



## **QUARTERLY ISSUES REPORT**

Business and Economic Issues  
Environmental Issues  
Education Issues  
Local and Regional Political Issues  
Health Care Issues  
Arts Issues  
Equity/Diversity Issues

October, 2023  
July, August, September 2023

## **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC ISSUES**

### **Lake Effect: July 10, 2023**

Currently, more than 40% of Milwaukee residents are working in what a new report by [Center of Wisconsin Strategy](#), or COWS, defines as “bad jobs.” COWS is a research and policy center at UW-Madison. The [report](#) looked at the jobs people living in the city of Milwaukee have — whether the job itself is located in the city or not. It found of the 240,000 workers that live in Milwaukee, 100,000 workers are being paid less than \$15 an hour, while the remaining 140,000 are making \$15 or more. These “bad,” or low-quality, jobs are mainly in arts and entertainment, retail and food service. [Laura Dresser](#), the associate director of COWS spoke with Joy Powers (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 15 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: July 20, 2023**

Wisconsin’s Hispanic population has grown by more than 100,000 since 2010, according to [USAFacts](#). That’s the largest population growth among ethnic groups in the state. President of the [Hispanic Collaborative](#), Nancy Hernandez, wants to make Milwaukee a top-10 city on the Hispanic Well-Being Index. She says the group evaluates negative trends like poverty and health issues, and then works with the community to find solutions. The Hispanic Collaborative was formed in 2019 following a 2016 study by the [Greater Milwaukee Foundation](#). She spoke with Eddie Morales. (Lake Effect 12:00pm approximately 15 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: July 24, 2023**

Housing affordability is a nationwide issue, but for certain parts of the county, this issue has become an existential crisis. Businesses, schools, hospitals, and the many necessary parts of our communities rely on a wide array of workers. As home and rent prices have skyrocketed, wages haven’t kept up, pushing more expensive areas — like Waukesha County — out of reach for many essential workers. [A new report](#) from the Wisconsin Policy Forum explores how this issue is affecting Waukesha County and some possible solutions. For Joe Peterangelo, a senior researcher with the forum and contributor on the article, the data paints a clear picture. He spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 13 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 1, 2023**

Wisconsin is known as a beer state — both in consumption and the number of breweries we have. However, local businesses are starting to make an impact in the spirit and cocktail markets, especially ready-made ones. Daniel Beres is a partner at Lost Whale craft cocktail bar in Milwaukee and is a nationally recognized mixologist. Recently he and fellow Lost Whale partner Tripper Duval, along with Tom Duffek of Plain Spoke Cocktail Company decided to join forces and enter the canned cocktail market with [Odyssea Sangria](#). He spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 15minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 10, 2023**

For the first time since 2010, Milwaukee has a new plan for its downtown and surrounding areas. Adopted by the Common Council and signed by Mayor Cavalier Johnson last week, [Downtown Plan 2040](#) is the result of years of planning by the city’s Department of City Development and the Downtown Business Improvement District, with input from community listening sessions. The plan includes a wide range of projects, from adding concessions to parks to narrowing or removing streets in favor of pedestrians, bicyclists and public transportation. Larry Sandler, a local journalist who wrote an article about the plan for [Milwaukee Magazine](#), says the plan’s focus is not on adding to the city’s skyline, but

more on how people move through, and spend time in, downtown. He spoke with Sam Woods. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 13minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 14, 2023**

Like many neighborhoods in Milwaukee, the cost of housing is rising in Lindsay Heights. To help keep the neighborhood affordable, the Milwaukee Community Land Trust is trying a new approach.

The [Milwaukee Community Land Trust](#), in partnership with [VIA CDC](#), recently put four homes up for sale in Lindsay Heights at price points significantly below market value. The goal is to create more owner-occupants in the neighborhood, rather than seeing the homes go to investors. LaMont Davis Executive Director spoke with Sam Woods. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 10minutes)

### **Lake Effect: September 11, 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 up single-family homes for investors, and you have a market that Rob Stafslie describes as the worst he's ever seen. Stafslie is the director of single-family lending at WHEDA, the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority, which helps people buy homes by teaching them how the process works and how to finance it. He spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 13 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: September 18, 2023**

794 is likely to see some major changes in the next few years. The [Wisconsin Department of Transportation](#) (WisDOT) released several different proposals for what these changes could look like, and even though construction is years away, these plans are already being hotly debated. Each plan varies in how it would redesign the aging roads, but there are two main categories: replacement or removal. The replacement options are designs that redesign the road while maintaining an elevated freeway system, which removal options would bring the road down to grade level as it enters downtown Milwaukee. "It's a question of land use, it's a question of connectivity, but it's also a question of safe and efficient movement of people and goods. That's where the tradeoff really is here, between making some improvements to the existing freeway or taking it down to grade," says Mark Gottlieb, the associate director for the Institute for Physical Infrastructure and Transportation at UW-Milwaukee. He spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 13 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: September 26, 2023**

State Assembly Speaker Robin Vos (R-Racine County) has put forth a financing plan worth at least \$600 million to help the Milwaukee Brewers pay for major maintenance projects at American Family Field. "It's a bad proposal", says Michael Rosen. He's a retired economics professor who taught at the Milwaukee Area Technical College. Rosen is part of a local coalition that wants a look at partial public ownership of the team — or at least a greater payback to taxpayers. He spoke with Chuck Quirmbach. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 11 minutes)

## **ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

### **Lake Effect: July 12, 2023**

Climate change is a global threat, and the effects are already becoming clear in Milwaukee and throughout the Great Lakes region. A recent survey by the [Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative](#) found that over the next five years, communities will spend nearly \$2 billion in combating damage to the coastline. "We've seen not only the rise in temperatures of the lakes, which has severely impacted the ecology of the ecosystem, but we've also seen a rising water levels of multiple feet. One of the biggest issues when it comes to the rise in water level is erosion. A recent study that we showed shows about \$2 billion, with the damage expected along the Great Lakes municipal lands," says John Altenberg, the executive director of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative He spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 13 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: July 13, 2023**

"Frederick Law Olmsted is pretty widely considered the father of landscape architecture as we know it, and he was probably the foremost advocate for parks for all people," says independent journalist Virginia Small. She's also a writer and researcher on environmental issues and landscapes, and is featured an [article](#) in this month's issue of *Milwaukee Magazine* in honor of Olmsted's bicentennial. She spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and Approximately 13 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: July 20, 2023**

This week is Latino Conservation Week, a nationwide initiative designed to get the Latino community outdoors and involved in environmental stewardship. Cristina Carvajal is the founder and executive director of [Wisconsin EcoLatinos](#), which is based in Madison. To celebrate, the organization planned a learn-to-kayak event, as well as a visit to the Olbrich Botanical Gardens. For her, this week offers an opportunity to get people outdoors and invested in environmental advocacy. She spoke with Lina Tran. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 8 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: 25, 2023**

A program of the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, the [Diversity in Conservation Internship](#) is fostering diversity in the next generation of conservationists, like Jaeden Carrasquillo, a native Milwaukeean who wants to pursue work in habitat restoration after he graduates. While environmental issues affect everyone, they don't affect everyone equally. People of color and Indigenous communities are hit especially hard by climate change, but the environmental movement lacks [diversity](#). He spoke with Lina Tran. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 8 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 2, 2023**

The Environmental Protection Agency has been sampling all five Great Lakes for four decades. Every spring and summer crews survey each lake's water quality. For over 30 of those years, the mission has been accomplished aboard the Lake Guardian, the EPA's Great Lakes research vessel. EPA scientists Matt Pawlowski and Megan O'Brien as they were about to set off from Milwaukee's inner harbor. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 11 minutes)

**Lake Effect: August 7, 2023**

WUWM's Lina Tran spoke with Young Kim, the executive director of Groundwork Milwaukee, and Danell Cross, the executive director of [Metcalf Park Community Bridges](#), which is located in one of Milwaukee's hotspots for extreme heat. They echoed findings from a [heat mapping campaign](#) that took place last summer, in partnership between the Wisconsin DNR, the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and the environmental nonprofit [Groundwork Milwaukee](#). (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 15 minutes)

**Lake Effect: August 15, 2023**

The Wisconsin DNR and other groups want to make it easier for fish trying to travel upstream along the Milwaukee River during spawning season. That's why crews have been moving earth and water along Kletzsch Dam in Glendale this summer — creating what's known as a [fish passage](#). Advocates say the fish passage and other projects matter for the health of the river and all that live in and around it. Susan Bence spoke with Beth Wentzel, senior project manager with the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, and Stacy Hron. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 9 minutes)

**Lake Effect: August 29, 2023**

Martice Scales rolled through a field at Mequon Nature Preserve, turning over the hardy thistles that thrive in poor, overworked soil — a legacy of decades of conventional farming. Scales and his wife, Amy Kroll, practice a different kind of farming than this land has seen before: regenerative, community-focused. The two are on a mission. They want people of color to feel comfortable with their hands in the earth and empowered to grow nutritious food. That, despite the painful history for many Black and Indigenous people whose ancestors were forced to farm or removed from their land. They spoke with Lina Tran. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 5 minutes)

**Morning Edition: September 21, 2023**

The US Farm Bill is a gigantic legislation suite driving the country's agricultural and food policy. Drafted every five years, the current bill is due to expire in just over a week. With its 64,000 farms, Wisconsin stands to be impacted by the elements Congress is considering, including Seven Seeds Farm. It's been in Michael Dolan's family for over 150 years. He spoke with Susan Bence (5:45 and 7:45am Approximately 5 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 25, 2023**

Four months ago, the U.S. Supreme Court decided on a case that impacts waters in Wisconsin and across the country. [Sackett v EPA](#) resulted in diminished federal protections for wetlands — the natural "sponges" that soak up storm water and contaminants and provide rich wildlife habitat. A free virtual [symposium](#) zeroing in on impacts on the Great Lakes was also held. Among the panelists is Melissa Scanlan, a water policy expert and director of the [Center for Water Policy](#) within UW-Milwaukee's School of Freshwater Sciences. She spoke with Susan Bence. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 5 minutes)

## **EDUCATION ISSUES**

### **Lake Effect: July 19, 2023**

In an effort to boost college enrollment and affordability, Milwaukee Public Schools is set to make FAFSA completion a graduation requirement. The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. It gives students access to Pell grants and other college financial aid, and is a key indicator of college enrollment. During the pandemic, the number of students filling out the FAFSA and enrolling in college declined across Wisconsin. Pre-pandemic, 74% percent of students in the MPS class of 2019 completed the FAFSA. Just 42% of graduates in the class of 2022 have filled out the FAFSA so far. MPS Director of College and Career Readiness John Hill reported this information. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 3 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: July 25, 2023**

Parents of children with dyslexia have been ringing an alarm bell in Wisconsin. They say school districts often fail to teach children to read. According to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, [only one in three Wisconsin fourth graders](#) is a proficient reader. After years of debate in the Capitol, Gov. Evers and Republican lawmakers agreed on a bill that makes sweeping literacy reforms. [Evers signed](#) the so-called "[Right to Read Act](#)" last week. It requires schools to more frequently screen students for reading difficulties, notify parents of issues, and develop personal reading plans. It also incentivizes schools to use phonics-based reading instruction. Emily Files spoke with Kari Baumann, a parent of dyslexic child. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 5 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 3, 2023**

In the upcoming school year, thousands of Wisconsin students will earn college credit before they even graduate high school. As a recent Wisconsin Policy Forum [report](#) points out, so-called "dual enrollment" programs at Wisconsin's public tech schools and universities have doubled in the last 10 years, now reaching about 70,000 students. The programs are usually free or low-cost to families, and students who complete dual enrollment courses tend to do better in college. But Milwaukee is behind some other parts of the state in offering these opportunities. UW-Oshkosh Chancellor Andre Leavitt discussed his school's dual enrollment program with Emily Files. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 5 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 9, 2023**

In recent years, Milwaukee Area Technical College has announced two new major scholarships: the full-ride [Checota scholarship](#) and the [PepsiCo Uplift scholarship](#) for Black and Hispanic students. But some of those scholarship recipients can't enroll at MATC, because they owe the school money from past classes. A faculty union-run emergency aid program, called the [FAST Fund](#), is drawing attention to this issue. The FAST Fund says in just the past six months, it's helped 125 Checota scholars and 48 Pepsi Uplift scholars pay their debts so they could utilize the scholarships. In the past three years, FAST Fund Director Liz Franczyk says the FAST Fund has paid about \$300,000 in student debt to MATC. She spoke with Emily Files. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12minutes)

**Lake Effect: August 28, 2023**

Raising children comes with many challenges, and if people are in need of extra support particularly with developmental care, [The Milwaukee County Birth to 3 Program](#) is a local resource. The Birth to 3 Program serves infants and toddlers as an early intervention program to address developmental delays and disabilities. By working in partnership with family and caretakers, the goal is to enhance a child's development with the help of educators, therapists, and service coordinators. Samantha Cortez, the Birth to 3 Program Coordinator for Milwaukee County and Crystal Vang, Milwaukee County's Birth to 3 liaison explain how the program helps make a difference in the lives of young children and their families. She spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 10 minutes)

**Lake Effect: August 30, 2023**

With the rise in remote work, parents of young children are finding new ways to navigate the work/life balance. Even with more flexibility about where they work, they may still need space to focus and help taking care of their children. To fill that need, [a new child care model](#) is cropping up. It combines coworking space for parents with on-site daycare. [Le Village Cowork](#) — Milwaukee's first business of this kind — opened this month in Brewers Hill. Emily Files spoke with the owner Kellie Overton. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 10 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 5, 2023**

Wisconsin has one of the highest number of folk schools in the country and they are bringing timeless skills—like sewing or woodworking—to new generations. In this month's issue of [Milwaukee Magazine](#), Kristine Hansen took a look into the lasting legacy of folk schools. Hansen is a contributing writer to *Milwaukee Magazine* and is an author of several books about Wisconsin. She shares more about what she learned. "What's interesting about these schools is that they're teaching you skills that years ago, you might have learned from your grandparents or your great grandparents," she says. "As we progress, a lot of these skills are being lost, right? We're in a modern age, a modern society." She spoke with Mallory Chang. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 6 minutes) (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 10 minutes)

**Morning Edition: September 14, 2023**

About six months ago, Cardinal Stritch University in Fox Point, Wisconsin [announced it was closing](#). Enrollment had plummeted, and its leaders said it was no longer financially viable. That left 805 Stritch students, 337 undergraduate and 468 graduate and doctoral, who hadn't finished their degrees with just a few months to figure out their next steps. When Sebastian Rios found out Cardinal Stritch would close, the news "hit him like a truck." He was thriving as a freshman, living on-campus and connecting with his teachers. He never expected that a year later, he would be starting over as a transfer student at Marquette University. He spoke with Emily Files. (6:45am and 8:45 am Approximately 5 minutes)



## **LOCAL AND REGIONAL POLITICAL ISSUES**

### **Lake Effect: July 31, 2023**

Justice Janet Protasiewicz, who ran a campaign for State Supreme Court that was backed by liberals, will be sworn into office. Jeff Mayers of WisPolitics broke down how that will affect the court's docket and for the latest on a new case filed by Democrats challenging an almost-total ban on absentee ballot drop boxes. He also weighed in on Republican early voting efforts in Wisconsin and very preliminary takes on the GOP race for president. He spoke with Maayan Silver. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 15 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 9, 2023**

With a new liberal majority on the Wisconsin Supreme Court, political lines are already being drawn. To the chagrin of conservatives, liberals who now control the court 4-3 have made several administrative changes since [Justice Janet Protasiewicz](#) was sworn in. They have fired the director of state courts and tempered the powers of the conservative chief justice. Maayan Silver talked with Barry Burden, UW-Madison politics professor and Director of the [Elections Research Center](#). (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 5 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 14, 2023**

Two lawsuits over gerrymandering of the Wisconsin Legislature, that's favored Republicans since 2010, both seek to get district maps redrawn, and, call for elections in 2024 in both the state Assembly and the state Senate. JR Ross, editor of WisPolitics.com, explores this tactic, and explains what it would mean if Democrats flip the Senate, a seemingly more plausible scenario than taking back the Assembly. Ross also delves into Gov. Tony Evers' call for a special session on everything from child care to paid family leave to UW system funding, and he breaks down what you need to know about the pesky funding problem Milwaukee County and the state are facing over the Brewers' stadium — and why you should care, even if you don't like baseball. He spoke with Maayan Silver. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 18 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 17, 2023**

The COVID-19 pandemic shut down a lot of things, including parts of our criminal justice system. Courts, jails, and police officers all had to change in light of safety concerns. But since the height of the pandemic, trends have emerged that some researchers find concerning. In Milwaukee and cities around the country, arrests and charges are down while rates of some crimes have risen substantially. The Wisconsin Policy Forum digs into these numbers in a recent report titled, "[Under Pressure](#)." Rob Henken and Ari Brown from the policy forum believe that the data paints a clear picture. They spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 15 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 23, 2023**

Eight candidates took the stage in Milwaukee for the first Republican presidential primary debate. Donald Trump, the party's frontrunner, did not join them. Wisconsin is a key state for both Republicans and Democrats in the 2024 election. According to strategists, winning Wisconsin could mean a path to the White House for either party. Both parties are strategizing on how to win the Badger State in 2024 and beyond. For Wisconsin GOP strategist Bill McCoshen and Ben Wikler, the Chair of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, Wisconsin's stakes and current climate are crystal clear. They spoke with Maayan Silver. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 11 minutes)



**Lake Effect: August 28, 2023**

JR Ross, editor of WisPolitics.com, fills in the context on GOP efforts to remove Wisconsin's top election official from her post and to get liberal-backed State Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz to recuse herself from recently filed lawsuits to throw out Wisconsin's current state legislative district maps. Ross also broke down the impact of last week's GOP presidential primary debate in Milwaukee. He spoke with Maayan Silver. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 15 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 7, 2023**

"Socialism" has been a dirty word in U.S. politics, but over the last decade socialism has become increasingly popular with U.S. voters. Recently, Wisconsinites voted to advance two Democratic Socialists to the general election, candidates Darrin Madison and Ryan Clancy, who are all but guaranteed to win the midterm. Socialism isn't unfamiliar to Milwaukee. In many ways socialist policies were the driving force behind the city as it rose to prominence in the early 20th century. So how does today's socialist movement compare to the movement that made Milwaukee, and why are we seeing these policies gain popularity once again? Joy Powers spoke with Sam Harshner, a teaching instructor at Marquette. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 14 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 11, 2023**

Wisconsin Republicans raise the idea of impeaching Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz before she's even heard a case, and Democrats respond by mobilizing anti-impeachment efforts. JR Ross, editor of WisPolitics.com has talked to Republicans, he's talked to Democrats, and he lays out the motives behind the developments, and what we could expect as this unfolds. He spoke with Maayan Silver. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 15 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 19, 2023**

September 17 is national Citizenship Day. That's why the American Immigration Lawyers Association is hosting nationwide citizenship workshops. The free citizenship clinic in Milwaukee is slated for Sept. 30 at MATC's education center at Walker's Square. Brigette Kutschma is a supervising attorney with Soberalski Immigration Law. Kutschma says the goal for the event is "to help empower people to become citizens and to submit their applications." Kutschma says lawful permanent residents ages 18 and older are eligible to apply. She spoke with Eddie Morales (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 5 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 20, 2022**

Republicans in the Wisconsin Legislature have been threatening to impeach Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz, although she hasn't yet heard a case. GOP leadership is pressuring the justice to recuse herself from a redistricting case that could decide the fate of Republican control of the Wisconsin Legislature. "That discussion has come amidst some concern on the part of Republicans that the Supreme Court at the state level will strike down the redistricting maps that Republicans had put together for the next ten years ... And those redistricting maps are heavily tilted towards Republicans," says Paul Nolette, Director of Marquette's Les Aspen Center for Government. He spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 25, 2023**

JR Ross, editor of WisPolitics.com, breaks down the ins and outs of the GOP Brewers' stadium funding plan and rounds the bases on Republicans' independent "Iowa-style" redistricting bill. The latter has passed the GOP-controlled Assembly, but Democratic Gov. Tony Evers will likely call foul. Ross also discussed efforts to eject the state's top election official, Megan Wolfe. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 18 minutes)

## HEALTH CARE ISSUES

### Lake Effect: July 11, 2023

Dr. David Cipriano is a psychologist and the co-chair of the suicide prevention council at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He says conversations about suicide should start by early adolescence and possibly even younger as sadly, suicides amongst early preteens have occurred. Suicidal thoughts are common, and Cipriano suggests letting others know that they aren't alone is one important step in making a connection. He spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 18 minutes)

### Lake Effect: July 11, 2021

Mental health care and its accessibility in Milwaukee County is constantly evolving. The county is currently going through an overall mental health redesign and turning over its acute inpatient mental health services to other organizations. No matter the time in our city's history, the need for quality mental health care and its challenges have remained constant. Responding to this need is the Behavioral Health Division, a deeply rooted service in the area's history that can be traced back to the 1850s. Johnathan Piel, the Division's unofficial historian, offers their overarching history of operations, resources and facilities. Jonathan Piel provided a historical summary of Milwaukee mental health care to Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 16 minutes)

### Lake Effect: July 24, 2023

According to the CDC, American women are more likely to die from childbirth than women in any other high-developed country. Even in Wisconsin, 25 new mothers are lost every year due to complications from childbirth. In Milwaukee specifically, the March of Dimes rated us an "F" in preterm birth. While there are many factors that contribute to these poor outcomes like healthcare coverage, poverty, racism, and access to care — one app is trying to help us reach better outcomes for maternal and child health. [MaternityMetrix](#) gives accessible, clinically-vetted, perinatal guidance for anyone, especially for mothers in underserved communities. [AkkeNeel Talsma](#) is an associate professor of nursing at UW-Milwaukee and creator of the app. She spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes)

### Lake Effect: July 26, 2023

If you've ever donated blood in Wisconsin, you may be familiar with Versiti. The organization runs dozens of blood donation centers throughout the Midwest, and here in Wisconsin, it provides more than 230,000 units of blood to hospitals annually. But Versiti does more than blood donations — it's also home to the [Versiti Blood Research Institute](#), which seeks to better understand blood disorders, diagnose them and manage them. For Chris Miskel, the president and CEO of Versiti, the vision for the institute is a clear one. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 9 minutes)

### Lake Effect: August 1, 2023

[Wisconsin's Board on Aging and Long Term Care](#) advocates for people in long term care facilities, informs residents of their rights and educates the public at large about health care options and how to navigate these systems. The board also runs the [Volunteer Ombudsman Program](#), a program that aims to assure the dignity and self-determination for those in long term care. Volunteer Ombudsmen visit nursing homes throughout Wisconsin to observe, listen, advocate, and often act as the first line of defense for residents. Volunteer coordinator Sheryl Meyer and Todd Elmer, who's been a volunteer for over a decade, say the opportunity to continually make a difference is rewarding. They spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 30, 2023**

Mental illness is still a taboo subject for some, but it was almost never discussed in the 1950s and 1960s. For families like Meg Kissinger's, that meant a lot of suffering in silence, private and public torment, and maybe paradoxically, a lot of love and laughs. Kissinger wrote about her family's struggles with mental illness in her new book [While You Were Out](#). Born as the fourth oldest of eight kids, Kissinger entered a large, post-World War II family with many unspoken mental health illnesses. "Growing up, I never heard the expression 'mental illness' for many years, you know, after I left home," she says. She spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes)

### **Lake Effect August 31, 2023**

The COVID-19 pandemic lay bare healthcare's shortcomings in serving vulnerable groups. A program offered through the City of Milwaukee is helping healthcare providers improve public health through better communication with patients. The training covers communication strategies, health literacy, and racial equity, with the goal of involving patients in decision-making. It's offered through the city's [Office of African American Affairs](#), and led by the Milwaukee-based consulting group UBUNTU Research & Evaluation. Mikey Murry is a managing strategist at [UBUNTU](#) and leads training for the health literacy program. She spoke with Lina Tran. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 9minutes)

### **Lake Effect: September 12, 2023**

Pregnant Black people in Wisconsin face much higher risks than their white counterparts. Black people are three times more likely to die in childbirth and post-pregnancy, and they face much higher rates of postpartum depression. A new project from the [Wisconsin Medical Society](#), [Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin](#) and the [Wisconsin Nurses Association](#) is seeking to change that, by filling in gaps in coverage. Dr. Wendy Molaska is part of this effort. She's a family practice physician and the immediate past president of the Wisconsin Medical Society, and understands the task at hand. She spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm Approximately 12 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: September 14, 2023**

Although they only range in age from 27 to 42 years-old, millennials are experiencing chronic health conditions at a significant rate. [A new study from the Health Action Council](#) shows that millennials exceed older generations in chronic conditions, making them more dependent on the healthcare system compared to other age groups. Medical conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, back disorders, and particularly behavioral health disorders in the millennial population contribute to a higher burden on the healthcare system. Patty Starr, President and CEO of the Health Action Council, and Craig Kurtzweil, vice president of the United Healthcare Center for Advanced Analytics, co-authored the article and detail some of its most significant findings. She spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm Approximately 12 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: September 18, 2023**

It was almost lunchtime for the 4-year-olds in Nickole Foster's class at Next Door Milwaukee, a child care center in Metcalfe Park. The toddlers were so excited for the midday break they hardly noticed what was happening in the corner, by the picture books. Foster was helping Erin Lee, a board member of the asthma nonprofit [Fight Asthma Milwaukee Allies](#), or FAM Allies, look for the perfect place to install an air quality monitor. They huddled by the bookshelf. They spoke with Lina Tran. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:00pm, Approximately 5 minutes)

## ARTS ISSUES

### Lake Effect: July 18, 2023

A new art installation has been created 15 minutes north of downtown Milwaukee inspired by the plight of ash trees. An essential part of forest and urban canopies, ash trees have been hit hard by a beetle called the Emerald ash borer. The invasive insect was found in Wisconsin in 2008. When visiting artist [Daniel Minter](#) saw the devastation within Lynden Sculpture Garden's woodland he decided it would be his focus during his residency. Minter zeroed the striking remains of an 80-year-old ash tree. It rises along the southern edge of [Lynden Sculpture Garden](#), where sculpture meets woodland. The desolate tree is the subject of Minter's installation. He spoke with Susan Bence. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 5 minutes)

### Lake Effect: July 20, 2023

The [Mile of Music](#) is a music lovers' dream come true. You can see 200 artists perform all within one mile of Downtown Appleton over four days and — it's free! This year, the Mile of Music is celebrating its tenth year and organizers say no matter what kind of music you enjoy, there will be something for everyone at the festival. Becky Mortensen spoke with Kim Willem, she's the events, promotion and social media manager for the Mile of Music. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 15 minutes)

### Lake Effect: July 31, 2023

Milwaukee musician [Brett Newski](#) is known for being honest and transparent — both in his music and how he fills his time off stage. From his latest album [Friend Rock](#) to his book, [It's Hard to Be a Person](#), Newski has always shared his struggles with things like anxiety and depression. In addition to music and being an author, Newski has added illustrator, painter and podcaster to his titles — constantly feeding a creative drive that he says he's dedicated to. He spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 14 minutes)

### Lake Effect: August 2, 2023

[Black Arts Fest MKE](#) is celebrating the deep roots of African heritage and the creativity of Black cultural arts. The festival's lineup includes educational activities, dance and fashion. "In 2018, we decided that given the wonderful ethnic festivals in Milwaukee that this was an important one that needed to come back," says Derek Tyus, the chair of the festival's board. He spoke with Kobe Brown. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 14 minutes)

### Lake Effect: August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X are two titans of the Civil Rights Movement, but despite their common goal, they were very different people. These differences — and their similarities — are at the heart of the play *The Meeting* by Jeff Stetson. The show was a part of this year's [Milwaukee Black Theatre Festival](#), directed by [Denzel Taylor](#) and featuring Nahjee Robinson as "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr." Taylor spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 8minutes)

**Lake Effect: August 15, 2023**

Milwaukee lays claim to the first known Black-American woman singer of Jewish cantoral music. Gladys Mae Sellers grew up in Milwaukee in the late 1800s and early 1900s and got on the map for her singing throughout the Midwest region. But when she moved to New York in 1922, she became Madame Goldye Steiner, a trailblazing figure in the golden age of Jewish liturgical music. Steiner sang Jewish prayer music as a part of the Yiddish theater scene, on Broadway and on the radio, and may have led prayers in Black Jewish communities, according to Milwaukee-born educator, artist and advocate Shahanna McKinney Baldon. She spoke with Maayan Silver. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 14 minutes)

**Lake Effect: August 22, 2023**

This month marks 50 years since hip-hop began at a back-to-school party in New York City's Bronx borough. As the genre increased in popularity in the late 1970s and early 1980s, it took hold in Milwaukee via subcultures like the city's breakdancing and skate scenes. As the genre grew into the multi-billion industry it is today, Milwaukee has grown with it, sending its homegrown rappers worldwide. The city of Milwaukee has proclaimed this week to be [Hip-Hop Week](#), with various events celebrating the art form and the city's hip-hop culture. Sam Woods talked with numerous individuals involved in Milwaukee's Hip Hop. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 24 minutes)

**Lake Effect: August 31, 2023**

Good things are brewing in Milwaukee, and VISIT Milwaukee has launched a new TV series to share these stories of positivity Samantha Timm is featured on episode three as the former curator of the St. Kate Arts Hotel in downtown Milwaukee. She along with David Caruso, the host of *Good Things Brewing*, discuss Milwaukee's art scene in the episode. They spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 8 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 6, 2023**

The [Milwaukee International Short Film Festival](#) is Milwaukee's longest running film festival that honors local filmmakers. With 85% of its lineup represented by Wisconsin filmmakers, there is much to celebrate in its 25th year. To honor the anniversary, this year's theme is "legacy." Returning filmmakers are bringing new films and films from the festival's past are being shown again for new audiences. For Milwaukee Short Film Festival founder and director Ross Bigley, as well as filmmaker Mark GE, this year's festival will be a special one. Mark GE's film *Phantom Limb* was the very first film shown at the festival and will return to the big screen this weekend. He spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 12 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 13, 2023**

Milwaukee music lovers have an abundance of venues and artists they can see performing live in the city. But many go to the same venues with the same artists, time and time again. A new organization in town is looking to change that. [Sofar Sounds](#) specializes in putting on surprise shows in interesting venues. The organization was featured in this month's [Milwaukee Magazine](#), and local lead Sam Brunelli is up to the task of surprising and delighting Milwaukeeans with these surprise shows. He spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 12 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 26, 2023**

Matt Woida and Betsy Gurrero, owners of the Delaware House spoke with Eddie Morales. The Delaware House has a state of the art ballroom and teaches and offers both group and individual lessons in a full range of dance types. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 12 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 28, 2023**

When much of life came to a halt because of the coronavirus pandemic, artists of all types faced some of the biggest consequences. Theaters shuttered along with music venues, festivals, galleries and museums. And while some artists are masters at working and producing art in solitude, others rely on collaboration. Katie Avila Loughmiller, an artist who runs several collectives around the Milwaukee area, reflected on how to move forward artistically in a pandemic. Avila Loughmiller has a Masters of Fine Arts in art and social practice. She organizes artists into collectives, or business networks, and plans exhibits, pop-ups, community events and other public art. She spoke with Maayan Silver. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 5 minutes)

## **EQUITY/DIVERSITY ISSUES**

### **Lake Effect: July 19, 2023**

Barred from playing in the major leagues in the early 1900s, many Black baseball players still played professionally in the Negro Leagues on teams throughout the country. After Major League Baseball began integrating in 1947, many Negro League players went on to play there, and by 1960 the Negro Leagues were gone. Dennis Biddle, who played in the Negro Leagues before suffering a career-ending injury in the 1950s, wants to preserve the history of the Negro Leagues and support its former players. To help secure health care and a pension for former players, he and Sherwood Brewer, another former player who played with Jackie Robinson, set up Yesterday's Negro League Baseball Players Foundation in 1996. Today, Dennis and Patrice Biddle continue the foundation's work through a museum and memorabilia store in Mayfair Mall, while also working in schools to educate young people about the Leagues' history and supporting local Little Leagues. Proceeds from memorabilia sales go to the Foundation's work. They spoke with Sam Woods. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 14 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: July 20, 2023**

Wisconsin's Hispanic population has grown by more than 100,000 since 2010, according to [USAFacts](#). That's the largest population growth among ethnic groups in the state. President of the [Hispanic Collaborative](#), Nancy Hernandez, wants to make Milwaukee a top-10 city on the Hispanic Well-Being Index. She says the group evaluates negative trends like poverty and health issues, and then works with the community to find solutions. The Hispanic Collaborative was formed in 2019 following a 2016 study by the [Greater Milwaukee Foundation](#). She spoke with Eddie Morales. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and Approximately 5 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: July 24, 2023**

In 2023 at least [14](#) transgender and gender nonconforming people have been killed in the U.S. That's according to the Human Rights Campaign, a group that has tracked fatal transgender violence for the last decade. Fatal [violence](#) disproportionately affects transgender women of color — particularly Black transgender women. In Milwaukee, three Black trans women were shot and killed over a span of nine months between June 2022 and February 2023. Their names were Brazil Johnson, Regina "Mya" Allen and Cashay Henderson. Teran Powell spoke with Vogue McKinney, an educator, entertainer and transgender outreach coordinator with [Diverse & Resilient](#). Demi Jo Carr, a consultant in public health and health equity in Milwaukee; Sevyn Lockett, a community advocate and a prep navigator at [Vivent Health](#); and Elle Halo, a board member of Diverse & Resilient and an LGBTQ+ advocate in Milwaukee. . (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 26 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: July 26, 2023**

On the last Friday of every month, members of the queer Hmong community gather around food, stories, and chosen family. [Queer Roots Space](#) is a program of the [Hmong American Women's Association](#), or HAWA — just one of the many queer justice programs that the organization offers. According to Zong Yang, HAWA's queer justice director, the gathering is often the first time and space in which many participants have interacted with other LGBTQ+ Southeast Asian people. Yang spoke with Lina Tran about building queer community and transformative siblinghood in Milwaukee. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 13 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 1, 2023**

Growing older isn't easy. Aging can bring on a host of issues, not least of which is bigotry. Ageism is a pervasive issue that is so baked into our culture, it can be difficult to spot. Jen Kahn-Pettigrew is working



to change these attitudes. Kahn-Pettigrew is a clinical professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in the office of applied gerontology, as well as an [AARP Disrupt Aging Classroom](#) facilitator. The program works to challenge students' perceptions of aging and recognize how ageism can negatively affect everyone in our community. She spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 10 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 7, 2023**

Recent forecasts of weather trends show the Milwaukee-area at the tip of a major heat belt emerging in the central Midwestern U.S... In the coming decades, heat waves are likely to become more frequent and more dangerous, with temperatures that can cause health problems and even death. With an aging population and housing, Milwaukeeans are especially vulnerable to intense weather changes. As energy prices go up, it's become more expensive to heat or cool aging homes that aren't energy efficient, and access to air conditioning units (including fans) becomes more unattainable. Joy Powers spoke with Lynnea Katz-Petted, CEO of [Revitalize Milwaukee](#), which recently got a grant to help weatherize Milwaukee homes and put in air conditioning units. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 12 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 8, 2023**

The history of many Milwaukee neighborhoods has been erased or replaced over time. But a new project is working to educate people about the history of Milwaukee's Bronzeville neighborhood and inform how the past continues to influence the present. The [Milwaukee Bronzeville Histories](#) project maps out where historic African-Americans figures lived and worked. Through their app or website, guided [maps](#) and [curated tours](#), pinpoint where longtime establishments and other significant areas were located. Lead project researcher, Kitonga Alexander details how he came into the role and how the project can help people understand the extensive Black historical significance that Milwaukee holds. Alexander spoke with Mallory Cheng. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 12 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: August 16, 2023**

A research project called "*Places of Their Own: Learning Chinese American Legacy Through Oral History*" explores the survival and successes of Chinese Americans in 20th century Milwaukee. Lead researcher, Dr. Hongyan Yang of Boston College, and a team of research students, conducted a series of interviews with Chinese American entrepreneurs and their descendants. The interviews explored how they developed "places of their own" through their family restaurants, laundries and grocery stores. The interview and transcribing process took nearly a year to complete. It's being presented at the [Milwaukee Jewish Federation](#) The event is sponsored by the [Jewish Community Relations Council - Milwaukee](#), [Milwaukee Turners](#) at Turner Hall, [AAPI Coalition of Wisconsin](#), and [ElevAsian](#). Teran Powell spoke with Lorna Young, an OCA board member. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 12 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: September 6, 2023**

Officer Dezjorn Gauthier, or "DJ" as he's known among his colleagues is the first out transgender officer with the Wisconsin State Fair Police Department. He joined the department in December of 2022 and previously worked seven years in public safety at State Fair Park. He says throughout his time working at State Fair Park, he's enjoyed meeting visitors from across Wisconsin. Gauthier says when the opportunity to join the police force opened, he took it. He has always aspired to join the legal field in some capacity since he was a child. The law, the justice system, and police work have always been part of his life. He spoke with Teran Powell. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 13 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 12, 2023**

In the Oneida language, *yukwanénste* has two meanings: “our corn” and “our precious.” It’s a testament to corn’s importance: Throughout time, corn has been a staple in the Oneida diet and an important part of daily and ceremonial life. When the Oneida people were forcibly removed from present-day New York State to the reservation in northeastern Wisconsin, they brought corn seeds with them. Among them would have been Tuscarora white corn, a pearly-white flour corn with eight rows of round kernels. Saving those seeds — and the knowledge to cultivating them — is a tradition that has been passed down for generations. In [Our Precious Corn](#), Rebecca Webster explores the relationship between Oneida people and corn. Webster is a citizen of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin. She and her husband own a farmstead on the reservation, where they grow corn, and other Indigenous varieties of beans, squash, and sunflowers. They use their farm as a place to share their knowledge and teach community members how to reconnect with Oneida foodways. Webster is also a founding member of the Ohe-Láku corn-growing co-op. She spoke with Lina Tran. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 13 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 14, 2023**

Rafael Baez is the first Latinx person recorded to have lived in Milwaukee. Baez was a talented musician, recruited by an American opera company to travel throughout Mexico and the United States. Ultimately, he settled down in Milwaukee and married fellow musician Mary Schoen in 1889. Baez made a life for himself in the city. He became a choir director, an organist for several churches and synagogues, a music tutor for some of the city's elite, and even a musical composer with published pieces. On top of all that, Baez is Marquette University's first documented Mexican and Latinx professor, where he taught music and theory. Sergio Gonzalez is an Assistant Professor of Latinx Studies at Marquette University, and the author of [Mexicans in Wisconsin](#). He spoke with Mallory Cheng. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and Approximately 13 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 14, 2023**

Milwaukee has become home to a growing community of refugees from Myanmar, formerly known as Burma. Armed conflicts have ravaged the nation for more than seven decades, often dividing people along ethnic lines. Milwaukee is thought to have the United States' [largest community of Rohingya](#), a Muslim minority from Myanmar that's faced persecution and ongoing genocide in their home country. Other groups, like Burmese and Karen, have faced similar persecution during this time of unrest. That was the case for Htoo Paw's family, which fled to a Thai refugee camp before making their way to the U.S. Paw owns Karen Supermarket, it is a grocery store and meeting place for people in the community. She spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and Approximately 13 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 19, 2023**

Many of us can tick off the [reasons why many parts of Milwaukee are very racially segregated](#) — structural racism, poverty, redlining, white flight. Indeed, in parts, that’s true. But what you may not know is that there are also neighborhoods with no racial majority, places where two people chosen randomly would be of different racial backgrounds. One such neighborhood is Martin Drive — on the city’s west side. It’s thriving — as both a racially diverse neighborhood and one with a strong sense of community. Maayan Silver and Eddie Morales spoke residents of the neighborhood. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 27 minutes)

**Lake Effect: September 25, 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 Thaller says, "We have, by far, the most diverse selection now we've ever had — not just women, but ethnicities [and] different nations." She spoke with Audrey Nowakowski. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 16 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: September 27, 2023**

Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, or PPWI, is known for providing reproductive health care throughout the state, but the organization does much more than that. Aside from their clinical work, Planned Parenthood provides education on sexual health and safety, which requires a lot of cultural understanding. [CCmás](#) is a program run through Planned Parenthood, which is focused on giving Wisconsin's Latino community the tools to advocate for reproductive justice, their right to control their sexuality and reproduction. The program is celebrating its 20th anniversary. Maria Barker, vice president of the education department for PPWI, spoke with Joy Powers. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 12 minutes)

### **Lake Effect: September 28, 2023**

Afro-Latinos are Latin Americans of African descent. According to the [Pew Research Center](#), about six million U.S. adults identify as Afro-Latino. Joan Marie Luciano Vargas was born and raised in Ponce, Puerto Rico, and came to Milwaukee at the age of 13. Among her many titles are mother, dancer, painter and creative. She owns a jewelry and vegan beauty product line called [JoMaLu LLC](#), where she uses her art to embrace and affirm culture, ethnicity, creative engagement, spirituality, faith and hope. Vargas' family came to Milwaukee after a hurricane destroyed their home. She said the transition was scary. She spoke with Teran Powell. (Lake Effect 12:00pm and 8:0pm, Approximately 11 minutes)