

Ghosts of hunting past linger CLUB MEMBERS CARRY ON CUSTOMS AND RITUALS AS PART OF THEIR LOVE OF HOUNDS AND HOUND HUNTING | 3B



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Avery case in lull, but things will heat up

JOHN FERAK
USA TODAY NETWORK WISCONSIN

MANTWOC. To the dismay of legions of "Making a Murderer" followers, the post-conviction murder case of Steven Avery remains in a lull—and it may stay that way for a few more months.

It remains unclear whether the testing on new pieces of evidence from the 2005 Theresa Halbach murder is under way, or if the items are backlogged, a common

occurrence at laboratories. Avery's attorney, Kathleen Zellner, of suburban Chicago has told USA TODAY NETWORK Wisconsin that the testing should wrap up by March. The state has dampened the spirit of some Avery supporters.

Slowly beginning to lose hope says "one person recently commented on the social media website Reddit, "Someone give me a pep talk! All reasonable, does anyone

feel this case has stagnated in a big way and not for the good? Thought she had what she needed! Also I am sure some of the results would be back by now. I can't help but feel a little in the confidence. Eventually, the independent lab tests will be known to both Zellner and the Wisconsin Department of Justice, whose lawyers worked with Zell-

ner to facilitate the testing. In court filings last August, Zellner made it clear she intends to file her highly anticipated post-conviction motion aiming to prove Avery's innocence after the results are available. In two of Zellner's most high-profile conversations — Ryan Ferguson of Missouri and Kevin Fox of Illinois — she has focused on overlooked, obscure scientific evidence. She has also fo-



Kathleen Zellner, the attorney representing Steven Avery, speaks with the media in court at the Manitowish County Courthouse.



Calvin Pemberton from Beaver City, Neb., right, drove 13 hours to get to Milwaukee, arriving with his fiancé at 3:30 a.m. Dec. 13, 2016 for President-elect Donald Trump's USA Thank You tour stop in Milwaukee. Milwaukee is one of the cities identified in a Center for Public Integrity investigation that does not charge for security costs related to candidate visits.



Margje and Ken Staats

Wisconsin woman recounts airport shooting

SAMANTHA HERNANDEZ
USA TODAY NETWORK WISCONSIN

Margje "Margie" Staats watched gun shells casing bounce as she lay on the floor of the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport.

Arms veteran Esteban Santiago of Anchorage, Alaska, is accused of opening fire in the airport Friday, killing five and injuring six. News reports state the 26-year-old had the gun in his checked baggage. Santiago is facing federal charges for the shooting.

Margje said she and her husband survived the shooting as a result of a simple act — giving popcorn to a stranger.

As Margje and Ken were leaving their Carlisle home Friday, she grabbed several bags of popcorn on a whim. The couple goes over Country View Farms Maple Syrup and the popcorn is one of their products. They flew out of Green Bay to Atlanta and from there took a flight to Florida.

On the plane to Florida, Margje said, she and Ken sat near another couple, Shirley and Steve Timmons of Ohio.

The two couples talked about their families, business, gardening and their shared faith in God.

After deplaning, the couples made their way to the baggage claim. Impulsively, Margje decided to give the couple a bag of caramel popcorn.

She handed the popcorn to Shirley and leaned down to close her bag. That's when she heard the first shot. "I knew the sound. I knew the smell," she said. The sound of bullet casing hitting the floor soon followed.

She said there was a pause after the first shot and someone yelled a

WHO PAYS?

Police want presidential candidates to pay bills

DAVE LEVENTHAL
CENTER FOR PUBLIC INTEGRITY

Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders may not remember much about the rallies they each held last year in Green Bay.

But officials at Green Bay City Hall sure do. And they're baffled: The three politicians have stiffed them on police protection bills totaling \$24,000.

"We appreciate, and we feel honored, when the candidates come to Green Bay," said Christine Jeffery, chief of staff to Mayor Jim Schmidt. "We are also very appreciative when they honor their debts."

Green Bay is no anomaly. At least three dozen municipal governments and law enforcement agencies say presidential campaigns have ignored hundreds of thousands of dollars in outstanding bills stemming from police security for campaign events — from Vallejo, California, to the University of Pittsburgh.

That's according to a Center for Public Integrity analysis of federal campaign disclosures and municipal invoices, as well as interviews with more than 60 local government officials.

Presidential campaigns asserted in communications with some city govern-



ments that they're not responsible for many security costs. But this widespread failure to pay follows an election season when many presidential candidates — particularly Trump — argued that law enforcement deserved both more resources and more respect.

Local cops also found themselves in the midst of numerous unruly, even violent, Trump rallies, with Trump himself sometimes directing security to object protesters and hecklers.

Trump's campaign alone hasn't paid nearly \$300,000 worth of police-related invoices, according to municipal billing records obtained by the Center for Public Integrity.

And Trump arguably owes more. That's because the Trump campaign — despite receiving demand letters and collection notices — doesn't acknowledge in federal campaign financial disclosures that it owes cities a cent. Nor

does the Clinton campaign. The Sanders campaign, in contrast, says in federal campaign filings that it owes \$49,450, spread among nearly two dozen municipalities and law enforcement agencies.

The differing approaches make it difficult to determine just how many security-related bills have been sent to the major White House headquarters since their campaigns began touring the nation in earnest in mid-2015. The Trump, Clinton and Sanders campaigns wouldn't comment.

"Complicating cities' collection efforts: Local officials often can't force campaigns to pay unless they signed a formal, contractual agreement with the campaigns, which many have not.

Contract or not, many mayors, police chiefs and city managers say presidential candidates who profess to support law enforcement should back up their words with dollars.

"There shouldn't be much debate about it — cities across America provide protection at a cost and should be reimbursed for it," said Mayor John McCallister of Youngstown, Ohio, which is still waiting for the Sanders campaign to pay a nearly \$6,000 bill for security the city provided at a March 14 cam-

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