



# RIVERSIDE UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION

## SUPPORTING MILWAUKEE'S OLDEST PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL

EST. 1868

150 years of Academic Excellence!

March 2020

### *Hooligans* <sup>Since 1936</sup> Huge Success

Our fundraiser on February 24 at Hooligan's, a longtime, legendary east side bar, brought together alumni from 1962 to 2011, current and retired staff, foundation members, and fans of RUHS. We filled both levels of the bar and swapped stories of our time at and connections to both Riverside and Hooligan's. We raised over \$1000 for our student scholarship fund. Our big thanks to MARILYN JACOBSON, board member, lifelong east side resident, and

Riverside graduate for organizing the event and to MARK and NANCY BUESING, current owners of Hooligan's, both Riverside alumni, who donated 10% of the night's proceeds plus a matching amount to the foundation.



- Board of Directors**
- Suzanne (Waldner) Cornell**  
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RUHS Faculty - Retired
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Treasurer
  - Mr. Jeffrey Lasky**  
RUHS Principal
  - Jerel Ballard '13**
  - Dr. Julie Baron**  
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  - Mary Fowlkes '71**  
RUHS Faculty - Retired
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  - Kory Koneazny '91,**  
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  - Jennifer Kringle**  
RUHS Guidance Counselor
  - H. Carl Mueller '62**
  - Jennifer Sweetland '03**
  - Michelle (Hochstein) Waide '63**  
Gwen Werner  
RUHS Parent
  - Jean Williams**  
RUHS Faculty - Retired

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- Jan Gibson**  
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RUHS Principal - Retired
  - Mary Ann Zapala**  
RUHS Principal - Retired
  - Milele Coggs '95**
  - Nic Kovac '95**
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City of Milwaukee Aldermen
  - Maria Gonzalez-Edwards**  
RUHS Principal - Retired
  - Michael Harris**  
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Georgia Public Schools
  - Dr. Demond Means '90,**  
Superintendent of Schools  
Clark County, Georgia
  - Stephanie Maney '91,**  
Leadership Development  
Director Schools
  - Mara Duckens '93,**  
Associate Vice President  
Metro. YMCA
  - Larry Miller**  
MPS School Board Member  
District 5



## Newspaper goes digital

Students Litzy Ramirez, Edgar Juarez, and Ruby Cordero, and the rest of their journalism class are busy resurrecting RUHS's newspaper in a digital format with a new title, *Tiger Talk*, under the leadership of advisor Jorie Struck. The RUHS Foundation was able to provide a \$750 grant to the program, which was used for the purchase of a DSLR camera, photo editing software, and a voice recorder. The students are very excited to be learning about digital and broadcast communication and are very grateful to the foundation!



Recipient of a Foundation teacher grant, Mr. Cychowski sent us a picture of his “small-but-growing” classroom library.

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You can place your Amazon.com orders through “Amazon Smile” ([smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)) and designate the Riverside University High School Foundation as your charity of choice. The Foundation will then receive .5% of the price of all eligible Amazon Smile purchases. This is an easy way to support the Foundation’s efforts on behalf of Riverside University High School.

## Principal’s Corner

From Principal Jeff Lasky: “It has been an exciting time at Riverside University High School recently. On 3/3/2020 our Juniors participated in the ACT. We are

waiting with excitement to hear about how our students performed. In addition, six of our senior football players recently participated in signing day - committing to college level ball and academics next year. This last month Riverside also hosted a multi-school poetry competition and will be sending two students to a state competition. In addition, our robotics team is well on their way to completing their robot in time for their first competition this month. Finally we are closing out our winter sports seasons and preparing for spring. Although our students have been busy, staff have also been growing professionally. Recently a group of teachers toured and observed classes in the Honors College at UWM.”



# Our Board is Growing



H. Carl Mueller, a 1962 graduate of Riverside and Chairman/CEO of Mueller Communications, has joined our board. No stranger to the board, Mr. Mueller is part of our Wall of Honor recognizing alumni who have made significant contributions to our society. With a degree in Russian from UWM and graduate work in journalism at UW-Madison, he has served in a variety of influential positions in the communications, public relations, and governmental affairs fields. In 1991, Mr. Mueller founded his own highly successful company, Mueller Communications.

Mr. Mueller's significant career achievements are matched by his commitment to giving back to this community. He has served on numerous boards and fundraising committees in the arenas of education, services to youth and family, and promoting Milwaukee. Just a few of these boards are the Greater Milwaukee Committee, the MPS Foundation, the Milwaukee Urban League, and Jewish Family Services.



The Foundation is excited to welcome back Jerel Ballard, as he rejoins the board. He recently accepted a position to serve as the Communications and Marketing Officer for the Milwaukee Police Department. Jerel is responsible for assisting city officials during crisis communications and bridging the gap between police and the community. Before accepting his new

role with the City of Milwaukee, Ballard was a weekday reporter and Sunrise7 Sunday Anchor for CBS WSAW7 and FOX WZAW. As a Milwaukee native, Ballard has spent his young adult life advocating and serving his community through philanthropic engagement and leadership. Since 2009, Ballard has made recommendations and determined the release of more than \$250,000 for service projects in more than a dozen municipalities. He is also the Founder and President of Milwaukee's Finest Scholarship Foundation and Co-Founder of Lead2Change Incorporation.

After graduating from Riverside University High School in 2013, Ballard enrolled at Columbia College Chicago for Broadcast Journalism. During college, Jerel interned with the Mayor of Chicago, Rahm Emanuel. After working closely with the mayoral staffers in Chicago, Ballard accepted another internship with United States Senator, Richard "Dick" Durbin. While studying Political Science at George Mason University, Ballard held a second internship as a Crisis Communication Research Analyst for the nationally recognized public relations firm, Kglobal. After his return to Milwaukee, Ballard interned with Mayor Tom Barrett and the Argosy Foundation while launching the Milwaukee's Finest Scholarship Foundation.

Both Carl and Jerel's experience in fundraising and public relations will be a huge asset to the Foundation moving forward.

## Foundation Teacher Grant brings literature to students

RUHS English teacher, Cara Slingerland, wrote to the foundation about how our grant impacted her classroom. She writes, "The Foundation's donation allowed me to purchase independent reading books for my classroom library and copies of *Just Mercy* that we needed to complete a class set. Thanks again to you and the members of the foundation for all your awesome work!" Here are some of the AP Language and Composition students' "one-pagers" that they made to send to the author of *Just Mercy*, Bryan Stevenson.



## 2020 Scholarships Announced

The Riverside Foundation exists to promote, encourage and support the maintenance of Riverside's long history of academic excellence.

We also provide higher education scholarships and awards to deserving students. Our Board of Directors includes RUHS graduates, parents and teachers. We are pleased to announce the following scholarships available for the 2020 RUHS graduating class.

**Tom Bauch Scholarship:** requires a student interested in pursuing a liberal arts or general knowledge studies track at a university, emphasis on English Literature and liberal arts and writing skills. \$2000 first year, could be renewable with continuing success in college.

**Bezella Family Scholarship:** to be awarded to a senior who has an interest in pursuing studies and a career in science, technology, engineering or math. One \$5000 renewable scholarship for a four year college or one \$2000 renewable scholarship for a two year college.

**Bette Cano Community and School Service Scholarship:** to be awarded to student based upon community and school service. \$500.

**Drew/Washabaugh Family and Friends Scholarship:** for a senior who has been accepted to a Wisconsin School such as Marquette, Cardinal Stritch, Alverno, MATC, UWM, UW or another school in the Wisconsin University system. They need to present their plan for funding their education in their application and a 2.5 GPA. An interest in liberal arts studies will be given

special consideration. Three individual scholarships of \$2000.

**Jim Gibson Scholarship:** to be awarded to a student athlete, also based upon GPA, financial need and community service. Six \$1000 scholarships.

**Ellen Hader Scholarship:** to be awarded to a senior who plans to study visual arts. \$500

**Legacy Scholarship:** awarded based on academic achievement, student activity participation, demonstrated community service and financial need. Also, student needs to be able to articulate about the legacy they have passed on to RUHS. \$1000.

**RUHS Foundation Scholarship:** \$500-\$1000 scholarships awarded to seniors based upon GPA, financial need, participation in school activities and community service.

**Thornberg Scholarship:** to be awarded to a senior who plans to pursue a career in education. \$1000 scholarship, possibly renewable.

**Werner Family Scholarship:** for a senior who has maintained a 3.0 GPA in high school, has been an active participant in extracurricular programs, has demonstrated a commitment to serving the community and a financial need. \$1000.

A copy of the 2020 Scholarship Application form can be downloaded from the Foundation's website: [www.riversidefoundation.com](http://www.riversidefoundation.com).



**March 20, 21, 27 & 28**—Riverside's Musical, *Annie*, at 7 pm, RUHS Auditorium

**Saturday, May 2nd**—"Lincoln Driven to Give" Fundraiser at Heiser on Silver Spring from 10—4

### I REMEMBER

We would like to continue the "I Remember" feature started by our late, beloved Secretary-Treasurer and Riverside historian, Jim Gibson. Do you have a "Riverside Connection" story? Perhaps you were in one of Riverside's legendary musicals? Perhaps you participated in Box City? Perhaps you met your future spouse at Riverside? Perhaps.....?

We would love to hear your story. You can email us at [ruhsfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:ruhsfoundation@gmail.com).