



MILWAUKEE

COMMUNITY JOURNAL

WISCONSIN'S LARGEST AFRICAN AMERICAN NEWSPAPER



Celebrating a challenging year of health advocacy and care

Constance Palmer President & CEO – Outreach Community Health Centers, Cecelia Gore Executive Director – Brewers Community Foundation, and Richelle Webb Dixon Senior VP & Chief Operating Officer – Froedtert Hospital, reflected on—and celebrated—another successful and (albeit) challenging (COVID-19 pandemic) 2020 during Outreach’s virtual 2021 annual meeting. The virtual meeting was broadcast live from the Nyob Zoo TV Studio. Gore served as the event’s Emcee, and Webb Dixon was the keynote speaker. Gov. Tony Evers

made a virtual special presentation. Outreach Community Health Centers is a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing access to health care in the community. Believing health care is a human right, Outreach works to improve health outcomes for all people with effective advocacy, outreach, prevention, public awareness, collaborative relationships with other services providers and contracting for or providing a quality, cost-effective continuum of care. —Photo by Yvonne Kemp



UW-Milwaukee Vice Chancellor Joan Prince to retire

Prince is a four time graduate of university

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) Vice Chancellor, Dr. Joan Prince recently announced her retirement from the university after more than two decades of distinguished service at her beloved alma mater. Prince’s retirement is effective March 1.

Appointed vice chancellor in 2000, Prince is the chief administrator for the Division of Global Inclusion and Engagement, with responsibilities as the chief inclusion officer. She has led many important campus-wide initiatives, including the establishment of the first curriculum for anti-bias training, which begins this semester, and formation of a program dedicated to advancing historically underrepresented students and first-generation students in STEM fields.

Prince has been a vocal advocate for the inclusion of all students, faculty and staff in driving UWM’s dual access and research missions.

“Dr. Prince has served this university extraordinarily well for 20 years as the vice chancellor for Global Inclusion and Engagement,” UWM Chancellor Mark Mone said. “She is an effective administrator, strategic thinker, problem solver and mentor to many.”

Prince’s ties to UWM run deep as a four-time graduate. She arrived at UWM at age 16 as a freshman and earned bachelor’s degrees in general studies and medical technology, a master’s degree in clinical laboratory sciences, and a doctorate in urban education with a focus on science, technology, engineering and math education.

Her influence stretches far beyond southeastern Wisconsin. In 2012, President Barack Obama nominated Prince as an alternate representative to the 67th General Assembly of the United Nations, with the honorary rank of ambassador. She also served as a member of the 2013 United States delegation to the Commission on the Status of Women.

She was a 2007 Aspen Ideas Fellow, a 2008 member of the International Jewish Council’s Civic Leadership delegation to Israel, a fellow of the Millennium Leadership Institute Class of 2009 for higher education executives, and a 2011-12 Fellow of the American Council on Education. She is a past president of Tempo Interna-

“Dr. Prince has served this university extraordinarily well for 20 years as the vice chancellor for Global Inclusion and Engagement. She is an effective administrator, strategic thinker, problem solver and mentor to many.”

—UWM Chancellor Mark Mone



Messmer High School stands-up for racial justice

Messmer High School Campus Minister Erma Winbush collaborated with local Catholic parishes to host a Black Lives are Sacred MKE Rally at Messmer High School recently. Black Lives are Sacred MKE gathered in “Standing for racial justice and the dignity of the human person.” Messmer staff and students were joined by other community members as Black History Month begins. —Photo by Yvonne Kemp

HENRY AARON: An American hero and most generous gentlemen

By Atty. John Daniels

Every once in a while events occur that cause us to think deeply about those things that matter most to ourselves, our families and, indeed, the world.

The passing of Henry Louis “Hammering Hank” Aaron is one of those events. For those familiar with the Milwaukee Fellowship Open, it will not be a surprise that I have enormous respect and admiration for Aaron.

As Chairman, we had the honor in 2009 of naming Hank the Open’s inaugural Sports Legend of the Year. Twelve years later, he continues to be our most cherished honoree. Why? Because of the wonderful example he set —

on and off the field. People loved him — then and now.

My admiration for Aaron started in 1957 when I was a young elementary student. That chilly September night, my parents had instructed me to go to bed, but I could not resist the temptation to listen to that night’s game between the Milwaukee Braves and the St. Louis Cardinals on the a.m. radio I had tucked away under my pillow. You, of course, know the history.

Aaron struck the blow that helped bring the first National League baseball pennant to Milwaukee (and later that season the Braves would become World Champions). It was an enormously exciting time, a day I will never forget.

Not surprisingly, many of my contemporaries remember that night as well. They also remember that night in April, 1974 as Hank became the all-time home run champion.

I was studying for my final year’s exams at Harvard Law School but will happily admit that I was fixated on the TV every moment I could steal away, waiting for Aaron to do the unimaginable with his customary grace.

Hank Aaron was an American Hero. Indeed, for me, he is the greatest player in the history of

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FIRST PERSON



A young Henry “Hank” Aaron at the beginning of his legendary baseball career as a member of the Milwaukee Braves.

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UW-Milwaukee Vice Chancellor, Dr. Joan Prince, to retire



Prince poses with UWM Chancellor Mark Mone and Chicago Tribune columnist Clarence Page for the university's "Freedom of Expression" series in 2017. (continued from front page)

tional, the global women's networking organization, and a past board member and governance chair of The Council on Foundations, the international foundation membership association, and a past board chair of the Urban Libraries Council.

More recently, she served on the civic nonpartisan board of the host committee for the 2020 Democratic National Convention in Milwaukee. The Network Journal selected Prince as one its 25 Influential Black Women in Business for 2020.

Perhaps most of all, Prince will leave behind a legacy as someone who cared for all people and tried her best to help make life and outcomes positive for everyone she encountered, whether at her office in Chapman Hall or at the U.N. building in New York.

"As a rare and special four-time Panther alumna, for this campus, community, state and country, Joan has served admirably, and we will miss her," Mone said. "Personally, Joan has been a dear and valued colleague and her mentorship and our friendship will continue as she transitions to the next phase of activities that we call 'retirement.' I suspect that she may be even busier!"

Prince has built lasting relationships and heard often from former UWM students that she helped mentor. She relayed a recent phone conversation with a woman she first met at age 15, when the woman met Prince in her office and told her that she wanted to become a doctor. Today, that woman has finished her residency rotation as a medical student.

"To be able to say at the end of the day that if nothing else, these students were able to accomplish some of their life goals," Prince said, "that's what I really love to hear."

An announcement regarding interim leadership for the Division of Global Inclusion and Engagement will be coming soon.



Civil Rights Attorney, Inclusion Expert **DEBORAH ARCHER**

Elected as New ACLU National Board President

Will be the First Black Woman to Lead the 101-Year-Old Organization's 69-Person Board

NEW YORK — The American Civil Liberties Union announced today that its national board elected Deborah Archer as its new president.

Archer replaces Susan Herman, who stepped down after serving 12 years leading the organization's board through watershed moments, including the Trump administration and the emergence of civil liberties and privacy concerns in the digital age.

An established civil rights

lawyer, scholar, and teacher, Archer began her career as the Marvin M. Karpatkin Legal Fellow at the ACLU.

She has been a member of the ACLU board since 2009, and a general counsel and member of the executive committee of the board since 2017. She also serves on the board of directors of the New York Civil Liberties Union.

In this new role, she brings with her a wealth of experience on racial justice and constitutional matters. The election of Deborah Archer marks the first time a Black person will lead the ACLU's board of directors.

"After beginning my career as an ACLU fellow, it is an honor to come full circle and now lead the organization as board president," said Deborah Archer. "The ACLU has proven itself as an invaluable voice in the fight for civil rights in the last four years of the Trump era, and we are better positioned than ever to face the work ahead."

"This organization has been part of every important battle for civil liberties during our first century, and we are committed to continuing that legacy as we enter our second. I could not be more excited to get to work."

The board met virtually on Saturday to cast the vote for its next president. The ACLU National Board is made up of 69 members, including 51 directly elected by ACLU affiliate boards as their representa-

"This organization has been part of every important battle for civil liberties during our first century, and we are committed to continuing that legacy as we enter our second. I could not be more excited to get to work."

—New ACLU Nat'l President Deborah Archer

tives, and 18 elected by all affiliate and national board members. The ACLU National Board votes to set matters of organizational policy and substantive civil liberties policies. It also oversees issues related to general financial management and the relationship between the national ACLU and its affiliates, including the provision of resources and support to the affiliates, as well as other responsibilities.

"As the country enters the post-Trump era, it is essential that those in leadership intimately understand the history that brought us to this inflection point, and the work ahead," said Anthony D. Romero,

(continued on page 4)

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Kindergarten Enrollment Fair

Register at mpsmke.com/boothcentral

Will your child turn 3, 4, or 5 by September 1, 2021?

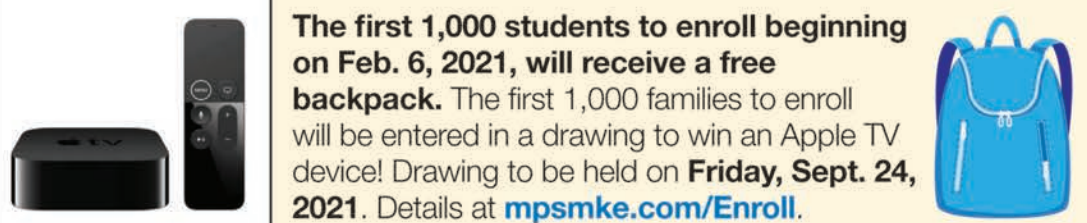
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SATURDAYS
February 6 and
February 20, 2021
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9AM – 2PM

The first 1,000 students to enroll beginning on Feb. 6, 2021, will receive a free backpack. The first 1,000 families to enroll will be entered in a drawing to win an Apple TV device! Drawing to be held on **Friday, Sept. 24, 2021**. Details at mpsmke.com/Enroll.



SLOW DOWN SAVE LIVES

NEW INITIATIVE BY LOCAL LAW FIRM AIMS TO REDUCE TRAFFIC DEATHS

year has surpassed the totals for each of the last two years. Until 2020, road deaths had been declining.

Figures from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation show 573 fatalities as of Dec. 20. Most fatalities were fueled by extreme speeding and distracted driving.

This campaign will focus on Milwaukee's most dangerous intersections — 60th and Capitol, 27th and Center, Cesar Chavez and Greenfield, and 35th and National. Previously, the law firm partnered with various city leaders on the Take it EZ Milwaukee initiative, and now the firm is bringing the re-branded campaign back.

Attorney Michael Hupy, "We need to reduce speed. We need to prevent accidents. We need to save lives."



Atty. Michael Hupy

Slow Down, Save Lives is set to launch in February 2020.

The law firm has bumper stickers and yard signs available at no cost within the markets we serve.

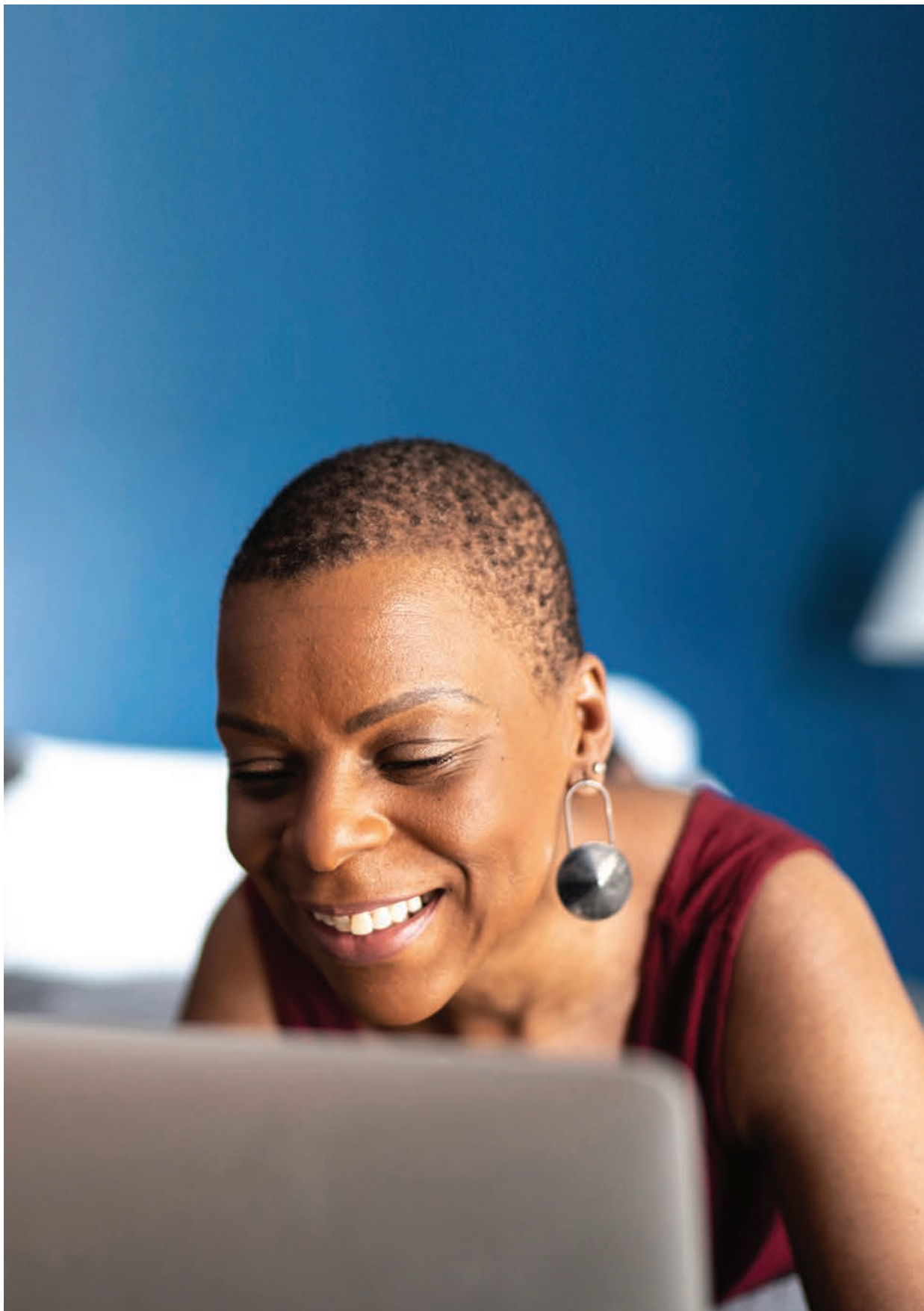
The law firm continues its commitment to public safety and awareness. The firm's "Watch for Motorcycles," "Yield to Pedestrians" and "DNT TXT N DRV" campaigns have reached millions of people. The firm's mission is to make the roads safer for riders and educate the public.

Slow Down. Save Lives.

This is a new initiative launched by Hupy and Abraham, S.C. to raise awareness of reckless driving in the city of Milwaukee.

The initiative emphasizes raising understanding and encouraging drivers to slow down and pay attention to the roads.

The message is timely. The number of traffic-related deaths in Wisconsin this



Girls' nights IN are gonna take COVID-19 OUT.

We don't get enough laughs these days. But, wherever they are, our friends are as close as a click. Vaccines are coming. But until enough of us are vaccinated, we still need to slow the spread. We can watch our distance, and not let COVID-19 keep us apart.

Learn more about vaccines and slowing the spread at [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)



Brought to you by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



African Ball Kicks Off Black History Month on Feb. 6

A free night of entertainment supports band shell summer concert series

There's still time to register for the 2nd Annual Indaba African Ball, set for Saturday, February 6 at 7 p.m.

Hosted by St. Ann Center for Intergenerational Care, the event will be held virtually, and participation is free.

Filled with music, dance, heartwarming stories and a salute to Black History Month, the ball can be viewed free of charge on St. Ann Center's website--stanncenter.org/indabaBall.

The event is a fundraiser for the Indaba Band Shell, an entertainment venue located on the grounds of St. Ann Center's Bucyrus Campus at 2450 W. North Ave.

"We're committed to making quality entertainment available to families in our north side neighborhood," said Gloria Miller, St. Ann Center's Special Events Director. "Funds raised at the Indaba African Ball will be used to bring local talent to our stage this summer."

The ball has a fundraising goal of \$10,000 to support Indaba



Nights, a 13-week outdoor concert series set to begin in June. Viewers can donate before, during and after the online event.

The Ball will include performances by Chris Pipkins, Milwaukee's premier saxophonist from Christopher's Project, and the Night & Day Band, a Motown and jazz band featuring Bobby Jiles and Julie Thompson.

Pangaea Steel Pan Drum Ensemble and the Milwaukee Ballet's Ballet Beat dancers will also perform.

Ushering in Black History Month, the evening will spotlight the Hall of History Makers, saluting outstanding African-American leaders for their contributions to Milwaukee and beyond.

Honorees include: Venice Williams, executive director of Alice's Garden Urban Farm; Reggie Jackson, an award-winning journalist, speaker, researcher and expert on the history of our country's racial hierarchy; Yvonne McCaskill, a champion for environmental stewardship and green spaces in urban neighborhoods;

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Photos from Indaba Ball - February 2020 and the African Fashion Show & Entertainment

RELIGION

Milwaukee's African American Trailblazers

When you think of African American trailblazers in the City of Milwaukee and the State of Wisconsin, who comes to your mind?

I realize that was a loaded question because African Americans have been involved in civil rights, politics, journalism, law, public service, science, medicine, academia, religion, music, sports, etc. While African Americans are deeply entrenched in the history of our country, often they don't get the recognition they deserve. This month, I am recognizing two African Americans who are pioneers and an example of the contributions African Americans have made to the City of Milwaukee and the State of Wisconsin.



BIBLICAL COUNSELING FOR TODAY'S CHRISTIAN FAMILY
By Rev. Judith T. Lester, B.Min., M.Th.

Barbee was the driving force behind efforts to desegregate public schools in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, a city long known for its deep racial divisions. The cornerstone of those efforts, a federal lawsuit known as *Amos et al. v. Board of School Directors of the City of Milwaukee*, occupied Barbee for more than a decade. Still, he noted in comments quoted by Maxine Aldridge White and Joseph A. Ranney in the April 2004 issue of *Wisconsin Lawyer*, "I am not discouraged. I have seen more difficult times. We are not as well off as we could be, but we are better off than we were."

After attending segregated public schools, Barbee served in the U.S. Navy for three years, from 1943 to 1946, before entering LeMoyne College, a predominately African-American institution in Memphis. He received a bachelor's degree in social sciences from LeMoyne in 1949, then moved north to attend law school at University of Wisconsin in Madison. Frustrated with the racist attitudes he encountered among professors and fellow students, Barbee dropped out after his first year. After spending several months as a student organizer for a social-change organization called Americans for Democratic Action, he returned to the university, where he received a law degree in 1956. His first major position after passing the bar exam was with the Madison-based Industrial Commission of Wisconsin (ICW), where he served as a law examiner for five years, from 1957 to 1962. He then moved to Milwaukee and began his own law firm.

While he most often worked behind the scenes, Barbee did not hesitate to lead nonviolent protests in the streets when he felt it necessary. In 1961, for example, he led a thirteen-day sit-in at the State Capitol in Madison, a dramatic event that galvanized support for several anti-discrimination bills then pending.

We Honor These Trailblazers During Black History Month 2021!

- Article Sources:**
Vel Phillips - OnWisconsin, Molly Snyder, 2/1/19
Lloyd Barbee - encyclopedia.com

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Velvalea Hortense Rodgers "Vel" Phillips
February 18, 1923 - April 17, 2018

Vel dedicated her life to building and empowering the African American Community. Her drive, devotion and never-ending commitment to equality were unsurpassed. Active in the women's movement and the civil rights movement, Vel Phillips built a career of Wisconsin "firsts" both as a woman and as an African American. In 1951, Vel graduated from the University of Wisconsin Law School, the first African-American woman to earn a law degree from the University of Wisconsin. After 15 years of serving on the Milwaukee Common Council—both the first woman and African American to do so—Vel resigned in 1971 and was appointed to the Milwaukee County judiciary; thus, becoming the first woman judge in Milwaukee and the first African-American judge in Wisconsin.

In 1978, Vel made national history as the first woman and first African American elected as the Secretary of State in Wisconsin. She was the first African American in the country elected to the National Committee of a major political party, and knew three presidents on a first-name basis: John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, and Jimmy Carter. Vel was a loving and devoted wife, mother and grandmother. We salute Vel Phillips as truly one of Milwaukee Trailblazers having celebrated five extraordinary "firsts."

Lloyd A. Barbee
1925-2002

A prominent lawyer, state representative, and civil-rights activist, Lloyd

Deborah Archer new ACLU president

(continued from page 2)
executive director of the ACLU.
"There is no one better equipped, who best personifies or is more capable to helm the future battles for civil rights, civil liberties, and systemic equality than Deborah Archer."
For both the country as a whole and the ACLU, 2020 was a watershed year. The country struggled with its history of white supremacy and racism, a protest movement that rivaled only by the Civil

Rights Era of the 1960s, the COVID-19 pandemic, and one of the highest turnout elections in history.
The ACLU celebrated its centennial year, filed its 413th legal action against the Trump administration, took over 100 legal actions in response to the pandemic, continued its work to protect protestors, and filed more than 37 lawsuits to ensure access to the polls.
Deborah Archer is a tenured professor of clinical law and director of the Civil Rights Clinic at New York University School of Law, and co-faculty director of the Center on Race, Inequality, and the Law at NYU Law. Professor Archer

previously served as the inaugural dean of diversity and inclusion and as associate dean for academic affairs and student engagement at New York Law School. She has served as chair of the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board, and on numerous non-profit boards, including the Legal Aid Society and the National Center for Law and Economic Justice. In recognition of her work, the New York Law Journal named her one of its 2016 Top Women in Law. Previously, Archer was assistant counsel at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund and an associate at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett.

Let's Resolve to Get Our Kids Back to School

By Dr. Deborah Kerr

Who could have imagined a year ago that a pandemic would force schools to close across the country and so drastically affect our economy? "There's no place like home" became a constant in our lives, as in-person interactions were abruptly suspended last March.

Within a week, parents became teachers. Teachers became students learning technology tools to engage with their students in new cyber classrooms. And community leaders became social workers, assisting families in need of food and resources for life's necessities.

When we look back on 2020, I believe we will celebrate a reawakening of support for education, including the Herculean educators, support teams, and school and community leaders who bravely served our kids and communities.

The new year presents an opportunity for us to begin recovering from this pandemic, with the first step to return our children to in-person learning.

I propose a statewide plan to return our students and staff to school safely, a plan that is based on evidence-based medical and accelerated learning approaches.

We are at a crisis point in our public schools. Statewide data reveals declining enrollment across Wisconsin; 4K & 5K students are not showing up in virtual school programs. Teachers are burning out, and there is a teacher shortage, not to mention parent fatigue, a stressed workforce, and an impacted economy.

It is time for a statewide recovery plan to return our students to school. It is time to address the learning loss and inequities that have been exacerbated by this pandemic, such as robust broadband access, tech devices, and food insecurity.

My plan includes the development of a stakeholder communication plan with school-based health and safety precautions. We will ensure personnel safety through ongoing collaboration and communication between admin-



When we look back on 2020, I believe we will celebrate a reawakening of support for education, including the Herculean educators, support teams, and school and community leaders who bravely served our kids and communities. —DPI candidate Deborah Kerr

istrators, building leaders, staff members, students, parents, and health services and health departments. Staff will have adequate PPE along with safety training and clear expectations for student and staff safety protocols. Other key components are:

1. Start with elementary students going back to in-person instruction, then a gradual release to/from hybrid models for middle and high school students, and then full in-person teaching and learning in all schools.
2. Provide parents and caregivers with choices on how to serve their children best moving forward - whether in-person or virtual approach.
3. Support teachers with quality professional development that addresses their mental health and well-being and best practices to address student learning loss.
4. Implement a transition plan for social and emotional learning activities to welcome students back to school, especially those who did not have closure last year, and quickly reestablish relationships traumatized by school closures.
5. Use evidence-based acceleration practices to identify learning loss for all students, prioritize grade-level content, and target interventions to ensure growth in specified essential standards.
6. Support collaborative planning to develop modified school calendars that may require learning opportunities through the summer, evenings, and weekends.
7. Create innovative school partnerships with community non-profits, universities, and businesses that support the accelerated learning required for all students -high-intensity tutoring, before/after school programs, weekend programs, summer learning academies, evening classes, and online modules, etc.
8. Work collaboratively with policymakers to support state and federal funding resources to accelerate learning, support training for educators, and recover safely from the pandemic.
9. Let us learn from others across the country and the world who have safe and successful models in place with a plan to prioritize in-person instruction.

Finally, my plan would allow each district to customize its recovery approach to meet the needs of students, staff, and the school community. No two plans will be the same because no two students, schools, districts, or communities are the same.

As the author, C.S. Lewis, writes, "You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending." So let's do just that. Together we must promise to reinvest in our students, families, and educators to create a reimagined education system that serves all no matter what sector. This is our call to action - our Wisconsin promise to all students and families. Our Wisconsin prosperity and future depend on it.

Dr. Deborah Kerr, Former Superintendent of the Brown Deer School District and immediate past President of the American Association for School Administrators (AASA), is running for Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instr



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HENRY AARON: An American hero and most generous gentlemen

(continued from front page)

our national sport. His records are so numerous that that it is difficult to pick the most significant one. But Aaron's version of American Hero goes far beyond his prowess on the baseball field.

Over the years, I have seen this firsthand. I had occasion to speak privately with Aaron on a number of occasions. Every opportunity I had to chat with him, I left astonished by his remarkable compassion, generosity and commitment to help others. And Hank's commitment was authentic. He didn't just want to see others coming behind him have opportunities to lead successful lives — he and his wife, Billye, felt a personal responsibility to help make it happen.

I had the opportunity to work with Hank later in a number of ways, including serving on the board of his Chasing the Dream Foundation. This organization has done incredible work inspiring literally hundreds of youngsters to pursue goals which they once thought unattainable. I watched Hank in settings across the country with youngsters and college stu-

dents.

Many would have been happy for just a glimpse of their hero but he gave them so much more. In his quiet but firm way, he encouraged them to keep striving and shared life stories that they will never forget.

Henry Louis "Hammering Hank" Aaron transcended sports. We rarely have national heroes that express the very best values that we all seek. Aaron was one. It is difficult to understand the importance of Henry Aaron until you realize that for many Americans, baseball fans and non-fans alike — people of all races, religions and creeds, Aaron helped the country continue the chase for the American Dream. He restored the belief that things could be better. Like Aaron, I am a product of the segregated south. But, also like Aaron, I have a belief that, with personal commitment and integrity, and working together, we can make this country and the world a better place. I salute Henry Aaron and everything he believed in and sought to accomplish. May we all recommit ourselves to his dream.

The Death Penalty: Cost And Public Opinion Support Biden's Plan To End It

By David Dozier

A study in California revealed that the cost of capital punishment in the state has been over \$4 billion since it was reinstated in 1978. Since California has executed 13 prisoners during that time, the cost per execution is more than \$307 million. Other financial facts about the death penalty show capital cases in some states costing millions more than life imprisonment.

So, more people are asking: Is it worth it?

Cost is one factor people sometimes don't consider in that debate. The complexity of seeking it and carrying out an execution is a long and expensive process.

Many capital cases are appealed, and incarceration on death row can span 10, 15 or 20 or more years. And with capital punishment costs imposing a burden on state government budgets that are already stretched, it's more cost-effective to commute death penalties to life imprisonment without parole.

But cost is just one reason that President Joe Biden should work toward ending the death penalty in the U.S. As part of his criminal justice reform platform, he has pledged to abolish the federal death penalty and

to give incentives to states to stop seeking death sentences. (Currently, capital punishment is authorized in 28 states.) Another reason to end the death penalty is its ties to racism. The Biden-Harris administration plans to address racism on many fronts.

Awareness of the killings of unarmed Black people by police has heightened the sensitivity of White Americans to racial injustice and prompted protests. The death penalty is targeted at persons of color: Black Americans make up 13% of the U.S. population — but 34% of persons executed since 1976.

Too often, the death penalty is a poor man's punishment. District attorneys are more likely to go after poor defendants who are trying to fight for their lives with overworked and underpaid public defenders. DA's sometimes put dirty cops above the law by refusing to prosecute police who kill unarmed persons of color.

That's because police unions and prison guard unions pump lots of money into DA political campaigns. But if a Black man kills a policeman, police and police unions will push DA's to seek the death penalty.

A third reason the death penalty should be eliminated both in the U.S. and around the world is because it is cruel — a barbaric and sadistic violation of human rights.

It is pure hypocrisy for a nation such as ours to view itself as a beacon for human rights while ranking seventh in the world for the number of executions we administer. Executions are a form of torture that violate

the Eighth Amendment prohibiting the federal government from imposing cruel and unusual punishment.

The U.S. government under President Donald Trump in 2020 carried out the most federal executions ever in a single year. But under Biden, the pendulum should swing; the question is how much on a state level. Meantime, it's good to see public opinion shifting toward the elimination of the death penalty. Using an unbiased question, a 2019 Gallup poll on capital punishment showed 60% of Americans favored life in prison for murder while only 36% preferred the death penalty.

Public support for the death penalty has dipped near a 48-year low, and at the same time there is a bipartisan movement in state legislatures and Congress to end it. Many politicians and ordinary Americans are bothered by executions of innocent people. For every nine prisoners executed, an innocent death row inmate is exonerated. DNA science and advances in law enforcement have cleared numerous death row inmates.

Numerous Democratic lawmakers have already written to President Biden about their objections to the death penalty, asking him to sign an executive order to eliminate federal executions and calling capital punishment unjust, racist and defective. And conservatives in several states have pushed back against the death penalty, saying it is too costly, inconsistent with conservatives' opposition to abortion, subject to error, and not an effective deterrent.

The momentum of states toward abolishing the death penalty, and the strengthening bipartisan footing against it on state and federal levels, make Biden's goal of ending capital punishment a stronger possibility. You can measure the cost of the death penalty in many ways — in terms of public policy and sheer, enormous dollars; in morality; and in racism.

But any way you slice it, it comes out as wrong. The Biden Administration has a great opportunity to get it right."

PERSPECTIVES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Until you realize your great history, many will look to their oppressors as greater than them, when without your ancestors knowledge they still think the world is flat and be in darkness! Wake up!

—Historian Dr. John Henrik Clark



Concerned MPS parent says if school district truly believes "children come first," they should reopen the schools!

(Columnist's note: My recent social media post revealing 30% of Milwaukee Public School students are failing under the virtual paradigm sparked a bevy of responses, the overwhelming majority of which attacked the district and the teacher's union for disregarding the public's demand to reopen schools.

Various reports have surmised virtual education has ill-served most low income students and has crippled Black children.

That actuality is all the more disturbing because Milwaukee has the lowest percentage of Black fourth and eighth-graders proficient in reading in the entire country!

To add insult to injury, many experts suggest the virtual education paradigm will further stagnate Black student success and cost our children another full grade level, meaning they will never catch up.

Despite those alarming statistics, 'our' school board, under the dictate of the local teacher's union, has turned a deaf ear to the pleas and prayers of parents to reopen schools on at least a hybrid basis.

Last week the board committed to reopening schools in April for disabled children.

However, the governing board refused to move from its entrenched position, even though it has lost hundreds of children {meaning dollars} as parents transferred their children to charter and private schools, which are open.

Those schools apparently listened to declarations from the CDC, President Joe Biden's pandemic advisor, and dozens of medical authorities that children in K-8 are much better off in school than at home.

One of the more impressive—albeit rejected—appeals to the board last week follows.

It has been edited, and the author's name is withheld. It aptly sums up the concerns of an ever-growing number of parents.)

Dear Milwaukee Board of School Directors and MPS Superintendent Posley,

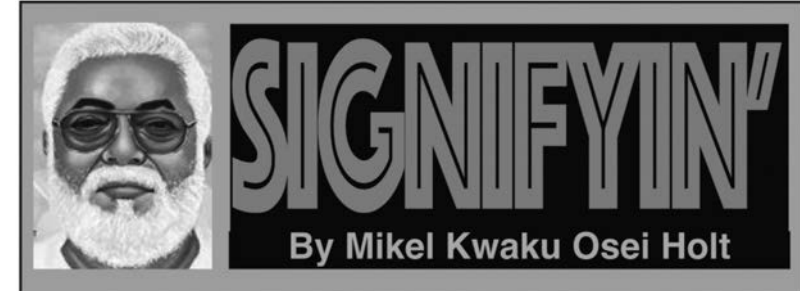
I write you as a parent of two students in high school at Milwaukee Public Schools.

It pains me to say that even though I have been a longtime supporter of public education and teachers, so long as MPS classrooms remain off-limits to students, the best thing for our students and families right now would be to strip funding from MPS and return that money to taxpayers and parents until you fully reopen schools.

This way, parents may have more resources at their disposal to invest in their children's education and development, now seriously hampered by the decisions of your governing body.

Please forgive my bluntness, but I have lost faith in your ability to correctly assess the real risk that COVID poses and to weigh this risk against the actual harm that indefinitely shuttered schools due to students and families.

I have lost faith in your ability to put students first, especially when it means having to vote



By Mikel Kwaku Osei Holt

against the expressed interest of teachers' unions, some of which have played a cancerous role in distorting data and over-politicizing decisions that should not be political in nature.

Your decision to close schools was announced on Friday, March 13, 2020: "This decision has been made in the best interest of our students and staff," said the MPS-Kenosha Unified-Racine Unified joint statement. "Both Kenosha and Racine will reopen on Monday, April 6, unless notified otherwise by the governor's office and/or city/county health officials. Milwaukee will reopen Tuesday, April 14 [2020]."

While not much was known last March about whether Milwaukee County's hospital capacity would be overwhelmed by sick COVID patients, that is no longer the case today.

While not much was known

about how deadly COVID-19 would be, that is no longer the case today.

While not much was known about whether schools would play a role in spreading COVID (in schools opened either with or without mask mandates), that is no longer the case today.

While not much was known about the "collateral damage" that would ensue due to cutting students off from their schools, their teachers, and their friends for nearly a year (perhaps indefinitely), that is no longer the case today.

Here is what we now know: Hospital capacity in the County never came close to being "overwhelmed" with sick COVID patients at any time since the start of the pandemic, according to the County's COVID-19 Dashboard, which was last updated January 25, 2021.

It shows that the number of COVID patients in Milwaukee County hospitals peaked November 11 with 1,850 COVID patients, well below the County's maximum capacity limit of 3,000 hospital beds.

Likewise, the number of "COVID deaths" in Milwaukee County never came close to fulfilling the pessimistic prognostications from last spring. A total of 962 persons were assessed to have died with COVID-19 from March 2020 through January 24, according to County figures.

That figure represents 0.1% of the County's population of 950,000 people.

To place that number in context, in an average year, about 1% of the Milwaukee County population dies (mostly from heart disease and cancer).

More significantly, not one person under 20 years of age has

(continued on page 7)

THE MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY JOURNAL

Published twice weekly. Digitally: Monday MKE and Wednesday Video-Vantage. Plus uploaded print papers Thursday and Friday, weekly. NEW news: Four days a week....Your Milwaukee Source.

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PowerShot

In this truth, in this faith we trust.

For while we have our eyes on the future,

History has its eyes on us.

+Amanda Gorman

LEGALS & CLASSIFIEDS - LEGALS & CLASSIFIEDS

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION) STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING Case No. 21CV000033

In the matter of the name change of: ME'CHELL JOHNSA GUIDEN-RIMSCHNEIDER

NOTICE IS GIVEN: A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: ME'CHELL JOHNSA RIMSCHNEIDER
To: ME'CHELL JOHNSA GUIDEN
Birth Certificate: ME'CHELL JOHNSA GUIDEN-RIMSCHNEIDER

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. CARL ASHLEY BR. 33 Room 500 PLACE: 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233 DATE: February 18, 2021 TIME 10:30 A.M.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:
Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Milwaukee Community Journal, a newspaper published in Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Dated: 1-8-2021
BY THE COURT:
HON. CARL ASHLEY
Circuit Court Judge
008/1-20-27/2-3-2021

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION) STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING Case No. 20CV6064

In the matter of the name change of: RAWZON JAQUAY MCFARLAND

By (Petitioner) RAWZON JAQUAY MCFARLAND
NOTICE IS GIVEN: A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: RAWZON JAQUAY MCFARLAND To: RAZAN JAQUAY MCFARLAND
Birth Certificate: RAWZON JAQUAY MCFARLAND

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. CHRISTOPHER R FOLEY BR 14 Hearing will take place by phone please call the Court at (414) 278-4582 at the date and time of hearing. PLACE: 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233 DATE: January 27, 2020 TIME 1:30 P.M.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:
Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Milwaukee Community Journal, a newspaper published in Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Dated: 12-17-2020
BY THE COURT:
HON. CHRISTOPHER R FOLEY
Circuit Court Judge
010/1-20-27/2-3-2021

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION) STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING Case No. 20CV5785

In the matter of the name change of: YANG S VANG

By (Petitioner) YANG S VANG
NOTICE IS GIVEN: A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: YANG S VANG To: CHOUA THAO FERREIRA
Birth Certificate: YANG S VANG

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. KEVIN E MARTENS BR 27 PLACE: 901 N. 9th Street, Room 403 ***TO BE HELD VIA ZOOM*** Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233 DATE: February 18, 2021 TIME 4:00 P.M.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:
Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Milwaukee Community Journal, a newspaper published in Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Dated: 1-6-2021
BY THE COURT:
HON. KEVIN E MARTENS
Circuit Court Judge
009/1-20-27/2-3-2021

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION) STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING Case No. 20CV007538

In the matter of the name change of: CATHERINE FRANCES BRESSER

By (Petitioner) CATHERINE FRANCES BRESSER
NOTICE IS GIVEN: A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: CATHERINE FRANCES BRESSER To: FRANCIS SWIFT BRESSER
Birth Certificate: CATHERINE FRANCES BRESSER

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. LAURA GRAMBLING PEREZ PLACE: 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233 DATE: February 18, 2021 TIME 9:30 A.M.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:
Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Milwaukee Community Journal, a newspaper published in Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Dated: 1-12-2021
BY THE COURT:
HON. LAURA GRAMBLING PEREZ
Circuit Court Judge
011/1-27/2-3-10-2021

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION) STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING Case No. 20CV7168

In the matter of the name change of: JAVONTE DEION POWELL

NOTICE IS GIVEN: A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: JAVONTE DEION POWELL
To: ADONIS LAURENT PHOENIX
Birth Certificate: JAVONTE DEION POWELL

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. LINDSEY GRADY RM 402 PLACE: 901 N. 9th Street (VIA ZOOM) Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233 DATE: March 3, 2021 TIME 10:30 A.M.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:
Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Milwaukee Community Journal, a newspaper published in Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Dated: 1-13-2021
BY THE COURT:
HON. LINDSEY GRADY
Circuit Court Judge
014/1-27/2-3-10-2021

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY SMALL CLAIMS Case No. 20SC023161

PLAINTIFF(S) RHONA DENISE FIELDS, 4266 N 74TH St Milwaukee WI 53216
vs DEFENDANT/S: ANTHONY D'AQUISTO 300 N VAN BUREN ST Milwaukee WI 53202

This form does not replace the need for an interpreter any colloques mandated by law, or the responsibility of court and counsel to ensure that persons with limited English proficiency fully comprehend their rights and obligations. This form must be completed in the English language.

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 414-278-5712 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation. Claim for money (\$10,000 or less) 31001

TO THE DEFENDANT(S):
You are being sued as described below. If you wish to dispute this matter:
You must appear at the time and place stated.
If you do not appear or answer, the plaintiff(s) may win this case and a judgment entered for what the plaintiff is asking.

When to Appear /File an Answer Date: February 22, 2021 Time: 8:30 A.M.
Place to Appear/File and Answer: Milwaukee County Courthouse 901 N 9th Street, Room 400 Milwaukee, WI 53233
Clerk/Attorney Signature:
Plaintiff's Demand: The plaintiff states the following claim against the defendant(s):

1. Plaintiff demands judgment for: Claim for Money \$2,200
2. Brief statement of dates and facts: I moved from the defendant rental property on 9/30/2018 due to mold and exposed asbestos in the home. I contacted the property manager on 10/24/18 because I had not received my security deposit. It arrived on 11/2/2018 and was post marked 12/26/2018.

Dated: 11-11-2020
BY THE PLAINTIFF:
RHONA DENISE FIELDS
013/1-27/2-3-2020

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION) STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING Case No. 21CV000325

In the matter of the name change of: THOMAS MICHAEL OGLESBY

NOTICE IS GIVEN: A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: THOMAS MICHAEL OGLESBY
To: SERENITY FAYE SULLIVAN
Birth Certificate: THOMAS MICHAEL OGLESBY

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. PAUL VAN GRUNSVEN PLACE: Via Zoom Videoconferencing: Meeting ID:98476294457 Passcode:566823 DATE: March 4, 2021 TIME 1:30 P.M.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:
Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Milwaukee Community Journal, a newspaper published in Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Dated: 1-27-2021
BY THE COURT:
HON. PAUL VAN GRUNSVEN
Circuit Court Judge
017/2-3-10-17-2021

SUMMONS

(PUBLICATION) STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY FAMILY COURT BRANCH DIVORCE 40101 Case No. 20FA004406

In Re: The marriage of: BEVERLY J WILSON and Respondent: ROSILAN CHARLES LEWIS

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, TO THE PERSON NAMED ABOVE AS RESPONDENT:
You are notified that the petitioner named above has filed a Petition for divorce or legal separation against you.

You must respond with a written demand for a copy of the Petition within 40 days from the day after the first day of publication.

The demand must be sent or delivered to the court at: Clerk of Court, Milwaukee County Courthouse 901 N 9th St Milwaukee WI 53233 and to BEVERLY J WILSON 3149 N 33rd Street Milwaukee WI 53216

It is recommended, but not required that you have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not demand a copy of the Petition within 40 days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Petition, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Petition.

A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

You are further notified that if the parties to this action have minor children, violation of 948.31 Wis. Stats., (Interference with custody by parent or others) is punishable by fines and/or imprisonment:

If you and the petitioner have minor children, documents setting forth the percentage standard for child support established by the department under 49.22(9), Wis. Stats., and the factors that a court may consider for modification of that standard under 767.511 (1m). Wis Stats. are available upon your request from the Clerk of Court.

You are notified of the availability of information from the Circuit Court Commissioner as set forth in 767.105 WIs.Stats.

767.105 Information from Circuit Court Commissioner.

(2) Upon the request of a party to an action affecting the family, including a revision of judgment or order under sec. 767.59 or 767.451:

(a) The Circuit Court Commissioner shall, with or without charge, provide the party with written information on the following, as appropriate to the action commenced:

1. The procedure for obtaining a judgment or order in the action.
2. The major issues usually addressed in such an action.
3. Community resources and family court counseling services available to assist the parties.
4. The procedure for setting, modifying, and enforcing child support awards, or modifying and enforcing legal custody or physical placement judgments or orders.

(b) The Circuit Court Commissioner shall provide a party, for inspection or purchase, with a copy of the statutory provisions in this chapter generally pertinent to the action.

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION) STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING Case No. 20CV006919

In the matter of the name change of: ANTHONY DIMUKA FUTI

—HENRY FORD

Don't STOP your business from PROFITING and GROWING! Place YOUR display or classified ad in YOUR...MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY JOURNAL

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT THE MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY JOURNAL TO PUBLISH LEGAL NOTICES

The Milwaukee Community Journal, Inc. expanded its services to the greater Milwaukee community with the publishing of legal notices in the "WEEKEND EDITION". As a qualified provider of the publication of legal notices, MCJ will serve City, County and State offices for publishing community notifications. Such notifications include:
Public Hearings
Public Meetings
Election Notices
Divorce Proceedings
Name Changes
Publication of Summons when personal services cannot be made to defendants
Notice of Auction of unclaimed storage or property
Probate Notices
Foreclosure Sheriff's sales notice of creditor listing of property for sale.
Other general legal and public notices

ABOUT MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY JOURNAL (MCJ) WEEKEND EDITION

The Milwaukee Community Journal Weekend Edition is published weekly. Each week, MCJ Weekend focuses on different subjects, HEALTH, PERSONAL, FINANCE, FAMILY, MEN, AND WOMEN. THE WEEKEND EDITION now includes the publishing of records designated by the Milwaukee County Circuit Court for publication of legal notices, with added value in the Wednesday Edition. The Weekend Edition is a public newspaper of general circulation that complies with the laws of Wisconsin relating to publication of legal notices. MCJ Weekend Edition has published weekly over ten years, in the State of Wisconsin and Milwaukee County. We have a paid circulation of approximately 89% of our circulation, weekly. And our actual paid subscribers are over the 1000 required by State Statute.

ABOUT THE MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY JOURNAL (MCJ)

The Milwaukee Community Journal (MCJ) is a quality news organization published throughout Milwaukee and the surrounding suburbs. Established in 1976, the Milwaukee Community Journal has advanced the plight, struggles and victories of minorities in Wisconsin, with a passion for building community. The MCJ accentuates the positive, analyzes the negatives and advocates to seed success. The Milwaukee Community Journal stockholders are Patricia O'Flynn Pattillo (90%); Mikel Holt (5%); and Todd Thomas (5%) respectively, and is current in filing by the State of Wisconsin, effective October 10, 2018.

Signed: Patricia O'Flynn Pattillo, President/Publisher

SIGNIFYIN'

(continued from page 5)

died with coronavirus in Milwaukee County. Not one. Compare that to two who died from suicide, the 14 who died in accidents, the 27 who were murdered, and the 160 children who died from natural causes in 2020.

Some might respond to this data by saying that while it is true that not a single child has died either from or with coronavirus in Milwaukee County, children can still potentially act as "silent carriers" of the coronavirus and can potentially infect their teachers, parents, and grandparents who are not children (at least as defined by their age).

Teachers, parents, and grandparents, the argument goes, face mortal danger from COVID-19, perhaps even a "death sentence."

But is that really true, even remotely? Do teachers, parents, and grandparents face anything like a "death sentence" if they catch COVID-19? Let's see.

The table at right, assembled with data from the Milwaukee County COVID-19 dashboard and Census Data, shows that from March 2020 to January 24, 2021, there were 7 deaths classified as COVID in the 20-29 age group.

These represented 0.0057% of all persons aged 20-29 in the County. What about those 50-59? The 71 deaths from that age group represented 0.06% of all persons aged 50-59.

If we look at those 414 people who died of COVID that were 80 years or older, they represented 1% of all Milwaukee County residents 80 or older. Remember, COVID-19 is a highly infectious respiratory virus spreading like wildfire in Milwaukee County since at least January/February 2020.

These numbers, which anyone with basic elementary-level arithmetic skills can verify, are nowhere near the apocalyptic predictions made last March by health officials, including those at the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Not even close. The entire premise for closing schools, shutting businesses, asking people to stay home, asking people to wear masks, was that the unchecked spread of this respiratory virus could overwhelm

our hospitals and therefore kill people on a scale similar to the 1918 Spanish Flu or the Bubonic Plague of the Middle Ages.

No matter what the headlines read, no matter what you want to believe, COVID-19 is not that virus.

In fact, in some countries where no lockdowns or mask mandates were ever implemented, and where schools never closed for even a day, the mortality rate is very often found to be lower than in nearby countries where school closures and hard lockdowns were implemented, conclusively proving that the underlying assumptions held by health officials last March about COVID-19 were horribly wrong.

The MPS announcement in March 2020 to temporarily close schools were, admittedly, precautionary in principle: Better safe than sorry.

However, the decision behind that announcement was premised on projections that have been proven to be radically off the mark.

They were the result of panicking fears, often induced by the mass media, which have proven to be wholly unfounded.

In fact, so expansive is the gulf between those early projections and fears on the one side, and the reality on the other that it is essential and long overdue that those early decisions be radically scaled back and, in many cases, wholly rescinded.

To continue to treat COVID-19 as a "death sentence" for students, therefore, or as a "death sentence" for teachers, parents, and grandparents; to continue to treat COVID-19 as a unique and overarching danger as compared to all the other risks we live within our everyday lives (for which we don't close down our lives and institutions); to continue with the idea that we must cower in fear indefinitely or until the perceived danger "is brought under control," is preposterous.

It is absurd on its face. Such an argument doesn't hold any water. It's panic porn, nothing more.

Some over-politicized interest groups, however, will simply ignore all of this. They will continue to argue that schools are potentially "super spreader" locations and that it is still not safe to reopen them. But those asser-

ALL DEATHS CLASSIFIED AS "COVID-RELATED" IN MILWAUKEE COUNTY MARCH 2020-JANUARY 24, 2021		
AGE GROUP	COVID DEATHS	% OF AGE GROUP POP.
0-19	0	n/a
20-29	7	0.0057%
30-39	11	0.008%
40-49	26	0.02%
50-59	71	0.06%
60-69	173	0.18%
70-79	260	0.45%
80+	414	1%

tions are not supported by nearly a year's worth of data produced by studies from around the world. Here is a sampling:

"Experts cannot find a single child under 10 who has passed on coronavirus to an adult despite a huge trawl of data, raising hopes they pose no risk," ran an April 29, 2020 headline in the Daily Mail.

The story stated that "a review of pediatric coronavirus evidence revealed 'the China/WHO joint commission could not recall episodes during contact tracing where transmission occurred from a child to an adult.' Researchers have also failed to uncover any cases of children under the age of 10 transmitting the virus."

The report went on: "This indicates that the role of children in propagating this infection is likely to be small. Various papers on contact tracing have also found that children rarely are the first case in family clusters."

The study concluded: "Closing of schools had no measurable effect on the number of cases of COVID-19 among children... Children are not a significant risk group of the COVID-19 disease, and they seem to play a less critical role from the transmission point of view..."

The adverse effects of closing

schools must be weighed against the possible positive indirect effects it might have on the mitigation of the COVID-19 pandemic."

A pre-publication study released this month by Pediatrics, the official flagship journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, sought answers to "a key question that exists for policy-makers: Is the within-school spread of SARCoV-2 greater, equal to, or less than that observed in the broader community?"

The report, which is about to be published as a peer-reviewed study, concluded: "In the first nine weeks of in-person instruction in North Carolina schools, we found minimal within-school secondary transmission of SARS-CoV-2, as determined by contact tracing."

To those who are bound and determined to keep children from seeing their teachers and friends, and to those who are bound and determined to prevent children from learning inside school buildings, none of what has been stated above will prove very convincing. They will simply move the goalposts yet again, arguing that "if we can prevent even one single death, school closures will have been worth it."

But will they have been worth it, really? To assess that question, we must first understand the costs when you cut off tens of thousands of students from their publicly funded schools.

Closing schools indefinitely to students can but is worsening many dangers for students, families, and communities. Let's not be naive, after all. There are other dangers out there besides COVID-19, and the decisions of politicians often make them worse.

UNESCO outlined just a few of those dangers in their report, "Adverse Consequences of School Closures," published in 2020. Closing schools brings "high social and economic costs," especially for vulnerable and marginalized children and their families, stated the UNESCO report.

Also, "when schools close, children and youth are deprived of opportunities for growth and development. The disadvantages are disproportionate for underprivileged learners who tend to

have fewer educational opportunities beyond school."

The report continues: "When schools close, parents are often asked to facilitate the learning of children at home and can struggle to perform this task. This is especially true for parents with limited education and resources... In the absence of alternative options, working parents often leave children alone when schools close, and this can lead to risky behaviors, including the increased influence of peer pressure and substance abuse."

Rising drop-out rates are also a problem. The report goes on: "It is a challenge for children, youth to return and stay in school when they reopen after closures. This is especially true of protracted closures when economic shocks place pressure on children to work, generate income for financially distressed families."

Test scores for students with closed schools are also nega-

(continued on page 8)

FEEL THE PULSE!

PROPOSED MILWAUKEE COUNTY DAS-FM Projects for Advertisement for Bids
Name of Project:
VEL PHILLIPS JUSTICE CENTER ROOF REPLACEMENT
Project No.: G035-20176
Bid Due Date: February 24, 2021
See Bid Documents for details
Pre-Bid Meeting: February 10, 2021
BID DOCUMENTS FOR THE ABOVE PROJECT ARE AVAILABLE AT:
BID EXPRESS internet Bidding System at
www.bidexpress.com/business/24937/home
For Further Information contact 414-278-4861 or
www.countymilwaukee.gov

MCJ

CAREGIVER NEEDED ~ Job is for 5 Days a Week – 5 Hours per Day – Salary is \$20 per Hour. For more details about the position, email me (jholty1477@gmail.com)

Catalyst Construction would like to invite your company to bid on The Watertown project!

ATTENTION: DBE/MBE/SBE/WBE Firms (Targeted Business) Catalyst Construction is requesting bids/quotes from subcontractors and suppliers for the following project:
PROJECT: The Watertown
LOCATION: 9150 Watertown Plank Road, Wauwatosa, WI
BID DATE: Tuesday, February 16th at 4:00 pm
CONSTRUCTION START DATE: April 2, 2021
END DATE: July 20, 2022
OWNER: Watertown Apartments, LLC
PROJECT CONTACT: Ryan Raskin, Senior Project Manager rraskin@catalystbuilds.com or Michael Schumacher, Estimator mschumacher@catalystbuilds.com
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Watertown is a proposed apartment building with 5 stories and 147 units on the former Milwaukee County Food Services site. Targeted Business, Milwaukee County Resident Workers, and apprentice inclusion is required.

Catalyst Construction
 833 E Michigan St # 1000
 Milwaukee, WI 53202
 Ph: 414-727-6840
catalystbuilds.com

"An Equal Opportunity Employer"



OFFICIAL ADVERTISEMENT

Office of the Milwaukee Public Schools, DIVISION OF FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES, 1124 North 11th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, January 28, 2021.
Sealed bids will be received until Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 1:30 PM on-line through A/E Graphics, Inc., pursuant to Section 119.16(4) Wisconsin Statutes in accordance with plans and specifications for the following work:
 All contractor(s) and subcontractor(s) are subject to the current livable wage rate, in accordance with the City of Milwaukee Ordinance 310-13.
 Per 2015 WI Act 55, prevailing wage rate laws have been repealed for all MPS Construction Projects beginning January 1, 2017.
BID GUARANTY TO ACCOMPANY BID: MPS Bid Bond, Certified or Cashier's Check: 10% of Contractor's Base Bid.
ENERGY CONSERVATION BUILDING SYSTEM UPGRADES
Milwaukee Parkside School Of The Arts
 2969 S. Howell Avenue
 Milwaukee, WI 53207
 MPS Property No. 049
 MPS Project No. 6554
 The HUB requirements for this project are 25%
 The COIN requirements for this project are 25%
 The minimum Student Participation requirements for this project are:
 Paid Employment: 300 Hours
 Educational Activities: 10 Hours
 Deposit for Drawings and Specifications: \$25.00
 MAILING CHARGE: \$35.00

The bidding documents may be viewed and downloaded for free from A/E Graphics On-line Plan Room, at <https://mps.aegraphics.com/>. Hard copies may be obtained 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.; Monday through Friday from A/E Graphics, Inc.; 4075 North 124th Street, Brookfield, WI 53005; phone (262) 781-7744; fax (262) 781-4250. **Call A/E Graphics, Inc. for availability of bid documents for pick up.** Plans and specifications will be loaned to a prospective bidder upon receipt of the deposit listed, which deposit will be returned upon surrender of the plans and specifications in good condition. Bid documents must be returned only to A/E Graphics, Inc.

A pre-bid walkthrough for the site will be held on Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 9:00 AM, meet at the school's main entrance.
All questions should be submitted in writing prior to 12:00 PM on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 to DFMSPProcurement@milwaukee.k12.wi.us. No questions may be answered after that date and time. No questions shall be answered verbally. No verbal information from any source is to be relied upon by any respondent in the development of their Bid. Written questions and responses will be documented by way of addenda, which will be forwarded to all bidders.

Each bid shall be for a fixed lump sum. Bids shall be submitted on-line through A/E Graphics On-line Plan Room, at <https://mps.aegraphics.com/> using the "Submit Bid" tab on the BUILDING SYSTEM UPGRADES - Milwaukee Parkside School Of The Arts project information page from which bid documents were obtained. Submit bid forms per Instructions to Bidders, Article B-5 of the Specifications.
 The right is reserved to reject any or all bids or to waive informalities. Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals at the bid opening through sign language interpreters or other auxiliary aids.

Keith P. Posley, Ed.D.
 Superintendent of Schools

11956410/1-29

OFFICIAL ADVERTISEMENT

Office of the Milwaukee Public Schools, DIVISION OF FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES, 1124 North 11th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, January 29, 2021.
Sealed bids will be received until Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 1:30 PM on-line through A/E Graphics, Inc., pursuant to Section 119.16(4) Wisconsin Statutes in accordance with plans and specifications for the following work:
 All contractor(s) and subcontractor(s) are subject to the current livable wage rate, in accordance with the City of Milwaukee Ordinance 310-13.
 Per 2015 WI Act 55, prevailing wage rate laws have been repealed for all MPS Construction Projects beginning January 1, 2017.
BID GUARANTY TO ACCOMPANY BID: MPS Bid Bond, Certified or Cashier's Check: 10% of Contractor's Base Bid.
EXTERIOR AND GYM LIGHTING UPGRADES
Washington Complex
 2525 N. Sherman Blvd.
 Milwaukee, WI 53210
 MPS Property No. 035
 MPS Project No. 6549
 The HUB requirements for this project are 15%
 The COIN requirements for this project are 0%
 The minimum Student Participation requirements for this project are:
 Paid Employment: 100 Hours
 Educational Activities: 10 Hours
 Deposit for Drawings and Specifications: \$25.00
 MAILING CHARGE: \$35.00

The bidding documents may be viewed and downloaded for free from A/E Graphics On-line Plan Room, at <https://mps.aegraphics.com/>. Hard copies may be obtained 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.; Monday through Friday from A/E Graphics, Inc.; 4075 North 124th Street, Brookfield, WI 53005; phone (262) 781-7744; fax (262) 781-4250. **Call A/E Graphics, Inc. for availability of bid documents for pick up.** Plans and specifications will be loaned to a prospective bidder upon receipt of the deposit listed, which deposit will be returned upon surrender of the plans and specifications in good condition. Bid documents must be returned only to A/E Graphics, Inc.

A pre-bid walkthrough for the site will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 9:00 AM, meet at the school's main entrance.
All questions should be submitted in writing prior to 12:00 PM on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 to DFMSPProcurement@milwaukee.k12.wi.us. No questions may be answered after that date and time. No questions shall be answered verbally. No verbal information from any source is to be relied upon by any respondent in the development of their Bid. Written questions and responses will be documented by way of addenda, which will be forwarded to all bidders.

Each bid shall be for a fixed lump sum. Bids shall be submitted on-line through A/E Graphics On-line Plan Room, at <https://mps.aegraphics.com/> using the "Submit Bid" tab on the EXTERIOR AND GYM LIGHTING UPGRADES - Washington Complex project information page from which bid documents were obtained. Submit bid forms per Instructions to Bidders, Article B-5 of the Specifications.
 The right is reserved to reject any or all bids or to waive informalities. Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals at the bid opening through sign language interpreters or other auxiliary aids.

Keith P. Posley, Ed.D.
 Superintendent of Schools

2-3

SPLC says Biden-Harris Administration, Congress must act against home-grown extremists

WASHINGTON, DC – Today the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) held a briefing for Members of Congress and key congressional staff members to highlight the findings and policy recommendations of our recently released annual Year in Hate and Extremism report.

The briefing featured remarks from House Homeland Security Chair Bennie Thompson (D-MS) and from the Vice Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, Rep. Steven Horsford (D-NV).

After presentations about the report by SPLC's Intelligence Project subject matter experts, Eric Ward, Executive Director of the Western States Center and Senior Fellow with SPLC, offered a response to the presentations and his own views on the threat our democracy faces.

Following the briefing, Margaret Huang, the organization's President & CEO highlighted the urgent actions the Biden-Harris administration and Congress must take to address the dangers posed by violent extremists and other anti-democratic forces.

"For over three decades, we have tracked and monitored hate and extremist groups in the United States. During this time, we have attempted to sound the alarm about these groups, their growth and the dangers they pose.

"Today, it's clearer than ever that our nation faces an increasingly dangerous threat from home-grown extremists ranging from anti-government militias to hate groups and white supremacists. To address these dangers, we are urging the Biden administration and Congress to take action now.

"First, it is clear that as a nation we need to enhance coordination and reporting on hate groups and violent extremists.

"This can be done through executive action and legislation (like the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act) to spark improvements in intelligence sharing, reporting, and coordination among the agencies fighting extremism and White Supremacy. A

nd, because date should be driving the policy, executive action and legislation would also improve federal hate crime data collection, training, and prevention.

"Second, former President Donald Trump and those who helped incite the deadly assault on the U.S. Capitol must be held accountable. The Senate should convict the former president, following his second House impeachment.

And Congress should discipline, censure, or expel all of the 147 Senators and Representatives who supported the insurrection and baseless "Stop the Steal" lies that inspired the violence.

"Finally, the focus must be on Education, not Enforcement. The law is a blunt instrument to address violent hate and extremism – it is much better when used to prevent these criminal acts in the first place.



Ascension Columbia St. Mary's Hospital Milwaukee Awarded Comprehensive Stroke Center Certification

Ascension Columbia St. Mary's Hospital Milwaukee has been certified by The Joint Commission as a Comprehensive Stroke Center, affirming its excellence in the care of stroke patients. A Comprehensive Stroke Center has the specialists, infrastructure and resources needed to care for the most severe stroke cases.

"This certification means that patients and families have access to critical stroke care at the right time, close to home," stated Kelly Elkins, President, Ascension Columbia St. Mary's. "This is an important milestone in Ascension Columbia St. Mary's advancement to a tertiary care center, further expanding access to care for the communities we're privileged to serve."

Ascension Columbia St. Mary's Hospital Milwaukee enhanced its stroke program when it hired two, full-time neurointerventional radiologists - Dr. Daniel Gibson and Dr. Adam Wallace. Dr. Gibson leads Ascension Wisconsin's statewide neurointerventional surgery program and has implemented protocols and technologies that enhance stroke care from Racine to Eagle River. With the addition of two neurointerventionalists, the hospital has stroke and aneurysm care available 24/7, 365-days a year.

"Comprehensive Stroke Center Certification recognizes healthcare organizations committed to fostering continuous quality improvement in patient safety and quality of care," said

Mark Pelletier, RN, MS, chief operating officer, Accreditation and Certification Operations, and chief nursing executive, The Joint Commission. "We commend Ascension Columbia St. Mary's for using certification to reduce variation in its clinical processes and to strengthen its program structure and management framework for stroke patients."

Comprehensive Stroke Centers are typically the best-equipped hospitals in a given geographical area that can treat any kind of stroke or stroke-related complication. In a growing number of states, stroke center certification determines to which facility a patient should be taken for the most appropriate care. As the fifth leading cause of death and a leading cause of adult disability in the United States, it is important to have local access to treatment at the first sign of a stroke.

In 2018, Ascension Columbia St. Mary's Hospital Milwaukee became the first hospital in Wisconsin to deploy RAPID - artificial intelligence technology that helps its specialized care teams identify and treat patients with the most severe types of stroke in as little as 90 seconds. As of April 2019, the technology was deployed across all Ascension Wisconsin acute care sites, making it the largest health system in Wisconsin using the technology.

"Timing is critical in treating a stroke. With access to advanced imaging technology, our neurointervention team is able to respond quickly, helping to reduce the damage caused by a stroke," explained Dr. Dan Gibson, Director, Neurointerventional Surgery, Ascension Wisconsin. "Delaying care, even by a few minutes, can be the difference between recovery and permanent disability. Ascension Wisconsin stroke specialists are trained in the latest technology and best practices, which helps us diagnose a stroke within seconds to quickly deliver treatment and improve patient outcomes."

The hospital continues to make ongoing investments in state-of-the-art technology and clinical infrastructure for its neurointervention program. This includes the addition of a second biplane imaging machine, one of the most advanced interventional medical imaging technologies available; and hiring multidisciplinary specialists in neurocritical care, neurosurgery, neuroimaging, neurology hospitalists, rehabilitation and emergency medicine.

The Ascension Columbia St. Mary's Hospital Milwaukee campus also is home to Ascension Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Hospital, which is recognized for its specialty care programs for brain injury or stroke, movement disorders, spinal cord injuries or disorders and neurological disorders like multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease and Guillain-Barre syndrome. Ascension Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Hospital is a recognized Medicare and Medicaid inpatient rehabilitation facility (IRF).

Medical studies report IRFs provide a higher level of functional improvement in a shorter time compared to rehab in a nursing home environment.

Additionally, Ascension Wisconsin has made a significant investment in virtual technology at all of its sites of care, which enables tele-stroke care regardless of where a patient lives. Ascension Columbia St. Mary's Hospital Milwaukee went live with the service in September 2019. The technology offers real-time virtual consultation for stroke patients from a network of fellowship-trained stroke neurologists.

For additional information on stroke care at Ascension Wisconsin, please visit: <https://www.getascensioncare.com/neurology/stroke/wisconsin/>.

SIGNIFYIN'

(continued from page 7)

tively impacted: "Calendared assessments, notably high-stakes examinations that determine admission or advancement to new education levels and institutions are thrown into disarray when schools close... Strategies to postpone, skip or administer examinations at a distance raise serious concerns about fairness, especially when learning access becomes variable.

It appears that many others are finally calling out the enormous hardship for students, especially for minority students, that closed schools create. On January 16, the Washington Post ran an opinion titled "Montgomery Schools are Failing Minority Students."

In reading it, I could not help but think how MPS is similarly failing minority students, the very same ones whose lives you claim to care so much about.

"The harm of prolonged school closure is just too devastating to keep schools closed," wrote Lavanya Sithanadam, a Montgomery, Alabama pediatrician.

"We now have convincing data that schools are safe and should be open for in-person learning. Even in minority communities where coronavirus rates may be higher, data has shown that schools are not superspreader locations."

She continued: "Sadly, this County, which has typically been at the forefront of addressing in-

equities, is not adequately addressing learning loss and the ever-widening opportunity gap that results from remote learning...

Contrary to the false claims that minorities don't want to return to in-person learning, the presence of minority-filled equity hubs and results from the recent MCPS survey demonstrate that Latino and African American interest in school return is significant.

This interest will continue to grow as schools reopen, and it becomes clear that the health risks are minimal. In my practice, which is 90% minority, there is universal desperation among students to return to school."

In conducting my own small survey, I asked a few MPS high-school students who sometimes work to clear the snow or rake leaves in my neighborhood to tell me what they thought about online schooling and how it's going for them and their families.

Every single one of them wants to return to school. Here is what a few of them wrote me:

"I guess a lot of my cousins are dropping out because of them feeling like they are going to fail," one young man wrote.

"It really hurt me because sometimes I feel like, imma fail, and this is my last year. What if I don't get my diploma? I really feel like without my diploma, imma be a big mess up in life as a man. I was never a failing student. This started since we have been online/virtual."

Another one wrote: "I feel like my grades have worsened badly since we've been out of school. I actually have two close friends that have dropped out because they have issues with online school.

I'm definitely feeling more depressed due to being in the house all the time."

A different young man wrote: "It's kind of hard to focus outside of school, rather than being in school, being it's more tempting to get off track. Honestly, I learned more in the building. I feel this way because I do better working and learning in person."

Finally, another young man, also a high school student at MPS like all the ones I have just

quoted, texted me curtly: "My grades went down tremendously. I absolutely hate online school. Sorry, bro that's all I got to say."

MPS Administrative Policy states that your top "core belief" is that "students come first."

It is evident that those at MPS who took the decisions to keep schools closed to in-person instruction since March 2020 have betrayed this "core belief," just as they have betrayed the students of MPS; not only betrayed them but have thrown them under the bus.

By cutting them off from their publicly funded schooling from March 2020 through (at least) February 2021, they have set this generation of MPS students back socially, emotionally, and academically in ways that are cruel, incomprehensible, and unforgivable. They have crucified the children MPS claims to care about.

I don't think it's possible for you to undo the damage that school closures have already done in the last year. But by immediately reopening schools to

in-person instruction without restrictions and without implementing additional discriminating policies against healthy students, at the very least, you can stop doing even more harm to students and their families than you have already done.

Please, stop harming students, families, and our communities. Open the schools now, without delay and without restrictions.

A Concerned Parent in Milwaukee

PEOPLE, ACHIEVEMENTS, PERSONAL COMMITMENTS

THAT HAVE HELPED TO SHAPE THE BLACK COMMUNITY OF MILWAUKEE!

The Milwaukee Community Journal, now celebrating 44 years, has written about a lot of people. As is true with every person, each is a story within themselves, and we've tried to record and tell their stories truthfully with the honor their lives deserve. Their stories are legacy stories.

Many of the people in "Milwaukee Black Legacy Families" made major contributions to the community, but they pre-dated Google and the web, so their contributions are frozen in memories that now flicker and newspaper morgues where papers yellow from lack of adequate preservation. These contributors built, stacked accomplishment on top of accomplishments, designed strategies to increase their educational, financial, legal, business and electoral power. And their strengths now echo in many of our present leaders. Who are they? What did they do? How do those achievements create the pathway for what we have just experienced?

"Milwaukee Black Legacy Families-2020" shares a lot of the history, the players, their objectives and their successes. Are you in the book? Is a family member there? You should be....so share. We building 2021 now! Share your story and Mom's Dad's legacy. email: legacy@milwaukeecommunityjournal.com

YOUR 2020 CHRISTMAS GIFT CAN INSPIRE THE FUTURE!
'MILWAUKEE BLACK LEGACY FAMILIES: 2020' • ORDER TODAY!

Through a generous grant from the Brewers Community Foundation, Inc. Milwaukee Community Journal Publisher, Patricia O'Flynn Pattillo, author, with support from Researcher/writer Kathy Gaillard, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Black Historical Society/Museum, Clayborn Benson III, and writer/Attorney Sheila Parrish Spence, descriptions of community thought-leaders from the present and the past have been alphabetized into a dictionary-style reference source for your personal library or for gifts for the holidays. These legends graced the pages of our paper; as their lives added value to our community's evolution.

PROCEEDS FROM "MILWAUKEE BLACK LEGACY FAMILIES:2020" BENEFIT THE DR. TERENCE N. THOMAS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND, INC. that has given over a million dollars to brilliant scholars, especially those from the central city of Milwaukee. They receive \$2000 each, each year. Visit: www.drntscholarshipfund.org

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OR, order additional books as well. The Dr. Terence N. Thomas Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc. is a 501-C(3) non-profit corporation in the State of Wisconsin. Visit:
drntscholarshipfund.org and read about the fund in an article by Sam Woods, in the October 13, 2020 edition of the Neighborhood News Service (NNS). THANKS!

MILWAUKEE
Black Legacy Families: 2020

A TAPESTRY OF ACHIEVERS: COLORFUL, RICH AND DYNAMIC

African Ball Kicks Off Black History Month

(continued from page 3)

Katina Shaw, vice president of Community Relations and Family Liaison for the Milwaukee Brewers; James E. Causey, an award-winning projects writer for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and co-host of "Black Nouveau" on PBS; Adekola Adedapo, an acclaimed vocalist, actor, dancer and storyteller, devoted to promoting cultural arts and community activism; Sheriff Earnell R. Lucas, the 65th Sheriff of Milwaukee County and Pastor Ollie Taylor and First Lady Sandra Taylor, leaders of Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church.

The program includes a delicious African recipe demonstration, an African fashion show and heartwarming stories of how the arts come alive on Milwaukee's north side, thanks to band shell supporters.

Community sponsors who support the Indaba African Ball include Advocate Aurora, All of Us Research Program, Parklawn Assembly of God Church, St. John's on the Lake Senior Living Community and Grandma Book's World.

Register for the free ball at stanncenter.org/indabaBall. All registrants will be eligible to win a giveaway basket worth \$300. For more information about the ball or the band shell, contact Gloria Miller at 414-210-2428; or email gmliller@stanncenter.org.



RACISM

Committed to serving our community

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