

The happy guy who won a Harley. Gwen Moore in a modest hat hitches a ride with Sheila Cochran. Far left, Spider George and the Web bring out the dancing beast in festgoers.



AFL-CIO MILWAUKEE

LABOR PRESS

WWW.MILWAUKEELABOR.ORG

MILWAUKEE AREA LABOR COUNCIL, AFL-CIO

Vol. 72, No. 9



MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN



Thursday, September 27, 2012



(USPS 350-360)

The Underdogs: Media, pols aren't paying attention but voters in the districts sure are

By **Dominique Paul Noth**
Editor, Labor Press

What's driving local elections has not been much reported. It's not as simple-minded as those partisan TV commercials used to outline partisan positions on news shows. What is truly happening is a frustrated public, a desire among everyday people, not people stigmatized with labels, to get things done and not sheepishly marry the ever-narrowing social agenda that has taken over the Republican Party.

Down-ballot, beneath the presidential race for Obama and the US Senate race for Tammy Baldwin, that longing for cooperation is palpable - the dream to elect people committed to the slow haul upward not the demeaning rhetoric downward.

An irony not lost on many traditional conservatives is that that the candidates radiating the courtesy and desire for cooperation are Democrats more than the current faction of the GOP. While these local Democrats have a chance, they are fighting uphill in a vacuum of coverage.

It will be hard to gain attention to win back the state legislature given the coverage factors. There is general fatigue over elections combined with citizen focus on everyday survival. Sometimes all that seems to trump attention to political

nuances. Add in, especially in Milwaukee, a profound media indifference to roundly informing and educating the public.

But under the radar the longing for true cooperation and reform is clearly confounding the expectations of negativists who thought right-wing excesses, superior money, redistricting and other games would simply produce submission and subservience. Go on the street and you'll find something else - foment and potential upsets.

Redistricting is a partisan maneuver allowed the winning side every 10 years after the US census. But the GOP insisted against all facts that they were simply doing this time what the Democrats would have done to protect turf. In modern history the Democrats never went so extreme with secret dealings and possibly illegal cabals.

So now that hard right shift has been exposed and has spit out strange backfires for Nov. 6. The Koch-funded Tea Party disguised as the Republican Party, with its narrow party label, smells foreign to many Republicans who grew up thinking of themselves as Eisenhower Republicans or even Reagan era Republicans.

Listening to the harsh rhetoric about contraception, shoot at will, punish children of immigrants, never support a govern-

ment program, never agree to a tax, never help people with pre-existing conditions -- listening to the attacks on public workers and on struggling single parents -- true traditional conservatives describe being "shocked" and "isolated." They feel sidetracked from their own party by the peculiar ugly new breed stealing their label. Neighbors once sympathetic to their political activ-

ism now chuckle over their gullibility. Their children shake their heads over modern moderate parents duped by a brand name -- something the grownups always accuse the kids of falling for. And this time the brand is GOP.

By making Democratic districts even more Democratic to increase Republican volume in

Contests continued Page 10

THE RACES

State Assembly

District 13 - John Pokrandt, Page 4
District 14 - Chris Lockwood, Page 4
District 15 - Cindy Moore, Page 6
District 23 - Cris Rogers, Page 11
District 24 - Shan Haqqi, Page 7

State Senate

District 20 - Tanya Lohr over Glenn Grothman, see story below.
District 28 - Jim Ward over Mary Lazich, Page 5.

Lure of Lohr dilutes red district

By **Dominique Paul Noth**, Editor, Labor Press

Madison insiders and GOP lawyers can spread out their definitive pattern charts to confirm that, despite some unintended softening in redistricting, Senate 20 remains the reddest of red districts and any Democrat who even dreams of running there is deluded.

But there sure is something astir in Ozaukee and Washington counties. While notorious as Scott Walker's designated talking head, and a Tea Party darling painting himself as the next Jim Sensenbrenner, Glen Grothman is actually a burr under the region's natural saddle. His three P reputation - prickly, prissy and pedantic - hardly matches the hardy Ozaukee Washington neighborhoods or even the educated elite running businesses and building homes.

The only match he has is the Republican label - and it is lifelong Republicans joining Democrats in dismissing him.

Tanya Lohr, on the other hand, is the glove-fit Midwestern daughter, devoted to her family, shy with the media, forthright with people, quiet but firm. Her weapons are hardly secret, just honest and direct. Many of her supporters voted for Walker and detest Grothman and if there is time for her to meet all the district residents up close, or get him to stop ducking face to face debates, she could upset those slavish voting map devotees.

That includes Democrats who count numbers more than feelings in the electorate. If you talk to them after liberal gatherings along the Milwaukee River or out near Miller Park, you hear some harsh



Tanya Lohr greeting Senate District 20 voters.

negatives about Ozaukee Washington citizens, stemming from those voting patterns and the bad old days of white flight and enclaves hostile to urban lifestyles and racial mix.

Whatever vestiges of truth in such fear of progressive ideas, the clichés don't fit the families you meet from Port Washington to West Bend and farms in-between and villages to the north, and it is there that Lohr reflects the concern about family, community and restoring local control and input.

Lohr comes from these people, from large clans of kin and neighbors devoted to hearth and kids,

Lohr continued Page 12

Hoffa hails Obama, progressive to D.C. press

By Mark Gruenberg
Press Associates, Inc.

Washington, D.C. -- The Tea Party, which has taken over the Republican Party and engendered the current "craziness," is responsible for the "tremendous war on workers" now being waged nationwide, Teamsters President James Hoffa told the National Press Club.

In response, the labor movement has united politically and is fighting back through constant on-the-ground cooperation, led by "Labor Tables" of leaders

meeting and having their unions pooling resources on politics, he said.

Labor will still get outspent by business by huge margins in the 2012 election, Hoffa predicted, but unions will offset that with "boots on the ground" for Barack Obama.

Hoffa's remarks and answers to questions from the press underscored his insistence that this Nov. 6 balloting was the most vital to workers in decades.

The organized workers' enemies have launched a "cultural

war" to crush the labor movement, he said. "We've never seen this type of activity before" on multiple fronts and in multiple states, he said. The conflict includes voter suppression led by the Tea Party and the right extremists.

Hoffa compared the Tea Party and its views to the 1950s-era John Birch Society, a notorious radical right group that used "anti-communism" as a cover for its extreme views against workers, African Americans, civil rights, the Supreme Court and

others.

"But there's also a tidal wave attacking the pro-choice position and a woman's right to medical health. This is all part of a cultural revolution (created) by the Republicans and the Koch brothers" and other millionaires, he told the reporters, reeling off the names of the very rich spending more than \$100 million to try to buy the 2012 election and to strip workers and unions of any power to oppose them. Their objective, he added, "is to take the US back to the 1890s" using the cover of the US Supreme Court's 2010 Citizens United decision to unleash big donors and corporations.

The situation is so bad, he revealed, that the Teamsters now back a proposed constitutional amendment declaring that, for purposes of politics, corporations are not persons and should not have those Bill of Rights protections.

A similar advisory referendum was supposed to be on the Milwaukee County ballot Nov. 6, but maneuvers by County Executive Chris Abele delayed and effectively blocked it despite overwhelming support from the County Board.

"So why are they attacking organized labor?" he asked. "Organized labor is not only the backbone of the Democratic Party, but of the entire progressive movement," he said, a remarkable statement from the head of a union not known in the past as a progressive leader. "They know we're organized, we have money, and we have boots on the ground" to oppose their schemes.

So the Teamsters and other unions will pound the pavements to communicate with their mem-



Hoffa speaking in Milwaukee at a rally for his union. He made national headlines this summer with a strong speech to the National Press Club.

bers. Hoffa spent much of his speech praising Obama, including Obamacare. He added Teamsters will not only tell members about registering to vote but also about how to ensure their votes are counted this fall.

The Labor Tables are up and running in key states in the industrial Midwest, including Ohio, Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Indiana, Hoffa said. They got their start when the union movement united to battle Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's destruction of collective bargaining rights for state and local workers.

Hoffa said they'll continue after the election.

The Labor Tables had a mixed record in Wisconsin, he conceded: Walker killed collective bargaining and beat back a labor-pushed recall effort. "But we won the state senate majority" in that same recall vote "so we can stop his madness, at least for now."



Many locals of Hoffa's Teamsters marched in Milwaukee's Laborfest parade on Labor Day while he was at the National Press Club in D.C. excoriating the Tea Party attack on unions. More Laborfest photos on Pages 8 and 9.

Unions Matter More Than Ever



When I travel across the country, I often hear from business leaders, politicians, even union members, that unions do not matter anymore. They say there was a time and place for unions, but that era has passed. They cite the fact that union membership in the U.S. stands at less than 12 percent. They cite the Wisconsin recall, the passage of right-to-work laws in Indiana, and the 2012 Democratic National Convention taking place in a city with one of the lowest union membership rates in the country. Unions don't matter, they say.

They are wrong. Unions matter today more than ever.

If we want to rebuild the middle class in this country, we need strong unions. It is not a coincidence that the decline of the middle class began with the decline in union membership. A study published last year in the American Sociological Review by Bruce Western of Harvard University and Jake Rosenfeld of the University of Washington found that "between a fifth to a third of the growth in inequality can be explained by the decline of unions."

We see the result of this decline every day. More of our citizens are working in low wage jobs, are without healthcare, and are without the means to save for retirement.

As they did nearly fifty years ago, union jobs offer workers good salaries, pensions and health care benefits that give families the economic security they need to send their kids to college or trade schools, to invest in their communities and to have a secure retirement. This is not some socialist ideal. It is the American Dream and unions help to ensure that more Americans have a chance to live it.

In addition, unions matter if we want to retool and retrain our workforce for the global economy. You often hear of employers not being able to find skilled workers. Unions and their training programs are a critical component of the answer to this problem. At their own expense, unions and union contractors provide training and apprenticeship programs that teach the latest construction and building techniques, with a focus on safety. This training gives our workers the ability to compete with anyone in the world. These union training programs should be rewarded and encouraged and the workers that graduate from these programs should be put back to work rebuilding the nation's infrastructure and rebuilding our economy.

More importantly, unions matter because who else will speak on behalf of workers? The Chamber of Commerce

speaks for the interests of business and AARP speaks for the interests of the elderly, but who speaks for workers everywhere? Unions do. If workers are to have a share in the future prosperity of this country, they need unions to advance their issues. Otherwise, the voices of corporations, the rich and the well connected will drown out the voices of average American workers.

In order for unions to remain strong, we must remain united at the ballot box. We cannot allow our opponents to divide us politically. We must support each other's causes and leaders, and stand united in the common interests of organized labor—the right to collectively bargain for wages and benefits. Union members must vote in their self-interest, not against it.

If we want to do something about this nation's inequality, if we want to rebuild the middle class and if we want to train the greatest work force the world has ever seen, we need unions.

Unions matter. They mattered in the past, they matter today and unions must remain strong if they are to matter in the future. If unions do not stand united and do not fight for the needs of working Americans, then Labor Day is meaningless. It will be just a day off in September.

That matters to me and it should matter to you.

Edward M. Smith is the president and CEO of Ullico Inc., the only labor-owned insurance and investment company. He is a former vice president and former Midwest regional manager for the Laborers' International Union of North America and has been a member of Laborers' Local 773 for 44 years.

Ullico Inc.
1625 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006
202.682.0900 | www.ullico.com



sponsored by Ullico



Published Monthly by the Milwaukee Area Labor Council AFL-CIO
www.milwaukeeelabor.org

Secretary-Treasurer Sheila D. Cochran
President Willie D. Ellis
Vice-President Annie Wacker
Administrative Assistant Robin Lundgren
Editor, Communications Director Dominique Paul Noth
Editorial Assistant, Advertising & Circulation Lynnda Guyton

EXECUTIVE BOARD - Richard Abelson, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees District Council 48; Lyle Balistrieri, Milwaukee Building & Construction Trades Council; Ike Edwards, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1473; Nacarci Feaster, Laborers Local 113; Dan Large, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 494 (Washington County); Larry L. Nunley, IAMAW Lodge 1916; Candice Owley, Wisconsin Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals, Local 5001; Dan Panowitz, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 33; Scott Parr, International Association of Machinists Lodge 2110; Anthony Rainey, United Auto Workers Local 469 (CBTU representative); Scott J. Redman, Plumbers and Gas Fitters Local 75; Joy Roberts, Communications Workers of America Local 4603; Kenneth Roberts III, Graphics Communications Council/International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 577M; Christine Vidmar of Workers United Local 122; Andy Voeltzke, United Steel Workers (USW) Local 2-209; DiAnn Wagner, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 2150 (APRI Representative); Patrick R. Weyer, Brewery Workers 9, United Auto Workers; Ross M. Winklbauer Sr., United Steel Workers (USW) Local 2-232.



AFL-CIO Milwaukee Labor Press
Editorial and Business Office
633 S. Hawley Road, Milwaukee, WI 53214
Telephone (414) 771-7070 FAX (414) 771-0509
E-mail: dom@milwaukeeelabor.org



THE MILWAUKEE LABOR PRESS (USPS 350-360) is published once a month by the Milwaukee Area Labor Council AFL-CIO, 633 S. Hawley Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53214, and is also available by subscription for \$12 a year. Periodical postage paid at Milwaukee, WI.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the AFL-CIO MILWAUKEE LABOR PRESS, 633 S. Hawley Rd., Suite 110, Milwaukee, WI 53214.
The Publisher reserves the right to refuse or discontinue any advertisement which is deemed objectionable. Publication of advertisements is not to be construed as a personal endorsement nor are all ads necessarily from unionized companies or services of the Milwaukee Area Labor Council or any of its affiliates.
COPY DEADLINE: Usually by noon 3rd Monday of each month except December (2nd Monday).

Goodby, Act 10! (For now) Hello, elections!

By Dominique Paul Noth
Editor, Labor Press

Justice delayed is justice denied - or is it? Wisconsin workers were shocked into rethinking that old saw September 14 when a Dane County judge - 18 months after the pain -- threw out as unconstitutional the Scott Walker promulgated Act 10, the evisceration of public worker collective bargaining rights.

It was a long overdue affirmation that, whatever you think about unions, you can't crush the constitution like a bug to sideline political opponents. It's almost a surreal moment when you consider how Walker has created such deep cynicism about our public officials' hearts and our lumbering system.

Finally Wisconsin has found a judge looking at American principles as something to cherish rather than step around with high-priced lawyers.

Simply put, the ruling made Walker and the GOP legislative majority law-breakers, violating basic human rights including free speech, free association and equal protection.

But no parades. Not yet. The decision will be immediately appealed to a state Supreme Court majority beholden to right-wing campaign money and ideology. Even the winning lawyers expect the appeals papers to fly.

This Sept. 14 ruling in its complexities allows Walker continued sway over state-employed workers. But it really puts the issue of shoveling manure rather than the spade work of true judicial deliberation squarely before the high court. In common decency it ought to take more time to work through this measured decision than its previous behavior.

'As Goes Janesville' goes to MKE festival
Scott Walker's "divide and conquer" pledge to destroy unions was included in a snippet of "As Goes Janesville" shown at a labor history event last spring - and that started a media storm exposing the governor's real motives when confiding to his rich backers.

Now the full serious documentary by Brad Lichtenstein -- a high-stakes drama of a shattered suffering American community and its people trying to survive the loss of its GM plant under Bush and such allies as hometown boy Paul Ryan - will be shown as part of the Milwaukee Film Festival, mkefilms.org.

Screening at the Landmark Oriental Theatre will take place at 5 p.m. Saturday Oct. 6 (main theater), 2:15 p.m. Oct. 8 and 7 p.m. Oct. 9 in smaller theater and at the Fox Bay Cinema 8:15 p.m. Oct. 11.

But recall past experience -- these so-called justices rapidly aborted the thoughtful process in 2011 when a lower court judge questioned the legislative haste that pushed Act 10 through.

The high court has enough questionable pushiness on its plate in terms of looking fair, since GOP Atty. Gen. J.B. Van Hollen is simultaneously pressing the court to jump over the lowers and restore the Voter ID law - for this November! - previously overturned by two state courts and still facing federal challenges. One of those lower judges, David Flanagan, September 15 rejected in clarion terms Van Hollen's attempt to shortchange procedure.

Dane County Judge Juan Colas, on the bench since 2008 and previously a state prosecutor with a record of taking down sexual predators, in his summary judgment Sept. 14 bluntly ruled the legislature overstepped constitutional bounds by going after city, county and school employees, creating separate classes of workers, union and non, to cap pay or elevate the employers' muscle - without asking the employer or the public.

His ruling confirmed what many had been arguing - that picking between union and non and even among union workforces as Act 10 did was unjust as well as unjustified. The Act retained full bargaining rights for police and fire while removing rights for others.

In addition Act 10 violated the "home rule" clause, interfering as one example with the city

Analysis

of Milwaukee determining pension contributions. A city union and the Madison teachers union filed the case.

Immediately Walker branded Colas as a liberal activist and Van Hollen vowed to continue Act 10 while appealing. But much of Colas' ruling parallels a federal ruling by US District Court Judge Conley who had invalidated the prohibition of dues deduction and the annual recertification elections as unconstitutional.

Colas went further in declaring the Act 10 overreach on equal rights null and void.

That same day in a separate press release, it was revealed that the efforts to recall Walker and GOP legislative figures had cost taxpayers \$14 million.

TV bleated how this was a waste of money, the largely losing effort by those opposed to Act 10 and other Walker maneuvers because he survived June 5. But the reports neglected to point out that there were enough recall wins to remove GOP control of the state senate for now and that voters in exit polls were not agreeing with Walker's shenanigans but willing to give him his full time in office.

So to many citizens, \$14 million is a small price to pay to stand up for basic rights - especially now that a court of law has vindicated the anger even as budgetary projections and lousy job numbers throw Walker's



Walker, Van Hollen and his Supreme Court majority now have a battery of experienced legal minds to contend with in the decisions of (from left) Dane County Circuit Court Judge David Flanagan, Dane County Judge Juan Carlos and US District Judge William Conley.

entire approach into doubt.

In effect, the court has made the maneuvers against all public unions illegal. Now think of all all those handbooks, refusals to work with unionized employees, all those arbitrary conditions imposed without bargaining by cities and school districts - all illegal. For now.

But hold the glee. There will not be a rush by unions to relitigate current local situations because the legalities are a mess and the appeals process is real and dangerous.

The public needs to turn immediately to a deeper reality: Elections matter. The only full correction is at the polls and then making sure those elected behave honorably.

If the Dane County decision loses before the high court, that could represent another blatant slap at judicious thinking to benefit the political party that helped elect the majority of Supremes. If the court finds legal flaw worth weighing and deliberating over, that will take time.

Either way, it deals directly with whom we elect to that court

-- and there is another election in April that could rectify the balance. Conservative justice Patience (Pat) Roggensack is up for re-election - will anyone unshackled by political game-playing take her on? Or will she remember her ethics?

More immediate is Nov. 6. Imagine Act 10 returned to the legislature for new approval or Walker's people concocting other laws repellent to the public.

The control of both chambers becomes vital and now the court has put wings under the Democrats' resolve to restore civility. It's also provided ammunition for change unless voters really want outlaws to represent them.

Remember, Walker didn't pass Act 10. His slavish minions did, and they should be shown the door for voting so willingly and knowingly against the constitution. A chink in the Tea Party cup needs to be followed by a flood of human indignation Nov. 6.



Accidents can happen in a matter of seconds, even to the best drivers. Fortunately, The Previant Law Firm has a well-earned reputation for assisting people involved in auto accidents; and securing the compensation deserved. If you have been in a car, motorcycle or truck accident, call for a free consultation.

1555 N. RIVERCENTER DRIVE, SUITE 202
MILWAUKEE, WI, 53212

414 271-4500

PREVIANT.COM

THE
PREVIANT
LAW FIRM S.C.

Response at doors boosts Rockwood efforts

The GOP redistricting lawyers produced a geographical band, District 14, to hover like a parallel universe to District 13 over the northern part of Brookfield and Wauwatosa, including a few wards that still belong to Gwen Moore in Milwaukee County.

But this redistricting made GOP incumbent Dale Koyeenga a new face to about 40% of the territory and has opened the door to a novice office-seeker (but knowledgeable political figure) Chris Rockwood, a Michigan native and veteran engineer with high-tech companies who moved into Wauwatosa four years ago with his wife, loves Wisconsin and is angered at what is happening to public schools and environmental leadership.

In District 14 he is getting some of the experienced help and organization that guided Nikiya Harris to the state Senate in nearby District 6.

Rockwood has already held major fund-raisers and has been tirelessly doing the doors not only in the Tosa neighborhoods that know him but also reaching

Assembly District 14

deep into areas of Waukesha County. He is a constant presence on the blocks and cul-de-sacs of Brookfield.

Rockwood is working a territory hard to get attention - not just from lifelong Republicans but from jaded Milwaukee Democrats. One of his supporters admitted a measure of disgust for "Democratic moneybags" indifference to this race, pointing out that even GOP operatives recognize that Koyeenga is vulnerable.

Too many city progressives like the media have their minds made up about the openness of the people to fresh faces and ideas, having written off the Waukesha communities as beyond salvation, but that is neither fair nor accurate. It is also not in keeping with the clearly inclusiveness and cooperation that was the overriding message of the national Democrats at their convention.

A sign this is changing came at recent gatherings when other candidates came rallying to his cause as did dozens of proficient

political insiders to work with him and John Pokrandt, a candidate with similar background and beliefs running in District 13.

The redistricting combined with Tea Party social policies have actually made the region more competitive, not less, as Rockwood is discovering, saying "The interest in issues and in working together has impressed me to campaign even harder."

"I'm not saying we will win," one District 14 resident told me, "but it's a self-fulfilling prophecy to not try even when your principles have a good chance. There is a lot of concern about better service at home and better ideas coming from Madison."

Another resident, a longtime GOP voter, noted that "Walker has certainly woken me up to what control the state has over my schools and my living - now I just can't go along. I've got to look much harder than I did before at the people I elect to speak for me." -- D.P.N.

AFL-CIO honors Mideast labor leaders on human rights

On behalf of their respective labor movements and the clear democratic and justice gains of the Arab Spring, the prestigious George Meany-Labor Kirkland Human Rights Award was given September 13 to Hassine Abassi, General Secretary of the Tunisian General Union of Labor (UGTT), and S. Salman Jaddar Al Mahfoodh, General Secretary of the General Federation of Bahrain Trade Unions (GFBTU).

AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka used the ceremony to recognize labor movements throughout the Arab region for their ongoing role in the struggle for democracy. "The brave working people of Bahrain and Tunisia transformed a wave of protests into the mass movement of democracy and economic equality," he noted. "Unionists are a leading voice against corruption, for women's rights and for a

robust democracy with the rights of working people at its core. Their courage inspires us."

"While we take pride in being recognized, we feel a growing responsibility to continue our common struggle with strong will and determination," said Hassine Abassi.

"This award does not only belong to the GBFTU," said S. Salman Jaddar Al Mahfoodh, "but first and foremost, to the more than 4,000 Bahraini workers and unionists who have been suffering from unjust firings and the consequences of expressing their opinions. It also belongs to the Bahraini people struggling for freedom."

The Meany-Kirkland Award, created in 1980, is named for the first two presidents of the AFL-CIO and recognizes outstanding examples of the human rights struggle internationally.

Workers Compensation

Lawyers Representing Injured Workers for over 50 years.

Michael H. Gillick - Dennis H. Wicht

Patrick J. Gillick - Charles J. Graf

Claim denied? Job Lost? Back Injured? Hearing Loss? Other Questions? FOR ANSWERS:

Call 414-257-COMP (2667)

No fees unless we get you money.



Already assured of Assembly seats after August victories, Evan Goyke (left) and Daniel Riemer are helping Chris Rockwood (right) in his fund-raising speeches and forays through a newly configured west side district.

Where Cullen fled, Pokrandt sees opportunity for service

Assembly District 13

When Democrat Dave Cullen saw how violently the district he had represented since 1990 had been detoured to eliminate his base, he literally ran for the hills of the Milwaukee County Board, winning handily there though a fellow Democrat had long campaigned for the seat.

District 13 eliminated much of his core support and was re-elongated into a band stretching from Brookfield to all of Elm Grove and the lower part of Wauwatosa with a sliver of West Allis. In a three-way primary, the GOP chose someone who may have gotten the signal early to run for the new district, Waukesha County supervisor Rob Hutton, parked way over in the corner in Brookfield. Part of the reliance on an interloper was the "scare" thrown into Democrats by the GOP maneuvers.

Instead John Pokrandt is treating it as a new cause. Brookfield reflects some surprising diversity of opinion -- not just the social and religious extremism dominating the party machinery. Wauwatosa is politically split, with a more liberal east side and has elected Democrats and moderates before and, Pokrandt believes, is eager to do so again.

In Pokrandt the Democrats have a personable hometown Wauwatosa guy, a veteran of business with political experience, demonstrating at the doors that he better reflects the values of the community than Hutton.

Under public glare he's getting more support than he expected. Many Tosans and even voters from Brookfield -- with Elm Grove generally a harder row to hoe for a Democrat -- openly respond to his platform of ideas about education and better jobs policies. The residents appreciate not just his candor, he says, but that he is not engaging in the sort of rancor and ideological attacks that mark so much of modern campaigning.

-- D.P.N.



John Pokrandt at a Democratic Party caucus with Assembly minority leader Peter Barca behind him.

Many glad Ward has faced up to Lazich

By Dominique Paul Noth
Editor, Labor Press

For eight years Sen. Mary Lazich has strolled unopposed over Senate District 28. The lack of contest and the protection of a southwest Waukesha-Milwaukee district long regarded as unredeemably Republican allowed her to become, as many commentators noted, "one of the most partisan Tea Party legislators in Madison" and as constituents regularly complain the most unresponsive to citizens - particularly those who disagree with her.

In trying to redistrict to strengthen GOP strongholds, the party's lawyers actually added more portions of Milwaukee County and failed to recognize the changes taking place from Muskego, Hales Corners, New Berlin to Greenfield and Greendale, where Jim Ward and his wife Tricia live and are well known. Ward, a self-described moderate, teaches history in a Milwaukee charter school while Tricia works for Racine Unified. He's a personable guy up to date on public affairs but never thought of running for office - until Act 10 landed.

"The attack on teachers really upset me," he recalled. "This was me and my wife. I went to Madison. And last winter I began

Senate District 28



Jim Ward chats with voters at a Greendale picnic.

thinking about how Lazich has never been opposed and didn't respond to any constituents with differing ideologies - and not even to lifelong Republicans, one who had given money to her campaign and was angry at being ignored.

"Whether you agree with her or not, she should be challenged. I am running into a lot of people tired of the two party system. There has been a huge growth in people identifying themselves as independents - and that's good for me."

Aside from restoring collective bargaining for public workers, though his charter school is

non-union and "I'm fully aware that if my salary gets too high I could be gone," he has a thorough agenda of ideas.

He is pushing for job education training for workers who have been laid off, strengthening the Buy Wisconsin program for state purchases, closing the Las Vegas Loophole and insisting on tax incentives tied directly to job creation and eliminating business deductions for companies that take jobs out of the state.

Lazich has also become a mistress of the current Republican games - opposing stimulus money, supporting a tech college bill that shuts out voices in her own district, pushing for abstinence-only education rather than school funding and calling people who expose her lies a liar. The last made headlines recently when she attacked Latina Rep. JoCasta Zamarríppa who pointed out Lazich's claims of epidemic voter fraud in Racine were false. So Lazich, despite the official investigation pointing out her exaggeration, publicly accused Zamarríppa of lying, assuming voters in her own district wouldn't notice. But they did.

"It's not only her agenda but



Teacher Jim Ward finds many voters dissatisfied with incumbent Mary Lazich's policies as well her dismissive treatment of her own constituents.

her behavior that has become so extreme I barely recognize her," said a Muskego resident, long in her district. "I can't vote for her again."

A year ago, something little reported also happened. A last-minute campaign to recall her fell short, but despite the late start, the Republican reputation of the community, and even Democratic resistance to the concept of recalls, it actually came within a few thousand of the 25% of voters needed to force an election. All that now is a support network to change the representation.

Ward knows there is change in the air but "probably not

enough" to get him to Madison.

"These elections aren't going to get much coverage," he said candidly. "I've been doing the doors for months and realize that people don't often know who represents them in the first place. With all the redistricting they are further confused. It's hard to drive through to good information."

But he intends to persevere, calling on Lazich to participate with voter input in three debates, one in each of the assembly districts within her region.

"She can choose the cities," he said. "I just think voters want to compare us side by side."

Trust Reason #1: KEEP YOUR DOCTOR. GET A NEW PLAN.

YOU CARE FOR WISCONSIN
We do too

Some state and public workers care for Wisconsin's elderly. Others build roads, teach, or fight fires. Whatever it is that you do, you keep our state running. So if you're looking for a health plan that knows and appreciates all that you do, consider the WEA Trust PPO. Our Preferred Provider plan gives you a broader network of providers, the best in dental benefits, a human being at the other end of the line when you call, and more.

"It's Your Choice" enrollment runs Oct 8-Nov 2. Choose the WEA Trust PPO now.



Reluctant warrior now girded for Sanfelippo

Assembly District 15

Redistricting along with Democratic disarray had seemed to give conservative Joe Sanfelippo a free ride into this Madison Assembly seat, where he can closely lobby the senate to approve a cab bill that would turn his family from a millionaire taxi company into a billionaire one.

An unexpected fighter from New Berlin, Cindy Moore, is putting a crimp in his plans with a race that she at one point tried to hand over to another Democrat.

It started when Democrat Tony Staskunas decided to retire. Part of that decision came from looking at the GOP redistricting destroying his core base and adding Waukesha areas. Part of it, he told friends, is how different today's politics of division have become from the cordiality he relied on in the past.

Democrats sometimes worry that the seat is now deaf to more inclusive non-Tea-Party driven views, but the math suggests the extremism has opened up a window for a Staskunas-like replacement - and that describes Moore,

who flatly believes in "thoughtful and respectful discussion regarding proposals and bills with all participants on both sides of the political spectrum to make a difference."

Sanfelippo is a county supervisor whose other legislative aim is apparently to turn the Milwaukee County Board into mandated part-time positions. Under the pretense of speeding decisions, that idea would reward the lazy (or those Uncle Scrooges who spend most of the time counting their money) and diminish the voice of the people while elevating the powerful, particularly the legislative purse-string holders in Madison where Sanfelippo hopes to be.

He knew no one with money or reputation would challenge him. He hadn't counted on grassroots fervor from what was once regarded as among the most conservative areas of his district, New Berlin. There Cindy Moore had fought on the school board until 2006 when its policies were

well regarded. It was only after she left that elected officials apparently thought more about saving money than children and the teachers - and clearly voters remembered her service.

She had attempted to withdraw from the Aug. 14 primary in favor of Chuck Garrigues yet even while she voted for him she won with 65% of the vote. Even with low turnout that was remarkable. Today Moore admits that in hindsight she didn't start out hard enough -- thinking Garrigues would win she didn't even complete her state AFL-CIO questionnaire. Now, she says, "my brand of service must be heard."

It took her until Labor Day to appreciate how many other citizens were willing to climb aboard -- "she's very bright about policy," conceded an area mayor -- and not just roll over for millionaire anti-competitive politicians like Sanfelippo. His family owns half the cabs in Milwaukee and he worked the inside track at City Hall years ago to limit the



Surprising primary win led Cindy Moore to take contest seriously.

number of cab permits to 321. His cabs or the cabs that must use his radio system not only pick up passengers but handle the lucrative senior health care transportation underwritten by taxpayers.

To date there has been no study about the increasing demand for varied forms of transportation even as the Third Ward and Water St. thrive and the city tries to lure empty-nesters with promises of easy transit. Sanfelippo's push in Madison is to continue the 321 limit and turn those permits into medallions. The carrot is the city could make 10% of the profit in secondary sales and a few aging cabbies who own their own cabs could make a bit more money.

But the officials didn't look at who would profit from the other 90% of sales - the Sanfelippos -- or whether the refusal to expand the cab base opens the government to anti-competitive lawsuits. In fact it took a story in London's

Financial Times, rather than in the Milwaukee newspapers last February, to reveal the greed of the game.

I caught up with Moore shortly after Labor Day when she was working on putting up her website -- cindymoore4assembly.victorydiy.com -- and campaigning with Organizing for America for Obama's re-election, even then not putting her own race front and center. But now she is out at the doors in force in between holding down a full time job.

"That's what I like about her," said one neighbor. "She's going to listen to us and work for us. She has lived the working life." Beyond that, noted activists in nearby districts believe District 15 could be quite competitive for Democrats if you accept the versatility of West Allis and don't give up on the residents' interest in their own worth, not serving as pawn to a millionaire's personal advancement. -- D.P.N.



Habush Habush & Rottier s.c.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

When accidents or injuries happen to you or someone you love our family of lawyers will protect your family.

Why choose anyone else?®

AUTOMOBILE & TRUCK ACCIDENTS, MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENTS, FARM ACCIDENTS, BOAT & AIR ACCIDENTS, PRODUCT DEFECTS, MEDICAL MALPRACTICE, HIP AND KNEE DEFECT CASES, WORKPLACE INJURY, CONSTRUCTION ACCIDENTS, MACHINERY ACCIDENTS, FIRES & EXPLOSIONS, NURSING HOME NEGLIGENCE, MESOTHELIOMA, LUNG CANCER AND OTHER ASBESTOS INJURIES



- Helping Injured People For Over 75 Years
- Wisconsin's Largest Personal Injury Law Firm
- Free Consultation • No Fees or Costs Unless We Are Successful
- 100's of Millions in Settlements and Verdicts Collected For Our Clients
- More Nationally Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyers Than any Firm in Wisconsin
- More Lawyers Listed in The Best Lawyers in America Than Any Other Personal Injury Firm in Wisconsin



Our Reputation, Experience & Honesty Result in Most of Our Cases Settling Without a Lawsuit or Trial

1-800-2-HABUSH

1-800-242-2874

Milwaukee Office - US Bank Center
1-800-242-7205

777 E. Wisconsin Ave., Suite 2300
Milwaukee WI 53202

Just click for help



Habush.com

WALKESHA
1-800-559-5599

RACINE
1-800-682-3434

KENOSHA
1-800-388-8222

MADISON
1-800-822-1690

APPLETON
1-800-472-9334

GREEN BAY
1800-757-8644

LAKE GENEVA
1-800-275-1729

WEST BEND
1-800-242-7205

SHEBOYGAN
1-866-888-3620

STEVENS POINT
1-800-248-0171

RHINELANDER
1-800-369-5990

WAUSAU
1-800-248-0171

Orthopedic Institute of Wisconsin

General Orthopedics/Joint Replacement
Joint Reconstruction/Arthroscopic Surgery
Back and Neck Surgery
Foot, Ankle, Hand and Wrist Surgery
Hip Resurfacing and Fracture Repair
Shoulder and Knee Surgery
Sports Medicine/Work Related Injuries

Jeffrey Butler, MD	Thomas Perlewitz, MD
James Stone, MD	Eric Pifel, MD
Daniel Guehlstorf, MD	Joshua Neubauer, MD
Steven Trinkl, MD	Christopher Evanich, MD
William Pennington, MD	Brian McCarty, MD
Jamie Edwards, MD	Bindu Bamrah, MD
Amin Afsari, DO	

**To schedule an appointment,
call 414-384-6700**

Milwaukee
2901 W. KK River Pkwy.
Suite 102

Franklin
3111 W. Rawson Ave.
Suite 200

Wauwatosa
2323 N. Mayfair Rd.
Suite 310

Brookfield
17000 W. North Ave.
Suite 201 East

www.TheOrthoInstitute.com

Perfect ending to biggest Harley raffle

Those who met Tom Brooks the week after Labor Day were in the presence of the happiest guy in

Milwaukee. Elation dripped from his every move in response to a minimal investment, a raffle he left Laborfest before the

results were announced and the reward he picked up cheerfully filling out papers and paying sales tax - a 2013 Harley Davidson state of the art Trike worth \$30,000, which he got with change from a 20 dollar bill.

Brooks went to Laborfest not realizing there were free lots for visitors provided by the Milwaukee Area Labor Council. So he used that twenty to pay \$5 for parking and then was greeted at the gate by two high school volunteers from the council selling raffle tickets. What the heck, he had \$15 left and he bought two. The first one won him the motorcycle - but he was on the grounds as the guest of his daughter's steamfitter boyfriend so he had left before the drawing.

He actually lives in West Allis just blocks from the labor council and has worked for years at the veterans hospital on National Avenue -- also 30 blocks away -- as a member of AFGE Local 3, the American Federation of Government Employees that belongs to the council that runs the raffle and uses the donated bike as a major fund-raiser.

It's been decades since he started riding motorcycles as a teenager, all sorts of brands, but he still does and "this one is top of the line," he exulted to work-



Tom Brooks picks up and promptly tries out his fancy new Harley.

ers at the Harley center on Silver Spring when he picked up the bike and drove it away. Even now he is so proud of coming from a large family, one of 13 children, that he advertises it in his email address. And his wife, Jean, he said to her amusement, "now says she's going to sell her car to ride with me."

Interestingly, while it was displayed prominently throughout Laborfest, "I never even saw it on the grounds," perhaps because it was always surrounded by admirers.

Brooks' happiness underscored the perfect conclusion. The most expensive bike ever

raffled was won by a local union guy and council member, a life-long cycle enthusiast who hopped aboard the minute it was his.

Aside from the happy hogman the raffle produced sizable cash prize winners as well.

The top \$500 winner was Randall Neiman.

There were eight \$100 winners as well:

Mike Staats, Angela McLaughlin, Daniel Jakubowski, Glenn Flaherty, Douglas Nevels, George S. Leka, Mark A. Makowski and Sue Burklialter.

Assembly District 24

Business savvy at the door

In nearly three decades in the United States, Shan Haqqi has served multiple roles in business, development and political activity. He notes his work as an assistant to Houston mayor Lee Brown and recalls raising money for the fledgling political candidate named Obama in Illinois. But his activity in Democratic politics is harder to measure than his business experience.

He formed a global consultancy firm based in Brookfield with connections to the US, Asian and Mideast business community and the aim of bringing jobs and good environmental practices to our shores. He and his wife, a physician, are raising twins, now 6 - and his many faceted experience in business is a welcome versatility image in suburban District 24.

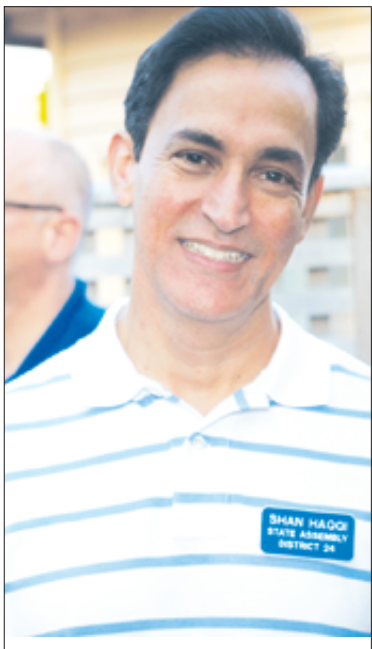
Now in his late forties, standing on neighborhood lawns in casual golf attire and speaking about how his advanced degrees in business and education qualify him to help the area develop jobs and schools, he is a fascinating common sense campaigner - first-time office seeker in a suburban crescent straddling the north edge of Milwaukee County. Interestingly his ethnic and international background doesn't come up often. The D after his name does.

While a distinct underdog in Darling-Sensenbrenner country, he has made surprising inroads in a redistrict that encompasses all of Brown Deer, Germantown and River Hills and vital portions of Mequon, Menomonee Falls and Glendale -- even among life-long Republican voters. Of course, that was the old Republican Party.

Shan is his nickname turned into campaign name since Shah Fariq Haqqi is quite a mouthful campaigning with and explaining in District 24 where confusion about names from Pakistan (where he was born), Iran and so forth are common.

Under his full name he is also known as a local developer and adviser on Milwaukee and suburban projects - a quick-moving, articulate, qualified go-getter, according to many conservatives in the business community. He says the advertising emphasis avoids confusion and "besides," he laughs, "Shan looks better in the fonts on campaign literature."

The only disadvantage he hears about is that he is an underdog against an established incumbent. But his supporters have a quick counter. "He sure knows more about what needs to be done here than Dan the



Developer Shan Haqqi makes election about best credentials.

canoodler," said one, mocking the name of GOP incumbent Dan Knodl. "But it's going to be hard to get people to change habits."

The D after his name on the ballot might not be the imagined disadvantage it seems at first glance - not when you examine the actual past voting patterns in the redistricted areas. In fact, the reddest parts of Knodl's old district were taken away (Richfield). Local nonpartisan analysts note that less than half of the new district can be described as red - the rest is distinctly blue or purple.

Redistricting has also given Haqqi a foothold in new Rep. Gwen Moore and old Sandy Pasch territory.

Knodl has other curious limitations given the concerns of the community. These may not be the neighborhoods to sell your major legislative accomplishment of concealed carry and reducing fines on bad behaving nursing homes. Nor his waterboy role in the Assembly to Jeff Fitzgerald who came in last in the GOP senate race despite or perhaps because of Knodl's backing.

Robert C. Angermeier
Attorney

Social Security Disability

- Over 30 years experience
- No attorney fees unless the case is successful
- Call now for your no obligation consultation

Law Offices of
Angermeier & Rogers, LLP
414-289-9200

Northwest Funeral Chapel, Inc.
O'Bee, Ford & Frazier
6630 W. HAMPTON AVE. • MILWAUKEE, WI 53218 • 414/462-6020

*Serving the Families of Union Members
From one Generation to the Next*

In Loving Memory

Ernestine O'Bee
1907-2007

Offering pre-need, at-need and after-care services to families in Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha and other communities throughout Wisconsin

J.C. Frazier
Funeral Director

"We are Setting New Standards for Funeral Services in our Community"

Let us remember in our prayers the families of:

Mrs. Minnie Love- Master Lock
Mr. Howard Stewart-Master Lock
Mr. George Staples- A.O. Smith
Mrs. Jannie Wilson- U.S. Post Office
Mr. Odis Hill Sr.-American Motors
Mrs. Future McKinney- Milwaukee Public Schools
Mrs. Ersaline Martin- Milwaukee Public Schools
Mr. Randy Butler- Allis Roller

Contests

From Page 1

nearby districts, the Walker contingent offended more than the minorities further ghettoized. They offended more than the Democrats seeking a distinct voice in communities such as Fox Point and West Allis where they know they aren't always a majority but could still fight to be one.

They also offended traditional GOP voters, several of whom grew up regarding the Democrats as the "dark side" but now know a swing is hardly as horrible as a Packers fan turning into a Bears fan. Not today, when a moderate hard-working Democrat is like the Republicans they used to support.

Their policy positions are familiar to Republicans of old - and rather welcome. Not surprisingly, several don't flaunt their party label even on their literature, just detailing how they are committed to creating jobs, raising communities and restoring schools to full strength - and talking across the aisle.

They bill themselves as moderate progressives or even just flatly progressive, but their tone and demeanor are respectful and responsive to the communities they deal with. One political adviser bluntly told her candidate to "talk frankly about what you believe, what you will do and how you will work with both sides -- and only then reveal your affiliation."

A candidate pointed out to me that "even a Democrat can connect with conservative voters if you don't ask them to put up a lawn sign in a strongly Republican neighborhood."

"They no longer say they won't ever vote for a Democrat," another candidate said, "Even conservatives are tired of the polarization. In the privacy of the voting booth they are free to choose."

Other candidates told me of people stealing up to them at places like the farmers' market and pledging support.

Little of this shows up for the bean-counters and money dispensers who dominate on both sides of the political equation. Several of these candidates are getting moral support but no active financial help from either the Democratic Party or the formal machinery of unions. They must rely on their own devices and doorway sweat, on independent alliances from like-minded groups and volunteers. Since the numbers don't look easy for them, the side with less money has decided to be frugal.

Yet these Democrats have a distinct advantage over those official Republican candidates - it's called freedom. They can speak out without looking over their shoulder.

Republicans running for office are clearly nervous about saying something at the doors that may make sense but doesn't fit the Tea Party playbook, which can get you drummed out of campaign money. Some GOP candidates are shackled by the right-wing tilt, knowing how many of their party's moderates were sidelined months ago for straying off the reservation.

Aside from worrying about social and religious principles they never thought of as the central Republican legacy, there is also the inertia of overconfidence

given the PAC-MAN redistricting in Milwaukee County. It is a gobble video game that turned compact or familiar senate and assembly districts into bars or crescents floating across counties, seeking to gulp down chunks at the corners generally regarded as a Democratic stronghold. Where they win, expect the Republicans to crow that Milwaukee County is turning more conservative.

That myth would normally be a hard sell with fiercely progressive US Rep. Gwen Moore now striding even through the North Shore and nine progressive Democrats sweeping legislative races Aug. 14.

But the GOP does have a secret weapon to sell the myth - media silence and indifference.

Any political combat and turmoil on the ground will not be covered in depth by local media - except for that token story with short bios a week or two before Nov. 6.

That's why the candidates release their news to local and Internet outlets rather than deal with being ignored by the establishment media. That is why the citizenry that cares is turning more and more to smaller news outlets and social media.

They have learned that the corrupt establishment media in Milwaukee is in the service of the right-wing cause -- not just Charlie Sykes and Mark Belling

on talk radio but in terms of political and education coverage the Journal Sentinel, whose managers daily tilt the agenda of even once-reliable reporters.

Interest is hard to generate when you care more about sales than public service. It would require strong media attention to drill down beyond the president and senate to examine local races.

Yet a surge for Obama and Baldwin could change the coloration. GOP overconfidence in their own redistricting already has - it has resulted in campaign inertia and neglect of constituent service.

There is no overriding state senate contest for Alberta



Rob Zerban, climbing within 8 points of Paul Ryan in polls, joined assembly candidates Sept. 15 for a Greendale rally.

Darling yet considerable heat within her Assembly districts. To the west and north, US Rep. Sensenbrenner is hobbled by injury and the GOP party machinery trundles along concentrating on Romney - missing much of what is really happening.

In Congressional District 1, Rep. Paul Ryan could be in trouble simply by getting such a national boost as VP nominee. Rather than help his congressional race it seems to have exposed him to media scrutiny and unflattering descriptions even from his own party as an evasive exaggerator prone to fabrications and misstatements. Redistricting added retirees and veteran workers who deeply understand and detest his ideas about Medicare and Social Security. The door has been opened wide for opponent Rob Zerban, with echoes down the ballot for other Democrats.

The media can sniff away that the public won't miss much from their silence because most of the challengers to seats held by the Republicans or redistricted to add Republican areas are notable underdogs. What they are not covering is the possible along with the probable - and the human factors in play that deserve attention.

People are listening to more than sound-bites- so shouldn't the media?

Our retirees lead in political enthusiasm

Union members never retire from community and political engagement. The beneficiaries in this current election cycle are Rob Zerban, gaining more attention and senior supporters as he closes in on ousting Paul Ryan from Congressional District 1, and Tammy Baldwin, in a tight race to take Herb Kohl's US senate seat over Tommy Thompson.

Help for Zerban is coming from Casper Green who retired 18 years ago as International Representative for the Brotherhood of Boilermakers and is known in Franklin for his work with senior citizens. Now 82, he wants to help Zerban close the gap with Ryan - and that is clearly in motion.

Rather than a bounce from being picked as Mitt Romney's vice presidential running mate, Ryan has been exposed as a fabricator and district residents are taking a harder look at his Medicare and Social Security ideas. Retirees like Green dislike Ryan's idea of taking such programs away from workers

under 55 in favor of vouchers. All that makes area appearances for Zerban more important so Green invited, and the candidate accepted, a talk at the Franklin High School cafeteria space, 8222 S. 51st St., Tuesday, Oct. 2. The 5 to 7 p.m. event is open to the public. Green asks his many friends in labor to call (414) 423-4488 to help out.

Meanwhile, a notable retired couple has decided to celebrate their 70th birthdays by throwing a fundraiser for Baldwin at Madison's Labor Temple, 1602. S. Park St. The celebrants, former state AFL-CIO president David Newby and Kathleen McElroy, will throw the invitational event without gifts, but with donations to the Baldwin campaign built on the number 7 (for 70th birthday), so guests will get music and goodies for \$17 to \$47 right on up the seven ladder. You can also donate at wi.tammybaldwin.com/Newby.

Your One-Stop Union Printer

Wells Print & Digital Service is constantly updating to give our customers the latest in technology for quality and convenience. We strive to give our customers the best **ONE-STOP** union print shop in Madison. Technology, union craftsmanship and pride in what we do has made us a leader in the printing field. Wells Print & Digital Service has been carrying on the union tradition in Madison since 1923 and proud of it.

So for all your printing and mailing needs Wells Print & Digital Service would like to be your **ONE-STOP Union Printer.**

WELLS PRINT AND DIGITAL SERVICES

3121 Watford Way
Madison, WI 53713
608-274-7474
www.printanddigital.com

GREAT LAKES FOOT & ANKLE CENTERS OF GREATER MILWAUKEE

Dr. Robert Matteucci, DPM | Dr. John Bostaniche, DPM | Dr. Paul Basile, DPM
All Physicians Board Certified American Board of Podiatric Surgery

Affordable Laser Treatment for Toenail Fungus

Alternative to harmful prescription medications

COMPLETE FOOT & ANKLE CARE

The latest and most complete surgical & non-surgical treatment options for all foot problems.

- Quick, affordable, in-office procedures
- Safe & effective treatments
- Virtually painless procedures with no downtime from your regular activities

Photos courtesy of Neil Van Dyck, DPM, Roseville, CA

Non-SURGICAL Treatment for Chronic HEEL Pain with Extra Corporeal Shockwave Therapy

FREE FOOT SCREENING WITHOUT OBLIGATION (Excluding X-rays and Treatments) With this Ad!

NEW LOCATION!

West (Brookfield)
262-781-0200
17495 W Capitol Dr.

North Shore (Bayside)
414-247-0128
320 W. Brown Deer Rd.
Corner of Brown Deer & Port Wash. Rd. east of Sendik's

South (Franklin/Oak Creek)
414-761-0981
8153 S. 27th St.
2 blocks south of Drexel

Rogers reflects neighborly revolution in races

By Dominique Paul Noth
Editor, Labor Press

What's happening on the North Shore is typical around the state.

Articulate family-focused life-long residents interested in politics but novices to public office have been stirred to run by all this obstinate resistance to facts, by the misguided focus on antique concepts of families and values rather than on modern children and communities.

Deals made behind doors in the State Capitol have been exposed to main streets and forced people who never paid attention to politics to wonder about the overreach of Act 10 attacking basic collective bargaining or Act 43 forcing a redistricting tightrope of extreme partisanship or the broad effects of Act 32 cutting the local citizens' ability to solve education, health care and general services.

That's not what we sent people to Madison to do. That's the cry you hear around the state regardless of political history. Perhaps that's why people find their neighbors who step forward to run far more credible than those outsider Koch-funded ugly rallies against health care, contraception and Obama's birth record.

There has been a widespread emergence of people everyone knows from down the street who are now running for office whatever the odds. It seems quite legitimate in contrast to the coordinated Tea Party outrage. It's an uncoordinated but now active and necessary outbreak of citizenship, a groundswell of civic involvement to slowly restore sanity and progress. Noted one political consultant, "These are not people who can be dismissed as some sort of flaming liberal activist."

The consultant was thinking of Cris Rogers, married to a business lawyer, well-to-do, raising two sons and more and more convinced the current crop of controlling legislators don't deserve a walk in the park to re-election. So she's forcing Jim Ott to finally face someone.

But there are examples everywhere. In Burlington, the GOP's major smart-ALEC Robin

Assembly District 23



Whitefish Bay's Cris Rogers runs hard to bridge Madison divide

Voss, pushing ugly social legislation to enhance his clout to become Assembly majority leader, is under scrutiny and attack he never expected. On the other side of this District 68 contest is a housewife and community volunteer, Kelley Albrecht, mother of three, rooted in the working community. She admits to being a novice at political campaigning but already has the most sophisticated political website in the state -- albrechtforassembly.com - and a forceful voice for legislative balance.

In the Ozaukee-Washington counties Senate District 20, Tanya Lohr is the big story (see Page 1) but she also reflects how many concerned citizens like teachers and environmentalists are now running.

Rogers is Assembly District 23's own variation -- a Bayside native now Whitefish Bay stalwart making a spirited contest out of opposing long unopposed Republican Ott, whose actual extreme opinions ought to be unrecognizable to those who remember his three decades as the placid meteorologist on WTMJ-TV.

Ott is now a Tea Party staple. He denies the climate change that gave him a TV job for three decades, wants penalties for criminals increased rather than efforts to change or rehabilitate them and believes that people should have a choice - not on women's rights but on refusing to pay for the health care that raises our premiums.

That ought to inflame anyone like Rogers with a background of political caring, a degree in psychology and track record of helping non-profit social agencies. Like so many others she was content to stay informed and involved as a citizen until she "felt my basic rights being taken away."

She decided to enter politics directly partly out of anger at the deliberate removal of a Bay neighbor, Rep. Sandy Pasch, as her legislator. But most of her disappointment is the "the failure of today's GOP to emphasize our similarities of concern in order to make too much of our differences," she said.

Rather than start her door-to-door campaign in comfortable territory - Whitefish Bay and Fox Point, which are new

regions for Ott - she worked down from the north.

How will they vote? Rogers laughed. "If I was playing poker with these people in Grafton, there's no tell. But even when I'm having a conversation with someone who is, say, totally against Obama, we find we have a lot in common and I always look for that common ground."

"I'm finding it," she added. "Everyone is tired of politicians fighting things. People don't see compromise and want some. Win or lose, it's equally important that we agree on so many things regardless of party label. I think that's what's been lost in the current political climate and people are upset about that."

It's pragmatism she talks about. While she opposes the radical budget cuts to public education she marries that philosophy at the doors to how the Walker approach will inevitably drag down property values as well as good teachers. She wants to grow small businesses and create jobs but balance that with environmental protection. Most appealing at the doors is that she wants the ideas of citizens not special interests to determine government transparency.

Rogers has no doubt she is a distinct underdog, "but something is happening on the ground that most reporters are not paying attention to," she said. "It may work this year or not, but it will work."

She is not nearly as well known as her opponent - or as mis-known when you consider what Ott has become. When he and the equally dour Paul Joseph were hired at WTMJ it was because science was to be taken seriously in weather forecasting. When ratings, small talk and personality became more important, both were let go for lower

salaried workers. (Maybe that is the real economic stormfront that Ott is now selling.)

But even friends at the station were shocked when Ott turned as a legislator to only like weather patterns coming in from the right.

He made his bones with the Madison right-wing as their token faux-scientist (because of his decades of TV blandness) denying climate change, opposing cap and trade legislation with such pontifications as "If you're fighting climate change and global warming ... then I believe what you're trying to do is make it colder." It caused fellow notable meteorologists to criticize Ott for pandering to the right-wing by "leaving science behind."

Most of the folks who have elected him to the Assembly don't know how Ott became an ostrich on so many issues. Nor has it dawned that while other redistricting forced Democratic legislators to abandon their homes, this redistricting that eliminated much of the Mequon he represented carefully kept Ott's Lakedrive mansion within the boundaries.

But the new district removes regions that tolerated him, including most of Mequon, and added entire suburbs he did not represent (Grafton, Fox Point and Whitefish Bay), which are not alone in having citizens more concerned about political progress than party labels.

Discussing the race, analysts from both parties concede how shifting alliances and detest of extremism have made Ott vulnerable and Rogers more genuine.

But they also note he has reputation from all those years on TV where he was as comfortable to viewers as an empty suit.

**WE SALUTE THE MALC!
FOR UNITING THE LABOR COMMUNITY TO
CELEBRATE THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
CONTRIBUTIONS OF WORKERS!**



**ALWAYS ASK FOR THE ALLIED LABEL FOR
ALL OF YOUR PRINTED MATERIALS!**

**STOP BY OUR BOOTH AT LABORFEST
TO GET YOUR OFFICIAL LIST OF ALLIED LABEL PRINTERS!**

Allied Printing Trades Council of Milwaukee & Madison
633 So. Hawley Road Milwaukee, WI. 53214
Phone # 414-476-1577 Fax# 414-476-2022 E-mail dcl@577m.org
www.alliedlabel.org

Solidarity Forever!

HAWKS QUINDEL, S.C.

COMMITTED TO REPRESENTING LABOR UNIONS AND THEIR MEMBERS

Labor and Employment Law
Workers Compensation
Wage and Overtime Claims
Family Law
Social Security Disability Law

MILWAUKEE OFFICE
700 W. Michigan Avenue,
5th Floor
Milwaukee, WI 53233
414-271-8650

MADISON OFFICE
222 W. Washington Avenue,
Suite 705
Madison, WI 53701
608-257-0040

TOLL FREE 800-236-3348
www.hq-law.com

**GO BANANAS
FOR FAIR TRADE!**

Monday, Oct. 15 • 7pm

FREE Speakers from
a fair trade
banana farm in Colombia

**OUTPOST
NATURAL FOODS**
100 E. Capitol Dr.

For details and other activities
in national fair trade month:

**WWW.MILWAUKEEFAIR
TRADECOALITION.ORG**

Lohr

From Page 1

willing to pitch in, proud of their self-help roots and educational advances and hardly deaf to the spirit of cooperation. A devoted mother and teacher for 17 years, she is hardly a novice to the realities of their lives. It is Grothman who represents an anti-community spirit and "keep away from me" approach to life more than any party label.

Fast patterns don't consider Lohr's mastery of the communication and technological revolution that is overtaking the nation. It may not be fast enough beneath the presidential election to change outcomes. No one should pretend that Facebook, Twitter and the rest don't also bring disturbing elements of intrusiveness and triviality, much less turning older thumbs into slabs of jelly.

But the social media that is as natural to Lohr as swimming and clearly alien waters to Grothman has also changed the immediacy and imagery of relationships and how people know and deal with each other.

When that horrible shooting erupted at the Sikh temple in Oak Creek, it was social media and cell phones that within hours brought hundreds to the site and to a religious service that evening at Cathedral Square. It is social media that hooks Lohr to volunteers who will walk the doors with her or watch her children when husband Andy needs a day off. (And when Lohr gets that rare day off from campaigning, she doesn't go home to sleep, she goes out to golf, as you discover from her Internet followers.)

WisconsinEye provided an insightful in-depth heads-on interview with the candidate, revealing her personality in your living room. It is on computers - including lohrforenate.com -- that people follow her district treks and see how in the most unlikely places and hard-core GOP areas her humanity and ideology jump through. It matches what people discover when they meet her in person handing out cookies or rushing over to help with the children.

Grothman, a lifelong bache-



Tanya Lohr (left) hopes to join two supportive colleagues in the Madison Senate who came to a recent rally to speak for her. Sen. Jessica King (center) won her Oshkosh area seat in a recall last year and this year faces heavy GOP opposition money trying to regain control. Chris Larson in 2010 during that GOP tsunami defeated a Walker cozy Democrat, Both agree Lohr "might become our best senator," said another big supporter who came to her district for a rally - senate majority leader Mark Miller.

lor who lives with his mother, has minimal presence on social media. He is actually the butt of multiple laugh hits on YouTube given the video captures of his prattling diatribes calling his own constituents slob for showing up in Madison, attacking women for clogging the workplace at Tea Party picnics or pontificating to and sneering at citizens during legislative hearings -- in other words, Grothman in his natural element.

One Lohr volunteer noted: "If we could only get every woman in the district to watch YouTube, Tanya could stroll into Madison."

Progressive women in the city of Milwaukee are not so sure when they look north and east. "Those wives will never vote against their husbands," one said. "They're lost to the right wing."

Again, the dismissal of the openness of the community is something Lohr on the campaign trail refuses to be part of and without trying actually serves as the clarion counter to.

Cheerfully she meets hostile voters and charms them into listening to her common sense approach to governance. "You win," they tell her in the end, ready to reverse a lifelong habit of voting. The direct honesty and conversational touch that keep ninth graders in line and

devoted to her in West Bend classrooms ("I like them right back," she says) work wonders at the doors.

All this has made her the queen of the Internet. The Huffington Post headlined an analysis of her race "Beauty and the Beast" (guess which is which) and had readers rolling in the aisles describing Grothman's positions in his own words - money means more to men than women, women shouldn't get equal pay or value in the workplace because they leave to do such terrible things as have children, women pregnant out of wedlock lie about their needs because of society's stigma, single parents should be a condition of criminal child abuse investigation, alternate energy standards should be reduced, early kindergarten should be eliminated and most education of women is a fraud, Obama wants more welfare because that translates into more lazy voters for him, and on and on -- leaving traditional Republicans aghast that this is the guy they have let speak for them in the legislature.

Lohr not only wins the publicity battle hands down. Her use of Facebook and other social media lets voters daily follow the campaign. She clearly adores her husband of 10 years, Andy, also a teacher, their two teenagers

from his first marriage (Mallory and MacKenzie) and their young twins, 6 year old Elena and Eadrick.

She is the accidental candidate surprised as anyone to find it all quite normal. Running for senate was hardly a planned chapter. She is active in her school union and was deeply upset and politicized by the cuts in education and the general handcuffing of local communities from running their own affairs. As a social studies teacher, "I paid attention to events and policies but more as a spectator," she recalled in an interview. But when she got involved, she was a quick study and a bright organizer and campaigner with something to say.

It first happened in Saukville when she organized a recall event 18 months ago. Knowledgeable people at the outdoor park - 400 plus at a progressive rally! In Saukville! - wondered who was this personable busy bee when she spoke briefly. New state Sen. Chris Larson was there, as was state AFL-CIO leader Stephanie Bloomingdale and Emerge Wisconsin leader Wendy Strout and several others - and all eyes lit up when she spoke. They got busy encouraging her to share her ideas and personality.

Lohr flew through Emerge's intense candidate training and found that voters throughout the region also responded to her natural gifts and down-home directness. She now has a sophisticated devoted legion of volunteers charting the entire district and helping spread the word and arranging meetings with voters.

Very little of her race is about demeaning Grothman, though that understandable tendency sure exists among her champions as well as media pursuers. "This is not a race about name calling but

about finding common ground," she told me. "People in splintered communities want to hang out with their friends again and want a representative who will think about that and fix that."

Asked about her platform, she avoids getting into national areas where "I need further study" but steps hard into detailed community concerns that Madison can address. "No. 1 is jobs, what we can really do step by step to keep jobs here not pie in the sky stuff. No. 2 is working together. No. 3 is health care. And within all that is concern about rebuilding communities, restoring music lessons and simple values to our schools and listening to people who still do not have access to health coverage and why they deserve it."

So all you political know-it-alls: Continue to rely on your old voting maps. Dismiss if you must as conservative zombies the honest-to-gosh citizens so many observers actually discover throughout the district.

Ignore the genuine concern that harmony and cooperation be restored in Madison. Laugh that even dislike of Grothman will not cause voters to abandon the Grand Old Label. Convince yourself that the good side of social media that reveals real character will not make a fig's worth of difference at the polls this year (even conceding it sure will the next time around).

Lohr has heard all the negatives. She just does the doors and talks to the voters. She rebuffs every stereotype attack from the right about public teachers and Democrats, substituting good hard common-ground explanation of what she is and what she will do.

In this partisan hostile world, will Lohr make a difference? Win or lose, she already has.



Mom's ability to enthrall a large crowd at Saukville's American Legion Post (left) cracks up her family members, teenager Mallory and twins Elena and Eadrick, kept under control by her husband and fellow West Bend teacher Andy.



Chicago teachers expose media union myths

Despite not getting the 4% raise the Chicago School Board and Mayor Rahm Emanuel rescinded, striking teachers after intense meetings seemed willing Sept. 16 to agree to a settlement urged by leader Karen Lewis.

But they delayed acceptance into a second week, only voting Sept. 18 to suspend the strike and return to classes the next day.

The delay and then the decision to settle came almost in spite of bullying tactics from Emanuel, who threatened a lawsuit the teachers felt was vindictive hardball politics because of his own falling poll numbers while theirs were rising. In fact, his lawsuit actually made the case for the teachers that the strike was not about wages but evaluation and other procedures.

Emanuel's posing, one teacher told me, almost derailed approval since "we are more concerned about schools than public relations victory." Leader Lewis, who supported the deal, explained the delay: "We teach reading and wanted to read the fine print."

Delegates finally went along by dismissing fears the deal did not go far enough and might be a cosmetic sop by a mayor whose tongue is no longer trusted.

The entire dispute resounds as a hard slap on the cheek to knee-jerk talking heads and that horrifying wave of teacher union bashing across the US media.

Some of that might be excused by past experience since no one denies some unions were as corrupt as some businesses. Some stems from well-meaning belief that principals and administrators should have unchecked power to hire and fire, even with their own relatives and cronies hovering in the wings, even though unchecked power on any side is not good for education.

At least the democratic process underlying all unions allows balance, to stop anyone running off with the money or with reality. It's not a power over their media corporate bosses that most talking heads possess.

This whole Chicago fury sure had the combative players to make the media sit up and woof. Democrats against Democrats -



AFT leader Randi Weingarten always draws a crowd, and media when she speaks about unions as she did on a Milwaukee visit.

organized labor vs. Obama's former chief of staff. A feisty union leader who could give back to Emanuel as good as she got.

For the teachers it may have been about moving forward on social issues they couldn't solve alone and diverse education needs including the arts, plus truer evaluation of teacher performance rather than building up the opinions of students with grumbling stomachs who detest being pushed. To the reporters it was about curbing union power.

It should be a complicated debate about education and who knows best - parents, professionals, or elected officials? It should be about how to get teachers to do better (is money the answer?), whether classroom experience was a better judge of ability than test scores, when principals truly know what to do and how they are chosen.

Nevertheless, newspaper editorial boards, right-wing pundits, TV talk shows and school privateers lambasted the 29,000 public school teachers and educational professionals who went on strike in Chicago - the first there in 25 years and the last in six years since Detroit teachers went out.

Emanuel called it a strike of choice not necessity - though when you understand English, all strikes are a matter of choice; you can always just bend over and love the whip.

Few commentaries explored how sophisticated and responsive

teacher unions have been around the nation and how Chicago teachers echoed fundamental concerns.

The American Federation of Teachers under tireless promoter and leader Randi Weingarten has moved the envelope in dynamic contracts that address tenure, worn-out teachers and innovating classroom practices and size.

In Milwaukee, the TEAM approach adopted for MPS by the MTEA puts first in line in its contract methods to improve or sideline teachers lagging in effectiveness.

Several things have already unfolded in Chicago -- layers of social and moral victories for the teachers, including how Chicagoans, especially parents, are backing them.

That may strike TV viewers as counter-intuitive since reporters sought out the angriest parents scrambling to find people to watch their kids when school was closed, an issue the teachers sympathized with. Turns out the media was again giving airtime to the most vocal minority.

Polls showed the teachers with 55% approval from "voting households" and 66% support from parents of public school students. The kicker? The poll was conducted by a generally Republican firm. In addition, an early Chicago Sun-Times poll found an eight-point edge in favor of the teachers -- with only 1 in 5 respondents saying Emanuel has done a good or

excellent job in dealing with the negotiations and the dispute with the Chicago Teachers Union.

In interviews, the teachers emphasized the devastating lack of social workers and counselors, the growing size of classrooms, the closing of schools without teacher or parental input and an unproven system in which a good teacher in one year drops to a bad teacher the next year based on student evaluation attitudes rather than facts.

Usually an astute politician, Emanuel made another miscalculation when he contrasted as selfish the Chicago teachers with the Boston teachers, also ATU, who were able without a strike to settle a two-year dispute.

He instantly paid for that when Boston teachers took out full page ads supporting their Chicago counterparts, explaining the differences between the two cities and the consistent concern for children and urban social policy that dominated both settlements. (Boston in fact gave a six-year contract with increases that will cost \$156 million while the Chicago teachers seek a three-year deal as long as they got more classroom support.)

The Boston teachers couldn't wait to correct the record.

"Thank you for mentioning our contract settlement, which came about as a result of a mutually respectful conversation between the parties," the union told Emanuel in their ads. "Perhaps you can learn from us - and begin to treat your own teaching force with the same respect."

Under the framework the teachers will get:

- 600 additional art, music, physical education and world language teachers.
- Prep time for paraprofessionals and clinicians.
- Teacher evaluations limited to 30% of the student test scores - which is the legal minimum and for the first time includes a strong system of appeals of the rating.
- Up to \$250 reimbursement for school supplies, which are often out of pocket for teachers.
- Additional wrap-around services, including nurses, social workers and counselors.
- And a big one: Defeating merit-pay for teachers, which no reliable study demonstrates works in the first place.

Another surprise to the right-wing: Despite the Dem-on-Dem infighting teachers meet after-hours to re-elect Obama.

Yes, one striking teacher told me, they do disagree with US Education Secretary Arne Duncan and fear too much gentrification and political games in the Chicago schools he once led. Yes, they worry about Obama's catering to corporate thinking, artificial competition ahead of true growth and elevating tests over accountability.

But after rattling off that litany of doubts, she added: "We know Obama is trying to help children and will listen to good ideas. We know we can work with him. So he is the only choice in this election. Don't confuse us with the people consumed by one-issue politics."

-- Dominique Paul Noth

Plan Your Next
Function at

HYATT
REGENCY HOTEL

333 W. Kilbourn Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53203

414-270-6000

- ❖ Weddings
- ❖ Conferences
- ❖ Meetings
- ❖ Parties
- ❖ Negotiations

EMPLOYEES ARE REPRESENTED BY:
**WORKERS UNITED
LOCAL 122**
(414) 271-0290

PORT
PUBLICATIONS

125 E. Main Street
Port Washington, WI 53074
262.284.3494 f262.284.0067

Design • Newsletters • Books • Catalogs • Annual Reports • Newspapers
Parts Manuals • Product Brochures • Directories • Inserts • Presentation Folders

Proud Printers
of the Award-Winning
AFL-CIO Milwaukee
Labor Press

www.portpublicationsinc.com



MASTERS AT THE ART OF FINE OFFSET PRINTING





LABORFEST ASWIM IN CANDIDATES – With WMCS live from the Zeidler Park gazebo and floods of union members preparing to march, Labor Day was ideal for Tammy Baldwin to hold listeners rapt (above) and recent primary winners to thank the crowd and make sure they reconfirm their Assembly votes Nov. 6 – left to right below Sandy Pasch, LaTonya Johnson, Fred Kessler and Mandela Barnes, who also shared airtime with morning host Eric Von.



Reality nips hard at GOP's biggest dogs

Thompson retirement greed exposed

The seven-year stint Tommy Thompson spent at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld in Washington went under blistering TV attack Sept. 12 by the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, its first ad against the fading former governor's bid for the US Senate against experienced and climbing US Rep. Tammy Baldwin.

Four days later, news reports detailed how Thompson oversaw companies that thrived on jobs exports and pushed defective health products. It is a double-whammy hard to explain away by someone marketing himself as an expert guardian of the economy.

The TV spot discusses Thompson's work for special interests at Akin, a firm he joined in 2005 after he stepped down as US Secretary of Health and Human Services under the second Bush, for whom he served as point-man in negotiating the "sweetheart" deal that prevented the government from price negotiations with private companies on prescription drugs. Thompson denies how back then he promoted many of the ideas now part of Obamacare. His plunge to the dark side in his retirement years is extraordinary. "Thompson sold his influ-

ence and connections, becoming a partner in a powerful Washington lobbying firm," the narrator in the ad points out.

The campaign for Baldwin has also attacked Thompson as departing from previous practice to make a fortune working for lobbyists in D.C. and now refusing to release tax returns he normally had to as governor.

According to lobbying registration records filed with Congress, Thompson, a lawyer, advised Akin health care clients including Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA), Novavax Inc. and PharmAthene Inc., the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported. From January 2010 to October 2011, he made \$771,000 at Akin, according to a financial statement provided the newspaper earlier this year.

"Who better than me, that's been secretary of health, to be a consultant and an adviser and also an investor in health care?" Thompson told JS. "That's my strong suit!"

On September 16 that same newspaper took Thompson's strong suit apart, repeating the devastating story how, while long touting his experience in the private sector, several companies he had a fiduciary responsibility to watch as board member face charges of making faulty and dangerous medical implants, failing corporate watchdog examinations and misleading investors. Yet Thompson larded his personal coffers sitting on two dozen

boards.

Ryan relies on cash as Zerban rises

On Sept. 12 Paul Ryan went up on the air with a \$2 million ad buy in his congressional race - more than he spent on his entire campaign in 2010.

Hey, you think the VP nominee of the GOP hears footsteps and is worried about his future? He sure is betting both ways. Strangely, so are some Democrats in the US Congress who are already welcoming Ryan back to his old seat apparently unaware the he is losing ground every day to the Democrat facing him, Rob Zerban.

Zerban is making inroads with crisp detailed attacks on Ryan and he is getting more media exposure now that Romney picked the Janesville lad for a national spotlight.

If he can hang onto his House seat, Ryan expects even weakened power to pursue a radical agenda. But the amount of money he is now spending to protect his congressional seat reveals a split focus - he knows he will have to buy his seat if Zerban keeps gaining.

And the redistricting did him no favors. It added areas including Milwaukee County full of retirees and blue collar workers who intimately know and dislike Ryan's plans for Medicare and Social Security. -- D.P.N.



WisconsinVision
YOU WON'T BELIEVE YOUR EYES.™

BACK-TO-SCHOOL
Savings + Selection.

The Right Combination!

WisconsinVision
\$100 off
Complete Package Frame and Lenses
Save \$100 When You Purchase a Designer Frame with a Minimum Retail Value of \$169 and Lenses.
Offer Not Valid With Other Discounts or Promotions. Some Restrictions May Apply. Offer Expires 11/30/12. CRMS100

WisconsinVision
\$39
Comprehensive Eye Exam
Performed By A Licensed Doctor of Optometry. Call Today to Schedule Your Appointment.
Offer Not Valid With Other Offers or Discounts. Some Restrictions May Apply. Excludes Contact Lens Examination. Offer Expires 11/30/12. CRMS39

WisconsinVision
\$99 Disposable Contact Lens Package
Price includes:
1. Comprehensive Eye Exam
2. Three-Month Supply (6 pr.) of Select Soft, Spherical Disposable Contacts
3. Instruction Class
4. Starter Kit of Solutions
5. Follow-up Care with the Doctors
or 10% Off Yearly Supply
Offer Not Valid With Other Offers or Discounts. Some Restrictions May Apply. Offer Expires 11/30/12.



Get GREAT SAVINGS on CONTACT LENSES! ▶
Use a free app from <http://www.mobile-barcode.com/or-code-software/> to scan this code with your smart phone.

- MILWAUKEE 1920 W. Layton Ave.414-325-8600
- MILWAUKEE 7528 W. Burleigh St.414-873-9090
- ELM GROVE 12876 W. Bluemound Rd.262-432-0052
- FRANKLIN 8225 S. 27th St.414-761-2269
- GLENDALE 5530 N. Port Washington Rd.414-897-0152
- GRAFTON 1260 N. Port Washington Rd.262-546-0234
- GREENFIELD 4818 S. 76th St., Suite 1414-431-0385
- KENOSHA 5725 75th St.262-694-5553
- RACINE 3905 Douglas Ave.262-639-5360
- RACINE 6035 Durand Ave.262-554-8600

- WAUKESHA 203 A East Sunset262-524-1130
 - WAUKESHA 1921 Silvernail Rd., Suite D262-436-0884
 - WEST ALLIS 1401 S. 108th St.414-476-0200
 - JANESVILLE 2929 S. Milton Ave., Suite 14608-756-0728
 - MENOM. FALLS N85 W16033 Appleton Ave.262-251-1900
- We accept most insurance plans and will submit the insurance on your behalf. Plans include: Blue Cross, Cigna, Davis, EyeMed, NIA, OSP, Principal, Spectera, VPA, VSP.
- wisconsinvision.com

Calendar

Visit www.milwaukeeelabor.org for updated events

Wednesday, October 3

Delegate Meeting
6:30 p.m., Serb Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave.

Wednesday, October 31

Executive Council Meeting
2 p.m., 633 S. Hawley Rd.

Tuesday, November 6

General Election

Wednesday, November 7

Delegate Meeting
6:30 p.m., Serb Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave.

Trapshooting

FINAL STANDINGS

After 20 weeks of shooting in the Milwaukee Area Labor Council league, here are the results by team reflecting wins, losses, and ties:

- 2.High Voltage
- IBEW 494.....13-6-1
- 3.R717
- Plumbers Local 75.....9-9-2
- 4.Lucky 13
- CWA 4603.....0-19-1

Class AA W-L-T

- 1. 6 volts to lightning IBEW 494.....16-4-0
- 2. Wirenuts IBEW 494.....11-9-0
- 3. Pipe Dopes Plumbers Local 75.....9-10-1
- 4. Pipers Plumbers Local 75.....4-15-1

Class A

- 1.Blind Men CWA 4603.....15-3-2

Class B

- 1. No Shorts IBEW 494.....13-7-0
- 2. Steam Shooters Plumbers Local 75.....11-9-0
- 3. Cloud Busters Plumbers Local 75.....8-12-0
- 4.Blind.....8-12-0

LEAGUE HIGH GUNS

- Ron Wahl 457
- Jeff Jeske 454
- Pete Malecki 451

Reported by Ron Wahl



Romey's 47% nastiness derails his campaign

By **Dominique Paul Noth**
Editor, Labor Press

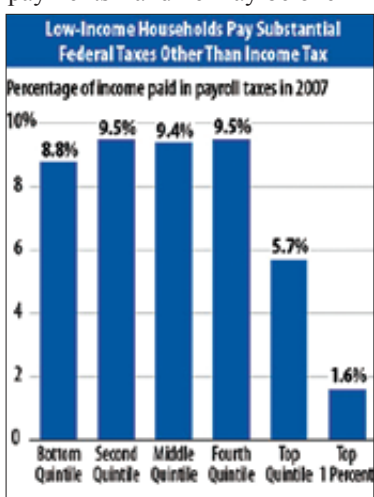
Moral depth, humanity and economic savvy for all hardly go hand in glove with having, making and keeping tons of money. The world need look no further than Macao gambling king Sheldon Addison, libertarian extremist David Koch and now Mitt Romney. His White House hopes rested on convincing the public he had the acumen to raise Americans up faster and more sustainably than Obama - that he could cure the partisan divide by working with all sides, not discard half the nation in his rush to impose his country club fantasies.

Out of his own mouth it would be hard to find someone dumber on "the vision thing."

The real Romney revealed his thinking, inelegantly and off the cuff, but truthfully by his lights and inaccurately by all available economic data, condemning more Republicans than Democrats. While constantly accusing Obama of engaging in class warfare it was Romney who conducted class warfare raising money from rich backers in a Boca Raton mansion. His candor was surreptitiously taped.

His comments have now exploded, exposing not only his disdain for nearly half of America as moochers but also a misguided and outrageous interpretation of how tax revenue works. He may have been subtly trying to single out minorities and liberals as lazy but actually condemned the working whites he has relied on for votes, the elderly who worked all their lives paying payroll taxes and many citizens, nearly half in his figures, who use tax deductions promoted by both parties to balance their low income against their income tax burden.

In tying "real Americans" to those who pay federal income tax, by exaggerating Obama's role in housing, health and nutrition, by condemning everyone who uses public policy to improve their circumstances, he was ironically debunking his richest supporters who have looped their way out of such payments - and he may be one



More facts debunk Romney - particularly how much low-income workers pay in federal payroll taxes.

himself, which his refusal to release his tax returns keeps us from knowing.

The majority of those who don't pay taxes subsist in the deepest red southern states he counts on for votes. The majority using food stamps are white. Military families and the disabled are a huge part of his numbers. To condemn all these as lacking responsibility for their own lives forced even conservative commentators to note that Romney "simply doesn't understand who Americans are and how America works."

We are not exaggerating what Romney said to raise money. There was a lot of other silly stuff, but here are some in his own words, which he does not deny:

"There are 47% who are with him, who are dependent upon government, who believe that they are victims, who believe that the government has a responsibility to care for them, who believe that they are entitled to health care, to food, to housing, to you-name-it. That that's an entitlement. And the government should give it to them. And they will vote for this president no matter what.... These are people who pay no income tax. My job is not to worry about those people. I'll never convince them they should take personal responsibility and care for their lives."

He said so much more that Mother Jones magazine has now provided the entire video and it's gone viral on YouTube.

If you don't live in that hard-shell right-wing Romney bubble, you must wonder who he's talking about. Demeaning 47% of Americans as pigs suckling on government largesse dismissed a vast number of America's hardest workers and most active voters.

Romey's view neglects figures that have been out there for years from researchers. He was attacking working families, grandma, kids in college. See the chart for how the facts break down about the 47% he was talking about, which factually do not match the nearly 49% in current polls preferring Obama.

As the AFL-CIO quickly pointed out, the fact that they're not paid enough or are active duty military or are too old or disabled does not mean they don't contribute to America's tax revenues. In fact, the poorest one-fifth of US households pay a grinding 22.7% percent of their income in various federal, state and local taxes.

Among the research sources that have for years taken apart Romney's myth of the 47% dependent on government is the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. In an in-depth article with charts available at www.cbpp.org, the center debunks several fallacies that the right-wing depends on to promote this unicorn. Even the Earned Income Tax Credit the



Chart reveals realities Romney simply doesn't get

right criticizes proves a temporary bridge to survival. The majority of households that receive the EITC get it for only one or two years at a time, such as when their income drops due to a layoff, and they pay federal income tax in most other years.

Romey revealed in private and off the cuff what he really thinks but knows better than to say in public. Worse, it is his own base that he demeans since in red states with those "right to work for less" laws, working residents are disproportionately likely to pay no income taxes.

Obviously, Romney demonstrated strategic ineptitude in politics and "grossly inaccurate" descriptions of Obama's core supporters, and those are words from fact checkers. More bluntly, it was an attitude that undercuts his desire to lead the nation and openly disqualified him from the highest office. Even Republicans seem eager to ditch him when, as one said, "He just gave the president the votes of everyone who walks by my door."


To describe half the country as victims reliant on government handouts, and then claim Obama relies on victims rather than self-

reliance and isn't working to raise businesses as well as working people, struck many as absurd looking at their own lives and varied philosophies. So Romney was "fiscally inept," "arrogant," "cynical" and "stupid" - and this was from conservatives! Several GOP leaders immediately began positioning themselves to run for president in 2016.

Meanwhile, Tea Party devotees are attacking his running mate, Paul Ryan, for reasons that might not please liberals, criticizing abandoning his "take no prisoners" reputation of radical wrench to the economy to tack toward the Romney blandness.

Several commentators thought Romney's run for president ended when he stepped clumsily into foreign policy with premature rebuke of a low-level Mideast embassy official trying to quell outrage over a tasteless video snippet. Now they call these Boca Raton comments the end of his campaign - a clear revelation of how poorly he grasps America and its economy.

It may be a bit early to close the books, but he sure is doing everything he can to slam himself shut.



Orthopedic Institute of Wisconsin

Thomas J. Perlewitz, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
Spine Specialist
Fellowship Trained

2901 Kinnickinnic River Parkway
Suite 102
Milwaukee, WI 53215
414-384-6700

2323 N. Mayfair Road
Suite 310
Milwaukee, WI 53226
414-771-5080

"I offer comprehensive evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of all spinal conditions by utilizing state-of-the-art techniques, procedures and instrumentation. My ultimate goal is improved quality of life for the patient through both operative and non-operative measures."

Specialty Procedures and Professional Achievements

- ◆ Fellowship trained in spinal surgery at Harvard with emphasis on treatment of conditions of the cervical, thoracic and lumbar spine
- ◆ Compassionate care focused on the whole individual
- ◆ Selected as Chief Resident in Department of Orthopedic Surgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin
- ◆ Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society

Medical Education
Medical College of Wisconsin
Milwaukee, WI

Fellowship - Orthopedic Spine Surgery
Harvard Medical School
Boston, MA

Residency
Medical College of Wisconsin
Milwaukee, WI

Board Certified
American Board of Orthopedic Surgery

For more information or scheduling, please call 414-384-6700.

www.TheOrthoInstitute.com

Piggly Wiggly settles NLRB dispute with UFCW

By **Dominique Paul Noth**
Editor, Labor Press

After hiring a union-busting law firm and declaring an impasse to dodge a court order to obey a union contract - an issue reported at length in the June Labor Press - Piggly Wiggly Midwest this September discovered that civility and negotiation were far better for both image and results in a simmering series of disputes with the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW).

While lawyers for both sides are restricted from providing details of the Sept. 14 stipulation and agreements, documents at the National Labor Relations Board and research by Labor Press confirm many factors about how the union succeeded in its major issues. The company resolved unfair labor practice complaints at many of its supermarkets, agreed to fulfill contractual obligations and keep open a key Sheboygan store - and also provide at least half a million dollars to settle the complaints.

Both sides thanked Sheboygan Mayor Terry Van Akkeren for assisting in the settlement and assuring that the flagship store in his city would remain open and unionized.

A few months ago UFCW Local 1473 President John Eiden had blasted CEO Paul Butera for a "despicable" attempt to "drive the workers into poverty" when Piggly Wiggly announced it would close this store rather than heed a court order to obey the rules. Many regarded the company's after-surge around the state of franchise takeovers as a continuation of its "hard cheese" response to being called to account by the NLRB, particularly as it also faced an intense round of unfair labor practice hearings where the evidence was not on its side.

In September, a combination of reality and

respect for mutual discussion and heeding the rules seemed to return.

Eiden even thanked Butera for returning to the bargaining table and resolving disputes at many stores around the state. In a statement Eiden said, "Both sides understood that the state of the economy and heightened competition within the retail food industry made negotiations difficult, but Paul helped both sides bridge the gap that separated us" to assure what Eiden called "labor peace."

The Sheboygan issue erupted when Piggly Wiggly lost in court. It had unilaterally reduced 19 full time workers to part-time without regard to their union contract. It claimed it did so fearing competitive pressure from a non-union supermarket chain, but contracts must be followed, said NLRB Region 30 Director Irving Gottschalk and an administrative judge. The company declared an impasse in talks and said it would simply close the store - all occurring on the eve of NLRB unfair practice hearings affecting various Piggly Wiggly outlets around the state.

Among the allegations the NLRB found having merit was that Piggly Wiggly instigated and improperly supported an attempt to decertify UFCW at a Kenosha store.

With the most recent stipulated settlement, insiders report, Piggly Wiggly will have to undo those Sheboygan policies it unilaterally imposed and reimburse employees for those losses - including that non-negotiated move to part time and eliminating time-and-a-half pay on Sundays and holidays.

While specific details have not been revealed, the September agreement retains the union status of stores and provides cash for violations. Among the stores protected in the new stipulation are two unionized outlets in Racine.

A unique way to honor 9/11



THE ELEVENTH ANNIVERSARY of 9/11 has not settled in the nation's conscience as has Armistice Day or Memorial Day - it is still too green. But now we have routine formalized remembrances, making it hard to find a fresh tribute. So let us take you to Brady St. on that sunny afternoon and the courtyard outside the Dry Hootch Café created as a place for veterans to meet, congregate and heal through connections with each other.

IN AN UNUSUALLY RELEVANT 9/11 tribute with County Executive Chris Abele (center) and Mayor Tom Barrett (right), veterans who founded the Dry Hootch, VA experts and others held a discussion and fund-raiser for the Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force.

PARTICIPANTS DISCUSSED the needs of the veterans' community - a high degree of depression, military sexual trauma and other issues that haunt those we send into service to defend our country. At the Dry Hootch you find veterans from Vietnam forward to Iraq and Afghanistan helping heal each other and connect with sources of therapy.

IT IS REMARKABLE to see this place nestled amid retail bustle. This task force was formed in 2004 by some 50 organizations recognizing a crisis in inpatient psychiatric services that exposed major gaps in Milwaukee's system of mental health care. It connects veterans to a range of mental health services. Here 9/11 became a way to help those who serve.

Smile inspired.

Because your smile means so much.

From "Hi there." to "I love you." and every "Thanks." and "We're so blessed." in between...a smile says a whole lot. When you choose Dental Associates, your smile will say it all. Whatever your dental health goals are, from regular check-ups and braces to implants and periodontal surgery, each generation of your family will receive the very best care. You'll be elated...and it will be written all over your face.

dentalassociates.com/lp

Fond du Lac 920.924.9090	Milwaukee 414.645.4540	Sturtevant 262.884.3011
Wauwatosa 414.771.2345	Franklin 414.435.0787	Kenosha 262.942.7000

Dental Associates
smile more.

LBRPRS0512

Now you can smile with peace of mind.

With our affordable dental plans you can have a smile, and an investment, to feel good about. CarePlus is available at each of the convenient Dental Associates centers.

Call 800.318.7007 or visit careplusdentalplans.com/lp and learn more about CarePlus and smiles made easy.

Care-Plus Dental Plans, Inc. is a non-profit Limited Service Health Organization licensed and regulated by the State of Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance. Dental Associates is the exclusive provider to Care-Plus Dental Plans, Inc.

CarePlus

CPLBRPRS0512