

Out & About

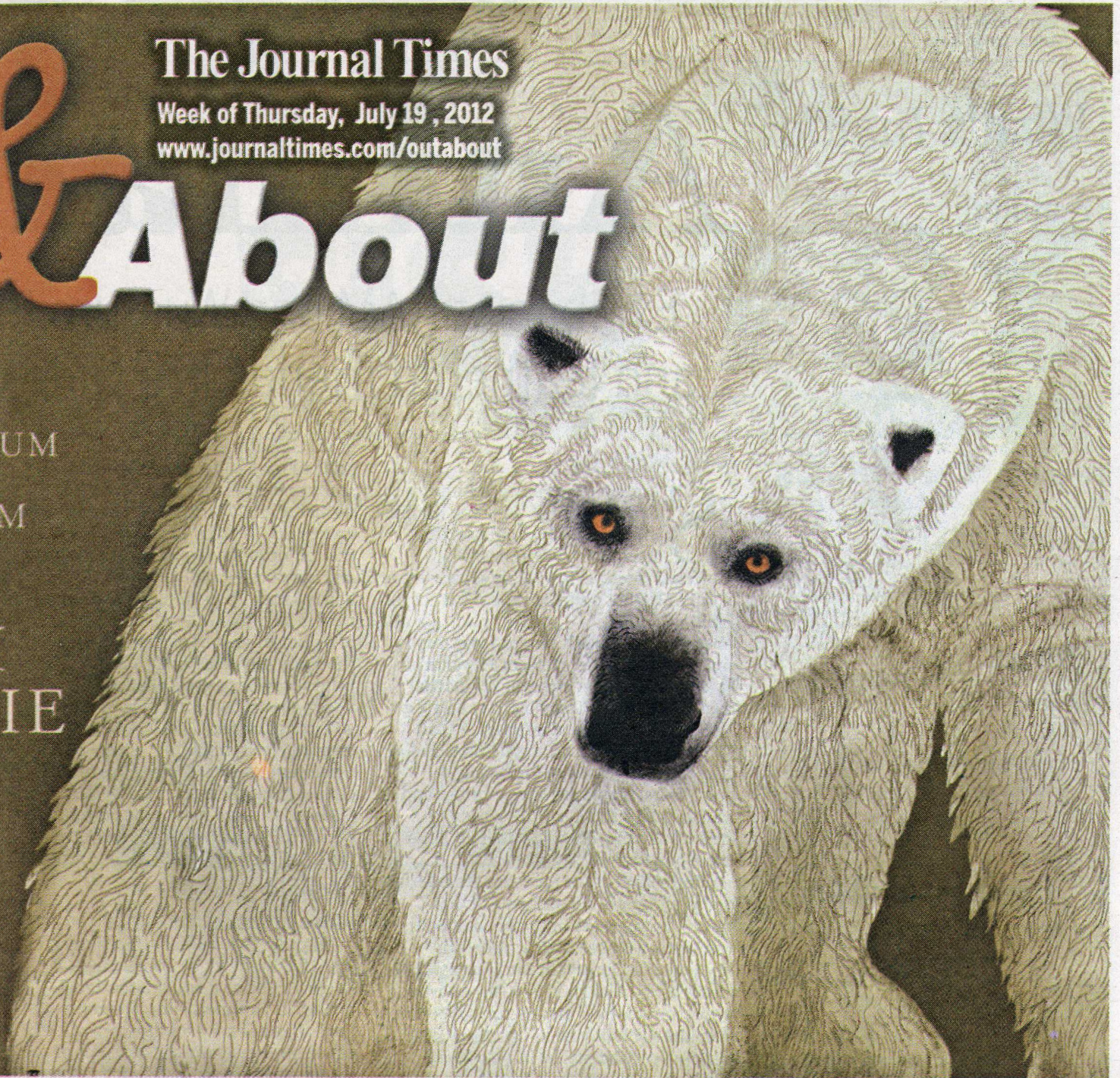
The Journal Times

Week of Thursday, July 19, 2012

www.journaltimes.com/outabout

RACINE ART MUSEUM
AND
WUSTUM MUSEUM
PRESENT

MUSEUM
MENAGERIE



Racine County Fair 2012 – “BARN TO BE WILD”

Animal Art

Exhibits at RAM and Wustum feature our furry and feathered friends in a wide variety of media

LEE B. ROBERTS
lroberts@journaltimes.com

Summer offers us opportunities to go out and observe the wildlife around us. This summer, the Racine Art Museum's two campuses invite us to explore such wildlife from a different point of view — that of the artist.

Between the RAM's Downtown campus and its partner, the Wustum Museum of Fine Arts, there are five exhibitions that focus on animals. Together they create a Museum Menagerie where visitors can find everything from domestic cats and dogs to more beastly beings, such as polar bears, mountain lions, reptiles and badgers, depicted in a wide variety of media including ceramics, metals, paper, glass, polymer and wood.

At the center of the Museum Menagerie is a traveling exhibit at the RAM that chronicles the work of printmaker Beth Van Hoesen (1926-2010). "Beth Van Hoesen: The Observant Eye" features 147 pieces by the San Francisco-based artist whose work is held in museum collections from the Art Institute of Chicago to the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

This show also includes some of her floral studies and human portraits, but it is Van Hoesen's detailed, realistic images of bears, chinchillas, big cats and birds of prey that really stand out. Rather than playful, Disney-fied versions of creatures, Van Hoesen gives us serious depictions of specific animals — ones she observed for some time and often knew by name, according to Bruce Pepich, executive director and curator of collections at RAM. "She gives these animals a dignity that we don't always ascribe to them," Pepich said. Visitors also have the opportunity to

look inside the artist's process in doing so, through a collection of Van Hoesen's study materials that accompany her formal prints. The RAM is the only venue on this exhibition's tour to showcase the color proofs, copper printing plates and sketches — some of which contain handwritten notes from Van Hoesen to her master printmaker — which trace the life of a print from start to finish. Displaying the study materials along side the finished prints provides a great educational lesson that shows what kind of thoughts go through artists' minds, as they are creating, Pepich said.

Museum-goers will also have future chances to explore the work of Van Hoesen, as about half of the pieces in the current exhibition were recently given to the RAM for its permanent collection, by the artist's trust.

More creature delights

The other two animal exhibitions at RAM feature work by a wide range of regional, national and international artists. In "Animal Nature," curator Lena Vigna showcases the work of contemporary crafts artists, some of whom explore unconventional media. Wisconsin artist Teresa Faris, for example, takes the human/animal connection to a new level in her wearable art objects by incorporating colorful wood pieces that her pet macaw has chewed into new shapes. And, Eunmi Chun, of Germany, uses animal skin and intestine, as well as human hair, to create substantial, yet delicate brooches.

There are also plenty of more conventional materials featured, including paper which is skillfully cut and layered to create playful, three-dimensional

Museum Menagerie Exhibits

At the **Racine Art Museum**, 441 Main St.:

◆ "Beth Van Hoesen: The Observant Eye," through Sept. 9.

◆ "Animal Nature," through Oct. 7.

◆ "Animal Magnetism: Sculpture from RAM's Collection," through Oct. 21.

Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$5 adults and \$3 for seniors, full-time students and young adults (12-18). Children younger than 12 are admitted free. Admission is free to all on the First Friday of every month. For information, go to www.ramart.org or call (262) 638-8300.

At the **Wustum Museum of Fine Arts**, 2519 Northwestern Ave.:

◆ "Creature Comforts: RAM's Community Art Exhibition," through Aug. 25.

◆ "Animal Magnetism: Works on Paper from RAM's Collection," through Aug. 25.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Admission and parking are free. For information, go to www.ramart.org or call (262) 636-9177.

naturescapes by Michael Velliquette of Wisconsin. Surprisingly, paper is also the material used by Japanese artist Kyoko Okubo, who creates tiny tableaux of various animals and people, juxtaposed in amusing situations from today's technological world. All made out of handmade washi paper, Okubo's creatures

More on **ANIMAL**, Page 4

About the cover

Designed by: PETER C. KOSZYCZAREK JR., peter.koszyczarek@journaltimes.com Artwork: "Pike," 1988, by BETH VAN HOESEN; etching, aquatint and watercolor, artist's proof, 3/5. Courtesy of the E. Mark Adams and Beth Van Hoesen Adams Trust Photo: JON BOLTON of Racine

EVENTS

Prairie Family Days event is Saturday in Pleasant Prairie

PLEASANT PRAIRIE — Prairie Family Days will be held Saturday, July 21, at Prairie Springs Park, between the RecPlex, 9900 Terwall Terrace, and Lake Andrea. Admission is free, though certain activities are fee-based.

Activities include: Sporting tournaments throughout the weekend; a youth fishing derby, 7 a.m.; a 5K walk/run, 8:30 a.m.; bike rodeo, 9 a.m.; craft fair, 11 a.m.; the inaugural Prairie Family Days Parade, 11:30 a.m.; a free open skate, 11:30 a.m., at the IcePlex; free pontoon boat rides, 12:30 p.m.; the Princess Promenade, 12:30 p.m.; bingo, 1 p.m.; Circus Boy performance, 1:15 p.m.; music by the Affordables, 3 p.m.; the Miss Pleasant Prairie Scholarship Pageant, 6 p.m.; raffle drawings, 7 p.m.; and music by the Untrained Laymen, 7:45 p.m. Due to

the dry weather conditions, fireworks will be held on a later date.

Times shown are starting times.

Food vendors participating in this year's Family Days include: Tres Flores Funnel Cakes, Ben & Jerry's, Nick-n-Willy's, Famous Dave's, Panda Express, Chancery, Trolley Dogs, Wisconsin Fried Cheese Curds, Pedro's Food, Spiral Gourmet Butterfly Fries and a corn and soda booth. Parking will be available inside Prairie Springs Park; however, a \$5 parking fee will be charged inside the park after 4 p.m. to help cover the cost of the event.

For more information, go to www.PrairieFamilyDays.com for a complete schedule of events, registration information for children's activities and parking information.

Food, Folks and Spokes in Kenosha Friday

KENOSHA — The Food, Folks and Spokes event will be held Friday, July 20, at Library Park, 60th Street and Seventh Avenue.

The Superweek International Cycling event begins at 10 a.m. with the final pro men race at 5:30 p.m. Races featuring youth, men and women will be held throughout the day.

Organized and hosted by the Kenosha YMCA (formerly the Kenosha Youth Foundation), the event includes the Festival of Food featuring food and beverages from area restaurants.

The Kenosha Fun Fest for Kids features games and rides.

There is no admission fee.

ANIMAL / Museum exhibits

From Page 2

have a charm similar to that of Van Hoesen's animals, Pepich said.

RAM's third animal exhibit "Animal Magnetism: Sculpture from RAM's Collection," gives viewers a broad look at animal imagery, including both familiar pieces that have been shown before, and recent acquisitions, Pepich said. This exhibit, which includes everything from jewelry to teapots and large sculpture, is designed to partner with one of the Wustum Museum exhibitions, "Animal Magnetism: Works on Paper from RAM's Collection."

Wustum's other Museum Menagerie

exhibit, "Creature Comforts: RAM's Community Art Exhibition," showcases innovative, animal-themed artwork created by area families and art students, as well as well-known regional artists who work at the museums. It features a variety of media and not only gives visitors new views of the animal world, but an idea of the type of work done in classes and workshops offered at Wustum.

Between the five exhibits at both campuses, RAM's summer Museum Menagerie is a treat for the senses and a great way escape the season's heat.

"It's lots of fun to see how rich a resource animals are as subject matter," Pepich said.

Hot air balloons sky in Waterford

WATERFORD — The second annual Waterford Hot Air Balloon Festival will be held Friday through Sunday, July 20-22, in the soccer field behind Evergreen Elementary School, 817 W. Main St.

Up to 20 hot air balloons will be featured at this year's family-friendly festival. There will also be entertainment, children's activities, food, a craft/vendor fair and the Waterford Lions Club Car Show.

Along with the return of tethered balloon rides (for \$15), this year's festival will offer full hot air balloon rides at a cost of \$250. Organizers have also added \$35 helicopter ride to the mix. All aerial events are weather dependent.

On Saturday, July 21, Brewfest IV will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. at Rivermoor Golf Club, 30802 Waterford Drive. Attendees will have an opportunity to sample more than 50 brews. Brews include, but are not limited to, Sierra Nevada, Horny Goat, Three Floyds,

'Zookeeper' on the

RACINE — The City of Racine's Parks, Recreation & Cultural Service Department's Summer Movies in the Parks continues with the movie "Zookeeper" Saturday, July 21, at Hantschel Park, 5400 Byrd Ave.

Weather permitting, the movie will

'Finding Nemo' to

STURTEVANT — The next film in the Movies Under the Stars series will be shown at dusk Friday, July 20, outside at Sturtevant Village Hall, 2801 89th St. The free movie will be "Finding Nemo." The remaining movies in the series

photography by Phil Koch. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Sat.

Envi Ultra Lounge

316 Main St., Racine
Ongoing — "Local Artists Series" featuring art work by John Zehren, Maureen Fritchen, Suelyn Scoon, Tiffany Tessman and Ashley Buczkiewicz.

Firehouse 3 Museum

700 Sixth St., Racine
A nonprofit organization run by the Racine Fire Bells. Open by appointment, call (262) 763-6253. Free.

Fog Horn House Maritime Museum

Wind Point Lighthouse, 4725 Lighthouse Drive, Wind Point
Exhibits include lighthouse and keeper's histories, ship models, shipwreck artifacts including the Kate Kelly schooner wrecked off of Wind Point in 1895, maritime mementos, and hands-on children's activities. New exhibits: "Fog Horns of Racine County" and "Battleship Wisconsin." Hours: Noon-4 p.m. Sat.-Sun., weather permitting. Call (262) 639-8282.

Funky Hannah's Beads and Art

324 Main St., Racine
Ongoing — Paintings of Chicago by Rick Smith, sculpture by Bill Reid, blown glass by Amanda Paffrath and work by Marj Lacock. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat., noon-4 p.m. Sun.

First Presbyterian Church Chapel

716 College Ave., Racine (use parking lot door)
Through July 29 — "Promise of Summer." Aug. 5-Sept. 9 — "Midsummer Madness." Hours: 10:30-11:25 a.m. Sun. (closed July 22); 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Tues.-Fri. (by appt. July 19-20). Ring buzzer.

The Grind Cafe

7300 Washington Ave., Mount Pleasant
Ongoing — Watercolors and paintings by Nate Mortensen and Ron M. Horvath. Hours: 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat., 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sun.

Logic Puzzle Museum

533 Milwaukee Ave., Burlington
Hands-on brain teasers, mechanical puzzles and logic challenges. \$6. Reservations required, call (262) 763-3946.

Mocha Lisa Coffeehouse and Gallery

2825 4½ Mile Road, Caledonia
Ongoing — A variety of work by local artists and the Jim Charnon gallery of fine art photography. Hours: 6:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat., 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Sun.

Racine Art Museum

441 Main St., Racine
Through July 22 — "Kim Cridler: My Wisconsin Home." Through Sept. 9 — "Beth Van Hoesen: The Observant Eye." Through mid-October — "Museum Managerie at RAM." Through Oct. 7 — "Animal Nature"; "Handle with Care: Recent Acquisitions in Glass." Through Oct. 21 — "Animal Magnetism: Sculpture from RAM's Collection." Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tues.-Sat., noon-5 p.m. Sun. Closed Mondays and federal holidays. \$5; \$3 youth ages 12-18, full-time students and seniors 63 and older; free children 11 and younger, members and to all on the first Friday of the month. Call (262) 638-8300.

'The Dark Knight' to the occasion for hi

ROGER MOORE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

It's something to see, all right — this "Dark Knight Rises."

An epic finale to the Christopher Nolan/Christian Bale "Dark Knight" trilogy, it has the summer's best effects, the summer's highest stakes — Gotham City Armageddon — the summer's sexiest villain and the biggest comic book movie thrills and best comic book movie chills of this cinema season.

It's a film of awe inspiring set pieces and jaw-dropping stunts — less of this "Avengers/Spider-Man/Transformers" digital effects overkill. It's topical, morphing the "Occupy" movement into a few choice messages about the few who take from the many, and the many who take anarchy to its logical extremes.

No expense was spared, all the stops were pulled out and a lot of effort went into tidying up this phenomenally successful film trilogy, tying up loose ends, sending it and everyone involved off with a bang.

And it's wonderfully acted. The regulars are sharp, the new pieces in the puzzle interesting and Anne Hathaway is so good as Catwoman that this loooong film drags when she's not on the screen. But then, the character has been, for decades, so sexy and idiot proof that you wonder where Halle Berry went wrong.

The story — The Batman (Christian Bale) went into retirement eight years ago after losing his lady love (Maggie Gyllenhaal) and killing good-man-gone-bad Harvey Dent (Aaron Eckhart), who is now celebrated as a hero.

Gotham City has been cleaned up. Only crotchety old Commissioner Gordon (Gary Oldman, terrific) is still on a "war" footing. Something wicked this way comes.

That something would be Bane, a hulking, meaty-mitts-on-his-lapels

Movie Review

'The Dark Knight Rises'

Rating: PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, some sensuality and language.

Running time:

2:44

★★★½

"There's a storm coming," that the rich soon will rue the day that the few "left so little for the rest of us."

Funny how the Bat keeps complaining to Alfred, "The Batman isn't needed any more." Funny how Alfred won't have his boss going out, risking death again. Funny how that would make a very short movie is both those things were true.

Funny _ that's something the Nolan Bat-movies haven't been, but "Dark Knight Rises" is. Hathaway has a crackling way with a line. "No guns," orders the Batman when he comes to her rescue. "Where's the fun in that?"

Director Nolan fills the screen with returning players — Butler Alfred (Michael Caine), Morgan Freeman as the gadget guru, from Batman's mentor, Liam Neeson, to Cillian Murphy as the unnamed "Scarecrow." Newcomers include Joseph Gordon-Levitt as a righteous cop, Matthew Modine as an inept one and Oscar winner Marion Cotillard as an energy tycoon. The script gives them all plenty to do and say.

terrorist who breathes through a mask and preaches anarchy. He will "free" the people of Gotham City by blowing it up _ either in bits, or all at once.

Sassy Selena Kyle (Hathaway) is cat-burgling the 1 percent who warns Bruce Wayne (Bale),

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