COPING WITH COVID-19

Milwaukee Health Services, Inc. has begun offering COVID-19 testing at their two locations in Milwaukee for members of the community who are uninsured or do not have a primary care physician.

“I applaud Milwaukee Health Services, Inc. for offering testing and other support services to those who don’t have insurance or a regular doctor,” said sixth District Alderwoman Milette A. Coggs in a statement expressing how pleased she is to see one of the community’s major health-care entities step up to the plate and offer the service to residents of her district and other underserved areas of the city.

“There are many factors that can lead to someone choosing not to get tested or seek medical support, and having resources like this are crucial to making sure everyone gets the care they need.”

Testing is being offered at the MLK Heritage Health Center, 2555 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., and at the Isaac Coggs Heritage Health Center, 8200 W. Silver Spring Drive. Testing is by appointment only, and residents wanting to ask questions or schedule a visit should call (414) 372-8080. Symptoms of COVID-19 can include cough, shortness of breath and fever of 100.4 or greater. For news and updates related to COVID-19 please visit: Milwaukee.gov/coronavirus or call 2-1-1 to speak to a trained health professional. (See story on page six about people with no health insurance being able to get tested for the virus at various local health centers.)

—Photos by Yvonne Kemp

Report confirms connection between racial disparities and the coronavirus

Compiled by MCJ Editorial Staff

A new UW-Milwaukee report verifies what political leaders, community activists, and social experts have said since COVID-19 hit Milwaukee: there is a disturbing correlation between the disease and racism/segregation in the city. The UWM report, which examines data through April 8, found African Americans account for 68% of the coronavirus-related deaths in Milwaukee County while making up 27% of the county’s population.

At the same time, nearly twice the number of African Americans in the county as Whites had tested positive for COVID-19. In the MCI March 25 edition, the newspaper reported that as of March 23, of the 158 total Milwaukee COVID-19 cases, the majority were on the predominantly Black north side; and of that number, a large percentage were (and still are) African American men.

Milwaukee County was one of the first places in the country to release racial data for confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths. Local officials

(continued on page 6)
COMMUNITY2GETHER!

YES!

They’re OPEN for BUSINESS

Here are four popular businesses in YOUR community that are still “up and running” for the benefit of Black consumers and their need to get some air! —Photos by Yvonne Kemp

Columbia Savings & Loan
2020 W. Fond Du Lac Ave.  
(414) 374-0486

Hayat/Carter Herbal Pharmacy
2400 W. Burleigh St.       
(414) 442-8760

Sherman Phoenix
3536 W. Fond Du Lac Ave.  
(262)228-6021

The Tandem
1848 W. Fond Du Lac Ave. (414) 885-1919

MCJ: Banks and Credit Unions are essential businesses. Have you been open throughout the “sheltering in” period?  
Steven Janssen: It began March 13, 2020. Are you open today? Our lobby closed as of Wednesday, March 18th and began solely serving the members with our drive-up service and continue operating that way today.

MCJ: Customer traffic no doubt has been affected as everyone adhered to the federal and state guidelines. Do you have any projection on to what extent?  
Janssen: Any member can use the drive-up service; walk, bike or vehicle. With the loss of four teller stations in the lobby we are now serving our membership solely in the drive-up. This has been admittedly a learning experience for us and our members.

Lines have been extremely long for the drive-up service at times. We all are adjusting to the new normal, please be patient with our staff and fellow members. We want to serve you in the most secure and safe environment.

MCJ: Payroll Protection Program brought dollars to many which will help to parlay funds as people prepare to go back to work. Brewery Credit no doubt has some of those who benefitted. Anything you’d like to say to them regarding services, suggestions?  
Janssen: Unfortunately, Brewery Credit Union could not participate in the PPP as we are not a SBA approved lender.

MCJ: Brewery Credit Union post Covid-19? Any changes you’d like to discuss? What do we say to your regular clients, your MCJ readers. Your open mic.  
Janssen: In July 2019, we started on a facility remodeling project. A commitment the board and staff of Brewery Credit Union made to continue serving our members and community. We are nearing completion in the next couple months, the lobby and entrance was updated with an emphasis on member service and accommodating current and future members with disabilities.

Brewery Credit Union is looking forward to presenting our beautiful updated building to the members and our community.

MCJ: We thank you individually and collectively for your presence in the community. We need you right there!! We pledge to be stronger post Covid-19. MCJ celebrates 44 years this year, gratefully! We are King Drive as well.
The Milwaukee Community Journal•April 29, 2020•Page 3

MKE Fellows, Milwaukee Links launch FIVE PILLARS TUTORING
Virtual learning project advances online tutoring to MPS students

The MKE Fellows and the Milwaukee Chapter of the Links, Incorporated are launching a collaborative-driven virtual learning project entitled Five Pillars Tutoring in response to the disruption caused by the worldwide coronavirus pandemic. This effort will immediately address the break in classroom and educational instruction triggered by the COVID-19 crisis and specifically targets elementary students at Ralph H. Metcalfe School, a Milwaukee Public School that serves approximately 350 students from grades K-4 through grade 8.

The MKE Fellows, a youth empowerment and development initiative started in 2012, finds, nurtures and supports talented African American male students from the community and works with individual educational institutions to ensure completion of their college degrees with express intent to return these graduates to live and work in Milwaukee.

"We want to make sure we don't have a COVID-19 backslide in addition to a summer vacation backslide," said John W. Daniels III, Executive Director of MKE Fellows.

"While we anticipated the need for a community-wide response to the disruption of educational services, the task of bringing together a virtual curricula, uniform instruction, onboarding and delivery has been a monumental undertaking," said Jackie Herd-Barber, spokesperson for the Milwaukee Links.

"The resources and enthusiasm which the MKE Fellows and all partners are bringing to this project answers the battle cry for those in the community who care about the next generation.

"The rapid response in galvanizing a team of committed partners to address both technological and educational needs has been phenomenal."

In addition to providing Chromebooks, home Wi-Fi access and other technical support, the collaborative partners will design and execute the (continued on page 5)
There are awareness days weeks and months throughout the year. Many people believe that only recently have awareness days come into being; but actually, awareness days go back decades.

For instance, the National Fire Prevention Week is observed during the month of October. National Fire Prevention Week commemorates the Great Chicago Fire that occurred in 1871 in which 300 people died, more than 100,000 people were left homeless, and more than 17,000 structures were destroyed. The first Presidential proclamation commemorating Fire Prevention Week was made in 1925 by President Calvin Coolidge but as early as 1911 the Fire Marshals Association of North America, sponsored the first Fire Prevention Day as a way to educate the public about fire safety.

Awareness days commemorate time-sensitive issues such as National Popcorn Day on January 19, National Chocolate Day on October 28 (can you believe it?) and National French Fry Day in July. National French Fry Day can be celebrated by eating some French Fries, crinkle cut, straight or waffle-style, sea salt, or dipped on July 13! Some other awareness days are silly and just for fun such as the International Talk Like a Pirate Day created in 2002 by two fans of the television show "Black Sails." Talk Like a Pirate Day created in 2002 by two fans of the television show "Black Sails."

In a letter written to the people of the church, Pastor Jamal Bryant shared his thoughts to pen involving a recent article on Newsone.com which highlighted the actions of Black pastors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Bryant stated in the letter, as he pointed out that New Birth was able to provide resources to 1,000 families weekly with what goes on inside the church and not how to improve conditions for the people who reside outside of the church walls.

Bryant also pointed out that New Birth was able to provide meals to 500 federal workers, provide 5,000 pairs of free shoes for children in metro Atlanta and bulked out first time, non-offenders, all in little over a year.

And during the pandemic, the church has been able to continue its mission to provide aid where it is needed by providing free groceries to 1,000 families weekly and developed a partnership with local hotels to provide free lodging and meals to local doctors, nurses and allied health professionals.

In the letter, Bryant shares his inspiration for putting his thoughts to pen involving a recent article on Newsone.com which stated that “Black pastors were accused of not donating to Coronavirus relief.” In addition to the backlash to the backlash, Bryant also pointed out that New Birth Missionary Baptist Church pens open letter discussing the Black churches role during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Next Week: 5 Myths About ALS

ALSI ALS Awareness Month

#ALSAwareness (Week 1)

Wisconsin Chapter of the ALS Association Wisconsin Chapter of the ALS Association. Some of the information regarding voluntary opportunities as we continue to respond to social distancing guidelines. Donation opportunities are also available.

The local Wisconsin ALS Chapter can be reached at:
3333 North Mayfair Road, Suite #108
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin 53222
P: 262-784-5237
Online visit the ALS Wisconsin Chapter at: https://www.alsawi.org

Source:

Next Week: 5 Myths About ALS

ALS Awareness Month

#ALSAwareness (Week 1)

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ALS Awareness Month

#ALSAwareness (Week 1)
Marcella Nicholson elected chair of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

(continued from front page)

The 18-member Board of Supervisors, led by County Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson, is an advisory legislative body charged with overseeing the fiscal and administrative operations of Milwaukee County.

Nicholson previously served as a member of the Board of Supervisors representing the 5th District, which includes neighborhoods to the west of Marquette University campus, and the east side of downtown Milwaukee.

On April 7, Nicholson was elected to a third term as the County Board Supervisor representing the 5th District, which includes neighborhoods to the west of Marquette University campus, and the east side of downtown Milwaukee.

Nicholson is a former MPS educator and works for the Milwaukee Area Technical College Foundation and Riverwater Partners.

"Nicholson's experience and leadership will be critical as we continue to work towards our shared goals of providing access to quality education, affordable housing, and economic opportunities for all residents of Milwaukee County. She has a proven track record of working collaboratively with community partners to address the needs of our residents," said Sup. Sylvia Ortiz-Velez.

"Nicholson's leadership will be instrumental in ensuring that Milwaukee County continues to be a place where everyone can thrive. Her commitment to equity and social justice is unwavering, and I am confident that she will continue to lead with passion and purpose," said Sup. Eddie Chivisauca.

"Nicholson will bring a wealth of experience to the Board, and her leadership will be invaluable as we work towards our shared goals of creating a more equitable and just community for all residents of Milwaukee County," said Sup. Mike Mullis.

Nicholson has dedicated her career to public service and has a strong commitment to improving the lives of Milwaukee County residents. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Marquette University, Chasing the Dream: An African American perspective on education and opportunity, and a Master of Science degree in Public Administration from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

"As a former MPS educator and current leader at Riverwater Partners, Nicholson brings a unique perspective to the Board of Supervisors. Her experience in education, community development, and finance will be invaluable as we continue to work towards our shared goals of creating a more equitable and just community for all residents of Milwaukee County," said Sup. Sheldon Wasserman.

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Health and Human Services (HHS) to collect and report racial, ethnic, very important and very helpful, and has helped me get through this.' “Milwaukee County as of April 8, 46 of the victims were Black.”

More disturbing still, of the 67 coronavirus-related deaths reported in Milwaukee County, 46 of the victims were Black, representing 27% of the county population, but only 11% of confirmed cases. This statistic illustrates the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Black people and highlights the disparities in healthcare access and outcomes that are reflective of longstanding racial and socioeconomic inequities.

On the heels of a new report from UW-Milwaukee highlighting how sea change in other cities, including New York City, Detroit, Chicago and New Orleans. The report revealed that patients over 60 years of age and those with chronic medical conditions have seen higher rates of coronavirus complications — making the virus particularly dangerous for African Americans as a population, who have higher rates of chronic illness, are less likely to have health insurance, and are more likely to be working lower-wage jobs, some of which are now considered essential during the pandemic.

The report noted that the findings may seem “counterintuitive,” but that’s because this is how it was written in the Senate,” said Representative Moore. “The second package did not do anything to improve the PPP. It added more money to a fund that has already been approved by Congress, it’s very counterproductive. But one thing we were able to do — and a lot if it was focused on the health care work done by the Congressional Black Caucus, to work on the statute, and the susceptibility of the Democratic Caucus — we set aside $60 million through the PPP that is designed to enable businesses, unfortunately but Rich’s, is to be able to pull down million of dollars because in fact they have little health care. The problem is compounded by the fact that Black people are more likely to have chronic medical conditions and are more likely to experience COVID-19 symptoms.

While health conditions like diabetes and asthma at higher rates in Black people, making Black people more susceptible to complications. The report highlights the significance of these disparities and calls for increased focus on equitable access to healthcare for Black communities. The program is funded by Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin.

The program is funded by Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin, which is providing nutritious meals to help children and families through the crisis. Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin is also providing each child at the Don & Sallie Davis Club each Monday, and is also providing each child at Outreach Community Health Centers.

The report called for continued release of comprehensive demographic data related to COVID-19, widespread availability of testing, expanded access to health care services, including mental health care, and reducing healthcare disparities, recognizing that these efforts are critical in addressing the systemic racism and economic inequalities that exacerbate the pandemic's impact on Black communities.
TOO MANY WASHINGTON POLITICIANS ARE PROTECTING INSURANCE COMPANY PROFITS OVER BLACK HEALTH CARE

Too often, insurance companies refuse to cover emergency services. Either patients are forced to pay bills they cannot afford, or hospitals are shuttering. Congress claims to be tackling this challenge, but until the Congressional Black Caucus got involved, Congress was focused on protecting insurer profits, not people. Let’s join leaders like Rev. Al Sharpton, the Congressional Black Caucus, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Black Women’s Health Imperative, National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. and Dr. Julianne Malveaux in working to ensure that insurance companies expand their networks and cover more emergency services. This will maintain access to care in hard-hit Black communities.

THE STATUS QUO MEANS HOSPITALS IN OUR COMMUNITIES CLOSE FIRST. WE CANNOT LET THIS HAPPEN.

Emergency services are already hard to come by in our communities. Together, we can ensure that the old way of doing business - putting insurance company profits over people - STOPS.

JOIN US AND SUPPORT THE CBC

Help us work to make sure Congress passes a bill that keeps us healthy and alive - by allowing insurance networks to grow and cover lifesaving services.

For more information, visit: https://nationalactionnetwork.net/newnews/black-americans-and-healthcare
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Farmland Bacon
Select Varieties, 16 oz
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Healthy Choice Cafe Steamers
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5/$10
With Card

Kroger Apple Juice
Select Varieties, 64 fl oz
$9.99
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Kroger Spices
Select Varieties, 11-14 oz
FREE
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Bottles of Simple Truth Organic Seltzer Water or AHA Sparkling Water
2/$5
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Prim Кутимя Soft Pretzel Buns
Choose Your Flavour, 4 oz
$2.99
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 Select Varieties, 8 oz
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Protein Shakes
Select Varieties, 16 oz
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99¢/EA
With Card

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or Organic Avocados, 2/83

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Boundy’s Lowlact Milk
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DELI

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FRUIT JUICE FLAVOURED ICE CREAM DIPPED IN MILK CHOCOLATE

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