

ON WISCONSIN



JOHN HART PHOTOS, STATE JOURNAL

Visitors take in part of the 50th anniversary of the “Birds in Art” exhibition at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum in Wausau. The exhibit features 101 works of juried art and 41 pieces from Master Wildlife Artists designated each year by the world-class museum.

# HALF-CENTURY OF ‘BIRDS IN ART’

## World-class Wausau museum celebrates 50 years



Mary Ann Hoeffliger traveled 500 miles from her home in south central Illinois to Wausau for “Birds in Art.” She’s been coming every year since 1991 and was taking in a 1989 painting of Canada geese by Iowa artist Maynard Reece.

WAUSAU — The museum on a hill high above the Wisconsin River could seem out of place.

But the exhibits and 14,000 items in the collection of the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, which would be suitable for much bigger institutions, are perfectly at home here in the East Hill Residential Historic District. In fact, the paintings, wood carvings and sculptures are the envy of other museums.

When the museum opened its doors in 1976, the three daughters of the late Leigh Yawkey Woodson and Aytchmonde P. Woodson wanted to enhance their small collection with a special temporary wildlife art exhibit to bring in more visitors.

That’s when they called on family friend Owen Gromme, considered to be



BARRY ADAMS

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# Emergency officials warn about changes at FEMA

States say cuts, delays put disaster response at risk

GABRIELA AOUN ANGUIERA  
Associated Press

State officials on the front lines of preparing for natural disasters and responding to emergencies say severe cuts to federal security grants, restrictions on money intended for readiness and funding delays tied to litigation are posing a growing risk to their ability to respond to crises.

It’s all causing confusion, frustration and concern, and the federal government shutdown is making it worse.

“Every day we remain in this grant

purgatory reduces the time available to responsibly and effectively spend these critical funds,” said Kiele Amundson, communications director at the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency.

The uncertainty has led some emergency management agencies to hold off on filling vacant positions and make rushed decisions on important training and purchases.

Experts say the developments complicate state-led emergency efforts, undermining the Republican administration’s stated goals of shifting more responsibility to states and local governments for disaster response.

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GERALD HERBERT, ASSOCIATED PRESS

Homeowner Daniel Olivas hugs Lorrie McMillan, a chaplain with Texans on Mission Disaster Relief, as he clears debris from his home, which was heavily damaged from flash floods July 10 along the Guadalupe River in Kerrville, Texas.