

Partisan Primary Tue. 8/11, See p. 4





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## **Policing Politics**

by George Martin

ave you seen Trump's campaign tv ad that is intended to strike fear in your heart about 'defunding' the police? The tv ad states that, "You have reached the 911 police emergency number. If you

called to report a rape, a murderer, a home invasion and all other crimes; due to 'defunding' of the police, your estimated wait time is five days."

During the ad, these horrendous crimes are deceptively depicted as videos of property damage and violence by outsider groups who have sought cover in the Black Lives Matters (BLM) demonstrations. By deduction, this wrongfully links BLM to lawlessness and horrendous crimes.

These isolated outsider instances are minute in relation to the 27 million, multi-ethnic, multi-generational, de-centralized BLM marchers across the country, the largest social movement in US history.

Knowing what I and many of us know, 'defunding' is 're-allocating our tax dollars', instead of striking fear in our hearts. The phrase generally means shrinking the scope of police responsibilities to public safety and changing the tactics used by police officers. This will allow more security for us all by allowing the police to better focus on criminal activities and be better guardians of all our communities.

In reality, a policeman's job entails dealing with criminals -- enough in itself -- but also domestic violence, schools, minor drug violations, the mentally ill and the homeless. In restructuring policing duties, much of them can be reassigned to social workers, counselors, psychologists and mental health workers, allowing the police to focus on crime.

Hence, defunding is really re-allocating part of the police budget to other professionals in human services such as mental health, education, drug abuse and other social services such as housing. This allows for better community services, crime prevention and better policing.

In 1,267 days, President Trump has made 20,055 false or misleading claims, per the Washington Post, as of July 9, 2020. That is an average of 15.8 lies per day. Regarding crime, Trump has repeated the following false claim eight times: "We need security, we can't defund our police and we can't abolish the police. They want to abolish our police."

Through lies, Trump has set up an Us against Them or an Either/Or scenario: Us - the people who believe in law and order

and support the police versus Them - supposed lawbreakers who seek to tear down the system and harm its citizens. Actually, the "Them" are citizens marching to end systemic racism and police brutality.

Beyond a doubt, the president's campaign ads are intended to create a divide between those who consider themselves law abiding citizens who are in support of the police and the misrepresented 'defund the police' BLM people and citizens who seek justice in policing, rather than violence.

Decades ago, The Project for the New American Century -- a neoconservative think tank based in Washington, D.C. -- established the principle that "it is OK to lie to the American public as long as the end justifies the means."

This principle has been a staple of political campaign ads since then, along with unchecked campaign financing, especially by powerful special interest groups like the Fraternal Order of Police and other police support foundations. As a former advertising executive, I well understand the power of advertising, its huge cost and effectiveness in perpetrating how a repeated lie, especially on tv, becomes the truth to the unaware or closed minded.

## Let's speak truth to power.

Trump has unabashedly driven the spike of racism to divide the country, prior to and since his election.

In 2016 after his inauguration, Trump dismantled the Federal Justice Department's responsibility to monitor and regulate police injustices in the US's 1,800 law enforcement jurisdictions. This was a real set-back for us in Milwaukee as we had worked for many years to get a Federal 'Patterns and Practices' Investigation of the Milwaukee Police Department.

Congressional efforts to establish a National Police Commission composed of community and law enforcement representatives were changed by a Trump Executive Order to include only law enforcement representatives appointed by him.

CONT. ON PAGE 2 - SEE GEORGE MARTIN



## **BEAT OF HIS OWN DRUM**

by Vince Bushell, photo Lorraine Jacobs

he placard on top of the drum reads: "F--- THAT BRING ARE (sic) BABIES ■ BACK!" I am not sure what **Bernell Trammell** meant. But he certainly was not shy about sharing his vision.

Turns out I saw him with a Vote Trump homemade sign on the busy corner of Humboldt and North Avenue last Friday July 17. I was driving and I didn't think it was Bernell Trammell, but it was. I was a bit concerned about a black man promoting Trump in Riverwest, not known to be a hot bed of support for Trump here. Though the worse I could imagine was some shouting matches. Mostly it seems the cars just ignored him. After all we have enough things to worry about these days.

So imagine my concern that turned to shock when I awoke on Friday July 24 to news that someone had been shot and killed on Bremen and Wright Streets. Later on Friday I learned that it was Trammell. I had visited his storefront last year and had a fairly long conversation. I told him I published the Currents. He had stacks of Expressions magazine and he sold me

CONT. ON PAGE 2 - SEE Beat of his own drum

## **Inside This Issue**

- 3 Tree Moore Dream Farm
- 4 Elders OWL Vote 8/11
- 5 Neighbor Spotlight
- 5 Hiroshima 75th Ann.
- 6 Quarantine Chronicles II
- 7 John Lewis & RW Radio
- 8 MoMo Mee & DogOmonth
- 9 RRF New Trails
- 9 Take Back Our Streets
- 10 Poem & Zeidler Group
- 10 Shooting Stars 11 Comics

75 th. Anniversary **Bombing of Hiroshima &** Nagasaki **Candlelight Commemoration Thursday August 6 Details of Ceremony** On Page 4

Riverwest Currents

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#### George Martin, Cont. p.1

The arrest/death of George Floyd was the catalyst to grow the BLM to the largest social movement in US history. Importantly, it has affected some cities, large and small, to "Change Police Department Policies" such as use of force, tear gas, rubber bullets, body cameras, no-knock warrants, officer's responsibility to stop police brutality and "defund" or re-allocate budgets to effectively serve their community.

Nationally, the Congressional Black Caucus developed the 'H.R. 7120 - George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2020' which addresses a wide range of policies and issues regarding policing practices and law enforcement accountability. It includes increased accountability for law enforcement misconduct, enhanced transparency and data collection, and elimination of discriminatory policing practices.

The bill facilitates federal enforcement of constitutional violations (e.g., excessive use of force) by state and local law enforcement. Among other things, it does the following:

-lowers the criminal intent standard -- from willful to knowing or reckless -- to convict a law enforcement officer for misconduct in a federal prosecution

-limits qualified immunity as a defense

to liability in a private civil action against a law enforcement officer or state correctional officer

-authorizes the Department of Justice to issue subpoenas in investigations of police departments for a pattern or practice of discrimination

-creates a national registry -- the National Police Misconduct Registry -- to compile data on complaints and records of police misconduct

-establishes a framework to prohibit racial profiling at the federal, state, and local

The bill establishes new requirements for law enforcement officers and agencies, including the reporting of data on use-offorce incidents; obtaining training on implicit bias and racial profiling; and wearing body cameras.

H.R. 7120 was adopted by the Democratic Party, passed by the House of Representatives, and forwarded to the Senate. This is why putting pressure on our Wisconsin Senators is so important and worth two toll-free phone calls. Let's take action!

## <u>Call To Action:</u> 'H.R. 7120 - George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2020'

Call your Senators in Washington DC: 1-800-872-0234 (toll-free)

(From Wisconsin: Sen. Tammy Baldwin

and especially Sen. Ron Johnson)

Tell them, "As the Senator's constituent, I want the Senator to vote for 'H.R. 7120 - George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2020' which addresses policing practices and law enforcement accountability.

Tell them, "This is important to me and I will be aware of the Senator's vote. If their vote is against H.R. 7120, I will vote against the Senator in future elections. Thank you."

#### **Change the World!**

George Martin, niiadjetey@gmail. com, is an activist, trainer and lecturer, serving the MLK Justice Coalition, Peace Action, Pace Bene Campaign Nonviolence, Liberty Tree Foundation and is a former Fellow of the MU Center for Peacemakin







## Beat of his own drum cont. p1

a few copies. Trammel clearly wanted to raise a bit of money. He was a talker and many folks knew him. He was a fixture in his store front. Usually there were signs outfront espousing his philosophy and political action of the moment.

I have to admit I was a bit disturbed when I saw the Trump signs displayed. But he also supported Lena Taylor for Mayor. I don't think he had much love for Mayor Barrett. His opinions were his, and it seemed not a movement. At least not in Riverwest.

So he died near midday Thursday on the street where he lived. The police do not have a motive or a suspect as I write this. But Republicans do. They are shameless.

This has made Trammell's death, a black man who supported Dondal Trump, a bit of news that was picked up by the US Editon of *The Guardian*. Republican sources are pointing the finger at Democrats and asking for a Federal Investigation of the murder. They don't have any reason to do this except to make political points.

Evidence proceeds acusations.

They should be careful as the finger could point back at them. No one knows the how or why of this senseless killing. I do hope a motive and suspect are found.

Bernell Trammell was near 60 years judgemental of such a person

old and as others have been quoted, he was part of what makes Riverwest. Iconoclastic individuals of many political affiliations.

I cannot know what was in his heart. But his face does not show malice towards others. His signs and actions are in your face but we must not resort to violence to silence those with whom we disagree. Pause before you hit and give it deeper thought.

So far, this year, striking back violently seems to be a mode the White House and its resident wants to use. While he holds a bible, or hides behind a bible.

Time to heal. Time to defeat the virus by community action. Time to care about your neighbors.

Time to care about Bernell Trammell. After all Riverwest used to use the slogan: Diversity is our Strength.

We are a little less diverse after losing an unusual citizen. One who was not afraid to put his opinons on his front door and march around with a drum and engage in debate. He picked a rough time to do that when the nation and our city and state are divided on important topics.

Black lives matter. And that means All Black Lives Matter.

Bang the drum Trammell. Let us hear your thoughts in our minds and be not judgemental of such a person.

## Someday!!!!!

The Riverwest Co-op and Cafe looks forward to the time when we can serve coffee and tasty organic dishes from our Cafe. We have additional counter seating at the front of the store which is beautiful and was recently installed. Now, when covid-19 allows, we will open our Cafe again!



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## MISSION STATEMENT

Riverwest Currents is dedicated to keeping readers informed about issues and events important to those who live, work, and play in and around our neighborhood. We believe Riverwest and Milwaukee are good places to make a home or set up a shop. We want to help promote safe and affordable neighborhoods, embrace urban aesthetics, respect diversity, and help make Riverwest residents aware of opportunities available to them.

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It is Always Just the Right Time to Imagine a New World You may say I'm a dreamer, But I'm not the only one... -Imagine, John Lennon



Tree Moore now lives on a farm on 10 acres of land near Viroqua

by Tree Moore

s a young girl I remember saying that I wanted to be a "farmer-ette" when I grew up. A curious desire, as none of my family, ancestral or present, were farmers, nor do I ever remember visiting a farm or knowing a farmer. Along with several patches of raspberries and strawberries, my mother created a yard filled with bushes and flowers, a place of beauty, but not a farm.

Regardless of the source of such a sweet naïve childhood dream, it was never lost, but lived on, tucked away in a far corner of my soul. Bits and pieces began to emerge as each yard I lived in invited me to get my hands in the soil. My dream gained momentum when I built a small strawbale house in the Northwest surrounded by an acre of inviting land. Over the next twenty-some years I created an incredible fruit heaven - strawberries, raspberries, grapes, cherries, peaches, currants, pears, rhubarb, along with a plum tree that was so productive I was forced to add far too many rotting plums to my compost pile pits and all.

Following my mini-Garden of Eden, I abandoned my vision for five or six years to live in Milwaukee in my daughters' Pink House, surrounded by cement – not exactly an agrarian landscape. The need to be closer to my family of three daughters and three grandsons was a higher priority than being part of a movement to restore our country's soil. Needs conflict, and one must make hard choices.

And so, for the last five years I have been experiencing Riverwest in wonderful ways as well as being an active mom and grandmother. Despite walks along the river, biking the Oak Leaf Trail, having a small plot at Greenfolks Garden, and writing for the Currents, my farmer-ette dream continued to call me.

Shortly after moving to Riverwest, I met Barbara. In our developing friendship it became clear that not only did we share similar values but had similar dreams of living in the country and farming the land. Barbara had extensive experience in

creating an urban yard with a permaculture design, and I had taken a two-week permaculture course.

And so we began our search that has taken us approximately three years. During that time, our process included many different and sometimes conflicting feelings and disappointments.

Threaded through the feelings was a strong streak of doubt. We are elders. Not quite or even close to the strength of most young people. Although we had both gardened, neither of us had been real farmers. Our families at present are not ready to move with us. There are important and urgent causes in Milwaukee which we are already part of as well as organizations that have recently developed that we might join. You might describe us as activists. Plus we are part of a relevant and effective network.

Move? Seemed crazy, but our dream to be part of a regenerative vital farming movement was still calling. We also yearned to live in the proximity of a small town where folks were already participating in progressive activities.

Our dreamy desires eventually took us to an old farmhouse on ten acres of land just west of Viroqua. Our families helped us with the huge task of moving: loading and unloading U-Hauls, followed by cleaning and painting a neglected abode. Obviously, our dream was not for a paradise.

So here we are, three weeks later, slowly settling in, discovering such challenges as a bat nest in the upstairs closet, gutters precariously hanging on, tobacco-stained walls, wells gurgling up questionable contaminants, and a million pesky flies. Yet who can complain with only the rare mosquito and just a small patch of poisonous wild parsnip.

We are on a high ridge. The glacier never got this far, so our views are of rolling hills and valleys in all directions. Almost daily we are blessed with sensational sunsets. Neighbors have been curious and welcoming. Viroqua is a small town of 4,400 folks filled with progressive ideas, an impressive food coop, and extensive hardware store that we could not live without,

and a two-story used bookstore. Community is an important part of our dream. And then there are the Amish with their wagons and black buggies drawn by obedient useful horses. But most important of all is the ten acres of fertile possibilities. Yesterday we planted trees – young oaks. I removed invading thistles from the asparagus patch.

Our dream of moving to the country could appear to be an escape from an urban world verging on dangerous – Milwaukee in particular, with its racial tensions. However our emphasis and energy are focused on the positive goal of restoring land with truly sustainable efforts.

With the help of young folks – family, friends or WWOOFers – hopefully allies, tools and wisdom will help us navigate. There are several regenerative farms already operating in the area. We will find ways to join their efforts. And my hope is that with the declining use of fossil fuel, conventional farming will slowly whither away with its polluting insecticides and CAFOs.

Following your dream is not wishful thinking. It is listening and honoring a message from deep inside yourself. It is not a magical process, but it can be a synergistic one where the right elements fall into place. No fairy godmother, but frequently receiving just the right needed support. One needs to hold a vision clearly so that small steps can lead in the truly desired direction.

This is a time of chaos, pain and craziness. Yet out of disruption can come new life. We will never return to "normal," – thank goodness! If ever there was an opportunity for a much healthier, wonderful world it is now. So allow yourself to imagine a world of caring and sharing, of true democracy and equality, where we all – including the birds and the bees – matter.

What might be a gift of yours that is needed and welcomed? There is room for a world of dreams to flourish – none too small. So grab your suspenders and straw hat and get your hands in the earth. May we unleash the power of dreams to create the future we want.

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**Amy Schmutte, OWL Program Manager** 

#### **OWL's August 2020 Programing**

OWL (Older.Wiser.Local) is a program created to serve, enlighten and educate area seniors (50 and up). OWL is sponsored by the Jazz Gallery Center for the Arts, along with Bader Philanthropies.

Normally we'd be gathering in-person for these programs, but to respect the safety of everyone, we're temporarily broadcasting our material, interview-style on Riverwest Radio, WXRW, 104.1FM.

Our shows begin at 3pm and go until 3:30pm, every Weds. and Thurs., every week. Please tune in!

If you miss the live broadcast, you can catch it afterward at:

https://www.riverwestradio.com/show/ owl-older-wiser-local/

Weds. August 5: Part.2 Navigating the Nuances of Narcissism, by Jill Reiske

*Thurs. August 6*: Shepherds of the Earth's Lise Moulton on Climate Change Weds. August 12: World-Fusion Music by Nazario Chickpeazio

*Thurs. August 13:* Teaching in this Brave New Cyber World, with Alissa Gonyea

Weds. August 19: Artist Spotlight on the Ultra-Creative, Leah Jergens!

Thurs. August 20: Caretaking for Elderly Parents: One Daughter's Story, with **Bonnie Schmutte** 

Weds. August 26: A One-Woman-Show! Comedian/Musician, Reiske

Thurs. Augsut 27: Strategic Planning: for Business and for Life, with Jerry Schmutte

Amy Schmutte OWL Program Manager Older, Wiser, Local (OWL) The Jazz Gallery

## **Voting Aug 11**

by Vince Bushell

■ his election on 8/11 is not the biggee. That will happen in November 3. But this is the chance for you to register, or to verify that your registration is correct. If you vote in person that is important to save everyone's time on election day in November 3.

If you vote by mail, mail early to make sure your vote is received on time and counted. I voted by Absentee Ballot in the last election but I did not mail the ballot. I dropped it off downtown in a box in front of the early voting site. This assured it was there on time and counted.

## Where do I vote?

This can be confusing but we have excellent resources to help you. I am doing this on a computer. It is easier to read.

- 1. Go to **MyVote.wi.gov**
- 2. If you get a list of selections, Select MY Vote WI
- 3. That will take you to a colorful and easy to use site with a banner at the top. You can register Online here, update your information if you have moved. Find your polling place and more
- 4. Let's select What's On My Ballot . I am going to search using my home
- 5. You could also search for the other information instead.
- 6. I found What's on my ballot for where I live. It says at the top 2020 Partisan Primary. This means I can vote for the candidates in the party I

choose. I can only vote in ONE PARTY. I will choose to vote in the Democratic Party, I could vote in the Republican Party or on my ballot the Constitution Party. BUT I CANNOT VOTE IN MORE THAN ONE. This will determine what candidates will be on the November 3 ballot, but only those offices that have not been determined in the April election. I hope your are still with

7. In this election there are only a few **contested offices** for the Democratic party where I live. One is for **State of Wisconsin Senate District 6.** Incumbent is LaTonya Johnson, challenger is Michelle Bryant. both Democrats. I will vote for LaTonya Johnson, she is supported by group called Women Lead. You can do your own research at the League of Women voters site, Vote411 for Wisconsin. The only other contested race on my ballot is the Milwaukee County Register of Deeds. I am voting for Israel Ramon, appointed by Governor Evers. Ramon has an impressive resume.

I live in Riverwest, and instead of me listing all the options, which is confusing, I suggest you go to What's on My Ballot.

I live south of Locust on Bremen St. If I lived north of Locust I would have a different State Senator. If I lived east of Humboldt I would have a different State Senator.

I would also have different State Assembly Representatives. Do your research or ask someone to help. Make a note of who your reps are and holler at them, politely, if they are not doing what you desire.

Make a difference. Vote.!

## Sharing Wisdom with Community

## How to develop new behavior ... maybe

by Bonita Bruch

ave you ever found yourself wanting to change a behavior or restart an old hobby, yet it doesn't happen? The intentions, thoughts, dreams and desires are there but the phone rings, or a good film is on TV, or it's time for supper and POOF! the desire is gone. Life happens and what you intend to do vanishes into thin air.

First, a little about me. I am an artist who went into a slump 10 months ago. Last September, I fell and injured my right knee [no weight on it for 7-8 weeks]. In January, I had a left knee replacement. In March 2020, the coronavirus hit.

While these three events occurred, I thought to myself, "Since I'm stuck at home, this is the perfect time to spend time in my art studio." I went into the studio, organized my canvases, pastels and acrylics, paged through my sketch books, put drawings in my "to complete" drawer. Then, didn't do any art for the next seven months. Weekly, I would go into my studio, view intently the drawing I had placed on my easel, studied it ... then went downstairs Two months ago, I went into my studio and started working on "Sleepy Time Gal". I returned every few days to look at her and make changes, and one month later she was done.

Then one month ago, I came across a magazine article on how it is possible to create new behavior. The first step is to determine what behavior you want, then create a prompt to tell you that now it is time to do it. For example, when I finish reading the morning paper, I go into my studio and spend one hour there. Or when I drink a glass of water, I will do my exercises. To trigger a new habit, it must be linked up to a prompt. This tactic takes advantage of our neural networks already created by our "prompt" behaviors, which makes our brains less resistant to change.

When working to create new behaviors, the WHEN and WHERE are keys. One needs to choose the time of day and the location to do it. This makes our goals concrete and sets us up for success. In the morning, when our brains are more energized, is the best time to work. Having a specific place to go to is important. For me, I need to go into my studio. For others, they need to go to the gym, den, library, university, yard, etc. The rationale here is that small successes make us feel good for the rest of the day. Our brain rewards us with small doses of the happiness chemical dopamine, which makes us want to repeat the behavior. This is turn makes it likely that this new habit will become a longtime routine.

Every day you do your new behavior, celebrate it. Positive emotions are powerful and hardwire new habits into our brain. Smile and say YEAH! Or, I did it! Do a little dance! Positive feelings make it easier to build new habits. When you feel good about yourself, you will start exploring, experimenting and begin excited.

I am sharing this advice with you because I want to get back into my studio and create. I hope you will start doing the things that you have wanted to do but haven't. Will I succeed? I hope so. Next time vou see me, ask me.

Note from the editor: When I write a poem I wait for a trigger or promt if you will. I see a couple walking down the alley. I think that visual cue will lead me to a story. I immediately write or start writing to catch



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## **Neighbor Spotlight: Zashary Torres**

by Lee Gutowski

ashary Torres is a young Riverwester who has lived here since she was three. She turned 23 this July, when we sat for a "socially-distanced" interview in her back yard. "Yep! I've lived here for 20 years. I consider myself a hard core Riverwester," she agreed as we started our chat.

Zashary (who goes by "Zashy" or "Zash") has boundless energy, and many projects in the works to concentrate that energy on. A student at UWM, she's also juggling two jobs, one of which will drop from full-time to 30ish hours a week when she starts the fall semester. Global Management is her current field of study.

Zashy's parents met in New Orleans, where she was born. Her mother, from Honduras, and her father, from Illinois, decided to move north to settle in Milwaukee - specifically Riverwest, where they had friends and family nearby.

## <u>Importance of language</u>

Her first language is Spanish. "Mom always preferred that we spoke Spanish at home. It's not that we weren't allowed to speak English - she just didn't want us to lose our language," Zashy explains. (The "us" she refers to here includes Zash and her sister, Rosie.) "At first, I had a harder time in school, with my ESL classes," she explained. "I attended bilingual schools since grade school at Fratney Escuela, then middle school at Lincoln Center for the Arts. I even took Spanish classes in high school (Milwaukee High School of the Arts). My parents wanted to ensure that I actually learned the language and became fluent. And I'm so thankful they did, because I've had so many doors open to me since I speak Spanish."

One door that was opened lead to her current job at Ragir Consulting's interpreting arm, where she does anything from helping schedule interpreters to serving as a Spanish interpreter herself. "We service all of the hospitals in Milwaukee, and the Health Department and just basically what the City of Milwaukee needs," Zash



explained. "With the approximately 30 interpreters we have, we speak 40 different languages."

Zash has been working lately with Ragir Consulting at the Corona Virus testing sites - both "the main one" at UMOS (2701 S. Chase) and the one at Custer High School. She schedules interpreters to work at the sites, as well as doing Spanish interpreting herself. "So, I'm calling people with their results, getting their contacts ... I've been learning so much about how you can get it (COVID-19) and how to prevent it, how to stay safe. It's been really cool being able to provide that information to people."

## <u>Life-long learning</u>

"I remember never being able to just sit at home over the summer," Zashy laughed. "You were either at a soccer camp, or a band camp, jazz camp, drum camp, dance camp, some kind of camp! Which I'm also grateful for. And then there were Saturday morning music lessons from Dad ..." She started playing piano in fourth grade, then tenor sax in fifth and trumpet in seventh.

"I also got a scholarship for private music lessons at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music. So that started in eighth grade and lasted through the eleventh grade."

Zashy was successful academically and athletically in high school. She made it into UW-Madison and attended for two semesters, but then came home to Milwaukee. "Madison didn't work out for me when I first started college. I was living away from home, out of my parents' house for the first time. It was quite the culture shock, going to Madison. Even though I grew up with a white dad and half my family is white, I was having kind of an identity cri-

sis. At first, during orientation, there were a lot of other scholarship recipients in my circle, which is where a lot of the minority students were. But then as school went on, I was the only person of color in many of my classes, which made me feel uncomfortable. I always was feeling like people looked at me like the sole representative of women, or Black people, or Latinos. Like I represented an entire group. Which I was uncomfortable with being."

But Zashy also realizes that she just wasn't ready to go to college right out of high school. After coming back to Milwaukee, getting her own apartment and a few different restaurant waitstaff jobs, she dipped her toes back into going to college by enrolling at MATC. "I'm glad I left Madison and started over with school when I was ready. I had to realign my priorities. I figured out how to learn. I just found out this year that I actually have to read the textbooks, and actually do the work," she laughed. "I'm so glad I took that break." She completed her course of study at MATC

and is now a full-time student at UWM.

"My major is Global Management (essentially like International Business). My interpreting job helps so much because I learn about different cultures through all the people we serve."

Zashy just finished up with some summer school classes at UWM. "I just took a geography class, and it was so awesome," she enthused. "I learned so much about colonialism and imperialism that I just never knew about ... I really feel like I learned so much history that should have been taught to me sooner. We've been learning a lot of white history. It's really centered around ... well, it's really specific what they want us to learn and how they want us to learn, to keep us in a certain place."

## Future goals, ongoing education

"One of my biggest goals in life is to be able to provide education to women worldwide. Specifically, financial literacy to women. Because there are so many women around this world that are so attached to a man. There are so many countries that are making a woman stay attached to a man to be able to own anything." Zashy marvels at the old ways that have taken so long to change. "There are still forced sterilizations in parts of India. The one-child-only laws in China only ended in 2015! There all are these things that I've never been exposed to and wouldn't have known about without really good teachers. It's sad. Everyone should know what's going on in the world. I love learning about these things."

Zashy's parents are both bilingual educators - her dad at the high school and college levels, and her mom at Head Start (pre-K) and elementary levels. "My dad always gives me book to read on stuff he's learned. It's usually about some injustice happening to minority communities. He's always encouraging me to do my own research on these issues, too. Both of my parents are really smart. And my mom is the strongest person I know. It's just a great combination of parents to have."

## 75th Anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki The Nuclear Threat Continues

by Julie Byrnes Enslow, photo National Archives - Hiroshima

ugust 6th marks 75 years since the US dropped an atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima, instantly killing 120,000 people, mostly civilians. Three days later, another bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, killing 80,000.

To this day it is debated whether it was necessary to drop those dreadful bombs to end the war. Invading Japan would have resulted in the loss of thousands of US and allied forces as well as huge numbers of Japanese who would fight to the death to protect their country and their emperor. However, there was a third option.

As the war turned against them, the Japanese had offered to surrender with the one condition of keeping their emperor whom they considered to be a god-like figurehead. They were willing to negotiate that. But President Harry Truman had declared that he would never accept a conditional surrender. Also, Truman and his advisors wanted to use the powerful new weapon against the Japanese before the Soviet Union had a chance to enter the war. And critically, they wanted to threaten the Soviets and



demonstrate our superior military power. It was a complex and difficult decision; Truman chose to drop the bombs.

Yet, after the war, the Japanese were allowed by the occupying forces to keep their emperor - their one condition for surrender. Truman's pride and insistence on the principle of no conditions, and the objective of threatening the Soviet Union, led to the use of the atomic bombs and the cold war that followed. The US intended to be the dominant military power in the years ahead. It was not only the end of WII but the beginning of the Cold War and the nuclear arms

Today we are closer to a nuclear confrontation than any time since the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962. The Doomsday Clock of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists has been moved ahead to 100 seconds to midnight. The combination of the climate crisis and the increased development and production of nuclear weapons has put us on the very dangerous path of an existential threat to life as we know it on this planet.

As we face another generation of children growing up under the shadow of the nuclear bomb, the peace and nuclear disarmament movement is faced with a huge challenge. Many people have removed this issue from their radar. Younger generations may be unaware of the history and the danger. Here in Milwaukee, Peace Action of Wisconsin has focused on disarmament

issues since its inception as Mobilization for Survival back in 1977. Their annual Lanterns for Peace event each August has become a local tradition to commemorate the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

### Candlelight Commemoration of Hiroshimam Thursday August 6

This year, the social restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic have eliminated safe gatherings. As an alternative, Peace Action is sponsoring a Candlelight Vigil commemorating the 75th anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki along Lincoln Memorial Drive on Thursday, August 6th near Bradford Beach. People will stand 10 feet apart and be required to wear masks. ginning at 8 pm at the parking lot near the Bradford Beach pedestrian bridge and at North Point parking lot, people can safely pick up their traditional Japanese lanterns and begin lining up along both sides of the road at a safe distance from each other. The silent candlelight vigil will end at 9:30 pm. The community is invited to participate in this important 75th commemoration. May we commit to working for a nuclear-free

No More Hiroshimas! No More Nagasakis! No More Nuclear Weapons!



July 24 and 25 brought us the corona virus slimmed down version of the RW24. The Funk Club Wagon cruised down the blocks spewing funky jazz on Saturay the 25th. It showed the flag for RW innovation. Not quit a street fest, but sure good to catch the friendly vibes.

## Quarantine Chronicles Vol. II

by Adam Krueger

ay one-hundred-and-whatever.
Now is the summer of out discontent. Political anxieties are on the rise as with the list of lives lost to Covid-19. We all are faced with conundrums of action and inaction. To protest violence sanctioned by the state, or to stay home and save lives. Hamlet, eat your heart out.

For most it is a balance, like walking along the edge of a knife. It is just as an older neighbor once told me. To stray a small degree is to bring us all to ruin. Then again, maybe it was an elf from The Lord of the Rings. As the quarantine continues, fiction bleeds into the holes of reality carved out by the coronavirus. Satire has caught up with the online world, and with Kanye West running for president, parody may have in fact lapped reality. Watching the Secret Police take away protestors on the news feels like a preamble to the Republic of Gilead from the classic Atwood novel. And the Orwellian Thought Police have showed up for good measure. To top everything off, friends from old sitcoms have often replaced our own as so many continue to quarantine. Cosmo Kramer bursts into my house more often than old friends—they are not allowed, however. I may have gone mad, but I am not stupid. Now I spend more evenings with my favorite dead authors than any corporeal beings apart from my wife and dogs. Now I can finally tell Gabo, the ghost of Garcia-Marquez that I finally get One Hundred Years of Solitude and Love in the Time of Cholera. The last one is about girls, right?

The Zoom meetings fade away when it is evident nobody has anything new to talk about. But one way or another, friends and family find ways to get through everything together. We suffer as a community. But as my elfin neighbor suggested, our saving hope and grace can be found in our company. Thankfully, none of us have lost our minds in the dystopian labyrinth of social media in an age of polarization we have not seen since the Civil Rights Movement during a time of economic uncertainty unparalleled since the Great Depression. Because that would be awkward.

But the world keeps spinning and we roll on. And as we pick up the pieces and attempt to regain some sense of normalcy, we look ahead into the necessary changes awaiting us. Taking stock of where we are and what roads got us here becomes paramount. After all, our collective sanitary must be somewhere around here. In the meantime, we do our best to keep it together. We drive hours to get to an Air Bnb to stare at different walls and walk around separate neighborhoods. We hang out in the backyards of our strange aunts and uncles because nice apartments still feel like prisons after several weeks, and no sane person is going to Disney World this summer. After all, Floridians are everywhere down there. We develop new routines. We wait for either a new normal or for the end of the world as we know it. And Leonard Bernstein didn't even bother to show up for this one.

Luckily, there are no zombie sightings yet and the Plagues of Egypt seem dormant for now. Although Brendan Fraser sure picked a coincidental time to come out of retirement. But for all the oncoming challenges we face waiting for us on the horizon, there is reason for optimism found in the wake of hard times.

When I talk to my neighbors in Riverwest, I hear mostly stories about looking inward and aspiring to catch up on ourselves. I hear of more people learning to cook and



Woody Allen pretending to be an Al robot in *Sleeper*, 1973 film. Please pass the pleasure ball!

bake bread. I hear of people reading books they never had the time to read. I hear of families spending more time together. It is not all sunshine and roses. But I will take every possible silver lining. One for me has been the ability for greater self-reflection. So, to conclude, I would like the share some thoughts to better ourselves to strengthen community. Gabo, my ghost friend and editor, assured me the following are thoughtful and calculated insights into quarantine life rather than the stark ravings of a deranged has spent way too much mind who tion and on Twitter. time in isola-

Practice meditation so that the inner voices that tell you to burn things become clearer

Our bodies are temples and should be treated as such. Therefore, regular virgin sacrifices really ought to be mandatory.

After the lockdown is over and AI replaces all our old jobs, we must be ready to practice kindness and obedience to robot overlords. We can begin by acknowledging out imperfections by listing every past crime and misdemeanor we have ever committed to Siri and Alexa. It's not as if the government is listening.

Acknowledging privilege is important, and no privilege is greater than living in the twenty-first century, so we must concede to philosophies from the Dark Ages of the fifth through the fifteenth Centuries to be truly progressive.

Improve our athletic abilities. If my video game avatar can win MVP in 2K, MLB the Show, and Madden NFL, then you have no excuse. You don't even need to get off your couch.

Expand your mind with art to the extent that the projections of your own shortcomings can be found everywhere. It is easier to rage against broken systems than a dysfunctional spirit.

Study history to not repeat the mistakes of the past. Everything is at your fingertips. It is time to learn the truth about the Lizard People.

Learn about politics so may come together to find the best solutions. Many suggest we need radical politics for unprecedented times. Some even go as far to suggest Marxism. And I could not agree more. As the great Groucho Marx once said, "Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it everywhere, diagnosing it incorrectly, and applying the wrong remedies." If 2020 has taught me anything, it is that we are well on our way of doing exactly that.

Also, systems are hard and complex. People are easier. Be kind to everyone.

## John Lewis ¡Presente!



by George Martin

umanity lost a Lion of the Civil Rights Movement in the passing of Congressman John Lewis at the age of 80. Significantly, in his last public moment while dying of cancer, he chose to visit the Black Lives Matter Plaza which leads up to the White House. He came to pay homage, to give honor and encourage the Black Lives Matter movement in his humble way.

The first time I saw John Lewis was at the 1963 Great March on Washington. At 16, I had traveled with Father James Groppi and others to that historic gathering. Havi g wandered away from the Milwaukee group, I ended up about ten feet from the microphone where Dr Martin Luther King gave his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech.

John Lewis, the youngest speaker at 23, stood out by his use of the word "revolution." His radical speech was censored by the civil rights movement leadership (in which he also had a leadership role). John toned it down out of his love for Dr. King.

At the time, Lewis was chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), whose student actions included the sit-ins to desegregate lunch counters and movie theaters in Nashville. They started the Freedom Rides throughout the South to desegregate bus stations and register voters. Their buses were attacked and bombed, and they were beaten and killed.

Lewis helped spearhead one of the most seminal moments of the Civil Rights Movement. Rev. Hosea Williams, another notable Civil Rights leader, and John Lewis led over 600 peaceful, orderly protestors across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama on March 7, 1965. They intended to march from Selma to Montgomery to demonstrate the need for voting rights in the state. The

marchers were attacked by Alabama state troopers in a brutal confrontation that became known as "Bloody Sunday." In the forefront of the march, John Lewis was the first to be beaten. He thought he was going to die. News broadcasts and photographs revealing the senseless cruelty of the segregated South helped hasten the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Despite more than 40 arrests, physical attacks and serious injuries, John Lewis remained a devoted advocate of the philosophy of nonviolence.

Rep. John Lewis served his Georgia congressional district for 34 years with outstanding leadership in the House of Representatives and a stellar reputation for working across the aisle with Republicans for the common good. John was the recipient of numerous national and international

While writing this memorial, I got a call from Boswell Books that our order of John Lewis's bestselling, award winning graphic novel memoir trilogy, MARCH, had arrived. The MARCH series is used in schools across the country to teach the Civil Rights Movement to the next generation of young activists and has been selected as a First-Year common reading text at many colleges and universities. What a legacy!

The last time that I saw Rep. John Lewis was about a year ago, in a Dulles Airport Terminal in DC. Hearing a crowd roar, I went to see what was happening and there was a modest John Lewis, a Lion of Civil Rights, departing a plane and moving through the crowd. With my big mouth, I gave him a huge shout-out, "Congressman John Lewis" and started clapping. Hundreds of people who knew and loved John Lewis joined in a thunderous round of applause until he got through the cheering crowd and out of the terminal : Presente John Lewis

## What's Going on Riverwest Radio: Talk about Change!

By Martin Hallanger

"The only true wisdom is in knowing you know nothing." Socrates

e are living in tumultuous can challenge our natural dispositions of optimism and hope. If we focus too much on the true realities of the world, we may find that it causes nothing but pessimism and despair. Here we are in the sixth month of the pandemic, cut off from a normal life of friends, jobs, sports, movies, concerts, street festi-

vals, religious gatherings, vacations...... it feels like EVERYTHING has changed. We can be alone and without the strength to even figure out what we could do or should do, let alone what we will do. The mixture of emotional and rational ideas often contradict each other. We can get trapped in our own unchallenged fallacious arguments.

One of the important steps for transforming all of the noise and confusion of our thoughts is to listen to others in our community. Have you ever been surprised to hear what you think as the words come out of your mouth? Having conversations help us organize our thoughts, gain perspective and work through difficult situations.

Here is some good news: Riverwest Radio is STILL on the air! Our studios are closed until further notice, but our hosts' mouths are still open! Live shows are aired by hosts calling in from their homes via Zoom as we continue to broadcast on WXRW 104.1 fm and stream on riverwestradio.com.

Are you interested in letting the world know what you think? Riverwest Radio is accepting proposals for new radio shows. You have the opportunity to join the amazing collection of voices that represent our community. Once we've got your proposal, all you need to get on the air is a smartphone or computer with internet

access, earbuds with a microphone and something you want to talk about for a half hour every week. Please fill out the form at riverwestradio.com and plan on attending the mandatory orientation on August 29 @ 12:30 pm via Zoom conference call.

Here is another quote by Socrates from over 2400 years ago: "I cannot teach anybody anything. I can only make them think." So let's make them think. Let's disagree, argue, get mad, share grief, be open to change, make change, laugh, cry, feel highs, feel lows, get to know each other, acknowledge our faults, overcome obstacles.....

**Riverwest Radio** is a small, nonprofit community radio station. You make us big!

Tune us in at 104.1 fm, click "listen" on riverwestradio.com, or tell your smart speaker or phone to "play WXRW!"

> Wear a mask & keep talking!



## \$100 Auto Refinance

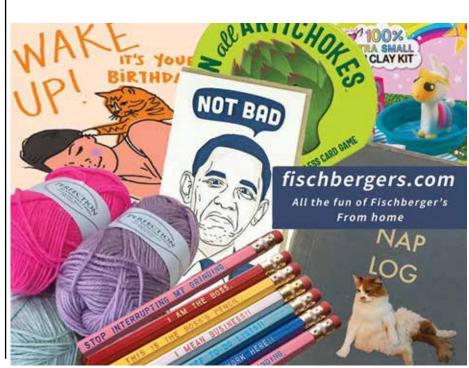
You could lower your monthly payment by refinancing at Brewery CU and we'll give you \$100 CASH when you transfer your current loan.\*



rewery



Automatic payment may be required. Minimum \$7,000 new money and current Brewery Credit Union loans not subject to refinancing. Interest will begin accumulating at the date of loan signing: the first payment will include all interest accrued from the loan origination date. Membership eligibility required. \$100 Refinance Offer: Loan must be transferred from another financial institution or finance company. The vehicle must be used as collateral. Offer valid for a limited time and subject to change. Only one transfer per vehicle. Some restrictions may apply



## MoMo Mee - 110 E. Greenfield Avenue



414-316-9003 Hours: Monday-Thursday 11-10 Friday-Saturday 11-11 Sunday 12-4 Momomee.us



Momo Mee.



sauce, cheap, and absolutely delicious.



came to Momo Mee out of curiosity because I ate dozens of momos, chubby little Tibetan steamed dumplings, in Kathmandu. They were usually filled with water buffalo meat of dubious, that is unsanitary origin, served with green



restaurant is pre-made. I believed that when he described how he made my Garlic Japanese Eggplant, an innocuous sounding dish, except it was one of the best Asian entrees I've ever tasted. To make it, he first dipped eggplant slices in an egg wash, then quickly and briefly deep-fried them which made each slice both crunchy and soft. He served them with a caramelized roasted garlic sauce made with garlic oil, and soy sauce, then finished with a whisper of apple cider vinegar.

a good sign when the chef wants to hear your reaction to his

food. In our conversation, I learned that Chef Ho grew up in

Hong Kong, lived in Japan, ran four restaurants in Kansas,

and worked at Potawatomi for four years until he opened

His passion flows into all his food including the four kinds of noodles he makes daily starting at 5:30 a.m. He learned the technique in Japan from a Chinese MasterChef and says he is the only local chef to serve 100% handmade noodles. He told friends and me that nothing at his

My companion's Marsala with beef, a bowl full of tender beef strips in a brown sauce made with toasted marsala spices had a kick, though it wasn't marked with a red pepper indicator. The variety of spices gave the dish a blend of compelling flavors all of which permeated the plentiful beef in the bowl.

On a second visit, companions and I chose three entrees, Dan Dan Noodles, Singapore Noodles, and Cantonese Crispy Noodles with Shrimp. The Dan Dan came with the hot pepper warning as well it should. Our server suggested I dig through all the layers to mix it up, a fine suggestion as the dish wanted the blend of noodles, minced pork, chili oil, and the spicy bean paste sauce to achieve its complex flavors. If you're not sure about heat, you might want to look elsewhere on this lengthy menu.

For the Cantonese Crispy Noodles with shrimp, Chef Ho served abundant shrimp, more than my companion expected, along with bok choy, shiitake mushrooms, and those hand-thrown noodles, crisp and full of flavor.

The Singapore Noodles, despite their red pepper warning on the menu, were mildly hot. This giant portion of shrimp, pork, veggies, and curry paste, came coated in something similar to scrambled eggs. It had a souffle-like texture, a delicious counterpoint to the crunchy parts of the dish.

Like so many restaurants in Milwaukee, business at Momo Mee, according to Chef Ho, is currently down 50%. Thank you, Chef Ho for your good work. You have created a memorable collection of Asian dishes, a playground of textures and flavors, sweet, salty, and spicy, a joyful party that danced in my mouth.



At Momo Mee, Xiao Long Bao, their momos came to the table in a wooden steaming basket, a more impressive presentation than the ones unceremoniously handed to me on a paper napkin in Nepal. Eight thick-skinned momos, made with a mix of wheat flour and water, looked like elegant purses. The chef filled them with hot pork broth and bits of pork making tasty packages, enhanced by the gentle tang of the accompanying soy-ginger sauce. (dine in only)

This newcomer to Walker's Point opened in 2018 in the Freshwater Plaza at the intersection of South 1st Street and E. Greenfield Avenue. It's tucked into the plaza, blink as you drive by and you'll miss it. A parking lot offers convenient parking, or, there's ample parking on Greenfield.

It's contemporary, sleek and bright, with windows on three sides, "L" shaped, with two thirds four tops, and one

third bar with high top tables. On both visits, I noticed Executive Chef-Owner Tony Ho chatting with his customers,





Submitted by Ruth Weill

Moxie is a lab/husky/lots of things mix. She has lots of energy and loves taking her people for walks. Her favorite place to be is Roverwest playing with her friends.



Mynx. RIP. May you always have a window to peer at the world. In memory, Jan Christensen's cat, who loved me, too, at first sight in Milwaukee. Now passed in Colorado at 18. Jan, former RWC editor, still sends cool things our way. Vince B.

### Riverfront Trail Planned at Former Estabrook Dam Site Plan update.

he River Revitalization Foundation (RRF), Milwaukee's urban rivers land trust, is the beneficiary of three donated easements from generous landowners in the Estabrook Corporate Park in Glendale. Bernie Sherry, Ministry Market Executive, Ascension Wisconsin, Senior Vice President, Ascension says "Ascension Wisconsin is committed to the health and well-being of the communities we're privileged to serve. We believe that access to natural resources like the Estabrook Riverfront Trail enhances a community's well-being. We are grateful to the River Revitalization Foundation for expanding the trail behind our Glendale offices for all to enjoy."

These easements will allow sanctioned public access along the west bank of the river from Port Washington Road and Hampton Avenue downstream to Capitol Drive and Humboldt Boulevard, connecting to an easement granted by the Milwaukee Area Technical College in July of 2013. The planned trail is a critical link to create a 12-mile loop of riverfront trails within the Milwaukee River Greenway, 800 acres of greenspace and parkland right here in the city, and per recommendations in the Milwaukee River Greenway Master Plan. This section of trail will provide additional access to the river and a connection to Estabrook Parkway on the east bank and Lincoln Park upstream. The City of Glendale Common Council passed a resolution in support of this project and will incorporate this link into their Park and Open Space

Support RRF through our fall community plant sale by purchasing native plants for your yard or green space:



2134 N Riverboat Road Milwaukee WI 53212 414-271-8000

Fall weather is ideal for planting perennials for many reasons:

- 1. The cooler temperatures prevent heat stress and allows the plant to focus energy
- 2. Greater rainfall aids in strong root establishment before entering winter dormancy
- 3. Infestations of pests decrease later in
- 4. Best of all, you get to watch the new plants bloom right away in the spring!



"The Estabrook Riverfront Trail is a special Milwaukee amenity, easily overlooked, but bringing the same degree of cheer and hope that Milwaukee's great parks provide. Our thanks to River Revitalization Foundation for planning and implementing the trails extension to the historic Barnabas property" remarked Erich Schwenker, President, Cardinal Capital Management, Inc.

The Barnabus property is joined by Ascension Wisconsin Corporate Headquarters and Caddis Health Care, both of whom value providing public access to the river. "Our newly constructed building for senior housing will be enhanced not only by the trail access; we are pleased to be chosen as the site for the public art installation by Tom Queoff using remnants from the old dam. The area below our building is a feature along the trail across from the waterfall that will surprise and delight visitors" said Tami Cumings of Caddis Health Care.

The trail will be open for walking, hiking, birding, fishing and paddling. Financial support for this project thus far has been provided by the Fund for Lake Michigan, the Maihaugen Foundation, the Greater Milwaukee Foundation Richard and Joy Teschner Fund, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, with inkind donations from Sigma and volunteer landscape architect Kevin Haley (retired Milwaukee County Parks).



## Taking Back Our Streets

By Danitra Jones-Coalition for Safe Driving MKE

■raffic safety has become a huge concern on our streets. Repeated hit-and-run crashes have occurred in the City of Milwaukee within the past several years causing tragedy and distress for families and entire neighborhoods. Driving recklessly has become the new normal. Motorists running red lights and stop signs, drivers not yielding to pedestrians in the crosswalk, cars operating in bicycle lanes, and vehicles speeding at excessive rates have all become too familiar on Milwaukee's streets.

Recent crashes and fatalities due to reckless driving point to an urgent need for a solution that will make the roads a safer place for all who walk, bike, and drive. A group of concerned citizens has formed the Coalition for Safe Driving MKE and would like to hear your suggestions.

Data from the State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation reported that vehicle crashes have increased annually between 2013 and 2018 in Milwaukee. An average of 13,697 crashes occur each year in the City of Milwaukee, causing an average of 6,310 injuries and 53 deaths annually. Statistics further show that speed was a factor in 37% of fatal crashes in 2015, and that number increased to 66% by 2019. This is simply not acceptable.

In an effort to combat reckless driving on a community level, we are seeking partnership with local organizations and community members to educate and raise the awareness of this critical issue and make necessary changes to reverse this trend.

Beginning in 2017, Northwest Side Community Development Corporation has partnered with the Milwaukee Police Department, elected officials, the Wisconsin Bike Federation, and neighborhood groups to host a series of rallies for safe driving where people gathered on the streets with signs that said "Slow Down," "We Want Action," and "Stop Means Stop" to show drivers that speeding and reckless driving are unacceptable.

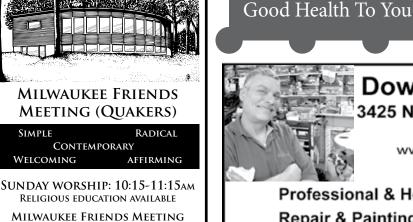
In 2019, Alderman Murphy and Alderwoman Lewis co-chaired the City-County Task Force on Carjacking and Reckless Driving in Milwaukee. They held meetings and conducted listening sessions to hear directly from residents and community leaders about their concerns and recommendations, focusing on how to address the issue of reckless driving. Some of the top recommendations from citizens were implementing more driver's education and creating an awareness campaign.

Why is reckless driving such a big issue in Milwaukee? How can we as a community take a stand and take back our streets? The Coalition for Safe Driving MKE is seeking your support and suggestions. Please join us in advocating for safe driving on our streets. Check out Coalition for Safe Driving MKE on Facebook or email us at coalitionforsavedrivingmke@gmail. com and join our campaign to reduce reckless driving and promote safety on our streets.

References:

https://www.wpr.org/sites/default/ files/2018\_city\_of\_milwaukee\_traffic\_ trends.pdf





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Drive



3425 N. Holton Street, Milwaukee

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## I saw them walking in the alley

A boy and a girl
A girl and a boy
A young man and a young woman
I could see the backs of their heads
He was a foot taller than her
I could not see if they were holding hands
I imagined they were a couple
Lovers maybe
Young lovers
Like so many of us
Affairs of the heart dominate

The fierce passion of young love
New love
It bites you and you cannot resist
The couple
Often one taller than the other
Often the boy a bit taller
It is genetic push
Unconscious prejudice

If two boys, young men
Probably not holding hands
If two girls, young women
Often holding hands
Not afraid to show
Their feelings
Children hold their parents hands
And their friends hands
Children jump on each other
And tumble like puppies on the grass
Their voices exclaim passion unleashed
At five slim years and younger

Touch is the human condition

Now we have fear

That keeps us apart

It is unnatural

But the virus has not a conscious mind

It is barely alive

It only reproduces

In any that inhale its bits

It can be mild

Or it can kill

I long for the touch
The hand shake
The hug
Never been a super hugger
But since it is disallowed
I feel empty
When I see those I know
Those I love

The old and the young
Walk together
The couples
Sometime holding hands
Allowed for roommates
Spouses
And lovers
The passion
Runs deep
For the young

The comfort of company
And shared lives
Holds the wise old ones
For as long as it takes
As the journey continues
As we walk down the alleys
Sidewalks
And Streets
Together
Together

A sweet word

VJ Bushell

## ZEIDLER GROUP ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF PARDEEP KALEKA AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND SHARON MCMURRAY AS PROGRAM DIRECTOR

631 N 19th St., Milwaukee, WI 53233 Phone: (414) 239-8555 www.zeidlergroup.org

his experienced team brings many years of addressing community conflict and difficulty, in alignment with Zeidler Group's mission of facilitating civil dialogue and inviting trust.

The Zeidler Group Board is excited to announce the appointment of Pardeep Kaleka, accomplished and respected community leader, as Executive Director of the Zeidler Group. Pardeep will remain as Executive Director of Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee. His work around Interfaith's Restorative Practices aligns well with Zeidler Group's services and creates opportunity for collaboration between the two organizations. With the transition, the Interfaith Conference will begin to share office space with the Zeidler Group, both now based out of Redeemer Lutheran Church on West Wisconsin Avenue.

The Board is also pleased to share the good news that Sharon McMurray, long-time Zeidler Group Facilitation Leader, has accepted an ongoing position of Program Director. A community leader, activist, and mentor, Ms. McMurray was honored as the Zeidler Group's 2019 Facilitator of the Year and is an expert in the Zeidler facilitation method.

Board Chair Susan Tyndall welcomes the new leadership team to Zeidler Group, saying, "Our community, state, and nation are currently facing an extraordinary time of transition. Now more than ever, the work of the Zeidler Group is critical in helping our community engage in productive dialogue that can help change the course of our city. This team's strong leadership and expertise will continue to build trust and bring about positive change."

"The Zeidler Group, along with Interfaith, were both formed with the aspirational goal of connecting community," Pardeep said. "Both organizations'

profound reliance on moderators and community involvement speaks to a unique type of service model. With a location in the heart of the city, we have a duty to facilitate difficult dialogue across race, religion, ethnicity, language, regionality, gender, and experience dynamics. We aim to foster understanding which serves as the impetus for positive reform at the individual and societal level."

The Zeidler Group will use this transition as an opportunity to assess how Zeidler Group can best serve the community in a year of unprecedented challenges. Under Pardeep's leadership, Zeidler Group will develop new methods for delivering remote services, while forging new connections, creating partnerships, and building trust. The Zeidler Group Board and Executive team will be meeting over the coming weeks to address immediate community needs and develop opportunities for positive dialogue and connection.

#### About Pardeep Kaleka

Pardeep Kaleka is Executive Director of Zeidler Group, Executive Director of Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee, Founder of Serve2Unite, Published Author of "The Gifts of Our Wounds," Award-winning Community Relations columnist and Clinician specializing in utilizing a trauma-informed approach to treat survivors and perpetrators of assault, abuse and acts of violence. A native of Punjab, India, Pardeep Singh Kaleka grew up in Milwaukee, WI. As a former Police Officer and Educator in the city of Milwaukee Pardeep understands many of the dynamic difficulties facing communities locally and abroad. Both in his practice and out, Pardeep's passion remains one of healing and loving transformation. An example of this is Serve2Unite, an organization he co-founded in response

to tragedy. This organization engages communities in building healthy social fabric and communal identity to address conflict from a trauma-informed lens.

#### **About Sharon McMurray**

Ms. McMurray has over 3 decades of experience in management and as a business-owner. She is well-known in the Milwaukee community as a leader, mentor to young women, volunteer and activist, taking on the plight of the poor, disabled and the disenfranchised to heart. Over 5 years ago, Ms. McMurray decided to become a Zeidler Group Facilitator as a way to grow personally and expand her repertoire of expertise in interpersonal communication and listening. Since that time, she has been an essential part of the Zeidler Group's Facilitation leadership team, supporting both the staff and participants with her dependability, breadth of expertise, clarity of communication and facilitation skills. She was honored as the Zeidler Group's 2019 Facilitator of the Year. In 2020, with the retirement of Dr. Katherine Wilson, Ms. Mc-Murray served as Interim Director. With Pardeep Kaleka's addition, Ms. McMurray will continue as Program Director for the organization.

Editors Note: In our July 2020 issue Ellen Warren had contributed a story of stories, of interviews of people of Milwaukee.

It was entitled Living Black -

On Black Experience he series of interviews was an o

The series of interviews was an excellent look at the subject at hand, real peoples lives in Milaukee.

The change of leadership was just happening at the Zeidler Group. They do excellent work and we wanted to inform our readers of this great resource in our comminity.



## Shooting Stars and Meteor Showers Wed., August 5 and Fri., August 7 @ 7:00 p.m.

Many know shooting stars for the striking trails of light they give off, but their name is misleading since they are not shooting nor are they stars. These light trails, also known as meteors, are fragments of either comets or asteroids. When our Earth travels through the orbit of a comet, we are treated to a dazzling meteor shower. Dr. Jean Creighton, Director of the UWM Planetarium, will describe how and when are the best times to see shooting stars.

Registration is required for this virtual event. Register at

https://uwm.universitytickets.com/?cid=195



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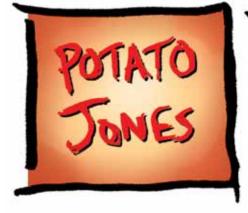
















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