

2013 books on local cultures and ethnicities

Milwaukee Ethnic News reaches new high in digital circulation

The first issue of Milwaukee Ethnic News was published in summer of 2012 and emailed to 48 people. In only seventeen months, that circulation has increased to over 1,000. The newsletter itself and has doubled in size.

Anyone wishing to submit articles or announcements with an ethnic theme can refer to the last page of this newsletter for instructions.

2013 theatre on culture and ethnicity Polish, African American, and Armenian

The years 2012 to 2014 are experiencing a return to ethnic theatre.

An Armenian story

In March, 2013, In Tandem produced Richard Kalinosky's play, "Beast on the Moon." Starring Michael Cotey and Grace DeWolff, the production chronicles the story of one immigrant couple who escaped the Armenian genocide in the early twentieth century and came to Milwaukee. Under Mary MacDonald Kerr's direction, Cotey and DeWolff sketch this couple's often painful efforts to bridge a

(Continued on Page 8)



2013 was a fruitful year for literature by local authors on culture and ethnicity. The publications range from Arcadia photo books, to scholarly works, to fiction.

Arcadia books

Several books were published this year by Arcadia Press under the very popular *Images of America* series. These include *Milwaukee's Town of Lake* by Ron Winkler, *Milwaukee's Old South Side* by Jill Florence Lackey and Rick Petrie, and *Milwaukee's Soldier's Home* by Patricia A Lynch. All of these works can be viewed at

Review of 2013 books

(Continued from Page 1)

the Arcadia Publishing site in Charleston or at Amazon.com at <u>http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Arcadia+Milwaukee</u>.



Scholarly works

Two books were published in 2013 by Wisconsin cultural anthropologists. The first, *American Ethnic Practices in the Twenty-first Century: The Milwaukee Study,* was written by Jill Florence Lackey, and is based on a 12-year study of ethnic groups in Milwaukee. The book emphasizes the importance of ethnic involvement and can be viewed at the Amazon.com web page of <u>http://www.amazon.com/American-Ethnic-Practices-Twenty-first-Century/</u>. The second, *In Defense of Anthropology* by Herbert Lewis questions the validity some late twentieth century works where cultural anthropologists turned on their own discipline claiming it worked in partnership with colonial powers. The Lewis book demonstrates the value of the early studies that the self-loathing anthropologists condemned, and advocates for more science in the discipline. The Lewis work can be viewed at Amazon: <u>http://www.amazon.com/Defense-Anthropology-Investigation-</u> Critique/.



Works of fiction

Wisconsin writers have also produced recent works of fiction—particularly suspense novels. One exciting recent work is P.J. Tracy's *Off the Grid: A Monkeywrench Novel*, which can be previewed at Amazon.com at <u>http://www.amazon.com/Off-Grid-</u> <u>Monkeewrench</u>

Another recent suspense novel is a volume in the Tall House series, *A Time of the Bad Wind*, by local writer Sienna Jacks. The Tall House series takes place in a fourstory rooming house run by culturallydiverse, social justice advocates who confront adversity on many fronts as they and their allies try to transition the homeless into mainstream society. The novel can be previewed at <u>http://www.amazon.com/Time-Bad-Wind-House-novel/</u>



New 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 <u>lay audiences</u> 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

Publisher seeks ethnic children's stories

Book will tell stories of Milwaukee ethnic children of various eras



Do you write clearly and have a short story you'd like to share about a child's life as a member of an ethnic group at a certain period in Milwaukee's history?

MECAH Publishing is seeking authors for a series on children's stories. The volume is intended to educate children about Milwaukee life in diverse groups at varius times in history. The stories should:

- Be 1,000 to 2,000 words long
- Be written for a fourth grade reading level
- Accurately portray life in an ethnic and/or immigrant group
- Take place in Milwaukee

• Potentially interest children MECAH Publishing has submissions and is currently seeking stories about children from the following ethnic regions: Northern, Southern, and Central Europe, Middle East, Africa, and Southeast Asia

Contact Jackie Freeman at MECAH Publishing if you wish to discuss this. Email infoMecahMilwaukee@gmail.com.

 $^{Page}3$

DeMystifying DNA for Genealogy

By Roberta Estes



You carry the history of your ancestors inside of your genes. It's there, waiting to be discovered. Depending on the DNA test you select, you can reveal a lot about your ancestors, identify who they were, where they came from, discover their ancient history and meet others who also descend from your ancestors. Those secrets, locked within you, are gifts from your ancestors. Are you ready to meet your ancestors?

Matrilineal line

Everyone can meet their mother's matrilineal line through a mitochondrial DNA test. Not only do you connect with your genetic cousins, those who match your DNA, but you can also discover where your maternal ancestor originally came from. Was she Jewish, Spanish, Germanic or maybe American Indian? This test tells about your mother's, mother's, mother's line only, and delves deep into history.

On the pedigree chart below, your matrilineal line is shown in red, and your direct paternal line in blue.



Patrilineal line

Males can meet their father's direct paternal surname line with the Y DNA test. The Y chromosome is passed from father to son, along with the surname. Results include matches to cousins with your surname who share a common ancestor. You may match other surnames as well. Where did your ancestors come from? Were they Anglo-Saxons, Vikings, Celts or maybe Berbers that accompanied Roman soldiers?

If you aren't a male and don't have a Y chromosome, recruit your father, brother or other male that carries the surname you want to find out about.

All ancestral lines

Everyone can test their autosomal DNA with the Family Finder test at Family Tree DNA and meet lots of genetic cousins from all of your ancestral lines, shown on the pedigree chart, not just paternal or maternal. While the Y and mitochondrial tests concentrate on specific lines and provide current matches along with deep ancestry to only those lines, the Family Finder test provides a broad brush approach across all of your ancestral lines, and then it's up to you to work with your matches to figure out exactly how you're related.

This test also provides ethnicity percentages.

What do you need to do to get started?

Just visit <u>www.familytreedna.com</u> and order a test. Testing is painless, just a cheek swab, and so much history awaits....

If you'd like to read more, I wrote a four-part series on the Basics of DNA which you can fine here:

http://dna-

explained.com/2013/08/10/ngs-serieson-dna-basics-all-4-parts/

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 (414) 271-9417. The museum is located at 707 W. Lincoln Avenue.

VISION OF THE DAY OF THE DEAD

Dia des los Muertos was held November 1st at Walker Square Park.





This award-winning documentary on the Velvet Revolution will be shown for **free** on **Sunday, January 26, 1:30 pm at the Norway House**, 7507 W. Oklahoma. Films that highlight the cultures of the former Czechoslovakia are sponsored by **Milwaukee Sokol**.

Page **D**

Invitation to join

The KRAKOW POLISH DANCERS of MILWAUKEE COUNTY invite guys and gals age 9 and up to join our award winning company. We rehearse weekly on Wednesday evenings from 6:45-8:30pm on the Southside of Milwaukee. Contact for more information: Annette M. Kuligowski at 414-521-5750.



CLASSES FOR THE FRENCHAT-HEART

THE SEASON OF SNOW AND LIGHTS IS UPON US



REGISTER NOW FOR WINTER SESSION FRENCH LANGUAGE CLASSES

Winter Session runs January 5 - March 22.

French classes are offered for people of every age and language level.

Not sure what level class to take? Simply e-mail <u>nadaj@afmilwaukee.org</u> for a placement test.

For more information about why our language program is different or to register for classes, call 414-964-3855.

Ethnicity at the Domes

Several ethnic events are scheduled for the next two months at the Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, known also as the Mitchell Park Domes. The schedule is subject to change. Call 414-257-5600.

Poland Under Glass

This mini festival offers visitors a glimpse of the culture, food, and traditions of Poland. January 18, 9 am to 4 pm.



Chinese New Year's Celebration

Celebrate the Chinese New Years in a traditional way, recognizing customs with displays and programs. January 25 and 26, Saturday, 9 am to 6 pm, Sunday 9 am to 4 pm.

Germany Under Glass

Enjoy the tastes, culture, and sounds of Germany. March 1, 9 am to 5 pm.





Warhol, a leading figure in the Pop Art movement in America, became as famous as many of the celebrities he portrayed in his popular silkscreen prints. Large-scale silkscreen portraits of Sarah Bernhardt, Louis Brandeis, Martin Buber, Albert Einstein, Sigmund Freud, George Gershwin, Franz Kafka, the Marx Brothers, Golda Meir, and Gertrude Stein allude to the grandiosity associated with fame, while establishing an intimacy between subject and viewer.

Admission is free for museum members. Non-member price includes both museum and special exhibit: \$6 adult; \$5 seniors; \$3 students; \$15 families. Call (414) 390-5730 or visit <u>Jewish-MuseumMilwaukee.org</u>. The exhibit is on loan from the collection of the Spertus Institute and generously sponsored by Suzy Ettinger. The Jewish Museum is at 1360 N. Prospect Ave.

Free citizenship classes

International Learning Center, a program of Neighborhood House of Milwaukee, offers FREE Citizenship Classes for adults, including a special class for refugee seniors age 60 and over. ILC provides crucial assistance with the application process for individuals and families, supports low literacy learners, and is US Board of Immigration Appeals certified. Forty students became citizens in 2013!



ILC Citizenship Classes - Tuesdays 8:30 - 10:30, Tuesdays 10:30 - 12:30, and Wednesdays 5:30 - 8:00 pm @International Learning Center, 639 N. 25th Street, lower level of Central United Methodist Church

<u>Citizenship for Refugee Seniors 60+</u> - Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 9:00-11:00 am @ Washington Park Senior Center, 4420 W Vliet St, Milwaukee, WI 53208

The class emphasizes the skills necessary to pass the US citizenship exam, combined with activities such as arts & crafts, exercise and gardening. This initiative addresses an important need: after seven years of residency in the US, immigrants who have not become US citizens can lose eligibility for public assistance. Because older refugees tend to have more barriers to learning, such as language, literacy level, and culture, the class offers native language interpretation, social interaction, and a supportive environment.

Ethnic theatre in 2013

(Continued from Page 1)

personality gap through a 12-year period from 1921 to 1933. Impeccably dressed in a dark suit, Cotey's Aram projects a matching formality in everything he does—from his stiff gestures to his Bible-reading passages on wifely obedience that he believes helps him honor the memory of his dead father. In his self-conscious attempts to act like a man, he actually seems to regress.

As Aram shrinks, the initially humble Seta begins to grow. She ultimately morphs into a graceful woman. The couple is continually haunted by their past in their homeland and the violent fates of their families and friends.



Story of fair housing march

Another production that was ethnically based was "The March to Kosciuszko" produced by Urban Anthropology Inc, and written by Jill Florence Lackey. Starring Ryan A Nelson and Christassany Turner, the play focused on two fictionalized families—one Polish on the south side and one African American on the north side—that would confront each other and their own ethnic destinies as the fair housing march reaches Kosciuszko Park. The entire story is narrated by the statue of General Kosciuszko, who discloses some of his own ethnic dilemmas in the 18th century.

The play, directed by Jason Drake-Hames, was performed at the historic Basilica of St. Josaphat.



Coming to the Basilica in February The Follow Up

It is the millennium and journalists at a Milwaukee community newspaper, *The Liberal*, have decided to do a follow up story on people removed from ethnic neighborhoods nearly 40 years earlier. The ethnic neighborhoods had been razed during two decades of urban renewal and freeway building. Of the people interviewed in the 1960s, only three could be found for the follow up. The interviews are startling and end up revealing as much about the journalists conducting them as they do about the residents that lost their neighborhoods. Overt and covert ideologies abound.

"The Follow Up" will be produced by Urban Anthropology Inc., and performed at the Basilica of St. Josaphat on Friday evening at 7pm on February 20 and at noon on Saturday, February 21.

Seating is very limited and no tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets are \$15 each and can be purchased online only at Brown Paper Tickets:

www.brownpapertickets.com/event/547007

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 is not funded by 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 today. If you wish your email or that of a friend to be added to the subscriber list, send the email addresses to IFLanthropologist@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 our 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

ADVERTISEMENT

ETHNIC DOCUMENTARIES FROM URBAN ANTHROPOL-OGY INC.

The Kashubes 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 contributions of African Americans in 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.



The Cultural Roots of Milwaukee's Socialist Movement

How German cultural practices helped solidify the Socialist Movement 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