

# The RACINE MIRROR

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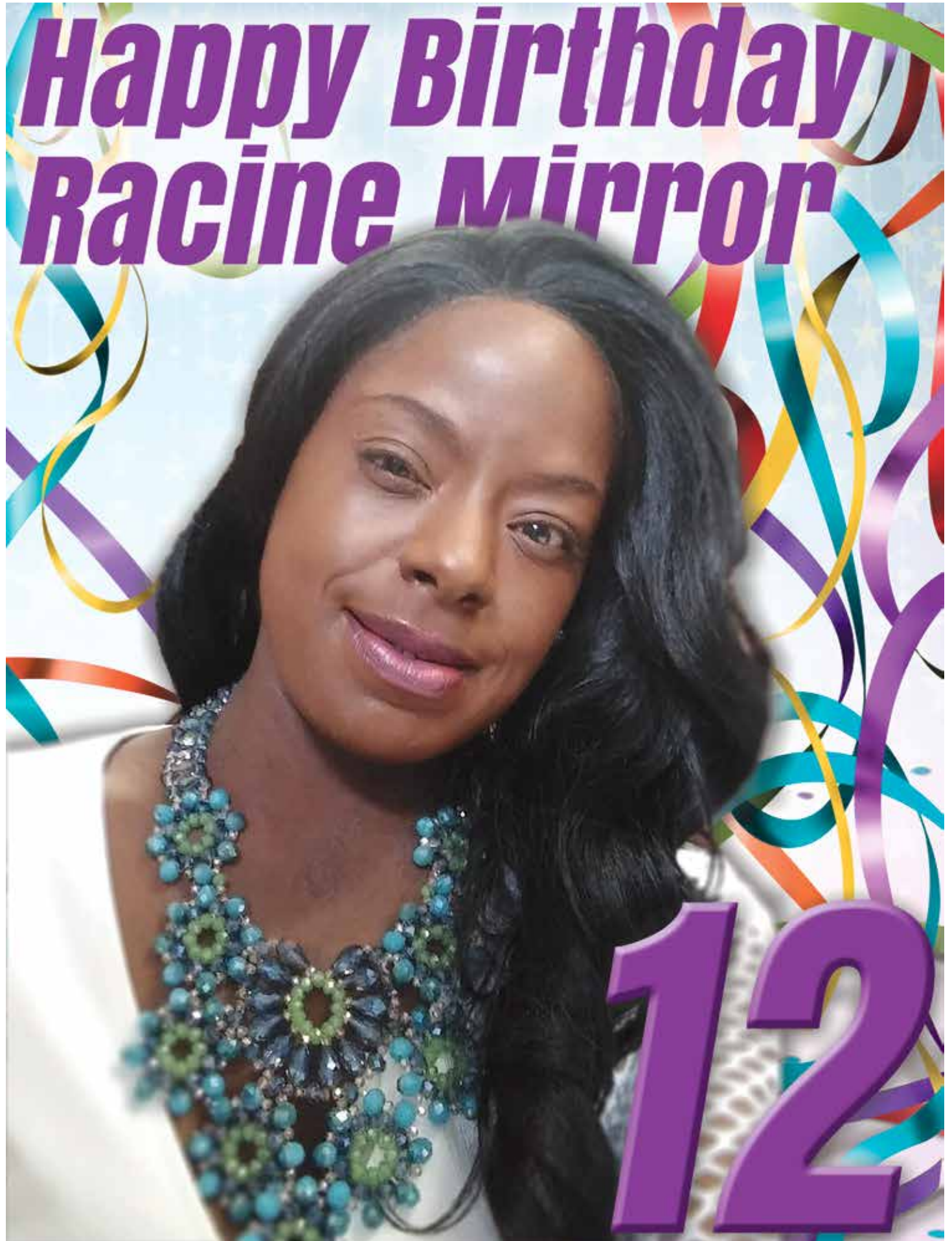
September 2020

Vol. 13, No. 1

*A Reflection of the Positive in the Community*

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# JOEL JACOBSEN for State Assembly



Joel Jacobsen believes that

- Your representative should work for you, not for himself.
- An unburdened middle class creates a strong community.
- Clean air and water is a treasure to be protected, not sold.
- Everyone should have access to affordable health care.
- We can safely grow our economy and create new jobs.
- A strong educational system is key to our future.



## Joel and Jerie's story

Married for 39 years, Joel and his wife Jerie have raised two Wisconsin University grads who now have successful careers. He worked his way through college doing a wide variety of jobs, including forest fire fighter, roofer, and restaurant worker.

Joel's degree in finance led to a successful career, giving him a unique understanding of real world job situations and stresses. **He gets it.**

## Joel Jacobsen is experienced

While serving as alderman for the City of Burlington, Joel was praised for his keen eye for detail and for saving money for the city. "Joel really dove into the details of the city business. He asked questions and helped shape ways to save money." Matt Geysso, resident

Paid for by Joel for Wisconsin <http://joelfor63.com>



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# H I S P A N I C

# REFLECTIONS

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SEPTEMBER  
2020



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## The Woman in the Mirror

# Happy Birthday Racine Mirror 12 Years Yeah!

by Lisa Parham

This month marks our 12th year anniversary. We want to thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve your business. We want you to know that we have appreciated your business, your dedication which has led us to a respectful business relationship.

During this time you have walked with us and supported us. Our appreciation and loyalty goes without saying we in these past 12 years have grown from fledging odd job sales to some of the most promising contracts. Therefore we can't say thank you enough.

Your loyalty and your support and reliability and top drawer support has helped us in our growth. To all of my staff, you all have certainly become an asset to this company. I appreciate the selfless service you've given for so many years. With the loyalty and hard work of experts like yourself it has helped me to get things started and completed. We would have never achieved our present stature. May you all enjoy the fruits of your labor for many more years to come.

As we approach a new year for the Racine Mirror, we want to thank each and every one of you for choosing us for your advertising needs. We realize that you have other choices so we are pleased you chose us. We will remain committed to providing you with the best services at the lowest prices.



We look forward to serving you for many more years. Though we have all experienced a difficult period due to Covid-19, we yet remain committed to the task before us.

Thank you again. Best to all!

*Lisa Parham*

Lisa Parham  
President & Chief Executive Officer

*"I feel that we should all work to continue to make Racine a positive atmosphere for our Younger People. Thank you for helping to be a positive influence in our Community."*



## Congrats Salute from My Daughter Ms. Sherika Parham

Mommy,

You have achieved so much and I am so proud of you. You have made such a huge difference in the community. You never cease to amaze me with the success you worked so hard to earn. You are an inspiration to everyone, especially me. Success requires a lot of hard work along with the right attitude. You have used both to achieve great things, and I can't wait to see what you are going to do next. You faced the opposition with determination and perseverance, and you came out a winner! No matter what life throws your way, you always seize it and turn it into something great. You deserve to be in the spotlight. Nothing has been impossible for you, and I respect you for working so hard to earn success. Congratulations on 12 years and many more to come. I love you!

*Sherika*

### THE RACINE MIRROR

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#### OUR MISSION

- To uplift our community by being a reflection of what is positive and good.
- To be a vessel of information through our professional interviews, stories, and editorial perspectives.
- To encourage interaction among diverse walks of life.

#### OUR VISION

- To retain a love and understanding for our community and it's members.
- To be a positive influence and a profile for faith and hope.
- To endorse individual uniqueness and promote an appreciation for diversity.

#### OUR VALUES

- Respect
- Integrity
- Positive Development
- Excellence
- Good Stewardship

*The views and opinions printed in The Racine Mirror do not necessarily reflect those of the owner and management. Though articles, letters, and editorial perspectives maybe edited for presentation purposes. The Racine Mirror does not suppress the editorial content or viewpoints of it's writers.*

*Contribute story ideas by calling The Racine Mirror office at 262-633-8677 or you can email us at racinemirror@yahoo.com*

*All content © 2020 The Racine Mirror*



# Tree Frog Insurance

by **Dominique Lambricht**

Brenda Payne, is originally from Colorado and then moved to Kenosha. After being in Kenosha for some time, she moved out to Illinois. When her and her partner got together and for their kids, they moved to Racine. She is very family oriented. She has 4 kids, 2 step, and 2 of her own, and out of them there are 5 grandkids. They do a lot of golfing, camping, hiking, fishing, and kayaking. They have a ton of fun together, despite the downfalls of COVID. She has been married to her partner for 6 years and together for 15 years.

Brenda the independent agent for Illinois' and Wisconsin's business and personal insurance needs, works with personal, commercial, life, and Medicare insurance. In 2010, she was working with Mutual of Omaha with Medicare. When she switched over to All State, she worked with all insurances instead of limiting herself to just Medicare. As she wanted to become an agency owner, she found it the best route so she could advocate more for the client than the company. She had little control over if All State changed something suddenly.

Per advice of a broker who taught her everything, after 5 years, she became an independent agent while still having contracts with Medicare. With her own rules, she could teach more about the information and benefits of insurance, rather than the sale of insurance. She loves when the lightbulb goes off in her client's heads and they are understanding what she is saying. This also creates value in the insurance they have at Tree Frog. Tree Frog has taken a few months to get things together as they opened up in mid-July.

Their approach is listen, learn, care. They understand that insurance involves problem solving. Solving problems start with listening, and then moving to create the right package of care. They are committed to their customers and communities. At Tree Frog they celebrate diversity in all its forms. Bring them your working families, your startups, established businesses, manufactures and your high risk! They are here to serve in Illinois and Wisconsin.

Tree Frog supports their community by involving themselves in these ways:

- Board of Directors - Fox Lake Spring Grove Chamber of Commerce
- Board of Directors - LGBT Community Center of SE Wisconsin
- LGBTBE Certified Business
- NAMI sponsor
- Racine Area Chamber of Commerce
- LGBT Chamber of Commerce Milwaukee
- MIT Liebe German Shepherd Rescue

The goal of the agency is to make it a go to for the community for advice and make it sustainable. Brenda really supports small businesses and keeping them aware of some risks they're taking. She serves as an advisory to many of her clients and helped inform them in big cases like the pandemic, all insurance coverage related. The focus is the branding service to others and letting them know and understand that they are a community partner. Brenda does hope to open up another branch down the line. Here are 10 benefits of Life Insurance:

Replace Lost Income. Life insurance works to provide financial security to your loved ones. Consider what would happen if

you died suddenly. Don't leave your loved ones helpless when the monthly bills come around.

Cover Burial Expenses. Sadly, even a basic funeral service can run upwards of several thousand dollars. It can ensure everything is in place for your loved ones after you die. Life insurance can give you and your beneficiaries more of a guarantee, lifting a burden off them and yourself.

Pay Off Debt. In the event of your passing, your debts may not necessarily disappear. In the instance you and your spouse have co-signed for a mortgage or other loans; your spouse may become entirely responsible for repayment. Life insurance allows those you leave behind to take care of any lingering financial responsibilities.

College Planning. There are several ways to save money for your child's education. Life insurance payouts can actually provide a good supplement to your savings. If your child borrows money to get through school, the insurance proceeds could also help wipe out pesky student loans.

Build Cash Value. Term life, a type of life insurance, stays in place for a set period. But another option, whole life insurance, provides permanent coverage that only ends if you cancel the policy. Whole life allows you to build up cash value over time, an attractive prospect to any people.

Diversify Investments. Some people also use life insurance as an investment tool. These policies are tied to a specific investment product. Then policyholders receive dividend payments based on the product's performance.

Business Planning. If you own a business, it's vital that you have life insurance. This covers your obligations, so your hard work doesn't go to waste.

Estate Taxes. When someone passes away, their heirs often face estate and inheritance



taxes on any assets they receive. If you're worried about your loved ones getting hit with a big tax bill, a life insurance policy can help cover these added costs.

Coverage is Affordable. One excuse people make for not buying life insurance is the cost. But truthfully, coverage often ends up affordable for most people. Term life is less expensive than whole or universal life. Plus, the younger and healthier you are, the lower your premiums will be.

Peace of Mind. No one can truly predict the future. But having life insurance means you and your loved ones can prepare for any eventuality.

The most important thing that Brenda wishes to say about insurance is that, insurance can solve a lot of different problems for many different reasons. This is one of the best perks of the job, solving the problems people have.

Brenda Payne | Tree Frog Insurance | 262-975-2225 | [brenda@treefroginsurance.com](mailto:brenda@treefroginsurance.com)

## DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF RACINE COUNTY

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Assembly 62	August Schutz
Assembly 63	Joel Jacobsen
Assembly 64	Tip McGuire
Assembly 66	Greta Neubauer
Assembly 83	Alan DeYoung



Authorized and paid for by the Democratic Party of Racine County. [RacineCountyDems.com](http://RacineCountyDems.com)



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# 2020 CENSUS

Respond to your 2020 Census  
from July 28 - August 31

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call 844-330-2020 (English),  
or complete the paper Census.

Send proof to  
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OR refer a friend to the contest and you  
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or scan this QR code:



Online  
[My2020Census.gov](http://My2020Census.gov)

Questionnaire Assistance  
1-844-330-2020

Local Information  
[RacineCountyCounts.org](http://RacineCountyCounts.org)







Every one of us counts; our numbers will determine our congressional representation and increase federal funding to our communities for the next 10 years. Cada uno de nosotros cuenta; nuestros números determinarán nuestra representación en el Congreso y aumentarán los fondos federales para nuestras comunidades durante los próximos 10 años"

- Yolanda Santos Adams

2020 CENSUS  
RACINE COUNTY  
TOGETHER WE COUNT

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No tengan miedo de ser contados para ayudar tu comunidad participen en el censo. Don't be afraid to be counted to help your community participate in the census.

- Jose R. Palacios

2020 CENSUS  
RACINE COUNTY  
TOGETHER WE COUNT



# Racine County Surpasses 2010 U.S. Census Response Rate

Racine – As the U.S. Census continues, new data shows Racine County has surpassed its 2010 Census response rate.

As of Friday, August 14, 74.1 percent of Racine County residents have responded to the Census, eclipsing the 2010 response rate of 73.9 percent.

“Surpassing the 2010 response rate is great news and a significant milestone in our 2020 Census efforts. However, we still have more residents to count. Having an accurate count is crucial for federal funding and political representation, so I strongly encourage any Racine County resident who hasn’t completed the Census to do so as soon as possible,” County Executive Jonathan Delagrave said.

In Racine County, money allocated based on Census data helps fund 53 public schools with 27,602 students, 1,014 miles of local roads, 2 major hospitals, 229 parks, campground and picnic areas, and so much more. Each resident counted equals approximately \$1,600 in federal funding to

our communities.

Census data is also used to determine Congressional representation and in the creation of election maps, regardless of immigrant status or citizenship status.

The Census is easier and more convenient than ever before. You can complete the Census online by visiting [www.my2020census.gov](http://www.my2020census.gov); by calling 844-330-2020 (English) or 844-468-2020 (Spanish); or completing the paper Census mailed to your address.

Racine County Counts is currently running a contest on its Facebook page, where anyone who responds to the Census this month can enter to win \$50 to a local grocery store. Anyone interested in participating should send proof of Census completion to the Racine County Counts Facebook page or by email at [racinecounts@racinecounty.com](mailto:racinecounts@racinecounty.com) to enter to win the contest.

For more information on the local impact of the Census and the contest, visit [www.racinecountycounts.org](http://www.racinecountycounts.org).

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# The Importance of Voting for Every Office Every Time

Most people pay attention to elections every four years when the President is on the ballot -- mostly because you can't avoid it. As a result, in those years as many as 70% of the people who are registered to vote actually make their voices heard at the ballot box (see chart).

But when the President is not on the ballot, more than half the people who are registered to vote simply don't show up. And that's the people who are registered to vote. A large number of people who are at least 18 and can vote don't even take the five minutes required to register! That means that probably less than 30% of the people in the United States, many of them white and older, are making the decisions that affect all the rest of us.

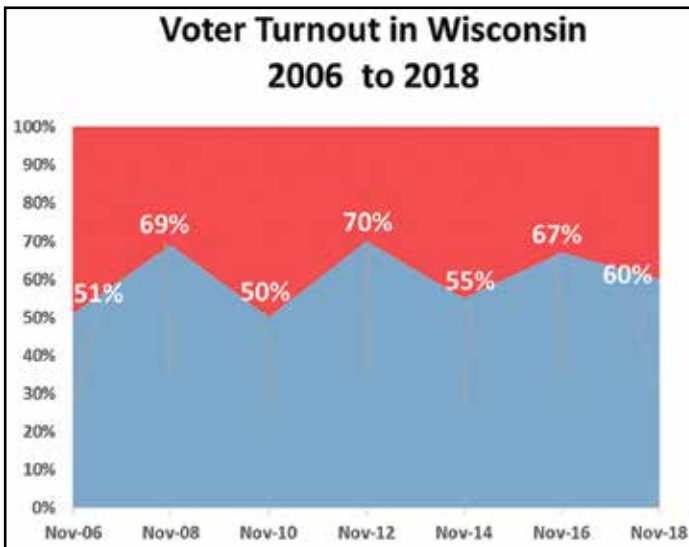
That's a tragedy for two reasons. First, because one of the few ways we can make politicians pay attention to us is if they are afraid we are going to vote them out of office. Second, people in those other offices -- members of the school board, our representatives in city and county government, our representatives in the state legislature and at the state level (e.g. Governor and Attorney General) and the person who represents us in Congress -- actually affect our everyday lives much more directly than any President can.

For example, they decide how much money is spent on schools, roads, police and county and state courts. They decide when your garbage is picked up and the rate you'll pay in city, county and state taxes. They oversee the departments that handle activities such as registering your car, issuing you a driver's license, and registering deeds and

birth certificates. They decide whether or not a person is prosecuted for a crime (including police officers) and what the eligibility requirements are for unemployment, state health insurance and SNAP and the rules for evictions. And they even decide who is eligible and how hard or easy it is to vote.

But many times, we don't even know who these people are and what they stand for. Here's a test: What is the name of your alderperson? Your state assembly representative and state senator? Your school board member? Your county supervisor? The county district attorney? The county executive and county sheriff? Most people would fail that test and that's the problem. Many of these elected officials count on our lack of knowledge to keep them in office, even when they're doing a terrible job representing us, and we do them that favor every election.

That's why it's so important to vote, as they say, "down ballot" -- making an informed choice for every office on the ballot. On November 3, if you live in Racine, the following partisan (e.g. Democrat or Republican) offices



are on the ballot: President of the US, Vice President of the US, Representative to the US Congress for Wisconsin First District, State Senator and State Assembly Representative. The following non-partisan offices (they don't run by party) are also on the ballot: Register of Deeds, County Clerk, County Treasurer and District Attorney. Below is a brief description of each of these offices.

• President -- Serves as commander in chief of the military, the chief negotiator of treaties, and the chief diplomat. He/she heads the Executive branch of the government, appoints candidates to the Supreme Court and other Federal courts, and holds veto power over any legislation passed by Congress.

Elected for a term of 4 years.

• Vice President -- Serves in place of the President should it become necessary and is President Pro tem (leader) of the Senate and can vote in the Senate if there is a tie. Elected for a term of 4 years.

• Representative to US Congress -- Writes and passes Federal laws, especially those dealing with how the government spends money. Elected for 2 years.

• State Senator -- Approve the Governor's appointments and write and vote on state laws. Each State Senator represents three Assembly Districts, making 33 of them in the state. Elected for a term of 4 years, with half of them elected each four-year cycle.

• State Assembly Members -- Write and vote on state laws and approve the Governor's budget. There are 99 of them elected every 2 years.

• Register of Deeds -- Records real estate deeds and files and records birth, marriage, and death certificates. Elected for a term of 4 years.

• County Clerk -- Administers elections, recruits and train poll workers, deals with absentee balloting, and issues marriage licenses. Elected for a term of 4 years.

• County Treasurer -- Oversees property and land taxes, tax collections, and foreclosures. Elected for a term of 4 years.

• District Attorney -- Makes decisions regarding the prosecution of criminal cases in the County, choosing to prosecute some themselves or assigning them to assistants. Also signs off on plea bargains. Elected for a term of 4 years.

## Congratulations!

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# Evers Releases Statement on Kenosha Shooting

MADISON — Gov. Evers tonight released the following statement regarding the officer-involved shooting that critically injured a Black man in Kenosha.

“Tonight, Jacob Blake was shot in the back multiple times, in broad daylight, in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Kathy and I join his family, friends, and neighbors in hoping earnestly that he will not succumb to his injuries. While we do not have all of the details yet, what we know for certain is that he is not the first Black man or person to have been shot or injured or mercifully killed at the hands of individuals in law enforcement in our state or our country.

We stand with all those who have and continue to demand justice, equity, and accountability for Black lives in our country—lives like those of George Floyd, of Breonna Taylor, Tony Robinson, I Dontre Hamilton, Ernest Lacy, and Sylville Smith. And we stand against excessive use of force and immediate escalation when engaging with Black Wisconsinites.

I have said all along that although we must offer our empathy, equally important is our action. In the coming days, we will demand just that of elected officials in our state who have failed to recognize the racism in our state and our country for far too long.”

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Happy 12th Year Racine Mirror

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**We salute the Racine Mirror  
on its 12th Anniversary.**

Sincere thanks for all you do to lift up our diverse community by highlighting the many positive happenings, and best wishes for your continued success.



~ Cory Mason,  
Mayor of  
Racine



**Bob Wirch**

Please contact me to share your views or if you need help with a state agency.

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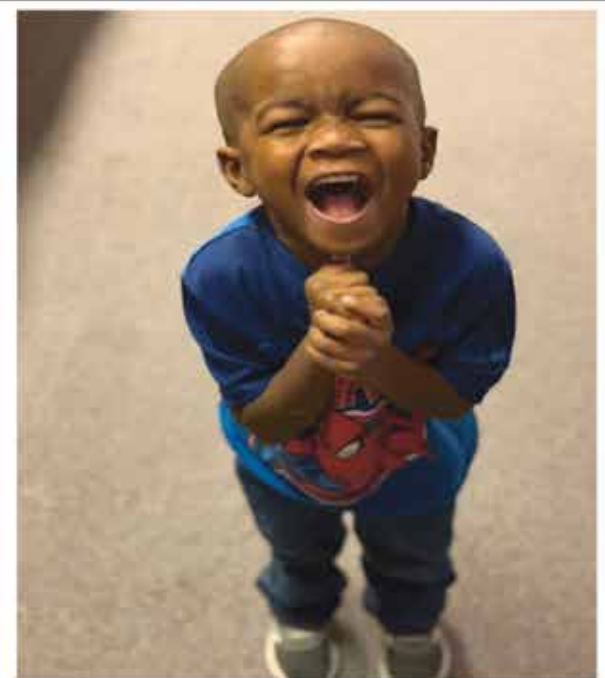


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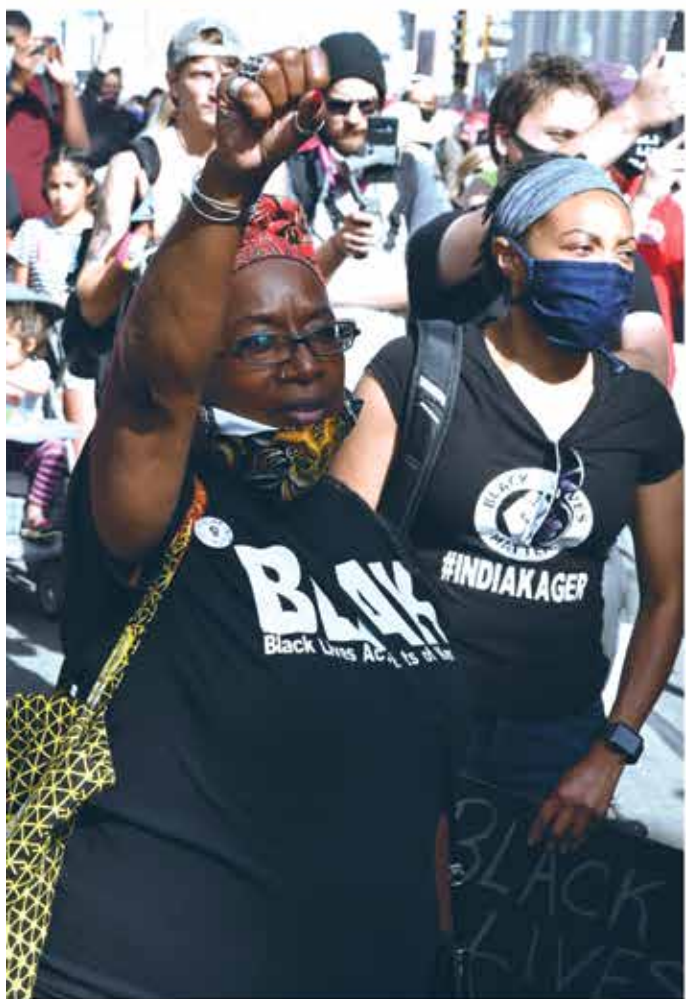
CONGRATULATIONS Lisa!





# Jacob Blake Rally Kenosha August 29, 2020

Photos by Ralph Tunstell





# THE PRAYER CLOSET

## SEPTEMBER 2020

Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. 1 Timothy 4:14

You were created and designed for a specific purpose. God has placed gifts inside of you to equip you to fulfill your purpose. Do you know what those gifts are? What are you passionate about? What can you do better than other people? What would you choose to do if there were no obstacles? God wants you to develop and pursue the gift inside of you because your gift is a part of your destiny.

The gifts God gives aren't just for us. He gives us gifts to help build other people. You have a specific role to play in the body of Christ. That doesn't mean God's going to send you to a third world country or make you preach. But, there are people all around you that only you can reach. Are you using your gifts to build the kingdom? Are you serving in your local church? Even if you are still discovering what your gifts are, you can simply take a step and volunteer. Everyone has something to give. You can give a smile, a handshake or an encouraging word. When you step out and serve others, that's how you develop your gift and move forward in the destiny He has for you!

Father, thank You for equipping me to fulfill my destiny. Thank You for walking with me and guiding me. Show me ways to develop the gifts You have given me so that I can be a blessing everywhere I go in Jesus' name. Amen.

Apostle Charles C Jones D.D.  
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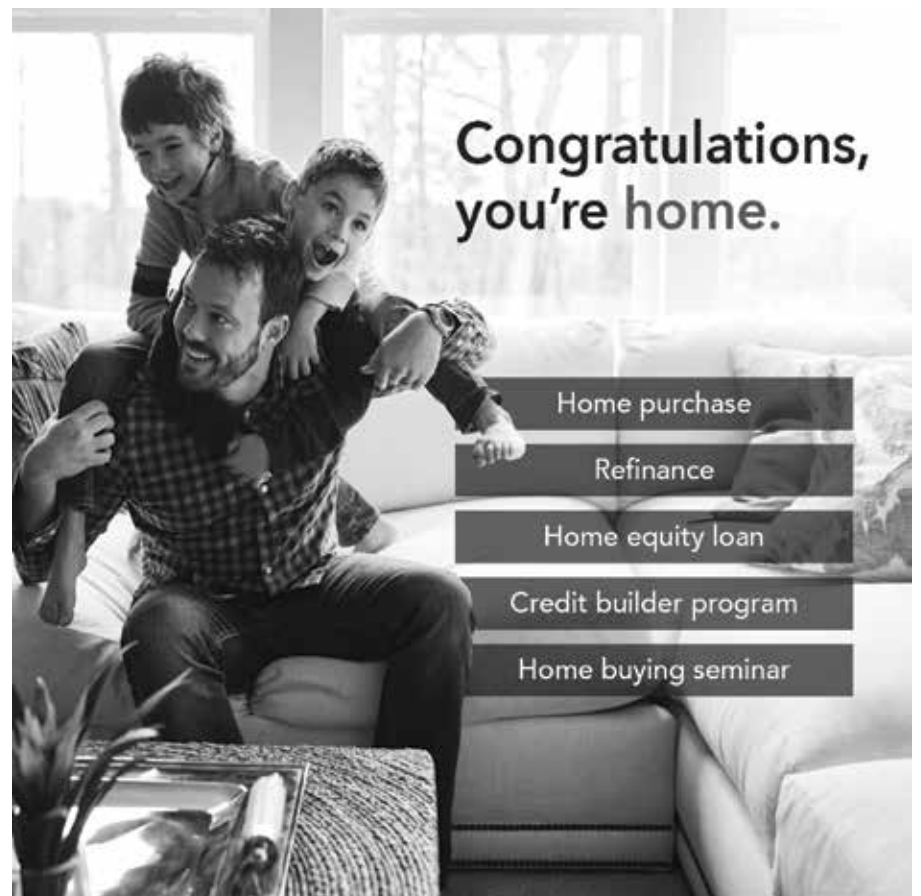
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# Racine Rotary Post Prom 2020

Photos by Ralph Tunstall





# Graduate realizes career fit through Gateway

LaShon Stevens was 23 years old, worked hard at his job and knew his work history and skills made him very employable.

Even so, he found himself on the job hunt for months after a layoff that had sidelined him and his coworkers alike.

He knew he had to take a different path to succeed and knew he needed more training and education. LaShon chose Gateway Technical College as the vehicle to his success — as well as discovering his true career passion.

“I knew from experience that Gateway was a well-rounded college where you could get a great education and offered a great balance between learning on-campus as well as learning online,” said LaShon.

“I had taken some classes there before, so many people who were near and dear to me were either faculty there or were students there. Gateway was a local college, too, so it was an easy decision.”

That decision resulted in the spring 2020 graduate already starting up his own realty company with hopes of doing even more.

LaShon began at Gateway in the Facilities Maintenance program because it was an area he was familiar with and something he enjoyed, and he earned a technical diploma in that program two years later in 2017.

A few classes into his college education, LaShon realized what he really wanted — to open his own business. A few classes later, his vision became more clear: He wanted his business to provide hope in Racine.

LaShon earned his Business Management



associate degree in Spring 2020 and looks forward to his career — and helping others.

“I realized while I was in the Facilities Maintenance program that my real passion was to rehab houses and open my own business to do that, as well as property maintenance,” says LaShon.

“This has morphed a few times over the years. I have a passion for people and believe rehabbing homes will help others. My ultimate goal is to help others to re-enter the community by working side-by-side with them to rehab their own home.”

LaShon has started his first business in real estate but hopes to move on from there into the rehab field.

LaShon was also awarded two Gateway Technical College Foundation scholarships — the Alfred & Bernice DeSimone Endowed Scholarship in 2018 and the To The Finish Line Scholarship in 2019.

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- ✓ Mail your ballot as soon as possible or deliver it to your city clerk's office or put it in a secure city drop box
- ✓ Check [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov) to make sure it's been received
- ✓ If it hasn't been received 3 days before election day, choose Option #3

### Option #2: Vote Early

- ✓ Vote in person at your city clerk's office up to two weeks before the election

### Option #3: Vote Non-peak Hours

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# Big Brothers Big Sisters and friends sew seeds of hope for schoolchildren

The Racine and Kenosha sewing community answered the Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) call to action by sewing more than three thousand masks for area schoolchildren. The effort was part of BBBS's School Supplies and Mask Giveaway, held Sunday, Aug. 23 from 10 a.m. to noon at its Taylor Avenue headquarters.

More than 140 backpacks packed with pencils, paper, folders, crayons, rulers, assorted masks and other supplies were distributed to families that were able to RSVP before the organization depleted its stock. Most of the bookbags were donated by FINAO Inc. All participants received an assortment of mask.



Kenosha residents Micah and Maya Evans donated the fabric for the t-shirts, while Marah's Sewing House stitched them together.

According to Sonya Thomas, BBBS executive director, the response for the free masks and backpacks was so great that BBBS ran out of supplies sooner than expected. "We sponsored the program to help families because we know they are struggling due to COVID. However, we did not expect the demand to be so overwhelming."

When seamstress throughout the area learned about the mask drive, they scurried back to their home sewing machines to make masks, lots of them. Using leftover material and colorful fabrics, they found a way to give back to those most vulnerable in our community, our children. Sew N' Save of Racine and Lynch Chevrolet dealerships served as collection sites.

A partnership between Kenosha sisters Maya and Micah Evans and South Milwaukee business owner, Mara Vignjevic, led to the creation of 104 custom t-shirts with permanent attached masks for youth. The unique children's protection apparel was designed to give parents peace of mind because the mask is attached, therefore their children can't drop or lose it.

The sisters who co-own Omonoro Kids, donated the fabric to Vignjevic of Mara's Sewing House. Upon receiving the fabric, Vignjevic and her team went to work, lovingly sewing the tees, and then donating them to BBBS.

The businesses learned about the mask drive from Milan Filipovic, a local realtor

who sits on the BBBS board of directors.

Omonoro Kids and Mara's Sewing House both enjoy helping people and giving back to their community. In fact, it's their passion.

The Evans sisters said the project gave them a way "to protect children" in our community.

Vignjevic said helping people "It is as important to me as breathing."

The Omonoro Kids specialty tees were distributed along with the school supplies at a contactless, COVID free drive through. Parents were appreciative and the many children were giddy with excitement when they saw their colorful mask with designs that ranged from Power Rangers, Mickey Mouse and sports themes to flowers and animal prints – just to name a few.

Upon receiving mask and materials for her two daughters, Melissa Martinez said, "Thank you so much! I am so grateful to have such adorable masks for my kids as well as school supplies to get them off to a great start! That was a huge concern for me."

A preschool and a kindergarten teacher stopped by to request tee shirts for some of their less fortunate students. They were gifted with several Omonoro tees and additional mask to be used throughout the school year. Also, many Big Brothers and Big Sisters stopped by to pick up supplies for the Littles (children) that they mentor.

All-in-all it was a great day for our community Thomas said. "I loved how people



from all walks of life were able to come together for one common cause – the safety of our children. I am grateful that Big Brothers Big Sisters was able to make it happen . . . to help people in need."

She added, "Special thanks to everyone, especially the parents that participated in our back to school mask and supply drive in order to help their children. Also, those who volunteered to make mask, and donate their money and time, including FINAO Inc, BBBS board members Ron Tatum and Milan Filipovic, and Edward Hodges a Little and high school student that gave up his Sunday to pass out supplies."

# TINO'S

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## Parents have questions for Racine Unified about fall plans; hundreds participate in listening session

RACINE — What will happen if a student or teacher is diagnosed with COVID-19? How can individual education plans or IEPs for special education students be carried out remotely? How will the district make sure students are wearing their masks?

Racine Unified School District families were overflowing with questions for the district during a virtual listening session Monday night to help guide the district's school "re-entry" plan for this fall.

More than 750 participants signed up to take part in the call. District officials answered some questions during the listening session and promised that the rest would be addressed when its official reopening plans for the fall are announced. Unified officials are hoping to have solid plans in place by the end of this week and to begin sharing information with the Racine Unified community and staff next week.

The district is developing plans for three return-to-school options:

- 100% in-person learning with safety protocols in place.
- A hybrid of in-person and remote learning, with groups of students attending in person on alternate days for social distancing.
- 100% remote learning.

During Monday's listening session, district Communications Manager Emily DeBaker told viewers that the district needs to have detailed plans in place for each of the three options since the situation with the spread of the virus is fluid. The district might start the year under one option and have to switch to another overnight.

Working on the district's plan are action teams, each focused on various aspects of the

return to school such as special education, transportation and safety protocols. The teams are comprised of more than 200 participants including teachers, staff, community members, community partners and administrators.

"We know that traditional education is probably a thing of the past in some way or another," DeBaker said. "We need to make sure that we are up to date, we are up to speed and that we are educating our children the best we possibly can."

Janell Decker, Unified's executive director of curriculum and instruction, explained that parents can sign up for totally virtual instruction through the Wisconsin eSchool platform regardless of which of the three option the district chooses. However, the eSchool curriculum is separate from Unified and students would not be taught by their Unified teacher.

She added that if Unified chooses the remote or hybrid options for all students this fall, remote learning will be led by the student's regular classroom teacher. Decker also promised remote learning in the fall would be much different than remote learning after the emergency shutdown in the spring, which was not structured and was ungraded for the vast majority of students.

### Parent worries

Many parents during Monday's session were worried that if they kept their child home from Racine Unified for the upcoming school year due to safety concerns, they would lose their spot in one of the district's coveted choice schools. There are waiting lists to get into some of those schools.

(Continued on page 27)

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**Opinion**

**Weigh in on a Remote Start Year of the RUSD**

by Lawrence Terry

I agree with superintendent Gallien “we know that face to face learning is best for our students, and we are committed to doing so when we know it is a safe decision.” I also agree that at the present time remote learning is the safest way for our students, teachers, support staff, and families. Even though some parents felt they should have had an opinion. I applaud the district for letting science and safety of human lives guide their decision-making. It appears the team has planned a robust remote learning experience for the children. Now working with the children and providing support to the families will be a good remote learning at home. We want to make sure that all schools have what is needed so children can get off to a good start. They have missed out on learning because of COVID-19. However, I do have some concerns, also parents who approached me regarding remote learning since they had experienced it when schools were closed because of COVID-19. Some of my concerns and theirs are as follow:

- Are all families’ homes equipped with internet connection to deliver remote learning effectively? They want to know about the hotspots, how they work, hp laptops, zoo books and protective sleeves. Also will they be available when school starts? Will teachers be trained to deliver remote learning effectively?
- Will each child in grade 3-12 have a

chrome book before school starts?

- Will all younger children in pre-k through grade 2 have a chrome tablet and paper assignments?
  - Will a scheduled breakfast, lunch, and recess be provided for parents?
  - What are the 7500 devices that the district has purchased for students? (name them)
  - Are these devices for elementary, middle, and high school?
  - Will students’ work be graded? Attendance taken daily?
  - Where will teachers work from? Classroom or another site?
  - How will teachers and RUSD work with parents who have jobs and no babysitter or someone to help the child complete classwork?
  - What about sports and gym classes?
  - How will children with special needs and IEP’s be addressed?
  - Teacher contact and communication with students and parents.
  - Define extenuating circumstances that teachers will work with students and give one example?
  - Will mental health services be available for students?
  - Parents want a definition of remote learning and a brief description of what it looks like.
- Make sure that all children have devices and/have access to internet connection to use to finish homework.

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# Does a Trust Fit into Your Estate Plan?

by Yvette Stewart

As a financial advisor, I help my clients navigate through many questions about estate planning. I encourage all of them to create a will stating how they want their property distributed in the event of their death. But I also recommend my clients consider another legal document, a trust. A trust may be a good fit for your estate plan if preserving wealth for the next generation is a top priority.



tors.

## How a trust can help

Consider these general benefits of trusts:

- Added privacy.

By establishing a trust, your estate does

not have to go through probate court, which is a public process. Instead, your financial matters are managed privately. This protects new heirs from unscrupulous people who search public records, looking to target new heirs.

- More control. A trust provides more control than a will can achieve. This is especially helpful if you are concerned about the financial responsibility of your beneficiaries. For example, you can configure a trust to limit the age when inheritance is received, whether it is distributed as a lump sum or in installments, and how it is spent. You can even protect inheritance if a beneficiary gets divorced. Some

trusts safeguard assets from the claims of future creditors.

- Lower fees and taxes. Because a trust avoids probate, your estate can be settled more efficiently and with fewer fees. Also, most trusts are set up so that they help reduce or eliminate estate taxes that can eat into an inheritance. These benefits can be substantial, particularly for large estates. On the other hand, the costs associated with creating a trust can make this option less attractive for smaller estates.

## Consult the experts

Talk to your financial advisor about how to best secure your estate for future generations. When a trust makes sense, consult an experienced trust attorney.

*Yvette M. Stewart, is a Financial Advisor with Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. in Brookfield, WI. She specializes in fee-based financial planning and asset management strategies and has been in practice for 14 years. To contact her, visit [www.ameripriseadvisors.com/yvette.m.stewart](http://www.ameripriseadvisors.com/yvette.m.stewart), email: [yvette.m.stewart@ampf.com](mailto:yvette.m.stewart@ampf.com). PH: 262-901-1540. Ameriprise Financial Services, 16650 W Bluemound Rd, Suite 800, Brookfield, WI 53005. She resides in Racine, WI. Investment advisory products and services are made available through Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., a registered investment adviser. Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA and SIPC. © 2020 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.*



## What is a trust?

A trust is a legal arrangement that protects your estate for your named beneficiaries, which can include yourself. By creating a trust, you transfer assets to a third party ("trustee") who is responsible for managing and distributing those assets while you are living or after you pass. In general, large and complex estates have the most to gain from establishing a trust.

## Types of trusts

Trusts come in different shapes and sizes. First, you can choose a revocable or an irrevocable trust. A revocable or living trust can be changed, modified or revoked during your lifetime. An irrevocable trust is locked in until your property is distributed. Beyond this distinction, there are different trusts for a variety of specific circumstances. For example, a special needs trust is ideal when you want your assets to provide services for a child or other relative with special needs. If you wish to leave some or all of your estate to charity, a charitable trust can help reduce or eliminate estate and gift tax. An asset protection trust keeps assets safe from claims of future credi-

# Parent Questions about RUSD fall plans

(Continued from page 22)

Unified parent Ally Docksey pointed out that she and the other parents on the call have the technology and time to stay engaged in their child's education. That's not the case for all Unified students.

"Virtual learning, I think for a lot of the kids in our district will be a complete failure no matter how good the program is that you guys set up," Docksey said. "Because they don't have a place to learn that's quiet where they can be undisturbed and they don't have parental supervision to make sure that they stay on task."

Docksey said she knew of several students in the spring who were supervising younger siblings and trying to keep them on task, while also having their own work to do.

"There are kids that really, really need to be in class and that's the only way they are going to get an education," Docksey said.

Lisa Hogan, a special-education teacher who also has children attending schools in the district, asked how hybrid learning would work and whether there would be "live" virtual lessons, since many parents work during the day and will not be able to help their children with schoolwork during that time.

Decker said that the district has a team working with local day care providers so that they can help students with their remote learning. She also added that the district was confident that it would be able to supply students and staff with masks if they return to school in person. Those who could not take part in the listening session can send their thoughts and concerns to [info@rusd.org](mailto:info@rusd.org).

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## Racine Unified to provide free meals to all students at all schools for next four years

RACINE - Racine Unified is set to provide free meals to all students enrolled at all of its schools, in a new program set to extend over the next four years. This means that when school buildings reopen students will not have to pay for district-provided breakfasts or lunches, regardless of their family's economic status.

As of last year, the majority of Racine Unified schools offered free lunches to all students regardless of family income, except for Horlick, Park and Case high schools, Walden III, the REAL School and Gifford K-8. This year, those schools will be included in the free meal program.

The district provides the free meals through the federal Community Eligibility Provision, which reimburses districts and schools in low-income areas for the free meals they serve. CEP is part of the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010.

During a presentation to the Racine Unified School Board on Monday, the district's Food Service Coordinator Cheryl Herman said some of benefits of the program include more students eating school lunch and elimination of stigma for those who previously received free or reduced price meals due to their family income.

"What it does is it's going to remove the stigma for those children who maybe don't quite qualify," she said. "It makes meal service much, much easier and that is the key

in this upcoming year."

Now, families in need will not have to fill out an income application to receive free meals, the district doesn't have to spend time and resources collecting unpaid meal fees and no parents have to worry about ensuring that their child has lunch money. All Unified schools will be enrolled in the program for the next four years.

With 22 of its schools participating in CEP last year, Unified had a 99% reimbursement rate. Adding the six remaining schools, which have fewer economically disadvantage students, would bring that rate down to around 83% at the current participation rate. That would mean around an \$800,000 loss for the district's food service fund. However, Herman is hoping that increased participation in the meal program would make up the difference.

"If we're claiming more meals, that number will shrink so we're really hoping that we can make ends meet," Herman said. She added that she's conferred with other districts that have made the program work with a lower reimbursement rate than Racine Unified is expected to have.

School Board member Matt Hanser said that because many families in the district have difficulty making ends meet, he hopes that increased access to free meals will mean less stress at home for students and increased engagement in learning.

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# Turn Up the Vote Enters Ninth Consecutive Year of Voter Outreach



On July 4, the Racine Interfaith Coalition (RIC) launched the next phase of its non-partisan voter outreach program, Turn Up the Vote, with an informational video posted on its Facebook page. Since then, the group has planned and carried out a number of non-partisan activities designed to ensure that the voice of every person in our community is heard through their participation as an informed voter.



As they have every year since 2011, Turn Up the Vote volunteers have been working year-round to educate voters about topics such as how to get a state ID, how to register to vote, dates and deadlines for registering and voting, and where to vote, both early and on election day. This year, Turn Up the Vote is also encouraging individuals to participate in the census and is providing detailed information in English and Spanish about how to apply for and send in an absentee ballot.

In the past, Turn Up the Vote volunteers have been very visible in the community registering voters and providing information at festivals and events such as Juneteenth and the July 4 parade, using their trademark converted ice cream cart. They have also knocked on thousands of doors and have set up voter registration tables at area high schools, the Workforce Development Center, and outside local businesses.

This year, because of COVID-19, instead of in-person activities volunteers will be mailing post cards and leaving informational materials on the doorsteps of individual houses. They will also be using social media and a smartphone app that creates a network of individuals who remind each other to register and vote. RIC also provides a voter information hotline – (262) 631-9176 – for individuals who have questions about any aspect of voting. An exciting new aspect of this year's activities is an informational series on

## Important Deadlines for November 3 Election

To Register before election day	On-line	By 5:00 PM October 14
		By mail
	In person at Municipal Clerk's office*	By 5:00 PM October 30
Early Voting	In person at Municipal Clerks office*	Up to 14 days before the election**
Absentee Ballot Requests	Submitted on-line or by mail	By 5:00 PM October 29***
	In person at Municipal Clerk's office*	By 5:00 PM October 30

\* Due to Covid 19, in-person activity at the Racine City clerk's office must be done by appointment. Call 262-636-9171.  
 \*\* Varies by municipality. Check with your clerk's office for dates, times and locations.  
 \*\*\* Ballots requested less than two weeks before election day are unlikely to be received in time to be counted.

Instagram aimed especially at younger voters that is being developed and staffed by RIC's Youth Task Force.

For several years, RIC has provided rides to the DMV to get an ID, to the clerk's office to register, or to the polls to vote. After some consideration, they have determined that, even with the pandemic, they can still safely offer rides by providing masks and face shields for both drivers and passengers. Because of the number of individuals voting by mail in the November 3 election, they are also providing a new service this fall:

witnessing an absentee ballot for those who do not have easy access to someone who can witness their ballot before they mail it in. For rides to the DMV or to the polls, for help witnessing an absentee ballot, or to volunteer to help, individuals should call the RIC office at (262) 635-9532.

This year, more than ever, it is important that every person in our community takes seriously their right and obligation to make their voice heard through voting. Turn up the Vote is determined to help make this happen for everyone.



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# Church's Role and Responsibility in the COVID Crisis and State Our Health Is In

This article is part of, a continuation of the last three Health, Nutrition, Diet articles in the Racine Mirror--Hey What About Our Health [www.maxfulfillment.com/hey-ourhealth/](http://www.maxfulfillment.com/hey-ourhealth/) in June; New Norm for Personal Healthcare [www.maxfulfillment.com/healthnewnorm/](http://www.maxfulfillment.com/healthnewnorm/) in July, and Wear the Real Mask, Get the Real Protection in the August issue [www.maxfulfillment.com/healthprotection/](http://www.maxfulfillment.com/healthprotection/). They are all for "doing something about" the:

- COVID crisis and bad, alarming state/condition our health is in. For example:
  - Overweight you look around and see on our bodies;
  - Our lousy; health, life-threatening junk, processed "food" diet saturated with unhealthy, addicting sugar, salt and oils;
  - Widespread disease, sickness, "aches and pains"; cancer, heart attacks, diabetes, dementia/alzheimers you see and hear about so much, too much;
  - Those feeling fine, no sign of any problem, okay diet, good physical. Then all of a sudden wham-bam heart attack, cancer, diabetes or alzheimer's/dementia;
  - Prescriptions, medications needed to keep us going; alive, and that compromise beyond repair proper functioning of our body's organs! (2 in [www.maxfulfillment.com/healthpurpose/](http://www.maxfulfillment.com/healthpurpose/))

health needs and issues like the ones above. 2 Individual church members set an example, be a role model for personal health care and follow Biblical direction regarding health.

### HOW CAN THAT HAPPEN? For starters, starting out:

1 Utilize, take advantage of health, nutrition, diet professionals like Sunday Muniz, Nutritional Designs <https://www.nutritionaldesigns.com/> and education, learning; information and resource centers like the HCT (HEALTH, NUTRITION, DIET Change, Support & Accountability TEAM) [www.maxfulfillment.com/healthbooklet/](http://www.maxfulfillment.com/healthbooklet/) It is passionate; very, strongly interested in providing support, assistance or being a resource for 1 and 2 above.



2 Educate, raise awareness about the state/condition our Health is in, and that more COVID protection is needed than face coverings, social distancing and staying out of crowds. See [Wear the Real Mask www.maxfulfillment.com/healthprotection/](http://www.maxfulfillment.com/healthprotection/).

3 Make tools, information and resources available like the HCT Resource Center [www.maxfulfillment.com/healthresource/](http://www.maxfulfillment.com/healthresource/)  
4 Help form partnerships, support groups for doing what we know perfectly well that our health, nutrition, diet needs but aren't doing it.

5 Get a Health, Nutrition, Diet Checkup [www.maxfulfillment.com/healthcheckup/](http://www.maxfulfillment.com/healthcheckup/), the real checkup.

6 Give your health a gift it deserves—a fresh, new start [www.maxfulfillment.com/healthnewyear/](http://www.maxfulfillment.com/healthnewyear/). Who would like to give their health a present and join you?

7 Help others with their health that helps you with yours. Making and keeping an agreement with someone else rather than yourself can be easier and more rewarding! See 6 in [www.maxfulfillment.com/healthmodel/](http://www.maxfulfillment.com/healthmodel/).

8 Other, what would you add or suggest? If you have any questions, would like further info, have a discussion; interested in a meeting, talk/presentation, workshop online or in person, contact Randy Bennett Ed.D. HCT 847 809-4821 [randy@maxfulfillment.com](mailto:randy@maxfulfillment.com). THANK YOU!

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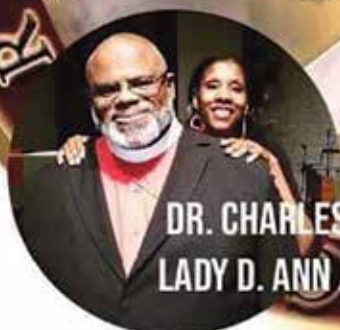
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Given the above, we, you and I no longer have a choice to be healthy or unhealthy, to take care of our health or not. That Changing, Strengthening or Improving Our Health has to be part of our social, civic and even moral, ethical responsibility like we vote, go to work, pay our bills, help family and friends. See New Norm for Personal Healthcare [www.maxfulfillment.com/healthnewnorm/](http://www.maxfulfillment.com/healthnewnorm/)

Likewise, the Church needs to step up, take responsibility and do their part/fair share.

The reason is that Churches, as you know are a very powerful force for good, what is right and just, and that stand for and care for the greatest needs and issues of its members and community. They include well-known ones like homeless; sick, shut-in; poverty/low income, hunger; grief/bereavement; divorced, widowed and special needs.

But shouldn't churches and their congregations also help out with the COVID crisis and the bad, alarming state/condition our health is in like they would any other top, important, pressing need or issue?

### I would say YES AND IN AT LEAST TWO WAYS. Having

1 A Health Ministry, Community Service, which could be one person or a group that is addressing the greatest, most pressing



# LULAC Calls For Immediate Investigation In Kenosha, Wisconsin Shooting

*Nation's Oldest and Largest Latino Civil Rights Organization Says Shooting of Jacob Blake Appears Unjustified and Excessive*

Washington, DC - The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) today issued the following statement in the shooting Sunday evening of a 29-year old black man in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Witnesses say he was trying to get into his van where his children, ages 3, 5 and 8 years old were already passengers. The man suffered seven gunshot to his back at close range. The Wisconsin National Guard has now been called out to quell civil unrest sparked by the shooting.

**Domingo Garcia  
LULAC National President**

"LULAC calls for an immediate and full investigation into the shooting of Jacob Blake which the nation and the world is seeing in disbelief replayed on the internet today. No reasonable person can accept a police department's actions of shooting an unarmed man in the back repeatedly as he is getting into his vehicle while his family looks on in horror. The shooting shown in the video that's been released on social media appears to be unjustified and unfortunately, another tragic incident of excessive use of deadly force against black and brown men shot by police with little regard for human lives."

**Sindy Benavides, LULAC National Chief Executive Officer**

"We applaud Governor Evers action of calling a special session on policing accountability and transparency. We expect

a full and independent investigation by the Wisconsin Department of Justice and pray for Jacob Blake's children and family. We ask for full justice for Jacob and demand full accountability from the police department on what transpired. Too many Black lives have been taken, we need reforms to policing now."

**Lupe Martinez  
LULAC Wisconsin State Director**

"Although all details are not clear at this time, what is clear, based on the available video, is that another Black man was shot in the back by police officers. This must stop! LULAC stands with our Black brothers and sisters in a call for an immediate investigation in Kenosha and an immediate halt, nation-wide, to the senseless shootings by police officers. We stand in Unity with Black Lives Matter."

**About LULAC**

The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the nation's largest and oldest civil rights volunteer-based organization that empowers Hispanic Americans and builds strong Latino communities. Headquartered in Washington, DC, with 1,000 councils around the United States and Puerto Rico, LULAC's programs, services and advocacy address the most important issues for Latinos, meeting critical needs of today and the future. For more information, visit [www.lulac.org](http://www.lulac.org).

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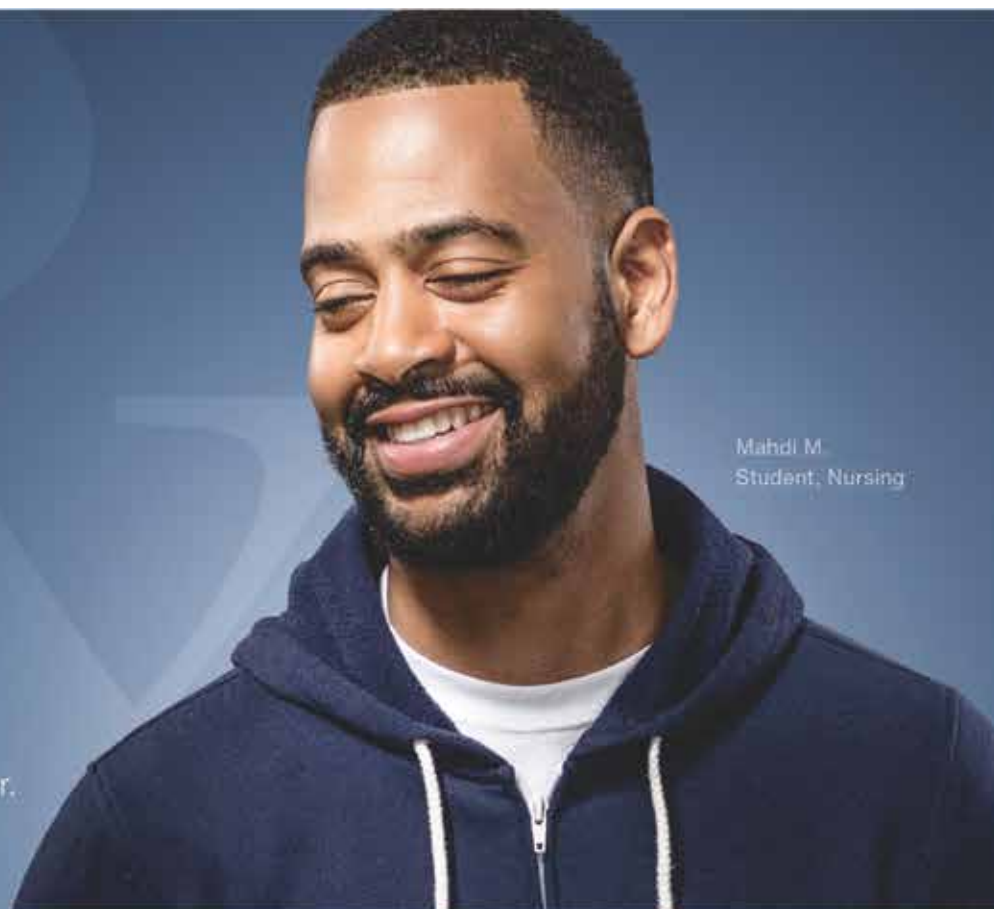
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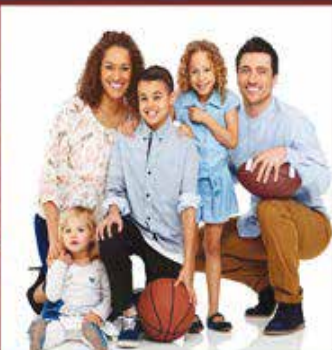


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### **New Addition! Spoken Mandarin Chinese for Beginners**

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Thursdays | Oct 15 & 22 | 6pm-8pm  
Saturdays | Oct 17 & 24 | 9am-11am

### **Professional Skills**

Now offering 10% off Professional Skills courses when two or more courses are pur-

chased simultaneously!

### **LinkedIn Secrets for Job Search Tuesday | Sep 15 | 6:30pm-8:30pm**

In this current market, it is important to stay one step ahead and have an edge over the competition. It's a fact that over 85% of all recruiters use LinkedIn sometime during the hiring process to either find or verify candidates. If you're in a job search and have a poor or non-existent presence on LinkedIn, you are endangering your chances of finding your next great job. This online workshop, featuring live instruction from expert Sue Gresham, will help you prepare your LinkedIn profile and learn the best practices for growing an influential and helpful LinkedIn network.

### **Fall 2020 List of Offerings**

- Russian for Beginners I | Starts 9/9/20
- Spoken Mandarin Chinese for Beginners | Starts 9/12/20
- LinkedIn for Job Search Success | 9/15/20
- Retirement Planning Today Thursdays | Starts 10/15/20
- Beginning Conversational Spanish | Starts 10/15/20
- Retirement Planning Today Saturdays | Starts 10/17/20
- Russian for Beginners II | Starts 10/28/20

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# Real Talk Therapy: Put It On

by D. White

Last month I told you to shake it off but please don't get upset when I tell you to put it on. Let me explain for those who may be thinking why doesn't he make up his mind? While at the NAACP National Convention in Baltimore, MD after a riveting motivational speech one of the hostesses said, "Let's get it on." I appreciated the sentiment but I'll be content to just put it on. Well what exactly is it that you need to put on? You need to put on any and everything that is fruitful for your cause. First of all, you do have a cause don't you? The Bible says to put on the whole armor of God (Eph. 6:11-18). Remember that the physical armor is a metaphor for spiritual warfare. Protect your loins with truth, your breastplate with righteousness, your feet with the gospel of peace, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword. If you really pay attention you will notice that all of the armor outlined in the Scriptures except for the sword is for defense? The only offensive weapon is the sword, the word of God (Eph. 6:17). Let us consider this briefly.

Prior to David's victorious combat with Goliath he asked the rhetorical question "Is there not a cause (1 Sam 17:29)?" David had a purpose even before he took his position. As the story goes, not only was David victorious for the cause of Israel but he ultimately became King of Israel. Do you not realize that a person often does the work before he or she actually holds the official position? Even though David was just a young shepherd boy the respect and responsibility that he demonstrated was worthy of a King. He was re-



sponsible by letting God guide him into battle. Conventional wisdom tells us that a little shepherd boy wouldn't dare stand a chance against a mighty giant, but David said, "The battle is the Lord's (1 Sam. 17:47)." He was respectful by refusing to harm the current king, Saul,

when Saul because of jealousy, had an army out seeking David's precious life. David had respect for authority and because of that he refused, although he had opportunity, to lay a destructive hand on the Lord's anointed (1 Sam. 24:1-10).

What do you need to put on? Put on the right mind. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus (Phil 2:5). Trust that God will protect you because in his divine word God says that no weapon formed against you shall prosper (Is. 54:17). Put on a good attitude. Somebody said that attitude is everything. The fact of the matter is that your attitude determines your altitude. There is not a depth you cannot conquer or a height that you cannot reach if you have the right attitude. Another great speaker at the NAACP convention, Linda Clemons, said, "Whatever you think on the longest becomes the strongest in your life." The Bible tells us to think on things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, and good (Phil. 4:8). The Apostle Paul said, "I can

do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Phil. 4:13 NKJV)." With the right attitude and God in your life you can ultimately put on immortality (1 Cor. 15:53). Last but certainly not least put on humility. When you humble yourself God will exalt you (Luke 14:11). What do you need to put on? Put on the whole armor of God. The armor is part of the plan for your protection while you defend the truth of God's holy and divine word. Actress Bresha Webb said, "Proper planning prevents poor performance." David defeated Goliath because he planned properly and put on a profoundly perfect performance (1 Sam. 17:49-50). That's why he only needed one stone to conquer Goliath. David holds the record for the best shooting percentage of all time; 100%. Think about it. Now put it on!

*Darrell Anthony White Woodard is a school counselor in Kenosha and a Gospel preacher at the Southside Church of Christ and Hampton Avenue Church of Christ in Milwaukee. To schedule a consultation or speaking engagement, please make your request via email: darrellwoodard@rocketmail.com or phone: (847) 287-5842. Linked In: www.linkedin.com/in/dr-darrell-anthony-white-woodard-32387837/ Facebook: Acrostic Therapy.*



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