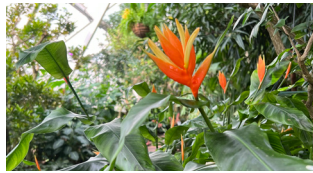




Humans & Robots | p. 5



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We're On Facebook!
UWRA-Madison



THE SIFTER

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Estate Planning Seminar Series

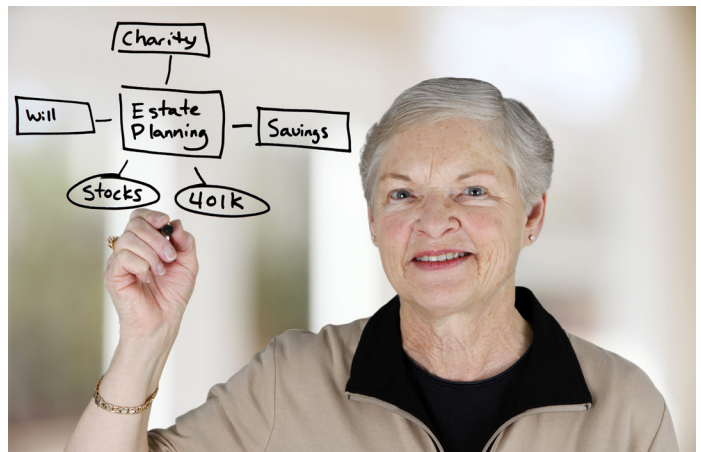
BY JACK SORENSON, CO-CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL MATTERS IN RETIREMENT

The UWRA's Committee on Financial Matters in Retirement (CFMR) is pleased to announce a three-part Estate Planning Seminar Series beginning in January 2023. The seminars will be presented by Madison-based attorneys at firms known for expertise in the development and execution of estate plans.

Estate planning is an essential task for anyone who wants to assure that their assets are distributed according to their wishes after their death with minimal legal oversight and cost.

The series is intended to give UWRA members a basic foundation of knowledge about estate planning, from which the audience can navigate this important topic and ask reasonable questions with confidence.

- **January 12 What Is Estate Planning and Who Should Participate? Why Is It Important?** Stephanie Thompson and Sadie Minobe of Krueger, Hernandez and Thompson, S.C.
- **February 7 Mechanisms for Achieving Your Goals: Wills, Trusts, and Direct Transfers** Specifics and benefits/shortfalls of each. and how to decide which is best for you. Peter Osman of Borakove Osman, LLC



- **March 7 How to Plan for the Dissolution of Your Estate** How to assure your goals are achieved.

Watch for final details of the series in the January *Sifter* and on the UWRA website. ■

BREAKFASTS AT ELIE'S CAFE

909 E. Broadway, Monona, WI

9:00-10:30 A.M. In-person gathering

Join fellow UWRA members for breakfast (or a cup of coffee or tea) at Elie's Family Restaurant. Members gather once a month for breakfast and lively conversation. No registration needed. Save these dates for spring 2023!

(No December gathering)

Tuesday, January 24

Tuesday, February 28

Tuesday, March 28

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

The Turning of the Year

BY SANDI HAASE

As the close of another year draws near, it is time to pause and reflect on the last twelve months. It is because of your continued support and involvement that UWRA continues to succeed despite the challenges. UWRA successfully held 25 webinars, 6 virtual and 5 in-person breakfast gatherings, 101 virtual committee meetings, and 5 virtual welcome gatherings for new members. UWRA has been busy, and there is no slowdown in sight!



As we continue to figure out the new way to make the world move forward, I want you to know how much I appreciate each one of you. You've hit the ground running and because of that, UWRA is thriving in a new environment. You are amazing! Thank you for a wonderful year.



Enjoy decorating every nook and corner of your home, savoring the goodies of the season, and getting together with family and friends. May joy and happiness continue to radiate in your lives long after holidays are past. ■

✓ REGISTER NOW

Online registration for UWRA Zoom webinars is easy, but members may also email the UWRA office at retireassn@mailplus.wisc.edu or call 608-262-0641 to register for events. Webinar links and call information are included in registration confirmations and reminders emailed to registrants 7 and 2 days prior to events.

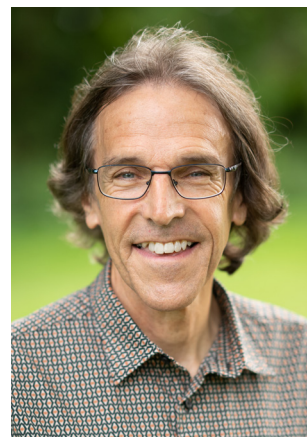
Need help with Zoom?

Contact UWRA.tech@gmail.com

NEW ON BOARD

Scott Hildebrand

I retired from UW–Madison in 2020 after 11 years as senior special assistant to the vice chancellor for finance and administration (first for Darrell Bazzell and later for Laurent Heller). During my time on campus, I had significant roles with numerous initiatives, including two finance and administration strategic plans, the sustainability task force, HR design, and the administrative improvement awards program.



Previously, I worked for eight years at UW–Green Bay as the marketing and media relations director and senior executive assistant to the UW–GB chancellor.

I entered higher education administration and communications after 23 years as a journalist, including 12 years as State Capitol bureau chief for the Green Bay Press-Gazette. I earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from UW–Madison in 1978.

My wife, Lisa (who recently retired as communications director of the La Follette School of Public Affairs), and I have two sons and daughters-in-law, and we welcomed our first grandchild in August 2022.

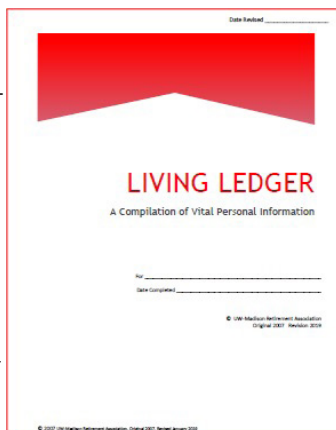
Considering that I retired just weeks before the onset of the pandemic, I am still searching for a "normal" retirement. Lisa and I are co-coordinators of the *Sifter's* Activities in Retirement feature, and I serve on the UWRA Board of Directors and Retirement Opportunities Committee.

Also keeping me busy is my weekly journal of the pandemic and retirement in general. I stay physically active on our elliptical and through golfing and snowshoeing. ■

UWRA NEWS

What Is the *Living Ledger*?

Living Ledger is a comprehensive document designed for UWRA members and their families. Essentially, *Living Ledger* is a tool to help members compile their personal, financial, and health information for use by their heirs and designated personal representatives to find important documents and locate personal contacts when needed.



The *Living Ledger* tool is intended to be as comprehensive as possible and, therefore, contains some sections that may be irrelevant to the needs of any given user. Nevertheless, filling out all the sections that are pertinent should provide all the information that helpers and survivors will need in case of the user's death or disability. To protect the confidentiality of the information contained in *Living Ledger*, users should not distribute too many copies and should keep certain information, such as Internet passwords, in a separate place.

Living Ledger is a benefit of UWRA membership and is available in the member-only section of the UWRA website. To access it, you will need to log onto the website using your email and password. You will find five versions of *Living Ledger* on the website: two Microsoft Word formats (doc and docx), an Adobe PDF, Adobe fillable PDF, and Apple Pages format. Members who prefer to fill out the workbook manually can print it from the PDF file.

To download the digital template, go to UWRA-madison.org, log in as a member, then navigate to Resources/Living Ledger. If you cannot print the ledger at home, you can purchase a paper copy (\$10 each) by visiting the "Our Store" tab at UWRA-madison.org or sending a request with a check payable to UWRA to the Association Office at 21 North Park Street, Room 7205, Madison, WI 53715-1218. ■

✓ STILL TIME TO REGISTER

THE WAR IN UKRAINE: HOW IT HAPPENED, WHAT HAPPENS NEXT Tuesday, December 6, 2022

2:00–3:30 P.M. Online Webinar

Registration Deadline: December 2

Advance registration is required. Register online at:

UWRAmadison.org/event-4988646

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK: INFLATION, RECESSION OR BOTH?

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

10:00 A.M.–NOON Online Webinar

Registration Deadline: December 9

Advance registration is required. Register online at:

UWRAmadison.org/event-4933337

Need help with Zoom?

Contact UWRA.tech@gmail.com

DONATION OPPORTUNITY

Your Used Eyeglasses Can Help Others See

You may know that the Wisconsin Lions Foundation (WLF) collects used eyeglasses. They also sort, wash, catalogue, box, and send those specs to be distributed free of charge to needy people in developing countries. During the WLF's last year, they collected 919,543 pairs of used eyeglasses and shipped more than 124,000 around the world. The Lions' Eyeglass Recycling Center is totally dependent on individuals donating eyeglasses to give the gift of sight to people in need. To learn more about eyeglass recycling, visit Eyeglass Recycling | Wisconsin Lions Foundation (wlf.info). Used eyeglasses can be sent to the Wisconsin Lions Foundation, 3834 County Road A, Rosholt, WI 54473. During this season of giving, consider helping the WLF by reaching, touching, and improving lives. ■

FINANCIAL MATTERS WEBINAR

What Is Estate Planning and Who Should Participate? Why Is It Important?

BY JACK SORENSON, CO-CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL MATTERS IN RETIREMENT

This is the first seminar in a three-part Estate Planning Seminar Series taking place in 2023, sponsored by the UWRA Committee on Financial Matters in Retirement. Estate planning is an essential task for anyone who wants to assure that their assets are distributed according to their wishes after death, with minimal legal oversight and cost.



Attorneys Stephanie Thompson and Sadie Minobe will introduce the basics of estate planning. Thompson emphasizes that her firm's mission is to achieve clients' goals for their estate plans. By understanding their wishes and concerns, she can educate, guide, and counsel them about the varied tools and options that can effectively and efficiently accomplish those goals. ■

If you have preliminary questions for the speakers, please email them to program coordinators Jack Sorenson and Karen Holden at jwsoren1@gmail.com and kcholden@wisc.edu by Thursday, January 5.

WHAT IS ESTATE PLANNING?

Thursday, January 12, 2023

1:00–3:00 P.M. Online Webinar

Registration Deadline: January 10

Advance registration is required. Register online at: UWRAmadison.org/event-5028148

Stephanie Thompson is the owner of Krueger, Hernandez & Thompson, SC. Her practice areas include estate planning, estate tax avoidance planning, probate/trust administration, and real estate.



Sadie Minobe is an associate with Krueger, Hernandez & Thompson, S.C. and focuses her practice on estate planning, trust administration, and probate.

FOOD PANTRY CONTRIBUTIONS

In lieu of registration fees for UWRA programs, donations are encouraged to the Open Seat Food Pantry that serves food-insecure UW students. The pantry is a project of ASM, Associated Students of Madison. Learn more about it at asm.wisc.edu/the-open-seat/

Checks payable to UW Foundation, with "Open Seat" on the memo line, may be mailed to: UWRA, 21 North Park Street, Room 7205, Madison, WI 53715-1218. ■



RETIREMENT OPPORTUNITIES WEBINARS

Human-Robot Interaction and Teams

BY FAISAL KAUD, MEMBER, RETIREMENT OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE

The ability of robots to operate in an uncertain environment, whether near humans or far away under human control, opens a vast number of possibilities, from robots aiding the elderly and disabled to robots preparing the surface of Mars for human arrival.

So far, research in this area has advanced slowly, with a focus on specific tasks rather than a universal ability typical in nature. Challenges appear both on the robotics side and on the human side: robots have a hard time adjusting to an unstructured environment, whereas human cognition has serious limits in adjusting to robots and grasping complex 2D and 3D motion tasks.

The way out of this impasse is to equip the robot with whole-body sensing—an ability to sense objects surrounding the robot’s whole body—and algorithms capable of utilizing these data in real time. One solution is giving the robots flexible sensing arrays—sensitive “skin” covering the whole robot body, akin to the skin covering the human body. Whole-body sensing brings interesting, even unexpected, properties. Our presenter, Vladimir Lumelsky, will review the cognitive, mathematical, algorithmic, and hardware issues involved in realizing such systems. ■

If you have preliminary questions for the speaker, please send them to program coordinator Faisal Kaud at fkaud@wisc.edu by Tuesday, January 10.

Vladimir Lumelsky is professor emeritus of mechanical and electrical engineering and computer science at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He has held engineering, research, administrative, and faculty positions with Ford Motor Research Labs, General Electric Research Center, Yale University, UW–Madison, University of Maryland, NASA-Goddard Space Center, and the National Science Foundation.



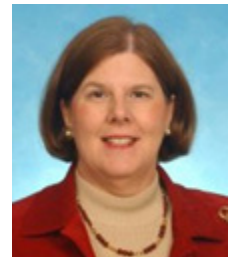
Do Not Let Your Family Tree Get Top-Heavy



This is the third session of Diane Deci’s genealogical series. You have begun the search into your family history, but you have papers here and electronic files there. This session will suggest techniques and tools, along with file naming conventions and storage options, to organize your genealogical data, photos, and documents. ■

If you have preliminary questions for the speaker, please email them in advance to program coordinator Mary Beth Plane at marybethplane@yahoo.com by Monday, January 2.

Diane Hart Deci began her genealogical research 45 years ago. Her areas of expertise are the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic regions. As Wisconsin DAR state registrar, she has presented numerous genealogical classes.



HUMAN-ROBOT INTERACTION AND TEAMS

Tuesday, January 17, 2023
2:00–3:30 P.M. Online Webinar

Registration Deadline: January 13

Advance registration is required. Register online at: UWRAmadison.org/event-4966043

DO NOT LET YOUR FAMILY TREE GET TOP HEAVY

Monday, January 9, 2023
10–11:30 A.M. Online Webinar

Registration Deadline: January 6

Advance registration is required. Register online at: UWRAmadison.org/event-4813133

MEET A UWRA MEMBER

Budging for the Bubbler

BY JOAN HOUSTON HALL

When I came to Madison in 1975 to the UW Department of English to work with Fred Cassidy on the Dictionary of American Regional English (DARE), I had already lived in Ohio, California, Idaho, Georgia, Oregon, and Maine. So, I cavalierly assumed that I would have no trouble with Wisconsin English. Wrong! I had no idea what a “bubbler” was, or that children could “budge” in line, or that a “golden birthday” was the one that coincided with the day of the month in which one was born. And I hadn’t yet been introduced to regional foods I’ve come to love: brats, Berliners, kringle, krumkake, and squeaky cheese. (I have not come to love lutefisk.)

People have an innate interest in the language they use and hear.

Over my forty years with DARE (as assistant, associate, and—following Fred Cassidy’s death—chief editor), I never lost my fascination with the variety of words, phrases, and pronunciations across the U.S., as well as the creativity of American speakers. Although we speak the same language, we sometimes do it in delightfully different ways.

One part of the job I particularly enjoyed was giving talks about the project throughout the state. People have an innate interest in the language they use and hear, and those at senior centers were particularly engaged. They reminisced about the words their grandparents used, or the funny phrases used by people “from away,” or the strange slang they heard from their grandchildren.

Over the decades, the DARE staff published five volumes of text, an additional volume of maps and field data, and a digital version. Although the project is no longer funded, my successor, George

Goebel, continues (as a volunteer) to prepare quarterly updates to the text, which are then uploaded to the digital version annually by Harvard University Press. (Visit dare.wisc.edu)

Since my retirement in 2015, my husband, George Hall, and I have enjoyed snowshoeing in Yellowstone National Park in February (where I had an unexpectedly close encounter with a bison), exploring Newfoundland, and traveling throughout the Pacific Northwest. A planned visit to Nebraska to experience the crane migration in 2020 was cancelled by the pandemic, but that’s now on the calendar for 2023. ■



OCTOBER 1–31, 2022

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Karen Cruickshanks,** *Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences, Population Health Sciences*
- Barbara Duerst,** *Academic Affairs, Medicine & Public Health*
- Michael Dunn,** *Wisconsin Public Media*
- Richard Gourse,** *Bacteriology*
- William Graf,** *University Communications*

- Carol Hulland,** *Medicine & Public Health, OB/Gyn*
- Dennis Manthey,** *Engineering Physics*
- Jocelyn Milner,** *Office of the Provost*
- Wilma Ross,** *Bacteriology*
- Stephen Strugnell**
- James Walker,** *Economics*
- Mark Walters,** *Human Resources*

{ The UWRA is your network in retirement! }

ACTIVITIES IN RETIREMENT

The Many Joys of Tree Farming

BY MIKE ROY, UWRA MEMBER

Applewood Tree Farm is a wonderful but sometimes exhausting hobby of 23 years. This city boy's interest in forests began at Boy Scout Forestry Camp. But university studies in biology led me to a career developing vaccines for government and industry and teaching in UW-Madison's biotechnology M.S. program.

Did you know that individuals and families own 56% of Wisconsin's 17 million acres of forest? My tree farm, on a ridge above the Wisconsin River near Boscobel, serves both to restore former farm fields and woods to native woodland and to maintain my health and happiness. Today, I grow fine hardwoods—largely black walnut, black cherry, hickory, and oak—in the lush woodland.

Woodland management involves planting, pruning, and harvesting trees and protecting the forest from disease, invasive species, and browsing. Early on, I focused on planting 10,000 seedlings on eroded hilltop fields and forest openings and on controlling deer browse. My woodland lifestyle, simple and seasonal, includes a modern trailer hideaway, a shed, a tractor, and both power and hand tools.

Labor is most intense in the mornings. I mow trails for tractor access, hiking, or birdwatching. I also control undesirable plants through cutting or spraying. Afternoons are for chores, relaxation, or discovering the Driftless region. Timber sales, selective thinning of mature trees by professional foresters and loggers, is a 20-year event. Trees planted in 2004 will be harvested by my grandchildren.

I gain many pleasures from tree farming. My grandchildren explore nature and enjoy campfires. Neighbors provide conversation or advice, and cameras reveal residents and transients: breeding populations of bobcat, fox, weasel, badger, and (ugh!) skunk. In moonlight, I hear coyotes teaching their pups to call from a hilltop.

I enjoy snowy walks in absolute silence, salute gnarled oaks (mere seedlings in 1762 or 1870), and



savor crisp apples and pears from the orchard. Unfortunately, the sudden arrival of pokeweed also demonstrates the impact of climate change.

But the greatest pleasure was voiced by Ben Logan in his book, *The Land Remembers*. "Once you have lived on the land, been a partner with its moods, secrets, and seasons, you cannot leave. The land remembers. It says 'I am here. You are part of me.'" ■

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

PLATO Winter Courses Announced

Registration runs from December 13 to January 8 for winter courses offered by PLATO (Participatory Learning and Teaching Organization).

Classic Films (online virtual class)

Exploring Creativity (art workshop, Christ Presbyterian Church)

Film History: From the Jazz Singer to Steamboat Willy (Oakwood Village–University Woods)

Fictional Detectives (Madison Senior Center)

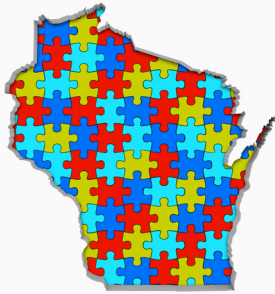
Find course and registration details at platomadison.org/Winter-2022-Course-Schedule. ■

WEBINAR RECAP

Gerrymandering in Wisconsin, and Gerrymandering in General

BY MILLARD SUSMAN, MEMBER, RETIREMENT OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE

Exactly one week prior to the 2022 general election, Jordan Ellenberg of the UW–Madison Mathematics Department presented a superb webinar on electoral maps. Exact proportional representation, he noted, is not the test of fairness in the drawing of electoral maps. Minority parties that get, say, 10% of the popular vote do not get 10% of the seats in the legislature—and no one is likely to argue that they should.



A better test of the fairness of an electoral map would be to see how it compares to maps generated by a totally non-partisan computer that is programmed to follow all of the rules and laws regarding the size of electoral districts, the recognition of county boundaries, and so

forth, but not take into account party affiliations of citizens. The Wisconsin electoral map currently in force has been compared to 10,000 map variations drawn by such a computer program. It turns out the party imbalance in the state legislature falls in the extreme tail of the bell curve of computer-drawn maps. It is extremely unlikely that the Wisconsin Legislature will choose to adopt a fairer map, and the courts have so far been reluctant to take on the job.

Professor Ellenberg suggested that citizen pressure to revisit this issue might help. The job could be assigned to an impartial committee, as it is in Michigan and Iowa, if the Legislature could be persuaded to accept that approach. The adoption of ranked-choice voting might make it much more difficult for legislators to draw gerrymandered maps, or it might be feasible to empower voters to veto maps through a referendum. ■

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Tax Preparers Needed

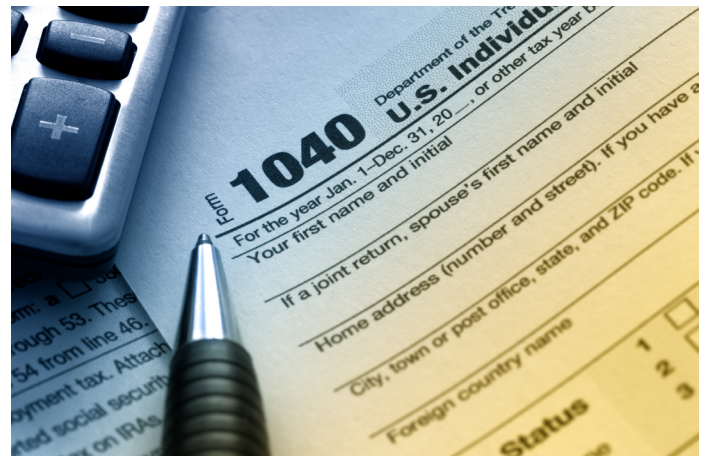
BY GAIL BERGMAN, UWRA MEMBER AND VITA VOLUNTEER

Goodwill of South Central Wisconsin (SCWI) is proud to be offering Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) clinics again, and we need your help. The VITA clinics are designed to provide free tax-preparation assistance to low-income taxpayers such as the elderly, individuals with disabilities, and persons with limited English-language skills.

You don't have to be an accountant to volunteer, just committed to our community. By volunteering, be a part of bringing millions of dollars each year into the homes of low-income families, allowing them to pay bills, prepare for home ownership, and be an active part of local economies. You can decide how much volunteer time to provide and whether to prepare taxes remotely or at a socially distanced site.

This year, training will again be provided via Zoom and through self-paced, e-learning courses through the IRS Link and Learn training program. Training sessions will begin in early January and continue until the start of the tax preparation season in February.

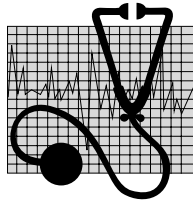
For more information, please email vita@goodwillscwi.org or call 608-852-8355. ■



WELLNESS MATTERS

Am I SAD, or Is It Just the Moody Blues?

BY DAVID M. DECI MD, UWRA MEMBER



It used to be that mention of the Moody Blues evoked “Nights in White Satin,” the rock and roll hit from the late 1960s. Fast forward 50 years, and everyone is talking about the Winter Blues or SAD.

SAD (or Seasonal Affective Disorder) is a recognized type of depression. Symptoms include lack of interest in usual activities, withdrawal, agitation, sleep disturbance, fatigue, poor self-esteem, and change in weight or appetite. To meet the definition of SAD, these symptoms must be limited to the fall/winter season, resolve completely in the spring/summer, and recur on an annual basis.



We do not fully understand the cause of SAD. It likely has to do with disruptions in the complex interactions between light and certain centers in the brain. SAD occurs more often in women and in persons living in higher latitudes.

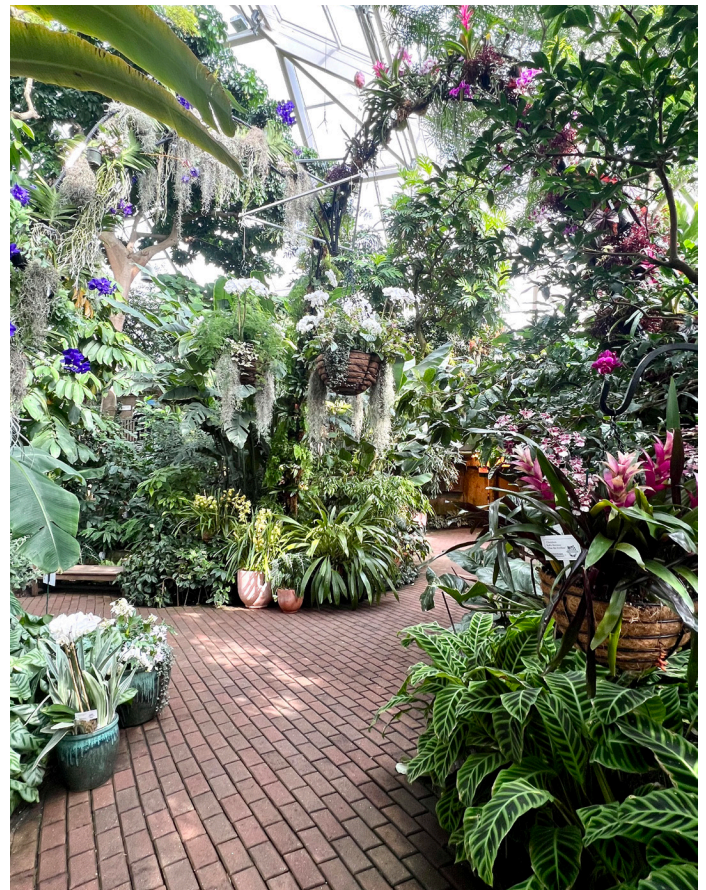
Clinical research has shown that exposure to light is the most effective treatment. Special SAD light boxes are commercially available and are designed to give regulated amounts of light that have been filtered from harmful UV radiation. Light equivalents of 2,500 to 10,000 LUX should be given at

eye level for 30–60 minutes per day. Sitting at a computer or reading a book with the light directed at your face is an ideal way of utilizing this therapy.

Other proven methods of treatment include adequate sleep at consistent times each night, exercise, outdoor activities, and cognitive behavioral therapy.

Only one medication has been approved for treatment of SAD. The long-acting formulation of bupropion, when taken beginning in early fall, has proven to prevent recurrent SAD in about 50% of people. Side effects can occasionally include elevated blood pressure and rapid heart rate, so a careful consultation with your primary care provider is essential.

So, when the dark and dreary days of winter turn into the “Moody Blues,” consider a SAD light box, increased exercise, and a walk among the tropical plants in the Bolz Conservatory at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. ■



REFLECTIONS

Solving Life's Puzzles

BY MARY BARNARD RAY

As I age, I hang on to any sign that my mind is still sharp. One of those signs has been the daily Sudoku in the *Wisconsin State Journal*. Each day over breakfast, I have been solving the puzzle, even the hardest Saturday offering. Usually, I have celebrated the successful solution by saying to myself, "sane for another day." It's been a comforting ritual.



I try to accept the changes of aging with grace. I really do. But a few months ago, the State Journal changed the puzzle page, and those changes have been stretching my acceptance to the limit. The most disruptive change has been

the new format of the Sudoku, changing the font and the darkness of the lines. Mysteriously, this change in format severely reduced my success rate at the puzzle, which of course reduced my daily reassurance that I am still sane.

Adding further injury, the Sudoku is now tiny, so that when I write the possible numbers in the square, I must use the finest-point pen that I have. Even then, the numbers are so small that I strain to read my writing. "Is that a 2 or a 3? Did I mark out that number or is it just blurred?" One misreading can ruin the whole solution, but I seldom discover it until I get down to the last few numbers. Although I could redraw the puzzle on separate paper, who wants to bother doing that? Perhaps the editors forgot that most of their readers these days are of bifocal age.

Beyond that change, they are using a different supplier of the Sudoku puzzles, and this supplier has a slightly different approach to creating the puzzles. This requires me to change my approach to solving them. No longer can I get much traction by solving for one number in all nine squares at once. Sometimes I must focus on rows. It's much

rarer to find nice groupings of three possibilities for three squares in a row, so that I can remove those numbers from all the other squares.

No doubt this forced change in approach is good for my brain, like learning a new language. It certainly is forcing me to solve puzzles in new ways. But it's painful. It requires patience and humility. It requires more time each morning, creating a kind of mental endurance test. Fortunately, it also requires a certain stubbornness, and that is a quality I have in good supply. So, rather than complaining to the Journal's editor, I tell myself that I am venturing into new territory and developing new skill sets. I pat myself on the back for not being too old to learn. I am replacing "sane for another day" with "once more into the fray." And, slowly, I am getting better at solving those puzzles. ■



ATTIC ANGEL ASSOCIATION

Continuing Education and Concert in December

The Continuing Education Programs of the Attic Angel Association, open to the public, are held Monday mornings at Attic Angel Place, 8301 Old Sauk Road, in Middleton.



Coffee is served at 10:00 A.M. and the program begins at 10:30 A.M. There is no charge, and no reservation is required but capacity is 80 persons. Program attendees must screen at the front entrance and wear a health-grade mask.

December 5 Badger Prairie Needs Network: Mission Impact and Partnership with the Community

Marcia Kasieta, Prairie Kitchen/K2T Director

December 12 Angel Choir Open to the Public. ■

BOOK MARKS

Path Lit by Lightning: The Life of Jim Thorpe

REVIEWED BY SCOTT HILDEBRAND, BOARD OF DIRECTORS & UWRA MEMBER

In July 1912, Jim Thorpe became a legend, winning two track and field gold medals at the Olympic Games in Stockholm, Sweden. Six months later, he was stripped of his awards after it was reported that he previously played minor league baseball for pay in violation of strict Olympic rules of amateurism.

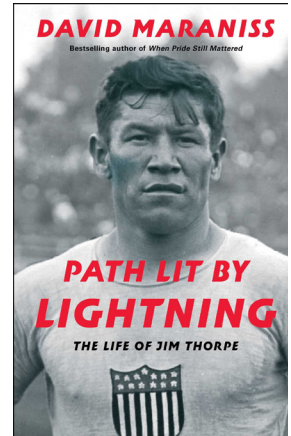
In *Path Lit by Lightning: The Life of Jim Thorpe* (Simon & Schuster, 2022), biographer David Maraniss chronicles Thorpe’s triumphs and travails on and off the fields of play. Maraniss, who attended UW–Madison and grew up in the city, is one of America’s most distinguished biographers. He places Thorpe’s story in the context of social and cultural issues relating to the history and treatment of American Indians. Thorpe, a member of the Sac and Fox nation who was educated at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School in Pennsylvania, became a symbol of that treatment by white society. It included federal government efforts that forced thousands of Indian children to assimilate to white norms.

Maraniss writes: “Some resisted, many suffered, some thrived, most learned the nuances of how to

survive while maintaining their identity as Native Americans. Jim Thorpe became a symbol for almost all of that. At times he resisted. At times he suffered. At times he thrived. And he survived.”

Later in his life, Thorpe was portrayed by actor Burt Lancaster, a white man, in the movie *Jim Thorpe: All American*. Lancaster got the role, Maraniss notes, despite Thorpe’s campaign seeking more roles for Native American actors in Hollywood.

Thorpe, who also starred in football and played major league baseball, had his ups and downs throughout his life. But one thing is clear: his image as an all-time great athlete prevailed. In a 1950 Associated Press poll to name the Greatest Athlete of the Half-Century, Thorpe won by an overwhelming margin. And, finally, this year the International Olympic Committee restored Thorpe as the sole winner of the decathlon and pentathlon gold medals in the 1912 Olympics. ■



Please email brief book reviews for Book Marks to column coordinator Laurie Mayberry at laurie.mayberry@wisc.edu.

■ UW–Madison Retirement Association Calendar Dates ■

Continue to monitor the UWRAmadison.org website for further updates.

Virtual events (V), In-Person events (IP)

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--|
| • Tuesday, December 6, 2022 | 2:00–3:30 P.M. | Webinar <i>The War in Ukraine</i> (V) |
| • Wednesday, December 14, 2022 | 10:00 A.M.–NOON | Webinar <i>Economic Outlook: Inflation, Recession, Both?</i> (V) |
| • Monday, January 9, 2023 | 10:00–11:30 A.M. | Webinar <i>Do Not Let the Family Tree Get Top Heavy</i> (V) |
| • Thursday, January 12, 2023 | 1:00–3:00 P.M. | Webinar <i>What Is Estate Planning? And Why Do It?</i> (V) |
| • Tuesday, January 17, 2023 | 2:00–3:30 P.M. | Webinar <i>Human-Robot Interaction and Teams</i> (V) |
| • Tuesday, January 24, 2023 | 9:00–10:30 A.M. | Breakfast at Elie's Cafe (IP) |
| • Tuesday, February 7, 2023 | 2:00–4:00 P.M. | Webinar <i>Wills, Trusts, and Direct Transfers</i> (V) |

For information on upcoming PLATO trips, visit platomadison.org/page-18561. For information on Board and Committee meetings and deadlines for **The Sifter**, see the UWRA website at UWRAmadison.org.

THE SIFTER

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