

Dear Editor,

On August 28, 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. stood before thousands at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. and challenged Americans to live up to the promises of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, which guarantee the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all citizens, regardless of the color of their skin. Dr. King had faith that “we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood.”

On August 28, 2008, exactly 45 years later, Barack Obama will accept his party’s choice to be the Democratic Nominee for President of the United States of America. Obama is a true son of Dr. King, dreaming that he will not be judged by the color of his skin but by the content of his character. America will be truly free and will achieve even more for all when we are united, all of us together, working for what is best for all Americans. This should be our hope and our dream, taking the message of Dr. King and making it our own.

Especially for this week, as Dr. King proclaimed, “Let freedom ring from the snowcapped Rockies of Colorado!”

La Shawn K. Ford
State Representative – Eighth District of Illinois