



# MILWAUKEE

## COMMUNITY JOURNAL

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BIDEN

# FINALLY!

## IT'S OFFICIAL!

### THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE CERTIFIES THE ELECTION FOR JOE BIDEN!

By Stacy M. Brown,  
NNPA Newswire Senior  
National Correspondent

The nation's Electoral College officially stamped Joe Biden and Kamala Harris as President-Elect and Vice-President Elect.

**On January 6, three days after the 117th Congress is sworn in, members of the House and Senate are scheduled to meet in the House chamber where the President of the Senate – Vice President Mike Pence – will preside over the reading and counting of the Electoral College votes.**

A total of 538 electors from every state and Washington, DC, took part in the critical portion of the U.S. electoral process Monday, voting to affirm the votes cast during the 2020 election.

To win, a candidate needs 270 Electoral College votes.

Biden earned 306 while outgoing President Donald Trump tallied 232.

Though largely viewed as a formality, the many challenges and the outrageous behavior displayed by Trump, his supporters, and a large swath of Republican officials made this year's Electoral College gathering more eventful, if not uncertain.

In Michigan, where Biden won by 50.6% to 47.8%, state legislative offices closed due to safety concerns while members of the Electoral College cast their official votes.

State authorities there said they closed the offices because of "credible threats of violence."

(continued on page 2)



## State Lawmaker Donates COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma

State Rep. David Bowen (at left) recently donated COVID-19 convalescent plasma (CCP) at Versiti's downtown Milwaukee donor center, 628 N. 18th St. His donation shows how easy it is for eligible donors to give CCP and how important it is for them to help others. The state legislator also wanted to show the community the importance of donating given the disproportionate impact the virus has had on the Black community. Bowen was diagnosed with COVID-19 in March. While recovering, he led by example and encouraged others to take the virus seriously. The plasma is being shipped out to hospitals and as fast as it is coming in. Local hospitals need those who have recovered from COVID to help out, as their donation of CCP could be lifesaving for citizens who are currently hospitalized. —Photo by Pat Robinson

## New Mental Health Emergency Center Planned for MKE County Residents

Milwaukee County, represented by the Mental Health Board and the Behavioral Health Division, along with the four Milwaukee Health Systems – Advocate Aurora Health, Ascension Wisconsin, Children's Wisconsin and Froedtert Health – have entered into a Letter of Intent to develop a joint venture (JV) mental health emergency center. This new emergency center is the next major mile-



MKE Cnty Exec. David Crowley

stone in their shared efforts toward redesigning the county-wide mental health delivery system. Final agreements are slated for approvals in February 2021. Community engagement, detailed design and construction of the new center are expected

to begin in early 2021 with the goal of being operational by the spring of 2022.

"We're no longer looking at only public or only private solutions to help those suffering from mental illness," said David

(continued on page 3)

## MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL AND BREWERS PLAYERS PROVIDE HELP TO CITY'S BLACK COMMUNITY DURING PANDEMIC



Members of The Players Alliance, in partnership with Interchange Food Pantry, recently provided much-needed resources, including a pop-up pantry and COVID supplies, at St. Mark AME Church, located on Atkinson Ave. It was part of the Alliance's two month, cross-country 'Pull Up Neighbor' Tour. They are working with Pull Up Neighbor, a Black-owned community response team. The Players Alliance is a nonprofit organization comprised of more than 150 active and former Major League Baseball Players seeking to improve Black representation at all levels of baseball. Black Milwaukee, like many Black communities, has been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, especially underserved children who have endured countless losses including access to learning... and playing baseball. A number of Milwaukee Brewers players took part in the event. —Photo by Pat Robinson

## FIRST PERSON!



Photo courtesy of NPR

## "IT WAS REMINISCENT OF CROSS BURNINGS"

### Black Churches Vandalized by MAGA Fascists in DC

By Sunsara Taylor

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Sunsara Taylor was on the streets of Washington, DC, on December 12 to counter-protest the MAGA fascist rally, together with Refuse Fascism, demanding: "Trump: You Lost. Get the Hell Out!" She is a writer for Revcom.us, where this article first appeared, and a co-initiator of RefuseFascism.org where this article is also posted.)

"Last night (Saturday, December 12), demonstrators who were part of the MAGA gatherings tore down our Black Lives Matter sign and literally burned it in the street," wrote the Rev. Dr. Ianther M. Mills, the senior pastor of Asbury United Methodist Church, a historic Black church in Washington, DC, in a statement the following day.

"It pained me especially to see our name, Asbury, in flames. For me it was reminiscent of cross burnings."

That same night, MAGA fascists tore down a Black Lives Matter sign from the historic Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church, a place of worship attended by the former slave and renowned abolitionist Frederick Douglass.

Cross burnings were a signature of the Ku Klux Klan as they enforced lynch-mob terror against Black people throughout the years of Jim Crow.

In a speech in 2003, Bob Avakian spoke to the impact of

(continued on page 7)

# HABARI GANI! IS ON PAGE 2!



# HABARI GANI?

(What's The News?)

## National News Briefs

Veteran journalist **April Ryan** has signed with Byron Allen's Allen Media Group to serve as White House Correspondent and Washington, D.C. Bureau Chief for the soon-to-be-launched 24/7 broadcast television network, TheGrio.TV. She will begin her new role on Jan. 4, 2021. Ryan was a White House correspondent for the last 24 years, covering four U.S. presidents throughout the span of her career. Ryan is a frequent contributor on CNN. TheGrio.TV will feature Black-focused content reaching over 100 million U.S. households via over-the-air broadcast television stations, cable/telco/satellite platforms, and free digital streaming. The network launches Jan. 15, 2021, during the MLK holiday weekend.



Michigan Republican Congressman **Paul Mitchell** has quit the GOP, claiming the party was harming democracy. He will be an Independent for his remaining time in office. In a letter to the Republican National Committee chairwoman Ronna McDaniel and House GOP leader Kevin McCarthy, Mitchell said he no longer believes his values aligned with the party's. Though he felt Trump's policies had been positive, he could no longer support president Donald Trump's claims the election was stolen from him without substantial proof. Mitchell believes Republicans have a duty to speak out against Trump's allegations of voter fraud as a collective, and is dismayed he is one of the few voices to condemned the attack on the elections.



What could be the main event in Georgia's twin U.S. Senate runoffs—early in-person voting—began recently. More than half of the record 5 million votes in the November 3 general election were cast during its two-week early voting period. Early in-person voting could be even more important in these January 5 runoffs because of the short time voters have to request and send back ballots by mail, as the two races decide which party will control the Senate. "It's very important," said Democrat **Raphael Warnock**, who is challenging GOP Sen. Kelly Loeffler in one of the races. "It's how we won in the general and it's how we're going to win in the runoff."



# Electoral College Certifies Election for President-Elect Joe Biden

(continued from front page)

In Texas, the Houston Chronicle reported that state and local officials of both major political parties warned that Trump's "increasingly desperate tweets about election fraud and the coronavirus are fueling the potential for violence as well as another ominous trend of 2020, in which public servants and others who disagree are targeted at their offices and homes with armed protests, harassing phone calls and stalkers."

The newspaper added that an "enemies" list of state and federal officials who rejected Trump's baseless election conspiracy theories floated up from the dark corners of the Web, with home addresses listed and red targets over their photos, the latest in a string of threats to public officials.

During a violent outbreak involving the Pro-Trump group, "Proud Boys," conspiracy theorist Alex Jones told Trump supporters in Washington, D.C., that Biden "will be removed one way or another."

other."

On Monday, as the Electoral College cast its formal vote for Biden, the Daily Beast reported that Trump's small circle of devoted legal advocates were still determined to carry on its fight to overturn the 2020 election despite the string of resounding defeats in court, including a seemingly terminal rebuke from the U.S. Supreme Court.

"But the futility of the effort is apparent in the campaign's northern Virginia headquarters—the office that is supposed to be devoted to supporting and housing the legal crusade—which, knowledgeable sources said has virtually emptied out," the newspaper reported, adding that many of the Trump-Pence signs had been stripped from the walls of the headquarters in Arlington, Virginia.

"The desks and memorabilia have been largely packed, thrown out, or removed from the office space too. Television sets,

mounted to the walls around the rented 14th floor of the building, are being sold off for extra cash," a source told the newspaper.

In Maryland, eight of the state's electors are from each Congressional district and two at-large seats to represent the state's two senators.

Because nearly two million Maryland residents voted for Biden and Harris, the presidential electors chosen by the Democratic Party cast their ballots Monday.

It marked the most presidential votes chosen in the state's history.

The electors, chosen by party officials in the state, included two from Prince George's County.

"On behalf of my daughter, for a vice president who looks like her, I, Kent Roberson cast my vote for Kamala D. Harris," Kent Roberson, who serves on the county's Democratic Central Committee, said when he announced his vote for Harris as vice president.

Gloria Lawlah, a former state secretary of aging and former state senator from Prince George's County served as this year's president of the electors, presiding over the state's 59th Electoral College meeting that began in 1789.

According to the state's election history, Maryland joins only six states to participate in every Electoral College vote.

"Our vote today is an important step in the process of building our nation back better," Lawlah said.

"It is a repudiation of hate. A repudiation of divisiveness. It's an affirmation of unity. We are ensuring a better nation for our children, for our grandchildren, and a better nation for generations to come."

Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan signed a Certificate of Ascertainment, which certifies that the state chose Biden and Harris. Electoral College members can depart from the will of the people—so-called "Faithless Electors."

However, states have imposed severe penalties, from large fines to jail time. Thus, there has never been enough faithless electors to overturn an election.

Following Monday's Electoral College gatherings, votes must arrive in Washington, D.C. by December 23, fulfilling the nine-day deadline in which certified electoral ballots are due on Capitol Hill.

Hill.

On January 6, three days after the 117th Congress is sworn in, members of the House and Senate are scheduled to meet in the House chamber where the President of the Senate—Vice President Mike Pence—will preside over the reading and counting of the Electoral College votes.

Pence will then announce the vote and ask for any objections.

The House and Senate consider all objections separately and then decide how to count those votes.

The 538 electoral votes are divided—one for each Congress and senator member and three for Washington, D.C., accounting for 270.

The 435 members of the House decides the election, with each state receiving a vote.

There are more Democrats in

the House, but Republicans control more state delegations, so it is possible the House could seek to select Trump.

Biden and Harris are scheduled for inauguration on January 20.

"The peaceful transition of power...is a hallmark of our democracy that has been handed down for more than 220 years," Hogan said. "At times it has been tested, sometimes even questioned."

But it is a reminder that despite our differences, we are united as Americans who honor the will of the people through the greatest and most enduring Democratic process that the world has ever known."

—Washington Informer Staff Writer William J. Ford contributed to this story.

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Get tested**

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WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT  
OF HEALTH SERVICES



# COVID-19 Pandemic Safety Protocols Mandate a Change in the Way Many in MKE Pay Their Taxes

## City Treasurer Installs Drop Boxes as an Alternative to In Person Payments

The current pandemic has prompted a major change in the way property taxpayers will remit their payments to the City of Milwaukee.

The office of the City Treasurer has been closed to the public since March, and will not reopen to accept tax payments in the foreseeable future. So, rather than in person payments, taxpayers are encouraged to learn about their various contactless payment options.

“We know that for thousands of people, coming to City Hall to make their tax payment is a tradition. But public health concerns about the pandemic make that impossible now,” City Treasurer Spencer Coggs said. “So my office is taking steps to make sure everyone has a safe and convenient tax payment alternative.”

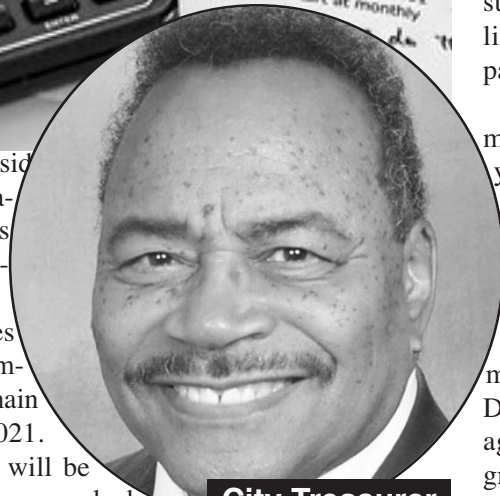
The biggest change this year is the installation of eight new tax payment drop boxes.



Seven of those are located inside Milwaukee Police district stations, and one additional box is located on Market Street, immediately east of City Hall.

The police district drop boxes will be available starting December 21, 2020, and they will remain available through February 5, 2021.

The Market Street drop box will be available all year-round. Taxpayers are asked to submit the coupon from the bottom of the tax bill, along with a check only, in the return envelope enclosed with the annual statement when making a drop box payment.



**City Treasurer  
Spencer Coggs**

As in previous years, taxpayers can mail their property tax payments using that same envelope. They also can pay online at [city.milwaukee.gov/treasurer](http://city.milwaukee.gov/treasurer) using the Munis Citizen Self-Service option.

Additionally, taxpayers can enroll on that website for the Electronic Funds Transfer, or EFT, Installment Payment Plan whereby ten monthly payments would be automatically deducted from a bank account.

A final option is to call the Treasurer's Office Customer Service line at 414-286-2240 to make a payment over the phone.

Payments by check or electronic methods are the only options this year; so, please, no cash payments. A previously offered alternative, paying a property tax bill at a US Bank branch, is no longer available.

The Milwaukee Health Department and the federal Centers for Disease Control strongly discourage people from gathering in groups or engaging in unnecessary close contact with people outside their households.

With that in mind, this year's tax paying precautions will make our community safer.

## TAX PAYMENT DROP BOX LOCATIONS

- 1) 749 West State Street
- 2) 245 West Lincoln Avenue
- 3) 2333 North 49th Street
- 4) 6929 West Silver Spring Dr.
- 5) 2920 North Vel R. Phillips Av.
- 6) 3006 South 27th Street
- 7) 3626 West Fond du Lac Ave.
- 8) North Market Street near East Kilbourn Ave. across from City Hall

## New Mental Health Emergency Center Planned for MKE County Residents

(continued from front page)

Crowley, Milwaukee County Executive. “The beauty of this new center is that it's creating a first-of-its kind partnership between BHD and our community health systems that offers an overarching continuum of care. On their worst possible day, those in need can come to the mental health emergency center to get help in a humane way. It will be a community place of healing where residents will get the care and love that they deserve.”

The new mental health emergency center is coming to fruition after years of assessment of community needs, research of national models, and input from consumers and clinical providers. It will provide assessment, stabilization, emergency treatment and effective connections for follow up and ongoing inpatient, residential, community-based outpatient and peer support services to children and adults experiencing a mental health crisis. Additionally, it will serve as a training center for psychiatric medical residents and offer other professional education and peer support services.

While the model of care is currently under development, it will be based on BHD's nationally recognized Psychiatric Crisis Service (PCS), which functions as a mental health emergency department at the regional medical center in Wauwatosa.

“For nearly a decade, BHD has been transforming to become a best practice model of care, in partnership with advocates and consumers, health systems, community health centers, and other community-based organizations,” said Michael Lappen, Behavioral Health Division Administrator. “This new center will be an integral component of an improved crisis delivery system, intended to serve all patients regardless of the severity of their illness or ability to pay. The emergency center will be part of the continuum of new and planned crisis services including expanded mobile, residential, peer support and outpatient services.”

The mental health emergency center will be developed and operated as a joint venture, with Milwaukee County bearing responsibility for 50 percent of the construction, start-up and operating costs and the health systems funding the other 50 percent; each contributing an equal portion. Construction and other startup costs are anticipated to be \$12 million.

The health systems and Mental Health Board are hoping to attract philanthropic support from other providers, foundations and individuals committed to community health improvement. Additionally, the JV partners are working with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) to ensure appropriate licensure and explore reimbursement sources available under Medicaid funding mechanisms.

The center will provide services to all Milwaukee County residents, regardless of ability to pay, and may have the capacity to support surrounding counties in the future.

Advocate Aurora Health (AAH) has agreed to serve as the manager of the mental health emergency center and will be responsible for the em-

ployment of the physicians and staff, as well as the day-to-day operations on behalf of the JV. As the largest provider of behavioral and mental health services in the State of Wisconsin, AAH will bring significant clinical and patient service expertise to the delivery of care.

“Milwaukee's health systems are committed to improving the availability, accessibility and acceptability of mental health services in our community. Our collective Community Health Needs Assessment emphasized the importance of expanding behavioral health access, especially for those experiencing a mental health crisis,” said Carrie Killoran, president of the Greater Milwaukee patient service area for Advocate Aurora Health and chairperson of the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership. “The new mental health emergency center will provide patient-centered, and recovery-oriented care for Milwaukee area residents. And, we strongly believe that this innovative model, in collaboration with law enforcement, the courts, and patients themselves, will not only ensure timely treatment, but will have a meaningful impact on reducing stigma and decriminalizing mental illness.”

“Unacceptable health disparities in our city and state, including the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on our Black and Hispanic neighbors, continue to put stress on kids and families. Even before the pandemic increased the level of trauma, rate of mental health illness and substance abuse, there was not enough access to mental health services. This new mental health center will provide community-based emergency care 24/7 and will connect patients — including children and adolescents — to much needed clinical and social supports. It is one of many steps we must do to improve the mental health of our children, co-workers, loved ones and friends,” said Peggy Troy, president and CEO of Children's Wisconsin.

The proposed location for the mental health emergency center is on the near north side of Milwaukee, on property presently owned by Milwaukee County. Currently, 93 percent of patient visits to the Psychiatric Crisis Services Center (PCS) at the Behavioral Health Division's Mental Health Complex originate from the City of Milwaukee, and more than 70 percent of the patients served by PCS live in close proximity to the proposed location; making it more convenient and accessible for the majority of users.

The location is served by public transportation and is adjacent to the freeway, ensuring ready access for those in need of care, as well as for county-wide law-enforcement personnel assisting with crisis response.

Once open, the center will serve as an “anchor institution” in the surrounding neighborhood providing economic benefit and employing approximately 70 full-time equivalent staff. During construction, dozens of jobs through local construction firms CG Schmidt and minority-owned JCP Construction will also be created.

Throughout the design phase of the mental health emergency center, community input will be invited to assure the center will be an ongoing source of safety, security and vitality for the neighborhood.

The Milwaukee County BHD hospital, including the PCS emergency department, will remain open until the new mental health emergency center is operational. For more information and to stay up to date, please visit [county.milwaukee.gov/EN/DHHS/BHD](http://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/DHHS/BHD).

## KENOSHA FALLOUT!

*Right Wing Watch on How a Teen  
Accused of Shooting Three BLM  
Protesters Became a Poster Child  
for the Right*

WASHINGTON, DC-- People for the American Way's Right Wing Watch project, this week, published an article examining the right-wing industry lionizing accused Kenosha killer Kyle Rittenhouse, ranging from rhetorical bomb-thrower Ann Coulter to armed neo-Nazis.

In August, the city of Kenosha, Wisconsin, erupted in protest of the police shooting of Jacob Blake, a Black man, as his children sat in his car. On the third night of



**Kyle Rittenhouse**

unrest, 17-year-old Kyle Rittenhouse, who is white, left his home in Antioch to join armed right-wing activists who claimed to be converging on the town in order to protect local businesses. But by the time the night ended, Rittenhouse had shot three protesters, two of whom died.

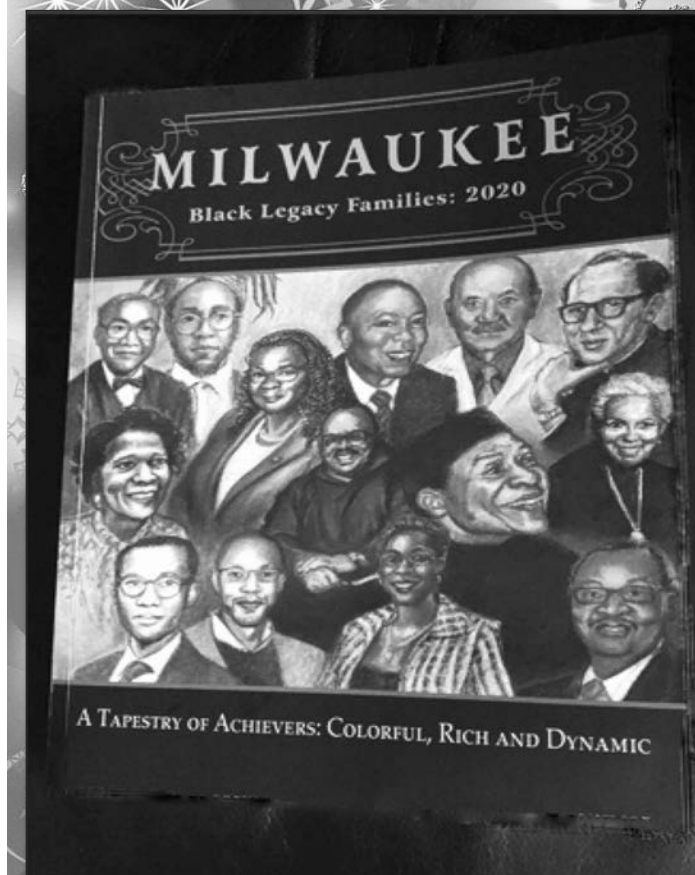
In another time, the story might have been one of one

troubled and misguided white youth who did a terrible thing. But in 2020, in Trump's America, Kyle Rittenhouse has become a far-right hero, his image emblazoned on tee shirts with such slogans as "Kyle Did Nothing Wrong" and "Kyle's Life Matters."

“Let's be clear: Kyle Rittenhouse is no hero. He is a killer who took the lives of Americans participating in a First Amendment protest—a killer whose cause has been taken up by neo-Nazis and other white supremacists. He

(continued on page 7)

**THIS HOLIDAY SEASON,  
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**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!





# RiverBee LLC to Create First Cooperative Housing for Milwaukee Residents with \$450,000 Loan from Bader Philanthropies

## Loan is part of \$9.5 Million in Grants Recently Awarded

RiverBee LLC, a local ownership group of more than 40 investors from Milwaukee, today announced it is transforming its building at 500 E. Center Street in Milwaukee’s Riverwest neighborhood into Milwaukee’s first cooperative housing for Milwaukee residents with a \$450,000 program-related investment loan (PRI) from Bader Philanthropies, Inc.

The cooperative tenant housing model is particularly well-suited for the COVID-19 pandemic realities by creating a safe “pod” of known residents and offering an intentional living community that helps support people dealing with losses and uncertainty such as jobs, instability and landlord challenges.

This PRI is part of almost \$9.5 million in grants recently

awarded by Bader Philanthropies to support 134 organizations serving approximately 280,000 individuals across Wisconsin, the U.S., and internationally, in program areas such as Alzheimer’s & Healthy Aging, the Arts, Community Matters, Employment, Neighborhood Engagement, Social Equality, Urban & Jewish Education and Youth Development.

The RiverBee redevelopment project is located between two vibrant and culturally rich Milwaukee neighborhoods,

Riverwest and Harambee. The neoclassical brick building was constructed in 1927 to house the Holton Street State Bank, but after the bank’s 1960 closing it became a site for groups like the Boys & Girls Clubs, Centro Del Nino, and a Head Start-affiliated charter school.

The building was deserted in 2006. RiverBee convened more than 40 local investors to purchase the building and completed the build-out that transformed it into the Cream City Hostel in June 2019 – Milwaukee’s first hostel. Since then it has hosted thousands of travelers from more than 38 different countries within a year.

The project also sparked additional investment in the commercial corridor, including streetscape upgrades by the City of Milwaukee. Cream City Hostel won a 2020 Commercial Real Estate Award for “Best Neighborhood Impact.”

Unfortunately, Cream City Hostel was not yet through its first year of operations when the COVID-19 crisis hit and it was forced to close its doors.

While no one can anticipate what will unfold, RiverBee believes that a hostel business will be one of the hardest recoveries, which is why it is pivoting to a cooperative housing model for area residents.

“The beauty of this pivot is that the project will stay true to our original vision of this work, which was to collectively empower the community, ourselves and each other to make our lives and neighborhoods better,” said Juli Kaufmann, social entrepreneur, managing member of RiverBee LLC, and president of Fix Development.

“We are proud to continue to create a safe and diverse place to bring the community together.”

Kaufmann led the \$1 million redevelopment Cream City Hostel project, partnering with Riverwest residents Wendy Mesich and Carolyn Weber.

Additionally, more than 40 community members, most of them from the Riverwest and Harambee neighborhoods, became direct investors in the building, using a crowdfunding ownership model.

Kaufmann’s business model is to use real estate as a tool for social change and is the only real estate model of its kind in Milwaukee.

Her work focuses on creating

housing model,” said Jerad Tonn, RiverBee LLC investor. “Affordable housing is one of the biggest issues we face as a society, and Milwaukee isn’t immune.

Cooperative housing is another way for people to have a more affordable style of living and easier access to home ownership, while being part of a smaller community within the great communities of Riverwest, Harambee and Milwaukee.

“I think that’s really appealing for some people, and I think Riverwest is the perfect place for it.”

Since cooperative housing is not yet common in Milwaukee, RiverBee is seeking to grow its expertise through partnerships with experienced groups that can help recruit interested occupants and guide the formation of the cooperative.

They have initially partnered with Milwaukee Area Cohousing and are now actively seeking individuals interested in exploring becoming lead members of the cooperative housing model.

There are plans to make some modifications to the current rooms and redevelop the garden. The transformation is planned to begin in January 2021, with hopes to introduce it to the neighborhood in spring or summer of 2021.

ers, tenants, employees and customer base,” said Kaufmann.

The PRI from Bader Philanthropies will allow RiverBee to redevelop the building into a mixed-use property that will provide affordable, low-income housing for area residents.

This low-interest loan will replace two bank mortgages and allow RiverBee to restructure the debt payments to account for the current economic situation resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Bader Philanthropies supports RiverBee and this trailblazing concept which addresses a critical community issue – access to affordable housing,” said Daniel J. Bader, president/CEO for Bader Philanthropies.

“We recognize that this is a time when we can make a real difference in the lives of people who need many things, including our community members who are looking for an affordable alternative to renting.”

Bader Philanthropies has been awarding PRIs since 1995 and is one of only a few philanthropic entities in the state providing them.

Over the last 20 years, Bader Philanthropies has awarded more than 50 loans, loan guarantees, equity investments and other credit enhancements to Wisconsin

## “Bader Philanthropies supports RiverBee and this trailblazing concept which addresses a critical community issue – access to affordable housing.” – Daniel J. Bader, president/CEO for Bader Philanthropies.

small businesses and local jobs using community-based funding options.

“We’re glad to partner with Bader Philanthropies because they’re a community partner that’s mission-aligned,” said Kaufmann.

“We wanted to pivot thoughtfully, in the same vein as the hostel was designed for the neighborhood – to be the highest and best use for the community. This model will fill a need for low-income residents.”

“I’m also supportive of the plans to pivot into a cooperative

RiverBee is anticipating local residents will be looking for affordable housing next year with the eviction moratorium ending December 31, 2020. RiverBee hopes to provide housing for at least 12 residents, and that this model could be replicated in other communities.

“These developments are successful, in part, because they engage community investors who are committed to the success of the tenants, support tenants who are responsive to the neighborhood’s desires, and reflect the community throughout its own-

and Israel organizations totaling \$19.4 million.

PRIs are impact investments made by foundations to support charitable activities that involve the potential return of capital within an established time frame.

Unlike grants, PRIs produce financial returns for foundations in the form of principal plus interest, gains realized on investments, etc., which can then be recycled for other charitable purposes. For the recipient, the primary benefit of this loan is access to capital at lower interest rates than may otherwise be available.



Critical care nurse Sandra Lindsay received the first dose of the two-shot vaccine at about 9:20 a.m. EST on Monday, December 14—Photo courtesy of blackpressusa.com

# African American Nurse first to Receive COVID Vaccine

**By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent**

QUEENS, NEW YORK — Critical care nurse Sandra Lindsay received the first dose of the two-shot vaccine at about 9:20 a.m. EST on Monday, December 14.

Medical officials administered the dose on camera as New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo and others watched on a livestream.

“The person who is going to take the first vaccine in the state of New York, maybe the first vaccine shot in the United States,” Cuomo said of Lindsay as she sat in a chair ahead of receiving the

historic jab.

“This vaccine is exciting because I believe this is the weapon that will end the war,” the governor said. “It is the beginning of the last chapter of the book, but now we just have to do it.

“The vaccine doesn’t work if it’s in the vial. We’re here to watch you take the first shot.”

Lindsay, who works at Long Island Jewish Medical Center, proclaimed, “I feel great,” after receiving the injection from Dr. Michelle Chester, the director of employee health services at Northwell Health.

Cuomo remarked to Lindsay, “You didn’t flinch.”

Lindsay said she hopes to instill public confidence that the vaccine is safe.

“I feel hopeful today, relieved. I feel like healing is coming,” Lindsay exclaimed.

Pfizer’s vaccine was expected to arrive via Federal Express and UPS freight and ground transportation at 145 locations across all 50 states in the U.S. Monday morning.

The vaccine was authorized for emergency use in the U.S. by the Food and Drug Administration.

It’s estimated that about 2.9 million doses of the coronavirus vaccine will be distributed this week in the first vaccine rollout phase.

High-risk populations like healthcare workers and nursing home staff and residents in the U.S. will be prioritized to receive the landmark vaccine.

“I hope this marks the beginning of the end of a very painful time in our history. We’re in a pandemic, so we all need to do our part to put an end to the pandemic,” Lindsay said.





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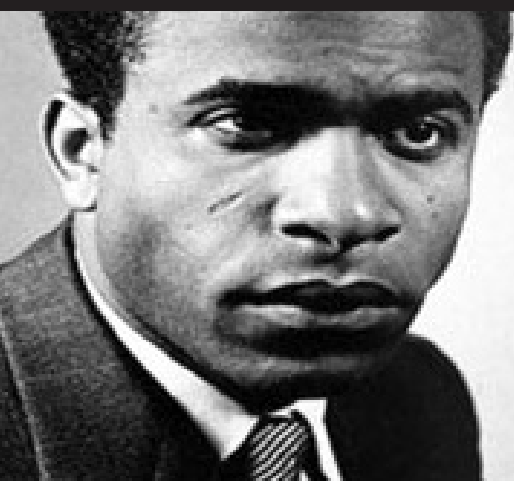
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# PERSPECTIVES

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK!

GIVEN THE BEHAVIOR OF THE SOON OUTGOING PRESIDENT AND HIS UNPROVEN ACCUSATIONS OF VOTER FRAUD AND OTHER CONSPIRACY THEORIES, WE THOUGHT ANOTHER QUOTE FROM FRANTZ FANON TO BE MOST APPROPRIATE...



"Sometimes people hold a core belief that is very strong. When they are presented with evidence that works against that belief, the new evidence cannot be accepted. It would create a feeling that is extremely uncomfortable, called cognitive dissonance. And because it is so important to protect the core belief, they will rationalize, ignore and even deny anything that doesn't fit in with the core belief." – Frantz Fanon

# OP-ED: How Ascension is Preparing for the COVID-19 Vaccination



**By Dr. O'Rell Williams**  
Vice President of Medical Affairs, Ascension SE Wisconsin Hospital - St. Joseph Campus

From the moment COVID-19 emerged in the United States, dedicated caregivers across Ascension Wisconsin -- and caregivers everywhere -- have worked tirelessly on the frontlines to care for people impacted by the pandemic.

We are grateful to all of our nurses, doctors and staff for the commitment, empathy and selfless-

ness they have shown.

While 2020 has been a challenging year, the dedication of frontline caregivers everywhere has been a source of inspiration for us all.

The development of a safe and effective vaccine has been a critical part of the world's effort to stop the spread of COVID-19. As the pandemic continues to affect people worldwide, we have new reasons for hope.

Vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna have demonstrated safety and effectiveness, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized Pfizer's vaccine for emergency use (EUA) and is expected to do the same for Moderna's vaccine later this month. Ascension Wisconsin held its first COVID-19 vaccine clinic for frontline caregivers on Thursday, December 17, 2020.

All approved vaccines require extensive research, documentation and closely monitored clinical trials, some of which were completed by Ascension physicians, to determine effectiveness and safety before being submitted for approval or emergency use authorization by the FDA.

Ascension Wisconsin is following guidance issued by the CDC and recommendations of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. In accordance with these guidelines, among the first group eligible to receive the vaccines are frontline caregivers -- particularly those serving in emergency departments, COVID-19 units and intensive care units. For Ascension, this includes both associates and affiliated physicians and providers. Ascension anticipates that the remainder of its associates will be eligible for the vaccine as more doses become available and the distribution process progresses.

We are confident our plan will effectively and safely contribute to the protection of the communities we are privileged to serve.

We will also be conducting outreach to high-risk groups and vulnerable populations, including those who experience barriers in accessing healthcare services, to ensure members of these communities are encouraged to receive a COVID-19 vaccination.

Over the coming months, these vaccines will become available to the general public, and we want to strongly encourage everyone to get the COVID-19 vaccine when it is made available.

I plan to get the vaccine as soon as it's available for me -- once our frontline caregivers and high-risk individuals have had the opportunity to receive it. I believe it is the right thing to do to protect ourselves, our loved ones and our community.

As we await widespread distribution of the COVID-19 vaccines, it will be critical for our entire community to continue wearing masks, watching distance from others and washing hands frequently to protect ourselves and those around us. We will continue to diligently follow these measures across our sites of care, and you should do the same in your home and workplace.

It has been a trying year, but with the development of these vaccines and the remarkable work of our caregivers, relief is on the horizon. As we look forward to "community immunity", it's important that we all work to manage our health needs with a focus on prevention -- staying current on vaccinations, keeping prescriptions filled, and staying in contact with our doctors so we can be the healthiest versions of ourselves during this time.

And remember, if you need emergency care, do not delay treatment or defer any of your care needs.

Our hospitals and emergency rooms are well prepared to safely care for you.

# Community is lucky to have Marlaina Jackson as interim Milwaukee health commissioner



**Interim Health Commissioner Marlaina Jackson**



**SIGNIFYIN'**  
By Mikel Kwaku Oshi Holt

The philosopher Seneca once posited that "luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity."

Some believe that adage perfectly reflects what happened to Marlaina Jackson, who was named interim city health commissioner in September when her predecessor, Jeanette Kowalik, unexpectedly resigned after a relatively short tenure.

Others believe that while Jackson is highly qualified to fill Kowalik's shoes, she may have stepped in a hornet's nest because the Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) has been the most scrutinized in city government over the last five years.

There's no doubt Jackson's faces a series of unique challenges--from the pandemic, a lead abatement crisis that has sparked litigation and allegations of institutional racism (even though the last four commissioners have been African American).

Moreover, the department has become a ping in a seesaw ping-pong battle played by city politicians.

The smoke hasn't cleared yet from a lawsuit by a former white MHD employee who alleged she had been discriminated against. All but one of the city's African American alderpersons voted against a recent settlement, creating a rift within their ranks.

They were also at odds with Mayor Tom Barrett over the selection of the Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin president Dr. Patricia McManus, who served as interim commissioner until the appointment of Kowalik.

But as 'luck' would have it, Jackson seems the perfect choice to take on the challenges.

She has remained steadfast as reports of MHD investigators being threatened by citizens who rebel against pandemic restrictions, including those aimed at limiting capacities for bars and restaurants.

There have even been death threats, which not only reflects what some attribute to 'pandemic fatigue,' but more succinctly represents the volatile nature and stupidity of citizens refusing to accept reality.

Jackson has stood firm in her support of the MHD policies about in-person restrictions during the pandemic and expressed appreciation of staff who have not wavered in their duties despite the threats.

"Our responsibility is public safety," she said, noting the only way to arrest the virus leading up to the national vaccination campaign is to limit person-to-person contact, restrict in-door social gatherings, and following a mask-

funding shortfalls and systemic racism throughout city government.

In steps Deputy Commissioner Jackson, highly credentialed but new to the public arena and the politics of African American leadership in the nation's most segregated city.

Without taking time to exhale, she cemented her leadership with several new programs and outreach efforts, quickly earning staff and political leaders' respect.

She has taken on the lead abatement challenge, although it's obvious more tax funding is needed to eliminate that costly calamity.

Jackson is reviewing new strategies to address Milwaukee's nation-leading Black infant mortality rate. She has created a department outreach/partner model to 'better connect with our community and establish accountabilities within the MHD.'

The Marquette graduate has also opened a direct line to aldermen and instituted a faith-based initiative.

Impressive as her early efforts

**"I recognize that pandemic fatigue is real, particularly during the winter months," she noted, and "our investigators are accustomed to having difficult conversations with bar and restaurant owners. But the death threats..."**

**—Interim Health Commissioner Marlaina Jackson commenting on backlash from citizens her department staff have faced in enforcing COVID restriction**

sation, a classmate of my late son, Malik, both graduates of Messmer high school.

She is of the generation of emerging activists and leaders who were instilled with a sense of community and commitment to serve a higher purpose.

With two decades of health care leadership under her belt, including stints at Aurora and Froedtert, her expertise and administrative resume is impressive.

Thus, taking on the MHD challenges, which has been marred in controversy since Bevan Baker was fired for 'allegedly' ignoring the lead crisis five years ago.

Dr. McManus succeeded Baker. Her tenure sparked a conflict between supporters on the common council and the mayor.

Kowalik found herself in a similar, albeit reverse scenario, but led the department to a level of accountability and respect when she suddenly resigned after less than two years on the job.

While Kowalik said she left to pursue a high-profile position in Washington, D.C., there were rumors of her being frustrated with

have been, she frequently finds herself targeted by special interests' demands, usually to grant exemptions to department mandates or policies.

One such 'demand' was submitted by the Milwaukee teacher's union (MTEA), which requested she invalidate a policy on school operations by restricting private schools to virtual education paradigms.

The MHD policy provides that schools meeting specific safety requirements can provide in-person classes.

While the public/government schools have decided not to open, many private and charter schools have.

The MTEA's demand is consistent with a similar request by the state teacher's union to the governor.

Neither has anything to do with student or teacher safety but instead are motivated by fears of a mass exodus of public-school students to institutions offering what parents consider a more viable academic process.

(continued on page 7)

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**"Milwaukee Black Legacy Families," retail site.**

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## MHSI's fifth annual holiday Dinner and COVID-19 safety kit giveaway Dec. 18

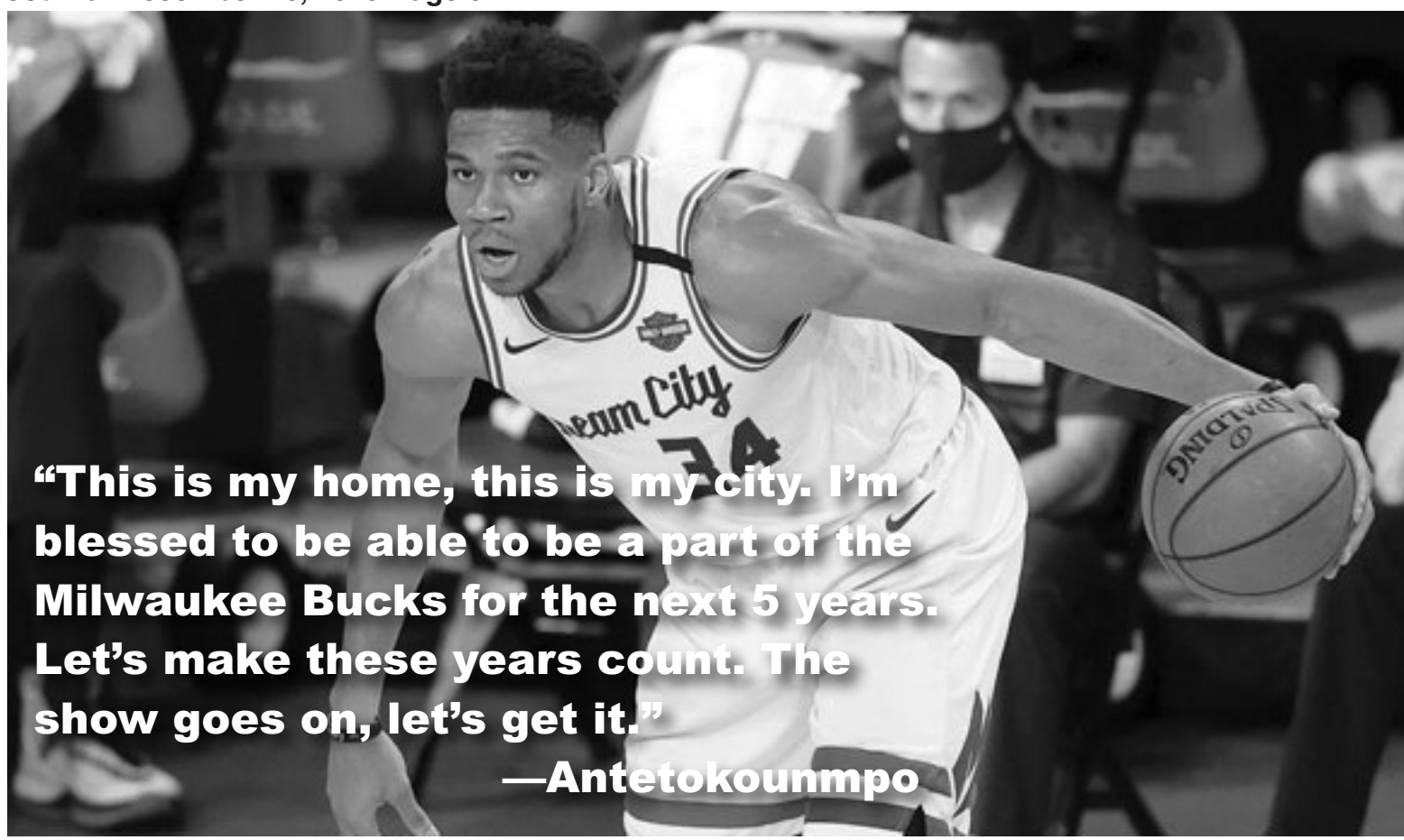
In an effort to help feed those in need this Christmas, Milwaukee Health Services, Inc. (MHSI), MHS Health Wisconsin, the Social Development Commission, Feeding America, Molina Healthcare, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield and All of Us are providing 2,000 grocery dinners to Milwaukee residents.

The giveaway will take place Friday, December 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Issac Coggs Heritage Health Center, 8200 W. Silver Spring Drive.

Feeding America reports that nearly 520,000 Wisconsinites don't know where their next meal is coming from. In Wisconsin, 1 in 11 people face hunger.

MHSI and sponsors are working together to reduce food insecurity in the Milwaukee area.

This will be a drive thru only event for the safety of the community and registration is not required. No walk-up service will be available.



**"This is my home, this is my city. I'm blessed to be able to be a part of the Milwaukee Bucks for the next 5 years. Let's make these years count. The show goes on, let's get it."**

**—Antetokounmpo**

# Giannis Antetokounmpo signs supermax extension with the Milwaukee Bucks

### Giannis Antetokounmpo is staying with the Bucks for another five years!

Giannis says he is signing a five-year super-max extension with the Milwaukee Bucks worth \$228.2 million, according to the Athletic reporter Shams Charania.

Giannis posted the news on Instagram as well, saying Milwaukee as his city.

The news comes after the team made the playoffs two years in a row but fell short when it comes to a championship.

It's always been clear that Giannis loves Milwaukee thanks to his interactions with fans and social media posts.

Back in September, Giannis shared photos from the 2020 season on Instagram and said Milwaukee has "the best fans in the world." He even said he was looking forward to next season.

Prior to signing the contract, Giannis had also said in several interviews that he loved Milwaukee and wasn't planning on leaving. We must say, though, it feels pretty good to have that in writing.

Giannis joined the NBA back in 2013 when he was drafted to the Milwaukee Bucks. Prior to that, though, Giannis played for five years in Greece. His family didn't have a lot of money and felt the struggle until NBA scouts began to notice his talent.

Giannis joined the NBA and began to prosper. In his first season with the Bucks,

he mostly came off the bench but still managed to get people to start recognizing his name. He was listed as No. 11 on the NBA's rookie leaders list in his first season.

In 2014, Giannis was named NBA's Eastern Conference Player of the Week for the first time. However, during that season, he was still mostly coming off the bench. That all changed during the 2015-2016 season.

Giannis started in 79 of his 80 games during that season and averaged career highs in minutes (35.3), points (16.9), rebounds (7.7), assists (4.3), blocks (1.4), steals (1.2) and field-goal percentage (.506), according to the Bucks.

In 2017, Giannis was given the most improved player of the year award.

From then on, Giannis was a starter and a star. He went on to win two back-to-back MVP awards in 2019 and 2020 and was named to several NBA All-Star teams. In fact, Giannis became the first Bucks player to start in four consecutive All-Star games.

During the 2020 season, he was one of the All-Star team captains alongside LeBron James and was named the NBA's defensive player of the year.

As of the end of the 2020 season, Giannis has been named Eastern Conference Player of the Week nine times and has been named to three NBA all-defensive teams.

In addition to NBA awards and honors, Giannis was also named one of Time's 100 Most Influential People.

"To watch him play is to see not just what is, but also what is possible.

There is some mystical quality that quickens a fan's heart when they see that person walk onto the court. The true sports hero makes our bones vibrate and flesh ripple in anticipation of witnessing greatness," wrote Kareen Abdul-Jabbar in TIME magazine.

Giannis also has a few ESPY awards from his time as a Bucks player.

While Giannis already has a long list of accomplishments, we're sure there's more to come with this super-max extension. And maybe, if we're lucky, one of those awards will be an NBA Championship.

## LEGALS&CLASSIFIEDS

### SUMMONS (PUBLICATION) STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING Case No. 2020CV6692

In the matter of the name change of: ERIC ADAM CAVES By (Petitioner) ERIC ADAM CAVES

NOTICE IS GIVEN: A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above: From: ERIC ADAM CAVES To: ROBIN CO'IR Birth Certificate: ERIC ADAM CAVES

IT IS ORDERED This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin. Judge's Name: HON. WILLIAM S POCAN RM 401 PLACE: 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233 DATE: JANUARY 15, 2021 TIME 8:45 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: 12-2-2020 BY THE COURT: HON. WILLIAM S POCAN Circuit Court Judge 245/12-9-16-23-2020

### SUMMONS (PUBLICATION) STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING Case No. 20CV006593

In the matter of the name change of: SEBASTIAN J SALGADO-BUENDIA By (Petitioner) KARINA HERNANDEZ

NOTICE IS GIVEN: A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above: From: SEBASTIAN J SALGADO-

BUENDIA To: SEBASTIAN AGUSTIN HERNANDEZ-SALGADO Birth Certificate: SEBASTIAN J SALGADO-BUENDIA

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 (VIA ZOOM) Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233 DATE: JANUARY 14, 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: 12-2-2020 BY THE COURT: HON. KEVIN E MARTENS Circuit Court Judge 244/12-9-16-23-2020

### SUMMONS (PUBLICATION) STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING Case No. 20CV006712

In the matter of the name change of: SHAQUITA SHANEE MATTHEWS By (Petitioner) SHAQUITA SHANEE MATTHEWS-SMITH

NOTICE IS GIVEN: A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above: From: SHAQUITA SHANEE MATTHEWS To: SHAQ SHANEE MATTHEWS Birth Certificate: SHAQUITA SHANEE MATTHEWS-SMITH

IT IS ORDERED This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin. Judge's Name: HON. PEDRO COLON BR. 18 RM 412/VIA ZOOM PLACE: 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233 DATE: January 12, 2021 TIME 1:45 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: 12-1-2020 BY THE COURT: HON. PEDRO COLON Circuit Court Judge 246/12-9-16-23-2020

### SUMMONS (PUBLICATION) STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING Case No. 20CV006435

In the matter of the name change of: CLARA JANE RAMIREZ By (Petitioner) LAURA ANNE JOHNSON

NOTICE IS GIVEN: A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above: From: CLARA JANE RAMIREZ To: CLARA JANE JOHNSON Birth Certificate: CLARA JANE RAMIREZ

IT IS ORDERED This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin. Judge's Name: HON. LAURA GRAMLING PEREZ RM 404 VIA ZOOM PLACE: 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233 DATE: JANUARY 14, 2021 TIME 11:00 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: 10-23-2020 BY THE COURT: HON. LAURA GRAMLING PEREZ Circuit Court Judge 248/12-16-23-30-2020

### SUMMONS (PUBLICATION) STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR

### NAME CHANGE HEARING Case No. 2020CV006754

In the matter of the name change of: LUCY MELLOW BANGS By (Petitioner) LUCY MELLOW BANGS

NOTICE IS GIVEN: A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above: From: LUCY MELLOW BANGS To: LUCY ANTRIM MELLOW Birth Certificate: LUCY ANTRIM MELLOW

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 (VIA ZOOM) Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233 DATE: JANUARY 15, 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: 12-3-2020 BY THE COURT: HON. KEVIN E MARTENS Circuit Court Judge 247/12-16-23-30-2020

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### 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



# KENOSHA FALLOUT!

(continued from page 3)

represents another dark moment of the Donald Trump era and the far-right extremists who have only fanned the flames of hatred,” said People For the American Way President Ben Jealous.

“We cannot be fooled by the bogus claims and misinformation efforts from those who seek to sow discord and division at any time, let alone one of the most sensitive times in our history. As Americans, we believe in unity and justice for all. These values must be at the core of our guiding principles, even through the most challenging times.”

Writing for Right Wing Watch, a project of People For the American Way, Karim Zidan looks at the events, personalities and dynamics that led to the lionization of the white boy with the gun by right-wing forces looking to destabilize the United States.

Among those representing Rittenhouse is Lin Wood, who is also working with those looking to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election.

“The debate over Kyle Rittenhouse’s case—heroism or homicide, patriotism or plague—has become the new battleground for the American far-right as well as white supremacists around the world who are thrilled to have a new face for their cause,” says Zidan.

“To them, Rittenhouse is not an accused killer but a victim of the villainization of American values. As such, the proliferation of Rittenhouse-related propaganda serves to frame him as a heroic figure that white nationalists should aspire to emulate.”

In his narrative piece, “Kyle Rittenhouse, Kenosha, and the New Far-Right Battleground,” Zidan shows the intersection of a range of right-wing actors in looking to appropriate the Rittenhouse story, from Proud Boys to neo-Nazis, and grifters in between. The reach of the far-right’s telling of the story crosses the seas. As an example, Zidan tells of one group, the International Conservative Community:

Outside the large, gray building, housing the Provincial Court of British Columbia, is a statue of Lady Justice—blindfolded and holding a scale and sword—towering over arriving mortals.

Yet beneath this personification of justice, there was a large sticker bearing the image of a young man armed with an AR-15 style rifle, a pair of rubber gloves, and a magnifying reflector in his left eye. Beneath it is a caption that reads: “Kyle was Right.”

The sticker was part of an international propaganda campaign by a white supremacist group known as the International Conservative Community. The group, which includes entities across Europe and North America, fashions themselves as a modernized network of neo-Nazis capable of “building bridges across countries and even continents.”

Founded by American neo-Nazi Robert Rundo (who also founded the white supremacist fight club Rise Above Movement), the group specializes in spreading white supremacist propaganda through targeted campaigns, a recent example of which is Kyle Rittenhouse.

Such stickers have been found as far afield as Serbia.

The judge in Rittenhouse’s case set bail at \$2 million, seeing the youth as a flight risk. But through crowdfunding launched by the far right, the accused today is out on bail.

“Leave it to the right to use a case that left three families mourning as a propaganda grift,” said Adele M. Stan, director of the Right Wing Watch project. “Even the accused killer has made out.”

# Black Churches Vandalized by MAGA Fascists in DC

(continued from front page)

this: “Listen to the following statement by the author of a book about lynching. He said, ‘It is doubtful that any Black male growing up in the rural South in the period 1900 to 1940 was not traumatized by a fear of being lynched.’ What is he saying with this? Nothing less than this: no Black male growing up in the rural South in that period could be free of that fear. Every Black male was haunted and scarred deeply by that fear. Think about what that means and think about how this touched Black people as a whole.”

And think what it means that there are fascist mobs brazenly reviving this kind of terror today!

Note well: The white supremacist acts of destruction on December 12 were not the acts of vandals skulking in secret. These were organized white supremacist mobs operating in the open. They marched by the hundreds at night. Earlier in the day, they’d been joined by thousands. These were the “Proud Boys” Donald Trump told to “stand by” during the same presidential debate when he refused to condemn white supremacy or agree to a peaceful transfer of power. Now, these Proud Boys are making good on Trump’s request by bringing their fascist street-level terror to the nation’s capital in support of his campaign to overturn the election.

No police intervened to stop these mobs from vandalizing and setting ablaze property of these Black churches. Nor have any arrests in connection to this been announced as we go to press late the following day. Contrast this gentle police treatment of white supremacist mobs to the barrage of rubber bullets, poison-clouds of teargas, police brutality, mass arrests, and deployment of the U.S. military—at Trump’s order—that was rained down on protesters for Black lives earlier this

year!

It is very good that people voted in their millions against Trump and defeated him in the election. No doubt, many millions of these voters were motivated by their deep opposition to Trump’s genocidal white supremacy. But, as important as voting against him was, it is far from enough. Even in defeat, these fascists are advancing their fascist terror and white supremacy.

The reason for this is that white supremacy and its violent resurgence is deeply rooted in the history and nature of this country, where the barbaric oppression of Black people and capitalism-imperialism are inextricably woven together and where the workings of this system have fueled the rise of an outright fascist regime. Everyone who truly wants to see this ended needs to dig deeply into the scientific work Bob Avakian has done to lay bare how and why, “Racial Oppression Can Be Ended, But Not Under This System.” And we need to make fighting this terror part of getting ready for the revolution that can end it once and for all.

At the same time, everyone—whether they are convinced of the need for revolution yet, or ever—must come together in the recognition that no one in power is going to stop this rising fascist terror. Stopping it falls to us. RefuseFascism.org is pointing the way to unite millions from diverse political perspectives to stop a fascist America through mass, nonviolent protest as spoken to in the Pledge to the People of the World. Go read it, sign it, and join the network.

Let these harrowing acts of terror spur all decent people to wipe the sleep from their eyes and heed the still wise words of Frederick Douglass: “If there is no struggle, there is no progress.”

# SIGNIFYIN’: Marlaina Jackson

The loss of students to the private schools under the school choice program, the unions believe, undermines government teachers’ job security and ultimately will threaten their benefits as MPS enrollment continue to decline.

The percentage of Milwaukee students attending non-government but ‘publicly funded’ schools has grown to 25%.

The number of families leaving MPS during the pandemic is also up significantly in the last year. However, some of that growth can be attributed to parents’ decisions to home school.

Without revealing her response to the MTEA dictate, Jackson acknowledged the ‘politics’ inherent in the request, adding that there has been only one school closing under the MHD policy. The school has since reopened.

At the top of the department’s priority list is ‘Operation Warp Speed,’ the COVID-19 national vaccination project.

The first COVID-19 vaccines arrived in Wisconsin Monday. Front line workers will be prioritized for vaccinations, and if national schedules are followed, the

general public will be receiving shots by spring 2121. Healthcare experts believe a 75% saturation must be achieved to fully arrest the pandemic.

Whether that lofty goal can be achieved is another matter, one that will depend in part on the ability of healthcare and civic leaders to convince skeptical African Americans that the drug is safe and does not come with unintended consequences.

Jackson is cognizant of African American fears and historical distrust of the healthcare community. Recognizing that dichotomy, she has put together an advisory panel to implement a strategy to overcome the distrust and maximize African American participation.

“All indications are that the vaccination is safe,” she said, but, “you can’t dismiss the reasons some of us don’t trust the system; cannot forget history.”

The Milwaukee native said even with the vaccine, the pandemic will continue for the foreseeable future. Until the vaccination process reaches the masses, the public must continue following MHD mandates.

“It’s not just about your personal safety, but others,” Jackson explained, positing the global family is intimately related in that regard.

If someone feels uncomfortable with the vaccine, they should also consider how their decision will affect their neighbor.

That’s a significant point she will hammer home to every ear in our metropolis.

It is also a clue to the guiding principles that Jackson brings to her position as interim city health commissioner.

Yeah, you can take Seneca’s oft-quoted assessment to the bank. You can also apply the adage of writer Hal Ackerman who believes ‘success begins at the point where luck meets preparation.’

Either way you look at it, it can be surmised that while citizens are lucky to have Jackson on board during these troubling times, we’re unlucky because she has not thrown her hat in the ring to permanently take on the position.

**Hotep.**



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