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PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

How culturally affirming care has helped Black Buffalo residents heal



GETTY IMAGES

TOPS SUPERMARKET SHOOTING DEALING WITH TRAUMA

‘I SEE YOU’

Adria R. Walker Rochester Democrat and Chronicle | USA TODAY NETWORK

After 10 people were killed in a racist shooting on Buffalo’s East Side in May 2022, local and national mental health organizations stepped in to offer support to the neighborhood’s residents. Some have since left, but the Association of Black Psychologists (ABPsi) has remained, offering a culturally affirming form of counseling its leaders say has helped participants cope better than a traditional therapy setting. • Sawubona Healing Circles — the Zulu word loosely translates to “I see you” — are virtual group sessions in which participants collectively discuss their shared traumatic experience. They’re held at least three times a week, and their leaders say participants have benefited from a structure drawing on traditional Black and African psychology principles like community, spirit and the connection. Showing a true commitment to the community, ABPsi offered the healing circles prior to the shooting, following outbreaks of other violence. **See HEAL, Page 3A**

Health care data breaches are surging

Hackers’ latest tactics put your info at risk

Ken Alltucker and Bianca Pallaro
USA TODAY

In November 2021, Southern Ohio Medical Center diverted ambulances and canceled appointments after hackers gained access to the hospital’s computer systems.

The two-day cyberattack temporarily took down the mid-sized nonprofit’s electronic medical records and disrupted units such as cardiovascular catheterization, cancer care, outpatient surgeries and rehabilitation. In all, the hospital reported the hackers breached records of more than 15,000 individuals.

The attack is an example of a growing trend of hackers seeking to disrupt health care or compromise the medical and personal records of tens of millions of people every year in search of profit. Since 2021, one gang demanded and extracted more than \$100 million in ransom from hospitals and other businesses.

See BREACHES, Page 7A

School library book bans seen as targeting LGBTQ content

Iowa, Florida among states aiming to restrict kids’ access

Scott McFetridge, Anthony Izaguirre and Sara Cline
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DES MOINES, Iowa — Teri Patrick bristles at the idea she wants to ban books about LGBTQ issues in Iowa schools, arguing her only goal is ridding schools of sexually explicit material.

Sara Hayden Parris says that whatever you want to call it, it’s wrong for some parents to think a book shouldn’t be readily available to any child if it isn’t right for their own child.

The viewpoints of the two mothers from suburban Des Moines underscore a divide over LGBTQ content in books as Republican Gov. Kim Reynolds pushes an especially sweeping crack-down on content in Iowa school libraries. The bill she’s backing could result in the removal of books from school libraries in all of the state’s 327 districts

See BOOK BANS, Page 2A