



MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY JOURNAL

WISCONSIN'S LARGEST AFRICAN AMERICAN PUBLICATION



On page TWO: The warning signs, risk factors, and effects of abusive relationships!



Full STEAM into the future! Greater Milwaukee Urban League, partners host S.T.E.A.M. n2 Careers



Summit exposes students to science, tech careers

More than 300 students from seven elementary schools in Milwaukee recently participated in a full day of hands-on exhibits, activities, and projects exploring S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) career paths.

The event was held at the Milwaukee County Zoo's Peck Welcome Center, located on west Bluemound Rd. and was generously sponsored by Kohler Co., Kohl's, and Rockwell Automation.

The S.T.E.A.M. n2 Careers Summit presented a unique opportunity for hundreds of Milwaukee students to gain first-hand experience with exciting careers and educational opportunities.

The event's partners offered young people exceptional and engaging ways to explore these career paths.

The participating schools were: Eighty-First Street Elementary School, George Washington Carver Academy of Mathematics and Science, Hope Christian School Prima, Northwest Lutheran School, Oliver Wendell Holmes School, Pilgrim Lutheran School, and Trowbridge School of Great Lakes Studies.

—Photos by Yvonne Kemp



MKE Cnty Sup. Taylor urges action in wake of domestic violence homicides

In response to the alarming surge of homicides in Milwaukee, Supervisor Sequanna Taylor is calling upon residents to take proactive measures and stand against this crisis.

According to the Sojourner Family Peace Center, there have been four domestic violence-related deaths in just nine days earlier this month, highlighting the urgent need for collective action and support.

"We have witnessed a deeply troubling rise in domestic violence incidents across Milwaukee County. It is crucial that our community does not become desensitized to this issue but instead takes a stand against it.

"Being a bystander is not an option, especially considering the tragic outcomes that can result from ignoring warning signs.

Earlier this month, Sojourner Family Peace Center Executive Director...



Cnty Sup. Taylor

(continued on page 2)

Funeral services to be held in Dallas for former MPS counselor Gloria J. Graham



Gloria J. Graham

Funeral services will be held April 26 in Dallas, Texas for retired Milwaukee Public School guidance counselor Gloria J. Graham, who passed away April 11.

Gloria and her family were members of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church in Milwaukee.

She and her husband Bennie (who passed away in 2012) moved to Dallas where they were originally from.

After their youngest child's (Chad E. Graham's) death in 2020, Gloria Graham moved to Ellenwood Georgia to live with her daughter Rhea L. Hood. It is at her daughter's home that Gloria Graham died.

STEPHANIE FINDLEY: An Advocate for Health, Healing and Wholeness!



Dr. Stephanie Findley



By Kathy Gaillard

Growing up Dr. Stephanie Findley didn't have to look far for a role model—her dad was there, modeling servanthood, encouraging, and building her confidence so that she understood that she could accomplish anything she set her mind to.

Born in San Francisco, CA, Stephanie's early years were spent living between Beloit and Milwaukee. When she was five years old, her parents separated so she split her time living in Milwaukee and Beloit.

And—a self-proclaimed tomboy—Stephanie demonstrated her confidence and independence by opting to take shop class instead of the traditional home economics offered to girls.

This was just the beginning of her journey of thinking 'outside the box.'

Education was always important to Stephanie so after graduating from James Madison High School in Milwaukee, she went on to earn a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Concordia University, a master's degree in management from Cardinal Stritch in 2007, and a Doctor of Philosophy-Psychology degree from Grand Canyon University.

After spending part of her career in construction and management running her own company, Stephanie quickly began to recognize another area where she needed to put

her skillsets to use—helping people become healthy and whole.

"I've always wanted to help and give back to my community. When my father retired, I attended his retirement party and was surprised to learn about all the programs he had started and people he had helped at that company. He was the GOAT!," she said.

Stephanie asked her father how to replicate some of the wraparound programs he had started at the company from which he retired.

She wanted to use that blueprint to start similar programs at her company.

Stephanie and her dad founded the Findley Foundation and began implementing wraparound services to help her construction workforce.

"Some of the guys couldn't pass drug tests, others were homeless and sleeping in their cars or on someone's sofa.

"Many were dealing with trauma or returning to society after long-term incarcerations. To address those concerns, we started providing wrap-around services.

"Your health is your wealth. If you are not happy and whole, you can't expect to go anywhere in life. You can't live your best life.

If you're not healthy, you can't become financially able to achieve the things you want," said Stephanie.

Always looking for ways to esteem and encourage others, Stephanie said that she believes she stands on the shoulders of every woman who fought to get to where they are—to have a voice, do great things, and have a vision that enables them to achieve good things.

"There are so many women who, throughout my lifetime have inspired me, for example my mother, Shirley Paige; my aunts, Mary Russell and Linnie Penn; Madame C. J. Walker, and local icons such as Martha Love, Hattie Daniels Rush, and many others that I pull inspiration from," said Stephanie.

And she is 'no ways tired.'

"I always do my best to help people find their purpose in life. Being able to do that helps ensure that they will become healthy, healed and whole," she said.

Sup. Taylor urges action in wake of domestic violence homicides

(continued from front page)

tor Carmen Pitre said in a news report residents are feeling polarized, noting that groceries, medications, healthcare, and politics have made life too complicated and out of control.

"There's way too many people who are suffering and way too many people who are hurting other people," Pitre said in a recent interview with WISN-12 about the spike in domestic violence.

"April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month Awareness Month, making it the perfect

time to engage," Taylor said.

"We must unite as a community to confront this crisis directly.

"Each person has a role in fostering a safer environment for all. I hope my own experiences in getting out of a toxic situation can serve as an example for others to follow, help is out there.

"If you are experiencing domestic violence at home, please be aware that there are readily available resources and a supportive community ready to assist you."



Relationship Violence Warning Signs

It can be very challenging at the outset of a relationship to know if someone will become abusive or violent. While risk factors may be present, intimate partner violence can affect people from all walks of life. It is important not to blame the victim.

While you can never know with certainty, there are some signs to watch out for that may foretell whether a relationship that starts off seemingly happy and healthy is likely to become abusive. Some of these red flags include:

- Accusing you of flirting or having an affair with others without evidence or reason
- Alcohol or substance misuse
- Attempts to isolate you from your family and

- friends
- Blaming external forces for problems, mood swings, and behaviors
- Controlling all of the household finances or financial abuse
- Extreme jealousy and possessiveness
- Extreme sensitivity to any type of emotional distress
- Mood swings and episodes of intense anger
- Talking about you in a demeaning way to other people
- Verbal abuse and threats of violence
- Very intense and quick involvement at the start of a relationship

In these cases, love-bombing often follows an argument or even an episode of verbal abuse or physical violence. The goal of the behavior is to make the recipient of the affection feel dependent and obliged to stay in the relationship.

Effects of Physical Abuse in a Relationship

Relationship violence has a wide range of negative effects on people who experience abuse. The World Health Organization (WHO) notes that the health consequences of relationship violence include:

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Injuries
- Illness and other health problems
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- Sleep problems

Children who grow up in households where relationship violence occurs are also more likely to experience a range of emotional and behavioral problems.

Signs That Indicate a Risk for Homicide

Protective Factors Against Relationship Violence

There are a number of factors that may help protect people against intimate partner violence. Having positive relationships with other people and a strong social support network can help.

The CDC also suggests that a number of community factors can help reduce domestic violence.⁴ Community involvement, safe and stable housing, access to medical and mental health services, and community economic resources may all play a protective role.

A 2018 systematic review found that among older adults, the three main protective factors against abuse were social support, help-seeking behavior,

Unfortunately, relationship violence may escalate to homicide in some cases. In many cases, the most dangerous time for those involved in abusive relationships is when they try to leave. Signs that may indicate a higher risk of homicide include:

- Sexual violence
- Having a protection or restraining order
- Stalking behaviors
- Threats of suicide
- Threats to harm others
- Presence or access to firearms

A review by the Colorado Attorney General's office found that 70% of the people killed in a domestic violence attack in 2018 in Colorado had told a friend and the availability of community resources to address abuse.

One key is to be aware of anything that makes you feel unsafe or uncomfortable and to address those issues with your partner early on, even in an otherwise positive relationship. This practice may help ward off a situation that could progress toward domestic violence. It's encouraging if your partner is receptive to your concerns, but less so if they are overly dismissive or defensive.

If there are warning signs or behaviors that make you feel unsafe and your partner refuses to acknowledge them, explore them, or stay open to taking steps to address them, it is important to consider your safety and consider ending the relationship. Seek support from friends and family and call a domestic violence hotline if you need support or help to make a plan to leave the relationship.

dangers of trying to leave and how to develop a safety plan. If you know someone who is in an abusive relationship, be careful about giving them advice, such as, "You need to get out of there immediately!" Learn all you can about domestic violence, how to recognize the signs of abuse, how to help some-

or acquaintance about the abuse.

Research also suggests that 20% of people killed as a result of intimate partner violence were not the abuse victims themselves but were instead people who knew the victim, such as family members, friends, police officers, and new romantic partners.

It is important not to minimize the seriousness of intimate partner violence, but it is also essential to acknowledge the difficulty in addressing it.

Reaching out to people who are knowledgeable and trained to deal with domestic violence can be an important step.

and the availability of community resources to address abuse.

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one who is being abused, and the need for a carefully planned and safe escape. *Information about signs a relationship could turn violent or deadly is by Kendra Cherry, MS, a psycho-social rehabilitation specialist, psychology educator, and author of the "Everything Psychology Book."* **Source: verywellmind.com**

RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network) is the nation's largest anti-sexual violence organization.

They reported an American is assaulted every 68 seconds, with over 53% of women and 29% of men reporting experiencing sexual violence.

Marginalized communities, including people of color, LGBTQ+ individuals, and those with disabilities, face disproportionately higher rates of sexual assault. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men

have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner.

The Sojourner Family Peace Center remains a crucial resource for individuals affected by domestic violence in Milwaukee County.

They operate a 24-hour hotline, accessible seven days a week, for reporting incidents and accessing essential resources. The hotline number is 414-933-2722, and individuals can also seek help by texting 414-877-8100. **Sources: Taylor press release and WISN Channel 12 website.**

Risk Factors for Physical Abuse in a Relationship

It isn't always possible to tell whether physical abuse in a relationship might become a problem, but certain factors can increase the risk of intimate partner violence. Individual factors like aggression, economic stress, poor self-esteem, and impulsivity can play a role. Regardless of the causes, it's essential to be aware of the red flags that a relationship might become violent and what to do if you feel like your safety and life are at risk.

A number of different risk factors have been implicated in intimate partner violence. Some of these are individual risk factors, while others relate to aspects of the relationship itself. Societal and community influences can also play a part.

Individual Risk Factors

According to the CDC, the following individual risk factors play a role in a person becoming a perpetrator of intimate partner violence:

- Aggressive behavior as a child or teen
- Antisocial personality traits
- Being insecure and emotionally dependent
- History of depression or past suicide attempts
- Belief in rigid gender roles and hostility toward women
- Desire for control or power in relationships
- Economic stress, low educational attainment, and poor economic status (Ho-

wever, intimate partner violence is not limited to these populations and it affects people of all economic statuses and education levels.)

- Lack of friends and social isolation
- Low self-esteem
- Poor behavioral control, impulsivity, and poor problem-solving skills

Relationship Risk Factors

There are also aspects of the relationship itself that can contribute to an increased risk for domestic violence. Relationships marked with jealousy, separation, divorce, or attempts to dominate the relationship are more likely to be affected by violence.

People who witnessed relationship violence as children are also more likely to either become victims or perpetrators of domestic violence as adults.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Risk and protective factors for perpetration.

Community and Societal Factors

The CDC also notes that a number of factors at the community and societal levels also increase the risk of domestic violence. At the community level, poverty, high unemployment rates, high crime rates, easy access to drugs, and low community involvement all contribute to an increased risk for relationship violence.

At the societal level, cultural norms, toxic masculinity, and gender expectations that suggest that men should be dominant and in charge of providing financial support and that women should be submissive and not enter the workforce also play a part in relationship violence.

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WHO, WHAT WHERE, WHEN

COMING AND PAST HAPPENINGS IN AND OUTSIDE OF YOUR COMMUNITY!

Veolia and Milwaukee recognize water reclamation infrastructure as an "Ecofactory"

Earth Day commitment bolsters MMSD's goal to operate with 100% renewable energy by 2035

Veolia North America, the leading provider of environmental solutions in the U.S. and Canada, the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD), and Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson marked Earth Day by recognizing Milwaukee's wastewater treatment infrastructure as an "Ecofactory," marking its transformation from what was once a waste disposal process into a stream of green energy, resource recovery and environmental stewardship for greater Milwaukee.

The Ecofactory concept builds on MMSD's leadership in treating wastewater as a valuable resource for nearly a century, bringing significant environmental benefits to the region such as producing Milorganite® fertilizer, turning gas byproducts into power sources and digesting waste to create energy while reducing landfill use.

As the MMSD's long standing operating partner, Veolia is designating Milwaukee as its first Ecofactory in America and will use its successes to inspire similar transformation in other cities across the country.

Karine Rougé, CEO of Veolia North America's Municipal Water division, said, "Veolia is thrilled to partner with MMSD to launch the Ecofactory initiative in Milwaukee, a city that has long exemplified how to treat the environment responsibly and find creative ways to turn waste into re-



Mayor Cavalier Johnson presents city proclamation to MMSD Executive Director Kevin Shafer and Karine Rouge, CEO of Veolia North America's Municipal Water division. Photo courtesy of Veolia

sources. This collaboration represents a significant step forward in our shared commitment to sustainability and community engagement.

By combining our expertise and resources, we can continue to create a more resilient and resourceful water infrastructure for Milwaukee and its residents, helping them cut carbon emissions, find value in wastewater and build stronger communities."

"Forward-thinking actions are so important to meet the environmental and climate challenges we face," Mayor Johnson said.

"I am pleased Veolia is building on the work of MMSD as it advances the Ecofactory concept.

And, I look forward to additional partnerships to advance our common goals."

Kevin Shafer, Executive Director of the MMSD, said, "I could not be more humbled or proud to gather on this

Earth Day to honor decades of innovation and the forward thinking that's created a highly successful agency to protect public health and our source of drinking water, Lake Michigan."

Ecofactory approach creates new environmental opportunities Designating Milwaukee's wastewater treatment system as an Ecofactory marks a significant achievement for the MMSD and a new approach in America for Veolia, which is working across the country to reimagine how wastewater treatment can benefit communities.

As the top-ranked company for environmental services, Veolia intends to make the most of its global expertise to help America meet its need for sustainable growth.

Last week, the group announced its ambition to double its size in the country by 2030.

2024 HARLEY-DAVIDSON HOMECOMING FESTIVAL KICKS OFF IN 100 DAYS



The countdown has started. In just 100 days, Milwaukee will host the music and mototainment event of the season when the annual Harley-Davidson Homecoming™ Festival kicks off its four-day run.

A complete schedule of free and ticketed family-friendly events and musical performances planned for July 25-28 at venues across the Milwaukee area is posted and advance Veterans Park tickets are on sale at HDHomecoming.com.

The big weekend revs up at 4:30 p.m. on July 25 with opening ceremonies at Davidson Park, the new outdoor community hub created by the Harley-Davidson Foundation at Harley-Davidson Headquarters on Juneau Avenue in Milwaukee. Complete details on all Harley-Davidson Homecoming™ Festival ticketing options, venues, entertainment, scheduled events, Harley-Davidson factory tours, FAQ and lodging are available at HDHomecoming.com, where visitors can also sign up to receive Homecoming updates.



Marques Johnson

Milwaukee Bucks Legend MARQUES JOHNSON Joins Forces with Serenity Inns to Combat Opioid Epidemic in Milwaukee

In a powerful move to address the ongoing opioid crisis gripping Milwaukee, Serenity Inns proudly announces the involvement of Milwaukee Bucks legend and former NBA All-Star Marques Johnson in its ambitious capital campaign.

Johnson's commitment to the cause marks a turning point in the organization's relentless fight against substance use disorder and overdose deaths that have devastated the community.

Johnson will serve as an advocate and cabinet member for Serenity Inns' \$3 million capital campaign fundraising committee.

Johnson's decision to champion Serenity Inns' cause brings an added dimension of personal conviction to the campaign.

By continuing to successfully deal with his own struggles with substance use disorder one day at a time, Johnson deeply understands the role of support and community in the recovery journey.

"Serenity Inns' mission resonates with me on a profound level," Johnson expressed.

"As someone who has walked the path of recovery, I know firsthand the transformative impact of having access to supportive resources and a compassionate community.

It is a privilege to stand alongside Serenity Inns and help empower more individuals in our city to rebuild their lives and break free from the chains of addiction."

Serenity Inns recently broke ground on a transformative \$3 million treatment facility in the heart of Milwaukee's 53208 zip code.

This expansion will add 14 much-needed beds to its existing residential treatment services, allowing the organization to serve an additional 56 men

a year.

The new facility reinforces Serenity Inns' dedication to providing comprehensive support and a path to recovery for men, regardless of their resources.

"Seeing the concrete work begin on this project fills me with immense pride and anticipation," shared Kenneth Ginklack, CEO of Serenity Inns.

"We expect to complete construction by July or August, enabling us to extend our reach and impact more lives.

Our current 12-bed facility will continue operating alongside the new building, while our sober living 'alumni house' accommodates 14 men who have successfully emerged from our treatment program."

The need for expanded treatment options has never been more urgent.

Serenity Inns receives an average of five calls per day from individuals seeking help, while the county recently reported an estimate of approximately 200 people in need of residential treatment services.

This situation underscores the critical importance of Serenity Inns' capital campaign and the necessity of increased support for those struggling with substance abuse, particularly in under-resourced areas like Milwaukee.

For 20 years, Serenity Inns has stood at the forefront of combating substance use disorder and the devastating opioid epidemic in Milwaukee.

The organization's efforts have provided a path to recovery for 690 men.

As Milwaukee is faced with an overwhelming demand for treatment services, the expansion of Serenity Inns' facilities offers a glimmer of hope to those desperately seeking a path to recovery.

With the support of community leaders like Marques Johnson and the progress of its capital campaign, Serenity Inns is poised to make an even greater impact in the fight against substance use disorder.

Free smoke alarm installations available for Milwaukee residents in need

Register for a home fire safety visit in May from the Red Cross

The American Red Cross of Wisconsin is offering free smoke alarm installations for Milwaukee residents in need during a Sound the Alarm home fire safety event that will take place on Saturday, May 4.

"We know having working smoke alarms can cut the risk of fire fatalities by half. That's why we are committed to ensuring homes in Milwaukee have working smoke alarms," said Mark Thomas, CEO and Regional Executive for the Red Cross of Wisconsin.

"The Red Cross is teaming up with our community partners to help ensure Milwaukee residents, especially those most vulnerable, have these lifesaving devices.

Residents who need assistance can register at redcross.org/Wlsmokealarms for a 20-minute home fire safety visit between 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 4.

Volunteers will also share information on the causes of home fires, how to prevent them, what to do if a fire starts, and how to create an escape plan.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Those who want to give back in Milwaukee can sign up at redcross.org/Wisconsin to volunteer during the Saturday, May 4 Sound the Alarm



event. No prior experience is needed — training will be provided for installing smoke alarms and sharing fire safety information.

Can't join the event? You can also help by donating to the Red Cross at redcross.org/donate/home-fire-campaign to help people prepare for, respond to and recover from home fires.

MILWAUKEE EVENT PART OF NATIONAL CAMPAIGN

Local Sound the Alarm events like this one in Milwaukee are a critical part of the national Red Cross Home Fire Campaign, which has helped save more than 2,000 lives since launching in October 2014.

Home fires account for most of the more than 60,000 disasters that the Red Cross responds to annually in across the country.

So far in 2024, Red Cross volunteers have helped over 757 people affected by about 179 home fires across Wisconsin and the western Upper Peninsula of Michigan, by providing emergency lodging, financial assistance for urgent needs like food and clothing, and one-on-one recovery support for navigating next steps and connecting with community resources.

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Tim Scott

Nearby Nature Milwaukee hires Tim Scott as first executive director



Nearby Nature Milwaukee is proud to announce that it has hired its first executive director, Timothy Scott Sr.

With extensive experience in nonprofit, commercial, and governmental sectors in Milwaukee, Scott is excited to collaborate with other environmentally conscious organizations to advance Nearby Nature Milwaukee's mission of supporting and celebrating environmentalism in communities of color.

His background in business management, fund development, and community service, as well as his ability to identify growth opportunities, will help shape the

organization's strategic vision.

Scott's strong community connections, experience in mentoring youth in green jobs, and dedication to creating a greener, safer, and more equitable Milwaukee make him a valuable asset to the organization.

As a lifelong Milwaukeean with a history of community service, Scott's civic involvement includes serving on various boards and volunteering for organizations such as the Greater Milwaukee Foundation and the Salvation Army.

His commitment to building strategies for violence prevention aligns with Nearby Nature Milwaukee's goal of promoting a sustainable and inclusive environment for all residents.

Scott's hiring is a great opportunity for Nearby Nature, especially since the organization recently obtained its own nonprofit status after being under the

fiscal sponsorship of the Milwaukee Environmental Consortium for five years.

David Thomas, long-time project coordinator, says, "We are excited and gratified that Tim has accepted this challenge, to take what we've started and to build the organization to greater heights in coming years."

Nearby Nature Milwaukee, an environmental equity initiative formed in 2017, aims to address the lack of access to green spaces for African American residents in the neglected Lincoln Creek Greenway on Milwaukee's northwest side, as well as the 30th Street Corridor.

In particular, the group focuses on a 6-mile stretch of Lincoln Creek from Havenwoods State Forest to Lincoln Park, where the creek joins the Milwaukee River.

Through various activities such as biking, hiking,

padding, and service events, Nearby Nature encourages community members to enjoy the physical and mental health benefits of nature while educating them on climate and water-related issues.

Additionally, Nearby Nature engages in stewardship and prairie restoration activities along Lincoln Creek near N. 35th and W. Congress streets, participates in cleanups through the Milwaukee Riverkeeper Adopt-a-River program, collaborates with the Lincoln Creek Workgroup to plan improvements for the Lincoln Creek Greenway, and co-sponsors the annual African American Environmental Pioneer Awards to recognize individuals for their environmental efforts.

For further inquiries, Scott can be reached via email at timsScott@nearbynaturemke.org. Nearby Nature's office is located at the Adams Garden Park building, 1836 W. Fond du Lac Ave, Milwaukee, 53205.

'LaundryCares' Foundation, North Shore Bank, Quick Wash and Milwaukee host free 'Laundry and Literacy Day' on April 30

North Shore Bank, LaundryCares Foundation and City of Milwaukee's Office of Early Childhood Initiatives today announced the collaborative initiative to address the early childhood literacy gap in the Milwaukee community with the creation and opening of a brand-new "Read, Play, Learn" space at northwest Milwaukee laundromat, Quick Wash, located at 7903 W. Capitol Drive.

On Tuesday, April 30, residents of Milwaukee are invited to attend a "Free Laundry and Literacy Day" event from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Quick Wash Laundromat where they will enjoy complimentary laundry services, engaging early financial literacy activities for children and adults, refreshments and door prizes. There is no limitation on the amount of clothing and linens that can be brought in for free washing and drying during the 3 - 5 p.m. timeframe.

Throughout the afternoon, children can participate in reading and early financial literacy activities in the new

"Read, Play, Learn Space" that is outfitted with a lounge space and 50 new and culturally affirming books, meant to create a welcoming atmosphere where families can relax and learn while spending their time at the laundromat. The books are encouraged to be taken home for continued learning and will be continuously replenished. Additionally, the LaundryCares Foundation will provide attendees with access to a free digital library through a grant with BookSmart-World Reader.

To meet the needs of the community, books will be bilingual and through the partnership with North Shore Bank, more than 25% of the books will cover financial literacy to help young children start successful spending, saving and sharing practices from a young age.

To lend ongoing literacy support, the partners have established a monthly "Summer Series of Literacy Days" where the community is wel-

come to attend onsite programming, with events covering a range of topics, including financial literacy. The "Summer Literacy Days" will be held on Wednesdays, June 12, July 17, and August 14 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Quick Wash Laundromat. Light refreshments and complimentary drying services will be offered.

"As a community bank with a branch next door to Quick Wash, these are the neighbors that we aim to support day in and day out. It was a natural fit for us to join the laundromat, LaundryCares and the City of Milwaukee in this partnership to make learning more accessible for all, a mission of our bank as well," said Jay McKenna, president and CEO of North Shore Bank. "We can't wait to support and grow the future of the community with these much-needed learning essentials."

LaundryCares created this program with the goal of enriching communities around the country through

programming that address the unmet needs of laundry customers and brings together public, private and philanthropic collaboration.

Dan Naumann, executive vice president of LaundryCares Foundation and a Milwaukee resident says, "This partnership with Quick Wash and North Shore Bank is an exemplar for us and provides targeted, curated books that match community needs, interests and wants and helps build critical school readiness skills. With the generosity and vision of North Shore Bank, we are creating a special emphasis on early math and financial literacy skills so all of Milwaukee's children can have Mighty Good Moments."

In addition to the books, giant SideWalk Math Pattern decals have been installed onsite for continued and accessible interactive early math learning, a goal of the City of Milwaukee's Office of Early Childhood Initiatives.

"Our young children will have a

brighter future because of caring partners who are promoting learning. We know early childhood development takes place in all kinds of settings, so opening special opportunities to more of Milwaukee's children is great for them, their families, and the entire city," said Dea Wright, director of the Office of Childhood Initiatives for the City of Milwaukee.

Family Read, Play & Learn spaces, established in select laundromats nationwide, provide child-friendly and

comfortable learning environments that promote school readiness—an essential need often unmet in historically marginalized communities.

These impactful programs are made possible through the joint efforts of local partners who join forces to create the Laundry Literacy Coalition, focused on supporting early language development in young children. For more information about the LaundryCares Foundation and its initiatives, please visit www.laundrycares.org.

Milwaukee County Office of Equity Launches New Awards Program

Invitation to Nominate Those Who Are Creating Opportunities and Access for All to Thrive

The Milwaukee County Office of Equity invites the community to nominate a business, organization, or individual for the Milwaukee County Health Equity Champion Award.

The award program shines a light on those leading the way to health and racial equity, serving as role models of how to reduce disparities in quality, access, and outcomes to make Milwaukee County the healthiest county in Wisconsin. The application is available at county.milwaukee.gov/equity and is due Friday, May 3.

The award program is tied to the fifth anniversary of Milwaukee County declaring racism as a public health crisis.

The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors made this declaration on May 19, 2019, becoming the first jurisdiction in the nation to do so. Since then, the County has taken an all-hands approach to realizing its vision that by achieving racial equity, Milwaukee is the healthiest county in Wisconsin.

Learn more about the Milwaukee County Health Equity Champions Awards and nominate a program, colleague, or community partner today.

Milwaukee Record—an independently owned and operated arts and entertainment publication founded by journalists Matt Wild and Tyler Maas in 2014—celebrated its 10th anniversary on April 7, 2024. That day was also declared to be "Milwaukee Record Day" throughout the city, thanks to an official Proclamation issued by Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson.

Milwaukee Record is using its decade milestone as a way to bring renewed attention to its body of work—that's rooted in music, culture, and "gentle sarcasm"—and as the basis of introducing some new creations that will keep the business growing for years to come.

"The Year Of Milwaukee Record" features a partnership with Anodyne Coffee Roasters on a co-created Milwaukee Record Blend.

"There's also a specialty Milwaukee Record brandy made by Great Lakes Distillery that's due to hit shelves in October, and a 10th anniversary concert coming to Vivarium before year's end (more info TBA).

Those events and releases help to bolster Milwaukee Record's already abundant offsite reach that includes monthly movie screenings at Avalon Theater, the long-running Milwaukee Record Halftime Show concert series, the widely popular N/A Day "Dry January" beverage festivals in both Milwaukee and Madison, its annual Roast Of Milwaukee comedy showcase, the Casserole Call charity hot dish bake off, the Milwaukee Record Stage at Bay View Bash, and a steady presence at many of the region's festivals.



Milwaukee Record celebrates 10 years of "music, culture, gentle sarcasm"

Publication acknowledges milestone with special releases and events

"Live events and affiliated local products have gradually become major parts of Milwaukee Record's identity," says co-founder and co-editor Tyler Maas.

"It's been amazing to be able to reach new people in a variety of fun ways by creating unique, original in-person experiences that add to the fabric of the community and give more opportunities to area artists and retailers in the process."

While Milwaukee Record anticipates it will produce more than 60 events over the course of this year, its written work remains paramount. The site will post its 11,000th article this spring.

Since day one, the publication

has remained a steadfast champion of all things Milwaukee through its coverage of music, arts, dining, and a wide variety of other local points of interest.

Milwaukee has come a long way since 2014, and Milwaukee Record has documented that ongoing transformation while serving as a local archive, a regional resource, and a trusted (and, at times, unconventional) news outlet for an ever-changing city on the rise.

"Tyler and I, along with a talented cast of contributors, have spent the last 10 years filling the digital pages of Milwaukee Record with a heady and sometimes confounding mix of news, coverage,

commentary, and crucial minute-by-minute recaps of celebrity vodka signings, all scored to the beat of Milwaukee music," says co-founder and co-editor Matt Wild.

"For the next 10 years, we intend to simply do more: more music, more coverage, more writers, more viewpoints, and hopefully more vodka signings."

As Milwaukee Record enters its second decade of existence, it's not looking to take over the world or shake up the media landscape.

The site just wants to keep building on what it's been doing for 10 years (and counting): highlighting and celebrating all things Milwaukee.



THE MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY JOURNAL

Published twice weekly. Digitally: Monday MKE and Wednesday Video-Vantage. Plus uploaded print papers Thursday and Friday, weekly. NEW news: Four days a week....Your Milwaukee Source.

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Bucks and Pacers head for indy having won one game each in the opening series of the NBA playoffs!

As of this writing, the Milwaukee Bucks are in Indianapolis to take on the Pacers in the third and fourth game of the best of seven opening series of the NBA playoffs. The Bucks beat the Pacers in game one at the

Fiserv Forum 109 to 94 before a sold out crowd. Damian Lillard led all scorers with 35 points while Giannis sat on the bench with a sprained left calf. Bobby Portis Jr., Khris Middleton, and Brook

Lopez played complete games, consistently draining three point shots to keep the Bucks ahead for the entire game. But game two on Tuesday night was a different story as the Pacers came out the gate on fire as their

forward, Pascal Siakam, was looked as if he could not miss a shot and was the high point scorer with 37 points as the Pacers out-paced the Bucks 125 to 108. Game three will be Friday, April 26, with a string time of 4:30pm CST.

Bucks Coach Doc Rivers could not say when star Bucks forward, Giannis Antetokounmpo will be able to play in the series. Rivers will have to play everyone on the bench to keep up with this young Pacers team. For their

part the Bucks have to slow the pace of the Pacers down if they're to have a change in game three, let alone the rest of the series. **—Photo by Kim Robinson**



The Rev. Cecil Williams, who turned San Francisco's Glide Church into a refuge for many, has died!

Article courtesy of the Associated Press Via thegrio.com

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The Rev. Cecil Williams, who with his late wife turned Glide Church in San Francisco into a world-renowned haven for people suffering from poverty and homelessness and living on the margins, has died. He was 94. Williams and his wife, Janice Marikitami, who passed away in 2021, appeared in Will Smith's film "The Pursuit of Happyness," which was based on the life of a homeless father and son who once found help

at Glide Memorial Church. Williams died Monday at his home in San Francisco surrounded by friends and family, Glide said in a statement. A cause of death was not given. An advocate for civil rights and social justice, Williams' work drew the attention of celebrities, politicians, and businessmen, including Warren Buffett, who for years helped Williams raise money for the church through an auction for a private lunch with the hedge fund manager.

and a gospel choir. The church eventually amassed 10,000 members, becoming the largest Methodist church in Northern California and one of the largest in the nation. They also put the church's sermons into action and through the Glide Foundation started several community outreach programs that have served thousands of San Franciscans for over six decades. "He led re-entry programs for those leaving prison, provided clothing and housing for people in need, and helped thousands of people access healthcare," Vice President Kamala Harris said in a statement, adding that Williams was "a dear friend" and "a beacon of light and love." Williams never shied from political and social issues, ranging from gay rights to compassion for home-

less people and those addicted to drugs. "He led with compassion and wisdom, always putting the people first and never relenting in his pursuit of justice and equality," San Francisco Mayor London Breed said in a statement. "His kindness brought people together and his vision changed our City and the world." Williams retired as the church's pastor in 2000. But he remained the Minister of Liberation and CEO of the GLIDE Foundation until last year when he stepped down. "The essence of GLIDE begins and ends with love. ... It is time for me to evolve, it is time for GLIDE to continue to evolve. We have gone through so much and come out strong, ready to keep building," Williams wrote in a letter to parishioners.

Diverging Paths on Tax Policy: Biden's Transparency vs. Trump's Secrecy

(continued from page 7)

more to the national debt than any presidential term in history."

Biden's Tax Proposals
Biden aims to strike a balance, proposing to maintain most of the existing tax breaks while implementing tax increases for the wealthy and corporations. His budget proposal this year targets an additional \$4.9 trillion in revenues over the next decade, with plans to trim forecasted deficits by \$3.2 trillion.

Biden has also introduced a controversial "billionaire minimum income tax," targeting households with a net worth of at least \$100 million. This proposal directly challenges billionaires like Trump, who has been reluctant to release his personal tax information.

Comparative Financial Disclosures
While Biden has publicly released over two decades of his tax returns, Trump's reluctance to do so has drawn criticism. Recent disclosures have revealed that Trump paid only about 4% of his income in federal taxes in 2018, a rate significantly lower than Biden's nearly 24%.

Expert Opinions and Economic Analysis
Economists remain divided on the effectiveness of Trump's tax policies. While Trump argues his tax cuts will spur economic growth, many experts disagree. A recent Oxford Economics analysis suggested that continuing Trump's policies could slow growth and increase inflation.

Political Implications
The tax policies proposed by Biden and Trump reflect the broader ideological differences between the Democratic and Republican parties. Biden's plan aims to make the tax system fairer by increasing taxes on the wealthy and corporations while providing relief to working families.

In contrast, the Republican Study Committee's extreme budget proposal prioritizes tax cuts for the wealthy and big corporations. This approach has raised concerns about potential tax increases for middle-class families and cuts to essential social programs like Medicaid and Social Security.

A Taxing Election
Biden advocates for a fairer tax system that invests in the middle class and addresses income inequality, while Trump's policies prioritize tax cuts for the wealthy. The upcoming decisions on tax policy will shape the economic landscape and define the future trajectory of the United States, and voters will decide just how much America's wealthy and not-so-well-to-do are taxed.

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