

Handy-NEWS & NOTES



October 2015

@HandyNewsNotes

TAP THE POTENTIAL - DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH

This year we are celebrating our 12th Anniversary of Tap the Potential! Tap the Potential Disability Awareness month has been celebrated in Milwaukee each October since 2003. This year organizations are sponsoring a variety of activities geared towards raising the public's awareness of the talents and issues of people with disabilities in our community. Initially coordinated by the Milwaukee County Office for Persons with Disabilities, the 2015 effort is a group effort including organizations such as: Milwaukee County, Milwaukee Public Theatre, Goodwill, VSA, Independence First, MCFI, Spina Bifida of Wisconsin, Easter Seals, Curative, ARC Milwaukee, Life Navigators, & Dona Lexa.



Tap the Potential October Events

Tap the Potential has organized a number of awareness raising events throughout the month. Organizations are encouraged to sponsor their own events and invited to list them on the calendar. The calendar will be updated throughout the month as information is received.

<http://county.milwaukee.gov/Tap>

FLASH MOB PLANNED!!!

A Flash Mob of dancers with disabilities is planned for **Thursday, October 15th** at 12pm (noon) at Clas Park (930 W. Wells St, Milw) outside the County Courthouse!

DISABLE THE LABEL ART EXHIBITION

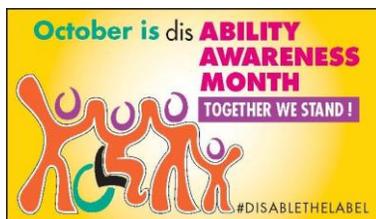
Mitchell International Airport

(Main Concourse) @mitchellairport

October 2-22, 2015

Public Reception: Fri,
October 2, 11am.

Supported by MCOPD
and Tap the Potential
Art Committee



COUNTY BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING!

2016 County Budget

@MKECountyBoard

The County Board's Committee on Finance, Personnel and Audit will hold a public hearing outside of the Courthouse in the community to hear from Milwaukee County residents on **Monday, October 12th at 9am** at a location to be announced.

On **Monday, November 2nd at 6:30pm** the County Board will be hosting the Public Hearing on the 2016 county budget. The public hearing will be at a location to be announced.

Please follow @MKECountyBoard and @HandyNewsNotes to get the latest information when it becomes available.

GRAND OPENING! WEHR NATURE CENTER'S ACCESSIBLE AMPHITHEATER!

@WehrNature

Newly reconstructed amphitheater to be featured during Cider Sunday, a fall celebration



October 4

11:30am-4:30pm - Cider Sunday (freshly-made apple cider, apple treats, live music, guided hikes)

1:15pm - Amphitheater Grand Opening Ceremony

Wehr Nature Center (9701 W. College Ave., in Whitnall Park.

- Amphitheater regraded and resurfaced for better access
- New patio at top center of amphitheater offers people in wheelchairs the best seats in the house
- New amphitheater benches made of recycled plastic composite
- Level path of permeable pavers connects amphitheater to accessible boardwalk
- Personalized bricks and amphitheater benches available through Friends of Wehr

[More details here.](#)



OFFICE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (OPD)

901 N. 9TH STREET, ROOM 307-B, MILWAUKEE, WI 53233 * 414-278-3932 (V); 711 (TRS); 414-278-3939 (FAX)
timothy.ochnikowski@milwaukeecountywi.gov <http://county.milwaukee.gov>



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REPORT AN ACCESSIBILITY ISSUE

The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD) has created an on-line form where you can submit a report of an accessibility issue within Milwaukee County government (buildings, grounds, employment, etc.). You can submit a report by going to the OPD ADA page on the website and/or by using the OPD mobile site on your smartphone. <http://county.milwaukee.gov/ADA>



PROGRAMS FOR CAREGIVERS:

Caring for the Caregivers

9th annual Event for the Mind,
Body and Spirit

All Caregivers welcome,
Family and Professional



Saturday, October 31, 2015 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Marquette University's Alumni Memorial Union

Keynote speaker: Deborah Spring Laurel, MA
"Cracking the Caregiver Stress Code"

Also select from 8 workshops, consult with Elder Law Attorneys, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and Community Resource Specialists and numerous community service providers. Enjoy refreshments, a sit-down lunch, door prizes and networking with other caregivers!

Register by October 23rd – Fee \$15
Scholarships and training hours available. Inquire about possible respite care.

For more information or to register by phone: 414-220-8600. Online:

my.interfaithmilw.org/caregiverconference
@LINKaCOMMUNITY

This event is a special collaborative effort by 14 area agencies, health centers and businesses serving southeastern Wisconsin. Caregivers from throughout the area are invited to attend.

MILWAUKEE BUCKS TicketPASS & OPD!

@Bucks

The Milwaukee County Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD) is excited to announce we've joined the Milwaukee Bucks TicketPASS program! TicketPASS allows employees, friends and family of OPD to purchase single game Bucks tickets at exclusive Friends & Family prices using a unique link and promo code. To access our TicketPASS page, please visit BUCKS.COM/TICKETPASS and enter [promo code MCOVD](#).



If you have any questions about TicketPASS or anything Bucks related, please contact our personal TicketPASS representative with the Bucks, Rachel Toman. She can be reached at RToman@Bucks.com or over the phone at 414.227.2875

DISABILITY MENTORING WEEK October 19-23, 2015

@Independence1st
@CEOMilwaukee



Why Mentor?

- Youth benefit from hands-on, prevocational experiences
- Mentors help keep students in school and help improve self-esteem
- Opportunity to partner with passionate and motivated young professionals
- Assist young people with setting career goals and develop strategies to meet those goals
- The community learns of inclusive workplace practices



IndependenceFirst
The Resource For People With Disabilities

Sign up by Wednesday, October 7.

For more information: Stefanie Bostedt, Creative Employment Opportunities at 414-277-8506 stefanie@ceomke.com or Grant Heffelfinger, IndependenceFirst at 414-226-8367 gheffelfinger@independencefirst.org

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WI FACETS' FREE FALL WORKSHOPS

@wifacets

To register: www.wifacets.org/events, 877-374-0511, or smcfarland@wifacets.org.

All are phone workshops unless otherwise noted.

Requests for accommodations are needed 2 weeks prior.



October 2015

- 10/1 Webinar: Serving on Groups that Make Decisions (Section 1 & 2), 12-1pm
- 10/6 IEP Part 1, 12-1pm
- 10/7 Navigating the Special Education Maze, 12-1pm
- 10/8 IEP Part 2, 12-1pm
- 10/12 WI Special Ed. Mediation System: Facilitated IEPs, 12-1 pm
- 10/14 IEPs and the Common Core Standards, 12-1pm
- 10/15 Webinar: Serving on Groups that Make Decisions (Section 3), 12-1pm
- 10/16 Apoyos e Intervenciones para Obtener una Conducta Positiva, 12-1pm
- 10/20 A Family Guide to PBIS, 12-1pm
- 10/29 Webinar: Serving on Groups that Make Decisions (Section 4 & 5), 12-1pm
- 10/30 Resolviendo Desacuerdos a Través de la Mediación, 12-1pm

November 2015

- 11/4 Specially Designed Physical Education for Students with Disabilities, 12-1 pm
- 11/5 Webinar: Serving on Groups that Make Decisions (Section 6), 12-1 pm
- 11/10 What is Response to Intervention (RtI)?, 12-1 pm
- 11/11 Tourette Syndrome: What Every Parent & Professional Need to Know, 12-1 pm
- 11/11 **WI FACETS' 20th Anniversary Celebration, 5:30-8:30 pm, Potawatomi Hotel, featuring Josh Blue (comedian with cerebral palsy & winner of Last Comic Standing)**
- 11/13 Transición del Programa Nacimiento a 3 a la Escuela, 12-1 pm
- 11/17 Getting & Keeping Your First Job, 12-1 pm
- 11/18 Universal Design for Learning (UDL), 12-1 pm
- 11/19 Webinar: Serving on Groups that Make Decisions (Section 7 & 8), 12-1 pm

2016 WIL-O-WAY KEY CARD!

Look for the 2016 application in next month's issue of Handy-NEWS & NOTES.



EMPLOYMENT STATS!

@BLS_gov

The August Bureau of Labor Statistics report:



- * Persons with disabilities working was **17.5%**
- * Persons with no disabilities working was **65.1%**

See the current report here:

<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.t06.htm>

BRYON'S RUN TO CURE PARALYSIS

For the past 13 years, in collaboration with community partners in Waukesha County and southeastern Wisconsin, Carroll University's health sciences students, faculty and staff have provided wellness activities across the lifespan for individuals experiencing chronic disease and disability. Bryon Riesch as well as many other individuals have directly benefited from the university's students, faculty and staff.

BRYON'S RUN TO CURE PARALYSIS
5k run/walk/roll



Consequently, the Bryon Riesch Paralysis Foundation (BRPF) has formed a partnership with Carroll University. This run/walk/roll is a combined effort with Carroll University and the BRPF to raise both money and awareness for individuals with paralysis.

Sunday, October 6, 2015

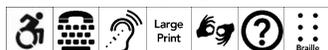
9am Registration - 10am Run/Walk/Roll Begins
Carroll University Schneider Stadium 240 N. Barstow St.
Waukesha, WI 53186

Get more details here:

<http://www.brpf.org/Events/RunWalk.html>

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FIRST STAGE EVENTS

@FirstStage

First Stage's 2015-16 season begins with Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach*

Already one of the most anticipated plays in First Stage's 29th season, **Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach*** will be brought to enormous life on the Todd Wehr stage **October 16 through November 15**. Based on the classic book by renowned author Roald Dahl, this musical adaptation takes families on an adventure with James Henry Trotter. When James is sent by his conniving aunts to chop down an old fruit tree, he discovers a magic potion which results in a tremendous peach, launching an adventure of epic proportions. Suddenly James finds himself in the center of a gigantic peach among human-sized insects with equally oversized personalities.



Veteran Milwaukee actor and director Matt Daniels returns to First Stage to direct this larger-than-life musical. "I was inspired by the light at the center of the darkness of Roald Dahl's work, so we will explore the story through that very juxtaposition, employing different methods of shadow-play, in addition to live action scenes and musical numbers," said Daniels. "The show, like the book, has a little something for everyone – from James' deliciously sour aunts, Spiker and Sponge, to the sweetness of his discovery of a new family in the unlikeliest of places."

Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach* is recommended for everyone ages 6 and up. Tickets are available at now at www.firststage.org, or through the Marcus Center box office at (414) 273-7206, toll free at (888) 612-3500 or at 929 N. Water Street. (Please note: James' journey includes moments of peril and loss.

First Stage named charity partner for 3rd Annual Monster Run

Ghosts & Goblins & Monsters - OH MY! Don't let the ghosts and goblins scare you from participating in the 3rd annual Monster Run on **October 17, 2015!** This Wicked 5 Miler, Goose Bump Filled 5K and Frightfully Fun Kids' Run will have your whole family running through Hart Park in your most creative Halloween

costume (optional). Timing prizes will be awarded for top runners in the 5 Miler and 5K, along with prizes for the best costumes.

This family friendly event will also feature a Kids' Run and Family Fun Area with games, photo opportunities and wicked fun. 5 Miler and 5K finishers will receive a spook-tacular tech t-shirt! After the race, sit back and enjoy the festive scenery with devilishly delicious post-race treats and witches brew (aka beer), for registered participants over 21, and other!

A portion of ALL race registration fees will come back to support First Stage's mission of transforming lives through theater. Plus, 100% off all pledges raised by runners will support First Stage!



Team and family registration is currently open at www.monsterrun.com. Individual runners or teams can create a fundraising page on the site. Volunteer opportunities for packet pick up, water stations and finish line are available, contact Gena at gfisher@firststage.org for more information.

REC ON DECK NEWSLETTER, REC ROOM CALENDAR & MORE!!!

Get access to the latest Rec on Deck newsletter, Rec Room Calendar and much more recreation information by clicking on the link:

<http://county.milwaukee.gov/RecRoom>

OPD IS ON FACEBOOK!

Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD)



The OPD [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/MilwaukeeCountyOPD) account is dedicated to persons with disabilities as well as those without disabilities who are looking for the latest news that may be impacting their lives. **"Like" us & check in daily!**

[http://facebook.com/MilwaukeeCountyOPD](https://www.facebook.com/MilwaukeeCountyOPD)

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SOCIAL SECURITY UPDATES

@SocialSecurity

By Bob Trotter

Social Security Public Affairs Specialist in Milw



SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY HELPS PEOPLE WHO WORK

People with disabilities are challenged with both overcoming barriers and with convincing others that those barriers do not define them.

That's why we wanted to mark this October's National Disability Employment Awareness Month by reminding you that Social Security is an earned benefit for millions of disabled individuals, and we can assist them in going back to work.

The Social Security disability insurance program, or SSDI, is perhaps the most misunderstood program of Social Security. Some people may think that SSDI recipients have never worked and are taking advantage of the system by receiving money for minor impairments.

Nothing could be further from the truth. First, anyone who qualifies for SSDI must have worked enough to pay into the system and be "insured." Second, Social Security has some of the strictest requirements in the world for disability benefits. To qualify, a person must not only have an impairment that will last one year or more, or result in death, but they must be unable to perform any substantial work.

Consequently, Social Security disability beneficiaries are some of the most severely impaired people in the country, and they greatly depend on their benefits. You can learn more by visiting the *Faces and Facts* website at www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityfacts. At the website, you will find many personal stories of those who have benefitted from Social Security when they needed it most.

We also have incentives that give beneficiaries with disabilities — who are able — the opportunity to return to work. These work incentives include continued cash benefits for a period of time while you work, continued Medicare or Medicaid coverage, and help with education, training, and rehabilitation to start a new line of work. In some cases, we may even be able to deduct certain impairment-related work expenses from your countable income, making it possible to earn more and also remain eligible to receive benefits. Examples of these expenses are wheelchairs, transportation costs, and specialized equipment needed for work.

Social Security also offers the *Ticket to Work* program, which gives participants a "ticket" to go back to work while keeping their disability benefits. This program is free and voluntary. *Ticket to Work* gives access to an employment network, which offers assistance with job searches and placement, and vocational rehabilitation and training.

Those who enroll find the *Ticket to Work* program makes it easier to explore whether going back to work is right for them. Some even find that they are able to eventually get back to work and earn far more than the disability payments they once received.

Visit www.socialsecurity.gov/work for more information on the *Ticket to Work* program and work incentives. You may also call 1-866-968-7842 (TDD 866-833-2967).

MAKE YOUR FUTURE A GOOD ONE WITH THE RETIREMENT ESTIMATOR

In 1985, after making it back to the future from 1955, Marty joined Doc for a drive 30 years into the future. That future is now.

If the alternate 2015 of the *Back to the Future* film series were accurate, we'd be easing along on hover boards, navigating skyways in flying cars, and enjoying the luxuries of self-lacing sneakers and self-fitting jackets.

In that imagined 2015, we conduct business by fax and watch multiple channels of entertainment on the wall.

In some ways, the real 2015 is far more advanced than the imagined one of the movies. You don't see any computers or online services in the movie — let alone the computers most of us carry around with us in the form of smart phones and tablets.

In the real 2015, you can do a far better job of predicting your own future. Just visit the *Retirement Estimator* at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator. With the *Retirement Estimator*, you can plug in some basic information to get an instant, personalized estimate of your future benefits. Different choices in life can alter the course of your future, so try out different scenarios such as higher and lower future earnings amounts and various retirement dates to get a good prediction of how such things can change your future benefit amounts.

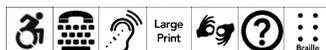
As Doc said in the final moments of the film series, no one's future has been written yet. "Your future is what you make it. So make it a good one."

With the information you get from the *Retirement Estimator*, you'll have a better idea of what types of savings and pensions you may need, and at what age you should consider retiring — to make your future the best it can be.

You don't need a converted DeLorean or flux capacitor or even a team of creative filmmakers to predict your future. Just visit the *Retirement Estimator* at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator. And when you're ready to put that future in motion, apply for benefits online at www.socialsecurity.gov/applyonline.

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ACCESS NOW – Travel Guidebooks

@AccessNowGuides

In August 2015, Access Now launched the first in a series of European city guidebooks for wheelchair users and limited mobility travelers, Paris Access Now. It is available now for purchase as a digital download.

The book is designed to give readers all the tools they need to plan an accessible trip to Paris, from start to finish.

An overwhelming number of travel resources are available online and in print, but wheelchair users and limited mobility travelers are often ignored by the creators of these websites, guidebooks, and travel apps, making it difficult to find relevant accessibility information when it's needed.

The goal behind Access Now is to expand the accessible travel industry by creating and encouraging the development of accessible travel resources and products and raising awareness about the need for them.

Each Access Now guidebook will cover one European city, and will include the following information:

- **How to get from the airport into the city**
- **Where to stay** (accessible hotels & apartments with roll-in showers)
- **Where to eat** (accessible restaurants with step-free entrances and accessible bathrooms)
- **How to get around the city** (accessible public and private transportation)
- **Discovering the city** (accessibility descriptions of tourist sites, museums, parks, and more)
- **Experiencing the city** (accessible itineraries and tour recommendations)
- **Accessibility resources** (how to rent mobility equipment, emergency info, accessibility phrases in the local language, and much more)
- We've also included photos, maps, and relevant contact information to help with planning

Paris Access Now is just the beginning, with Rome Access Now and Barcelona Access Now set for release in 2016.

The guidebooks are sold as a digital download and are optimized for viewing on mobile devices like tablets and phones. The great advantage of this format is the ability

for Access Now to continue improving and updating the guidebook. Each new, updated edition will then be emailed automatically to the purchaser, for the most up-to-date and accurate accessibility information. These updates and new editions are included in the price of the guidebook.

Feel free to also check out the website for more information: wheelchairaccessnow.com

The sales page for the guide is here: <https://gumroad.com/l/paris-access-now>

FREE DAYS!

Milwaukee Art Museum @MilwaukeeArt

October 1, 10am-8pm

Milwaukee Public Museum @MKEPublicMuseum

October 1, 9am-8pm

Mitchell Park Domes @CountyParks

October 5, 12, 19 & 26, 9am-12pm

<http://county.milwaukee.gov/MilwCoFreeDays>

MILWAUKEE COUNTY GOVERNMENT ON YOUR SMARTPHONE!!!!!!

Did you know that you get more than just the Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD) when you get the OPD mobile site on your smartphone? That's right, you get access to every Milwaukee County department on your smartphone.

Contact your elected official, see what's going on in the parks, access employment information and/or transportation information, and much more. All of this is available to you by getting the OPD mobile site.

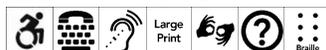


To access every Milwaukee County department **on your smartphone**, download the OPD mobile site (on your smartphone visit <http://county.milwaukee.gov/OPD>, save it to your home screen) and go to "Other Departments" on the drop-down list.



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MILW COUNTY ON TWITTER



Follow your Milwaukee County government on Twitter.

County Executive Abele @ChrisAbeleMKE
County Executive Press Office @MkeCoExecPress
County Board @MKECountyBoard
Supervisor Alexander @CntySupDeanna
Supervisor Dimitrijevic @supervisormd
Supervisor Haas @TheFighting14th
Supervisor Lipscomb @SupLipscomb
Supervisor Moore Omokunde @PremeMO414
Supervisor Rainey @Khalif_Rainey
Supervisor Romo West @sup_dist12
Supervisor Taylor @SteveFTaylor
Supervisor Weddle @MartinWeddle
Supervisor Weishan @johnweishan
Aging @MKECoAging
Airport @mitchellairport
Bradford Beach @BradfordBeach
Domes Gift Shop @DomesGiftShop
Economic Development @MilwcntyED
Emergency Medical Services (EMS) @MilwCntyEMS
Fiscal Affairs, Perfor., Strat. & Budget @MilCoPSB
Government Affairs @MKE_GovAffairs
Health & Human Services @MkeCoDHHS
Human Resources @MilwCo_HRDept
Justice Center @MKEJusticeCtr
My Choice Family Care @MyChoiceFC
OPD - Handy-NEWS & NOTES @HandyNewsNotes
Parks Department @CountyParks
Public Museum @MKEPublicMuseum
Sheriff @MCSOSheriff
Sustainability @MKECoSustain
Transit System @RideMCTS
War Memorial Center @WarMemorialCntr
Wehr Nature Center @WehrNature
Zoo @MilwaukeeCoZoo

Please let us know if we missed anyone. Contact Tim at timothy.ochnikowski@milwaukeecountywi.gov

WHO'S MY COUNTY SUPERVISOR?

If you're unsure of whom your Milwaukee County Supervisor is simply [click here](#) to look up your district and get your supervisors contact information.



BUS STOP BARRIER REPORT – OCTOBER 2015



As the weather continues to cool down, we at MCTS hope that you continue to ride the bus to get to and from your destinations and that you experience as few barriers as possible along the way.

Despite summer coming to a close the Barrier Buster is still going strong and has numerous projects that are continuing into fall. Some of these projects include the installation of shelters at high frequency stops as well as new pads that are jointly being installed through the efforts of New Freedom and local municipalities.

To date, nearly 30 bus pads have been completed using New Freedom, 5310 grant funding. An additional 100+ pads have been improved using other revenue sources mostly by DOT and local municipalities. These pads have been installed throughout Milwaukee County in over 8 municipalities. Look for updated pads coming soon along Burleigh in Wauwatosa, just east AND west of I-45!

Additionally, New Freedom staff has helped to install bus shelters at high boarding locations across the county. A few locations where shelters will be going up this fall include: S 6th St @ National Ave along Route 80, National Ave @ Caesar Chavez along Route 23 and the Blue Line, and Capitol Dr @ N 60th St along Route 62 and the Red Line. Each of these stops sees an average of 100+ riders per day. These shelters will ensure our riders protection from the elements in the cold months ahead.

Do pesky barriers keep you from riding Milwaukee Transit Buses?! Contact the Barrier Buster today to help eliminate barriers and raise accessibility for all. Contact the Barrier Buster @ 414-344-4550 x3500 or kreithmeyer@mcts.org

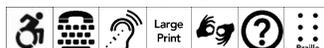
IDEA Innovator of Disability Equipment & Adaptations



To find some unique and valuable equipment for people with disabilities, visit: www.ideamobility.com or call 262-691-4248, fax 262-923-4700.

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LIFE NAVIGATORS @LifeNavOrg

Experience Nature

Join us and learn about the Mequon Nature Preserve. Enjoy a nature talk and a variety of group activities. Dinner will be provided.



Shuttle transportation will be available from a location to be determined. Call Life Navigators for more information.

Vote for Your Two Favorite Activities:

- Pumpkin picking/painting
- Pond exploring (waders provided)
- Golf cart rides
- Animal interaction
- Maple syrup tapping/tasting

Date & Time: Thursday, October 15, 2015, 4pm-6:30pm

Location: Mequon Nature Preserve, 8200 W County Line Rd, Mequon, WI 53097

RSVP: RSVP and let us know your vote for top two choices of activities by October 9 to Amanda at amanda@lifenavigators.org or 414-774-6255.

New to the group? Please bring a parent or caregiver with you to your first Life Navigators event. Minors need to be accompanied by an adult

More Information: Visit LifeNavigators.org

5K Mission Walk in Wauwatosa

Join Saints Constantine and Helen for its first annual 5K (3.1 mile) mission walk to support Life Navigators!

There is no cost for Life Navigators families, consumers and friends to attend.

Date & Time: Sunday October 18, 2015

12:00pm - Mission Walk Sign-In
(Find a Life Navigators staff member.)
1:00pm - 5K Mission Walk Begins

Location: Saints Constantine & Helen, 2160 Wauwatosa Ave, Wauwatosa, WI 53213 (Please park in the BMO Harris Bank lot or the Wauwatosa Civic Center lot.)

Route: Walkers will be on the sidewalk, passing through the Tosa Village. Walkers have an option of a one-mile alternate route.

Other: Wear your Life Navigators t-shirt. Don't have one? Let us know when you register. A light snack will be provided during the walk.

RSVP: RSVP to Amanda at 414-774-6255 or amanda@lifenavigators.org by Oct. 14.

More Information: Visit LifeNavigators.org

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER'S AUTUMN RECRUITMENT FAIR

Connect with nearly 150 of the area's top employers on Wednesday, October 14, 2015 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Waukesha County Technical College's Gymnasium (S Building), 800 Main Street, Pewaukee. Job seekers are encouraged to dress professionally and bring copies of their resumes to the event. Employers will be interviewing qualified candidates on-site for current open positions.

To view the flyer, [click here](#)

To view a list* of employers attending the job fair, [click here](#) *List is updated weekly

Additional Information:

For more information, call (262) 695-7800 or visit www.wfdc.org (Quick Links > Job Fairs). The event is sponsored by GreaterMilwaukeeJobs.com and Sendik's Food Market.

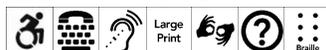
TEXT ALERTS!!! Recreation!!!

To get the latest recreation news, opportunities and reminders right on your phone by signing up to receive Text Alerts from the Milwaukee County Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD). Please text **RECONDECK** to **84483** OR visit: https://www.rainedout.net/team_page.php?a=66df52fee2d4517c4611



OFFICE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (OPD)

901 N. 9TH STREET, ROOM 307-B, MILWAUKEE, WI 53233 * 414-278-3932 (V); 711 (TRS); 414-278-3939 (FAX)
timothy.ochnikowski@milwaukeecountywi.gov <http://county.milwaukee.gov>



Available in Alternate Formats



Handy-NEWS & NOTES



October 2015

@HandyNewsNotes

LOOKING FOR A HALL?

Are you looking for a hall for your next function? Would you like to rent a beautiful hall in a woody setting near you? If you answered yes, please use the link below (or call the Office for Persons with Disabilities @ 414-278-3932) to check out the [Wil-O-Way Grant](#) and [Wil-O-Way Underwood](#) facilities. They may be just what you're looking for. **You can check the Rental Calendar, get directions to the facilities and more on your smartphone by downloading our mobile website at county.milwaukee.gov/OPD.**



[Wil-O-Way Grant](#) (South Milwaukee)



[Wil-O-Way Underwood](#) (Wauwatosa)



FYI – Optional **Catering Services** are available! Contact [LilyWorks Catering](#).



<http://www.county.milwaukee.gov/FacilityRentals>

OTHER RENTAL FACILITIES – COUNTY PARKS

For your special family gathering, community-group event, or business function, you'll find a Milwaukee County Parks site to complement your event.

<http://county.milwaukee.gov/Rentals9013.htm>

MILWAUKEE FILM FESTIVAL

Now Through October 9th

@mkefilm



The Milwaukee Film Festival runs for 15 days and falls in various theaters around Milwaukee, showcasing the best in contemporary American and International cinema. Between the opening and closing night films the festival shows over 170 feature length and short films from around the world. For more information call 414-755-1965 or visit: <http://www.mkefilm.org/>

HOLIDAY FOLK FAIR INTERNATIONAL

@HolidayFolkFair



Due to the generosity of the Folk Fair *International*, individuals with disabilities will again be given **FREE TICKETS** to this year's Holiday Folk Fair *International*. To receive your free tickets, please send a self-addressed STAMPED envelope to: **Folk Fair Tickets, Office for Persons with Disabilities, Courthouse, 901 N. 9th Street, Room 307-B, Milwaukee WI 53233**. PLEASE NOTE: individuals with disabilities will be limited to six tickets and groups will be limited to 30 tickets. The Folk Fair runs Friday, **November 20 through Sunday, November 22, 2015**. The Folk Fair is again being held at State Fair Park. To find out more about the Folk Fair, visit the website at <http://www.folkfair.org>

BRING IT TO THE BALLOT!

Wisconsin Now Requires A Photo ID To Vote

Do I have the right photo ID?
How do I get a free state ID card?
Are there exceptions to the new law?

Get photo ID information, locate a DMV, review frequently asked questions, and more by visiting <http://bringit.wisconsin.gov>



OFFICE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (OPD)

901 N. 9TH STREET, ROOM 307-B, MILWAUKEE, WI 53233 * 414-278-3932 (V); 711 (TRS); 414-278-3939 (FAX)
timothy.ochnikowski@milwaukeecountywi.gov <http://county.milwaukee.gov>



Available in Alternate Formats

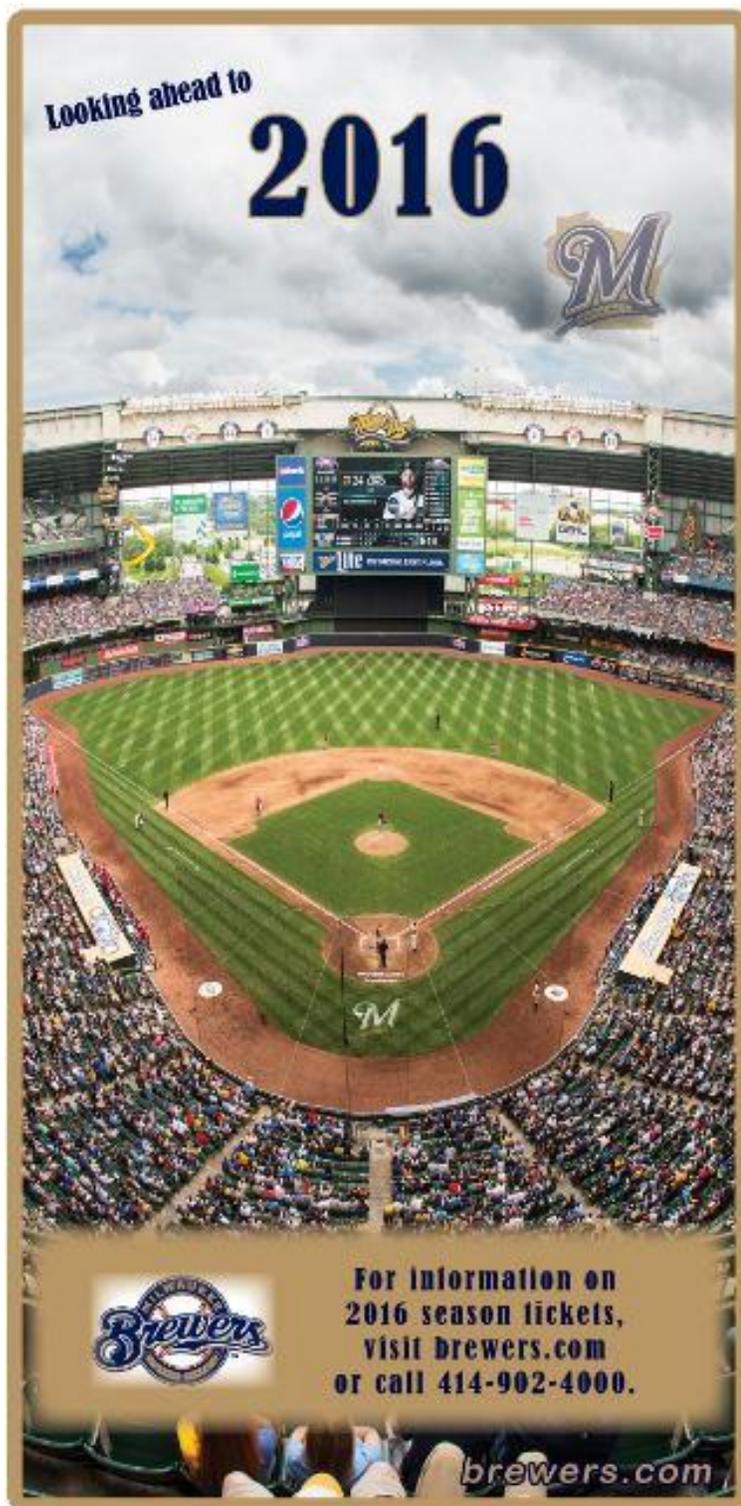


Handy-NEWS & NOTES

October 2015

 @HandyNewsNotes

Milwaukee County, the Commission for Persons with Disabilities and Handy-NEWS & NOTES neither endorses nor supports these businesses or products or services offered



Milwaukee County Transit System

Ride to Work on the Bus!

October Is National Disability Employment Awareness Month

With wheelchair accessible buses and services such as the Bus Stop Announcement System, MCTS connects passengers of all abilities to their workplaces.

Get route and schedule information at RideMCTS.com or call 414-344-6711.

NEW & IMPROVED!!!

MILWAUKEE COUNTY ON THE GO!

Get Milwaukee County government on your smartphone by downloading the OPD mobile website and saving it to your home screen! <http://county.milwaukee.gov/OPD>



Accessibility

Facility Rentals

General OPD Information

Recreation Programs

Transportation

Employment

Festivals & Events

Handy-NEWS & NOTES

Recreation Calendar

Other County Departments

OFFICE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (OPD)

414-278-3932 (V); 711 (TRS); 414-278-3939 (FAX)

901 N. 9TH STREET, ROOM 307-B • MILWAUKEE, WI 53233

timothy.ochnikowski@milwaukeecountywi.gov www.county.milwaukee.gov





CHRIS ABELE, MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
JOHN DARGLE, JR., DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

Contact: Jeff Baudry
(414) 257-4575
Jeffrey.Baudry@milwaukeecountywi.gov

For Immediate Release

Grand Opening of Wehr Nature Center's Accessible Amphitheater to be Celebrated at Cider Sunday

Milwaukee, WI (Sept. 24, 2015) – Wehr Nature Center's newly reconstructed amphitheater will be featured in a grand-opening celebration, Oct. 4 at 1:15 p.m., during Cider Sunday. Wehr is located at 9701 W. College Ave., in Whitnall Park.

Regraded and resurfaced, the amphitheater now offers better access to people using wheelchairs. A steeply sloped asphalt path to the amphitheater has been replaced by a more gently sloped path of permeable pavers, and a patio at the top center of the amphitheater offers people in wheelchairs the best seats in the house. In addition, the amphitheater's old, rotted wood benches have been replaced with benches made of a recycled plastic composite.

Permeable pavers were also used to create a level path connecting the amphitheater to the accessible boardwalk.

Permeable pavers are used to manage storm-water runoff and reduce water pollution. The pavers allow surface infiltration that decreases the flow rate of runoff and reduces the amount of solids suspended in the water. These attributes will help to improve water quality in nearby Mallard Lake and Root River.

Funds for the project were raised by Friends of Wehr as part of its Accessibility Project. Inspired by the well-received Accessible Viewing Deck donated by the Todd Wehr Foundation, the Friends continues to raise funds to improve access to the Nature Center and its natural areas for visitors with limited mobility. Personalized pavers and amphitheater benches are available for sponsorship.

The Cider Sunday event runs from 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Freshly-made apple cider, apple treats, live music, and guided hikes through the woods and prairie are highlights

-more-



ADDRESS
9480 Watertown Plank Road
Wauwatosa, WI 53226-3560

PHONE/FAX
ph: **414 / 257 PARK** (7275)
fax: 414 / 257 6466

EMAIL
parks@milwcnty.com

WEBSITE
countyparks.com

Admission includes a variety of family-friendly activities. Using a hand-crank cider press and sampling the results, learning how apple butter is made over an open fire and taste-testing the final product, hiking the multi-hued woods, and listening to the music of the Bluegrass All Stars and the Thistledown Thunders are all included in the \$3 admission. Some make-and-take fall crafts are included with admission, and others have a small materials fee.

An assortment of apples will be available for sampling and for purchase. Patterson Orchards & Farm Market of New Berlin will be selling selections from their 33 varieties of locally-grown apples. The distance from orchard to market is under four miles.

In addition to sweet apple crepes and chocolate-apple brownies, lunch-menu items will be available for purchase to keep families fueled for the afternoon.

Friends of Wehr presents the annual fundraising event the first Sunday in October. An old-fashioned cake walk, a cross between a raffle and musical chairs, yields homemade cakes to the winners. General proceeds support the programs of the Nature Center. This year a fall-themed silent auction and raffle will support the purchase of new benches for the amphitheater.

Parking for the event is \$3 per car.

For more information, call Wehr Nature Center at (414) 425-8550.

###

**The WA/WM Chamber of Commerce &
The Disabilities Workforce Collaborative
Proudly Presents:**

**“BUILDING A STRONGER WORKFORCE
AND A BETTER BOTTOM LINE”**

Date/Time: OCTOBER 7, 2015 7:30 – 9:00 AM
Breakfast & Networking 7:30 - 8:00 AM
Presentation 8:00 - 9:00 AM

Location: EASTER SEALS
2222 S. 114TH ST., WEST ALLIS, WI 53227

Program Objective:

As the unemployment rate falls, the need for talent to meet business needs becomes more daunting, requiring employers to expand their talent search in different and unfamiliar areas.

Learn from experts in the disability field about how to comply with changes in recent regulations that may impact businesses, find the best talents that deliver sustainable value, and create a more diverse and inclusive workforce while generating growth to the bottom line.

**Register online by Oct. 1st:
wawmchamber.com**

Keynote Presentation:

“Touching the lives of people”

Developing and implementing a vision for a diverse and inclusive workforce that integrates all forms of talent to deliver sustainable value.

Presenter: Mike Erwin,
CEO - Tailored Label Products

A local product label manufacturer with over 100 employees, named 2014 Best of the Best Workplaces in America, Top Workplaces for 5 consecutive years by Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year, and 2014 National APSE Employer of the Year.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

AU UMN

RECRUITMENT FAIR



Wednesday, October 14, 2015

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Waukesha County Technical College (S Building - Gymnasium)

800 Main Street, Pewaukee, Wisconsin 53072

(Waukesha Metro Transit provides bus service on Route 9)

The area's top employers will be hiring for:

Clerical Support | Customer Service | Healthcare | Hospitality | Information Technology

Management | Manufacturing | Sales | Warehouse/Logistics/Packaging and more!



JOB SEEKER INFO:

- Free Admission and Parking
- Bring Resume Copies
- Dress Professionally
- On-site LinkedIn Photo Booth
- On-site Interview Opportunities
- List of Registered Employers Available on our Website

ARE YOU PREPARED?

Numerous services* and resources are available to help you succeed including:

- Resume Development
- Interviewing and the Follow-up Process
- Employment Prep Workshops

*Most services are free of charge. Contact your local Center in Waukesha, Ozaukee or Washington County to learn more!

CONTACT US:

892 Main St., Pewaukee

T: (262) 695-7800

VRS or IP Relay



www.wfdc.org

The Workforce Development Centers are equal opportunity service providers. Accessibility accommodations are available through VRS or IP RELAY. For more information or accessibility accommodations, please contact your local Center.

IndependenceFirst is Seeking Business Mentors for **DISABILITY MENTORING WEEK**



Large corporations, small businesses and nonprofits welcome!

Monday, October 19 – Friday, October 23

IndependenceFirst and Creative Employment Opportunities are partnering to create industry-specific job shadowing opportunities for local youth with disabilities.

Sign up by Wednesday, October 7!

Why mentor?

- Youth benefit from hands-on, prevocational experiences
- Mentors help keep students in school and help improve self-esteem
- Opportunity to partner with passionate and motivated young professionals
- Assist young people with setting career goals and develop strategies to meet those goals
- The community learns of inclusive workplace practices

For more information:

Stefanie Bostedt
Creative Employment Opportunities
stefanie@ceomke.com
(414) 277-8506

Grant Heffelfinger
IndependenceFirst
gheffelfinger@independencefirst.org
(414) 226-8367



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CREATING INDEPENDENCE & SUCCESS

Home Medical Equipment is more than just a necessity item. It provides access to self-sufficient independence, personal confidence and quality of life.

At AccessAbility Home Medical & Rehab, we are proud to have the opportunity to help hundreds of people every day. We bring compassion, industry expertise and dedication to the provision of our products and services with every order.

We work tirelessly with individuals, families, as well as medical & referral sources to provide the finest and most cost-effective products and services.

Our number one goal is to make sure our customers are comfortable and confident with the products and services provided and we will not rest until these goals have been achieved.



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- POWER & MANUAL HOSPITAL BEDS • ROLLATOR WALKERS
- HOME & PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATORS • CONSUMER POWER WHEELCHAIRS
- MANUAL & POWER PATIENT LIFTS • POWER LIFT CHAIRS • ASSISTIVE BATHROOM EQUIPMENT • CPAP/ BiPAP EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES

ACCESSABILITY HOME MEDICAL

CORPORATE: 1995 E. Norse Avenue, Cudahy, WI 53110
Toll-free: (800) 454-3828 **Local:** (414) 486-6249

MILWAUKEE: 4404 W Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53219
Phone: (414) 543-1114 **Fax:** (414) 543-8389

Glendale: 6260 N. Port Washington Rd. Glendale, WI 53217
Phone: (414) 906-0000 **Fax:** (414) 906-1650

CARING for the CAREGIVER

9th Annual Event for the Mind, Body and Spirit • All Caregivers Welcome, Family and Professional



Saturday, October 31, 2015

Marquette University's Alumni Memorial Union

1442 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Registration 9-9:30 a.m.

Keynote Speaker – 9:45 a.m. – Deborah Spring Laurel, MA

Laurel and Associates, Ltd, twenty-five years specializing in helping people learn how to lead healthy and successful lives

SELECT FROM 8 WORKSHOPS

PARKINSON'S DISEASE: THE BASICS AND BEYOND ■ WHAT DO I DO NEXT? A GUIDE FOR CAREGIVERS OF THOSE WITH ALZHEIMER'S AND RELATED DEMENTIAS ■ HEALTH HEELERS THERAPY DOGS AND CATS ■ FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE: SOURCES OF POSITIVE ENERGY FOR CAREGIVERS ■ THE CONVERSATION ■ UNDERSTANDING THE HOARDING DISORDER ■ COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR CAREGIVERS MADE SIMPLE ■ BENEVOLENT TOUCH

SEE BACK FOR DETAILS

PLUS: Consults with Elder Law Attorneys, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and Community Resource Specialists and numerous community service providers

ENJOY:

REFRESHMENTS • SIT-DOWN LUNCH • DOOR PRIZES • NETWORKING WITH OTHER CAREGIVERS

Register by Friday, October 23rd → Fee \$15

Scholarships and Training hours available. Inquire about possible respite care.

Free Parking in visitor garage on left side of 16th Street between Wells and Wisconsin Ave.

Bus Routes 31, 10, 23 & 14

For more information or to register by phone: (414) 220-8600

To register online: my.interfaithmilw.org/caregiverconference



CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER WORKSHOPS & SPEAKERS

Select one workshop for each session.

SESSION 1 (11AM-12PM)

Parkinson Disease: The Basics and Beyond — Presented by Jeremy Otte (Wisconsin Parkinson's Assoc.)

This session will cover the signs and symptoms of Parkinson's disease, how it is diagnosed and the current treatment options. We will also discuss local programs and resources for people with Parkinson's disease.

What Do I Do Next? A Guide for Caregivers of those with Alzheimer's and Related Dementias —

Presented by Diane Baughn (Alzheimer's Association)

This presentation will provide a variety of suggestions and ideas about how to approach some common daily caregiving challenges. The session will include time for questions and answers.

Health Healers Therapy Dogs and Cats — Presented by Laura Hey (Health Healers)

There is good reason therapy animals are increasing in popularity! The benefits of spending time with a gentle furry creature go beyond the "warm fuzzies" they provide. Come meet one of our therapy animals and learn how therapy dogs and cats, and even pets can connect with your loved one or clients to maximize function and ease impairments.

SESSION 2 (1PM-2PM)

Faith, Hope and Love: Sources of Positive Energy for Caregivers —

Presented by Sr. Marianne Muscott, OSF (St. Ann Center for Intergenerational Care)

This will be a time of remembering how, who and what we believe. How belief, hope and love color our caregiving experiences and can move us from times of darkness into the light. Learning to practice mindfulness is a powerful way of growing spiritually.

What Do I Do Next? A Guide for Caregivers of those with Alzheimer's and Related Dementias —

Presented by Diane Baughn (Alzheimer's Association)

See description in session 1 above

The Conversation: An Interactive Session on Health Care Decision Making Before a Crisis Occurs —

Presented by Phyllis Brostoff (Stowell Associates)

What if you were unable to make your own health care decisions? Does your husband, wife, son, daughter, mother, father know what you would want them to do? Do they know about your wishes and values? This session will present topics to discuss and guide you through an exercise to fill in the blanks. You will leave with a document you can share with the other person you trust.

SESSION 3 (2:15 PM-3:15 PM)

Beyond Overwhelmed: Understanding the Hoarding Disorder and Developing Combined Solutions to this Complex Problem — Presented by Carla Alejo (Catholic Charities)

With a better understanding of this surprisingly common disorder we will discuss how to identify resources needed for the cleaning up process.

Community Resources for Caregivers Made Simple — Presented by Mardi Charnitz (Interfaith's Neighborhood Outreach Program), Pat Bruce (Interfaith's Family Caregiver Support Network) Megan Federighe (Vitas Hospice) and John Pokrandt (Interfaith's Personal Care Plus)

An informed caregiver is a prepared and less stressed caregiver. An experienced panel will share information and resources that you may need throughout your caregiver journey. They will include key community programs and services, utilizing volunteers, homemaking, personal care services and hospice care.

Benevolent Touch: A Caring Touch — Presented by Mary McCanna (St. Ann Center for Intergenerational Care)

This class will provide caregivers with skills to give positive nurturing touch (Benevolent Touch) to older adults and people with dementia/Alzheimer's disease. Develop confidence, knowledge and techniques, which can enhance the quality of life and increase a feeling of love and security for individuals of all ages and abilities. Everyone will discover the power of touch with "hands on" experiences!

Save on tickets with this Priority Purchase Opportunity for Employees, Families, and Friends!

October 6 - 11, 2015
Marcus Center - Uihlein Hall



Instructions for ordering:

- 1) Go to www.marcuscenter.org/mcaccess
- 2) Create your Login using your Group Code:
countytix
- 3) Order your tickets!

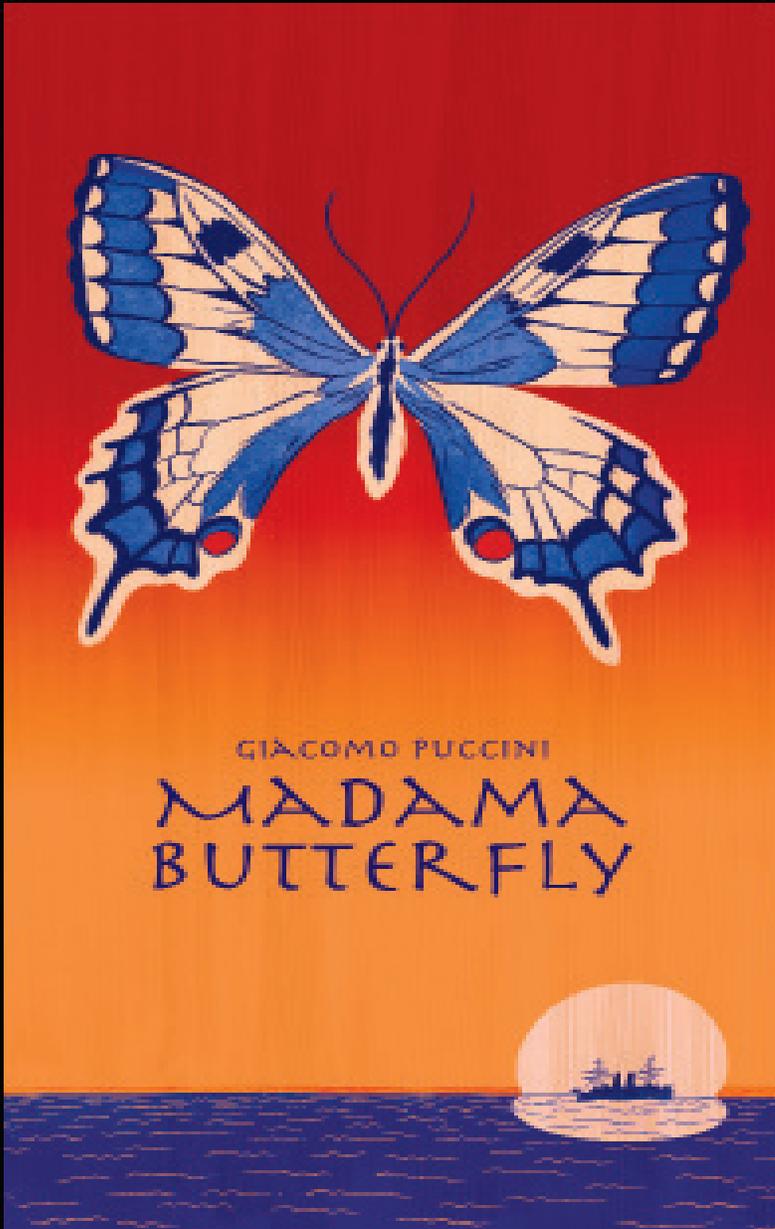
Please contact Keri Hough at:
414-273-7121 ext. 213 or
khough@marcuscenter.org
for more information.



*Ticket locations may be substituted due to high demand.
Specific seat locations are not given, it is not a live sale.
Tickets are assigned on a best available basis.
Not valid on previously purchased tickets.
No exchanges or refunds.
Please specify any special needs or requests in the additional
comments box at the bottom of the order page.

Save 20% on tickets for *The Florentine Opera*

October 16 - 18, 2015



Marcus Center for the Performing Arts
929 North Water Street
Downtown Milwaukee

Box Seats:	\$103.00
Center Orchestra D-P & Side Loge:	\$84.00
Side Orchestra A-P & Orchestra Q-Z:	\$67.00
Center Loge A-E:	\$67.00
Orchestra W-Z & Center Loge F-J:	\$42.00
Balcony & Center Loge K-N:	\$27.00

Instructions for ordering:

- 1) Go to: www.marcuscenter.org/mcaccess
- 2) Create your Login using your Group Code:
countytx
- 3) Order your tickets!



Please contact Keri Hough at:
414-273-7121 ext. 213 or
khough@marcuscenter.org
for more information.

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Specific seat locations are not given, it is not a live sale.
Tickets are assigned on a best available basis.
Not valid on previously purchased tickets.
No exchanges or refunds.
Please specify any special needs or requests in the additional
comments box at the bottom of the order page.

Save 15% on tickets for Milwaukee Ballet's

Dracula

October 22 - 25, 2015



Luz San Miguel and Alexandre Ferreira. Photo Tom Davenport

Marcus Center for the Performing Arts - 929 North Water Street - Downtown Milwaukee

Box Seats:	\$94.50
Orchestra E-P & Side Loge:	\$74.75
Orchestra Q-V & Center Loge A-E:	\$66.00
Orchestra W-Z & Center Loge F-J:	\$48.00
Center Loge K-N:	\$34.50

Instructions for ordering:

- 1) Go to: www.marcuscenter.org/mcaccess
- 2) Create your Login using your Group Code:
countytix
- 3) Order your tickets!



Please contact Keri Hough at:
414-273-7121 ext. 213 or
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comments box at the bottom of the order page.



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ABOUT ACCESS ELEVATOR

We are an organization recognized throughout the state of Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana for quality and reliability in our product line and services.

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Our knowledge of working with the individual, family, medical management personnel and various funding sources has earned us our high ratings in providing home and specialty modifications.



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If you have an accessibility situation and aren't sure what to do, give us a call. We have years of experience and a strong reputation for quality service to provide you with the best home elevator, wheelchair lift or stairlift to meet your needs. Speak to one of our accessibility experts to create the best overall plan to make your home an easier place to live today.

WISCONSIN: 1995 E. Norse Avenue, Cudahy, WI 53110
Toll-free: (800) 454-3828 Local: (414) 727-2524

ILLINOIS: 1000 Industrial Drive, Suite 2C, Bensenville, IL 60106
Toll-free: (800) 454-3828 Local: (630) 616-6249

Save the Date • November 11, 2015

Join us for this special evening as WIFACETS celebrates 20 years of serving families and children with disabilities.



WIFACETS
20TH
*Anniversary
Celebration*



FEATURED PERFORMANCE
BY COMEDIAN

JOSH BLUE

Perhaps best known as the comedian who puts the cerebral in Cerebral Palsy, Josh Blue centers much of his self-deprecating act around his disability. He exploded onto the national comedy scene by capturing the attention and endearment of the country as the winner of NBC's Last Comic Standing.

joshblue.com

Potawatomi Hotel - Serenity Room
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

November 11, 2015 • 5:30-8:30 pm

Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, Silent Auction and more...

Wisconsin Family Assistance Center
for Education, Training & Support

Early bird reservation prices through 10/1/15 at www.wifacets.org

Easter Seals 7th Annual
**THOUGHT
LEADERS
LUNCHEON**

Presented by:

 **CARDINAL**
CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, INC.

Schaus Family Fund

BizTimesMedia



*We are excited to welcome Robert Swan -
polar explorer, environmentalist and the first man ever
to walk unsupported to both the North and South Poles!*

“LEADERSHIP ON THE EDGE”

Thursday November 12, 2015

The Wisconsin Club, 900 W. Wisconsin Avenue

11am Networking & Registration

Noon Lunch & Program

RSVP by Thursday, November 5th

Register online at www.eastersealswise.com or by contacting
Paula Strelitz at (414) 963-5934 or paulas@eastersealswise.com



VISION CONNECTIONS CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2015
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

MEDICAL COLLEGE OF WISCONSIN
8701 WATERTOWN PLANK ROAD
MILWAUKEE, WI 53226

VISION CONNECTIONS CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION

Topics will cover information for people of all ages with vision loss.

Conference fee: \$25

A continental breakfast, lunch and beverages are included in the cost.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Number of attendees: _____ Names of additional attendees: _____

\$25 per attendee _____

Total cost: \$ _____

BREAKOUT SESSION 1 (choose one per attendee)

- "Making Meaning of our Experiences with Vision Impairment"
- "Paths to Employment"
- "Understanding a Low Vision Evaluation: Purpose, Process and Positive Outcomes"

BREAKOUT SESSION 2 (choose one per attendee)

- "Smart Phones/Tablets — Basics and Apps"
- "Accessing Computers with Vision Loss"
- "Cutting Edge Assistive Technology"

PLEASE REGISTER BY OCTOBER 5, 2015.

Register by completing this form and sending to Vision Forward, faxing to **414-256-8744** or completing your registration online at vision-forward.org/news-events/community-events/.

Mail completed registration form and fee to:

Vision Forward Association, 912 North Hawley Road, Milwaukee, WI 53213, Attn: Rose Visser

The Medical College is located on the west side of of 87th Street, with ample parking on the east side of 87th Street.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Rose Visser, OT, Community Education Manager, **414-615-0115** or rvisser@vision-forward.org with any questions.



VISION CONNECTIONS CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2015
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

MEDICAL COLLEGE OF WISCONSIN
8701 WATERTOWN PLANK ROAD
MILWAUKEE, WI 53226

More than 60,000 people in Southeastern Wisconsin have vision loss that cannot be corrected.

You're not alone. For the past 95 years, Vision Forward has been a leading nonprofit resource helping individuals adjust to all aspects of vision loss through affordable training, education and support. We teach the skills and provide the necessary training to give children, adults and seniors with vision loss the knowledge and confidence to pursue their personal and professional goals.

We hope you will join us for the Vision Connections Conference to learn more about the medical aspect of vision loss, how to cope with the emotional challenges and discover solutions to live successfully with changing vision. The day will provide great information, resources and connections with other families and individuals living with vision loss.

VISION CONNECTIONS CONFERENCE

AGENDA

PRESENTATIONS

- 8:30 – 9:00 am** Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 – 10:00 am** **“Research: Emerging Therapies for Eye Diseases”**
Dr. Kimberly Stepien, Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin Eye Institute
- 10:15 – 11:15 am** **“Navigating Life with Vision Loss: Adjustment, Adaptation, Advocacy”**
Thomas B. Perski, M.A.
Senior Vice President / Rehabilitation Services
Chicago Lighthouse For People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired
- 11:30 am – 12:30 pm** **BREAKOUT SESSION 1** (choose one)
- “Making Meaning of our Experiences with Vision Impairment”**
Dr. Sarah Krueger, PhD, Clinical Psychologist
- “Paths to Employment”**
Panel: Representatives from Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, IndependenceFirst and WI FACETS
- “Understanding a Low Vision Evaluation: Purpose, Process and Positive Outcomes”**
Heather Hinson, OD, & Lauren Nelson, OTR,
Vision Forward Association
- 12:30 – 1:30 pm** Lunch, visit vendors and wellness area
- 1:30 – 2:30 pm** **“Assistive Technology: Across the Lifespan”**
Cory Ballard, Assistive Technology Specialist
Vision Forward Association
- 2:45 - 3:30 pm** **BREAKOUT SESSION 2** (choose one)
- “Smart Phones/Tablets — Basics and Apps”**
Luke Scriben, Assistive Technology Specialist
Chicago Lighthouse For People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired
- “Accessing Computers with Vision Loss”**
Cory Ballard, Assistive Technology Specialist
Vision Forward Association
- “Cutting Edge Assistive Technology”**
Representatives from eSight and Brainport

Visit community resource information tables and our **Living Well with Vision Loss** exhibits throughout the day.

OUR FEATURED SPEAKERS

KIMBERLY STEPIEN, MD

Dr. Stepien is an associate professor of ophthalmology specializing in medical retina at the Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin Eye Institute in Milwaukee. She received her MD from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, completed residency training at Albany Medical Center, and fellowship training at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute before joining the faculty at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Her research interests include age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, inherited retinal degenerations and retinal imaging. She has been recognized as a “Best Doctors” since 2013.

THOMAS B. PERSKI, MA

Senior Vice President / Rehabilitation Services

Chicago Lighthouse For People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired

Tom has been a pioneer in the field of low vision for over 30 years. He began many low vision support groups in Chicago while working as a family therapist. Tom has been featured as a speaker at many professional conferences including the American Optometric Association, the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the AER International conference. He was instrumental in working with other agencies for the blind to help begin such programs as the Seeing Is Believing children’s low vision program and the Discovery Low Vision Conference.

SARAH JOY KRUEGER, PhD

Dr. Krueger has advanced training in neuropsychological, developmental, and psychological assessment for children from infancy to 18 years old. Her graduate training includes a MA and PhD in clinical psychology from the Catholic University of America. She also has a MA in counseling from St. Mary’s University of Minnesota. Dr. Krueger enjoys working with children, families and adults to address traditional mental health concerns and also help them navigate life transitions.

VISION FORWARD PRESENTERS

CORY BALLARD

Cory has worked in the assistive technology field for over ten years at Vision Forward Association. He graduated from UW Whitewater and completed the assistive technology applications certificate program from California State University, Northridge. He is also a graduate of Future Milwaukee, class of 2009. Cory’s personal experience with vision loss and expertise with adaptive technology enable him to provide a first-hand perspective on the tools he recommends and trains on.

HEATHER HINSON, OD

Dr. Hinson has practiced primary care optometry, sub-specializing in low vision, in the Milwaukee area for over 25 years. Dr. Hinson is a native of the Milwaukee area, attending Marquette University and UW-Milwaukee and is a graduate from the Illinois College of Optometry. She has worked with Vision Forward for 17 years.

LAUREN NELSON, OTR, CLVT

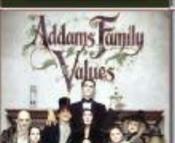
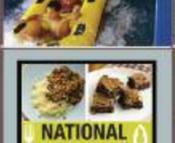
Lauren has over ten years of experience as an occupational therapist. In addition to low vision expertise, she also has experience in gerontology, health and wellness and fall prevention. She has worked with Vision Forward for over six years as a certified low vision therapist (CLVT), working with people who are experiencing vision loss. Lauren is committed to helping people maximize their remaining vision and improve their quality of life through low vision rehabilitation.

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<p>Country Springs Water Park Splash the afternoon away! 3:15 to 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5 Meet at MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$18</p> 	<p>Swan's Pumpkin Farm Pick that perfect pumpkin! 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24 Meet at MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 South Howell Avenue Cost: \$30, includes pumpkin and lunch (Sorry, no wheelchair accessibility)</p> 	<p>Packer Pizza Party Cheer your team & enjoy pizza with friends! 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15 MCFI Main Campus, East Entrance 801 North 20 Street Cost: \$20</p> 	<p>Flameless Holiday Candles A perfect gift for a friend! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8 MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$17</p> 
<p>Fly a Drone! Fly a drone with a video camera! 5:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 6 MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 S. Howell Ave. Cost: \$18</p> 	<p>Pumpkin Carving & Decorating What will you do to your pumpkin? 6 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 26 MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 South Howell Avenue Cost: \$18, includes pumpkin</p> 	<p>Country Springs Water Park Warm up in the hot tub! 3:15 to 6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16 Meet at MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$18</p> 	<p>Country Christmas Lights Celebrating 20 years of the state's largest drive-through show! 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10 Meet at MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$18</p> 
<p>Nia Dance Class 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 7, 14 & 21 MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 South Howell Avenue Cost: \$25 for all three sessions</p> 	<p>Fall Tree Paintings Spend an evening on the creative side! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 27 MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$17</p> 	<p>Thanksgiving Placemats Make that perfect table decoration! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17 MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$17</p> 	<p>A Charlie Brown Christmas First Stage Theater is performing this Christmas Classic! Noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12 Meet at MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$35 (Please eat lunch before attending)</p> 
<p>Drum & Rhythm Circle Experience the power of drumming! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 8 MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 South Howell Avenue Cost: \$11</p> 	<p>Halloween Dinner & Movie Adam's Family Values! 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, October 28 MCFI Main Campus, East Entrance 801 North 20 Street Cost: \$14</p> 	<p>Thanksgiving Dinner and a Movie Night Enjoy a feast with friends! 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, November 18 MCFI Main Campus, East Entrance 801 North 20 Street Cost: \$14</p> 	<p>Bowling at AMF Lanes Shoot for a high score with friends! Noon to 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13 Meet at AMF Lanes 7505 West Oklahoma Avenue Cost: \$17</p> 
<p>Packer Pizza Party Let's go Packers! 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 11 MCFI Main Campus, East Entrance 801 North 20 Street Cost: \$20</p> 	<p>Howl with Therapy Pets! Dress up for pictures with the Therapy Pets! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 29 MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$18</p> 	<p>Pre Black Friday Shopping & Dinner What deals can you find? 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20 MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 South Howell Avenue Cost: \$25 (Please bring your own shopping money)</p> 	<p>Country Springs Water Park Warm up at the water park! 3:15 to 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14 Meet at MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$18</p> 
<p>Halloween Décor Create a perfect Halloween decoration! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13 MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$17</p> 	<p>Country Springs Water Park Stay warm and hang out with friends! 3:15 to 6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 2 Meet at MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$18</p> 	<p>Pancake Breakfast Have some flapjacks with friends! 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 21 MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 South Howell Avenue Cost: \$20</p> 	<p>Cinnamon Spice Ornaments Make your tree smell like the holiday! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15 MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$17</p> 
<p>Dinner and a Movie Night Lights, camera, dinner! 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14 MCFI Main Campus, East Entrance 801 North 20 Street Cost: \$14</p> 	<p>Groovin' Get ready to groove with Dawn! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 4, 11 & 18 MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 South Howell Avenue Cost: \$25 for all three sessions (Shorter session due to holiday)</p> 	<p>Caramel Apple Creations What will you put on your apple? 6 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 23 MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$17</p> 	<p>Christmas Dinner and a Movie Night A Christmas Story! 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16 MCFI Main Campus, East Entrance 801 North 20 Street Cost: \$14</p> 
<p>Halloween Sing-a-long & Bingo Sing spooky songs and win some prizes! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15 MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$18</p> 	<p>Dinner and a Movie Night Enjoy an evening off with friends! 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4 MCFI Main Campus, East Entrance 801 North 20 Street Cost: \$14</p> 	<p>Holiday Cards Make a 10-pack of custom cards! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 24 MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$17</p> 	<p>Christmas Dance & Ugly Sweater Contest! How ugly will your sweater be?! 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18 Meet at Vision Forward 912 North Hawley Road Cost: \$11</p> 
<p>Spooky Sleepover Bash 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16 to 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 17 MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 S. Howell Ave. Cost: \$45 (Friday snacks and Saturday breakfast included. Please bring sleeping bag, pillow and pre-packed medications)</p> 	<p>Night at the Museum Enjoy a Milwaukee hot spot! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 5 Meet at the Milwaukee Public Museum South Entrance, 800 West Wells Street Cost: \$17</p> 	<p>Country Springs Water Park Splash away an afternoon! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30 Meet at MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$18</p> 	<p>Christmas Bake-Off How many different cookies can you make! 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19 MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 South Howell Avenue Cost: \$17</p> 
<p>Pumpkin Fest Visit Grafton and celebrate the season! 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17 Meet at MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$30, includes lunch (Sorry, no wheelchair accessibility)</p> 	<p>Harley Davidson Museum Rev up the motorcycle fun! 12:30 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7 Meet at MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$25 (Please eat lunch before attending)</p> 	<p>Gingerbread Houses Make your own delicious creation! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1 MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 South Howell Avenue Cost: \$17</p> 	<p>White Elephant Party What gift will you get?! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 21 MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$18, including refreshments</p> 
<p>Milwaukee County Zoo and Lunch What spooky animals are out in October! 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday Oct. 18 Meet at MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$30, includes lunch</p> 	<p>Bowling at AMF Lanes Strike away the afternoon! Noon to 2 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 8 Meet at AMF Lanes 7505 West Oklahoma Avenue Cost: \$17</p> 	<p>Nia Dance Class Dance evenings away with friends! 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays, Dec. 2, 9 & 16 MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 South Howell Avenue Cost: \$25 for all three sessions</p> 	<p>Holiday Music Traditions A night filled with your favorite holiday hits! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 22 MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$17</p> 
<p>Country Springs Water Park Slip and slide with friends! 3:15 to 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 19 Meet at MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 W. Wells St. Cost: \$18</p> 	<p>Your favorite songs from TV & musicals SING ALONG WITH TIM 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10 MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$11</p> 	<p>Dinner and a Movie Night Sit back and relax! 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2 MCFI Main Campus, East Entrance 801 North 20 Street Cost: \$14</p> 	<p>New Year's Prep Night New snack recipes you can use at your party! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29 MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 W. Wells St. Cost: \$17</p> 
<p>Get Nutty - National Nut Day! Make some fun nutty treats! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22 MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 South Howell Avenue Cost: \$17</p> 	<p>Pumpkin Treats Cook everything with pumpkin! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12 MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 South Howell Avenue Cost: \$17</p> 	<p>Candy Cane Lane & Hot Chocolate Experience a neighborhood of lights! 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3 Meet at MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$18</p> 	<p>Celebrate Bacon Day A night filled with bacon deliciousness! 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30 MCFI Bay View Campus, Door #2 3333 South Howell Avenue Cost: \$17</p> 
<p>Halloween Dance & Costume Contest A spooky fun time, don't forget to dress up! 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23 Meet at Vision Forward 912 North Hawley Road Cost: \$11</p> 	<p>Burger Night Enjoy dinner at Fuddruggers! 5:30 to 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 13 Meet at Fuddruggers 16065 W. Bluemound Rd. Cost: \$25, dinner included</p> 	<p>Winter Warm Up Brunch Breakfast & lunch what could be better! 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5 MCFI Main Campus, West Entrance 2020 West Wells Street Cost: \$20</p> 	

Questions? Contact Deon at 414.937.2100 or deon.franszczak@mcfi.net

Full payment must be received one week prior to the event in order to be registered. NO EXCEPTIONS (Email confirmation will be sent upon receipt of payment.) If an activity is cancelled, you will be notified. Unless noted, transportation is "on your own." Any person who needs personal care support needs to have a caregiver with them. Doors open 30 minutes prior to the event - please do not arrive sooner. Look for the big orange sign on the door!

Register Online

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