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PERFECT TIMING

CHAGALL EXHIBIT A FEATHER IN MANITOWOC'S CAP

PATTI ZARLING

USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

MANITOWOC - The community stepped up to make the project possible, and now it's time for the community to reap the rewards of a debut exhibit of Marc Chagall prints at the Rahn-West Art Museum, experts say.

Earlier in the week, museum curator Adam Lovell was measuring walls and drilling in screws to hang some of the 38 prints that make up Chagall's 1967 *Le Cirque* series.

"We are very fortunate to have something like this coming to Manitowoc," he said.

When the Rahn-West, 610 N. Eighth St., opens the exhibit Sunday, it will be the first time anyone in America has seen the complete print series in a single display, museum Director Greg Vashley said. It's only been shown twice, the other was in the Marc Chagall Museum in France.

With major exhibits of Chagall's works happening in both Montreal and Los Angeles this spring and summer, the 20th-century artist's works are front and center in art-lover's minds and Manitowoc's exhibit is expected to attract visitors from around the country and the world.

"We didn't plan it this way, but the timing worked out perfectly," Vashley said.

In addition, because Chagall lived for a time in Chicago and

See CHAGALL, Page 3A

If you go

Where: Rahn-West Art Museum is at 610 N. Eighth St., Manitowoc, and open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and closed Monday. Admission is free, although donations are accepted.

When: The Chagall exhibit runs June 11 through Sept. 14. Jacobson will review 25 major Chagall pieces at a 4 p.m. lecture on June 11.



JOHN CLARK/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN



ABOUT A YEAR AGO, MANITOWOC'S RAHN-WEST ART MUSEUM ACQUIRED EIGHT PRINTS BY 20TH-CENTURY ARTIST CHAGALL FROM CHAGALL'S AUCTION HOUSE IN NEW YORK TO COMPLETE THE MUSEUM'S 38-PIECE PORTFOLIO OF HIS 1967 *Le Cirque* SERIES. PICTURED IS ONE OF THOSE PRINTS.

TOP: RAHN-WEST CURATOR ADAM LOVELL STARTS ON THE INSTALLATION OF MARC CHAGALL'S *Le Cirque* EXHIBIT AT THE RAHN-WEST ART MUSEUM JUNE 8 IN MANITOWOC.

Police arrest five people after heroin distribution investigation

USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

MANITOWOC - Five people were arrested Wednesday afternoon by Manitowoc County Metro Drug Unit after a four-month heroin distribution investigation.

Darryl Reynolds, 38, Clarence Smith, 47, Jeffrey Trautner, 50, Myron Pieschel, 59, and Tammy Pieschel, 48, all face heroin and methamphetamine-related charges, a press release from Metro Drug Unit said.

According to the release, the investigation involved a substantial amount of heroin being distributed from Rockford, Illinois, to Manitowoc County.

As part of the investigation, officers conducted multiple controlled purchases of heroin in Manitowoc and Rockford.

Search warrants were conducted at residences in the 4200 block of Ray Street and the 2100 block of South 21st Street in Manitowoc.

On Wednesday afternoon, investigators arranged for the purchase of \$2,500 worth of heroin in Manitowoc. Reynolds and Smith were arrested after a short pursuit on South 21st Street, south of Washington Street. Investigators found additional heroin

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Reynolds



Smith



Trautner



Myron Pieschel



Tammy Pieschel

One injured, others displaced in Manitowoc apartment fire

ALISA M. SCHAFER

USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

MANITOWOC - A Wednesday afternoon apartment fire resulted in one person being taken to the hospital and multiple residents being temporarily displaced.

A press release from Manitowoc Fire Department said the fire started in a second-floor apartment at 314 Riverview Drive at approximately 3:51 p.m. When firefighters arrived, flames and heavy smoke could be seen from a broken window. The fire was extinguished within 45 minutes, but fire crews stayed on scene until 6:30 p.m.

Fire crews entered the apartments to find an occupant who was looking for a pet.

Substantial damage to the building was sustained during the fire, particu-

See FIRE, Page 5A

10 takeaways from Avery's motion for new trial

JOHN ERBAK and ANDY THOMPSON

USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

MANITOWOC - There was no media hoopla on Wednesday when attorney Kathleen Zellner showed up at the Manitowoc County courthouse to file five binders of documents on behalf of convicted killer Steven Avery.

Zellner's much-anticipated post-conviction motion filing — more than 1,250 pages in length — lays out her arguments and theories surrounding the death of Terress Halbach.

The Wisconsin Department of Justice told USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin that Avery's motion for a new trial is



Zellner

without merit.

"We are confident that as with Mr. Avery's prior motions, this one also is without merit and will be rejected once it is considered by the court," said Rebecca Halbach, senior communications specialist at the state Attorney General's office.

"We continue to send our condolences to the Halbach family as they have to endure Avery's ridiculous attempts to relitigate his guilty verdict and sentence."

The motion filed on behalf of Avery, who turns 55 next month, won't be re-scheduled overnight. It will likely take a

number of months before Sheboygan County Judge Angela Sukhrievic issues a ruling.

Here are some of the key revelations and accusations that Zellner laid out as part of her quest to prove that her client was wrongfully convicted of murder.

1. Criticizes the previous criminal defense work of Avery's original trial lawyers, Jerry Buting and Dean Strang.

Zellner's voluminous filing accuses the two prominent Wisconsin attorneys of shoddy work after Avery hired

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Motion

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them for \$220,000 after being charged with Halbach's murder in 2005. "Trial defense counsel failed to thoroughly investigate other suspects and instead chose a scattergun approach of simply naming individuals without meeting the requirements of State V. Denny (a third-party alternative defense). Trial defense counsel also failed to utilize available evidence which confirmed that the (victim's) vehicle was moved into the Avery property after Mr. Halbach was killed elsewhere."

Strang and Blutig Avery in their motion. They said, "We are glad that she has filed a motion with supporting documents. What really matters here, however, is that we get closer to the truth in this case and to justice for everyone. We hope that Ms. Zeller, and Steven Avery's entire current legal team, have taken an important step yesterday toward those two related goals."

2. Maintains that Avery's 1996 blood vial that became the focus of Strang and Blutig's evidence-planting trial defense was irrelevant and had nothing to do with the case. "Mr. Avery's Wisconsin Innocence Project attorneys broke the seal of the 1996 blood vial package and resealed the enclosed box using only a strip of Scotch tape. There was no credible proof presented to the jury establishing that Lt. James Lank and Sgt. (Andrew) Colborn accessed the Clark of Court's file to obtain Mr. Avery's blood to plant it in the RAV4."

3. Suggests Avery's blood was planted inside the RAV4, but stated that the blood came from inside Avery's bathroom in his red trailer. According to Zeller, Avery broke open a cap on the middle finger of his right hand on Nov. 3, 2005. "Mr. Avery dripped blood onto the rim and basin of the sink and the bathroom floor. He did not clean the blood out of his sink prior to leaving the trailer at approximately 7:30 p.m. to go to Menards with his brother Chuck." Avery

got home around 3 p.m. and went straight to bed. The next morning, he entered his bathroom to shower, noticing that more of the blood in and around the sink had been removed. Mr. Avery consistently expressed his belief to his attorneys and the media that the blood of his found in Ms. Halbach's vehicle was planted and that it came from his trailer."

4. Disputes the prosecution's claim that Halbach suffered gunshot wounds to her head and that her dead body was thrown into the cargo area of her vehicle. "The erroneous blood spatter testimony of the State's expert (Nick) Stablik resulted in the State presenting a false narrative to the jury about the sequence of events surrounding the attack on Ms. Halbach." Stuart James, a renowned blood-spatter expert from Florida, conducted several experiments concluding Halbach "was struck on the rear bumper on the driver's side where she was struck repeatedly by an object similar to a metal or hammer."

5. Conducted experiments to prove Colborn and Lank's testimony about finding the spare key inside Avery's bedroom was false. "Neither side subpoenaed Mr. Avery's bookcase to the trial. Trial defense counsel's failure to have the bookcase at trial to demonstrate the veracity of the State's story placed the discovery of the key was a fatal error. A simple experiment with the bookcase and Toyota key would have conclusively demonstrated that the key was planted next to the bookcase by Sgt. Colborn and Lt. Lank."

6. Points to Halbach's residence in rural Calumet County as the source of the spare key that is suspected to have been planted. At the time she lived there with Scott Bloodgood, a longtime friend and former classmate. "On Nov. 4, 2005, news media crews filmed the interior of the house Ms. Halbach shared with Mr. Bloodgood. While interviewing Mr. Bloodgood in the kitchen, news media filmed what appeared to be the RAV4 sub-key and blue lanyard, which was next to the kitchen sink. It is inconceivable that the key that was found in Mr. Avery's bedroom was Ms. Halbach's sub-key with a

blue lanyard attached." **7. Offers testimony from DNA expert, Dr. Karl Reich of Illinois, to assert that Avery's DNA was planted onto the spare key.** "Dr. Reich conducted experiments that demonstrate that the DNA on the sub-key found in Mr. Avery's bedroom is of much greater quantity than the amount of DNA Mr. Avery deposited on an exemplar sub-key by holding it in his hand for 12 minutes as a part of Dr. Reich's experiment."

Specifically, Dr. Reich found that Mr. Avery deposited 10 times less DNA on the exemplar sub-key than what the Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory detected on the sub-key recovered from Mr. Avery's bedroom — the only plausible explanation is that the DNA was planted on the key from another source of Mr. Avery's DNA."

8. Accuses Manitowoc County law enforcement of taking Avery's toothbrush from his bathroom and using that tooth to plant Avery's DNA onto the spare key for Halbach's vehicle. "Mr. Avery's toothbrush was taken by law enforcement and current post-conviction counsel's DNA experts' experiments have shown that rubbing a toothbrush on an exemplar sub-key would produce a comparable quantity of DNA. The only plausible explanation for the missing toothbrush was that law enforcement removed the toothbrush but never logged it into evidence so that it could be rubbed on the sub-key of Ms. Halbach."

9. Casts a cloud of suspicion on lead investigators Mark Wisegert of Calumet County and Tom Fassbender of the Wisconsin Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation. "The two accused violating Avery's Fourth Amendment rights by exceeding the scope of a search warrant to obtain Halbach's DNA for evidence planting purposes. Two grain swabs were taken from Mr. Key at Aurora Medical Center by a nurse on Nov. 9, 2005, and the swabs (Payer) Fritch would never have taken the grain swabs without being specifically instructed to do so by Agent Fassbender and law. Wisegert's explanation that they did not realize that the search warrant did not call for taking grain swabs is not credible. It is a reasonable probability that they intended to plant DNA from the grain swabs and conceal from

the official medical report. That grain swabs were taken, law. Wisegert clearly fabricated the chain of custody form given to Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory. In light of the new scientific testing done on the hood latch, law. Wisegert submitted the grain swabs for the hood latch swabs collected (in April 2006) by Sgt. (Bill) Tyson."

10. Accuses Halbach's ex-boyfriend, Ryan Hillegas, formerly of Hilbert, of being the real killer. According to court filings, Zeller uncovered evidence that Hillegas had an abusive relationship with Halbach. Before Ms. Halbach's murder, the killer most likely became aware that she was sexually involved with a married man and a second male who was a very close friend of the killer's. Zeller stated on page 98 of her legal brief: "The killer who gave the password to her voice mailbox, deleted several of Ms. Halbach's voice messages to buy himself time before Teresa's family and friends realized she was missing and began searching for her. The killer knew Ms. Halbach very well in order to know her password. Clearly, this person was not Mr. Avery. The killer wanted to control the investigation and direct it towards the single goal of framing Mr. Avery for the murder."

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