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Diversity returns to the fore in 2015

About Milwaukee Ethnic News

Milwaukee Ethnic News is published bimonthly by Urban Anthropology Inc. and is managed by volunteer anthropologists. The purpose of the newsletter is to offer ethnic organizations and individuals opportunities to share news and information about their cultures. The newsletter does not receive funds from any external source. See more info on last page.



In support of refugees *Local organizations on Syrians*

In December 2015, two Milwaukee organizations came out in support of the United States admitting Syrian refugees. They also rejected political proposals that contradict the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution that guarantees freedom of religion.

Both organizations, the Milwaukee Turners and the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, have ethnic roots and are comprised of members descended from refugees of past wars and revolutions.

(Continued on page 3)

Contrasting visions for America

Issues involving race, nativism, civil rights, and religious freedom dominated the U.S. national and local news in 2015.

Earlier in the year, the release of police videotapes and witness reports of shootings of black men spawned outrage among many, drawing increased attention to a movement that began in 2013.

(Continued on page 2)

Diversity returns to fore (continued)

(Continued from page 1)



Black Lives Matter

The BLM movement began in 2013 in the aftermath of the shooting death of black teen Trayvon Martin by George Zimmerman, who was later acquitted of charges. The movement, focused on protests against violence directed at African Americans, grew in strength following the shooting deaths of black males Michael Brown in Ferguson and Eric Brown in New York City.

Black Lives Matter assisted in protests in Milwaukee on the heels of the 2015 shooting death of Dontre Hamilton by a police officer in Red Arrow Park. Milwaukeeans, led by Dontre's brother, Nate Hamilton, staged demonstrations in Milwaukee throughout the year.

Milwaukee County Sheriff David A. Clarke Jr., an African American, was critical of Black Lives Matter. He argued that police officers were not racist and that African Americans would have no problems if they did not try to flee when confronted by the police.

Same sex marriage

In spring, the U.S. Supreme Court handed gay rights advocates a historic victory by ruling that same-sex couples can marry nationwide. The Court held that same-sex couples have a right to marriage via the Fourteenth Amendment.

In opposition to this ruling, Kim Davis, county clerk for Rowan County, KY, defied the court order and refused to issue a marriage license to a same-sex couple.



She was subsequently jailed for contempt of court and then released five days later.

Immigration

The vision for America was further contested in 2015 in the political arena. Donald Trump, running in the Republican presidential primary, argued for radical new policies on Mexican immigration. Citing the precedent of the internment of Japanese during World War II, he said that, if elected, he would initiate a program to round up, intern, and subsequently deport 11 million Mexican illegal immigrants.

Responding to these and other comments by Trump, President Obama reiterated that the United States is a "nation of immigrants" and that the humane response to undocumented immigrants is to create a pathway to citizenship. Hillary Clinton, presidential candidate for the Democratic nomination, concurred with this vision.

Religious freedom



Following terrorist attacks by Muslim Jihadists in Paris and San Bernardino, candidate Trump claimed he opposed the immigration of Syrian refugees to the U.S, going so far as proposing a ban on all Muslims coming to the United States.

These statements were countered by other candidates citing the U.S. Bill of Rights (Second Amendment) that guaranteed religious freedom. In Milwaukee, civic and ethnic organizations have also taken stands (see story on page 1).

In support of refugees (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

Milwaukee Turners

The Milwaukee Turners organization was founded by refugees who fled Germany after the failed democratic revolutions in 1848. At that time there were no comprehensive laws restricting immigration to the U.S. Turners members have historically opposed discrimination by religion, race, or ethnicity. The organization opposed the denial of rights to freed African-Americans beginning at the end of the Civil War and the exclusion of Jews and other refugees to America during the Third Reich.

Today, the Milwaukee Turners organization opposes efforts to block Syrian refugees. Turner Board President Art Heitzer recently stated: "We call on all Wisconsinites, including the vast majority of us who are of immigrant stock, to support humane and safe admission of our proportional share of refugees from Syria and other nations. They will make our nation stronger, and to do otherwise is to play into an atmosphere of fear and isolation, and to fuel the flames of intolerance both at home and abroad."



Milwaukee's Turner Hall

Milwaukee Jewish Federation



The Milwaukee Jewish Federation is over 100 years old. Its mission is to build a strong Jewish community in Milwaukee, as well as strengthen the bond among Jewish people throughout the world.

During the Third Reich in Germany, the United States routinely turned away large numbers of Jewish refugees because of federal immigration restrictions. The passenger ship St. Louis was refused docking rights and over 200 of those would-be refugees who later became victims of the Holocaust after it returned to Europe.

The Federation and its allied organizations strongly supports acceptance of Syrian refugees to the U.S. Like the Turners, the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation opposes the hateful rhetoric coming out of political campaigns and other sources that vilifies Muslims or suggests that they be barred from entering the United States.

"Such hateful and xenophobic invective against Muslims has no place in our political discourse. It violates our most cherished values as Americans and as Jews," said JCRC Chair Michael Pollack.

Other Jewish activists

Another Jewish organization, Jewish Voice for Peace, has also been challenging anti-Muslim bigotry. Activists are sponsoring demonstrations in cities throughout the country.

Recently members of JVP and other Jewish organizations protested the appearance of conservative Governor Scott Walker at a Milwaukee Hanukkah event because of the governor's attempts to block Syrian refugees to Wisconsin.



You're Invited to Attend a German Stammtisch!

Come and meet new people, practice your German and have fun at a gathering place here in Milwaukee.

The ÜberTap Room

1048 N. Old World 3rd Street Milwaukee, WI 53203, (414) 272-3544 www.wisconsincheesemart.com Host: Ken McNulty

Every 1st Tuesday of the Month, 6-8 pm

Meets regularly on the 1st Tuesday every month at a table reserved just for you. It's informal ... anyone can attend with no official membership necessary. There is no official program. And it's "dutch treat" ... you pay for what you drink and eat. The only "rule" is that everyone speaks German. It doesn't matter what your skill level is... just come and have fun!

FAQ's

What's a stammtisch?

It's an old German tradition for a Gasthaus or café to set aside a table for a group of people who regularly get together to visit, talk, play cards and have social and political discussions.

What if my German isn't so hot?

That's OK. All levels are welcome. We have a mix of bilingual Germans, university students, foreign nationals and Americans who want to improve their German conversation skills. It's an informal atmosphere where we talk about travel, books, movies, news, politics... you name it.

What if I don't know anybody?

That's OK, too. Just come and you'll meet lots of other people who, like you, are interested in German language and culture.

How do I get there and where do I park?

The ÜberTap Room in downtown Milwaukee is very accessible and easy to find (just a few doors down from Usinger's.) There is street parking available and parking lots for a fee.

Questions? email: sabine.schwark@sbcglobal.net or thurich@ameritech.net

Are you Pomeranian from Poland?

Looking for sources for genealogy info?



The Pomeranian Genealogy Association can help you. Below is info from their website at www.ptg.gda.pl/index.php/default/lang/en-utf-8/

The Pomorskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne (PTG), which in English translates to the Pomeranian Genealogical Association, was founded by a group of amateur genealogists who had known each other only from discussion groups. They met together in person June 15, 2005. The initiators of the establishment of an association at that time were: Anna Stachowska, Joanna Jendrzewska and Stanislaw Pieniazek.

After many discussions, in April 2011 decision was taken to establish a registered PTG, which was a continuation of the idea of association. It was registered in the National Court Register at July 6th, 2011. The ancestors of most of us lived in Gdansk Pomerania, but above all, we share a passion for searching for our own roots.

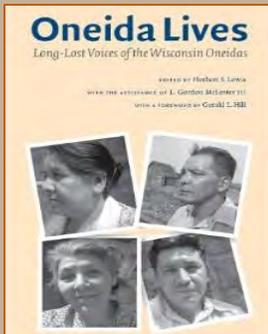
We are happy to answer all questions.

Where to find us? Detailed information on how to reach us physically are available on our website: www.ptg.gda.pl.

Also see the following website for more info: <http://www.geneszukacz.genealodzy.pl/lang-eng>

Ethnic Wisconsin in books

NON-FICTION



In this intimate volume edited by Herbert Lewis, the long-lost voices of Wisconsin Oneida men and women speak of all aspects of life: growing up, work and economic struggles, family relations, belief and religious practice, boarding-school life, love, sex, sports, and politics. These voices are drawn from a collection of handwritten accounts recently rediscovered after more than fifty years, the result of a WPA Federal Writers' Project undertaking called the Oneida Ethnological Study (1940–42) in which a

dozen Oneida men and women were hired to interview their families and friends and record their own experiences and observations.

www.nebraskapress.unl.edu

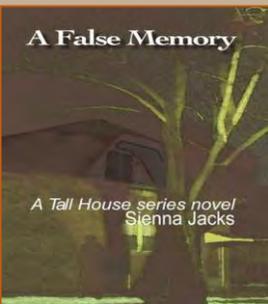
FICTION



“My dear Meyer,” chided the old historian, “why should anyone be surprised by shootings at the Tall House? Have you looked into its past?”

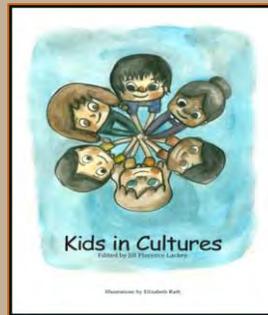
The young anthropology intern was more than willing to look. Meyer Hoffmann’s voracious curiosity led him on a course of inquiry about the Tall House, those who’d lived there, and the neighborhood itself. As zealous Meyer uncovered information about the Tall House’s history, he blundered to false conclusions as often as he stumbled onto correct ones. The only thing Meyer knew for certain was that everything about these shootings connected to forced ethnic migrations of the past. Yet no one—not the guests, not the neighbors—acted very concerned about these shootings. After all, weren’t they designed to be victimless? Perhaps, initially. But that changed. www.MECAHMilwaukee.com

When the family of Leroy Cyrus decided to board him at the sumptuous Tall House, the resident social justice workers didn’t know how to respond. Cyrus, now demented, was once a person of interest in the murder of the best friend of the Tall House’s proprietor, Sherilyn Riddle. She questioned whether it was ethical to interrogate a man with Alzheimer’s disease. One boarder that had no problems with the ethics of this investigation was anthropology student, Meyer Hoffmann. He’d do whatever was necessary to solve this and possibly related murders. But the question was—how can he know if the information he gleaned from Cyrus was true, fabricated, or based on false memories? www.MECAHMilwaukee.com



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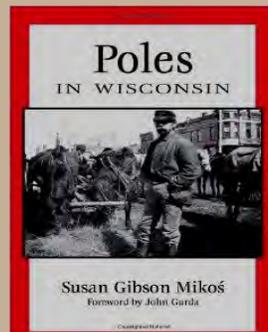
possibly related murders. But the question was—how can he know if the information he gleaned from Cyrus was true, fabricated, or based on false memories? www.MECAHMilwaukee.com



Kids in Cultures educates (while entertaining) children on key concepts of diversity, including culture, ethnicity, and multicultural societies. Kids learn about these concepts through stories of children in various

eras and cultural settings in SE Wisconsin. The authors are authorities in their fields. Stories include “Mammoth meat,” “Barbara Smith is German?” “Showing up is important: A Hmong virtue,” “Firefly nights: An urban Oneida story,” “Snow falls in Bronzeville,” and “The Braves take the World Series: A Polish and Mexican story.” www.MECAHMilwaukee.com

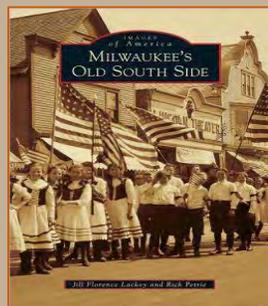
NON-FICTION



In this all-new addition to the People of Wisconsin series, author Susan Mikos traces the history of Polish immigrants as they settled in America’s northern heartland. The second largest immigrant population after Germans,

Poles put down roots in all corners of the state, from the industrial center of Milwaukee to the farmland around Stevens Point, in the Cutover, and beyond. In each locale, they brought with them a hunger to own land, a willingness to work hard, and a passion for building churches.

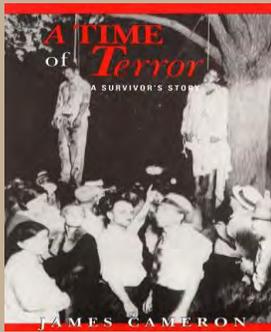
www.wisconsinhistory.org/whspress



The Old South Side has always welcomed ethnic groups. In the late 1800s, the area was developed by immigrant Poles who became the dominant population for over 100 years. While other Milwaukee ethnic neighborhoods gradually

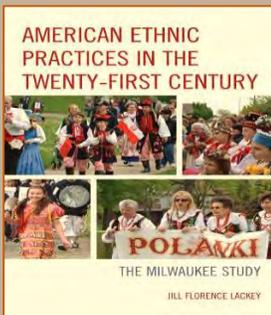
dissipated in the mid-20th century because of assimilation pressures, freeway building, or urban renewal, the Old South Side remained solidly Polish. A survey nearly a half century later revealed that people of 110 national backgrounds now lived in the area. www.arcadiapublishing.com

Ethnic Wisconsin in books, continued



A Time of Terror: A Survivor's Story by James Cameron is the *only* account ever written by a survivor of a lynching. Thanks to America's Black Holocaust Museum and its parent organization, the Dr. James Cameron Legacy Foundation, the book is now available again to a general audience. The Foundation has preserved this fascinating out-of-print book by publishing and distributing a revised 3rd edition. This new edition includes five never-before-published chapters, photographs, and information for students and teachers. The Foundation will also properly preserve and store Dr. Cameron's original manuscript. www.abhmuseum.org

NOW IN PAPERBACK



American Ethnic Practices in the Early Twenty-first Century: The Milwaukee Study is a work based on a twelve-year research project conducted by Urban Anthropology, Inc. The qualitative study examined current strength of ethnicity and the contributions that ethnic practices have made to the wider society. The work takes a new approach by focusing on ethnic practices. The most prominent findings in the book were the ways that community-building activities of ethnic groups contributed to the

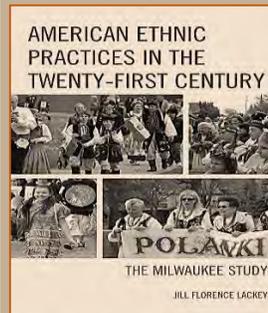
wider society, and how this, in turn can help restore a needed balance between individualism and collectivism in the United States. www.lexingtonbooks.com



From Milwaukee Ethnic News

New book on Milwaukee's ethnic stories slated for publication this spring

When *American Ethnic Practices in the Twenty-first Century: The Milwaukee Study* was published in 2013, the author, Jill Florence Lackey, received requests from Milwaukeeans to produce a similar book designed for a non-academic, lay audience.



Those requests have been answered. A new book on Milwaukee's ethnic practices is slated to be published by MECAH Publishing this spring. The book, written by Jill Florence Lackey and Rick Petrie is entitled *Strolling Through Milwaukee's Ethnic History*.

Strolling directs readers to the very streets and buildings in Milwaukee where Milwaukee's ethnic groups first settled and directs readers to places where practices of these groups can be observed today, often in the less commercial venues. It is a volume of over 100 color photographs.

Ethnic groups covered in the publication include the Germans, African Americans, Irish, Italians, Mexicans, Poles, English, French, Hmong, Jews, Norwegians, Czechs, Slovaks, Burmese, North American Indians, Scots, Puerto Ricans, Greeks, and Kashubians.

Contact Jackie Freeman of MECAH Publishing for information on pre-orders.

MECAHMilwaukee.com

Publisher focuses on ethnic Milwaukee

Presents opportunities for local writers



Milwaukee Ethnic Collection of Arts and Humanities (MECAH Publishing) recently opened in Milwaukee. Its goals are to:

- Interest readers in the cultural diversity of Milwaukee and its surrounding communities.
- Produce products that fit one or more of these arts and humanities: history, anthropology/archaeology, folk art, art history, museums, literature (including poetry and fiction), language, architecture, and religion.
- Target the products to lay audiences of all ages (e.g., non academic).

Products that relate to urban centers of southeast Wisconsin and highlight cultural diversity will be considered, and can include any of the following:

- Nonfiction books (e.g., small museums in southeastern Wisconsin, the history of Pentecostal churches in Milwaukee).
- Fiction books (e.g., a mystery set in Milwaukee, a book for young people with a local immigration theme).
- Documentaries (e.g., the Irish of southeastern Wisconsin; a reproduction of a play with a Milwaukee theme).

MECAH Publishing

Milwaukee Ethnic Collection of Arts and Humanities

MECAHMilwaukee.com



Friendship Force of Greater Milwaukee's holiday dinner and annual meeting a big success

All attendees enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon with delicious food and great camaraderie at the Crystal Room of Pano's Banquet Center in Brookfield.



A FUN Game Show fundraiser was held. No expense was spared to bring Celebrity Show Host Bob Barker-Harmelink (Dale Harmelink) and his lovely assistants Johanna (John Haut) and Edwina (Ed Kelley) to the event. Mystery Gift Boxes were presented and FFGM attendees were generous.

\$417 was raised for the FFI Legacy Fund. These funds in turn, will be used for the Leadership Training program being held here in Milwaukee in 2016. Santa and Mrs. Claus surprised guests with their arrival up on the roof top! Holiday songs and stories were shared along with lots of laughter and all-in-all everyone had a jolly good time!

Tour the Old South Side Settlement Museum



Learn about the families and ethnic groups that settled this neighborhood by touring an historic house and its settlement rooms.

To reserve a group tour, call SOC at (414) 672-8090
The museum is located at 707 W. Lincoln Avenue

Major award for Pienkos

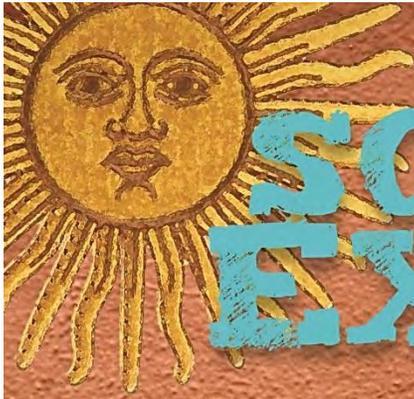
Cavalier's Cross for the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland



On November 8, 2015, Dr. Mark Pienkos received special honors from the President of the Republic of Poland (signed officially by former President Bronisław Komorowski). The Cavalier's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland was presented during the annual Polish Independence Day/Veterans Day luncheon sponsored by the Polish American Congress - Wisconsin Division and held at the Polish Center of Wisconsin located in Franklin. Pienkos is superintendent for the Washington-Caldwell School District.

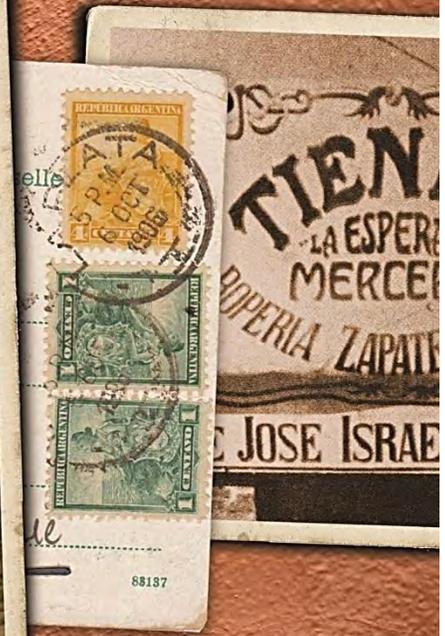
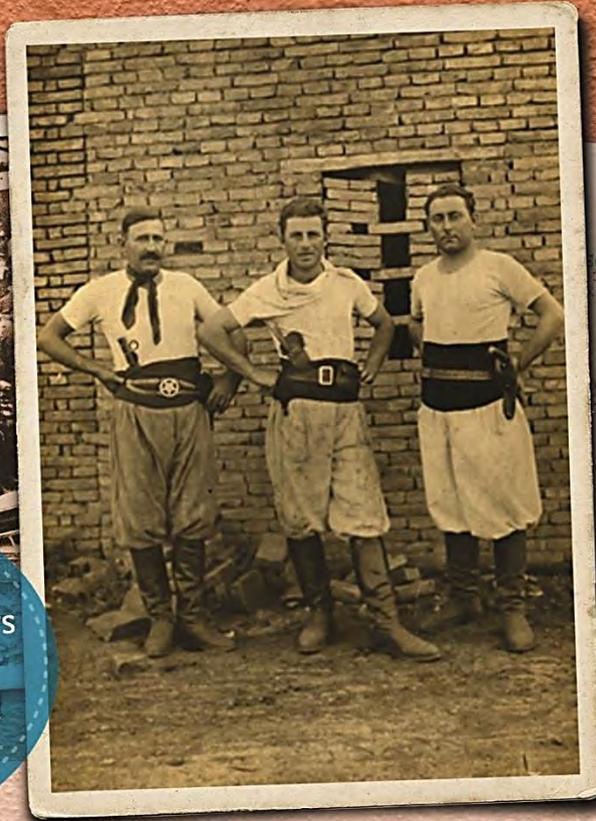
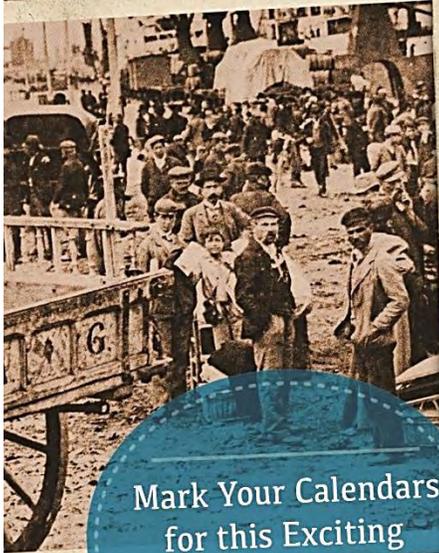
The Cavalier's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland is bestowed on foreigners and Polish citizens permanently living abroad who have made outstanding contributions to international cooperation and to bonds between the Republic of Poland and other nations and countries.

The award was presented to Pienkos on behalf of the President of the Republic of Poland by the Deputy Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago, Robert Rusiecki.



SOUTHERN EXPOSURE

JEWES OF ARGENTINA Inclusion/Exclusion



Mark Your Calendars
for this Exciting
Upcoming Exhibit!

OCTOBER 4, 2015 - JANUARY 17, 2016

This exhibit explores Argentina's Jewish community – the sixth largest in the world and the biggest in Latin America – from the perspectives of Milwaukee and the diaspora. Learn about the historical context for immigration, societal development and underlying anti-Semitic sentiment. Examine Argentina's supposed neutrality during World War II and how this impacted both Jewish and Nazi immigration. You'll leave with a sense of Argentine Jewish life and an awareness of broad communal ties, cultural contributions, and ongoing challenges.

Jewishmuseum
MILWAUKEE

A PROGRAM OF  MILWAUKEE
JEWISH FEDERATION

JewishMuseumMilwaukee.org | 1360 N Prospect Ave. Milwaukee | 414-390-5730

Mark Your Calendars

Arthur Szyk: The Art of Illumination



Ink and Blood, New York, 1944 by Arthur Szyk. Reproduced with the cooperation of The Arthur Szyk Society, Burlingame, CA, Szyk.org

**February 7 -
May 15, 2016**
Preview Event on
February 4

Renowned illustrator,
artist-activist and
luminary political
cartoonist who used
the power of art to
effect change.

FREE PARKING
1360 N. Prospect Ave.
414-390-5730

Hours:
M-Thurs 10-4
F 10-2
Sun 12-4
Third Thursday
open till 7 pm

Jewishmuseum
A PROGRAM OF
MILWAUKEE
JewishMuseumMilwaukee.org

Major Supporters:
BRICO FUND

MARIANNE & SHELDON B. LUBAR

Eichmann in Jerusalem, Before and After

Sunday, January 3 • 4:00 pm
Jewish Museum Milwaukee, 1360 N. Prospect

Dr. Yannay Spitzer, Assistant Professor at the Department of Economics at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, and grandson of Moshe Landau, the chief judge at the Adolf Eichmann hearing, and Dr. Shay Pilnik, Executive Director of the Nathan and Esther Pelz Holocaust Education Resource Center, discuss the capture of one of the key players in the implementation of the Final Solution plan, and his trial in Israel in May of 1961 - a watershed event in the history of Holocaust awareness and the quest for post-war justice. Offered in collaboration with the Nathan and Esther Pelz Holocaust Education Resource Center. Program offered in connection with the exhibit, *Southern Exposure: The Jews of Argentina*.

To RSVP, call: (414) 390-5757
Free Parking in the lot behind the Museum

Jews Around The World FREE Jewish Film Class: *Anita*



Sunday, January 10 at 3:00 PM at the JCC

This program is being offered in connection with the Jewish Museum Milwaukee exhibit: *Southern Exposure: The Jews of Argentina*, on display through January 17.

This touching Argentinian drama focuses on Anita, a young, Jewish women with Down Syndrome, separated from her mother in Buenos Aries in 1993 when the Jewish site is bombed. As she wanders through the city, Anita touches all with whom she comes into contact. Spanish with subtitles. 1 hr 44 min. Ages 14 - adult. Instructors Pnina Goldfarb & Marina Maller.

This film is cosponsored by the JCC, the Jewish Museum Milwaukee a program of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, and is sponsored in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Humanities council.

To register for a program or for additional information e-mail programs@jewishmuseummilwaukee.org, call (414) 390-5730 or visit www.jewishmuseummilwaukee.org



The Polish Corner

2015 Congressman Clement Zablocki

"Civic Achievement Award"

Awarded annually by the Polish American Congress - Wisconsin Division

Mrs. Teresa Jankowski is a dedicated fraternalist who has been active for many years in the Polish National Alliance. In 2011 she was elected District Commissioner of the Polish National Alliance fraternal for Wisconsin and Minnesota. In the greater Milwaukee area, she is a longtime leader in her home PNA lodge and Council and is a supportive member of the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin State Division of the Polish American Congress

Mrs. Gloria and Mr. Jim Shire have both been devoted volunteers with the Polish Heritage Alliance since the Polish Center was dedicated in 2000. Both have worked at every Polish Fest since then and have been fixtures in the annual Lenten Season Fish Fry fund raisers. Their volunteer spirit has been expressed in other ways as well. As Jim puts it, "When we get a call; we go." Gloria's volunteerism led to her appointment to the Management Committee of Polish Fest.

The University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee Libraries is honored for its commitment to preserving and digitizing the Roman Kwasniewski Photographic Collection of interwar Milwaukee Polonia. This collection, acquired in the late 1970s, includes more than 25,000 photographs and is the best and most comprehensive visual historic resource for the study of Polish American urban life in the United States.

Mr. José G. Pérez was elected Alderman for District 12 of Milwaukee in 2012. A native of Milwaukee's near South Side, Jose Perez is a grandson of immigrants from Puerto Rico who came to our city to work here in the 1950s. As Alderman, Jose Perez has distinguished himself as a friend of Polonia, in particular by his leadership role in supporting the restoration of the Kościuszko Monument, which is in his district's Kosciuszko Park. Alderman Perez's interest in political service dates back to his college years at Cardinal Stritch University, his duties as an intern in the Washington, DC office of Congressman Gerald Kleczka, his work under Mayor John Norquist, and in his many-sided involvements in Hispanic American organizations.



Dr. Wacław Szybalski is Professor Emeritus of Oncology and an eminent scholar in the fields of molecular genetics at the McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research of the University of Wisconsin in Madison, WI. Dr. Szybalski's contributions to medical science over the past sixty years have been extraordinary and his scientific achievements have merited at least one Nobel Prize in the view of his colleagues, some of whom have been Nobel Prize winners themselves. Among his many honors over the years, Dr. Szybalski has received Honorary Doctoral Degrees from five Polish universities, including Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin and the Universities of Gdansk and Kraków, the UW Hilldale Award and the Grand Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta from President Komorowski of the Republic of Poland in 2011 for his "extraordinary and distinguished service."

MILWAUKEE POLONIA
The Roman Kwasniewski Photographs
uwm.edu/mkepolonia

af Alliance Française de Milwaukee



CELEBRATE LA FÊTE DES ROIS WITH US!

Celebrate the holidays à la française with a Fête des Rois goûter

The Feast of Kings on January 6th is a traditional French celebration which features la galette des rois, a cake baked with a fève (toy) inside. Free and open to the public. Children and families welcome. Bring a galette, drink, or snack to share.

Sunday, January 10th from 3 to 5 pm.
1800 E. Capitol Drive, Milwaukee 53211

Please RSVP to erinl@afmilwaukee.org



Bienvenue l'hiver! Hello Winter!

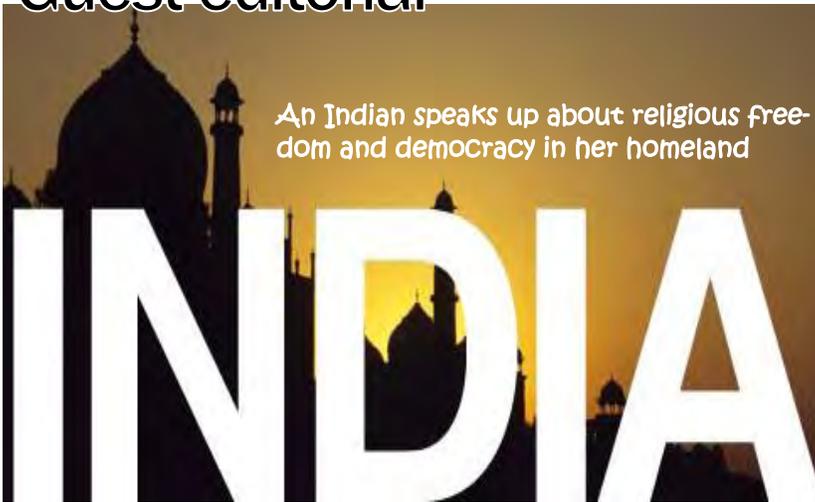
It's time to cuddle up with a good French movie or book, or to bask in the glow of learning French with us!

Winter session classes will begin Friday, January 8th, and run through Thursday, March 24th. Make sure to register in advance to get the **Early Bird Discount!**
<http://www.afmilwaukee.org/>

Alliance Française de Milwaukee

1800 E. Capitol Drive

Guest editorial



By Deepa Desai, MS. MBA student - UW-Milwaukee

In today's world of growing unrest over the superiority of religions, humans have forgotten the essence of life. This disturbs me to the core, since this is not the world where I want my son or the next generations to grow. During my stay in the U.S. I have faced some amount of criticism for my faith, and have absorbed some hurtful comments against my cultural roots. Hence I wish to throw some light on my upbringing and the great tolerance that my faith has taught me, which believes in and practices the doctrine of 'Live and Let Live'.

Democracy and religious tolerance

India, my motherland, the biggest democracy in the world, is a country predominantly inhabited with people following 'Hinduism', and a birthplace of three other religions, namely, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism. Hinduism, the oldest religion dated back to over 6000 years, is a way of life, evolved over the years through various Indian cultures, traditions, beliefs and practices, with diverse roots and no single founder or a single religious book. Christianity and Islam came to India due to invasions and spread primarily through conversions. Followers of other minority religions came to India as immigrants and have been since living peacefully and with dignity.



Indian Parliament

India follows the Parliamentary system of Government, where legislature (Parliament) holds the supreme power (*Prime Minister; Head of Government is chosen by the majority party in Parliament from among its members*), and a President is the Head of the State (country) and First Citizen, as well as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces (*Army, Navy and Air Force*). India, in spite of having more than

79 percent followers of Hinduism, is probably the only country in the world, which has elected Presidents and appointed chief of its Army, Navy, and Air Force belonging to Christian, Muslim, and Sikh religions. It is the second country in the world to have a woman Prime Minister.

Each of the 29 states in India is an autonomous body, which gets to decide its official language, since Hindi, which was the language mainly spoken by Indians at the time of independence was not understood by many people, especially in some southern states of India, where the Christian population was in majority. Hence today we have more than 20 official languages.

Hindu values

While growing up, as Hindus we are taught the importance of values, and virtues; compassion, responsibility (*in various roles that you perform in daily lives as a daughter, a student, a citizen, a mother, a wife*), respect (*for self, and others*), honesty, patience, self-restraint, among others. We freely allow practices of different branches of medicine--the indigenous Ayurveda, Homeopathy, to the Unani medicine (*Arab origin*), Acupressure and Acupuncture (*Chinese origin*).

Hinduism does not believe in the process of 'conversion,' since we believe religious practices come to us by birth and only God has the power to decide the place, date, and home for a baby. Yet, we believe that every individual is free to worship the Creator in the way he/she wishes, and call Him by the name which his/her faith teaches. We are not restricted by our religion or parents to visit places of worship for other religions, nor do we restrict people from other religions to enter our temples. We do not ask people to identify their faith before serving food or 'Prasad' (*religious offering of food, believed to be the grace of God*) in temples. We do not help people with a motive to convert them into our faith, nor do we use our faith to criticise others and proclaim our supremacy. This also reflects in our Cinema, the mirror of our daily lives, which has always featured male and female protagonist(s) belonging to different religions, symbolizing and propagating message of love, compassion and harmony.

Hinduism is the third most followed religion in the world; this is without any invasion on neighbouring countries for greed of money, land, power or to spread the religion. It is only because of such rich, cultural, and inclusive upbringing, that Indians are known world-wide for their diversity, knowledge, hard-work, social, and peace-related initiatives. I am extremely proud of my upbringing, which teaches me love, compassion, and respect for fellow human beings, not because I follow a particular religion, but because it teaches me to become a 'Human'.

Black Voices Matter!

February 27th

Celebrate Black History Month at Founder's Day Evening of Arts & Culture.

Three 1-act plays will be performed by African American theater companies, audience talkback, unveiling of a new museum exhibit, and book signing.

Sign up for tickets:
<https://vr2.verticalresponse.com/s/friendsfabhm>



White Frame /Black Frame: The Hidden Roots of Racial Realities

Begins in
April

A film/dialogue series about how and why life looks different on each side of the colorline, how we can come to understand each other's realities, and how our nation can attain its

democratic ideals. Sign up for info about this free public program at:
<https://vr2.verticalresponse.com/s/friendsfabhm>



America's Black Holocaust Museum

<http://abhmuseum.org/>

Torsk Supper & Bake Sale

Saturday, January 23 & February 27
between 4 and 7 pm



Norway House Inc.
7507 W. Oklahoma Av.
(Next to AMF Bowling Lanes)
Milwaukee, WI 53219-2861
414-321-2637



Milwaukee Ethnic News

Milwaukee Ethnic News is published bimonthly by Urban Anthropology Inc. and is managed by volunteer anthropologists. The purpose of the newsletter is to offer ethnic organizations and individuals opportunities to share news and information about their cultures. The newsletter does not receive funds from any external source. The editor is Dr. Jill Florence Lackey.

Subscriptions

The newsletter is emailed to anyone wishing to receive it. People subscribing themselves and their friends went from 48 in June, 2012 to over 1,000 currently. If you wish your email or that of a friend to be added to the subscriber list, send the email addresses to JFLanthropologist@sbcglobal.net.

Submitting stories

Milwaukee Ethnic News is interested in stories from individuals, businesses, and organizations that have an ethnic appeal. These can be stories about an immigrant family, special ethnic events, or ethnic issues that need to be aired as guest editorials. Stories that show interethnic cooperation are most welcome.

Stories must be between 100 and 400 words. Some editing will be done to match our style guidelines and spatial constraints. We will write the stories for you if you simply send us a list of the information that you want included. A photo of less than 2 MBs is always required for a story to be published. Please do not refer us to websites to collect information or photos. If we write your story from the general information you send, we do not send proofs for approval.

Stories are always due on the 25th of the month preceding a publication month. At times later submissions may be allowed (ask first). Publication months are July, September, November, January, March, and May. Please send your stories to JFLanthropologist@sbcglobal.net.

Editorials

Milwaukee Ethnic News occasionally prints editorials that deal with controversial topics on ethnic topics. Guest editorials are also welcome, but need prior approval to be published.



707 W. Lincoln Ave. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215, (414) 271-9417
Email RickPetrie@gmail.com

Ethnic Documentaries from Urban Anthropology Inc.

The Kaszubs of Jones Island: The People That Nobody Knew

Story of a fishing community that once thrived in the middle of an urban center, and then disappeared.

Urban Indians and the Culture of Collective Action

The cultural practices and local contributions of North American Indians in Milwaukee.

African Americans and the Culture of Contribution



The fall of Bronzeville and the contributions of African Americans in the city of Milwaukee.

The Amazing Adaptation of the Urban Hmong

When thousands of Hmong came to the United States, they made an incredible adaptation to a complex society, while keeping their own cultural practices alive.

The Varieties of Latino Experience



This documentary focuses on the diversity (as well as similarities) among various Latino groups in Milwaukee.

DVDs are \$25.00 each. All are based on studies done by cultural anthropologists. To order go to www.urban-anthropology.org/Paypalorders.html