

# THE VOICE

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# THE VOICE

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# Charlie Kirk, the Bully on the Playground

After his assassination, many are asking: who was Charlie Kirk, and why did his beliefs strike such a nerve in America's racial debate?

**By Bonita Gooch**  
Voice Editor-in-Chief

Up until his assassination, I had never heard of Charlie Kirk. Unlike my father, who faithfully watched Fox News just to see what "they" were saying, or my friends who spend endless hours trolling social media, I had missed him. So when news broke of his death, I was shocked and disappointed. Political violence is never the answer, and I remain disappointed it came to that.

But after reading more about Kirk, I began to understand why he was so disliked. He built a career and a

following on negative statements and outright lies about African Americans and other minorities.

His list of grievances is too long to recite in full, but here are just a few:

- He said the Civil Rights Act was a "huge mistake" that created an anti-White system of DEI and civil rights.

- He claimed Democratic immigration policy was designed to "diminish and decrease white demographics in America."

- He described "prowling Blacks" as targeting White people for fun.

- And he dismissed George Floyd—whose murder became a global turning point—as a "scumbag."

This is the man who served as one of Donald Trump's close advisers, someone the vice president described as "like a little brother." Kirk wasn't a fringe figure—he was trusted.

His words helped shape



Charlie Kirk: He thrived on lies about Black America

policies that amount to a not-so-subtle attack on Black and Brown communities. His influence revealed that what some describe as "colorblind" conservatism is, in reality, an all-out embrace of white grievance politics.

That's why I urge you to read several articles in this issue alongside this editorial. One examines how Labor Department propaganda eerily mimics Nazi recruitment flyers—absent of women and people of color.

Another takes a deeper look at reparations and the long history of "white affirmative action" — the Homestead Act, the GI Bill, redlining, and discriminatory judicial systems that locked out Black families from generational wealth. These are the policies that built White prosperity while locking Black communities out.

My summary of Kirk, after watching just a single video, is that he was a bully. He thrived on confronting young people on college campuses, baiting them into debates about privilege they hadn't yet had time to fully process. He avoided

seasoned Black voices who have lived the reality of systemic exclusion.

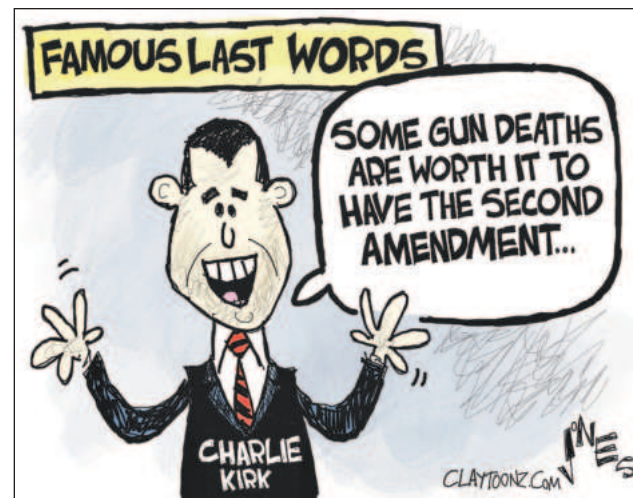
And like every bully on the playground, he left behind scars—not just on individuals, but on our national dialogue. His death doesn't erase the damage, nor does it change the responsibility we all share to stand up against ideas that demean and divide. If anything, it reminds us that the fight for truth, justice, and reparations is bigger than any one loud voice.

That's why this issue's series on reparations is so important. By revisiting the broken promise of "40 acres and a mule," the policies that created White generational wealth while locking Black families out, and the present-day movement for repair, we counter Kirk's narrative with history, facts, and vision.

Where he sowed resentment, we must plant understanding. Where he dismissed our pain, we must insist on truth. And where he denied our worth, we must claim our rightful place in America's story.

## CARTOON Sorry Charlie

This isn't funny. It's true, but sad.



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# Trump Labor Campaign Posters Mirror Nazi Propaganda

Retro-style posters from Trump's Labor Department echo Nazi propaganda by centering Whiteness and masculinity as symbols of patriotism and progress.

**By Nehemiah D. Frank**  
The Black Wall Street Times

A new campaign from the Trump Administration's U.S. Dept. of Labor has drawn sharp comparisons to Nazi-era propaganda, raising alarms about the racial and gendered vision of America it promotes.

The glossy, retro-styled posters feature White men in hard hats, lab coats, and muscle shirts alongside slogans such as "America's Future" and "Your Nation Needs You!" Critics note the deliberate absence of women and people of color, with only one poster including them

— placed literally beneath a white man towering above.

### Nostalgia or Grooming?

At first glance, the campaign might appear to be a harmless throwback to World War II recruitment posters. But as The Black Wall Street Times reports, its messaging is anything but neutral. The aesthetic centers white masculinity as the symbol of national strength, evoking imagery used by Nazi Germany to elevate Aryan men while erasing women and minorities from public life.

In the 1930s, Joseph Goebbels' Ministry of Propaganda popularized posters of blond, muscular men as the "ideal German worker." Women appeared only as mothers, while Jews, Roma, and others were erased altogether. The Trump Administration's posters, Nehemiah D. Frank writes, follow a chillingly similar script: White men as the emblem of loyalty, patriotism, and progress.

### The Reality They Ignore

This imagery starkly contrasts with the real face of the American workforce. Women make up nearly half of U.S. workers and dominate fields like health care and education. Black, Latino, Asian, and Indigenous workers sustain industries from construction to agriculture to logistics. Immigrant labor powers much of the nation's infrastructure.

By erasing these contributions, the campaign signals that their work — and their future — are expendable. "The continuity with Nazi aesthetics isn't coincidence," Frank warns. "It's cultural grooming."

### Why It Matters Now

The posters also arrive during a wider rollback of diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts, alongside rising white nationalist rhetoric in politics and culture. In this context, centering white men as the nation's destiny isn't just inaccurate — it's dangerous.



Nazi Germany's "ideal worker" and Trump's "America's Future" campaign share strikingly similar aesthetics and messaging.

History shows how propaganda normalizes exclusion long before violence enforces it. "Silence in the face of propaganda is complicity," Frank concludes.

The Trump Administration's Labor campaign may be packaged as patriotism, but its message is

clear: it narrows who belongs in America's story, and in doing so, echoes one of history's darkest playbooks.

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# Missouri Redistricting Sparks Lawsuits, Protests & Ballot Fight

By Bonita Gooch  
Editor-in-Chief

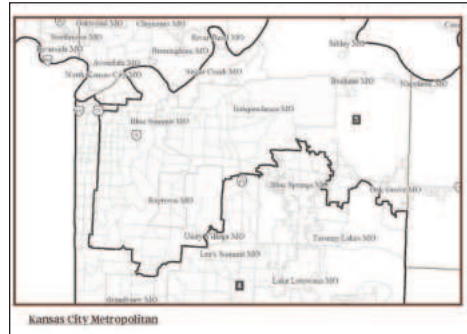
Missouri's battle over redistricting reached a boiling point this week as the House approved new congressional maps that carve up Kansas City's 5th District, currently held by Democratic Rep. Emanuel Cleaver.

The new maps, part of a broader national Republican effort led by President Donald Trump to secure congressional control in 2026, would disperse Kansas City voters into three GOP-leaning districts, giving Republicans the advantage in seven of Missouri's eight seats.

## Lawsuit Filed, Ballot Drive Considered

The Missouri State NAACP has already filed suit, arguing the redistricting is unconstitutional because congressional boundaries may only be redrawn once every 10 years following the census, absent extraordinary circumstances.

Opponents are also eyeing a referendum drive to overturn the maps. If enough signatures are gathered and the petition is certified, the new districts would be suspended until voters weigh in. That means if certification happens before the May 26, 2026, ballot



The proposed redistricting map pulls the strip of Kansas City west of 71 into the southern District 4.

"lock-in" deadline, the 2026 elections would use the current maps, even though the referendum vote would not occur until November.

By contrast, if lawsuits are pending but no court has issued an injunction, election officials would be required to use the new maps. Only if a judge orders the maps frozen would the current districts remain in place.

## Protests & Public Pressure

The pushback has been swift. More than 1,000 people rallied at the state capitol Sept.

10, denouncing the plan as an attempt to rig elections. "This proposal is nothing more than an attempt to rig the 2026 elections before a single vote is cast," said Denise Lieberman of the Voter Protection Coalition.

At the same time, leaders of the National Baptist Convention, gathered in Kansas City for their annual meeting, held a press conference urging lawmakers not to "get clever with Cleaver's seat." They argued the plan would disenfranchise minority voters who have long relied on Cleaver's representation.

## KC at the Center

If approved, the new 4th District would absorb all of Kansas City west of Highway 71, leaving the remainder in the redrawn 5th. Mayor Quinton Lucas' residence would be moved to the 4th District.

While he hasn't said he would run if the redrawn map holds, he was clear in an interview with Stateline, that everyone who cares about representation for Kansas City owes it to the community to make Republicans spend real resources. "And so I expect there to be a real congressional race," he said.

As the fight shifts to the Senate and potentially to the courts and the ballot box,



The proposed new boundaries take District 5 north and east into almost the center of the state, adding many White and loyal Republican voters.

Missouri's redistricting battle is shaping up as one of the most consequential in the nation ahead of 2026.

See the old and new district maps and how Republican vs Democratic they lean. <https://bit.ly/42IGZxX>



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# KCK Mayoral Race: The Candidates in Their Own Words

After just one term, Kansas City, KS, Mayor Tyrone Garner chose not to seek reelection. During his tenure, Garner often found himself at odds with commissioners as he fought

for underserved residents, particularly the poor, the elderly, and those living east of I-635.

Now, voters are looking for a leader who will continue to prioritize community needs

while also building coalitions strong enough to move KCK forward. Out of six candidates who entered the race — four women and two men — two women have advanced to the

general election on Nov. 4.

In this Q&A, they share their visions for the city and address issues that matter most to our readers.

## ROSE MULVANY HENRY

**Current occupation:** Attorney  
**Age:** 57

Rose Mulvany Henry is an accomplished attorney with a proven track record of strategic leadership and success in the private sector. She has demonstrated the ability to align policy with business objectives - partnering with public/private stakeholders to drive multi-billion-dollar infrastructure investments. She is recognized for her ability to



quickly assess business risk, navigate complex regulatory environments, and deliver impactful results. Henry is also an elected member of the Board of Public Utilities, where she has

led governance reforms, championed equitable customer service policies, and played a central role in recruiting an executive management team focused on innovation, efficiency, and community impact.

## CHRISTAL WATSON

**Current Occupation:** Executive Director of the Kansas City Kansas School Foundation for Excellence  
**Age:** 61

Watson has served as a nonprofit leader, education leader, and corporate leader, experiences that shaped her deep understanding of how to bring different sectors together for the good of the community. She knows Wyandotte's challenges are complex, but also believes they can be met when



leaders push boldly for fairness while working compassionately with partners across every sector. Her vision is simple but urgent: lower bills, safer streets, and real investment

in long-overlooked neighborhoods. Watson's strength is in uniting people and resources, ensuring prosperity isn't limited to a few corridors but shared by families across Wyandotte County.

### QUESTION 1: EQUITABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic growth in Wyandotte County has often been concentrated in areas like Village West. What is your plan to ensure that jobs, infrastructure investment, and new opportunities are equitably distributed across all communities in the county?

Realistically, UG leadership, including the mayor, cannot force investors to develop in specific areas of our community. However, we can be intentional about attracting investment to traditionally disenfranchised areas. For example, the potential for the defunct Quindaro power plant property to be remediated and re-purposed into another business (likely a data center) can serve as a catalyst for further housing and business investment in the Northeast area. The influx

of both property and utility sales taxes from a project like that could be intentionally reinvested as incentives to further "destination-type" projects.

The UG needs a strong and creative economic development team that is working in lock step with Wyandotte EDC as well as BPU to ensure all facets needed for new projects. It will be my job as mayor to ensure our county administration team is doing just that. When we all work together, nothing can stop us.

Economic development has been uneven, and that has to change. I would aggressively push for new incentives to be tied directly to east-of-635 neighborhoods and legacy corridors, ensuring at least half of our next decade's projects land in communities that have been left behind. I would also insist on community benefit agreements for all major projects, requiring local hiring, apprenticeships, and small-business inclusion.

At the same time, I would build people-first bridges by working with churches, nonprofits, and schools to align workforce training with actual job openings. We can't wait for an opportunity to trickle down; we must demand fair distribution of resources and then back it up with grassroots support systems so residents are ready to take those jobs.

### QUESTION 2: BPU PILOT AND UTILITY RELIEF

The Board of Public Utilities' Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) fee — currently set at 10.9% — is a significant concern for residents who struggle with high utility bills and lack of billing flexibility. What specific steps would you support to provide relief, such as reducing or restructuring the PILOT, separating BPU charges from Unified Government charges, or expanding targeted relief programs? How would you balance relief for residents with the need to maintain funding for essential services?

I have been working on these very issues for the past 3 years on the joint PILOT Task Force with Commissioners Bynum and Hill. Together, we developed various strategies to reduce the PILOT, including permitting separate fees for residential and non-residential customers (which has resulted in reduced PILOT fees for residential customers in recent years; 2026 budget proposes 9.9% for residential and 11.9% for non-residential). In addition, we also reviewed options

to separate the BPU bill from UG fees (for flexibility), but that remains cost prohibitive to the UG at this point (\$2 million for setup with \$1.1 million annually ongoing). BPU and the UG each fund programs for PILOT and utility rate relief (hundreds of thousands in relief annually) for our most vulnerable residents. As your mayor, these relief efforts will continue and expand (possibly using a portion of the tax dollars from data center projects).

Families shouldn't have to choose between paying utility bills and putting food on the table. I would press for an aggressive review of the PILOT, including options to reduce the burden on low-income households and separate UG charges from BPU bills for clarity. I would also fight for a "lifeline rate" on essential usage and tie new development deals to a utility-relief fund. At the same time, I'd pursue softer,

longer-term solutions, expanding weatherization programs, flexible billing, and community partnerships for energy efficiency, so families' bills naturally go down over time. Relief and sustainability can coexist, but only if we stop treating high utility costs as inevitable and start treating them as solvable.

Continued on Page 6 →

**QUESTION 3: PROPERTY TAXES AND FISCAL TRANSPARENCY**

With the recent decision by the Unified Government to unfreeze the mill levy, resulting in higher property taxes, how would you address concerns about fiscal sustainability, budget transparency, and potential tax relief for residents?

To decrease our near full reliance on property taxes (and therefore decrease our individual tax burden), we must: diversify our tax base with sales taxes received from new economic development and small businesses; increase taxes from visitors to Wyandotte County vs residents (transient tax); and push for an earning tax at the state level to be imposed only on non-WyCo residents working in Wyco. We must also find new ways to attract

new residents offering affordable housing solutions. New streams of revenue will help us achieve the financial sustainability we need. For transparency, I have already proposed a dashboard to show residents where their tax dollars are being used in real time. If this method works for Fortune 500 companies, it should work for the UG. As mayor, I will work every day to champion these strategies with our commissioner and the entire UG team.

Property taxes can't keep climbing while families' wages lag behind. I would aggressively call for a public-facing, line-by-line budget dashboard, so residents know exactly where every tax dollar is going. I would also push for performance audits and require new projects to include impact fees, so growth pays for growth instead of homeowners footing the bill.

On the softer side, I'd champion

expanded relief options for seniors, working families, and residents under hardship, ensuring no one is forced out of their home due to taxes. Fiscal sustainability isn't about squeezing residents, it's about smarter, more transparent budgeting. By setting higher expectations for accountability and building trust through clarity, we can stabilize taxes while maintaining the services our families rely on.

**QUESTION 4: DATA CENTER DEVELOPMENT**

Large-scale data centers have been proposed in Kansas City, KS, including a \$12 billion campus west of the Speedway and redevelopment of the Quindaro Power Station. Do you support these developments? What safeguards would you put in place regarding energy consumption, environmental impact, and quality of life for nearby residents?

I support the data center developments, with caveats. 1.) We must ensure that BPU can successfully manage the electric and water loads required for any one or combination of the projects against the needs of our residents. BPU is working closely with the Southwest Power Pool (its Regional Transmission Organization) from/to whom it buys and sells power to ensure it will be able to meet the various loads projected. However, until a project is further down

the line, they are just projections at this point. 2.) Any development agreement entered into by the large hyperscalers (e.g. Google, Amazon, Meta, etc.) must require environmentally protective construction and design requirements (with penalties for failures in this regard), as well as financial sureties to address any future burden to the electric and water supply to KCK residents and businesses (including additional investments required by BPU).

Data centers can bring billions in investment, but they must not come at the cost of our people. I will push aggressively for enforceable safeguards: renewable energy requirements, water-use limits, and independent monitoring of noise and environmental impacts. No deal should move forward without a written community benefits agreement that includes affordable energy impact fees, local apprenticeships, and

investment in neighborhood infrastructure.

At the same time, I'd take a softer but steady approach by creating a standing community advisory council, so residents near these sites always have a seat at the table. Technology growth should fuel neighborhood stability, not strain it. If we balance smart regulations with community partnership, Wyandotte can become a leader in tech development that serves both investors and families.

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# Rachel's Tea House Marks 25 Years of Supporting Teen Moms

By Bonita Gooch  
Voice Editor-in-Chief

For 25 years, Rachel's Tea House, Inc. (RTH) has been a lifeline for young mothers and their babies in Wyandotte County and the greater Kansas City area. Founded in 2000 by Charles and Carolyn Cofield after the tragic loss of one of their seven children, the Kansas City, Kansas-based nonprofit was born from grief but built on purpose: to walk alongside teens facing unexpected pregnancies and encourage them to choose life.

Over the years, hundreds of girls and their children have benefited from RTH programs. In its early days, RTH even operated transitional housing for pregnant teens.

While that aspect of the ministry slowed after COVID and as the founders stepped back, the mission remains strong under new executive director Lynette Jones.

Jones explains that today's focus is on building community, offering practical resources, and reminding young women that they are not alone. "We're there as coaches, mentors, and friends," she said. "We celebrate them for choosing life and provide what they need to care for their baby."

Current services include monthly baby showers—held the first Monday and Tuesday of each month—where young mothers receive essentials like diapers, wipes, bottles, and clothes. Tea parties provide

moments of pampering and encouragement, tailored to each young woman and her friends. These gatherings also serve as a chance to assess needs and connect mothers and their families with support and resources.

Though rates of teen pregnancy have declined nationally, Jones says the need in the community remains.

To celebrate its 25th birthday, RTH will host a fundraising dinner on Sept. 27 from 4–7 p.m. at the National Agricultural Hall of Fame in Bonner Springs, Kansas. The evening will feature music, dinner, gifts, a silent auction, and even a sneaker contest. Tickets are available at [rachelsthouse.org](http://rachelsthouse.org), or by calling (913) 334-4343.



Charles and Carolyn Cofield, Rachel's Tea House founders, started the organization in 2000 after the death of one of their seven children.

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## ★ LOCAL REPARATIONS UPDATES ★

# Kansas City's Reparations Study Finally Underway After Two-Year Delay

Commission hires research team for 16-month review of city's role in harming Black residents.

By Bonita Gooch  
Editor-in-Chief

After years of delays, Kansas City's long-awaited reparations study is finally underway. The Mayor's Commission on Reparations, sworn in May 2023, has hired a research team to begin a 16-month project examining how city policies harmed Black residents — and what remedies may be possible.

"This commission has been stalled for a very long time, and we finally got movement," said Terri Barnes, chair of the commission, in a recent community presentation.

## How the Commission Was Formed

The roots of the commission trace back to the Kansas City Reparations Coalition, which spent three years laying the groundwork and gaining support from the City Council

### Key Takeaways

- KC reparations study finally underway
- Research targets five key areas
- Expect investments, not cash checks

and mayor.

In January 2023, the City Council voted 10–1 to establish the commission. The coalition also had input on the members selected. But forward motion quickly hit a wall — funding. The commission was approved and seated, but no money was provided to complete its work.

Barnes now says the delay turned out to be a blessing in disguise. "We had two years to attend conferences across the country, to learn from attorneys and organizers who have been in this fight for years. In hindsight, it put us in a much better position than if they



had handed us money at the time," she said.

## Funding Battles and Federal Pressure

The commission requested \$510,000 to hire a research team but was eventually approved for \$330,000. They issued a request for proposals earlier this year, interviewed respondents, and selected a contractor — then

hit another wall.

In today's anti-DEI climate, the city's legal staff raised concerns that reparations work could be considered "DEI-related," putting future federal funding at risk.

The commission reached out to longtime advisor Mickey Dean, who

See STUDY Page 10 →



Terri Barnes



Dr. Adrian Carter

## It's Not Just About Slavery: *The Modern Case for Reparations*

Advocates say reparations address centuries of harm — from slavery to redlining — and can take many forms beyond cash payments.

### Key Takeaways

- "40 acres and a mule" broke.
- Reparations cover harm beyond slavery.
- Cities act where Congress stalls.

By Bonita Gooch  
Editor-in-Chief

The story of reparations in the United States begins with a short-lived promise. In January 1865, Union General William Tecumseh Sherman issued Special Field Order No. 15, which redistributed

confiscated Confederate land to newly freed Black families. Each household was to receive 40 acres of coastal land, and some would also be given surplus Army mules.

Roughly 40,000 freed people briefly farmed this land, but the promise collapsed after

President Andrew Johnson reversed the order and returned the land to its former White owners. This reversal forced formerly enslaved families back into dependency and sharecropping, and it remains one of the most glaring broken promises in U.S. history.

"Forty acres and a mule" has since become shorthand for the reparations owed but never delivered.

## Modern Reparations Movement

The modern reparations movement traces back to Queen

Mother Audley Moore, who in 1957, petitioned the United Nations for land, billions in compensation, and support for African Americans who sought to emigrate to Africa.

See REPARATIONS Page 10 →

# What Wichita can learn from Kansas City's path to forming a reparations commission?

## Key Takeaways

- Mary Dean's reparations push stalls after setbacks, removal, and lawsuit.
- Mayor Wu opposes; Councilman Johnson supports but urges patience.
- Advocates point to Kansas City's slow, coalition-driven success as a model.

By Bonita Gooch  
Editor-in-Chief

The push to establish a reparations commission in Wichita has been contentious and, so far, unsuccessful. The debate reached a boiling point last month when community advocate **Mary Dean** was escorted out of a city council meeting at the direction of Mayor **Lily Wu** after pressing for answers about the status of the ordinance she proposed to establish a Wichita reparations commission.

Dean has spent more than a year working to create the commission that would study how policies and practices of the City of Wichita harmed African-American residents. The council referred the ordinance to the city's **Diversity, Inclusion, and Civil Rights Advisory Board (DICRAB)** for review and a vote of support or denial. Instead, DICRAB referred the ordinance back to the council without a recommendation.

Not long after, amid federal warnings that cities could lose funding if they continued diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives, Wichita disbanded DICRAB entirely — and the reparations ordinance was left in limbo.

At the Aug. 5 council meeting, Dean used her allotted time during the public comment period to push for answers and action on the ordinance. When her time was up, Dean pressed on despite several warnings. The mayor told Dean that if she didn't walk away, she would have her escorted out.

Determined to continue, Dean told the mayor she would have to be escorted out — and that's exactly what happened.

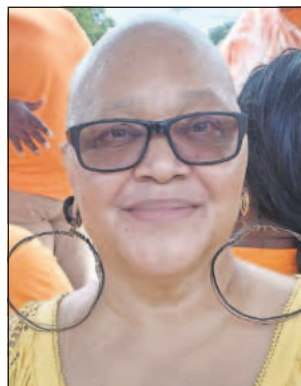
Within two weeks, Dean filed a **federal lawsuit** against the city, Wu, members of the council, City Manager Robert Layton, and City Attorney Jennifer Magana, alleging discrimination, retaliation, and civil rights violations tied to her ordinance and her removal.

## Wu: Reparations Shouldn't Be Local

Mayor Wu has made clear she does not support a local reparations commission. In a Jan. 2, 2025 letter to Dean, she wrote: *"While I admire your commitment to a path seeking equity and justice, I respectfully disagree on the implementation of a local reparations ordinance."* She called the issue "extremely complex," warned it could be divisive, and argued it might undermine the resilience of Wichita's Black community.

Based on the position she expressed, Wu told The Community Voice she didn't understand why Dean hadn't sought another council member to introduce the ordinance.

"I'm just one member of the council," she emphasized, pointing out that any other member could have introduced the ordinance for discussion or a vote.



Mary Dean

## Johnson: The Effort is "Righteous"

Councilman **Brandon Johnson**, the only African-American member of the council, has been the most vocal supporter of Dean's proposal, but he did not enter a motion for consideration of

the ordinance.

About the confrontation in council chambers, he says it "could have been handled better," noting that the mayor had options besides removal, including recessing the meeting.

Johnson says he worked with Dean to adapt her draft ordinance, which was modeled after Kansas City's.

"For example, the ordinance originally gave the mayor appointment power," he explained. "I asked her if she really wanted this mayor to make all the appointments, or if she preferred the council to do it. She agreed to shift appointments to the council."

Johnson acknowledged that the city's legal staff was stretched thin with

other priorities. "Reparations wasn't the No. 1 issue," he said, adding that Dean was frustrated by how long things take in city government.

"That was frustrating for Mary, and it's frustrating for me too."

Still, he insists the effort is important. "Her push to get a commission formed is righteous," Johnson said. "It may not be a check handed to descendants of slaves, but it might mean looking at how redlining impacted our communities and what we can do with city resources. We can invest in parks, housing, and infrastructure in neighborhoods that were harmed. That's the kind of impact a commission could have."

## Lessons From Kansas City

Kansas City organizer **Mickey Dean**, who helped build support for that city's reparations commission, has advised Mary Dean during the process. His advice, gained from years of working to get action in KC, is: build a coalition, secure a council champion, and be patient.

Mickey Dean spent five years researching and lobbying before Kansas City's reparations commission was approved in 2023.

"It doesn't happen quickly," he said. "You have to keep educating people on what reparations really is. Once they understand, support grows."

Both Johnson and Mary Dean agree the word "reparations" itself creates hurdles. Johnson believes reframing the conversation around redlining and city policies could help build broader support.

"When you talk about housing discrimination and neighborhood disinvestment, people get it," he said. "That's reparations work, even if the word turns some off."

## The Road Ahead

For now, Wichita's reparations proposal remains stalled — caught between local politics, federal headwinds, and community frustration. Dean's lawsuit ensures the issue won't disappear, but real progress may depend on the slow, deliberate coalition-building that worked in Kansas City.

"People want change fast," Johnson said. "But if we take the time to explain the impact of generations of decisions made at every level of government, I think we can get there. The work is righteous, and in Wichita it could do some real good."

**STUDY**, from Page 8 ↓

connected them with attorneys in the national reparations movement. Together, they helped address the city legal staff's concerns, and the contract was finally approved this summer.

**A Comprehensive Study of City Harms**

The commission has hired Carter Development Group, a Florida-based firm led by Dr. Adrian Carter, who will work with a 12-member team that includes five Kansas City researchers. They will also partner with the University of Missouri–Kansas City's Dept. of Economics.

Over the next 16 months, the team will research, investigate, and deliver separate reports on five areas: economics, health, housing, criminal justice, and education. Each report will document what occurred, when and where it happened, who was involved, and how Kansas City policies or practices contributed to the harm experienced by African Americans.

Community interviews will be a key part of the research.

"The goal is to deliver a comprehensive report that identifies the damage done to Kansas City's Black residents — what the city has done, failed to do, or contributed to historically and currently," Barnes said.

**Building Awareness & Managing Expectations**

This week, the research team made its second trip to Kansas City. Their first visit focused on familiarizing themselves with the city, touring key neighborhoods, and meeting with longtime leaders such as Ollie Gates, former Mayor Sly James, and Alvin Brooks. They also heard

presentations from city department heads.

Barnes said she was struck by how much support they found inside city hall. "Every department leader who came in and did a presentation said they were supportive of this work and glad to see it move forward," she said.

At the same time, Barnes cautioned against unrealistic expectations. "Some people are waiting on their cash check," she said. Echoing comments by Dean, she added: "On the local level, it more than likely won't be a check. Mayor Lucas has said he thought it would be in the way of a targeted investment."

**Looking Ahead**

While the researchers do their work, Barnes said raising public awareness will remain critical.

"There's a lot of documented information out there already that speaks to discrimination and harm that has happened to African Americans in Kansas City," she said. "This is about identifying it clearly and showing how the city was complicit."

When the research is complete, Kansas City will face a pivotal decision: whether to become one of the few American cities to not only acknowledge its role in racial harm, but also chart a path toward repair.

**REPARATIONS**, from Page 8 ↓

In 1987, activists formed the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (N'COBRA) to unify local efforts, followed in 2015 by the National African American Reparations Commission (NAARC) to link U.S. and Caribbean movements.

For years, mainstream politics dismissed reparations, but in 2014 writer Ta-Nehisi Coates reignited debate with his essay "The Case for Reparations." Interest surged again after the murder of George Floyd in 2020, when protests over racial injustice pushed corporations, universities, and city governments to take reparations more seriously than ever before.

**Why Reparations Now?**

Critics often argue: "I never owned slaves, and you were never enslaved." But advocates emphasize that reparations address not just slavery, but also centuries of systemic harm that followed.

As Mickey Dean, founder of the Kansas City Reparations Coalition, explained in a recent presentation, "The period of enslavement is the first stage in the demand for reparations." He cited the unpaid value of chattel slavery — estimated at \$50 trillion in today's dollars — as the foundation of America's racial wealth gap.

However, Dean says



Atty. Mickey Dean

reparations isn't just about unpaid debt from slavery. The second phase of reparations speaks to the Jim Crow era and subsequent federal policies that built White wealth while excluding Black people. Examples include:

- The Homestead Act of 1862 gave 246 million acres of land — nearly all to White settlers. Today, 93 million Americans descend from beneficiaries of this program.
- Sharecropping and convict leasing re-enslaved Black people in the post-Civil War South through cycles of debt and forced labor.

• The Social Security Act initially and intentionally excluded agricultural and domestic workers. Those were jobs held by 80% of Black workers.

• The GI Bill after WWII fueled suburban growth, but redlining and banking discrimination blocked Black veterans from accessing most of its benefits.

• "These policies let White families accumulate and pass down wealth while Black families were left with nothing," Dean noted. "That's why we're talking about reparations not just for slavery, but for everything that's happened since."

**Defining Reparations**

Advocates stress that reparations are not ordinary public policy. As Dean put it: Affirmative Action isn't reparations, nor are other public programs, even if they disproportionately help Black people.

Under Dean's definition, "if it's not exclusively for Black people and not controlled by Black people, it's not reparations."

Reparations can take many forms:

- Direct payments or cash transfers
- Land grants or housing funds
- Community development trusts
- Tax relief
- Scholarships and free education
- Healthcare access

Cities like Evanston, Illinois, have already implemented programs. Evanston initially gave \$25,000 housing grants to individuals who had faced housing discrimination, or their descendants. The funds could be used for down payments on homes or for home improvements. Eventually the program was expanded to allow eligible Black families to use the funds however they chose.



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11:30 am - 1 pm Diabetes Heroes Honored, lunch and program

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# Nearly Half of People With Diabetes Don't Know They Have It

## By The Voice Health News

When was the last time you had your blood sugar checked? A new global study suggests it might be time.

According to research published in *The Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology*, **44% of people age 15 and older living with diabetes are undiagnosed** — meaning nearly half of those with the condition don't know they have it.

Most cases are type 2 diabetes, which can be managed with early detection and treatment. But because symptoms can be subtle, many people remain unaware until serious complications like heart disease, kidney damage, or vision loss appear.

### Younger Adults Less Likely To Know

The study found that just 20% of young adults under 35 with diabetes knew they had it. Screenings are often recommended for adults 35 and older, leaving younger people at risk of being overlooked.

“People end up getting diagnosed with diabetes only at the point where they have complications,” said Lauryn Stafford, the study's lead author.

### Why Early Detection Matters

“Diagnosing diabetes early is important because it allows for timely management to prevent or delay long-term complications,” said Dr. Rita Kalyani of the American Diabetes Association.

Globally, only about 40% of people being treated for diabetes were achieving optimal blood sugar control. Even with established treatments like insulin, Metformin, and newer GLP-1 drugs, many patients also face other health challenges, such as hypertension or kidney disease.

### What to Watch For

Common symptoms include:

- Increased thirst or hunger
- Frequent urination
- Blurry vision
- Fatigue
- Unexpected weight loss

However, many people with diabetes have no symptoms in the early stages, making regular screenings especially important for anyone with a family history.

### Prevention Steps

While type 1 diabetes can't be prevented,

type 2 often can. Experts recommend:

- Limiting processed and red meats
- Eating more whole foods, fruits, and nuts
- Reducing ultraprocessed foods
- Incorporating regular physical activity, such as brisk walking 15 minutes a day

“Focusing on risk factors and prevention is just as critical as diagnosis,” Stafford said.

Incorporating regular physical activity, such as brisk walking 15 minutes a day

“Focusing on risk factors and prevention is just as critical as diagnosis,” Stafford said.



A person checks their blood sugar. Nearly half of people with diabetes don't know they have the condition, a new study shows.



## Visit our new Breast Wellness Center

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Wichita, KS 67214



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\*Cancer screening guidelines recommend women get a mammogram every year, beginning at age 40. A doctor's referral is not needed for a screening breast mammogram.

# Fired Up: BBQ Express Brings Flavor to Northeast Wichita

By Ty Davis  
Wichita Reporter

For Terry Wilson, barbecue isn't just food — it's family, legacy, and a calling that's been simmering since childhood.

"I grew up around barbecue," Wilson recalled. "My grandfather ran a BBQ spot down in Ardmore, OK. As kids, we'd go down, help him out, and learn the business. It's always been a passion of mine. I love barbecue, and it's always been in my heart to share it with other people."

That passion eventually became BBQ Express, which officially opened its doors in Wichita in April at 6249 E. 21st Street N.

## From Oklahoma Roots to Wichita Plates

Wilson first dreamed up his own barbecue concept back in 1999–2000, putting his own spin on his grandfather's tradition.

Over the years, he honed his craft in Colorado and Texas, places where barbecue culture runs deep, before finally returning home to Wichita about a year and a half ago.

Although he worked for other companies during his time in Texas, barbecue never left him.

"I always cooked barbecue at home," he said. "Once I came back to Wichita, with my kids and family here, I decided it was time to open this place up."

Opening BBQ Express was more than a business move; it was a way of continuing a generational story, blending his family's tradition with Wichita's growing appetite for authentic smoked meats.

## Building a Presence on the Northeast Side

Wilson's choice of location was both practical and personal.

"When I was a kid, this used to be a bowling alley. I worked here washing dishes when I was 13 years old," he said with a smile. "Now it's one of the busiest spots on the northeast side, and I thought it was the perfect location to bring my concept to life."

Like many small businesses, BBQ Express has faced early challenges, from unexpected expenses to rising utility costs. Yet, Wilson remains encouraged.

"Every day, I see new faces walking through the doors. That's what keeps me going," he said.

The east side of Wichita has long been a hub of community life but hasn't always enjoyed the same density of locally owned sit-down restaurants as other parts of the city. By planting BBQ Express there, Wilson is not just feeding customers, he is investing in a neighborhood that deserves the same



BBQ Express owner Terry Wilson has put his own spin on his grandfather's Oklahoma barbecue, further honing his craft and style over decades in Colorado and Texas, places where barbecue culture runs deep.

options and opportunities as any other.

## Flavor, Family & Faith

Barbecue takes time, and Wilson is committed to doing it right. Every piece of meat is smoked on-site, often for 12 to 16 hours. And despite high costs, he proudly uses choice cuts of meat, refusing to compromise on quality.

One signature touch is his chopped brisket.

While many restaurants serve sliced brisket, Wilson believes chopping brings out more flavor. The menu also features rib plates, hot links, spicy sauces, and daily specials — including a pulled pork sandwich with chips and a drink for \$8.99.

For heartier appetites, BBQ Express offers the three-meat dinner for \$18.99, where customers can combine ribs, brisket, and hot links with classic sides.

Wilson said the goal is balance:

"There's something for every budget — from a quick lunch special to a full barbecue feast.

Families today need a place where they can sit down and eat without spending \$20 a person," Wilson said. "We run specials so folks can bring their families, share a meal, and still afford to come back."

His faith is also central to how he runs the business. "I love Jesus Christ," he said. "I believe He died on the cross for us, and



Wilson prides himself in offering tender meat. The restaurant slogan is "You need no teeth to eat our meat." In addition to barbecue, he offers fish and chips, with all meat offered with a great selection of sides including the standards plus fried okra, green beans and macaroni and cheese.

that He's coming back. That belief keeps me grounded and gives me the courage to keep going."

## Why It Matters to the Black Community

Barbecue has always carried special meaning in African-American culture. Beyond the smoke and sauce, it represents resilience, resourcefulness, and hospitality.

Generations of Black families have gathered around barbecue pits at reunions, church picnics, and neighborhood celebrations.

Wilson's BBQ Express continues that tradition on Wichita's northeast side. For many Black residents, seeing a business like this thrive means more than just another restaurant. It's representation, proof that Black entrepreneurs can build lasting businesses. It's economic empowerment, keeping money circulating locally and creating jobs. And it's culture, serving food tied to history, memory, and identity.

"Hopefully, my kids will want to take this over someday," Wilson said. "And it'll stay in the family for years."

## Looking Ahead

Wilson's vision goes beyond today's menu.

He hopes BBQ Express will grow into a cornerstone business on the east side, inspiring others to follow. His advice to aspiring Black entrepreneurs is simple but powerful:

"Take a chance. You only live once. Pray, trust God, and step out on faith."



## IF YOU GO

### BBQ Express

6249 E. 21st Street N.  
Wichita, KS  
www.BBQExpress.us  
316-358-9990

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**Mon.–Thu.:** 11 a.m.–7 p.m.

**Fri.–Sat.:** 11 a.m.–8 p.m.

**Sun.:** Closed

Curbside pickup and call-ahead ordering available

# Two Friends, One Vision: Keys to My Heart to Premiere at Century II

Wichita producers Deontae Hayden and Daley Gunter turn real struggles of love, betrayal, and redemption into a faith-based drama for the stage.

**By Ty Davis**  
The Community Voice

How do two Black producers from Wichita take real struggles—broken families, forgiveness, and redemption—and turn them into something the whole community can see on stage? Their answer is *Keys to My Heart*, a new play produced by longtime friends Deontae Hayden and Daley Gunter.

The production will premiere September 26–27 at Century II's Mary Jane Teall Theater, presented by the pair's company, Films From Within (FFW).

## A Drama That Unlocks More Than Love

*Keys to My Heart* is a faith-based drama that digs into love, betrayal, and forgiveness. It follows a young couple whose relationship is tested when hidden truths come to light. What starts as devotion becomes a journey through heartbreak, the struggle for trust, and the possibility of redemption.

The play asks hard questions: What happens when love collides with secrets? Can trust be rebuilt after deception? How do you forgive when your heart is still hurting?

Along the way, the production is layered with humor, tension, and heartfelt moments that mirror the ups and downs of real relationships and community life.

"It's not just a feel-good story where everyone hugs at the end," Hayden said. "There are consequences for our actions. But there's also redemption. That's what makes it real."

## Familiar Faces, Fresh Voices

The cast of 12 blends experience with new talent.

Kaela Kincheon and Michael Webber bring a familiar presence from Wichita's arts scene.

Ty Avery and Brittany Young



"Longtime friends and creative partners, Deontae Hayden (R) and Daley Gunter (L), are the force behind Wichita's new stage play *Keys to My Heart*."

add fresh emotion and perspective.

Emmanuel Goines (aka Pooh Hufner) and Chris Jackson (aka Jackstacks.Eats) contribute charisma and their local following.

"We prayed over every role," Gunter said. "Some actors are playing outside their comfort zones, but that's where growth happens. The goal was to bring together people who not only act well but who could live out the heart of this story."

## The Producers Behind the Curtain

For Hayden, performance has always been a calling. A Wichita native, he grew up acting, singing, and competing in sports before attending Kansas State University. His degree was in management information systems, but acting never left his life. "I acted every semester at K-State," he said. "By the time I graduated, I had done eight plays and even some professional theater. My gift is coaching people—taking their shyness or nervousness and helping them look like seasoned actors."

Gunter's journey started in Washington, D.C., where he studied electrical engineering

and played football at Howard University. Community theater gave him a new passion. "I found theater, and it gave me a way to express myself," he said. "It taught me discipline and opened a door I didn't even know existed."

Love, and his eventual wife, brought him back to Wichita. His partnership with Hayden became the reason he stayed. Together, they launched Films From Within, a creative company dedicated to producing stories of faith, family, and redemption.

## A Big Stage for a Local Story

Why Century II? For Hayden and Gunter, choosing the Mary Jane Teall Theater was about faith and legacy.

"Century II is usually for big names from out of town," Gunter said. "But we serve the same God that blessed those shows. Why not do something big here for our own people?"

"This is our first time standing alone with a production of this size," Hayden added. "It's about managing what God gave us wisely,

but it's also about leaving a legacy."

## Why This Story, Why Now

For Wichita's Black community, *Keys to My Heart* is more than theater—it's a mirror. Themes of hidden struggles, family tension, and reconciliation reflect real experiences.

"In our community, too often we don't talk about things until funerals," Hayden said. "We want this play to open those conversations now—while there's still time to heal."

Faith-based productions, the producers believe, are a way to reach people who may never step into a church but will step into a theater.

## Guided by Faith

Neither producer trained formally in theater or film. Instead, they learned by observation, trial and error, and faith. Starting with filming weddings and small projects, they built toward creating original works.

"We didn't want to outsource our gifts," Hayden said. "God gave

us the tools, so we decided to use them."

Both men lean on scripture to guide their work.

Gunter quoted Ecclesiastes: "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might."

Hayden cited 1 Peter: "God has given each of us a gift. Use them well to serve one another."

Hayden also drew inspiration from Bahamian teacher, minister, author and speaker Dr. Myles Munroe: "The wealthiest place on the planet is the cemetery—because of the untapped potential buried there. I don't want my gifts to die with me."

## Looking Ahead

For Hayden and Gunter, this play is both a milestone and a beginning.

"We're just two Black producers bringing something real to Wichita," Gunter said. "Before we take it worldwide, we want our community to see that their stories belong on stage too."



## IF YOU GO

**Keys to My Heart**

**When:** Friday, Sept. 26 & Saturday, Sept. 27

**Where:** Century II's Mary Jane Teall Theater

**Showtime:** 7:00 PM (doors open at 6:00 PM)

**Tickets:** [selectaseat.com/keys](https://selectaseat.com/keys) or at Century II/Intrust Bank Arena box office

**Seating:** Open, first come, first served

## KCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS' BRIGHT SPOT:

# Washington Wildcats on the Rise

By Matt Resnick  
Sports Contributor

As he limped toward the sideline after absorbing a hard tackle against Wyandotte last season, Kansas City, KS, Washington High School defensive standout Jaylin Washington was initially unaware that he had suffered a broken tibia on the play.

"I definitely felt it once the adrenaline wore off," Washington said.

The injury cut short a promising year for the junior cornerback that was capped by a highlight-reel-worthy 106-yard interception return for a touchdown. At the season's midpoint, Washington was among the state leaders in multiple defensive categories.

While the physical nature of the injury seemed daunting at the outset, it was the mental anguish that took a heavier toll on him.

"I was at the lowest point of my life," he said. "I felt like I had lost everything, and I was scared I would never play football again."

Rehabilitation went better than expected for Washington, who was back doing light workouts within a few months, and fully

recovered around the six-month mark. Washington added that the injury changed his perspective on life and that he felt a sense of urgency throughout the rehab process.

"Like, whatever I lost, I have to get it back," he said. "Now it's my senior season and nobody is going to take it from me. It's time to work for it."

Providing further motivation, Washington has received scholarship offers from Central Methodist University (Missouri), Benedictine College (Kansas), and University of St. Mary (Kansas).

Washington High head coach Camron Smith said he's been impressed by Washington's drive to return to the gridiron. Smith noted his star defensive pupil is a student of the game who provides invaluable leadership.

"He has always been nothing but respectful to the coaching staff," Smith said. "He's just a really great kid who is always open to listening and improving."

### Breaking Through

Washington's injury also dealt a devastating blow to the school's pursuit of its first postseason win.



Members of KCK Washington High School football team with their coach Camron Smith. (L-R) Washington High head coach Camron Smith, Darreon Baskin, Jaylin Washington, CamRon Fields, Joshua Howell, Benito Morrell, Zayvion Hayslett, and Savion Stone. CREDIT: MATT RESNICK

Many of KCK's public school football programs have struggled in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. With a 6-3 record, Washington was the only public school in the area to boast a winning record last season.

Entering his seventh season on the sidelines, Smith has his program on an upward trajectory. He believes the pieces are in place to notch that elusive playoff victory.

To secure a favorable playoff seed, he said his squad needs to protect its home turf and finish undefeated at home.

Washington's home slate includes key conference matchups against Topeka's Highland Park and Atchison.

"We're only going to accomplish that type of success through hard work," Smith said.

The team kicked off its

season Sept. 4 with a road win against Kansas City-Summer Academy, 62-20. Summer finished 5-5 last season, while falling to Washington in last year's opener.

### Stone's Journey

Smith's squad returns a number of key cogs on both sides of the ball — including dual-threat signal-caller Savion Stone.

As a junior last season, Stone became the first prep athlete in KCK public school history to pass for a 1,000 yards, while also eclipsing 1,000 yards rushing.

Now, Stone has his sights set on postseason success, but to achieve that end, he said that he and his teammates need to be mentally sharp as the season opener rapidly approaches.

"I'm just trying to make sure everyone is on the same page, and mentally and physically prepared for the opener," Stone said.

Stone made his varsity debut as a freshman in a playoff loss to the Pittsburg Purple Dragons, and it's an experience that motivates him to this day. Stone said in a tense playoff atmosphere

in southeast Kansas, he felt overwhelmed by the Friday night lights.

"It's something I had to prepare myself for, and, obviously I wasn't ready yet," he said of the letdown performance.

While he was pleased with the team's 6-3 record in 2024, Stone said he was disappointed by last season's playoff loss. With the number of returning starters on both sides of the ball, Stone believes his squad can exceed its 2024 win total.

"We have to be consistent every day and make sure we stay on our grind and don't stop," said Stone, who has received offers from a host of community colleges, including Kansas schools Butler and Independence.

CamRon Fields, a junior wide receiver and kick returner who racked up more than 1,500 all-purpose yards and 14 touchdowns last season, said that he and Stone complement each other nicely on the field.

"We push each other to a higher level," he said.

Junior offensive lineman Preston Portley II, whom Smith has entrusted as one of the team captains, said



## HAVE A SPORTS STORY TO SHARE?

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that he's aiming to instill a winning attitude in the locker room.

"I want us to believe that we can win, regardless of who we're playing," he said. "I'm leading by example, so every time I step on the field I'm displaying energy."

Smith's objectives for his players also extend to the classroom.

"Our goal is to have an overall team GPA of 3.5," he said. "It was 3.01 last year, so I'm hopeful we can reach our goal."

## OTHER ACTION

USD 500 Schools opened their season last week with the following matchups. Coming off a winless campaign last season, Wyandotte High School hosted Highland Park for its season-opener Friday night losing 6 - 32.

After finishing 2-7 in 2024, F.L. Schlagle lost to Center High Yellowjackets 8-19. J.C. Harmon High, who also finished 2-7 a season ago, loss in a road clash with Marantha Christian Academy 0-6.

# Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Charters New Chapter in North KC

**By Bonita Gooch**  
Editor-in-Chief

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., the nation's first Greek-letter sorority established by African-American college women, has expanded its presence in the Kansas City metro area with the chartering of a new chapter, Pearls of Heartland, in North Kansas City, MO.

The Mid-Western Region, under the leadership of

Regional Director Anika Wilson Starling, formally announced the chapter's creation as part of the sorority's mission to strengthen service, scholarship, and sisterhood across the Heartland.

## First Chapter in the Northland

The Pearls of Heartland Chapter is the first Alpha Kappa Alpha chapter established in the Northland of KC. It will serve Clay, Platte, and

Buchanan counties, focusing on initiatives that directly impact those communities. Leaders said the expansion was motivated by the recognition that Northland residents needed greater access to the sorority's outreach and service programs.

## New Officers Announced

The chapter has elected a full slate of officers for its inaugural term, led by President Teaira Miller, First Vice

President Marquita Miller-Joshua, and Second Vice President Tamara Clark Sykes.

## Chartering & First Meeting

The official chartering ceremony for Pearls of Heartland will take place on Sept. 20 and the chapter will hold its first official meeting in October. After the chapter is settled and organized, leaders plan to begin welcoming new members and expanding membership through outreach and interest meetings.

## Purpose & Mission

Pearls of Heartland will carry forward the national mission of Alpha Kappa



Alpha: to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards, promote unity and friendship among college women, study and

address issues affecting girls and women, maintain a progressive interest in college life, and be of service to all mankind.

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## Margaret Ann Gardner, 83

December 2, 1942 - September 5, 2025  
Service will be held at 11 am on Sept. 26 at Jackson Mortuary Chapel, 1125 E. 13th St

## Earlene Thomas, 84

November 24, 1940 - September 5, 2025  
Service will be held at 11 am on Sept. 17 at New Salem Missionary Baptist Church, 158 N Madison Ave

## A'Niah LaSharn Bell, 25

January 21, 2000 - August 30, 2025  
Service will be held at 11 am on Sept. 20 at First Evangelical Free Church, 1825 N. Woodlawn

## LaShea Capri Bell, 42

May 5, 1983 - August 30, 2025  
Service will be held at 11 am on Sept. 20 at First Evangelical Free Church, 1825 N. Woodlawn

## Darnell Wade Jones, 41

February 21, 1984 - August 30, 2025  
Service will be held at 11 am on Sept. 16 at Jackson Mortuary Chapel, 1125 E. 13th St

## Clifford Mayes, 90

March 5, 1935 - August 29, 2025  
Service was held on Sept. 11 at Jackson Mortuary Chapel.

## Joyce Davis, 90

September 16, 1934 - August 28, 2025  
Service was held on Sept. 8 at Tabernacle Bible Church.

## Shelia Harding, 68

December 6, 1956 - August 28, 2025  
Service will be held at 10 am on Sept. 18 at Tabernacle Bible Church, 1817 N. Volutsia

## La' Vel Earl Beach, Sr., 62

May 6, 1963 - August 26, 2025  
Service will be held at 1 pm on Sept. 19 at Jackson Mortuary Chapel, 1125 E 13th.

## Sharon Collins, 79

August 4, 1946 - August 26, 2025  
Service will be held at 12 pm on Sept. 18 at St Mark UMC, 1525 N Lorraine

## Eileen L. Zachry, 77

November 10, 1947 - August 26, 2025  
Service will be held at 10 am on Sept 19 at Faith Mission Church of God in Christ, 2118 N Kansas.

## Sherri Lynn Wilson, 70

May 27, 1955 - August 24, 2025  
A memorial service will be scheduled at a later date

## Bishop Mark L. Gilkey

May 23, 1959 - August 19, 2025  
Service was held Sept. 12 at St. Mark UMC.



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