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Vanessa Ward for Governor!!

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Black Votes Matter UNO Adjunct Professor, Preston Love Jr. Prestonlovejr.com

Black Lives, Black Poverty and Black Votes Matter

Vanessa Ward for Governor!!

Vanessa Ward represents every good and confronts the bad about the politics. North Omaha has produced some great gems over the years. Athletics, musicians, entrepreneurship, community, the professions, intellectual capital and lastly in politics. Space does not allow me to expand on each but I surely could. Ernie Chambers, Gayle Sayers, Buddy Miles, Cathy Hughes, Bob Gibson, Johnny Rodgers, Gabrielle Union, Dr. Donald Townsend, Symone Sanders, the Fair Deal Café and oh yea, Malcolm. This short list represents only the "tip of the iceberg" of what our north Omaha has offered. For of those not on this short, I ask forgiveness, just not enough space; Buddy Hogan, etc. you are not forgotten.

Vanessa Ward, Is grassroot black woman from the near north side is running for Governor, of Nebraska. If elected Vanessa will make national history, she will become the first African American to become governor in American history. If she doesn't win she will make Nebraska history as the first black woman to run for Governor and the second black, Ernie Chambers who ran in 1974 and 1994.

What are the odds?

In 1964, Channey, Goodman and Schwerner, civil rights workers, were killed in Mississippi; what were the odds that we would get the 1964 Civil Rights Act the same year? It happened!!

In 1965, John Lewis and many others were beaten nearly to death on the Edmond Pettis Bridge: what were the odds the we would get the 1965 Voting Rights Act the same year? It happened!!

1n 1984, Rev Jesse Jackson ran for the Presidency of the USA: what were the odds the he would win 5 states and over 500 delegates? It happened!!

In 2008, Barack Obama ran for the ran for the Presidency of the USA: what were the odds the he would win? It happened!!

2018. What is the nature of the country and the politics of Nebraska. The country is racially divided, but there is something in the air. Trump has unleased hate and

good is waking up. Reference Alabama. Not in 25 years has there been a democratic US senator from Alabama. Blacks, black women leading, led the good against hate.

The me-too movement against decades of sexual predators against women is winning, good against bad.

In Nebraska, our Governor bought his election, buys state senators, buys, buys. So, in Nebraska can a poor grassroot black woman defeat big daddy, fat pockets "goliath", Rickets?

Here's the problem, she needs a strong vote from her base, urban, black, Latino and more. But urban, black, Latino and more are asleep. They say "you go girl", and return to sleep. Our black folks voted less than whites for Obama, did not vote in 2016 and we got Trump. We are part of Vanessa's problem.

Vanessa is the right candidate for these time, she the good!!

Problem #2. It will take \$7 to \$10 million to run a winning race. I spoke with Vanessa recently and gave her my tough love: Don't run!!, because of the need for the millions needed to run statewide. She told me, "thanks for the advice, but I am going full steam ahead". So, I say "you go girl". She has my support and she is my friend.

My time and efforts and that of Black Votes Matter in 2018 will be devoted to the attempt to wake up the black vote. WE WANT RECORD TURNOUT, ITS IN THE AIR. We have Black woman running for Governor, a Black running for Secretary of State (Spencer Danner), A black running for Douglas County Sheriff (Michael Hughes), a black running for OPS School Board (Kimara Snipes). If that doesn't wake up this community, what will? **Join us lets vote like crazy.**

To review previous Black Votes Matter column articles, visit **Omahastar.com**. Or **prestonlovejr.com**. Preston love can be reached at <u>prestonlovejr@gmail.com</u>

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