



November 10, 2025

Ald. Peter Burgelis
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MEDIA ADVISORY

Latvian Heritage Exhibit, Independence Day Celebration Take Center Stage at City Hall this Week

Alderman Peter Burgelis (who also serves as Chairperson of the Wisconsin Latvian Cultural Foundation) invites the media to cover two cultural events at Milwaukee’s City Hall this week, highlighting Latvia’s history and the Latvian-American community.

The “**We are Latvian!**” traveling museum exhibit will have an **opening reception** on **Tuesday, November 11** from **5 – 7:30 p.m.** in the **City Hall Rotunda, 200 E. Wells St.** The exhibit is also open to the public during normal City Hall hours Monday - Friday, November 10 - 14, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This powerful exhibit, created with support from the Embassy of Latvia, highlights Latvia’s rich history, resilience, and journey from serfdom to freedom, democracy, and NATO partnership.

City Hall will also host a **Latvian Independence Day Celebration** on **Sunday, November 16**, beginning at **11 a.m.**, also in the **City Hall Rotunda, 200 E. Wells St.** This will be a community commemoration of the 107th anniversary of Latvia’s independence, featuring program remarks and cultural performances. Anticipated dignitaries include Elita Kuzma, Latvian Ambassador to the United States, and Mayor Cavalier Johnson.

“Milwaukee’s strength is its people and their stories. These events invite our city to experience Latvia’s history, art, and resilience in the heart of City Hall. I look forward to a festive week ahead,” said Alderman Burgelis.

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Latvian Cultural Events/ADD ONE

Latvia's Independence Day is observed annually on November 18, and November is also marked by Lāčplēsis Day on November 11, a memorial observance significant in Latvian history. These Milwaukee events aim to connect residents with that heritage and celebrate the city's Latvian-American community.

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