



SIGNIFYIN: Just how much progress have we made since King's death?

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OP/ED: America Has Lost the Locker Room!

By Reverend Tony Lowden



Rev. Lowden

There are moments in a nation's life when the headlines do more than inform us—they expose us.

The unrest in Minnesota, the anguish surrounding ICE operations across the country, and the tragic deaths of two Americans have once again revealed a truth we keep trying to outrun: our nation is struggling to hold itself together.

As I watch these events unfold, I'm reminded of something every athlete understands. In sports, when a coach loses the locker room, everything

changes. The team loses its unity, its purpose, its drive.

Players stop fighting for each other and start fighting for themselves. The game plan collapses. The season spirals. Victory slips away.

That is what it feels like in America right now.

Since the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., we have been drifting—slowly at first, then all at once—toward a nation that no longer shares a common locker room.

The moral center that once anchored us has been stretched thin by polarization, fear, and the relentless temptation to see our neighbors as enemies instead of teammates.

And today, the unraveling is no longer subtle. Our branches of government have lost the locker room.

(continued on page 2)



Oak Creek Firefighters Union Endorses David Crowley for Governor Becomes third Wisconsin Firefighter Local to endorse Crowley

The Oak Creek Professional Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 1848 recently announced it is endorsing Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley to be the next Governor of Wisconsin.



Crowley

Oak Creek is the third firefighter local to endorse Crowley, joining Milwaukee and Racine.

"Oak Creek firefighters want a governor who respects our work and understands the realities we face every day," said Chuck Prinz, President-Elect of the Oak Creek Professional Firefighters. "David Crowley has proven time and again that he values public safety professionals and fights for working people. We're proud to endorse him for Governor."

The Oak Creek Firefighters Association represents active and retired members of the fire department and emergency services.

Their endorsement adds to the growing momentum among public service workers and labor organizations, underscoring Crowley's commitment to restoring dignity to work and strengthening communities statewide.

"Firefighters know what it means to put service above self,"

(continued on page 2)



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Epsilon Kappa Omega Chapter Continues Dr. King's Legacy with Annual Day of Service

Members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Epsilon Kappa Omega Chapter recently honored the life and legacy of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by volunteering with two local nonprofit organizations. Under the leadership of Chapter Vice President Jemina Johnson and Member Michelle Crockett, the annual MLK Day of Service mobilized over 75 members across Milwaukee.

This year's "We Are One" Day of Service focused on meeting the immediate needs of the local community. Epsilon Kappa Omega partnered with Repairers of the Breach, a daytime shelter for unhoused individuals, where members served meals, assembled care kits, and distributed warm clothing to neighbors experiencing housing insecurity. This is the chapter's 23rd year of partnership with Repairers of the Breach.

In support of families, Epsilon Kappa Omega also collaborated with the Milwaukee Diaper Mission to provide diapers and wipes to new parents and feminine hygiene products to individuals in need. The initiative reinforced the chapter's commitment to ensuring all community members have access to basic needs and promoting healthy beginnings for Milwaukee's children.

"Service is one of the most powerful ways we can honor Dr. King's legacy," said Chapter President Isioma Nwabuzor. "This annual event reminds us that collectively we have the power to create lasting impact. Our goal is not only to serve, but to stand in solidarity with our community as we work towards solutions for a brighter Milwaukee."

Days of Service, such as these, reflect Alpha Kappa Alpha's enduring commitment to empowering our families and uplifting the local community. —Photos by Yvonne Kemp



U.S. REP. GWEN MOORE ANNOUNCES RUN FOR AN 11TH TERM

Affirming she still has the "fire in my belly" to continue her service, U.S. Congresswoman Gwen Moore announced recently she will seek an 11th term as Wisconsin's representative for the 4th Congressional District for the 2026 mid-term elections.

The congresswoman currently sits on the Joint Economic Committee and the Committee on Ways and Means, which oversees Social Security, taxes, work and welfare.

She added she is actively preparing for the campaign, having filed candidate information for the 2026 race.

Moore has represented the heavily Democratic 4th District (which includes Milwaukee) since 2005.

Moore's current term ends on January 3, 2027. The general election scheduled on November 2, 2026.

America Has Lost the Locker Room!

(continued from front page)
 The Supreme Court has lost the locker room.
 The Justice Department has lost the locker room.
 The White House has lost the locker room.
 The Senate has lost the locker room.
 The Congress has lost the locker room.
 State capitols across the nation have lost the locker room.
 When institutions lose the locker room, the people lose faith. When leaders lose the locker room, communities lose direction.
 And when a nation loses the locker room, the consequences spill into our streets—into protests, into anger, into fear, into the kind of tension we are witnessing today.
 But here is the truth we must confront: the locker room doesn't fall apart overnight. It

erodes when leaders stop listening. It fractures when truth becomes optional. It collapses when compassion is replaced by contempt. It disintegrates when we forget that the strength of a team—any team—is not found in uniformity, but in unity.
 The events in Minnesota, the pain surrounding ICE operations, and the deaths of two Americans are not isolated tragedies. They are symptoms of a deeper national illness: we have forgotten how to fight for one another.
 We have forgotten how to see the humanity in those who disagree with us.
 We have forgotten how to hold leaders accountable without tearing the country apart.
 We have forgotten that justice and mercy are not opposing forces—they are the twin pillars of a healthy democracy.

Dr. King warned us that “we are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality.” He reminded us that we rise or fall together. Today, that warning feels less like a sermon and more like a diagnosis.
 But moments like this demand that we listen—not just to each other, but to the streets themselves.
 Because when a nation loses

the locker room, the streets become the scoreboard. And right now, the streets are crying out.
 by ICE operations, and in the grief surrounding the deaths of two Americans.
 It is the same cry that has risen from every place where injustice, fear, and division have taken root.
 And I will be honest: in moments like this, I find myself wishing I could pick up the phone and call President Jimmy Carter again.
 During the George Floyd crisis, when I was searching for answers, he offered me wisdom that steadied my spirit and sharpened my purpose.
 He reminded me that leadership is not about power—it is about presence. I
 t is about listening when the streets cry out and responding with courage, humility, and truth.
 I wish I could hear his voice again today.
 Because America is standing

in another defining moment. The locker room is fractured. The nation is hurting. The ground is crying out. And the question before us is whether we will ignore the sound—or finally answer it.
 We still have time to reclaim our unity, our purpose, and our shared destiny. But only if we choose to hear the cry, face the truth, and rebuild the locker room of this nation together.
About the author:
 Rev. Lowden is the president/CEO of Jabez Ministries in Byron, Georgia and was the pastor of the late former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his late wife, First Lady Rosalynn. Rev. Lowden is known as a transformative advocate for restoring lives and building strong communities by building strong men and women. He was the keynote speaker at the MCJ's 49th anniversary event.

“Dr. King warned us that ‘we are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality.’ He reminded us that we rise or fall together. Today, that warning feels less like a sermon and more like a diagnosis.”

“When the Streets Cry Out.”
 Genesis 4:10 declares, “Your brother’s blood cries out to Me from the ground.”
 That ancient cry echoes in our cities today—in Minnesota, in communities affected

Oak Creek Firefighters Union Endorses David Crowley for Governor

(continued from front page)
 said David Crowley. “I’m honored to earn the endorsement of the Oak Creek Professional Firefighters.
 These are the men and women who run toward danger to keep our communities safe, and as Governor, I will always have their backs — with fair wages, safe staffing levels, and the resources they need to do their jobs.”
 As Milwaukee County Executive, Crowley has made historic investments in public health, affordable housing, and community safety.
 He’s built bipartisan coalitions to tackle the opioid crisis,

“Oak Creek firefighters want a governor who respects our work and understands the realities we face every day...David Crowley has proven time and again that he values public safety professionals and fights for working people. We’re proud to endorse him for Governor.”
 —Chuck Prinz, President-Elect of the Oak Creek Professional Firefighters.

expand mental health resources, and stabilize emergency services countywide. His administration has delivered balanced budgets while investing in what matters most to working families.
 Crowley’s pragmatic approach and proven track record resonate in urban, suburban, and rural communities across Wisconsin. And as a County Executive who was re-elected in Milwaukee County with 84% of the vote, he is uniquely positioned to increase turnout in the city of Milwaukee while also driving up Democratic margins in crucial suburbs. Crowley’s statewide appeal is the exact formula that will elect a Democratic governor in November.
 The Democratic primary for governor will be held on August 11, 2026. More information about David Crowley and his campaign can be found at CrowleyforWI.com.

UWM opens Stritch Family Literacy Center to support local youth reading and writing skills

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee’s Stritch Family Literacy Center, a local reading and writing tutoring program with an 80-year history, just opened a center on the university’s campus.
 The center welcomes students with literacy challenges and will offer individualized learning plans implemented through weekly private tutoring sessions. UWM is picking up the program, which was previously housed at Cardinal Stritch University.
 Twenty-four elementary and middle school students will attend the inaugural spring session. Learners with a varying range of literacy issues were invited by word of mouth, primarily by the program’s master instructors, who are or were educators at Milwaukee-area schools or board members.
 The instructors will provide research-based tutoring, including intensive instruction for children who need extra support, over the 15-week session.
 According to the National Center for Education Statistics, Milwaukee fourth-graders tested lower in literacy skills than students in other large cities, with around 88% students scoring below literacy proficiency for their age.
 “It’s just not acceptable,” said Mary Kellner, the president of the board of the Stritch Family Literacy Center. “Some kids pick up reading more easily, some kids struggle more and need some extra help, and some kids struggle a lot and need individual help.”
 The private tutoring sessions are planned and led by master in-

Wisconsin files new lawsuit in support of Minnesota against Trump Administration

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers announced recently a new lawsuit filing by the state in support of Minnesota’s lawsuit challenging President Donald J. Trump and the Trump Administration’s deployment of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Border Patrol in Minnesota.
 Minnesota is also petitioning for a temporary restraining order against the federal government’s actions.
 Wisconsin is among a coalition of states that “have a strong interest in ensuring that federal immigration enforcement is not used as an excuse to infringe the sovereignty of the States,” the filing states. “Under the claimed auspices of carrying out immigration enforcement, the federal government has seriously undermined



Gov. Tony Evers

state and local authorities and made it impossible for the public to go about their day-to-day activities because they fear being stopped, tear gassed, or worse.
 If left unchecked, the federal government will no doubt be emboldened to continue its unlawful conduct in Minnesota

and to repeat it elsewhere.”
 “Wisconsin stands with our neighbors across the river in Minnesota. American citizens are having their rights and freedoms violated and are being put in unsafe and life-threatening situations in their own communities. Two have already lost their lives. It has to stop,” said Gov. Evers in a statement.
 “In Minnesota and across our country, dangerous and unlawful actions at the hands of untrained individuals are sowing fear, division, and distrust.
 “This isn’t helping make our kids, families, and communities safer—in fact, it’s doing the opposite. It’s clearer than ever that this has nothing to do with public safety. And, as states, we have a responsibility to stand up and say no more.”
 Minnesota recently challenged the Trump Administration’s increasing presence of federal agents and unlawful enforcement in Minnesota communities. Gov. Evers today announced Wisconsin is

(continued on page 4)

Donors Needed This Week to Sustain Wisconsin Blood Supply

Versiti calls on community to donate as weather conditions improve

Winter weather across Wisconsin has temporarily disrupted blood drives, closed some donation centers, and reduced donor turnout.
 While conditions are improving, the past week’s weather has affected the blood supply in Wisconsin.
 In this short period, numerous donation appointments were canceled due to weather and closures.
 Unfortunately, blood cannot be stockpiled. When donations pause, local patients still need care for surgeries, trauma responses, cancer treatments, and emergency transfusions.
 This disruption is temporary. As weather conditions improve in Wisconsin, all Versiti centers and community blood drives will resume normal operations.
 Donating in the days ahead is an immediate way to help restore stability for hospitals and patients.
 “We are grateful to our donors, coordinators, and Versiti teams who have adapted to recent weather challenges,” said Lauren Patzman, director of donor services at Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin.
 “As conditions improve, a donation this week can support multiple patients. By showing up for one another, we help ensure continued care for Wisconsin communities.”
 If you are healthy and able to donate, now is a powerful time to act:



Platelets are also in constant demand for cancer patients, trauma survivors, and premature babies, and they remain viable for only five to seven days outside the body. Like blood, platelets cannot be manufactured.
 Donor Center Locations:
 GREENFIELD: 7210 W. Edgerton Ave.
 KENOSHA: 8064 39th Ave.
 LA CROSSE: 1800 Jackson St.
 MANTOWOC: 619 Reed Ave.
 MARSHFIELD: 508 N. Central Ave.
 MILWAUKEE (Versiti on King): 2153 N Martin Luther King Jr Drive
 MILWAUKEE: 638 North 18th St.

RACINE: 1120 S. Sunnyslope Drive
 WAUKESHA: 2111 Springdale Road
 WAUWATOSA: 8733 Watertown Plank Road
 WEST BEND: 130 Valley Ave.
 Donating blood takes about an hour, with the actual donation itself taking 10 to 15 minutes.
 Anyone aged 17 years or older who is in good health and meets eligibility requirements is encouraged to give.
 Parental consent is required for donors who are 16 years old. Donors should bring a photo ID that includes their birth date.
 Appointments are encouraged, but walk-ins are always welcome.
 To schedule an appointment, visit Versiti.org or call 877-232-4376.

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WHO, WHAT WHERE, WHEN

COMING AND PAST HAPPENINGS IN AND OUTSIDE OF YOUR COMMUNITY!

KAPPA ALPHA PSI to host Founders Day event Jan. 31

The Milwaukee Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi will host the 2026 Founders' Day celebration, complete with a reception, dinner, and keynote speaker Kevin P. Scott (pictured at right), the organization's grand historian.

Kevin Scott, the fraternity's 15th grand historian since 2013, has led a range of projects to preserve and

celebrate Kappa Alpha Psi's history. The Milwaukee Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. was chartered on September 9, 1948, and is committed to community service through volunteerism and youth empowerment through the Kappa League Program that provides annual scholarships to support all levels of higher education.

The black-tie affair will take place at the Renaissance Hotel, 2300 N. Mayfair Rd, in Wauwatosa on Saturday, January 31.



County Executive David Crowley hosts public safety roundtable on community violence intervention efforts

Crowley's Credible Messenger Program aims to improve public safety and support local youth through expanded mentorship, resources, and job opportunities

During a roundtable at the Marcia P. Cogg Health & Human Services Center, County Executive David Crowley led a discussion to highlight the Credible Messenger Program that aims to improve public safety and support local youth involved in the justice system through expanding mentorship, resources, and job opportunities.

County Executive Crowley was joined by community partners, local leaders, and representatives from the Milwaukee County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to discuss how to continue addressing public safety challenges through community violence intervention initiatives, youth engagement efforts, and greater partnership with state and federal leaders.

"My administration launched the Credible Messenger Program to promote public safety by working directly with our young people, particularly those caught in the justice system, to intervene before violence happens.

"The program has produced promising results for

safety situations," said David Muhammad, Deputy Director, Milwaukee County DHHS.

"It is critical to invest in prevention and intervention programs to connect with youth before they are deeply involved in the youth justice system."

The Credible Messenger Program has made significant strides in improving public safety and supporting Milwaukee County youth involved in the justice system or referred by community partners.

In its first year, youth involved in the program reported a 77% success rate for recidivism and pro-social behavior.

The program has served more than 280 youth since its inception, partnering with six community agencies including an all-girls intervention team.

The program's focus on transformative mentorship has been notably effective, with 66% of the youth re-



ceiving at least 26 weeks of mentoring—essential for positive outcomes according to research, delivering more than 2,000 combined hours of mentoring in 2023.

The collaborative effort includes Milwaukee Community Crossroads, Youth Advocate Program, GLOW414, Running Rebels, Westcare Wisconsin, and 414Life.

In 2023, the Credible Messenger Program added a new sub-team focused on community response and referrals.

This sub-team solicits and responds to referrals from community-based organizations, parents, and other area

"The program has produced promising results for Milwaukee County youth through the expansion of mentorship, resources, and job opportunities," said County Executive Crowley. I am proud we have leaders, community advocates, and organizations at the table who are fighting back against the epidemic of violence every day." —Crowley

programs (in contrast to receiving referrals only for system-involved youth).

The success of the Credible Messenger Program underscores the value of community-based approaches in creating safer, more supportive environments for Milwaukee County's youth.

UNCF MAYOR'S MASKED BALL NAMES LOCAL BUSINESS LEADER AS CHAIR

Local businesses also being honored at February 7th event

Nina V.A. Johnson, a leading banking executive in Milwaukee, is the chair of the 11th Annual UNCF (United Negro College Fund) Milwaukee Mayor's Masked Ball. The event is Saturday, February 7, 2026, at 6 pm at the Pfister Hotel, 424 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53202. It is hosted by the Honorable Cavalier Johnson, Mayor of Milwaukee.

The Mayor's Masked Ball raises scholarship dollars for local students attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities supported by UNCF. Support is also provided to students attending non-UNCF colleges. Over the past ten years, the UNCF Mayor's Masked Ball has raised nearly \$1.6 million to support UNCF student scholarships.

Johnson is Senior Vice President Wisconsin Branch Banking Market Leader for U.S. Bank. She is responsible for all consumer sales activities in the Wisconsin



market. She has more than 40 years of banking and finance experience. She was named a "Woman of Influence" by the Milwaukee Business Journal, a "Woman of Distinction" by Milwaukee Magazine, and received a Black Excellence Award from The Milwaukee Times.

"UNCF provides tremendous support to local students through the funds raised at the UNCF Mayor's Masked Ball," said Nina Johnson. "When young people bring their talents back to Milwaukee after college, it makes our community stronger. Supporting young people today makes our community better."

Local businesses are being recognized for their commitment to UNCF and to the community at the February 7th event. SC Johnson is receiving the coveted UNCF MASKED Ball Award. MASKED is an acronym for Man-kind Assisting Students Kindle Educational Dreams. SC Johnson is a long-term supporter of UNCF and the Mayor's Masked Ball.

Gee's Clippers is being presented with the Community Award. Gee's is more than a barbershop. It is a community gathering spot that also connects the community to resources. Gee's partnerships supporting the community include Froedtert, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Mentor Greater Milwaukee, and the Milwaukee Bucks.

For more ticket and sponsorship information or to donate, visit mkeunf.info.

Black History program at Curative Care

Curative Care will host its annual Black History program, Feb. 5, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Curative is located at 2607 W. Fond du Lac Avenue. The keynote speaker will be state Rep. and Assistant Minority Leader Kalan Haywood, who represents the 16th Assembly District.

Mayor Cavalier Johnson is also scheduled to speak at the event as well. Entertainment will be provided by local Jazz group 'Christopher's Project,' and their will be a Soul Food luncheon served immediately after the program.



State Rep. Haywood

\$901/Month for a Fully Rehabbed 5-Bedroom Home in Milwaukee

Metcalfe Park Community Bridges Announces Rent-to-Own Family selected through the community selection process during the Reclaim & Restore Open House

While many Milwaukee families are being priced out of stability, Metcalfe Park Community Bridges (MPCB) is proving a different path forward is possible.

On Friday, January 30th, MPCB will host the Reclaim & Restore Open House + Fundraiser,

featuring a press conference, home tours, and the public an-

nouncement of the family selected through the community selection process who will become the next homeowners through MPCB's Rent-to-Own program.

The event is from 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. For location information contact Melody McCurtis at 414-748-0009, or at mmcurtis@metcalfe.org.

This is MPCB's third completed community-led home, with one more currently in progress.

The featured home is a fully renovated 5-bedroom home with a 2-car garage offered at just \$901/month, well below market rent.

The home's sale price is

\$105,000, made possible through public and private subsidies. Monthly payments go toward the purchase price, plus property taxes and insurance, turning rent into ownership.

Rehab costs typically range from \$200,000-\$300,000 per home, depending on the property.

MPCB makes affordability possible through partnerships, subsidies, and community investment, and by serving as the bank, removing traditional mortgage barriers.

MPCB currently has the capacity to complete 2 homes per year, with a goal to scale to 4-6 homes per year as resources grow.



Milwaukee County youth through the expansion of mentorship, resources, and job opportunities," said County Executive Crowley.

"I am proud we have leaders, community advocates, and organizations at the table who are fighting back against the epidemic of violence every day.

By focusing our efforts upstream, we're not only preventing youth from entering the criminal justice system, but also putting our young people on a path to success and fostering a stronger, healthier Wisconsin."

The Credible Messenger Program promotes public safety by intervening in gun violence and supports positive outcomes for youth, with an emphasis on those in the youth justice system.

Since its inception, the program has worked with youth at all points of system involvement by coordinating with partners—community-based organizations, public health entities, academic institutions and government agencies—and is staffed by individuals with lived experience and previous justice involvement who support youth through transformative mentoring.

"I am very pleased to see the collective impact of our Community Violence Intervention work. The Credible Messenger Program is part of a comprehensive effort to address youth gun violence and be responsive to public

FIRST PERSON UWM student decries closing of the university's multicultural centers

On Wednesday, January 28, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee followed MATC's lead and announced the closure of the UWM Multicultural Center (the Black students center, the Southeast Asian students center, the Roberto Hernandez (Latino) Center), and the CASE centers (the LGBTQ+ center, the Women's Resource Center, the Military and Veterans Center, the First Generation + center, and the commuter center).

They will be erasing the names of all of these centers, and create one large center. We do not know what this center will be called, but it will be focused more on academics as one big identity, rather than the diversity UWM claims to support and benefit from.

I am a student worker and we are all so angry about the erasure of so many individuals hard work to create, support and continue the legacy of these amazing organizations that benefit so many students with resources, events, safe spaces, community, and advocacy. Please pay attention to the way they frame the announcement and the tone of "celebration of one identity."

The multicultural center was federally funded, so we knew there would be changes under this administration as the UW system has been pushing against any DEI systems.

But the CASE centers had segregated fees, paid for by the students. Each student paid about \$1 for each center, so around \$7-\$8 on their tuition bill.

Student have the right to decide what will happen to our centers, and UWM is spineless for adhering (happily) to the administrations demands.

Last time they tried to close the multicultural center (I believe it was in 2018?) the students were outraged and protested, resulting in them remaining open.

When asked how the university will respond to the outrage this time, they said they now have the experience to handle it. —Brynna Fennie

FEB 5

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Just how much progress have we made since King's death?

We praised him, sang songs about him, and of course tasked local youth with penning speeches on his 'achievements.'

The subject of those accolades is, of course, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose holiday—albeit diluted—was celebrated last Monday (his actual birthday was January 15).

President 'Donald Trumpster' took teeth out of the holiday by amending the paid federal day off provision, supposedly to save money, even though he has wasted literally billions on ICE patrols, enhanced military budgets and tariff collections.

Most insultingly, the racist roaches cut Obamacare, forcing millions into poverty, a key issue raised by King prior to his assassination.

This year's celebrations brought to the fore images of a great man who not only questioned the racist status quo, but also the moral consciousness of a nation (criticizing the Viet Nam War).

But how much progress has truly been made, aside from the erosion of legal barriers? Have the economic, educational and societal barriers been eliminated?

Have those 'Band-Aids' been enough to stop the bleeding, or merely slow it down?

Dr. King opened the plantation doors, but far too many of us have been locked into sharecropping roles.

Have we, or they, been responsible for the creation of the 'Culture of Poverty'?

It depends on who you ask, and what metrics are used.

Few can say that educationally, we have achieved a state of nirvana. In fact, in some cases, here in Wisconsin—Milwaukee—we have regressed.

Supposedly, desegregation (versus integration) was to be a cure-all.

Black folks were allowed to move into exclusively White schools. But the racial achievement gap remained horribly wide.

Despite the 1976 desegregation order of Judge John Reynolds, Whiteness has not rubbed off on Black students as some had assumed.

Indeed, the only benefit of racial harmony is the majority of rap albums are now purchased by Whites, and many of them now have 'rhythm.'

As a result, WalletHub research shows Milwaukee hosts the fourth-worst poverty gaps in the country.

Moreover, another recent study found that only 7% of managerial positions and 4-5% of senior managerial positions belong to Black Americans, even though that demographic makes up 14% of U.S. employees.

Milwaukee hosts a Black unemployment rate that is three times higher than that of Whites.

A University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee study by Marc Levine a decade ago revealed Cream City unemployment for Black males 18-65 was among the highest in the country, over 30%.

Thus, it shouldn't be surprising that Wisconsin (MKE) has the fourth widest poverty gap in the country.

Over 20,000 Milwaukee families exist on less than \$10,000 annually, not enough to keep a



"Dr. King would be ecstatic had he lived to see the election of an African American president and a vice president. He probably turned over in his grave, however, when 'Donald Trumpster' was twice elected and undertook an agenda to dismantle the gains of those two history-makers. In fact, the election of a racist demigod under the flag of 'White Supremacy' is an affront to everything King stood for."

steady flow of tainted hamburger meat in the refrigerator.

Adam McCann of WalletHub, noted:

"What's even more striking than the inequality in employment is the disparity in wealth between White and Black Americans.

For example, for every \$100 in wealth that White households have, Black households have only \$15."

Wisconsin ranked 49th out of

50 states in terms of economic racial equality.

The state also ranked 49th for housing segregation.

On the flip side, Dr. King would be ecstatic had he lived to see the election of an African American president and a vice president.

He probably turned over in his grave, however, when 'Donald Trumpster' was twice elected and undertook an agenda to dismantle the gains of those two history-

makers. In fact, the election of a racist demigod under the flag of 'White Supremacy' is an affront to everything King stood for.

Politically, we have made tremendous gains nationally and locally. There are currently 60 congresspersons in office, with several more expected after the fall elections.

Locally, we control the city council and the county board of supervisors. We have a Black mayor and county executive, as well as a sheriff and chief of police.

But those political achievements have not resulted in the educational, economic, or cultural improvements King sought, unless the political response has been the chorus of political rhetoric (and blame game) or their giving themselves raises and life preservers as their constituents drown.

As an advocate of 'integration,' I'm sure Martin would be happy to see interracial couples dominating television commercials. If my estimate is correct, 90% of all commercials now feature a Black and White couple with 'good' (anti-black paradigm) hair.

Apparently, their number is growing, allowing us to assume they are the solution to racial discord.

And assuming their offspring will marry an Asian or Indian (aka Kamala Harris), we will someday realize a country in which the inhabitants are light-skinned, with slanted eyes, nappy hair and rhythm.

A generation after his assassination, the children of King's army of moral crusaders can now march unabated in areas of the

south where racist cops once followed the tenets of White Supremacy.

Today, in Atlanta, Memphis and other major southern cities, Black boys in blue (no pun intended) have replaced the KKK hammers. In far too many cases, however, some of the Black officers are more loyal to the Blue Fraternity than the Black agenda.

I don't know if America's moral leader would have been able to look into America's mirror and assess we are closer to that color blind society he envisioned 50 years ago, as Sunday at 10-11 a.m. continues to be the most segregated hour in America.

On the positive side, a Pew Research study reveals that the number of churches considered 'integrated' (meaning one or more Black or White congregants) has tripled to 16%. Wow, another 150 years and 50% would be within reach.

(On the sad side, the percentage of people calling themselves non-religious has grown to 26%.)

Obviously, there has been racial progress in the last 60 years. And then came Trump, whose agenda is to turn the clock back to the era of black and white television.

Those of us who fought to tear down the walls of apartheid since the King era live much better lives as a result of the Drum Major for Peace's leadership and his acceptance by scared Whites who 'approved' his strategy over that of the militant alternative.

But the fight is far from over. Clouds obscure our vision from the mountain top, but we're sure something colorblind is down in the valley.

Hotep.

Remembering the Revolution: Lessons for Today!

In a state where towns revisit old stories and cities reel from new ones, America's 250th asks what it really means to be free.

By Ben Jealous

In Minnesota this winter, amid the steady stream of grim headlines out of Minneapolis, one story barely made it beyond Duluth's city limits.

The Duluth News Tribune and other regional outlets are inviting residents to dig into the city's archives, retell old stories, and share plans for America's upcoming 250th anniversary.

Town halls are discussing parades. Local museums are planning exhibits. Families are marking the milestone in small, thoughtful ways.

Amid the snow and long nights, there is a quiet insistence on remembering, on telling the stories that matter.

And yet, not far away, the news tells of lives ended, of authority deployed without accountability, of neighbors afraid to act. The contrast is sharp. It is both a blessing and a wound.

This year, as America approaches its 250th anniversary, the circumstances that led our ancestors to rebel feel more familiar than they should. Standing armies enforcing laws without consent. Violence meted out without accountability.

Ordinary people afraid to act. And yet, like the colonists in Boston, we are reminded that liberty is not inherited; it is earned, defended, and demanded.

In Minneapolis, the killings of Renée Nicole Good and Alex Jeffrey Pretti by federal immigration agents have underscored that lesson in the harshest terms.

Their deaths remind us that no one is immune to injustice when authority acts without accountability.

Some administration officials have publicly suggested that federal agents enjoy sweeping immunity from local oversight — claims that legal experts dis-

pute — but the rhetoric underscores how far we've drifted from the principle that no authority should be above the law.

I watch my children, and the people I love, grow more fearful with each news cycle. I watch neighbors endure quietly, afraid to speak out.

Their courage is tested not in the abstract, but in daily life — just as it was for my ancestors under British rule. They endured fear. They felt the weight of authority without accountability.

And yet they stood, risking life and limb, to insist that liberty was not a privilege of the powerful, but a right of all.

I carry their legacy with me. I am a descendant of seven members of the Massachusetts line of the Continental Army, enslaved people who supported the Revolution, and two Black Reconstruction era statesmen in Virginia who helped rebuild the nation after the Civil War. I am also the child of parents who were active in the civil rights movement — a multiracial family that taught me early: freedom is never given. It must be defended.

As we did 50 years ago, we will honor this 250th anniversary by telling stories to our children, much like communities in Duluth are doing now.

That year, 1976, marked the bicentennial of the Revolution and the centennial of the end of Reconstruction.

It was my grandmothers who told most of the stories — one White, one Black — each with her own focus. My White grandmother kept the Revolution close to her heart. My Black grandmother told stories of the Civil War and the era of Reconstruction.

They shared these histories not as trivia, but as instruction: to teach, to inspire, and to hold firm to the

principles that guided our ancestors, white and Black alike.

In their different stories, the same thread ran through both: the American principles that led our ancestors to throw off kings also made it possible to throw off slave owners. Liberty, they showed us, was never limited to one race, one time, or one struggle.

Our nation's story is one of struggle and perseverance. For people across races, regions, and walks of life, liberty has always been contested.

The ideals of the Revolution were aspirational from the start, limited by the exclusions of the time, and extended only through centuries of struggle: abolition, civil rights, voting rights, labor rights, and the ongoing fight for accountability and justice for all.

As cities plan parades, concerts, and tall ship flotillas for the 250th, we should ask who will be invited to the stage and whose stories will be told. Celebrations of liberty mean little if they erase the struggles that made it possible or ignore freedoms still denied today.

The deaths in Minnesota are not merely local tragedies; they are a call to the conscience of every American.

They remind us that the revolution — the effort to define freedom as something real and universal — is not over. It didn't end on a battlefield, and it does-



"The deaths in Minnesota are not merely local tragedies; they are a call to the conscience of every American. They remind us that the revolution — the effort to define freedom as something real and universal — is not over. It didn't end on a battlefield, and it doesn't stop with another fireworks display."

So when we tell the stories this year, let's do it as my grandmothers did. Let us tell history to the children as instruction for the America we must all build together again.

Ben Jealous is a professor of practice at the University of Pennsylvania and former national president and CEO of the NAACP.

Wisconsin files new lawsuit in support of Minnesota against Trump Administration

(continued from page 2)

joining in support of Minnesota, arguing that granting an injunction is necessary to protect Minnesota's communities against unlawful immigration enforcement actions.

Over the last year, President Trump and the Trump Administration have deployed ICE across several states, including, most recently in the last few weeks, having sent more than 3,000 federal agents,

2,000 of which are ICE personnel, hundreds of Border Patrol agents, and others from U.S. Department of Justice agencies, to the Twin Cities area in Minnesota.

Due to their deployment, a Minnesota resident, Renee Good was killed by agents, and in the weeks since, federal agents have increased their presence, resulting in another man shot in the leg, a family was tear gassed while in their

car, a member of the Hmong community was taken out of his home and arrested by agents despite being a citizen, and child was used to lure out family members, who were in the process of seeking asylum.

Over the weekend, Alex Pretti, a U.S. citizen and an ICU nurse, was shot and killed by federal immigration agents.

Wisconsin joins Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Hawai'i, Illinois, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, Michigan, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington in filing the amicus brief.



Credit: manusapon kasosod / Getty Images

Navigating the maze that is medical debt

Out-of-pocket costs are jumping to record levels and Black Americans are usually hit hardest by medical debt. But patients who know their rights can fight billing errors and avoid getting that beatdown from the bills

By Jennifer Porter Gore, article courtesy of wordinblack.com

It's a fact: in both employer-provided health-care coverage as well as in the Affordable Care Act marketplace, premiums are skyrocketing, insurance coverage is shrinking, and most healthcare consumers are facing growing out-of-pocket expenses.

At the same time, Black Americans are twice as likely to struggle with medical debt, and are disproportionately more likely to face collection action for that debt, than whites.

As a result, experts say, medical debt is going to get worse — and the Black community will likely get hit hard by a financial crisis.

Consumers, however, can arm themselves with tools that can help keep medical debt from ruining their household budgets, courtesy of two nonprofits focused on the issue.

The Side Effects of Medical Debt

Last week, the organizations Community Catalyst and the U.S. PIRG Education Fund unveiled a new consumer tool, Medical Bills: Everything you need to know about your rights.

“Medical debt can lead to home foreclosures, personal bankruptcies, and reduced credit scores,” according to the guide’s introduction.

“It also has health-related consequences like delaying a medically necessary treatment due to the cost.”

As a result, “it’s important to learn how to handle your medical bills and avoid unnecessary billing charges.

In some cases, you may even need to fight an illegal or incorrect medical bill.”

Experts had already predicted that nearly six in ten ACA Marketplace enrollees would not be able to afford the projected premium increases.

That’s how many enrollees had said an annual increase of \$300 in health care expenses would significantly upend their household finances.

So, managing the estimated average premium increase of 114%—much more than double—would definitely be out of the question.

Even many Americans who get health insurance through their employers have seen their benefits change if their employers made changes to manage company costs.

This usually means the employees will face higher out-of-pocket expenses and decreased coverage.

Abrupt increases like these worsen the crippling affordability crisis.

Although the healthcare landscape has several pitfalls, consumers can arm themselves with tools that can help keep medical debt from ruining their house-

hold budgets.

One of those tools is an updated guide that this week millions of Americans have medical debt and face stringent debt collectors because of it.

Recent data show nearly four in 10 people in the U.S. have medical debt.

Creditors Are Becoming More Assertive

Roughly 1% of U.S. workers were having their wages garnished by creditors in 2019 and the number of people being sued to collect medical debts has increased steadily since the end of the COVID pandemic.

Black adults are getting hit pretty hard and they carry a disproportionate amount of medical debt compared to whites.

Research published last year found Black and Hispanic individuals were 52% more likely to have a debt collection judgment compared to white Americans.

This was true despite the fact that Blacks and Hispanics typically had lower 90-day past due debt balances than “non-minority borrowers.”

“We find support that the judgment gap is partially driven by taste-based discrimination,” the research says.

This means the decisions to sue debtors were based on the decider’s prejudice (or as economists would say, their “taste”) that has little to do with the amount of the outstanding debt or the debtor’s income.

“Furthermore, the disparity primarily affects non-delinquent borrowers, indicating higher levels of creditor discretion in initiating judgment proceedings” and they “disproportionately occur in predominantly

Black neighborhoods, even after controlling for income differences across neighborhoods.”

Medical debt is also more common for women, particularly if they’ve recently had a child, and for people with disabilities.

“[We] hear every day from people struggling with confusing, inaccurate and unaffordable

medical bills,” Michelle Sternthal, interim senior director of policy and strategy for Community Catalyst, said in a statement.

The non-profit organization advocates for race equity and health justice.

Soaring medical costs “often means weighing food on the table against the care they need to live healthy, productive lives,” she said.

The U.S. PIRG tool, she says, “gives people the knowledge to fight back as our organizations work to fix the systems that drive high costs and build the power of people and communities to protect themselves from unnecessary financial harm.”

The guide offers several ways consumers can protect their families, and their wallets, from burdensome medical debt. Here are some crucial points.

Understand your network. Even if you have the same health plan, you’ll want to make

sure your favorite providers are in-network in 2026.

If you have a new plan, you might need to spend some time finding new doctors that will let you take advantage of lower costs of in-network plans.

For any appointments you’ve already scheduled for 2026, call those offices to check that they are in-network for your plan.

cardiac, stroke or other specialty treatment. I

If it’s not urgent that you get to the second hospital, it’s considered “non-emergency.”

Many people don’t realize their health insurance policy doesn’t cover those rides.

Request copies of your free credit report to fix any mistakes. The three major credit bureaus

“Black Americans are twice as likely to struggle with medical debt, and are disproportionately more likely to face collection action for that debt, than whites. As a result, experts say, medical debt is going to get worse — and the Black community will likely get hit hard by a financial crisis.”

Check your medical transportation benefits. Be clear on what your co-pay and co-insurance are for ambulance rides. In addition, see if you have coverage for non-emergency transportation.

With more hospitals closing their specialty units, more patients need transportation to get to a second hospital that offers

promised they won’t include several types of medical bills on Americans’ credit reports, including any new medical bills (less than a year old), any medical bills under \$500, or any medical bills you’ve fully paid.

In addition, several states have enacted prohibitions on credit reporting of medical debt.

Report any errors if you see

PIRG Education Fund.

“The medical billing system shouldn’t be and doesn’t need to be this complex.

“However, it is. We hear from so many people burdened with medical bills, so we recommend patients bookmark the online guide to keep handy for other billing rights information they might need.”

Where to find YOUR Milwaukee Community Journal

PICK-UP LOCATIONS

Milwaukee Community Journal Office-
3612 N. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive

Milwaukee County Courthouse-
901 N. 9th Street

Milwaukee City Hall-200 E. Wells Street

Milwaukee Public Library/Central Branch-814. W. Wisconsin Ave.

Milwaukee Public Library/ Atkinson Branch-
1960 W. Atkinson Ave.

Milwaukee Public Library/Martin Luther King Branch-2767 N. MLK, Jr. Drive (new library currently under construction)

Milwaukee Area Technical College/Downtown MKE Campus-
700 W. State St.

University Wisconsin-Milwaukee Student Center-3210 N. Maryland Ave.

Beans & Barley-1901 E. North Ave.

Knapp Senior Citizen Apartments-
Knapp Street

Arlington Court Senior Citizen Public Housing-1633 N. Arlington Place

Lapham Square Apt.-1901 N. 6th Street

BMO Bank-2745 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Drive

St. Ann’s Milwaukee/Bucyrus Campus-
2450 W. North Ave.

YWCA 1915 N. Dr. MLK, Jr. Drive

Walgreens 2826 N. Dr. MLK, Jr. Drive

Coffee Makes You Black-2803 N. Teutonia Ave.

PICK N’ SAVE STORES/MILWAUKEE-BROWN DEER-GLENDALE

North 35th street location-2355 N. 35th St.

Midtown location-5700 W. Capitol Drive

East Garfield location-1100 E. Garfield St.

East Point location-605 E. Lyon Street

Brown Deer location-120 W. Brown Deer Rd.

Glendale location-1735 W. Silver Spring Dr.

GALST GROCERY STORES

Galst Foods at 1622 W. North Ave.

Galst Foods at 4030 N. Teutonia Ave.

BP Gas Station-807 W. Atkinson Ave.

Sids Barber Shop-2420 W. Hopkins St.

CHURCHES

Mt. Calvary-2959 N. Teutonia Ave.

Mt. Zion Assembly-4300 N. Green Bay Ave.

St. Matthew CME-2944 N. 9th St.

Progressive Baptist-8324 W. Keefe Ave.

Greater Galilee-2432 N. Teutonia Ave.

St. Mark AME-1616 W. Atkinson Ave.

Ephesians Missionary Baptist-510 W. Meinecke Ave.

All Saints Catholic Church-4015 N. 26th St.

Ebenezer Worship Center 3132 N. Dr. MLK Drive

Holy Redeemer Church of God in Christ-3500 W. Mother Daniels Way

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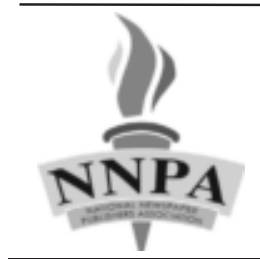
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WE HAVE BLACK MILWAUKEE’S ATTENTION!



Fact Check: Test what you know about heart health

Article courtesy of Family Features

As you age, your doctor's interest in your cholesterol level is likely to increase. That's no coincidence.

High cholesterol and age are two significant risk factors for heart disease, which is the leading cause of death in the

United States.

You may not be able to slow the hands of time, but elevated low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol, also known as "bad" cholesterol, is one of the most significant addressable risk factors for the development of cardiovascular disease.

Uncontrolled high LDL-C can lead to death, heart attack, stroke or the need for a coronary

revascularization.

While statins are considered first-line treatment for people with high LDL cholesterol, an estimated 29% of patients stop taking their statin within the first year, based on findings published in the "American Journal of Cardiology."

Up to 30% of people have some degree of statin intolerance, according to research published in the "Journal of

Clinical Lipidology."

Test your heart health knowledge and learn more about managing your risk factors, including high cholesterol, with this quick quiz:

1. Do cardiovascular diseases, including heart disease and stroke, claim more lives in the U.S. than all forms of cancer and accidental deaths (the Nos. 2 and 3 causes of death, respectively) combined?

Yes. Cardiovascular disease is the No. 1 killer of men and women in America and worldwide, killing more people than both cancer and accidents each year.

2. According to the American Heart Association, which of the following are true?

Men are more likely to have heart attacks at a younger age than women.

Women experience different symptoms indicating potential heart disease.

Women have a higher risk of fatality because their symptoms are frequently misunderstood or misdiagnosed, leading to delayed treatment.

All are True. While many factors are at play, one major underlying issue is historically, women simply haven't been well represented in clinical trials of heart-related conditions.

However, Harvard Health reports that culture is slowly changing and some of the gaps are starting to close.

3. Does statin intolerance mean statins are not effective?

No. On the contrary, statins are the standard of care to lower LDL cholesterol. Ho-

wever, some people cannot take statins at any dose because of statin intolerance symptoms such as muscle pain, while others may have their LDL cholesterol remain uncontrolled because they are not able to take higher doses.

4. Are women more likely to be statin intolerant than men?

Yes. According to the National Institutes of Health, being female is a risk factor for statin intolerance.

5. If a person is statin intolerant, are there other treatments available to help lower their uncontrolled LDL-C?

Yes. Alternative treatments are available for people with statin intolerance. A health care provider can help explain what

Your health care provider may run tests or change your medication to address these symptoms.

For more information on statin intolerance, talk with your health care provider or visit statinalternatives.info.

How to Lower Bad Cholesterol

LDL cholesterol, commonly referred to as "bad" cholesterol, leads to plaque in your arteries, reducing blood flow and potentially damaging your cardiovascular system.

If your bloodwork shows elevated LDL cholesterol levels, you can take steps to reduce it.

Eat a healthy diet low in saturated and trans fats and high in fiber, with an emphasis on fruits, vegetables and whole

"You may not be able to slow the hands of time, but elevated low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol, also known as "bad" cholesterol, is one of the most significant addressable risk factors for the development of cardiovascular disease. Uncontrolled high LDL-C can lead to death, heart attack, stroke or the need for a coronary revascularization."

options are available if you experience potential statin-associated side effects.

6. Are muscle-related symptoms typically the most common side effect of statins?

Yes. Muscle pains or cramps (myalgias) are the most common symptoms people experience.

grains. Get at least 30 minutes of exercise daily, and if you carry extra weight, work to lose it.

Talk to your health care provider about cholesterol-lowering medications, which can help lower bad cholesterol and reduce the risks associated with heart disease.



In 1939, a Klan member carries noose to suppress Black voters in Miami, noose in North Carolina



Why Some Refuse to Consider "The Noose" a Symbol of Hate

Doing so would acknowledge the stain of white supremacy

By Dr. Allison Wiltz, article courtesy of Medium.com

Last week, the Coast Guard announced a policy change that triggered public backlash. They planned to remove the noose and swastika from their list of "hate symbols." Instead, they planned to consider them as "potentially divisive."

This is a problematic framing given the legacy of racial violence associated with this imagery. While the Military Times suggested authorities reversed their decision, they can't un-ring the alarm. Their announcement suggested some policy-

makers align with a white supremacist worldview. Why else would they want grace for those who invoke these symbols?

During World War II, US troops fought against the Nazis. They even blew up a large swastika in the Nuremberg stadium, a sign of their opposition to the regime.

And just a few years ago, Congress passed a law that designated lynching a federal hate crime, condemning the legacy of racial violence in this country.

Yet, this proposed policy revealed a schism between those who condemn prejudice and those who con-

done it.

America is a racially diverse nation. So, the question is not whether we will be diverse, but whether that diversity will be valued. When hate symbols used to target marginalized groups are presented as simply controversial, this is not neutral.

As a Holocaust survivor, Elie Wiesel wrote, "Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim." In this case, describing the noose as "divisive" rather than hateful sides with the lynch mob.

There's a risk of normalizing this symbol, which could endanger the lives of Black Americans by trivial-

izing the violence inflicted upon their group.

On the one hand, there have been recent efforts to whitewash black historical narratives, such as instructions to remove exhibits that highlight the cruelty of slavery, such as an image of "Whipped Peter."

And on the other hand, there are efforts to normalize narratives associated with white supremacy. The Coast Guard officials who considered removing the hate symbol designation for the noose and swastika are an example of the latter.

At least 4,400 Black people be-

(continued on page 8)

NOTICE OF PRIVATE GOVERNANCE

All matters involving **Kim Dunta Brumfield** and **Dessie Lee Brumfield**, including all affiliated trusts and estates, are governed by a private charter known as the **Entity Management System (EMS)** and are subject exclusively to **private arbitration**; statutory court jurisdiction is declined.

All counterparties are required to provide full **bond, insurance, securitization, and ledger disclosure**; failure to disclose or arbitrate constitutes default and estoppel. Continued interaction after this notice constitutes acceptance of EMS terms.

Issued by: **Kim Dunta Brumfield**, Trustee (House of Brumfield Trust; Kim D Brumfield Irrevocable Living Trust) and **Dessie Lee Brumfield**, Trustee (Dessie Lee Brumfield Irrevocable Trust).

Date: 1-28/2-4-11-2026



"A man who stops advertising to save money is like a man who stops a clock to save time!"

—Henry Ford

Don't stop your business from profiting and growing! Place your display or classified ad in YOUR MILWAUKEE Community Journal, the newspaper that has Black Milwaukee's attention

LEGALS/CLASSIFIEDS

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION)
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING
Case No. 25CV010412
IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF: BRENDAN JAMES SAYRE

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
FROM: BRENDAN JAMES SAYRE
TO: BRENDAN JAMES COOK
Birth Certificate: BRENDAN JAMES SAYRE

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. WILLIAM POCAN RM #401 PLACE: 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233
DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2026, 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: 12-5-2025
BY THE COURT:
HON. WILLIAM POCAN
Circuit Court Judge
013/1-14-21-28-2026

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION)
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING
Case No. 25CV011023

In the matter of the name change of: KANEISHA LAKAY ROBINSON

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: KANEISHA LAKAY ROBINSON to: LUN'NAYAH GRACE CHAMPION
Birth Certificate: KANEISHA LAKAY SPIGHT

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. THOMAS J MCADAMS RM 404 PLACE 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233
DATE FEBRUARY 16, 2026, TIME 3:00 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: 12-29-2025
BY THE COURT:
HON. THOMAS J MCADAMS
Circuit Court Judge
012/1-14-21-28-2026

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION)
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING
Case No. 26CV000134

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF: ISABEL MARTINA-ESTRELLA RESENDEZ

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
FROM: ISABEL MARTINA-ESTRELLA RESENDEZ to: ISABEL ESTRELLA JIMENEZ
Birth Certificate: ISABEL MARTINA-ESTRELLA RESENDEZ

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. WILLIAM POCAN RM #401 PLACE: 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233
DATE: FEBRUARY 27, 2026, 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: 1-7-2026
BY THE COURT:
HON. WILLIAM POCAN
Circuit Court Judge
016/1-21-28/2-4-2026

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

NAME CHANGE HEARING
Case No. 26CV000171
In the matter of the name change of: DARIANA DEJESUS PEREZ
By (Petitioner) DARIANA DEJESUS PEREZ

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
FROM: DARIANA DEJESUS PEREZ
TO: DARIANA DEJESUS PEREZ VAZQUEZ
Birth Certificate: DARIANA DEJESUS PEREZ

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. J.D. WATTS BR 15 ROOM 414 PLACE: 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233
DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2026, TIME 10:30 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: 1-8-2026
BY THE COURT:
HON. J.D. WATTS
Circuit Court Judge
020/1-21-28/2-4-2026

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION)
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING
Case No. 26CV000293

In the matter of the name change of: BRAYDEN JULIAN FELS

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: BRAYDEN JULIAN FELS to: BRAYDEN JULIAN VEGA
Birth Certificate: BRAYDEN JULIAN FELS

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. MICHAEL J HANRAHAN ROOM 500 PLACE: 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233
DATE: MARCH 2, 2026, 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: 1-20-2026
BY THE COURT:
HON. MICHAEL J HANRAHAN
Circuit Court Judge
021/1-21-28/2-4-2026

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION)
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING
Case No. 26CV000455

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF: NATHANAEL CARLTON ROBINSON-VERNER II

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
FROM: NATHANAEL CARLTON ROBINSON-VERNER II to: XECHT-NA'LAHAHN XEGONUUDA VERNER
Birth Certificate: NATHANAEL CARLTON ROBINSON-VERNER II

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. WILLIAM POCAN RM #401 PLACE: 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233
DATE: MARCH 3, 2026, TIME 9:00 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: 1-20-2026
BY THE COURT:
HON. WILLIAM POCAN
Circuit Court Judge
019/1-21-28/2-4-2026

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION)
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING
Case No. 25CV010677
In the matter of the name change of: LYFE ARMANI JOHNSON

By (Petitioner) CHANTEL MONIQUE AGREW

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: LYFE ARMANI JOHNSON to: LYFE ARMANI JORDAN
Birth Certificate: LYFE ARMANI JOHNSON

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. GLENN H YAMAHIRO RM 412 PLACE 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233
DATE FEBRUARY 6, 2026, TIME 9:30 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: 12-15-2025
BY THE COURT:
HON. GLENN Y YAMAHIRO
Circuit Court Judge
018/1-21-28/2-4-2026

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION)
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING
Case No. 26CV000492

In the matter of the name change of: ALEXANDER WILLIAM PODD

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
FROM: ALEXANDER WILLIAM PODD TO: ALEXANDER WILLIAM MCMANUS
Birth Certificate: ALEXANDER WILLIAM PODD

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. J.D. WATTS BR 15 ROOM 414 PLACE: 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233
DATE: MARCH 17, 2026, TIME 10:00 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: 1-21-2026
BY THE COURT:
HON. J.D. WATTS
Circuit Court Judge
025/1-21-28/2-4-2026

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION)
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING
Case No. 26CV000467

In the matter of the name change of: OSCAR EDDIED COLON SANABRIA

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: OSCAR EDDIED COLON SANABRIA to: OSCAR EDDIED DEJ ESUS SANABRIA
Birth Certificate: OSCAR EDDIED COLON SANABRIA

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. GLENN H YAMAHIRO RM 412 PLACE 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233
DATE FEBRUARY 26, 2026, TIME 1:30 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: 1-20-2026
BY THE COURT:
HON. GLENN Y YAMAHIRO
Circuit Court Judge
024/1-21-28/2-4-2026

SUMMONS (PUBLICATION)
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING
Case No. 26CV000203

In the matter of the name change of: MARILICIA ALEJANDRA ROSE RADFORD
By (Petitioner) VANESSA MARIE PEÑA
By (Co-Petitioner) DYLAN THOMAS RADFORD

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: MARILICIA ALEJANDRA ROSE RADFORD to: MARILICIA ROSE PEÑA-RADFORD
Birth Certificate: MARILICIA ALEJANDRA ROSE RADFORD

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. GLENN H YAMAHIRO RM 412 PLACE 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233
DATE FEBRUARY 12, 2026, 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: 1-8-2026
BY THE COURT:
HON. GLENN Y YAMAHIRO
Circuit Court Judge
023/1-21-28/2-4-2026

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY (SMALL CLAIMS) PUBLICATION SUMMONS AND NOTICE
Case No. 25SC033731

Plaintiff(s) JAURITAN CONNER 3872 N 38th Street Milwaukee WI 53216 vs Defendant(s) PAUL LESZCZYNSKI 2743 N Mayfair Ct Wauwatosa WI 53222

Publication Summons and Notice of Filing
TO THE PERSON(S) NAMED ABOVE AS DEFENDANT(S):
You are being sued by the person(s) as named above Plaintiff(s). A copy of the claim has been sent to you #3at your address as stated in the caption above. The lawsuit will be heard in the following Small Claims court: Milwaukee County Courthouse Telephone Number of Clerk of Court: 414-278-5362 Courtroom/ Room Number 400 Address: 901 N 9TH Street City: 53233 Milwaukee State WI Zip 53233 on the following date and time: Date: FEBRUARY 9, 2026, Time: 8:30 A.M

If you do not attend the hearing, the court may enter a judgment against you in favor of the person(s) suing you. A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. A judgement awarding money may become a lien against any real estate (property) you own now or in the future and may also be enforced by garnishment of seizure of property.

You may have the option to Answer without appearing in court on the court date by filing a written Answer with the clerk of court before the court date. You must send a copy of your Answer to the Plaintiff(s) named above at their address. You may contact the clerk of court at the telephone number above to determine if there are other methods to answer a Small Claims complaint in that county.
Date: 1/21/2026

Plaintiff/Attorney
JAURITAN CONNER
026/1-21-28/2-4-2026
SUMMONS (PUBLICATION)
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY NOTICE AND ORDER FOR NAME CHANGE HEARING
Case No. 26CV000404

In the matter of the name change of: EZRA MALIK KINGSBY
By (Petitioner) ASIAH CLARISSA MCLAURIN

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: EZRA MALIK KINGSBY to: EZRA MALIK MCLAURIN
Birth Certificate: EZRA MALIK KINGSBY

IT IS ORDERED
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: HON. GLENN H YAMAHIRO RM 412 PLACE 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233
DATE MARCH 13, 2026, TIME 9:15 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: 1-16-2026
BY THE COURT:
HON. GLENN Y YAMAHIRO
Circuit Court Judge
027/1-28/2-4-11-2026

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Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church - Opening for Senior Pastor Role
Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church in Milwaukee, WI is currently seeking a Senior Pastor called by God to lead and serve our congregation. For complete details on qualifications and the application process, please visit our website at www.mmbcmke.org. Application deadline: December 31, 2025

PPG Industries, Inc. ...
...seeks S&T Customer Support Chemist, Expert in our Oak Creek, WI coatings plant, responsible for supporting research & development of proprietary paint coating products for PPG's Automotive Coatings bus. Apply online at careers.ppg.com.

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT
THE MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY JOURNAL TO PUBLISH LEGAL NOTICES

The Milwaukee Community Journal 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 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 Thomas (5%) respectively, and is current in filing by the State of Wisconsin, effective October 10, 2018.

Signed: Patricia O'Flynn Pattillo, President/Publisher

Why Some Refuse to Consider “The Noose” a Symbol of Hate

(continued from page 6)

came victims of racial terror lynchings from the 1880s to the 1960s, according to the Equal Justice Initiative. Routinely accused of crimes they did not commit, White people deprived these individuals of due process, publicly tortured them, sold postcards of their bodies, and gave away other gruesome souvenirs.

To add salt to the wound, White people rarely faced legal consequences for killing Black people in this way. Even some in political power supported the practice.

For example, in 1897, Rebecca Latimer Felton, the country’s first woman to become a U.S. Senator and the last enslaver in that office, suggested lynching “a thousand” Black men a week. By promoting racist stereotypes, they attempted to justify their campaign of violence.

Journalist Ida B. Wells wrote in 1900, “Our country’s national crime is lynching. It is not the creature of an hour, the sudden outburst of uncontrolled fury, or the unspeakable brutality of an insane mob.

It represents the cool, calculating deliberation of intelligent people.” Lynchings were not random acts of violence, but rather a coordinated effort to terrify and thereby control Black people through the threat of violence.

Despite lynchings being less common in the modern era, the noose as a symbol is stained by the nation’s legacy of anti-black racism.

For example, in Williams v. New York City Housing Authority (2001), two Black workers sued their employer for racial discrimination. “Gregory Williams entered the office of this white supervisor, Kevin Burns, and noticed a noose hanging on the wall behind Burns’ desk.”

While they removed the symbol, saying “it was a joke,” the judge in the case did not consider this a laughing matter.

Judge Carter said, “The noose is among the most repugnant of all racist symbols, because it is itself an instrument of violence. It is impossible to appreciate the impact of the display of a noose without understanding the nation’s opprobrious legacy of violence against African Americans.

The effect of such violence on the psyche of African Americans cannot be exaggerated... Thus, even though there may not have been a large number of isolated remarks or actions, the severity of the conduct at issue, if proven, would be sufficient to establish a hostile work environment.”

Given the context of this country’s history, intentionally hanging a noose in a space where a Black person will see it is an act of hostility. As a result, there is reason for concern that some members of our armed forces would no longer consider symbols associated with white supremacy as “hate symbols.” If adopted in the private sector, this could increase the racism Black employees and customers face.

Reyna et al. (2022) suggested white nationalists “have a complicated and highly conditional relationship with the

United States today.”

Many White people feel great affinity toward a way as long as their group can maintain its position within it. Their romanticization of “a former White-dominated America, while simultaneously condemning and demonizing the current state of America for Whites,” may “contribute to dangerous downstream consequences such as opposition to policies beneficial to most Americans and the furtherance of equality, fermenting violence against groups that threaten Whites’ status and resources, and even calling for secession from the union or for outright civil war,” their findings suggested.

Researchers warned against dismissing their expression of angst and violence as “empty threats,” because some “are actually willing to engage in brutal violence against their own government to further their agenda.”

When we consider that Black people are most likely to be victims of hate crimes, it’s clear that neither the Coast Guard nor any other organization, whether public or private, should allow the noose to be put on display. Because while hangings are less common, the violence associated with them persists.

And while it’s fair to call it a “divisive” symbol, because some disagree about its designation as hateful, we should consider the difference between groups. On the one side, we have those who are either supportive or unmoved by the violence inflicted upon Black people, and on the other side, some are appalled by the legacy it represents.

The noose, a rope tied with a running knot, became a symbol of hate because of the shameful tradition of racial terror lynchings targeting Black Americans. Although some deny its meaning, it’s impossible for anyone well-versed in our nation’s history to untangle that shameful legacy from its image.

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STRUGGLING MILWAUKEE BUCKS LOSE TO OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER AND DENVER NUGGETS AT HOME!



Your Milwaukee Bucks lost to Oklahoma City Thunder (shown in the photos above) and the Denver Nuggets at the Fiserv Forum recently. In the Denver game, Giannis Antetokounmpo exited with a Ham String injury that could have him out for several weeks. The Bucks are 18 - 27 and ranked 12 in the Eastern Conference.

The NBA trade deadline in February 5. Some teams have already moved players and are doing in-season rebuilding. Everyone is wondering whether or not Giannis ‘The Greek Freak’ will stay in Milwaukee or be traded in favor of our own in-season rebuild.

We may have seen Giannis play his last game with the Bucks. The hope among many Bucks fans is the team will go after a player that will help turn its fortunes around and go a long way in convincing Giannis to stay. Will the Buck’s finish the season with coach Doc Rivers as its coach, or will they move in a different direction during this season or afterward? Stay tuned for the next episode of ‘As the Ball Turns.’

Also, since most teams send two to three players at Giannis every time he comes down the court—with our without the ball! The real question is can his body hold up against this type of defense?—Photos by Kim A. Robinson Sr.

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