Maria Novotny is a co-editor of *Infertilities* an assistant professor of English at UW-Milwaukee. Infertility is a disease that affects 1 in 6 couples across the world, according to the [World Health Organization](#). But as common as it is, struggles with infertility often stay in the shadows. She spoke with Lina Tran. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 14, 2023

Over 100 years ago, amidst an international pandemic and rising rates of tuberculosis and smallpox, Hattie Fountain was looking for ways to provide healthcare to Milwaukee's Black residents, who were not receiving the small level of care as white residents. A follower of Marcus Garvey and a member of the Universal Negro Improvement Association, or UNIA, Fountain was returning from Chicago in 1921 where she had learned of the Black Cross Nurses — an international network of Black nurses who met the needs of Black residents in their area that were largely ignored by public health institutions. That year, Fountain founded a Milwaukee chapter of the Black Cross Nurses and kept a diary of the Nurses' day-to-day activity. Clayborn Benson, historian and executive director of the Wisconsin Black Historical Society, said that the Black Cross Nurses were a realization of Marcus Garvey's vision for Black self-reliance, applied it to public health. He spoke with Sam Woods. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes.)

Lake Effect: December 5, 2023

The stresses of everyday life build up and can be detrimental to our health and sleep – and not just during the holidays. Two health psychologists say that more easy-access resources are needed to help people cope. [Marcellus Merritt](#), is an associate professor in UW-Milwaukee's College of Letters and Science, and [Matthew Zawadzki](#), an associate professor at the University of California-Merced. Their research has shown that tapping into leisure activities can be a powerful tool to manage everyday stress. Merritt and Zawadzki are studying why leisure activities can help protect our health. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 22 minutes.)

Lake Effect: December 13, 2023

A lot has changed since we last spoke with journalist Elly Fishman about the conditions at Ascension Health hospitals in Milwaukee last year. But unfortunately, not much has changed for patient care. If anything, it may have gotten worse. She spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 13 minutes.)

ARTS ISSUES

Lake Effect: October 3, 2023

Sometimes Latin music electrifies the dance floor, as couples spin, bend, and step. Other times it softly accompanies the cooking in abuela's kitchen. However, and wherever you're listening, Latin music comes in as many different styles as the places it originated. To find out what music calls for what dance, whether that's a cha cha cha, a bomba or a salsa step, WUWM turned to Karlies Kelley Vedula, a multidisciplinary dancer and choreographer from Panama who runs [Panadanza Dance Company](#) in Bay View. She's trained in all these Latin dance styles and more. She spoke with Maayan Silver. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 30 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 3, 2023

Do you remember playing an instrument in school? Or maybe you know how expensive it can be to get instruments for your children. The [Wisconsin Conservatory of Music](#) is held an instrument drive, where they collected used instruments to donate to kids beginning their musical journeys. Teresa Drews, director of education and piano faculty at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, helps organize the instrument drives that gives hundreds of kids their own instruments for their first time. The goal is to collect instruments gathering dust in attics or storage, refurbish them and get them in the hands of kids. She spoke with Sam Woods. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 10 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 4, 2023

Are you familiar with the [Milwaukee Bears](#)? They were a Negro National League team that only played for one baseball season here in 1923. Although their tenure here was short, they are part of a longer historic legacy. The Negro League was a stage for some of the world's best athletes and also served as an important economic and social pillar for Black communities around the country. A new documentary called [The League](#) dives into the dynamic journey, triumphs, and challenges of the Negro League through the first half of the twentieth century. Producer [Byron Motley](#) and executive producer Josh Green spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 10 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 11, 2023

Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the histories, cultures and contributions of people whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. Anamarie Edwards is a multidisciplinary artist. Edwards is of Cuban and Black heritage. She grew up in the south and came to Milwaukee to attend a local design school. She's currently taking art classes in a graduate program in Boston. She spoke with Teran Powell. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 14 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 17, 2023

"Live at Lake Effect" is a new music series featuring local and nationally touring artists performing in the [Lake Effect Surf Shop](#) in Shorewood, Wis. We brought the Lake Effects together, along with [Visionary Studios](#), to showcase musicians once a month through an interview with the band exclusively on *Lake Effect*, plus filmed performances. Today we have Milwaukee's own [Chicken Wire Empire](#). Performing for the Lake Effect Surf Shop session were Carter Schilts on mandolin, Jon Peik on the banjo, Jordan Kroeger on standup double bass, Ernest Brusubardis IV on fiddle, and Kyle Schelstad on guitar. They spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 13 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 19, 2023

Conversations about incarcerated people often focus on statistics, how people in prison are treated and the many deficits they face. But poet Dasha Kelly Hamilton says these conversations often miss an essential part of the story: the humanity of those impacted. Kelly Hamilton is the co-host of a podcast from [Wisconsin Humanities](#), called [Humanity Unlocked](#). For her and co-producer Jen Rubin, this project is an opportunity to reimagine the incarceration system, changing the perspectives that often surrounds it by focusing on the humanities. They spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 13 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 25, 2023

[Present Music](#) is showcased a unique performance at the Milwaukee Art Museum, featuring the recently rediscovered film, *Die Stadt Ohne Juden* or *The City Without Jews*. The film, based upon a book of the same name, premiered nearly a hundred years ago and predicted some of the events of the Holocaust. After the film was rediscovered in a Paris flea market seven years ago, composer Olga Neubert wrote a score for it. [The screening](#) was accompanied by that score — live, performed by Present Music and conducted by Yaniv Dinur. He spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 10 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 14, 2023

"Live at Lake Effect" is a new music series featuring local and nationally touring artists performing in the [Lake Effect Surf Shop](#) in Shorewood, Wis. We brought the Lake Effects together, along with [Visionary Studios](#), to showcase musicians once a month through an interview with the band exclusively on *Lake Effect*, plus filmed performances. Today we have Milwaukee's own [Abby Jeanne](#) delivering some Pop, Soul and Rock N' Roll. Performing for the Lake Effect Surf Shop session along with Jeanne were Sam Gehrke on bass, Enzo Demay on drums, Guy Fiumarelli on guitar, and Rodney Bush on keys. They spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 17 minutes.)

Lake Effect December 14, 2023

The library is more than just books. For some, it's a third space to relax, read, research, work, or — in the case of local author [Nghi Vo](#) — write award winning books. Vo's name was added to the [Milwaukee Public Library's Wisconsin Writers Wall of Fame](#) at their [Central Library branch](#), along with Ayad Akhtar and the late Gene DeWeese. The wall pays tribute to a spectrum of literary talents whose work has been influenced by their life and experiences here in Wisconsin. MPL librarian, Beth Gabriel spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 14 minutes.)

Lake Effect: December 19, 2023

The coronavirus is something that remains present in our lives, but we can all recall our own experiences and feelings of what we collectively went through during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic? For Bryon Cherry, writing every day helped him process what he was going through personally. Cherry is a lifelong Milwaukeean, musician and poet. He has a new book of poetry called *death moan*, which he views as a meditation on how death tugs at us from many angles. It was written during the height of the pandemic. He spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 15 minutes.)

Lake Effect: December 20, 2023

Would you be able to identify and draw what the lungs look like? How about a spleen, heart, or even our GI tract? There's a Milwaukee company that specializes in apparel featuring hand drawn anatomically correct designs. Through t-shirts, cards, prints, stickers and more — their mission is to build community

while inspiring you to love your insides. [Artery Ink](#) was founded by Mara Natkin and Gloria Ramirez. Both have a background in art: Natkin is a trained illustrator and Ramirez a graphic designer. They've been together for 14 years and married for four, and their shared love of art paired with a fascination of the human body eventually led them to leave their service industry jobs and start Artery Ink in 2014. Natkin explained how key health struggles in their families shifted their perspectives and careers to make the leap into becoming art entrepreneurs. They spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 15 minutes.)

EQUITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

Lake Effect: October 9, 2023

Milwaukee Film's Cultures & Communities Festival is underway, and outside of the films to see there's also plenty of community events to be a part of. One of them is "[The Art of Storytelling - Exploring Narrative Craft and the Ripple Effects of Representation](#)," Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel reporter James Causey moderated a discussion with a panel of esteemed local journalists of color to talk all about the power of representative storytelling, including Ron Smith of the Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service and Milwaukee PBS producer Everett Marshburn. They spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 11 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 9, 2023

Rozalia Hernandez-Singh is the daughter of famed muralist Reynaldo Hernandez. He is Black and Mexican; her mom was born in Puerto Rico. Singh has lived in Milwaukee her whole life and grew up on the city's north side in a predominantly black neighborhood. "It was very apparent that the kids would see me as different ... I wanted to kind of get into where I had to come up with how I identified myself. People would ask me what I was and I remember being in elementary school kind of taking out my fingers and kind of saying well I'm Puerto Rican, I'm Black I'm Mexican, Native American —you know kind of giving a list." She spoke with Teran Powell. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 11 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 12, 2023

When hearing the terms Hispanic, Latino or Latinx you've probably thought to yourself: What is the difference? Hispanic refers to people who speak Spanish and/or who are descended from a Spanish-speaking lineage. Latino refers to someone who is from or descended from people from Latin America. And Latinx is a gender neutral or non-binary alternative to Latino or Latina. More than 19% of people in the city of Milwaukee identify as Hispanic or Latino. Teran Powell spoke with Jacob Quiñones, Emil Varona, and Joseph Rodriguez. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 5 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 19, 2023

Eight carefully curated films, featuring stories from Muslim communities around the globe, aim to encourage reflection, connection and spark meaningful conversations. The festival's opening night film does this, especially for Wisconsinites. The new PBS Wisconsin documentary [Wisconsin Life: The Wisconsin Muslim Project](#) highlights Muslim communities and individuals all across the state. From the Fox Valley Islamic Society in Neenah to a Milwaukeean working to curb hunger, the project aims to stimulate connections between Wisconsin's Muslim and non-Muslim populations. Janan Najeeb, the executive director of the Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition and founder of the Milwaukee Muslim Film Festival. Masood Akhtar started We Are Many - United Against Hate in 2016 shortly after former President Donald Trump proposed a Muslim registry in America They spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 11 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 25, 2023

Milwaukee County has ended its on-demand paratransit taxi transit option for people with disabilities, leaving many feeling like they've lost the ability for reliable transportation and a spontaneous life. Milwaukee County still offers transportation for people with disabilities, but rides must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance and advocates say the service has proved to be too unreliable for regular use. The on-demand taxi program was previously operated by American United Transportation Group until

the program ended on Sept. 28, 2023. County officials say the program ended due to changes in federal regulations from the Federal Transit Administration that mandated that the taxi program would need to be wheelchair accessible and institute random drug tests for drivers. Donna Brown-Martin, Milwaukee County director of transportation spoke with Sam Woods. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 15 minutes.)

Lake Effect: October 26, 2023

[Janice Toyh](#) has long been a part of Milwaukee's LGBTQ+ history. She's one of Milwaukee's most legendary entertainers and a founding members of [SHEBA](#) (Sisters Helping Each Other Battle Adversity), a support group for Black women of trans experience. Toy is on a mission to make sure Milwaukee's Black LGBTQ+ history is preserved and shared through the House of History. The House of History is a project dedicated to collecting and sharing local Black LGBTQ+ history through interviews, as well as uncovering and sharing photographs and other artifacts that tell the stories of Black LGBTQ+ people in Milwaukee. She spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 14 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 7, 2023

Now more than ever, educators are having critical conversations not only about which histories to teach but how we should teach them – especially when it comes to the histories of people of color in the United States. A new Marquette University program aims to help teachers answer those questions. [Milwaukee Roots: The Democratizing Local History Project](#) will engage students in the local histories of Milwaukee's people of color. Dr. Melissa Gibson is an associate professor at Marquette and leader of Milwaukee Roots. She spoke with Nadya Kelly. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 13 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 9, 2023

There are about two million women Veterans that make up 10% of the Veteran population. Yet, they face significant challenges and barriers in accessing the services they need. Furthermore, they are often fighting for recognition of their service. The "I Am Not Invisible" campaign began in 2017 as a way to increase visibility of women Veterans and to change the culture of gender-based harassment by placing images of women Veterans in VA facilities. That campaign has continued to grow across the country and today, and the latest installment is being hosted at UW-Milwaukee. [Yolanda Medina](#) is the director of [UW-Milwaukee's Military and Veterans Resource Center](#) and is also a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. She spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 10 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 16, 2023

More than 30 years ago, Wisconsin signed a law that required schools to teach about Native American history, culture and tribal sovereignty. It's known as [Act 31](#). The law was created in part because of violent controversy over Ojibwe (also known as Chippewa) spearfishing rights. Emily Files spoke with J P Leary, a UW-Green Bay associate professor of First Nations Studies. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 21, 2023

Three prisoners have died at the Waupun Correctional Institution, where lockdown conditions remain and prisoners say they're continuing to suffer. In this special edition of *Lake Effect*, we'll explore the crisis facing Wisconsin jails and prisons. Joy Powers will examine proposals from the governor and the legislature – and their limitations. Sam Woods looks into what conditions currently look like for

prisoners at Waupun Correctional Institution and speaks with a man formerly incarcerated there. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 51 minutes.)

Lake Effect: November 28, 2023

When some people go to a park, they run, jump and play without a second thought. But for others, it's more complicated. Some parks' paths aren't accessible for those with mobility devices, some playgrounds don't accommodate visual or physical limitations, many fields aren't built for wheelchair baseball. And if areas are accessible, they can sometimes be isolating, not made to allow play side-by-side with able-bodied peers. That's why Damian Buchman, executive director of the Ability Center, knew it was time for a change. He's spearheading what he describes as the first-of-its-kind Moss Universal Park, an area in the works in Wauwatosa where everyone can access fulfilling play, whether they have a disability or not. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 5 minutes.)

Lake Effect: December 7, 2023

There's an interesting cultural conversation fomenting around drag. On the one hand, some drag performers have become the pinnacle of popular culture — like RuPaul or Milwaukee's own Trixie Mattel. On the other hand, states throughout the country are banning drag performances, claiming they're a form of grooming children. But this contrast of high praise and criminalization has been a part of drag from its very beginning, as authors Michail Takach and BJ Daniels can tell you. Their book, [A History of Milwaukee Drag](#), explores the roots and evolution of drag in Milwaukee, and how current conversations echo what was seen in the past. They spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 13 minutes.)

Lake Effect: December 11, 2023

When you meet Adam Procell today, you'll meet a humble, soft-spoken man fighting to make it easier for people coming out of prison to transition back into society. But Procell's journey to today has not been smooth. Three days after turning 15, he was sentenced to life in prison plus 25 years for a gang-related homicide. While in prison he began working with young people to steer them away from the gang-centered life that led him to prison. Paroled in 2018, after more than two decades in prison, Procell continued his outreach work. But he also noticed that while Milwaukee did have services for those exiting prisons, these resources were often scattered and difficult to access if you did not have a car. He spoke with Sam Woods. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 16 minutes.)

Lake Effect: December 27, 2023

The Hubble Space Telescope, star matter, measuring the distance of space — and nearly all of the accomplishments we've worked toward in astronomy and astrophysics would not be possible without the groundwork laid by women. Illuminating the work of these women is especially important to [Michelle Thaller](#). She's an astrophysicist and the assistant director for science communication at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. She's also a Wisconsin native who is returning to Milwaukee to give a presentation, all about these hidden women and other space discoveries. She spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 16 minutes.)

Lake Effect: December 28, 2023

The U.S. has been experiencing a racial reckoning. Many organizations have been incorporating diversity and equity training and attempting to grapple with the legacy of racial injustice in our nation. But celebrating diversity can have its own pitfalls, according to Dr. Keith Kahn-Harris, sociologist and author of *Strange Hate: Antisemitism, racism, and the Limits of Diversity*. His work explores how antisemitism has evolved in a way that allows people to pick and choose the Jewish communities they identify with,

and those they decry. "Diversity isn't just about the nice things, diversity is about the difficult things, too. Humans differ from each other ethnically, religiously, racially, culturally, in whatever way - not just in our cooking or in our costumes or things like that - but also in the values that we hold," Kahn-Harris explained. He spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 17 minutes.)