



# Eastside Golf

Gets \$3.4M in Funding from Partnership with the PGA and Elysian Park Ventures

Money. A5

# Michigan Chronicle

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## Could the Days of Lead in Drinking Water Soon Be Over?

The Biden administration proposed a rule change that would require all remaining lead pipes to be removed over the next decade.

By Willy Blackmore  
(Originally published in Word In Black)

In April, it will have been ten years since the administration of former Michigan Governor Rick Snyder changed the water source for Flint, Michigan, from the Detroit Water and Sewage Department to the Flint River.

The cost-cutting measure was devastating for the city, which not only ended up with high levels of lead in its drinking water after the corrosive river flows leached it out of pipes but also suffered from an outbreak of Legionnaires disease.

In the decade since, the city has been working to replace all of the lead pipes in its municipal water system, with a court-



ordered deadline to finish this work by August. But despite seemingly endless digging and \$97 million spent on the undertaking, there are still lead pipes remaining — and many residents in the predominantly Black city still do not trust the water system.

The drama of the water crisis has made Flint a kind of byword not only for lead contamination in drinking water but also for the disregard governments have for Black Americans writ large.

But even at its worst, Flint's lead contamination was not as high as the levels found in some other American cities, including Baltimore, Chicago, and Newark, New Jersey — all of which have significant Black populations as well. But now, the problem of lead may finally be addressed not only in Flint but also across the U.S., as the Biden Administration's Environmental Protection Agency has proposed a far stronger Lead and Copper Rule that would require all lead service lines to be removed from water systems across the country within the next decade.

There is no safe amount of lead to consume in water (despite the current federal limit of 15 parts per billion, which the EPA wants to reduce to 10 parts as part of this rule change), and children are particularly susceptible to the effects of lead poisoning because their bodies and brains are still developing. As such, removing the nearly nine million lead service lines across the county (at an estimated cost of \$30 billion, about half of which would be covered by funds from the 2021 infrastructure bill) would be an overall boon for public health. But it would have a disproportionately positive effect on Black communities.

Not only do lead pipes tend to be found in older, urban areas where more Black people tend to live (see: Flint, Baltimore, et al.), but the long-term problems caused by lead poisoning are compounded by so-

See **LEAD REMOVAL** page **A2**



## Warren Evans Spearheads Initiative to Put NARCAN Vending Machines Across Wayne County

By Lynzee Mychael  
MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

Amidst the staggering opioid epidemic gripping the United States, Wayne County, Michigan, has taken a pioneering step in the battle against opioid overdoses. With nearly 47,000 lives lost annually to opioid-related overdoses nationwide, the crisis has reached unprecedented levels. Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans, in collaboration with Wayne State University, has unveiled a groundbreaking initiative to deploy 100 Naloxone, a medicine that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose (NARCAN™), vending machines across the county—a move set to make history as the single largest municipal investment in Naloxone access in the U.S.

### The National Opioid Epidemic: A Looming Crisis

Over the past two decades, Michigan has witnessed a staggering rise in opioid-related incidents, encompassing hospitalizations and drug overdose deaths. The numbers paint a concerning picture, revealing the severity of the opioid crisis gripping the state. This crisis has deeply impacted thousands of Michiganders, affecting families, friends, and communities at large. Recognized as one of the most significant public health crises of our time, urgent and comprehensive responses are imperative.

Between 2001 and 2014, Michigan experienced an alarming 242% increase in opioid-related hospitalizations, surging from 99,317 in 2001 to a staggering 240,518 in 2014. This surge underscores the growing impact of opioids on individuals' health and well-being. In 2017, Michigan faced one of the highest rates of opioid overdoses in the country.

Since 2013, overdose deaths in the county have surged by 200%, with Fentanyl being a major contributor. In 2021, 902 overdose deaths were recorded, representing nearly one-third of Michigan's total overdose deaths, with 4 out of 5 attributed to Fentanyl.

In 2018, there were 2,599 deaths from drug overdoses, surpassing the number of fatalities from car crashes. Opioid overdoses claimed the lives of 2,036 individuals in the same year, while synthetic narcotic overdoses, including Fentanyl, accounted for 1,911 deaths in 2020. Additionally, 447 lives were lost to heroin overdoses in 2020.

Over the course of five years, the opioid overdose fatality rate among African Americans in Michigan experienced a twofold increase. Mental health issues, neighborhood environments, and systemic inequalities have all been linked to the misuse of the drug in the Black community. A 2022 report done

by the Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission stated, "Black people face increased rates of risk factors, including experiences of racism, higher rates of unemployment and financial and food insecurity, disparities in other aspects of health, and limited access to care, all of which result in an increased burden of mental illness in Black communities."

Since the launch of Michigan's Narcan Direct Portal in 2020, the state has recorded an impressive 6,600 overdose reversals. This portal facilitates the distribution of opioid overdose reversal medication, Narcan, at no charge to community groups. The success of this program underscores Michigan's dedication to saving lives and preventing opioid-related fatalities and sets the tone for the new initiative announced in January 2024.

### Wayne County's Proactive Response:

Executive Evans, recognizing the urgency of the situation, declared, "Fentanyl is a poison that's taking lives and destroying families. That's why my administration is taking the lead on fighting this deadly crisis." The innovative initiative involves placing 100 Naloxone vending machines throughout Wayne County, each equipped with kits containing two doses of the medication and instructions for safe and effective use.

In collaboration with Wayne State University's Center for Behavioral Health & Justice, the initiative strategically places vending machines based on data analysis of opioid overdose hotspots. The kits will be entirely free, removing financial barriers to access. Wayne County aims to have at least one vending machine in each of its 43 communities, encompassing 34 cities and nine townships.

This bold move by Wayne County is part of a broader effort to tackle the opioid epidemic comprehensively. The initiative aligns with the national trend, where there has been a 22% decrease in opioid prescriptions from 2015 to 2018. Moreover, there has been a 323% increase in physicians and pharmacists registered to use the Michigan Automated Prescription System (MAPS) to check patient history from 2017 to 2019, with a subsequent 434% increase in the frequency of checking patient prescription history since 2016.

### Empowering Communities to Make a Difference:

Director of Wayne County's Department of Health, Human and Veterans Services, Dr. Abdul El-Sayed, emphasized breaking the stigma surrounding opioid use, urging everyone in Wayne County to be a hero by saving lives. "Too often, people suffering substance use disorder die because they lack the means of

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## WHAT'S INSIDE



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Detroit Brand's Winter 2024 Collection Shines in Italy  
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## North End Youth Improvement Council Continues A Legacy of Empowering Young People

By Donald James  
SENIOR WRITER

Following the 1967 Detroit Riot called the nation's worst urban uprising at the time, many organizations across the city formed to address issues facing Black youth. However, in the early 1960s – many years before the riot and long before the city of Detroit and other local organizations created and sponsored summer and year-round programs for inner-city youth, the late Deloris Bennett launched the North End Youth Improvement Council (NEYIC), a nonprofit organization to meet the needs and concerns of the growing population of Black youth living in the North End.

The North End, according to the City of Detroit officials, is a community bordered by East Grand Boulevard to the south, Woodland Street at the border of Highland Park to the north, I-75 to the east, and Woodward Avenue to the west.

Under Bennett's leadership, the organization provided Black youth with an "engendering sense of value, hope, self-esteem, self-worth, and self-respect." NEYIC offered young people viable activities and programs, including mentoring, tutoring, recreational endeavors, drug awareness initiatives, peaceful methods of conflict resolution, employment opportunities, and



North End-Dolores Bennett Founder of North End Youth Improvement Council

out-of-neighborhood field trips and experiences.

While the current winter weather has its cold grip on Detroit, NEYIC is busy planning spring programming for youth, followed by summer activities and initiatives. The overwhelming number of the organization's activities will be held at Delores Bennett Park, located at 444 Smith St., bordered by Brush, Bethune, and Beaubien Streets. The North End Park, complete with a playground and recreation area, is owned

by the city and was named after Bennett in 1977 while she was living.

When the park opened near Bennett's home, the community and children's advocate reportedly showed up daily. She was known for confronting anyone who didn't follow her park's rules of no drugs allowed, no cursing, no littering, and refraining from starting trouble.

"She was fearless and talked directly to people who were out of line at the park because she wanted a safe space for youth and the community to gather," said longtime NEYIC board member Dennis Talbert, a youth member of the organization decades ago. "It didn't matter how tough they were because Mrs. Bennett didn't back down, and people respected her and her rules when they came to Delores Bennett Park."

Talbert said the park remains an intricate part of what NEYIC does in its quest to empower youth in the community through education and employment initiatives.

"We will be running educational enhancement activities and programs in the spring," Talbert said. "This summer, we will provide scheduled activities, workshops, and programs that will assist in youth development. We hope to employ young people to actually run many of the

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HIRAM E. JACKSON Publisher | JEREMY ALLEN Executive Editor

CONTACT US 1452 Randolph • Detroit, MI 48226 • (313) 963-8100 • e-mail: newsdesk@michronicle.com

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## Dexter Scott King, Youngest Son of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Passes Away at 62

By Ebony JJ Curry  
SENIOR REPORTER

Dexter Scott King, youngest son of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., has passed away at 62 following a battle with prostate cancer. His death was confirmed by both his family and the King Center.

Leah Weber King, Dexter's wife since 2013, shared in a statement that Dexter passed away peacefully in his sleep at their home in Malibu. She paid tribute to his enduring strength and resilience, noting, "He gave it everything and battled this terrible disease until the end. He faced this hurdle with bravery and might."

Martin Luther King III, Dexter's brother, expressed his profound grief in a statement. "My brother, Dexter Scott King, has passed away. The sudden shock is devastating. There are hardly words to express this moment of sorrow. We ask for prayers and thoughts for our family, particularly for Leah Weber, during this time," he conveyed.

Dexter King's life was marked by his dedication to preserving and furthering his father's legacy. A graduate of Morehouse College, he took on significant roles within the King family's endeavors. He served as chair-



man of the King Center, an institution dedicated to the advancement of the civil rights movement and the legacy of his father. Additionally, he was the president of the King Estate, overseeing the management and preservation of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s intellectual property and legacy.

Beyond his administrative roles, Dexter was known for his advocacy and public speaking, often addressing issues of justice, equality, and nonviolence, principles that his father famously championed.

Dexter King's life, though deeply connected to his father's legacy, was also marked by his own personal

journey and challenges. He navigated the complexities of living in the shadow of a global icon while striving to make his unique impact on the world.

The King family has shared that Dexter had no children. His passing represents not just a personal loss for the family but also a symbolic one for the wider community that continues to draw inspiration from the King legacy.

This story is still developing. Further details and updates will be provided as they become available. Dexter Scott King's life and contributions to his father's legacy will be remembered and honored as the world reflects on his passing.

## Lead Removal

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cioeconomic issues — like, say, living in poverty. So, if you had two Flint teenagers who were exposed to the same levels of lead when they were young kids, one Black and one white — and one more likely to be poor than the other—the Black kid would be more likely to suffer from, say, long term cognitive issues.

According to the EPA, the lead removal undertaking would generate between \$9.8 billion and \$34.8 billion in economic benefits annually due in large part to the reduction in cognitive issues and other health problems caused by lead exposure.

The Biden Administration is well aware that lead exposure does not affect all Americans equally. In the announcement of the new rule proposal, the EPA noted, "Due to decades of inequitable infrastructure development and underinvestment, lead exposure disproportionately affects low-income communities and communities of color."

The proposal (which is just over halfway through a 60-day public comment period and may be further revised before being finalized) is yet another example of Biden's EPA being uniquely active on environmental issues that disproportionately affect Black and brown Americans.

The one major loophole in the rule, as it is currently written, however, is that it only applies to service lines — that is, the utility-owned pipes that distribute water to

houses and other private residences. While those pipes do comprise the bulk of public water, they can be connected to privately owned lead pipes that connect the utility line to a house. But aside from those last bits of lead, the proposed rule could result in the impressive feat of getting nearly all of the heavy metal out of our drinking water systems.

## NARCAN Vending Machine

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stopping an overdose in its tracks," said El-Sayed. "Naloxone (NARCAN™) is a life-saving medication, one that should be available everywhere, including in first aid kits — if we're serious about fighting this crisis." The initiative strives to empower communities to actively combat Fentanyl poisoning, making Naloxone an essential component of standard first aid kits.

Wayne County's historic investment in Naloxone vending machines stands as a beacon of hope in the face of the opioid epidemic. By strategically placing these machines, offering free access to Naloxone, and empowering communities to take an active role, Wayne County is setting a precedent for comprehensive and impactful responses to this devastating crisis. In the broader context of the national opioid epidemic, this initiative signals a collective effort to save lives and address the multifaceted challenges posed by opioid use disorders.

## NEYIC

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programs at the park."

While the organization facilitates mentoring, tutoring, educational, and youth employment initiatives, NEYIC's signature endeavor — the brainchild of Bennett — is its Adopt-A-Child for Christmas Program, held annually in December for the last 63 years. The festive event's goal is to ensure that underserved children — 12 and under — receive Christmas gifts such as toys, bikes, warm clothing, and other needed items. The gifts are presented by caring individuals, corporations, and other nonprofits and philanthropic organizations.

NEYIC's Christmas event began in 1960 at Bennett's North End home. As the yearly event grew in stature, Bennett moved it to the nearby City of Detroit Considine Recreation Center (now Considine Little Rock Family Life Center) before expanding downtown to Cobo Hall (TCF Center, now Huntington Place). For the last few years, Adopt-A-Child for Christmas has been held at the historic Eastern Market. According to Talbert, the annual event has served more than 50,000 children since its inception 63 years ago, a credit to Bennett's vision and fortitude.

Born Delores Caudle in Clarksville, Tennessee, in 1932, her family moved to De-

troit, where she later married Eugene Bennett in the 1950s. When the couple moved to the North End, the community was predominantly White and Jewish, but Black people were moving in at a steady pace. Bennett saw the need to structure activities to empower the budding Black youth population in the North End. In addition, gang activities in the area intensified.

Talbert said Bennett regularly invited rival gangs to her home and facilitated interactive talks to broker peace and harmony. Her home was also a neighborhood haven for North End children in need of mentoring, educational empowerment, and interpersonal skills enhancement.

Bennett died on Feb. 6, 2017, at the age of 84.

Deloris Bennett's daughter, Mary Bennett-King, an IT professional, is now NEYIC's executive director and dedicated to keeping her mother's passion, work, and legacy alive in the North End.

"She was an outstanding mother and community activist," Bennett-King told the Michigan Chronicle in a previous interview. "It's an honor to continue her work and build the North End Youth Improvement Council's legacy of ensuring that children and families in the North End are safe and prospering."

For more information about upcoming NEYIC activities and events, log on to [www.NEYIC.org](http://www.NEYIC.org).

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# You Have Permission to Love Again

By Dr. Portia Lockett  
CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST

Losing someone through death, divorce, or the end of a long-term relationship can be emotionally challenging and draining. Take it from me, you will survive and eventually thrive again!



Dr. Portia Lockett

Here are some steps to help you position yourself to be open to love once more:

- 1. Allow yourself to grieve:** Grief is a natural response to loss, and it's important to give yourself permission to grieve fully. This process can be different for everyone, and it's essential not to rush it. Seek support from friends, family, spiritual leader, or a therapist if needed.
- 2. Self-reflection:** Take time to reflect on the past relationship and what you've learned from it. Keep a journal of what you've learned from each relationship so that you don't repeat the same pattern. Consider what you want in a future partner and what qualities are essential to you. Only focus on what you want and NOT on what you don't want. This self-awareness can help you make better choices in the future.
- 3. Self-care:** Focus on self-care and personal growth. Engage in activities that bring you joy, whether it's pursuing a hobby, reading professional development books, meditating, exercising, or traveling. Taking care of your spiritual, physical, and emotional well-being is crucial during this period. Fall in love with yourself first!
- 4. Seek professional help if necessary:** If you're struggling to cope with the loss and it's affecting your ability to move forward, consider seeking therapy or counseling. A trained therapist or a grief recovery method specialist can provide guidance and support to help you process your emotions and develop coping strategies.
- 5. Build a support network:** Surround yourself with supportive friends and family who can offer emotional support and companionship. Talking to others who have experienced similar losses can also be instrumental.
- 6. Set realistic expectations:** Understand that opening up to love again takes time, and it's normal to have doubts and fears. Be patient with yourself and don't rush into a new relationship before you're ready.
- 7. Learn from the past:** Analyze what went wrong in your previous relationship but avoid blaming yourself or your ex-partner. Use these insights to grow and make better choices in the future.
- 8. Practice forgiveness:** Forgiveness can be a powerful tool for healing. Forgiving your ex-partner and yourself can help release negative emotions and make room for new experiences.

See **LOVE AGAIN** Page **A-4**

# Roots.



## Legacy in Action: Celebrating Dr. King's Dream at King High School's 15th Annual Legacy March

By Ebony JJ Curry  
SENIOR REPORTER

Despite a frosty Martin Luther King Day in Detroit, the corridors of Martin Luther King Jr. High School were abuzz, a stark contrast to the biting cold outside. The day was more than a battle against the winter chill; it was a vibrant testament to the legacy of Dr. King right here in our beloved Detroit Public Schools Community District.

At King High, the 15th annual Legacy March program took on a new form, showcasing the resilience and adaptability of our community. With bitter cold temperatures, the usual outdoor march was shelved, but the spirit of the day remained undimmed. Instead, the halls were alive with music, the rhythms of song and dance, and the dynamic energy of the school band, creating an electric atmosphere that warmed every heart in attendance.

"This program was founded by our former principal, Dr. Debra Jenkins as a way to commemorate the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.," shared Damien Perry, the principal of King High School. "Highlighting all of the great things that he's done. Every year we've attempted to emulate the national program."

This event wasn't just a school gathering; it was a microcosm of Detroit. Elected officials, community activists, members of Black Greek organizations, Detroit Masons, Eastern Stars, and the students themselves came together, each person a living embodiment of Dr. King's enduring dream. Their presence and participation made a powerful statement about our community's commitment to keeping Dr. King's legacy vibrant and relevant.

ment to keeping Dr. King's legacy vibrant and relevant.

Speakers took to the podium to emphasize the critical role of community service in upholding and advancing the principles of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Among these voices was Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, who underscored the importance of voting as a fundamental means of serving the community. She particularly highlighted its significance in Michigan, and more specifically in Detroit, a city with the highest population of Black people in the nation.

"King's work in the sixties was really focused on assuring everyone has access to the power of the vote," shared Benson. "The Voting Rights Act was the cornerstone of the movement that he and so many others fought for, so we want to honor that by continuing to expand voting rights here in Michigan...we're now able to implement at least nine days of early voting in every community in this state for this year. You don't just have to vote on election day anymore, you can vote any time, any day nine days prior to the election."

Secretary Benson's message resonated deeply as she connected the act of voting with the broader struggle for civil rights and social justice. By casting a ballot, Detroiters not only exercise their hard-won rights but also shape the future of their community and continue the legacy of those who fought for this essential democratic privilege. Her words served as a powerful reminder of how each vote contributes to the ongoing quest for equality and representation, echoing the very ideals Dr. King championed.

The absence of the traditional outdoor

march was keenly felt due to the biting cold. However, the spirit of celebration and remembrance was far from diminished. Instead, the hallways and spaces of King High School transformed into a vibrant stage, where the choir, dance team, and poetry students brought Dr. King's legacy to life in a different, yet equally impactful, way.

The choir's melodies reverberated through the halls, each song a tribute to Dr. King's dream, their harmonious voices a testament to the unity and solidarity he envisioned. The dance team's performance, full of energy and passion, told stories of resilience and hope, echoing the civil rights movement's journey. The poetry students, with their powerful words, reminded everyone present of Dr. King's eloquent speeches, drawing parallels between the struggles of the past and the challenges still faced today.

Though the community initially gathered in anticipation of the annual march, they quickly adapted, embracing the opportunity to celebrate within the walls of King High School. This adaptability and resilience reflected the very essence of what Dr. King stood for. The performances by the students weren't just acts of entertainment; they were profound expressions of the ongoing struggle for justice and equality. In this way, King High School's 15th annual Legacy March wasn't just a commemorative event; it was a reaffirmation of the community's commitment to continue Dr. King's work, proving that even without the march, his legacy marches on in the hearts and actions of the students and community members alike.

See **LEGACY MARCH** Page **A-4**

## Native Detroit, U.S. Navy Commander Dr. Gale K. Goodlow II Embarks on Humanitarian Missions in the Indo-Pacific Region

By Donald James  
SENIOR WRITER, REAL TIMES MEDIA

Palau, a sovereign nation in the Indo-Pacific Region of the world, is approximately 8,265 miles from Detroit. Yet, native Detroit and U.S. Navy Commander Dr. Gale K. Goodlow II have made a significant medical impact on the people in the region. As a member of the elite Pacific Partnership 24-1 (PP24-1) team, Goodlow, a pediatric anesthesiologist, is part of a larger multinational group dedicated to addressing humanitarian conditions and disaster responses in the Republic of Palau to ensure a more secure Indo-Pacific.

Goodlow's work with PP24-1 involves collaborations with host and partner nations to enhance regional interoperability and disaster response capabilities, increase regional security stability, and foster new and enduring friendships. Amid the multinational humanitarian mission in December 2023 - the 19th iteration - and continuing into 2024, the collaborative initiatives have brought together specialty personnel from the United States Navy, Army, and Coast Guard in partnership with Japan's Maritime, Ground, and Air Self-Defense Forces,

the Royal Australian Navy, and the German Navy, all working together in a massive humanitarian operation to help the Republic of Palau and neighboring countries and territories.

"A foundational goal of Pacific Partnership is working side-by-side with local partners to build medical and host-nation capacity," said Capt. Brian Quin, mission commander of the Pacific Partnership 24-1. "We did just that here in Palau, and I am proud of the work Palauans and our mission team accomplished in a short amount of time."

According to Navy press information, the PP24-1's Indo-Pacific endeavors accounted for more than 132 medical engagements. The Pacific Partnership medical team, including Goodlow, conducted dozens of surgeries aboard the United States Naval Ship Mercy (the third largest hospital ship in the world) and at the Belau National Hospital and Pohnpei State Hospital.

Goodlow's desire to help people began while growing up on Detroit's west side near Wyoming Avenue. According to Goodlow's younger brother, Guye Goodlow, Gale wanted to become a doctor after watching



the many episodes of The Cosby Show starring Bill Cosby. The sitcom featured the television character Dr. Cliff Huxtable, who served in the U.S. Navy before attending medical school to become an OB/GYN. The show aired from 1984 to 1992 when Gale Goodlow was a young and impressionable kid.

"Seeing Dr. Huxtable on television as a Black man and a medical doctor inspired Gale," Guye told the Michigan Chronicle.

"He saw himself one day becoming a medical doctor - and he made it happen."

Guye said his brother, as a kid growing up, understood the academic requirements necessary to become a medical doctor and worked diligently to achieve excellent grades in school in pursuit of his dream. However, while Gale was a stellar student who excelled in science, math, and other

See **DR. GALE K. GOODLOW II** Page **A-4**

# Dr. Kale K. Goodlow II

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subjects, Guye said his brother was also an outstanding football player at Renaissance High School, where he played several offensive and defensive positions.

“On the back of my brother’s varsity high school jacket, the wording on it was ‘Universal Soldier’ because that’s what he was on the Renaissance football team,” said Guye. “You could put him in any position, and he would deliver.”

After graduating from Renaissance in 2001, Gale Goodlow, according to Guye, attended the Naval Academy Prep School in Rhode Island before attending the storied United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. He played football at the Academy for two years before graduating in 2005. Goodlow subsequently attended the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine in Bethesda, Maryland, where he received his Doctor of Medicine degree (M.D.) in 2009. The school is a federal health professions academy.

Goodlow completed his residency at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Washington, D.C., specializing in anesthesiology. He was also a Fellow attached to various pediatric anesthesiology research projects at the University of Michigan. Goodlow, a U.S. Navy Commander and doctor, is a board-certified anesthesiologist licensed to practice in Maryland, California, Montana, Michigan, and wherever the U.S. Navy sends him.

Guye credits his father, Kirk Goodlow, a minister and the first Black principal of Hamtramck High School, for raising three sons: Gale, Guye, and Gigg, who all graduated from Renaissance. Their mother, said Guye, died in 1988.

Guye, a former defensive tackle at Missouri State and Wayne State, holds an MBA and is CEO of the Detroit-based nonprofit Renaissance City Chargers Athletic Association, which manages the Renaissance City Chargers Amateur Football Team. The youngest of the Goodlow brothers, Gigg Goodlow, lives on the East Coast and is an educator with a Juris Doctor (J.D.) from Rutgers University Law School.

“Our father wasn’t having any nonsense from his three sons,” Guye said with a laugh. “He kept

us focused on excelling in life. Our father, who has a Ph.D. from Wayne State, raised us to be men of God, value education, excel at sports, and help and empower other people. We all grew up as members of what was once Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church on Woodward Ave. in Detroit.”

While Guye is not privy to knowing every military move made by his brother overseas through the Navy, he knows that wherever Gale is assigned in conjunction with the Pacific Partnership 24-1 initiative or other military-related assignments, he will provide the very best medical help to individuals in need, whether it’s in the Indo-Pacific Region or beyond.

“Gale is an all-American guy and wants to serve his country in the Navy by utilizing his medical training and skills,” said Guye. “He married his high school sweetheart, and they have two boys. I’m just so proud of him...he has been my role model all my life. If I didn’t have such an outstanding brother who positively influenced me when I was growing up, I don’t know where I would be today.”

# Love Again

From page A-3

**9. Be open to new experiences:** When you’re ready, try to socialize and meet new people, join clubs, attend events, take a solo trip, or use dating apps if you feel comfortable doing so. Remember that not every encounter has to lead to a new relationship.

**10. Take it slow:** When you do start dating again, take things at your own pace. There’s no rush to commit to a new relationship, and it’s important to ensure you’re emotionally ready before becoming deeply involved with someone new. Remember to breathe, relax, and let it flow.

Remember that healing and opening up to love again is a highly personal journey, and there is no set timeline for when it should happen. Trust your instincts, listen to your heart, and prioritize your well-being throughout the process. Watch for the flags that are either yellow, green or red. Eventually, when you’re emotionally prepared, you’ll be more open to the possibility of finding love once again.

*Enjoy the journey and have fun!*  
*Dr. Portia Lockett*

# Legacy March

From page A-3

The 15th annual Legacy March at King High School, themed “Transforming the Dream,” served as a poignant reminder of the enduring legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., from alumni to current students and from dedicated faculty to hopeful parents. “The idea is how does a dream translate and reflect in 2024, how does it reflect in you and me and how it reflects in our community,” said Perry.

Alumni returning to the halls that once shaped their own dreams stood as living testaments to the school’s rich legacy of empowerment and social justice. Current students, energized by the performances and speeches, were reminded of the torch they now carry – a torch that lights the path toward a future where equality and justice are not just ideals but tangible realities. For parents and faculty, the event reinforced their pivotal roles in nurturing and guiding these young minds, helping to shape a generation that is not only aware of their history but also committed to shaping a better world. “Transforming the Dream” thus transcended being a mere theme; it encapsulated a collective commitment of the King High community, past, present, and future, to uphold and advance the values that Dr. King so passionately fought for.

“Every Dr. King Day we will be here as we recognize such an amazing person,” said Angelique Peterson-Mayberry, DPSCD President. “As a King alumni, I know that what matters today is that we are all in this space; together. And this is part of the dream being more realized than we realize because as we continue to progress in a space, we all commit to making sure that we will not sit in spaces where we don’t have voice and we don’t have presence – instead we take up space and we fill it with our deep knowing that we are powerful.”

Both Peterson-Mayberry and Perry exemplify the profound impact that alumni can have when they embody the ideals they were taught. As former students of King High, they serve as a living testament to the school’s ability to mold

leaders in the mold of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. himself. Their journey from students in the same hallways to Detroit Public Schools leaders is a powerful reflection of the values instilled in them during their formative years at King High, illustrating how the legacy of Dr. King can be actualized in the lives of those who walk in his footsteps.

In a nation where nearly 116 schools bear the name of Martin Luther King Jr., each serves as a crucial reminder of his fight for justice and equality. Yet, Detroit’s King High holds a unique place in this narrative. Situated in the heart of DPSCD, it’s more than a namesake. It’s a hub of community activism, a place where Dr. King’s ideals are not only remembered but actively pursued. The decision to adapt the MLK Day march into an indoor celebration speaks volumes about our community’s determination to honor this day, regardless of external challenges.

The role of a school like King High in upholding the name of a civil rights icon like Martin Luther King Jr. is significant. It’s not just about honoring history; it’s a daily commitment to embody the principles he stood for. Here, students are taught not just academic subjects but the value of dreaming big, standing for justice, and being changemakers in their communities. In essence, King High doesn’t just teach history; it inspires a new generation to make history.

The message from King High on this MLK Day was clear and strong: this is not a day off, but a day on. A day to engage, serve, and carry forward the work that Dr. King started. Despite the cold weather, nothing could quell the fiery commitment within King High School to keep Dr. King’s dream alive and thriving.

As for King High School principal Perry, his goal goes further beyond a day, “When it is time to move onto the next chapter, I want our kids to take the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King out of this building and into every city our students may live in as post-graduates of King High School. I want them to take that legacy, idea and dream and live it throughout those communities representing what it truly means to be a Crusader and to truly represent Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.”

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# JANUARY 2024

**Dear Detroit Voter,**

A Presidential Primary is scheduled for Tuesday, February 27, 2024, to nominate candidates for the office of President of the United States.

A 2022 approved constitutional amendment gives electors the right to vote early and in person. During early voting, you are issued a ballot and can insert it directly into a tabulator at an early voting site.

Below is a list of Detroit’s Early Vote Centers. Each center will be opened beginning February 17th through February 25th, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. You may visit any location.

## FEBRUARY 27, 2024 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

### Early Vote Centers and Drop Box Locations

**Days of Operation: February 17-25 | Hours 9am - 5pm**

### Early Vote Centers and Drop Box Locations in Red

### Drop Box Location Only in Blue

<b>Crowell Community Center</b> 16630 Lahser Rd. 48219 City Council District (1)	<b>Palmer Park Community Center</b> 1121 Merrill Plaisance St. 48203 City Council District (2)	<b>Considine Center</b> 8904 Woodward Ave. 48202 City Council District (5)	<b>Clark Park</b> 1130 Clark Ave 48209 City Council District (6)
<b>Rouge Park Golf Course</b> 11701 Burt Rd. 48228 City Council District (1)	<b>Perfecting Church</b> 7616 E. Nevada St. 48234 City Council District (3)	<b>Greater Christ Baptist Church</b> 3544 Iroquois Ave. 48214 City Council District (5)	<b>City Clerk Office</b> 2 Woodward Ave. Ste 106 48226 City Council District (6)
<b>North Rosedale Park Community House</b> 18445 Scarsdale 48223 City Council District (1)	<b>Faith Temple</b> 19000 Conant 48234 City Council District (3)	<b>Horatio Williams Foundation</b> 1010 Antietam Ave. 48207 City Council District (5)	<b>Kemeny Rec Center</b> 2260 S. Fort St. 48217 City Council District (6)
<b>Greater Grace Temple</b> 23500 W. Seven Mile 48219 City Council District (1)	<b>Greater St. Paul</b> 15325 Gratiot 48205 City Council District (3)	<b>Renaissance Baptist Church</b> 1045 E. Grand Blvd. 48207 City Council District (5)	<b>Davison Service Yard</b> 8221 W. Davison 48238 City Council District (7)
<b>WCCCD Northwest</b> 8200 W. Outer Dr. 48219 City Council District (1)	<b>Farwell Recreation Center</b> 2711 E. Outer Dr. 48234 City Council District (3)	<b>Butzel Family Rec Center</b> 7737 Kercheval 48214 City Council District (5)	<b>William S. Ford Memorial Church</b> 16400 W. Warren Ave. 48228 City Council District (7)
<b>Liberty Temple Baptist Church</b> 17188 Greenfield Rd. 48235 City Council District (2)	<b>Heilmann Community Center</b> 19601 Crusade 48205 City Council District (3)	<b>Department Of Elections</b> 2978 W. Grand Blvd. 48202 City Council District (5)	<b>Edison Library</b> 18400 Joy Rd. 48228 City Council District (7)
<b>Greater Emmanuel Institutional COGIC</b> 19190 Schaefer Hwy. 48235 City Council District (2)	<b>Balduck Park</b> 5271 Canyon 48236 City Council District (4)	<b>Detroit Pistons Performance Center</b> 690 Amsterdam St. 48202 City Council District (6)	<b>Adam Butzel Recreation Complex</b> 10500 Lyndon Street 48238 City Council District (7)
<b>Tindal Activities Center</b> 10301 W Seven Mile Rd. 48221 City Council District (2)	<b>DWSD Eastside Customer Care Center</b> 13303 E. McNichols Rd. 48205 City Council District (4)	<b>WCCCD Downtown Campus</b> 1001 W. Fort St. 48226 City Council District (6)	<b>Christ Temple Baptist Church</b> 10628 Plymouth Rd. 48204 City Council District (7)
<b>Northwest Activities Center</b> 18100 Meyers Rd. 48235 City Council District (2)	<b>WCCCD Eastern Campus</b> 5901 Conner 48213 City Council District (4)	<b>Unity Baptist Church</b> 7500 Tireman Ave. 48204 City Council District (6)	

For more information, you may contact the Department of Elections at (313) 876-0190 or visit our website at [www.detroitmi.gov/departments/elections](http://www.detroitmi.gov/departments/elections)  
JANICE M. WINFREY, DETROIT CITY CLERK

## Rocket Community Fund Gives \$600k to City of Detroit for Home Repairs Along Joe Louis Greenway

By Ebony JJ Curry  
SENIOR REPORTER

Some cities just don't get the love they deserve, and Detroit is one of them. Detroit is an amazing city, and it's doing a lot of dynamic things, especially from an urban planning perspective. Intricate things that many Detroiters aren't even privy to. Take the Dequindre Cut, for example, a former railroad line that was once destitute and abandoned is now a below-grade walking and biking trail. The Dequindre Cut stands as a unique feature, offering more than just a path from Jefferson Avenue to Gratiot and further to Mack Avenue with its recent extension. This below-grade trail links communities with vital areas like Eastern Market and the East Riverfront District. It's not just a connector but a canvas, showcasing the city's cultural pulse through vibrant graffiti art by renowned artists. This space is a celebration of Detroit's social and cultural heritage, where the preservation of urban art forms a visual narrative of the city's ongoing story, which is a part of a larger project, the Joe Louis Greenway.

The Joe Louis Greenway project is a 27.5-mile-long greenway that connects a ton of Detroit neighborhoods and a few different surrounding cities. The greenway mission is to connect parks and neighborhoods across the city, allowing residents to travel safely from McNichols to the riverfront—all without a car—through a combination of new trails, on-street protected bike lanes, and links to existing trails like the Dequindre Cut and the RiverWalk. The Greenway includes the cities of Dearborn, Hamtramck, and Highland Park, linking them to larger trail systems that cross the entire state as well as pass through five council districts. This project is certainly a big deal that drastically helps connect people to neighborhoods, parks, jobs, schools, and essentially the essence of Detroit. Though this project is set to seemingly push the overall evolution of the city, the question remains: what are the tangible benefits that are surrounding residents will receive in real-time? What are the immediate impacts?

"I'm a Detroit girl! I'm born-and raised and now raising my own family right here in the City of Detroit so everything I do is about the impact to residents and so as I lead the Joe Louis Greenway Partnership this is what drives me," shared Leona Medley, Executive Director of JLG Partnership. "So, right now, I'm focused on ensuring residents are informed, are aware, and are engaged and we do that every day by being out in the neighborhood, out in the community, talking to residents, taking phone calls, attending meetings and working with the community to build programming and engagement that's meaningful."

Making sure that residents are at the forefront of this project, the Joe Louis Greenway Partnership stands at the helm. The JLG Partnership stands as a crucial bridge, linking the communities it serves directly to the heart of the Joe Louis Greenway project. This Partnership isn't just about maintaining a physical pathway; it's about forging a deep, lasting connection with the residents of these neighborhoods. The Partnership's role is to work hand in hand with the people living alongside the Greenway, involving them in the creation and upkeep of engaging public spaces that are more than just visually appealing.

This commitment stretches far beyond the mere look of these spaces. It's about ensuring they are functional, environmentally sustainable, and, most importantly, beneficial to the community's overall well-being. The aim is to make a positive, lasting impact on the health

See **JOE LOUIS GREENWAY** Page **A-6**



## Eastside Golf Gets \$3.4M in Funding from Partnership with the PGA and Elysian Park Ventures

By Jeremy Allen

Black people on a golf course isn't a new thing, but the way Black men and women are revolutionizing their impact on the game is.

On Jan. 18, 2024, Eastside Golf – the Black-owned lifestyle golf brand dedicated to driving change and creating a more culturally relevant point of view of the game – announced that it closed a \$3.4 million in a seed round of fundraising.

The investment was led by EP Golf Ventures, an investment partnership between the PGA of America and Elysian Park Ventures, the private investment arm affiliated with the Los Angeles Dodgers ownership group. The money will go toward accelerating Eastside Golf's growth as it launches new product lines,

and it will support the company's efforts to use fashion to change the cultural conversation around golf and create new entry points to the game for young Black athletes and emerging professionals.

The Eastside Golf brand was founded in 2019 by former Morehouse College golf teammates Olajuwon Ajanaku and PGA of America Golf Professional Earl Cooper. Cooper has significant ties to Detroit, as he served as an assistant golf professional at the Detroit Golf Club from 2012 to 2014, shortly after graduating from Morehouse. The two owners have also come back to Detroit to work with youth and golf professionals during the Rocket Mortgage Classic at the Detroit Golf Club.

As a brand, Eastside Golf has transformed public perceptions of golf through

its apparel line, which has been embraced by golf professionals, celebrities, fashion influencers, and professional athletes alike. Their notoriety has allowed them to strike deals with Nike and the Jordan Brand, among others, which has led to 600% year-over-year growth for the young company in the last two years. They've grown from two to 16 employees and increased revenue from \$100,000 in year one to \$4 million in 2023.

"Earl and Olajuwon have done what no one has been able to do before – create a brand rooted in golf that resonates outside of the sport to bring in new audiences to the game. Not only are they masters at capturing the cultural zeitgeist, but they have also developed an innovative business which we believe has the capacity for immense growth," said Jay Adya, managing partner of Elysian Park Ventures and EP Golf Ventures.

This year, Eastside Golf will launch new lines, including wholesale and women's apparel, and host new golf events, doubling the number of pop-ups in major markets, including its second-annual Eastside Golf Invitational during New York Fashion Week. Eastside Golf will debut its highly anticipated Spring Forward collection at its first-ever booth at this year's PGA Show in Orlando, Fla., from January 24-26.

"Earl and Olajuwan have a unique combination of creativity, deep roots in golf and an ability to organically tap into the cultural conversation," said PGA of America CEO Seth Waugh. "The PGA of America is deeply committed to investing in the evolution of the modern golf culture and inviting and cultivating a broader participation in golf. We look forward to supporting Eastside Golf's continued efforts to make the game more welcoming to everyone who wants to play or be involved."

Eastside Golf will support five Community Golf Days in Detroit, Atlanta, Augusta, Ga., Jacksonville, Fla., and Memphis, Tenn. this year as a way to bring new players to their local courses to play,

See **EASTSIDE GOLF** Page **A-6**

## Detroit Regional Chamber and General Motors Empower Communities with \$600K in NeighborHUB Grants

By Lynzee Mychael  
MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

### Investing in Change, Creating a Legacy

The Detroit Regional Chamber and General Motors have unveiled the sixth cohort of recipients for the NeighborHUB grant program. Announced at the Detroit Regional Chamber's Detroit Policy Conference on Jan. 11, the program will provide a total of \$600,000 in grants and additional consulting and support services to 10 nonprofits and 20 small businesses in Detroit, Hamtramck, and Highland Park.

### Catalyzing Positive Change: The NeighborHUB Impact

With the announcement of the 2024 cohort, the NeighborHUB program has now supported 94 organizations, providing nearly \$2.3 million in cash funding and consulting services. Recipients are chosen from their proposals to create and enhance neighborhood spaces through collaboration, emphasizing the transformative power of community-driven initiatives.

The NeighborHUB program, an annual collaboration between the Chamber and GM, stands as a testament to the power of residents and entrepreneurs to shape their neighborhoods through physical presence and innovative programming. The competitive

selection process involved an advisory committee comprising Chamber and GM staff, past grantees, nonprofit founders, executives, and small business resource providers.

Devon O'Reilly, the Chamber's Senior Director of Community Engagement and Leadership Development, expressed pride in the collaboration with General Motors, emphasizing the program's goal of empowering residents, small businesses, and nonprofits to instigate positive change in their neighborhoods through accessible grant funding.

O'Reilly stated, "The 2024 class continues the tradition of having diverse representatives and projects that properly represent neighborhoods throughout Detroit and surrounding areas communities. This commitment to diversity ensures that the initiatives funded are reflective of the rich tapestry of the region."

Genna Young, Senior Manager of News Relations at GM, echoed the sentiment, stating, "For the past six years, the NeighborHUB program has inspired local nonprofits and small businesses to think big and enact change in their communities." She expressed excitement about supporting and celebrating the sixth cohort of community leaders and entrepreneurs, anticipating another year of remarkable progress in neighborhoods.

See **NEIGHBORHUB GRANTS** Page **A-6**



### Selected Organizations

#### NONPROFITS

360 Detroit, Inc.  
Atlantic Impact  
Black Legacy Advancement Coalition  
Detroit Horse Power  
Detroit Phoenix Center  
Detroit Zen Center  
Mexicantown CDC  
Nurturing Our Seeds  
Teachers Supporting Teachers Everywhere  
We Are Culture

#### SMALL BUSINESSES

Audio Engineers of Detroit  
Bouncing Around the Motor City  
Brooks Management Group  
Crummy's Cake Supply & Studio  
Detroit Rosa  
Goodness Gracious Inc.  
Happy Bounce  
Ice Cream Detroit  
IVY Kitchen + Cocktails  
Just for Kidz II  
Little Stinkers Childcare  
No Fear Café  
Plum Health Direct Primary Care  
Puente Cultural Integration, LLC  
Sanctuary Farms  
Sandy's Land LLC  
The Detroit Pizza Bar  
The Squeeze Station  
The W Buchanan Group  
Welcome Home Yoga & Wellness



# Joe Louis Greenway

From page A-5

and quality of life for those who live near the Greenway, not just for today but for future generations.

“Benefits that residents have already begun to see are the cleanup of sites that have been hubs for illegal dumping for decades, the removal of thousands of tires opening of a beautiful well-designed trail-head right in their backyard not to mention a well-lit, safe place to go for respite a leisurely walk, or just to enjoy nature,” said Medley.

The Joe Louis Greenway Partnership is dedicated to fostering vibrant, inclusive communities. This isn't done in isolation but through innovative planning and strong partnerships with Greenway residents and stakeholders. By doing this, the Partnership hopes to ignite economic vitality within these areas, empower the residents with a sense of ownership and pride, and encourage active community engagement.

At the core of this initiative is a commitment to amplify the voices of those who call these neighborhoods home, integrating their needs and aspirations into the broader narrative of neighborhood development. This approach ensures that the Joe Louis Greenway isn't just a landmark but a living, evolving part of the community, reflecting and responding to the people it serves.

“It is common knowledge that resources to address critical home repairs are in high demand across the city of Detroit,” said Laura Grannemann, Executive Director of Rocket Community Fund. “Some estimate the cost to be up to \$20 Billion to address home repair needs city-wide. Unfortunately, it is too common to come across a home where even fully leveraged home repair resources are not enough to create a safe living environment, resulting in a ‘walk-away.’”

The recent announcement of a \$603,400.00 grant from the Rocket Community Fund to the City of Detroit’s Housing & Revitalization Department raises both hope and skepticism among Detroiters. This grant, designated for the Joe Louis Greenway (JLG) Home Repair House Swap Program, aims to renovate three Detroit Land Bank Authority (DLBA) homes in the Midwest/Barton McFarland neighborhoods adjacent to the JLG. With no matching funds required from the city, this initiative appears to be a straightforward boon for the community. However, questions linger about its true intent and impact.

The program’s objective is clear: renovate vacant DLBA homes to provide temporary housing for families whose own homes, previously considered unsalvageable, are being rehabilitated. After renovations, these families can choose between returning to their original homes or claiming ownership of the refurbished DLBA property. But beneath this surface, doubts emerge. Is this initiative genuinely aimed at benefiting the residents, offering them better living conditions? Or is it a strategic move by the city to polish its image, particularly as it gears up to host thousands for the NFL draft?

“There is an opportunity to strengthen the home repair ecosystem by piloting a Home Repair House Swap. This program will renovate vacant DLBA homes, providing a place for families to move while their previously deemed ‘walk-away’ home is renovated in the same neighborhood,”

Grannemann said. “Homeowners then have a choice between returning to their renovated home or assuming ownership of the DLBA home. This first phase, fully funded by the Rocket Community Fund, will prep three homes for home repair house swaps.”

The decision still awaits approval from the city council. Although it appeared on Tuesday’s agenda, it remains stalled in committee, with the next council meeting set to determine its fate. The Housing & Revitalization Department’s request for authorization to accept this grant, approved by the Office of Budget, adds another layer to the narrative.

“With the input of residents, the JLG is going to be an amazing public space that re-connects neighborhoods. A measure of success for a project like this must be the tangible positive impact to residents,” Medley said. “This investment in housing from the Rocket Community Fund is just that. It’s vital to the JLGPs mission that neighborhoods adjacent to the JLG where families have lived for multiple generations see their block revitalized with a laser focus on preventing displacement.”

The proposition suggests that, upon approval, the Department’s Director or Head should execute the grant agreement for Detroit, and the Budget Director should be authorized to manage the funds under Appropriation # 21364 JILG-Home Repair House Swap.

Despite the concerns of the requested funding for the JLG Home Repair House Swap, when it comes to the JLG Partnership, their commitment to Detroit residents remains steadfast, “This is so important, especially as many of our communities where our most vulnerable residents our seniors through the pandemic experienced extreme social isolation the JLG provides a place right in their neighborhood that they can access,” Medley expressed. “No matter what side of the city you live on, I want the JLG to be a space that we all are proud of and that tells the story of not just our losses but, more importantly, of our victories.”

# Eastside Golf

From page A-5

connect with others, and experience the fun of the game at no cost.

“Our goal in creating Eastside Golf is to show people that you can be yourself and you don’t need to look a certain way to play the game. The future of the game exists outside of the golf industry. We’ve been able to tap into the culture to change the perception of the sport and grow the game for future generations,” said Cooper. “As a PGA of America Golf Professional, I’m especially honored to have the support of EP Golf Ventures as we enter into our next chapter.”

The company’s deep commitment to philanthropy doesn’t end with free golf days. The founders of Eastside Golf have donated \$150,000 to support HBCU golf, emphasizing inclusivity and authenticity. The founders envision creating brick-and-mortar locations and expanding internationally, and with their focus on inclusivity and innovative design, they’re poised to lead the way in making golf more accessible and appealing to a more diverse audience.

# NeighborHUB Grants

From page A-5

## Building Strong Foundations for Neighborhoods

The NeighborHUB program extends beyond financial aid, aiming to create activity and funding in neighborhoods beyond Downtown Detroit. Recognizing small businesses and nonprofits as essential foundations for neighborhoods, the program supports them, particularly in traditionally underinvested small business corridors.

In addition to grant funding, Michigan Community Resources and BUILD Institute will offer workshops, classes, and mentorship to grantees. The 2024 cohort boasts

nearly 78% minority-owned or led entities, with 71% being women-owned or led, underlining the program’s commitment to inclusivity and recognizing the vital role of entrepreneurs in community revitalization.

The 2024 cohort is set to embark on a transformative journey, empowered by the support of the Detroit Regional Chamber and General Motors. To learn more about the inspiring winners and their projects, visit Detroit Regional Chamber’s NeighborHUB page. Together, these grants are not just monetary contributions; they are catalysts for positive change, driving the resurgence of neighborhoods and communities in Southeast Michigan.



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Area Agency on Aging 1-B



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La June Montgomery Tabron, President and CEO of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

# National Day of Racial Healing

## Was a Time to Curb the Ugly Tide of Racism

By Donald James  
SENIOR WRITER

Bigotry, discrimination, and systemic racism can be found in every sector of the United States of America, for which it stands. For Black, Brown, Indigenous, and other non-White people, bigotry, racial discrimination, and pure racism are like a mammoth downhill speeding train devoid of brakes. However, as a nation, more can be done to bring the out-of-control train of racism to a screeching halt.

On Tuesday, January 16, 2024, the National Day of Racial Healing once again presented nationwide opportunities for Americans and organizations to engage in structured activities, events, dialogues, and other strategies geared to address, slow down, and stop the racism that America has birthed and raised for centuries. The National Day of Racial Healing is part of a larger movement called the U.S. Movement for Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation (TRHT).

Created in 2017 by Battle Creek, Mich-

igan-based W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the National Day of Racial Healing and its U.S. Movement for Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation has been observed annually the day after the country celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s National holiday.

"Racial healing is a process that restores individuals and communities to wholeness, repairs the damage caused by racism, and transforms societal structures into ones that affirm the value of all people," said La June Montgomery Tabron, a Black woman, and President and CEO of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. "We must reckon with the unignorable and longstanding realities of racial injustice, forged over generations."

Since the inception of the National Day of Racial Healing eight years ago, hundreds of diverse communities, organizations, and businesses have recognized the importance of creating platforms and facilitating ways to engage in meaningful racial healing dialogues, strategies, activities, and events.

The American Library Association (ALA), the world's oldest and largest library organization, has been proactive in sponsoring

events to help racial healing. On January 16, ALA hosted an hour-long virtual panel discussion comprised of ALA national committee members, racial justice advocates, and other stakeholders of equity to explore, identify, and discuss perspectives and strategies needed to combat the divisiveness of racism by creating viable paths to racial healing and equality in America.

"Libraries, archives, and other institutions have a special role to play in convening conversations, celebrating community diversity, hosting programs and exhibits, and partnering with communities to contribute to racial healing and racial equity," an ALA executive said in a statement.

Many stakeholders and others believe that media outlets and platforms should play a more significant role in the National Day of Racial Healing and beyond. Television programming, newspaper and magazine features, and online and social media engagement offer endless opportunities to reach the masses.

"We are pleased to collaborate with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation in the effort to

recognize the racism that plagues our society," said Yvette Miley, senior vice president of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, NBCUniversal News Group. "It's a journalist's responsibility to not only inform our audiences but also elevate the resources and tools available to help solve these issues."

While racism in America didn't start overnight, it won't end overnight. Yet, there are comprehensive efforts afoot, such as the National Day of Racial Healing and its U.S. Movement for Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation, to facilitate change.

"The collective outcry to change a long-broken status quo, the ongoing racialized violence across the country, and the continued disproportionate struggle with the impact of COVID highlight the need for racial healing and renewing our commitment to racial equity, together," said Tabron, the first African American to serve as President and CEO in the 94-year history of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

To learn more about the National Day of Racial Healing, visit [dayofracialhealing.org](http://dayofracialhealing.org).

# Ways to Combat Winter Restlessness

By Dr. Kristyn Gregory  
Medical Director Of Behavioral Health,  
Blue Cross Blue Shield Of Michigan

Once the daytime temperatures slip below freezing and snow is in the forecast, there is no denying winter has settled in. Snow can make a beautiful blanket on lawns and trees. But months of cold air, icy sidewalks and snowy roads often put a limit on outdoor activities. It's hard for some people to feel enthusiastic about going outdoors for a little exercise if they must deal with freezing wind chills and worry about slipping on an icy sidewalk. It's during this time that winter restlessness can creep in.

Feeling restless or out of sorts in the winter is more common than one might think. These "winter blues" emotions can affect 10% to 20% of the population during the season, according to experts. The impacts can be physical as well as mental. Some signs of winter restlessness include:

- A drop in serotonin levels, leading to feelings of sadness
- Interruption of the regular sleep-wake cycle, leading to poor sleep
- Oversleeping
- Overeating
- Craving carbohydrates
- Loss of interest in things one normally likes to do

For people experiencing winter restlessness, there are several ways to push out of this rut. Most of these strategies include making deliberate choices to plan physical activities that benefit their bodies, and strengthening social connections that offer a mental boost.

**Spend time outside**

This may not be people's go-to activity in the winter months, but the benefits of bundling up and heading outdoors are worth it. Studies have linked time spent walking outside to lower levels of stress. The same goes for hearing the sounds of nature, like bird songs and running water in creeks and streams. It can lead to a de-



crease in blood pressure. People who spend time outdoors also have reduced activity in the parts of their brain responsible for negative emotions.

**Pick a winter sport, or two**

Winter in Michigan is no time to hibernate. Even if the weather limits the amount of time spent outside, there are plenty of sports to try this winter. And trying any of these with friends makes it a fun, social activity that's good for mental health.

**Fat-tire biking:** Biking on a cushion of snow is a winter experience that's easy to try. There are dozens of trails that allow fat-tire bikes across Michigan, and these bikes can also be rented in most cities and at winter resorts. For winter bike trails, check here.

**Snowshoeing:** A favorite among the silent sport crowd, this is as easy as walking. Strap winter boots into a pair of wide snowshoes, pick up a pair of poles for

better balance, and head out on any trail for an adventure.

**Cross-country skiing:** Flying down a ski slope may be lots of fun, but don't discount the beauty of gliding along a cross-country ski trail in winter. It's great exercise and gives people time to enjoy being in nature.

As with any type of physical activity, talk with a health care provider before trying something new.

**Layer up**

Prepare for the cold temperatures mentally and physically by layering enough clothing and outerwear to stay cozy. Don't skimp on this part. Cold hands and feet don't make people feel enthusiastic about embracing winter.

Wear synthetic materials for layering, which will trap heat better than cotton. Have an insulating middle layer topped by a water and wind-proof jacket.

Wear hats and mittens. Prone to cold hands? Use glove liners, too, or tuck heat packets into gloves or mittens.

Warm socks are a must, as well as boots with good traction. If it's icy, use slip-on traction cleats for safety.

**Try something new indoors**

If winter sports are out of reach, consider trying a new hobby or different experience indoors. Meet up with an old friend to test out a new restaurant, or try a different type of workout class together. Explore a new museum, or take a day trip to a nearby town to check out the local sites. Couples could plan a date night to try a new indoor sport together.

**Declutter and organize**

Individuals could also choose to make the most of the indoor time by taking on the task of decluttering and organizing areas of their homes. Removing clutter and improving organization can help reduce stress and make everyday life simpler.

Winter can be one of the most difficult seasons to manage, as the weather can limit our mobility in ways that can affect our mental health. By consciously making an effort to try new things and get outdoors safely, individuals can help themselves to feel less restless and more satisfied.

*Kristyn Gregory, D.O., is a medical director of behavioral health at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. For more health news and information, visit [MIBluesPerspectives.com](http://MIBluesPerspectives.com).*



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# Radio Icon Donnie Simpson Takes Final Bow After 55 Years in Broadcasting

An icon, trailblazer, and media legend, Simpson held a commanding presence in Washington, D.C.

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA

Legendary radio and media personality Donnie Simpson signed off, possibly for the last time, on Friday, January 12. The illustrious career that spanned an incredible 55 years ended with a heartfelt message from the iconic DJ himself.

“Today’s the day,” Simpson posted on X. “Please make sure you tune into my last day ... Let’s celebrate together as I thank each & every one of you for your support during my 55 years in radio.”

An icon, trailblazer, and media legend, Simpson held a commanding presence in Washington, D.C.

He gained international fame as a television and movie personality. From his early beginnings in Detroit to his stints at WKYS and WMMJ in Washington, he etched his name in the history of radio.

A true industry pioneer, Simpson was one of America’s first video jockeys, hosting iconic shows like BET’s “Video Soul.” His achievements reached new heights when, in 1988, Billboard Magazine recognized him as both the best top radio personality and top program director in the nation.



Donnie Simpson

After retiring in 2010, Simpson triumphantly returned to the airwaves and television screens in 2015. As the afternoon drive host on WMMJ, Majic 102.3 in Washington D.C., and the face of TV-One’s “Donnie After Dark,” he continued to captivate audiences with his signature style.

As noted in his bio, Simpson started in Detroit as the “Love Bug.” Simpson’s passion for music, nurtured in his mother’s record shop, laid the groundwork for an extraordinary career. He connected with the biggest stars globally throughout the years, showcasing his talent and versatility.

Simpson’s television career soared as he anchored sports and hosted “Video Soul” on BET. In 2021, he announced the revival of “Video Soul.”

Honored with inductions into the BET Walk of Fame (2004) and the R&B Hall of Fame of Class of 2020, Simpson’s legacy is cemented in the annals of entertainment history.

“I’m going to miss doing the show, Donnie’s going to miss it, too, but he’s got some great things planned,” wrote News4 anchor Tony Perkins, who joined “The Donnie Simpson Show” in the 3 p.m. slot six years ago. “We loved doing the show. Thank you for all the responses on social media.”



# K Walker Goes Global: Detroit Brand’s Winter 2024 Collection Shines in Italy

By Lynzee Mychael  
MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

Breaking into the international fashion scene stands as a significant milestone for any designer or brand, and K Walker, the Detroit-based fashion powerhouse, recently achieved its second appearance on the global stage by showcasing its Winter 2024 collection at Pitti Uomo in Italy. In an exclusive interview with Michigan Chronicle, Ken Walker, the visionary founder and fashion designer, shared insights into the inspiration behind the collection, the influence of Detroit on the brand’s aesthetic, and the strategic importance of showcasing in Italy for global expansion.

## International Reception and Unique Branding:

K Walker’s participation in the prestigious Pitti Uomo showcase is a result of collaborative efforts, partnerships, and strategic planning done right here in Detroit. Collaborations with organizations like the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and Design Corp have paved the way for Michigan-based brands to explore international markets. Walker’s journey to Pitti Uomo not only marks a personal achievement but also stands as a testament to the potential of local designers and entrepreneurs. Walker stated, “It’s more than a display of style; it’s a testament to my vision and commitment to make KWC a globally renowned fashion house. Thanks to the opportunity from the MEDC and Design Core Detroit to showcase at Pitti Uomo, we are not just unveiling fashion; we are sharing a narrative of sophistication and innovation.”

After presenting the brand in June, Walker received an abundance of positive feedback, solidifying his readiness for a triumphant return to the international runway. Enthusiastic responses revolved around the distinctive touch added to the T-shirts, setting K Walker apart in the T-shirt manufacturing realm. The excitement reached new heights when observers noticed a standout feature – an embossed logo resembling a badge. This unexpected detail elevated K Walker’s appeal and und

derscored its commitment to innovative design.

On the international stage, audiences at fashion shows have developed a keen appreciation for K Walker’s inventive branding approach. The most recent showcase not only featured a broader range of designs but also highlighted different aesthetics, maintaining a distinctive edge that continues to resonate with a global audience.

K Walker was part of an interactive booth at Pitti Uomo alongside other Michigan-based fashion and accessory brands, collectively presenting as “Detroitissimi” (Detroit is here), signifying Detroit’s presence. This immersive experience introduces Italian audiences to the diverse styles emerging from Michigan, offering a unique insight into authentic Detroit and Michigan styles, breaking away from traditional presentations.

“In the Italian market, they’re not used to seeing people bring a broad lens into a city or a state, rather. We all could have had individual booths at this event, but we decided to provide an immersive experience. We’re presenting Michigan fashion, and we all have different product categories, but we’re all here in a booth together. It’s really immersive for any buyer or attendee, but also for them to know real authentic Detroit and Michigan style.”

## Color, Functionality, and Refinement:

The creation of K Walker’s Winter 2024 collection was sparked by the world of colors. Walker emphasized the pivotal role vibrance plays in making a statement and uplifting spirits. He expressed, “What we wear can really help keep us in a positive mood. So vibrance is the direction that I took, with this collection. Giving people a mix of color, different fabrics, and still incorporating elegance was important to this collection.”

The collection seamlessly weaves together utilitarian details, functional outerwear, and refined elements, exemplified by the introduction of velour polos featuring convenient zippers for both style and function. This fusion of color palettes, fabric diversity, and a commitment to ele

gance is a deliberate effort to present consumers with a distinctive and adaptable wardrobe that transcends conventional fashion boundaries, providing unique pieces for a versatile wardrobe.

## Detroit’s Influence on Aesthetic:

Deeply ingrained in the brand’s DNA, Detroit serves as a profound muse for K Walker’s aesthetic. Growing up in Detroit, Walker sees the city as a symbol of luxury, focusing not on labels but on how individuals piece together their looks. The brand emphasizes simplicity, allowing for bold choices in fabrics and colors while ensuring longevity in a wearer’s closet. The Detroit aesthetic values creativity and individuality, traits reflected in all of K Walker’s designs.

“I know people in Detroit like to piece things together,” said Walker. “We like to find different ways to wear one piece. We will Wear it with a different look, a different pair of shoes, or a different pair of pants. I always took that notion with any design. I always think, ‘how long can this stay in a closet?’. If they can only stay in a closet for a season or it’s too trendy, we don’t put it out into the world.”

K Walker’s second appearance at Pitti Uomo marks a significant step in the brand’s global journey. The Winter 2024 collection, inspired by color, functionality, and refinement, reflects the unique aesthetic influenced by Detroit. K Walker is set to make a lasting impression on the international stage, proving that success in the fashion industry is not limited by geographical boundaries.

K Walker encourages aspiring designers to be resourceful and leverage the opportunities available in their local communities. Dispelling the notion that success in the fashion industry requires relocation to fashion capitals like New York or LA. Walker emphasizes with the right focus and creativity, even a small pond like Detroit can be the launching pad for a globally impactful brand.

“You can be a David size brand and make a Goliath sized impact by just having focus and leveraging the resources that are right here in our city.”

# Michigan Science Center Aims for Top Spot in USA Today’s 10 Best Science Museum Contest

By Ebony JJ Curry  
SENIOR REPORTER

The Michigan Science Center (Mi-Sci), a vital educational and cultural resource in Detroit, is making headlines once again. It has been nominated for the prestigious title in USA Today’s 10 Best Readers’ Choice Awards as the top science museum. This nomination comes after Mi-Sci achieved second place in 2022 and third in 2023, showcasing its consistent excellence and growing reputation in the field of science and technology education.

The museum, a Smithsonian affiliate, has become a cornerstone of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) learning, particularly for inner-city children. It has provided countless opportunities for students to step outside their everyday environments and immerse themselves in the wonders of science. These experiences are invaluable, offering hands-on, interactive learning that extends far beyond traditional classroom settings. For many, field trips to Mi-Sci have opened doors to new perspectives and sparked a lifelong interest in science and technology.

Dr. Christian Greer, the esteemed President and CEO of Mi-



Sci, shared his enthusiasm about the museum’s role and its latest nomination. “It’s an honor to be recognized once again in USA Today’s prestigious 10Best Compe-

tition. Being consistently ranked among the top science museums nationally reflects our unwavering commitment to excellence in STEM engagement,” he said. Dr.

Greer also noted the museum’s significant impact on the local community, particularly on the youth. “Our fourth consecutive nomination is a testament to our

team’s hard work and the unique experiences we provide, especially to the children of Detroit.”

The 10 Best Readers’ Choice Awards highlight top travel destinations in various categories, including food, lodging, and travel gear. The selection of Mi-Sci for this year’s top science museum category was based on a panel of editors from USA TODAY, 10Best.com, and expert contributors. The public plays a crucial role in determining the winner, with voting open until Feb. 12 at 11:59 a.m. Eligible voters aged 18 and above can participate once a day until the contest ends.

As an integral part of Detroit’s educational landscape, the Michigan Science Center offers an array of engaging activities. It features over 220 interactive exhibits, the Toyota Engineering 4D Theater, live science demonstrations, and lab activities. These offerings have made Mi-Sci a beloved destination for families, educators, and children of all ages.

Support for the Michigan Science Center in this prestigious competition can be shown by voting at 10Best USA Today Best Science Museum 2024. For more information about the center and its impact on Michigan’s youth, visit Mi-Sci.org.





Miss  
Aj Williams

By Miss Aj Williams

**B**race yourselves! Aquarius season is upon us, ushering in a whirlwind of intellectual energy, progressive spirit, and rebellion against the ordinary. From January 20th to February 18th, the sun basks in this eccentric air sign, prompting us all to step out of our comfort zones, embrace individuality, and fight for a better future. So, grab your thinking caps and jump headfirst into the electrifying currents of Aquarius season!

What does Aquarius season hold?

This vibrant period ignites a fire under our feet, urging us to break free from outdated structures and rigid traditions. Expect a surge of revolutionary ideas, innovative breakthroughs, and a deep yearning for connection with like-minded souls. It's time to embrace your inner rebel, challenge the status quo, and champion causes that resonate with your humanitarian spirit.

Harness the Aquarian energy:

Unleash your inner visionary: Aquarius thrives on originality, so let your unique perspective shine through. Dive into creative projects, explore unconventional solutions, and don't be afraid to think outside the box. Your audacious ideas could just be the spark that ignites positive change.

Connect with your tribe: Aquarius values community and collaboration. Seek out groups that align with your values, engage in passionate debates, and embrace the power of collective action. Remember, we're stronger together!

Fight for a better tomorrow: Aquarius is a champion of social justice and human rights. Use your voice to speak up for the marginalized, fight for equality, and contribute to building a more sustainable and equitable future.

Embrace your eccentricities: Don't shy away from your uniqueness! Aquarius celebrates individuality, so flaunt your quirks and express your authentic self.

But the transformative energies of Aquarius season aren't alone this year. On January 20th, a cosmic heavyweight joins the party: Pluto, the planet of power, transformation, and rebirth. Pluto's entrance into Aquarius marks the beginning of a 20-year journey that will profoundly impact individuals and society as a whole.

What's in store? Expect seismic shifts in power structures, revolutionary movements gaining momentum, and a deep dive into the collective unconscious. Pluto's presence will also push us to confront hidden truths, shed outdated systems, and rebuild our communities from the ground up. It's a time for courage, resilience, and unwavering commitment to creating a world that aligns with our highest ideals.

Aquarius season, infused with the transformative power of Pluto, is not just a time to embrace your individuality. It's a call to action, a cosmic nudge to become active participants in shaping a better future for all. Let your voice be heard, join hands with your tribe, and step into your role as a changemaker. The world needs your unique spark to illuminate the path ahead.

## The Revolution Will Not Be Televised:



## Season and Pluto Bring the Cosmic Fireworks!

Here's how Aquarius Season will affect your sign:

**Aries (March 21 - April 19):** Aquarius season electrifies the spirit of adventurous Aries, inspiring them to channel their energy into groundbreaking ideas. Expect a surge of creativity and a desire to embark on bold new endeavors. Social connections will play a pivotal role, encouraging Aries to collaborate and foster innovative collaborations.

**Taurus (April 20 - May 20):** For Taurus, Aquarius season brings a breath of fresh air to their stable earthy energy. This period encourages Taurus individuals to embrace change, especially in their career and personal pursuits. Unconventional opportunities may arise, pushing Taurus to step out of their comfort zone and embrace a more progressive mindset.

**Gemini (May 21 - June 20):** Aquarius season sparks a mental revolution for Gemini, urging them to explore unconventional ideas and express their thoughts freely. The air sign synergy between Aquarius and Gemini fosters dynamic communication and networking. Expect social connections to flourish, providing Gemini with new perspectives and exciting intellectual exchanges.

**Cancer (June 21 - July 22):** As the cosmic waves of Aquarius wash over Cancer, emotions are illuminated and transformed. This season encourages Cancer individuals to embrace their emotional intelligence and initiate positive changes in their personal relationships. Open communication and innovative approaches to emotional well-being will be key for Cancer during this time.

**Leo (July 23 - August 22):** Aquarius season ignites the fiery spirit of Leo, encouraging them to shine in unique and unconventional ways. This period prompts Leos to explore their individuality, express their creativity boldly, and pursue passion projects. Social activism may also take center stage for Leo, aligning their energy with causes that resonate with their values.

**Virgo (August 23 - September 22):** For pragmatic Virgo, Aquarius season introduces a period of self-reflection and introspection. This is an ideal time for Virgo individuals to assess personal goals, reassess routines, and implement positive changes in their daily lives. The innovative energy of Aquarius supports Virgo's analytical mind in finding practical solutions.

**Libra (September 23 - October 22):** Aquarius season brings a surge of social energy to Libra, inspiring them to expand their social circles and engage in collaborative ventures. Friendships and group activities take center stage, providing Libra with opportunities to contribute to collective goals and make a positive impact on their community.

**Scorpio (October 23 - November 21):** As Aquarius season unfolds, Scorpio experiences a transformative journey in the realm of career and public life. This period encourages Scorpio individuals to embrace innovation in their professional endeavors, pursue ambitious goals, and explore unconventional paths to success. Networking and strategic collaborations are key for Scorpio's career advancement.

**Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21):** Aquarius season sparks a sense of adventure and intellectual curiosity for Sagittarius. This is a time for expansive thinking, higher education, and exploration of diverse philosophies. Sagittarius individuals may find inspiration in travel, philosophy, or higher learning, expanding their worldview and embracing new perspectives.

**Capricorn (December 22 - January 19):** As the sun moves through Aquarius, Capricorn individuals experience a deep dive into matters of shared resources and intimacy. This period encourages Capricorn to reassess their approach to joint ventures, partnerships, and personal transformations. Embracing change and innovative strategies can lead to positive transformations for Capricorn.

**Aquarius (January 20 - February 18):** Happy birthday, Aquarius! This season marks a powerful period for self-discovery and embracing your unique qualities. It's a time to set personal goals, express your individuality, and pave the way for positive changes in your life. Trust your innovative instincts and let your true self shine.

**Pisces (February 19 - March 20):** As Aquarius season unfolds, Pisces may find themselves drawn to introspection and spiritual exploration. This is a time for retreat, self-care, and delving into the depths of their emotions. Pisces individuals can benefit from moments of solitude and reflection, allowing them to recharge and align with their inner wisdom.

By Miss Aj Williams

Forget stuffy dinners and predictable parties! When it comes to Aquariuses, birthdays are not your average affair. These free-spirited rebels crave originality, intellectual stimulation, and a touch of the unexpected. So, how do you celebrate the birthday of an Aquarius in a way that truly lights their spark?

**Think outside the (birthday) box:**

**Unleash their inner explorer:** Aquariuses love adventure. Surprise them with a sunrise hike, a kayaking trip, or a visit to a quirky museum they've been dying to see. Bonus points for activities that involve learning something new or engaging their curiosity.

**Stargazing soiree:** What better way to celebrate an air sign than under the stars? Organize a backyard gathering with telescopes, cozy blankets, and space-themed treats. Discuss constellations, share cosmic dreams, and revel in the vastness of the universe.

**Board game bonanza:** Aquariuses thrive on mental stimulation. Gather their nearest and dearest for a board game night featuring creative, strategic games that challenge their intellect and spark friendly competition.

**Fuel their creative fire:**

**Themed potluck with a twist:** Forget the usual finger foods. Challenge your Aquarius to a potluck with a specific theme, like "future cuisine" or "reinvented classics." Let their culinary creativity shine as they invent futuristic dishes or put a unique spin on traditional favorites.

**DIY craft party:** Channel their artistic spirit with a hands-on activity like tie-dyeing shirts, making personalized pottery, or creating mosaic masterpieces. Provide the materials and unleash their inner Picasso (or Pollock!).

**Open mic night (or karaoke battle):** Aquariuses

often have hidden talents waiting to be unleashed. Set up a mini stage and let them showcase their musical or comedic prowess in a relaxed, supportive environment. You might be surprised at what hidden gems you discover!

**Embrace their humanitarian spirit:**

**Volunteer together:** Celebrate their birthday by giving back to a cause they care about. Organize a group volunteer day at a local animal shelter, soup kitchen, or environmental organization. It's a meaningful way to connect with your community and make a difference together.

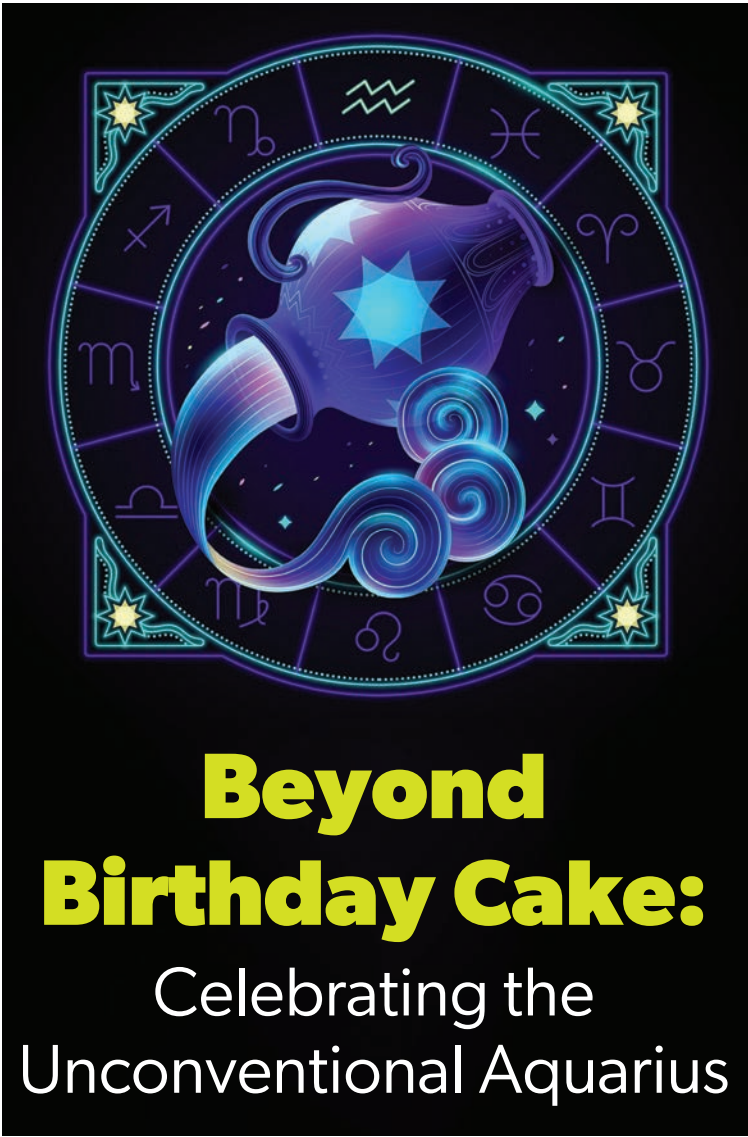
**Host a charity auction:** Turn their birthday into a fundraising event. Collect donated items or experiences and auction them off, with proceeds going to a charity close to their heart. Their friends and family will love contributing to a good cause while celebrating their special day.

**Start a social justice project:** Spark a conversation about a pressing issue they care about. Host a discussion panel, a film screening, or even a book club focused on social justice topics. Use their birthday as a platform to raise awareness and inspire action.

Remember, the key to celebrating an Aquarius is to personalize it. Consider their passions, interests, and quirks. Don't be afraid to get creative and unconventional. After all, a birthday bash for an Aquarius should be just as unique and extraordinary as they are!

And most importantly, let them be the star of the show. Shower them with love, appreciation, and plenty of space to be their authentic selves. After all, that's the greatest gift you can give an Aquarius: the freedom to embrace their individuality and shine brightly in their own way.

Happy birthday to all the Aquariuses out there! May your year be filled with intellectual adventures, creative pursuits, and a constant flow of fresh ideas!



## Beyond Birthday Cake:

## Celebrating the Unconventional Aquarius



# Get Lit Detroit!

## Detroit Adult Literacy Task Force Launches to Transform Adult Literacy Landscape

A groundbreaking initiative for enhancing adult literacy in Detroit has been announced with the establishment of the Detroit Adult Literacy Task Force. The first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 25, at 1 PM at the Detroit Golf Club located at 17911 Hamilton Rd., in Detroit. This significant move is led by Detroit City Councilwoman at Large Mary Waters, Chair, and Dr. Erica Robertson, CEO of Adventures Publishing House, Vice Chair. This collaboration marks a pivotal step in improving and expanding adult literacy across Detroit.

### Vision and Mission:

**Vision:** Inspiring Detroiters to become empowered readers, actively contributing to the city's economic and digital growth.

**Mission:** Equipping Detroiters with comprehensive literacy tools, fostering personal and community development.

### Key Objectives:

- Enhancing job application confidence and daily world navigation skills.
- Facilitating daily banking activities and promoting sound financial decision-making.
- Strengthening engagement with children and educators to boost student academic success.
- Empowering digital management of day-to-day tasks and information access.



## NOTICE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024 DETROIT, MICHIGAN

**TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN:**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that any qualified elector of Detroit, Michigan who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of the Detroit Department of Elections or the office of the Detroit City Clerk, the office of the County Clerk, a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated state agency. Registration forms can be obtained at [mi.gov/vote](https://mi.gov/vote) and mailed to the Detroit Department of Elections or the Detroit City Clerk's office. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at [www.expressSOS.com](https://www.expressSOS.com).

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the local clerk is **Monday, February 12, 2024**.

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the Detroit Department of Elections, Detroit City Clerk's office or any of the Early Voting Centers below.

### Early Voting Centers

<b>Greater Grace Temple</b> 23500 W. Seven Mile Detroit, MI 48219	<b>Clark Park</b> 1130 Clark Ave. Detroit, MI 48209
<b>WCCCD Northwest</b> 8200 W. Outer Dr. Detroit, MI 48219	<b>Farwell Recreation Center</b> 2711 E. Outer Dr. Detroit, MI 48234
<b>Northwest Activities Center</b> 18100 Meyers Rd. Detroit, MI 48235	<b>Heilmann Community Center</b> 19601 Crusade St. Detroit, MI 48205
<b>Palmer Park Community House</b> 1121 Merrill Plaisance St. Detroit, MI 48203	<b>WCCCD Eastern</b> 5901 Conner St. Detroit, MI 48213
<b>Butzel Family Rec Center</b> 7737 Kercheval Detroit, MI 48214	<b>Kemeny Rec Center</b> 2260 S. Fort St. Detroit, MI 48217
<b>Department of Elections</b> 2978 W. Grand Blvd. Detroit, MI 48202	<b>Adams Butzel Recreation Complex</b> 10500 Lyndon Street Detroit, MI 48238
<b>CAYMC (City Clerk's Office)</b> 2 Woodward Ave. Suite 106 Detroit, MI 48226	<b>Christ Temple Baptist Church</b> 10628 Plymouth Rd. Detroit, MI 48204

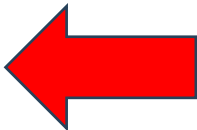
### HOURS OF OPERATION:

- Regular business hours: Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (**All locations except City Clerk's Office**)  
Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (**City Clerk's Office**)
- Saturday, February 24th from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 25th from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (**all locations except City Clerk's Office**)
- Election Day, Tuesday, February 27th from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

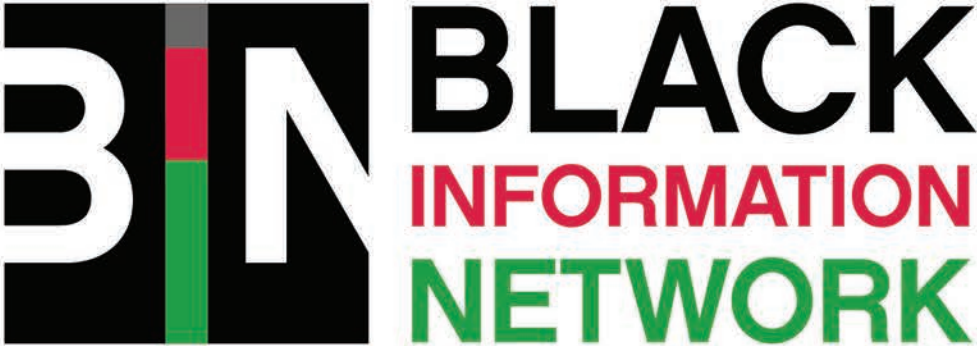
**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the City of Detroit will be voting in the Presidential Primary for the following office:  
President of the United States

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations should contact the Department of Elections at 313-876-VOTE (8683).

**Janice M. Winfrey**  
Detroit City Clerk



Use your Smartphone's camera to scan the below QR Code for more information! Be sure to sign up for updates.



Available on Android and iOS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE  
PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024  
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that any qualified elector of the City of Highland Park not already registered, may register to vote at the office of the City Clerk, the office of the County Clerk, a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated state agency. Registration forms can be obtained at [mi.gov/vote](https://mi.gov/vote) and mailed to the City Clerk. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at [www.expressSOS.com](https://www.expressSOS.com)

The last day to register in any manner other than in person with the local clerk is **Monday, February 12, 2024.**

After this date, anyone who qualified as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the City Clerk’s office located at 12050 Woodward Ave. Highland Park, MI 48203 (313) 252-0050 ext. 220 at the following times:

- Regular business hours Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Friday’s 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

- February 17<sup>th</sup> through February 25<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

- Election Day, Tuesday, February 27, 2024


The following offices will appear on the February 27, 2024, ballot:

Partisan Section  
Presidential  
  
Democratic Party  
Presidential Primary

Partisan Section  
Presidential  
  
Republican Party  
Presidential Primary

Persons with special needs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Clerk’s office at (313) 252-0050 ext. 220.

Brenda Green  
City Clerk



Winter Comfort Hacks  
for Contact Lens Wearers

(StatePoint) One in five contact lens wearers find lenses to be less comfortable by the end of the day. If that describes you, you may already know that cold air, wind, and indoor heating, especially during winter, can bring additional challenges.

The good news? It doesn’t have to be that way. From your morning coffee to post-work happy hour (or gym session), you can help your lenses go the distance in cool weather with these comfort hacks:

1. **Control indoor air:** Indoor heating reduces humidity, which can result in a drying effect on the lenses. You can help ease the resulting discomfort by turning down the thermostat a bit and by using a humidifier. These days, there are portable mini humidifier models, so it is easy to run one in most rooms or even to bring one to the workplace.

2. **Protect winter eyes:** Whether you're building a snowman with the kids or enjoying a frosty winter walk in the neighborhood, cold air and wind can dry out the surface of your contact lenses. Add a layer of protection from the elements by wearing UV-blocking sunglasses before stepping outdoors.

3. **Follow directions:** Whether you gave a huge presentation at work or stayed out a bit too late with friends, it's tempting to fast-track your bedtime routine at the end of a long day, especially as the winter days get shorter and darker. When it comes to contact lens care though, shortcuts like reducing rubbing and rinsing times, or topping off solution mean your lenses aren't getting proper care. Follow the instructions carefully, no matter how exhausted you are, and always remove your lenses before falling asleep.

4. **Clean and moisturize:** Contact lens wearers who wear contacts that are replaced weekly, biweekly, or monthly may attribute various challenges to wearing their lenses during the winter season, including dryness and irritation. However, using a contact lens solution that conditions and hydrates lenses can help with all-day comfort. Choose a multi-purpose solution recommended by board-certified optometrists that's uniquely formulated for dry, uncomfortable contact lenses, such as Biotrue Hydration Plus Multi-Purpose Solution. Offering exceptional cleaning and disinfection, and dissolving protein build-up, it's formulated with your eyes' biology in mind to promote all-day hydration. In fact, it keeps more moisture on your contacts (for 12 hours compared to the original Biotrue Multi-Purpose Solution, based on a laboratory study) as well as provides up to 20 hours of moisture (based on a laboratory study). For more information and complete use instructions, visit [biotrue.com](https://biotrue.com).

5. **Pack right for holiday and winter travel:** Long flights and dry cabin air can leave contact lenses feeling dry. Biotrue Hydration Plus Multi-Purpose Solution also comes in a convenient travel-sized bottle and meets TSA regulations as a medically necessary liquid, so it can be easily tossed into your carry-on to equip your contacts for comfort. And to provide instant moisture and comfort to lenses, try using Biotrue Hydration Boost Contact Lens Drops, a preservative-free hydrating formula enhanced with bio-inspired ingredients.

6. **Take inventory of your habits:** Are you enjoying increased screen time as you spend more time indoors? Be sure to practice self-care and take regular screen breaks. Every 20 minutes, look 20 feet away for 20 seconds.

By employing these lens-related comfort hacks, you can help contacts feel comfortable this winter, and beyond.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS




Students Rise. We All Rise.

The Detroit Public Schools Community District is seeking to sell the property at 2701 Fenkell, Detroit, MI 48238, vacant land under RFP 24-0136, to investors, community groups, or organizations that can demonstrate a viable plan to develop, rehab, and restore the property in a way that will benefit both the prospective buyer and the community. Proposals must be received no later than 12 p.m. Friday, January 26, 2024 electronically via Demandstar.com. Written questions and inquiries will be accepted through 12 p.m. on January 12, 2024. Inquiries must be submitted via email to [procurement.questions@detroitk12.org](mailto:procurement.questions@detroitk12.org) with RFP 24-0136 in the subject line.

All Suppliers who are considering or have submitted a proposal for this project are prohibited from having any communication, by any medium, concerning the RFP with any DPSCD Board Member, the General Superintendent, the Evaluation Committee Members, employees, or contractors. All communication should be directed to the Procurement Department. A proposal from any Offeror will be disqualified when the Offeror violates this condition.

Further details on the RFP can be found at [www.detroitk12.org/procurement](https://www.detroitk12.org/procurement) under the “Bids, Requests, and Proposals” link.



Students Rise. We All Rise.

The Detroit Public Schools Community District is seeking to sell the property at 8100 W. Davison, Detroit, MI 48238, Courtis Elementary School under RFP 24-0137, to investors, community groups, or organizations that can demonstrate a viable plan to develop, rehab, and restore the property in a way that will benefit both the prospective buyer and the community. Proposals must be received no later than 12 p.m. Friday, January 26, 2024 electronically via Demandstar.com. Written questions and inquiries will be accepted through 12 p.m. on January 12, 2024. Inquiries must be submitted via email to [procurement.questions@detroitk12.org](mailto:procurement.questions@detroitk12.org) with RFP 24-0137 in the subject line.

All Suppliers who are considering or have submitted a proposal for this project are prohibited from having any communication, by any medium, concerning the RFP with any DPSCD Board Member, the General Superintendent, the Evaluation Committee Members, employees, or contractors. All communication should be directed to the Procurement Department. A proposal from any Offeror will be disqualified when the Offeror violates this condition.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS


Requests for Proposals are being accepted for:  
Marketing Cloud Services RFP 2024

Response Due: March 11, 2024 at 5pm Issued: January 22, 2024

The Mayor's Workforce Development Board (MWDB) is directly responsible and accountable to the State of Michigan, Labor and Economic Opportunity-Workforce Development (LEO-WD) for the planning and oversight of talent development programs in the City of Detroit. Designated by the MWDB, Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation (DESC) serves as the fiscal and administrative entity that provides workforce services to job seekers and employers. DESC's primary funding streams include Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) that funds Michigan's PATH (Partnership, Accountability, Training, Hope) employment program, Food Assistance Employment and Training (FA&T), Wagner-Peyser Employment Services (ES), and other public and private funding. The Corporation enters into contracts with qualified entities to provide workforce development programs and services to job seekers and employers. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and Midwest Urban Strategies - Growth Opportunity Grant funding may support contracts resulting from competitive bid process.

DESC is seeking proposals from qualified individuals, organizations and/or firms.

Bid package for this RFP is available for download at this DESC website:  
<https://www.descmiworks.com/opportunities/rfps-and-rfqsl>.



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5 Tips for Organizing Your Home Office

(Family Features) When temperatures creep up again, it signals time for an annual tradition: spring cleaning. While big projects like windows are hard to overlook, don't forget smaller areas that need attention, too, such as your home office.

Making sense of a year's worth of paperwork and clutter can take some serious time, especially as many people have been working from home more than normal, but getting organized can help you tackle home management tasks more efficiently. Making the office a priority can reduce frustration when it comes to spending additional time in your office while working from home.

These five tips can help get you started:

1. Make sure you have furniture that can adequately store your stuff, including plenty of space for files, reference books and computer equipment. Pieces need not be costly to be functional and there are plenty of attractive options available online and at both small and major retailers.

2. Arrange the space with its intended use and your own work style in mind. For example, if you don't need ample space to spread out over a large, flat work area, eliminate that space - it's simply an invitation for clutter.

3. Place items you rely on frequently, such as a calculator or ruler, within arm's reach so they can easily be put away between uses. Capture these items in containers and bins to keep the space looking neat and free of clutter.

4. Establish a filing system that lets you keep track of important papers you need to keep and have a shredder handy to help you discard any sensitive documents. Whether you alphabetize, color code or use some other method, group paperwork into segments for categories such as bills, banking, health care, auto, insurance and so on for easy access in the future.

5. Tangled cords can make even the most organized spaces look messy, and they may pose a fire or tripping hazard. Get control of your cords by storing devices you don't use regularly and securing the remaining cords with twist ties or clips. Remember to use a surge-protected power strip to minimize the chance of damage should a power surge occur.

Find more tips to make your workspace tidy and organized at [eLivingtoday.com](https://eLivingtoday.com).



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