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News Herald

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PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Seismic shift ahead in homeless policy



Last year's nationwide assessment found about 770,000 were experiencing homelessness on a single night in January.

TREVOR HUGHES/USA TODAY FILE

Trump order calls for involuntary detentions

Trevor Hughes
USA TODAY

The United States is taking a sharp turn in how it addresses homelessness after President Donald Trump ordered a tough new approach that rejects the longstanding "housing first" template.

Trump, angered by messy encampments of homeless people near the White House and on the nation's streets and parks, declared that organizations receiving federal funding must focus first on locking up people with drug or mental health challenges. Trump has long criticized how the nation manages homelessness and argues public streets aren't safe for either the homeless or

residents.
"Surrendering our cities and citizens

to disorder and fear is neither compassionate to the homeless nor other citizens," Trump said in his July 24 order. "The federal government and the states have spent tens of billions of dollars on failed programs that address homelessness but not its root causes, leaving other citizens vulnerable to public safety threats."

Social workers, medical experts and mental health service providers say

See HOMELESSNESS, Page 3A

Over \$300K in grants headed to small businesses

Nida Tazeen

AI Assisted Reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

Gov. Tony Evers, in collaboration with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, has announced that 10 community organizations across the state received over \$1.5 million in Small Business Development Grants, according to a community announcement.

The grants, ranging from \$50,000 to \$250,000, are intended to support small business development and creation, according to the announcement. The organizations will pass 100% of the SBDG funds on to small businesses.

Two central Wisconsin organizations were recipients of the grant money and have plans to support local small businesses in their communities.

- The Pittsville Community Development Authority received \$90,000. The city will create an expanded economic development initiative based on the current Community Development Authority program, which only supports businesses within city limits, or about 2 square miles. The expansion would provide support to six rural locations with historic commercial centers, with \$30,000 dedicated to grants and \$60,000 to a revolving loan fund. Businesses may use funds for façade improvements, murals, outdoor gathering and seating spaces, and to meet ADA requirements, according to the announcement.
 - The Waupaca County Economic

See GRANTS, Page 3A

Crowded 2028 field may be forming

Anticipation builds for Harris, eager Democrats

Susan Page

USA TODAY

She'll have plenty of company.
Former Vice President Kamala Harris closed the door on a campaign for California governor next year while keeping open the door for a White House bid in 2028.

Three years out, the presidential contest is rapidly becoming a full employment project for ambitious Democrats. Already in the mix of "The Hopefuls" and the "Often-Mentioneds" are governors and senators, rising stars and the oncewere-rising stars. There are democratic socialists and centrists, those who vow to battle President Donald Trump at every turn and those who counsel accommodation when it's possible.

The Democratic contenders and maybe-contenders form a disparate group

that lacks a consistent political philosophy or a clear plan for victory, in a party that could be described the same way.

That's no coincidence.

One shapes the other. A compelling candidate who emerges at the top in town hall forums, debates and primaries will define the Democratic Party. And a consensus on where the Democrats stand will affect which candidate is seen as compelling.

See 2028, Page 2A



Then-Vice President Kamala Harris and Sen. Cory Booker, D-New Jersey, take a picture together in 2022.

Both are potential 2028 presidential contenders.

DREW ANGERER/GETTY IMAGES FILE

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