



DR. MARTIN L. KING, JR. COMMUNITY CENTER

King Press

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August produced a lot of activity at the King Center!

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Back-to-School Festival

The theme for the 15th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Back-to-School Festival held on August 8th was,

"We Can, We Did & We Will Continue"

We did do it, we can do it and we will continue to do it! Not thunderstorms, not rain, not soggy ground can stop the power of a group of people determined to supply the Milwaukee community children with school supplies to start the school year off right.



People begin lining up as early as 7:30 in the morning for the registration that didn't begin until noon. Then they lined up to receive the book bags, which began at 4:00pm. Through the rain you could see the sunshine of smiles and when the sun finally came out so did thousands or more people!



Poetry Slam Jam!

On Thursday, August 13th the King Community Center hosted its 1st Poetry Slam Jam! Teens deliver powerful positive messages through spoken word! If you missed it, well you missed a message from our youth about everything from successes to failures and how to handle it all! Stay tuned for the next Poetry at the King Slam Jam

Championship Basketball game played at the King!

On August 19th at 5:00pm the gym was filled with anxious parents and supporters for the CYD Victory over Violence summer league championship game!

The top two teams "Greenbay" (representing the Running Rebels) and "Pioneers" (representing Dr. Martin L. King Jr. School) competed for the championship trophy.

The Pioneers won the championship by a score of 86 to 70. They are coached by Supervisor Toni Clark and have a season record of 11-0.

The league is organized and ran by Willie Mitchell known as "Baylew". The youth in this league were between the ages of 12-14.

Baylew will be running a youth league in the King Center for boys and girls in High School and Middle School. The first game is scheduled to be played September 14th.

Games will be played every Monday and Wednesday, with the final game of the league on December 23rd.

Come on support the youth as they show their skills. It's a good inexpensive family night out!



Baylew and his assistant congratulating one of the players



Supervisor Toni Clark with her championship team, the Pioneers



2nd place team, Greenbay with Coach

Olsen's Theater Group Performance

On August 20th the youth who have participated in Olsen's Theater Company performed in the King Auditorium. It was a great performance by the youth. We were entertained with everything from tapping to singing to dancing!



On Thursday, August 20th, Milwaukee lost a dedicated warrior to the community, Mr. Al Moreland

*Al Moreland symbolized grassroots volunteerism at its best. His roles in the sport of amateur boxing over the past 40+ years have always focused on serving the athletes. Himself an amateur boxer while in the Air Force, Moreland's efforts remained directly in touch with the boxers ever since. Other than for a time serving as Wisconsin's Association president many years ago, he continued working hard at the local level to make things possible for others instead of seeking rewards for himself.

Moreland was a retiree who spent 25 years working at A.O. Smith Company, all while volunteering to coach and mentor young boxers in the city. In total, he dedicated over 4 decades as an amateur boxing trainer.

He's had a handful of boxers venture to higher levels on the path to Olympic competition and turn pro. Moreland even trained one, Gerald McClellan, who held a world championship. But for Moreland, the real prize from his amateur boxing program wasn't an oversized belt or cash rewards. To Moreland, boxing had more to do with diverting the attentions of at-risk youth from Milwaukee's streets.

"Developing a professional boxer is nothing," Moreland often said. "You can develop a professional boxer who starves to death." While it is satisfying to see boxers succeed in the sport and advance, Moreland is equally content to help his boxers get control of their lives, take responsibility, stay in school, enter college or technical school, or be a good parent.

"We've got to get our young men to step up," Moreland said in a Milwaukee Journal article. "I tell these young men everyday that anybody can make a baby, but it takes a man to raise one." It's his practical, direct, and often-brash style that was appreciated by those kids and seemed to help the message reach them.

Moreland avoided creating an impression to his boxers that they are entering a lucrative business or that there are easy shortcuts to wealth and fame. He made it clear that financial reward in the sport is a very long shot. Moreland believed it was more important to push the work ethic that boxing provides as a pathway to success in other parts of the boxers' lives.

And he put his money where his mouth is. Not only a trainer, Moreland kept a gym operating on a shoestring here at the Martin Luther King Center. With the help of volunteer coaches Ricky Wallace and Wes Zollincoffer, the King Center gym is available for area youth to find alternative to the streets five evenings a week plus some mornings and Saturdays.

Scrimmage Game Played at King Center

The King Colts vs. Falcons football teams played a scrimmage game on August 20th. It was as much fun watching the coaches run up and down the field training various techniques as it was watching the youth try to perfect to coaches plays!



While community support sometimes came his way, it was often short-lived and the financial slack was picked up by Moreland's own generosity and commitment. His gym serves some of the poorest Milwaukee kids, and the burdens to obtain equipment, pay fees, and fund travel to competition had often been met out of his own wallet. And Moreland's fatherly role to many single-parented boxers isn't limited to just their needs in the ring. He is often there to support them in many other times of need.

Moreland was a true mentor acting out and teaching athletes the path to a successful life in and out of the ring. And he was there to back up his talk with real support, modeling for these boxers how to take responsibility for themselves and serve others.

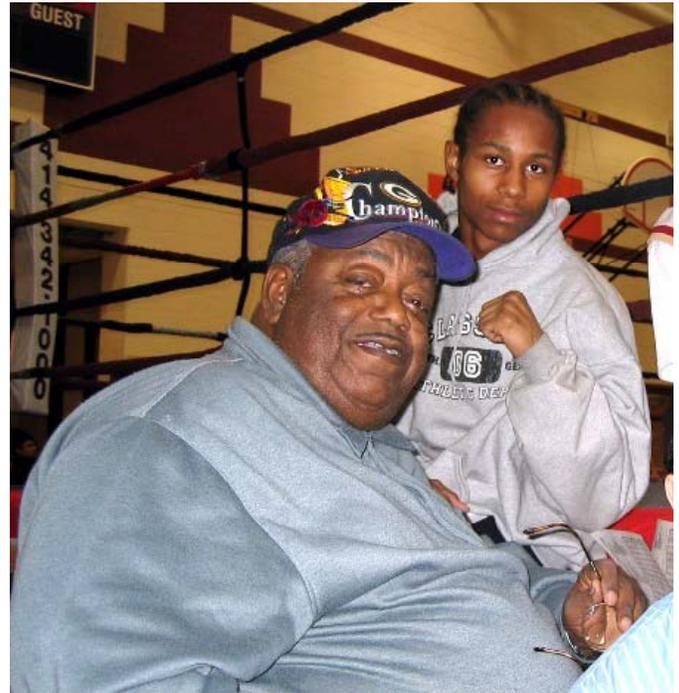
But his commitment didn't stay within the walls of his own club's gym. Moreland had been a long time boxing promoter giving opportunities for young athletes from all over to compete. In this way he served thousands of kids outside of his own gym. And his involvement in sponsoring boxing events has been critical for the sport in Milwaukee. In 2005, for example, Al Moreland promoted 7 of the 11 sanctioned events in Milwaukee. The other 4 were a Pro Am, a festival tournament, and 2 state tournaments. No one else sponsored club competition except for Moreland, and thus without his efforts, Milwaukee boxers would have very little opportunity to box in front of friends and family and without incurring travel costs.

Even outside the sport of amateur boxing, Al Moreland was there to help. Annually, he dedicated one year-end boxing event to raising funds in order to provide free meals around the holidays for families that would otherwise be without.

Al Moreland has been a blessing to boxing and his entire Milwaukee community for nearly half a century. He is responsible for taking hundreds of youth off the streets, helping them find jobs, and showing them a different path as their mentor. He was a great and humble model of grassroots volunteerism.

3 sons, 4 brothers, 2 sisters, his grandchildren and hundreds of others whose lives he molded in the right direction, will surely missed the Milwaukee's greatest model.

**Info from USA Boxing*



Al Moreland with 2006 Wisconsin 125 pound champion, Quincy Bufkin.

City Wide Youth Basketball League at the "King Center"

September 14th the ball will be bouncing in the King Center Gym! Teams will began playing at 5:00pm with the last game starting at 8:00pm on Monday's and Wednesday's. Come on out and bring the family to watch both girls and boys teams show their skills. Hope to see you there.

Adult Basketball League at the "King Center"

October 1st the ball will be bouncing in the King Center Gym again. This time adults will play to show off their skills. Teams are forming now! Get your team together and let's play ball! Sign-up forms can be picked up at the King Center. For more information, please contact Greg, Fred or Dee at 414-344-5600.

Do you Know the History of Labor Day?

As the Industrial Revolution took hold of the nation, the average American in the late 1800s worked 12-hour days, seven days a week in order to make a basic living. Children were also working, as they provided cheap labor to employers and laws against child labor were not strongly enforced. With the long hours and terrible working conditions, American unions became more prominent and voiced their demands for a better way of life. On Tuesday September 5, 1882, 10,000 workers marched from city hall to Union Square in New York City, holding the first ever Labor Day parade. Participants took an unpaid day off to honor the workers of America, as well as vocalize issues they had with employers. As years passed, more states began to hold these parades, but Congress would not legalize the holiday until 12 years later.

On May 11, 1894, workers of the Pullman Palace Car Company in Chicago struck to protest wage cuts and the firing of union representatives. They sought support from their union led by Eugene V. Debs and on June 26 the American Railroad Union called a boycott of all Pullman railway cars. Within days, 50,000 rail workers complied and railroad traffic out of Chicago came to a halt. On July 4, President Grover Cleveland dispatched troops to Chicago. Much rioting and bloodshed ensued, but the government's actions broke the strike and the boycott soon collapsed. Debs and three other union officials were jailed for disobeying the injunction. The strike brought worker's rights to the public eye and Congress declared, in 1894, that the first Monday in September would be the holiday for workers, known as Labor Day.

The founder of Labor Day remains unclear, but some credit either Peter McGuire, co-founder of the American Federation of Labor, or Matthew Maguire, a secretary of the Central Labor Union, for proposing the holiday. Although Labor Day is meant as a celebration of the labor movement and its achievements, it has come to be celebrated as the last, long summer weekend before autumn.

The first-ever Labor Day parade



It happened in September 1882 (on a Tuesday, actually); thousands of workers marched from Fifth Avenue to Union Square, where picnics, fireworks, and rallies were held, all in support of an 8-hour workday.



Have a safe and Happy Labor Day!

Current King Center Programming

Adult Programs

***Open Weight Room**

Monday – Friday 9am – 7:30pm

Saturday 9am – noon (**Members Only**)

*** Exercise Classes**

Mon – Thurs 9am, 4pm, 5pm / Saturday 9am -11am

***Adult Open Basketball**

Monday - Thursday Noon-3pm / Friday 9am – 2pm

Tuesday & Thursday 5:30pm-7: 30pm

Saturday 9am – noon (**Members Only**)

*** Older Adult Basketball 30ys up**

*Wednesday - 9am-11am

Adult Resources

***GED Classes**, sponsored by MATC

Tuesday – Thursday 9:00am – 7:30pm

Free and open to the public. Call (414) 344-5788

***New Concept Self-Development Center Social Services**

To receive a variety of social service based assistance, including parenting classes, please call (414) 344-5788
ABC's for Healthy Families

***George Sanders Fathers Resource Center**

Monday - Thursday

9:00am -5:00pm & Friday by appointment only. Please call (414) 344-50146

Youth Sports & Programs

***Youth Open Gym**

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 5:00pm – 7:30pm

***3-on-3 Basketball Tournaments** Starts in August

***Future Heroes Football,** August – November

***Game Room**

Monday – Friday 3:00pm – 7:00pm

***Kiddie Korner, ages 5-9**

Monday – Friday 3:00pm – 7:00pm

***Homework Assistance**

Monday – Friday 3:00pm – 5:00pm

***Healthy Snack Day & Movies Night**

Thursday 5:00pm

***Youth Exercise Class**

Wednesday 6:00pm

For All Ages to enjoy

- **Tapping Out Rhythm, Monday 6:00pm /** Call Lamont Johnson (414) 344-5600
- **Saleem Karate-Do/** Practice the art of Kempo Goju. Additional fee. Call (414) 461-2782
- **Al Mooreland Amateur Boxing**
Train with some of the best coaches in the amateur boxing circuit. Call (414) 263-4461
- **Bopping Classes, Thursday 6:30pm,** Teens and Adults / Call Ron Johnson (414) 760-9007
- **Theater at the King!**
Olsen Arts Theater Group Contact Christel Blake (414) 736-9899

King Center Yearly Memberships

Milwaukee Adult Resident	\$31.68
Adult Non-Resident	\$85.00
Junior Resident (13-17)	\$21.12
Child (5-12)	\$13.73
Family of four (4)	\$68.64
Day Passes - Resident	\$2.00
Non-Resident	\$4.00

Room Rentals

240 & Multi Purpose Room
\$70.00 (2hr minimum)
Additional Hour \$35.00

Conference Room
\$120.00 for 6 hours

Auditorium
\$425.00 for 6 hours
\$80.00 Additional Hour

Gymnasium
\$65.00 per hour (Weekdays)
\$75.00 per hour (Weekends)

King Center Team

**Alvin Boyd *Dominic Conner *Rita Echols *Jasen Jasper *Fred Jones *Greg McBeath *Tommy Sundebird
*Tawau Saleem *Lamont Johnson**