

Recorder celebrates 125 years, commitment to community remains the same

By BREANNA COOPER
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When George P. Stewart and Will Porter started a two-page church bulletin in 1895, they set in motion what would eventually become one of the oldest African

American newspapers in the country.

“It’s so important for the community,” Hazel Stewart, great-great-granddaughter of George Stewart, said at the unveiling of a mural to celebrate the Recorder’s 125th anniversary. “And it means a lot to me and the family that it’s kept going this long.”

Like the newspaper industry itself, the Recorder has undergone many changes throughout the years. However, the sense of family and community have stayed the same

“I was a teenager when I started at the Recorder, when it was located at 518 Indiana Ave. in a raggedy old building,” Eunice Trotter, a former reporter and publisher, said. “I always had an interest in writing, and I would hang around the Recorder to see if they would let me write, and eventually they let me do some things.”

During her time as a high school student and student at IUPUI, Trotter wrote for the “Teen Talk”



column and eventually started an entertainment column called “Party People.” When Trotter started writing for the paper, it was still under the ownership of the Stewart family.

“It’s so important to have representation, to give the community a voice,” Trotter said. “I’m still a regular reader of the Recorder, and it’s nice to see real, important issues being discussed.”

Trotter became the owner of the Recorder in 1988 after a stint at the Indianapolis Star. After she sold the company to William “Bill” Mays, Trotter eventually became editor-in-chief of the paper.

Throughout its history, the Recorder frequently discussed issues — nationally and locally — important to the African American community. Late historian and friend of the Recorder, Wilma L. Gibbs Moore, wrote the newspaper “commented through news stories and editorials on the socio-economic and political climate that affected the daily lives of its community. ... It remains as a useful chronicle of national and local Black history.”

Current president and CEO Robert Shegog has continued to bring the important issues to a larger audience by expanding the digital presence of the outlet and forming several partnerships within the community.

“Since being at the Recorder, I have been inten-

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Milt Thompson, board president of the Indianapolis Foundation, speaks Nov. 18 at a virtual announcement for a new Cook Medical supplier facility that will be built on the northeast side. (Screenshot)

Cook Medical supplier facility coming to northeast side

By TYLER FENWICK
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A new manufacturing facility on the northeast side will bring up to 100 jobs that will average \$16 an hour and include wrap-around support in education, housing and health.

Cook Medical and Goodwill Commercial Services partnered to build the facility on the vacant property at the northwest corner of 38th Street and Sheri-

dan Avenue. The Indianapolis Foundation and Alliance for Northeast Unification (ANU) are also part of the project.

The medical manufacturing facility — which will produce introducers, sheets, drainage, catheters and needles for Cook Medical — will be in the 46218 ZIP code, where almost three-quarters of the population is Black. Median household income is just under \$25,000,

See COOK A4►

Surge of coronavirus cases in Midwest nursing homes leaves loved ones, workers ‘depleted’



Chelsea Reed and her mother, Vanessa, pose in their masks. (Photo provided)

By HILARY POWELL

When 38-year-old Chelsea Reed last spoke to her mother — while she was living inside the Rosewalk Village of Indianapolis on the city’s east side earlier this month — Reed said her “proud” mother broke down on the phone, distraught about her fears of dying alone in the long-term care facility.

“She had been calling me in tears, not wanting to die there,” Reed said about her 61-year-old mom, Vanessa.

She said her mother tested positive for coronavirus on Nov. 17 and was quarantined in a wing reserved for COVID-19 before being transferred to a hospital for care. Reed says her mom is despondent after not being able to hug her family members since August.

“My mom’s very strong, very independent, very kind-hearted,” she said. “When I think about the situation she’s in, it just breaks

my heart.”

The family is part of a fast-growing group across the Midwest experiencing personal anguish amid a spike in coronavirus cases within facilities that care for the most vulnerable. Recently, coronavirus cases in nursing homes reached a record 12,000 new weekly cases nationwide the same week Vanessa fell ill.

In a study updated this month, the American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living report the Midwest is seeing a spike in coronavirus cases, mostly due to its spread among the general public. Nursing home cases jumped 120% in the region since mid-September.

Text messages shared with Side Effects and the Indianapolis Recorder show cases among Rosewalk residents rose from seven to 44 over a two-week span this month.

Reed said she was first notified about the positive coronavirus test from her mother,

See LOVED A5►

Archive: April 16, 2015 — Police accountability

By VICTORIA T. DAVIS

Within the past couple years, stories of young African American males killed by white police officers have multiplied. In 2012, 17-year-old Trayvon Martin was shot and killed in Sanford, Florida, by white neighborhood security officer George Zimmerman. In August of 2014, 18-year-old Michael

Brown was shot and killed in Ferguson, Missouri, by white police officer Darren Wilson.

The deadly accounts continue with names such as Eric Garner in Staten Island, choked to death by a white police officer, and the shooting death of Tamir Rice, 12, in Cleveland.

Recent headlines reveal the Black death toll is not restricted to young males.

For example, 50-year-old Walter Scott was fatally shot by North Charleston white police officer Michael Slager, 33, in South Carolina after being pulled over for a faulty tail light.

Read the rest of this article at indianapolisrecorder.com.



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Due to uncertainties associated with COVID-19 (coronavirus), the 16th annual Champions of Diversity awards dinner scheduled for Jan. 15, 2021, is canceled. Visit indianapolisrecorder.com to learn of other ways to support the Recorder and Indiana Minority Business Magazine.



Protesters speak out against City-County Council proposal



Protesters, including members of local organizations The Party for Socialism and Liberation, Queering Indy and Indy10 Black Lives Matter, gathered Nov. 18 at Lugar Plaza at the City-County Building to demonstrate in opposition to Proposal 291, which would have required people handing out food on public streets to register with the city. The Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee rejected the proposal on the same night. (Photos/Ted Somerville)



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Meet the director of equity and inclusion at Washington Township Schools

By STAFF

This school year, the Metropolitan School District of Washington Township school board hired Dr. Erica Buchanan-Rivera to fill the newly created position of director of equity and inclusion.

An educator for 14 years, Buchanan-Rivera has been a teacher, principal, diversity trainer, director of curriculum and adjunct professor. While a principal in the Metropolitan School District of Lawrence Township, Buchanan-Rivera was named Administrator of the Year and her international school was recognized nationally as a Magnet School of Excellence.

She was the first director of diversity, equity and inclusion at Hamilton Southeastern Schools. Buchanan-Rivera has served as an adjunct professor at Butler University and received the College of Education Distinguished Alumni Award in 2020.

In addition to her position at Washington Township Schools, Buchanan-Rivera also is an adjunct professor at the University of Indianapolis.

In an exclusive interview with the Recorder, Buchanan-Rivera discusses her new position and how she plans to help the district improve.

Indianapolis Recorder: This is a newly created position for Washington Township Schools. Can you explain your role and why the district felt it was important to add such a position?

Buchanan-Rivera: First, the locally-elected school board remains committed to educational equity. For that reason, the members voted unani-



Dr. Erica Buchanan-Rivera

mously to recreate the director of equity and inclusion. I am committed to working with our school community to advance equitable achievement and spaces of belonging. Equity is the concept of giving our 11,000 students what they need to reach their full potential. It involves the active participation of our educators to critically examine educational systems, and to work together to remove the barriers that harm pathways for success and yield to unequal outcomes. Every member of our team in Washington Township plays an integral role in supporting the academic and social emotional needs of learners. The work of educational equity does not fall on the shoulders of one person, but is rather a collective effort. I will use my professional experience and commitment to equity to support and direct inclusionary actions at the district level.

Fortunately, Washington Township has a strategic plan with four priority goals. One of those goals centers the work of addressing racial achievement disparities, which involves a critical eye on systems that

support students and instructional practices. We have to apply an equity lens to decisions that are made, understanding that resolutions may either benefit or marginalize different populations. This work requires ongoing mirror work where teachers and educational leaders assess their biases, practices and how their beliefs align with their actions. It is also vitally important to develop avenues for community members to be a part of the change and work in partnership with leaders towards these efforts. Therefore, I will work alongside Crystal Haslett, the coordinator of student programs and community liaison, to support the work of building more community partnerships which is another priority goal of our strategic plan.

IR: While you've only been in your position at Washington Township Schools since September, you held a similar position at Hamilton Southeastern Schools. What are some signature programs you implemented at Hamilton Southeastern? Have you implemented those or similar programs at Washington Township or plan to do so?

Buchanan-Rivera: I believe that it is important for educational leaders and teachers to have an understanding of equity, how systems work and anti-racist pedagogy. Therefore, in my previous role, I spent an ample amount of time educating leaders and staff in efforts to build a strong knowledge base of equitable practices throughout the district. We cannot expect inequitable structures to change without ongoing

education and a process where we identify and eradicate barriers. Additionally, I worked in various stakeholder groups and student-based organizations, including racial equity clubs that developed a Black Student Leadership Summit that supported nearly 300 students across multiple local districts.

Within Washington Township, I will continue the work of amplifying the voices of students and families. We have already established a Community Coalition and I have initiated student focus groups to learn more about virtual experiences. The initiatives that are implemented in Washington Township will be based on the diversity of needs and narratives within our school community which will vary considerably from other districts. Therefore, I want to let the voices of students as well as families be a guide for what is implemented as I continue to learn more within this new role.

IR: Are there efforts in place to recruit and retain more Black teachers as well as teachers of color to better reflect the student body? If not, is that a future initiative?

Buchanan-Rivera: Yes, the recruitment of teachers of color is another priority goal within our district's strategic plan. As a District Equity Leadership Team, we will not only have to study recruitment efforts, but think about retention and how we are creating racially affirming environments for staff of color.

IR: COVID-19 has challenged educators in ways they've never been challenged

before, how has the pandemic affected your plans? How do you help teachers understand the importance of equity and inclusion efforts at a time when there seems to be so much on their plates right now just to make sure students are successful in virtual learning?

Buchanan-Rivera: The pandemic serves as an equity check for all of us. It has magnified disparities within and across institutions. Therefore, this is not the time to cease this necessary work. Rather, it is time to have an intentional focus, more courageous conversations and impactful actions. My role is helping educators understand that equity is the plate. The instructional practices and other things on the plate, have to be approached and delivered with an equity lens. We have to think about students' needs such as their mental health, engagement and connections as many are missing social interactions in virtual spaces. Thinking about our work through an equity lens must be at the forefront of decisions made within education.

IR: How do you measure success? How will you know your efforts to improve equity and inclusion at Washington Township Schools are effective?

Buchanan-Rivera: Data and community voices are always strong measuring sticks. We need to know how students and families, particularly marginalized communities, are feeling about the efforts of schools and monitor our data towards equitable achievement.



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Jingle Jangle: A Christmas Journey

By Dwight Brown
NNPA News Wire Film Critic

What a nice surprise. David E. Talbert, a playwright (“Love in the Nick of Time”) turned filmmaker (“First Sunday”), lets his musicality fly and creates a viable family Christmas movie that’s as strong as any Disney film.

Inspired by musicals like “Chitty Chitty Bang Bang,” “Dr. Dolittle” and “Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory” and motivated by his son’s desire to see enchanting movies with people who looked like him, Talbert created this vibrant fantasy/family/musical. Originally targeted to be a theater piece, it has finally evolved into a live-action, CGI and animated feature film.

All is good in the fictional village of Cobbleton, where the very bright inventor Jeronicus (Justin Cornwell, TV’s “Training Day”) is the toast of the town and proprietor of its treasured toy store, which boasts his magical devices. He is loved by his wife Joanne (Sharon Rose), adored by daughter Jessica (Diana Babnicova) and admired by the locals. However, his apprentice Gustafson (Miles Barrow) is a bit jealous of his success. And when one of Jeronicus’ inventions, a mini robotic man toy named “Don Juan Diego” (Ricky Martin), tempts the young man into a diabolical scheme, trouble ensues.

Many years go by and the much older Jeronicus (Forest Whitaker) is a shadow of himself. Depressed, lethargic, lonely, no confidence and washed up in a dusty old toy store now a pawn shop. Meanwhile, elsewhere, the adult Gustafson (Keegan-Michael Key) thrives — he’s famous for inventions he calls his own. But are they? Darkness shrouds the elderly Jeronicus, until one day he is visited by a little girl named Journey (Madalen Mills). Could she be the



Jingle Jangle Movie on Netflix

secret to his revival?

Within first five minutes the most noticeable element of this slick production is the supreme coordination of the singers, dancers, extras and sets. Each musical piece is its own wonderland, perfectly sung by lead performers and impressively choreographed (Australian choreographer Ashley Wallen, “The Greatest Showman”) against backdrops equal to those in a Tony Award-winning show.

It helps that Talbert and the film’s producers have assembled an illustrious tech team: The musical score by composer John Debney (“The Jungle Book”) is enchanting, the footage by cinematographer Remi Adefarasin (“Elizabeth”) glows and all the sets from the store to the village streets are artfully crafted by production designer Gavin Bocquet (“Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith”) and set designer Rob Cameron

(“Game of Thrones”). Snazzy Victorian costumes by Michael Wilkinson (“Aladdin”) and seamless special effects from visual effects supervisor Brad Parker add to the euphoric mix.

The film’s vibe has a very Broadway-ish, pop, modern feel. Credit the catchy, melodic, feel-good songs to a notable array of talented musicians: Grammy-winning producer and songwriter Philip Lawrence, Grammy nominees Davy Nathan and Michael Diskint and John Legend.

Talbert skillfully blends the drama, music, animation and CGI into a charming experience. Even when the script gets burdened a bit by its girth (lots of characters and a bit too many life lessons), attention spans will snap back every time a musical number pops up. Talbert pulls great performances from the cast; stages scenes astutely and imbues the entire production with a vibrant spirit

that is sustained up to a satisfying ending.

The gimmick of a precious book of inventions creates an inciting incident that pulls the main characters away from happy land into drama. The devilishness of the Don Juan Diego character provides an evil antagonist angle that the script needed. As the incorrigible Don Juan coaxes Gustafson, like the devil tempting a wretched soul, he says: “It isn’t stealing — when you borrow indefinitely.” Yeah, uh huh.

A special nod must go to the overly flirtatious character Ms. Johnston, played with vigor by Lisa Davina Phillip, who sings like a “Showtime at the Apollo” champion. She steals the moment. Whitaker’s very nuanced performance and his vulnerable singing will remind audiences that he is a consummate and malleable actor. Key is decent. Anika Noni Rose (“Dreamgirls”) as the older Jessica sings to the rafters and deserved more screen time. Young Kieron L. Dyer as the older Jeronicus’ apprentice friend is delightful and the perfect mate for the winsome Madalen Mills.

If the production seems a bit long winded, it’s because it takes 2 hours 2 minutes to unwind. Sharper, tougher editing would make what’s on view even more child friendly. That imperfection is counterbalanced by the film’s sage themes: the moral will triumph over the immoral and finding self-belief in the bleakest times is a must.

The wise words of Ms. Johnston sum up Jeronicus’ perilous sojourn: “The magic isn’t in what you lost, but in what you have.” Indeed.

On Netflix now.

Visit NNPA News Wire Film Critic Dwight Brown at DwightBrownInk.com and BlackPressUSA.com.

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COOK
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less than half of the state median.

“Hope is coming in the form of collective empowerment,” Ashley Gurvitz, executive director and CEO of ANU, said during a virtual announcement Nov. 18.

Pete Yonkman, president of Bloomington-based Cook Medical, said ANU was an important partner because it allowed the development team to get to know residents. Some were honest about their skepticism, Yonkman said, because they’ve seen projects come through before and not deliver on the hype.

Yonkman believes this project can excel in part because of Goodwill’s involvement. Employees will have access to free education — from a high school diploma up to a master’s degree — along with other supports and benefits.

“We’re gonna work hard to live up to your expectations and to be a partner in your work,” Yonkman said.

Project partners said their goal is to hire from the surrounding community and to have all contractors be 100% minority-owned businesses.

City-County Councilor Keith Graves, who represents District 13, said people in the community have seen too much job loss over the years.

“So it is with open arms that we welcome the jobs that you will help us create,” he said.

Mayor Joe Hogsett also talked about reigniting some of the “manufacturing might” that east side residents used to know and said the project will hopefully be the start of broader community development.

Cook Medical will purchase the property and donate it to the project. Central Indiana Community Foundation will own the facility on behalf of the community, and Goodwill will manage operations.

The building is expected to be completed by the end of 2021.

Contact staff writer Tyler Fenwick at 317-762-7853. Follow him on Twitter @Ty_Fenwick.



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SPOTLIGHT

Fairgrounds light up for Christmas

By BREANNA COOPER
BreannaC@indyrecorder.com

Visitors to the Christmas Nights of Lights can forget about a year that’s been anything but normal and focus on the holiday season as they drive through the Indiana State Fairgrounds. The largest light show in Indiana features two miles of LED lights synchronized to classic and modern Christmas music. From dusk to 10 p.m. daily, with extended hours on the weekends, families can see giant Christmas trees, glowing snowflakes, dancing candy canes and tunnels of lights. “We’re thrilled to return to the iconic Indiana State Fairgrounds,” said Richie King of Tennessee-based Titan Light Shows Inc. “The Fairgrounds has been a popular family venue for a remarkable 127 years and we’re thrilled to work with their outstanding team again — especially given that, during these tough times, we’re able to celebrate the true spirit of the season by supporting local charities.”

This year, local charities including the Arthritis Foundation, Toys for Tots and Gleaners Food Banks’ Pack the Pantries will receive a portion of the proceeds. The light show is open nightly rain or shine, including Thanksgiving and Christmas. Entry is \$7 per person, and children 3 years and under are free. A “carload special” includes admission for seven people for \$30, and 10 to 15 people for \$50.

Contact staff writer Breanna Cooper at 317-762-7848. Follow her on Twitter @BreannaNCooper.



Christmas Nights of Lights, the largest light show in Indiana, is open at the Indiana State Fairgrounds now through Jan. 3, 2021. (Photo provided)

Tips for attending Christmas Nights of Lights

- Avoid the lines, plan your visit early in the season or on a weekday. If you want to visit on a weekend, try arriving after 9 p.m. Any cars still in line at time of closing will be permitted to enter and enjoy the show.
 - Make a quick stop at the portable toilets at the beginning of the show.
 - Know how to turn off your headlights — Google how to do this in advance, if needed.
 - Tour buses with more than a 35-person capacity or limos will not be admitted, as those vehicles are unable to drive safely through the show. Vehicles over 11 feet tall will not be able to access the light show due to height restrictions at the entrance.
- The Nights of Lights Christmas show is open nightly until Jan. 3, 2021 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, 1698 E. 42nd St. Enter at Gate 12. For more information, visit www.christmas-nightsoflights.com.

Safety concerns alter some Thanksgiving plans

By BREANNA COOPER
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Tiara Spells is preparing for her first Thanksgiving away from home. “It’s a little weird,” Spells, 22, said. “Even if we don’t go see other family, we at least have food at our house and dinner together.” The Ball State University student will spend Thanksgiving with her roommates in Muncie. Despite the difficulty of being away from family during the holiday season, both Spells and her mother think it’s for the best with COVID-19 cases continuing to rise throughout the state. In Delaware County, where Muncie is located, there have been 968 cases of COVID-19. In Marion County, where Spells is from and her family lives, there have been 39,860 positive cases to date. While Spells said she may have a Zoom meeting or Facetime her family on Thanksgiving, she isn’t comfortable with the idea of her visiting a “hotspot” for COVID-19. Her mother, Sandra Tucker-Gayden, said it was Spells’ idea to stay in Muncie for the holidays. While she was hoping to see her daughter, Tucker-Gayden knew it would be safer to stay distanced. “It’s sad, but Tiara prepared me early

with ‘what ifs.’ ... We will FaceTime each other, but the CDC says we should be careful and stay away from people.” To reduce the spread of the virus over the holidays, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is urging Americans to not travel for family gatherings. Instead, doctors say the best course of action is to celebrate only with those who live in your home. Many Americans aren’t planning to listen to the experts. According to research from CARS, an online resource on the car industry, roughly 47% of Americans plan to travel for Thanksgiving this year. While this is down from 68% in 2019, doctors and city leaders are concerned about the impact traveling could have on COVID-19 numbers. Further, over 1 million people traveled through airports Nov. 20, the second highest daily total since the pandemic began, according to Bloomberg News. While travelers may not be at a heightened risk of contracting COVID-19 from riding in a plane while wearing masks, the CDC warns standing in long lines and an inability to socially distance on the plane may increase one’s risk. Echoing guidance from the CDC, Mayor Joe Hogsett and Dr. Virginia Caine, director of the Marion County

Public Health Department, urged Indianapolis residents to celebrate Thanksgiving with just those in your household during a press conference Nov. 12. If you do happen to have extended family over, Hogsett and Caine recommended eating outside while social distancing. “None of that will be easy, and it will certainly cut down on the holiday fun,” Hogsett said. “But deciding to do these things could truly be a life or death decision for those you love.” While Tucker-Gayden and Spells are disappointed they won’t be seeing each other on Thanksgiving, they would rather be safe than sorry. “For people not taking this serious, they should before it’s too late,” Tucker-Gayden said. “We had family and friends taken away from us with this virus, so they really need to be prepared.”

Contact staff writer Breanna Cooper at

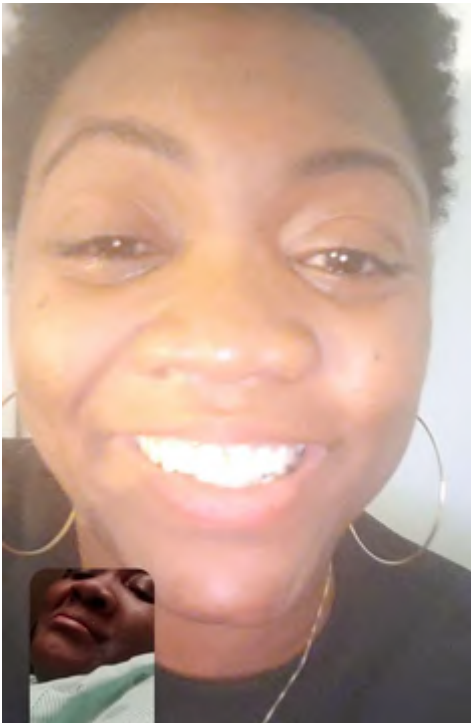
317-762-7848. Follow her on Twitter @BreannaNCooper.

Unfortunately, one in seven Hoosiers experience food insecurity, according to Gleaner’s Food Bank of Indiana. This need is exacerbated during the holidays. For more information on how you can help those in need or receive food for Thanksgiving or throughout the year, visit gleaners.org.



LOVED
► Continued from A1

not from the facility. She also said long holds on the phone and multiple call transfers are even more painful, considering visiting restrictions bar family members from getting close to isolated loved ones. “I feel depleted,” she said after hours spent on the phone trying to get health status updates. “My mom, she’s a firecracker, but if this is how I’m feeling, I’m wondering how my mom’s feeling and what are other residents going through?” Rosewalk’s parent company, American Senior Communities, said its facilities have provided alternative methods to keep in touch with family members, such as emails, texts and video chats. But the demand is great, the company said on its website. Zach Cattell, president of the Indiana Health Care Association and the Indiana Center for Assisted Living, said COVID-19 has taken a toll on the industry’s workers. “Folks are worn out. This has been unprecedented,” he said of health care workers. “We have more testing capacity, but we can’t manufacture people.” He said as community spread has increased, some health care workers are forced to stay home to quarantine, leaving the remaining staff stressed. “Within long-term care facilities, there are resilient people that care a lot about what they’re doing and they’re going to continue to fight for as long as it takes,” he said. The groups represent thousands of nursing homes and assisted living communities across the country, including American Senior Communities, Cattell said. He said by law and by best practice, they instruct all facilities to openly communicate with the family member of record, to explain protocols. “That gives people a lot of assurance,” he



Screen captures of Chelsea Reed and her mother, Vanessa, a resident of Rosewalk Village. Vanessa recently was diagnosed with COVID-19 as long-term care facilities across the Midwest experience a surge in coronavirus cases. (Photos provided)



said. He also said if there are concerns about care, family members or an appointed legal representative should first talk with the administrator at that facility. In an emailed statement a spokesperson for American Senior Communities said it is committed to open communication and comprehensive testing. “We are deeply saddened whenever a resident or staff member becomes infected, and we grieve for each resident who has passed away. As residents begin to recover, we remain steadfast in protecting and continuing to serve them.

“Rosewalk Village continues to send proactive daily communications to resident representatives about the existence and extent of COVID-19 at the community that adheres to the guidance from the Indiana State Department of Health. We have also made this information available online.” Lynn Clough, director of the state’s long-term care ombudsman program that advocates for residents, said under federal and state law, residents have the right to communicate with anyone they choose. Clough said the ombudsman contact information should be eye-level for all

residents in a public space in all nursing home facilities. She said the ombudsman serves as an extra set of eyes, now that the Indiana State Department of Health’s annual, unannounced visits to long-term care have been greatly reduced since March. “We are still available, we’re just not as visible,” she said. “We do a lot of good.” Cattell said his association is calling on Congress to end its partisan deadlock and prioritize vulnerable elderly populations. Most of the \$175 billion in federal aid provided by the CARES Act in April has already been distributed. That means long-term care facilities may need more funds for cold and flu season. Experts with the Indiana State Department of Health said when a vaccine is available, frontline health care workers in hospitals and long-term care facilities will be first in line to receive it. Until then, Dr. Kristina Box, the state’s health commissioner, said people should continue to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds, wear a mask and stay six feet apart. Reed would add compassion and communication to that list. “I’m a woman of faith and I understand that you’re doing your best,” Reed said. “But this is someone’s life. We’re all hurting. We all need grace.”

This story was reported as part of a partnership between WFYI, Side Effects Public Media and the Indianapolis Recorder. Contact Hilary Powell at hpowell@wfyi.org. Follow her on Twitter @mshilary.

For help from the state ombudsman program, you can file a complaint or email the state’s local health department outreach division at familyoutreach@isdh.in.gov.

EDITORIAL

Sen. Tom Cotton’s Thanksgiving

By OSEYE BOYD



In elementary school I remember making a pilgrim hat or feathered Indian headdress for Thanksgiving. I vividly remember coloring a picture of a turkey. This was an annual ritual during my primary years as we approached Thanksgiving.

In addition to the coloring assignments, we also listened to the story of how the brave pilgrims, in search of religious freedom in the new world, set sail on the Mayflower. Once they arrived on the shores of America, they quickly got to work to find a suitable place to live and build a home, calling it Plymouth. They barely survived the harsh winter.

Then lo’ and behold, some friendly Indians appeared.

The pilgrims and Indians became fast friends, besties even. Not only did the Indians, who were initially thought to be savages, turn out to be friendly, they taught the pilgrims how to farm in the new land. (I’m sacrastically emphasizing the friendliness of the Indians here. It’s just assumed the pilgrims were friendly.) When harvest time came, the pilgrims and Indians celebrated with a big feast in 1621.

Now, that’s the version of events taught in textbooks and passed down for generations. While I

know we say Native Americans today, that’s not what was taught in textbooks and library books about Thanksgiving at the time.

While many Americans celebrate Thanksgiving, I’m going to venture to say the story of the pilgrims isn’t at the heart of the celebration. Many use the holiday as a chance to feast with family and friends. The pilgrims and Native Americans probably didn’t eat the foods we eat today. There may have been fowl, but it likely wasn’t turkey, and while there may have been pumpkin or squash, it wasn’t pie. Cranberry sauce? Forget about it. Sweet potato pie or mashed potatoes? Nope, potatoes didn’t exist here yet.

Why am I revisiting this fable about the first Thanksgiving?

Well, because Sen. Tom Cotton, a Republican from Arkansas, was so offended by an article in the New York Times where writer Brett Anderson called the first Thanksgiving a “myth” and a “caricature” that he wrote an opinion piece and spoke about the “revisionist history” on the Senate floor. Yes, Cotton was big mad.

Let’s dissect this revisionist history, shall we?

I’ve already established that many of the foods we eat for Thanksgiving weren’t at the original meal. It’s also very likely seafood was at the meal. It makes sense if you put your thinking cap on since seafood would’ve been in abundance in New England.

You may be surprised to learn that the pilgrims

and Native Americans didn’t celebrate Thanksgiving annually. In 1789, President George Washington announced the first Thanksgiving holiday would be Thursday, Nov. 26, but it still wasn’t celebrated nationwide until the author of “Mary Had a Little Lamb,” Sara Josepha Hale, went on a 30-year campaign to make it a national holiday. Hale was inspired to recreate the Thanksgiving feast after she found a diary of pilgrim life. She even published recipes for the foods we eat today. In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln announced the nation would celebrate Thanksgiving on the final Thursday of November.

The revisionist history of Thanksgiving happened long ago. What is happening now is a correcting of that talltale. Cotton and people like him can’t accept the truth of this country’s origins. They prefer to live with the myth of European exceptionalism. They prefer to pretend Europeans didn’t wage war on the native inhabitants of this country. They prefer to pretend Europeans didn’t bring diseases that ravaged the Native American population.

I also find it ironic that Cotton has so much to say about the “attack” on Thanksgiving, but he’s mum on dismantling systemic racism. I don’t remember Cotton writing opinion pieces or giving speeches about the lives of George Floyd or Breonna Taylor. Most of us saw Cotton for who he is a long time ago. His focus is on protecting the lie of white supremacy, and it starts with something as innocuous as Thanksgiving.

OPINIONS

The American paradox

By LARRY SMITH



A paradox occurs when two (or more) factual claims appear to contradict each other — but actually don’t. Literature offers many great examples, including the following from Oscar Wilde: “I can resist anything but temptation.”

In many ways, America is a living paradox — especially as it regards to race. When racist events occur, well-meaning people (of many races) often are quick to assert “this is not who we are as Americans.” While that oft-repeated proclamation is usually sincere, history has shown that it is categorically false — which is why it is oft-repeated. We heard it after James Byrd Jr.’s unspeakable murder in Jasper, Texas. We heard it after a white supremacist massacred nine parishioners at “Mother Emanuel” AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina. We hear it whenever the KKK, Aryan Nation, Skinheads or similar groups hold “rallies.” Irrefutably, this is at least part of who we are.

The paradox of race — and rac-

ism — is codified in our Constitution. The document that is, arguably, the greatest-ever treatise on how to govern a free society is also one that enshrines the legal “right” of human beings to own other human beings. The defense that the Constitution is an “imperfect document” falls immeasurably short of being a meaningful justification for its promotion of slavery in a land in which “all men are created equal.”

So, when we ask what America stands for, or what our values are, several answers that appear to be contradictory are all true. Are we the nation that has been a global model for democracy, the one that inspires people from around the world to risk life and limb to reach? Are we a nation in which dwell untold numbers of unrepentant racists who believe that this nation was founded with the intention of white men forever ruling it? Obviously, the answer to both questions is “yes.” While people can reasonably debate the extent to which we more closely resemble one reality or the other, to deny the essential veracity of both views is to deny reality itself (which is an increasingly troubling feature of contemporary America).

In a recent New York Times col-

umn, Jamelle Bouie offered the following: “Trump’s indifference to the pandemic is, in the same way, an echo of the Hoover administration, which stood by as the country was crushed by economic depression and the immiseration of millions of Americans. It is impossible (for me at least) to think about child separation without also thinking about chattel slavery and the nation’s vast trade in enslaved people, conducted over decades under three generations of American presidents, including men like James Polk, who — decades removed from planter-politicians like George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe — bought and sold human beings from the White House.”

As Bouie makes clear, this paradox is broader than race. Indeed, the issue is broader than a problem with America. There is an all-too-human tendency to elevate myth above actual history, or at least to elide the less pleasant components with an appeal to blind jingoism. This creates a pseudo-amnesia that devalues the lived experiences of large swaths of the populace of most countries. This sad outcome can be achieved in myriad ways — including by government fiat or through the power of

media oligarchs. In short, America is far from alone in this regard. But I am an American, so that is where I place my focus.

At some point, the overwhelming majority of white Americans will have to decide whether such paradoxes must come to an end. I say “overwhelming majority” because a minority of them — or even a plurality thereof — is insufficient. (There have always been white allies in this fight — just not enough of them to eradicate white supremacy.) And I say “of white Americans” because they currently constitute more than 60% of the population. Thus, while white Americans aren’t the only ones who condone (or at least ignore) such troubling paradoxes, their power — overt and subtle — is necessary to affect a wholesale change in our national narrative. As we are enjoying our Thanksgiving meals — hopefully in relative isolation — we have the opportunity (and obligation) to decide how we can be a stronger, better, and yes, “more perfect union.”

Larry Smith is a community leader. Contact him at larry@leaf-llc.com.

Focusing on lead contamination

By MARSHAWN WOLLEY



Environmental justice, specifically lead remediation, needs to be on our mind.

Recently, the Indiana Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights produced its findings after hearing hours of testimony over multiple hearing dates. More troubling is that the advisory committee could not get anyone from a state government agency to participate in the hearings.

Strong evidence was presented that in the late

1950s local officials in East Chicago ignored previous studies which found what would eventually become the location for both a housing project and an elementary school were unsuitable due to high levels of lead.

Even after obtaining special “environmental justice community” designation by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the people of East Chicago did not get relief from continued contamination by local businesses, nor did they seem to receive adequate lead remediation — if any at all.

More broadly, the concern is that homes built before 1978 likely used lead-based paint. According to the report, every county in Indiana has housing that likely needs lead remediation — 23.2% of homes built before 1950 and 44.9% of homes built before 1970.

The experts noted at issue are the lack of systematic testing and registry of rental homes or other housing that has been inspected or abated.

This problem continues to persist even as the report, and common sense, tell us the negative impact of lead is both permanent and irreversible on human beings — and is especially devastating to the development of young people.

But lest we think this is just an East Chicago problem, the IndyStar uncovered significant problems with lead in our local schools. According to a report obtained by the IndyStar, lead-tainted water was found in over half of Marion County schools and child care facilities.

A review of the report the IndyStar obtained shows that 159 schools had lead levels between 20.04 ppb to 8,630.15 ppb (parts per billion). Out of the nine townships, five had more than 10 facili-

ties with lead and a couple of townships had nine buildings. Charter schools collectively had over 10 facilities with elevated lead issues.

To the legislature’s credit, it did pass IBLC member Rep. Carolyn Jackson’s HB 1265, which initially focused on Lake County but was amended to require schools to test for lead by 2023 and perform the necessary remediation.

The reality is that lead in water doesn’t just magically stop at schools. It is highly likely that other dwellings, including homes, have lead in the water. Indiana needs systematic testing for lead and other deposits in our water system, soil and paint.

Significant investments have been made recently by Citizens Energy to improve water quality. There are both state and local brownfield development programs that provide some support for remediation. There is also a lead paint remediation program run by the Marion County Public Health Department.

As we push for legislators and government agencies to do more, we as a community need to do our part.

We have to test our children and ourselves, especially if we live in residences built before 1978.

The Marion County Public Health Department has a helpful tip sheet that can be found online. The tip sheet includes what to look for when considering whether a loved one has possibly been exposed to high levels of lead.

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INDIANAPOLIS RECORDER

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RECORDER

► Continued from A1

tional about engaging the Indianapolis community about the importance of the Indianapolis Recorder in Indianapolis,” Shegog said. “We have created strategic corporate and philanthropic partners to assist with relaying this message to the broader community.”

Shegog believes communities ought to have representation in local and national media, and that’s where the Recorder comes in. According to the Pew Research Center, the majority of American newsrooms are predominately white and male.

“The underrepresentation leads to an overdependence on white sources and a general prevalence of white perspectives in news reporting,” Shegog said. “... The messenger matters, especially in the Black community where they may lack trust in authority figures.”

Moore noted the paper covered the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s diligently and brought opportunities for Black reporters and students in Indianapolis throughout the years.

One of those opportunities, the Journalism and Writing Seminars (JAWS), was created by Trotter to help young, aspiring journalists get experience in the field. Trotter balanced the program alongside her responsibilities as editor and called the program her proudest accomplishment while at the Recorder.

When Bill Mays bought the paper in 1990, he did so, Trotter said, to keep the paper going. Mays incorporated voices from the community, including a column from esteemed broadcaster Amos Brown, to raise readership and increase the Recorder’s presence in the community.

“Mr. Mays was a tremendous influence for the paper being around today,” Shannon Williams, former editor and president of the Recorder, said. “When he purchased it, it was in the red, and he put his own money into it and thought, ‘I might as well just buy the paper.’ He purchased it to save a legacy because he knew the African American

Recorder publishers and presidents through the years:
PUBLISHERS
George P. Stewart: 1895-1924
Marcus C. Stewart Sr.: 1925-1983
Eunice Trotter: 1988-1990
William Mays: 1990-present
PRESIDENTS
Charles Blair: 1991-1997
Carolene Mays-Medley: 1998-2010
Shannon Williams: 2010-2018
Robert Shegog: 2018-present

community needed an independent newspaper.”

Williams, who began working at the newspaper in 2000, said there were many ups and downs during her 18-year tenure. However, she said she reflected on the sacrifices and courage of those who came before her, and that inspired her to keep going.

“We all stand on other people’s shoulders, and I never lose sight of that,” Williams said. “I had to remember how scared those early reporters must have been. They got death threats, the KKK [Ku Klux Klan] tried to intimidate reporters, but they kept going. Just to be able to build upon that legacy makes me so proud, and it fueled me when things got tough.”

Both Williams and Trotter agree being at the Recorder always felt like being with family. While many things have changed at newspapers across the country, Trotter hopes the paper’s presence in the Martindale-Brightwood neighborhood is the same as it was when she started working on Indiana Avenue.

“When I was at the Recorder, as a teen and adult, it was really a community place,” Trotter said. “People would come to the building and hang out, get the news of the day and just talk. That’s what a newspaper should be, and I hope it’s heading in that direction again. I’m excited to see what will happen in years to come.”

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Remembering John Jointer, a gracious athlete

By TYLER FENWICK
tylerf@indyrecorder.com

Alexander Seawood remembers meeting a 12-year-old John Jointer Sr. at the Capital City Church School gym in the mid-1970s.

Jointer and other kids went to the gym on Sunday afternoons to play basketball. Seawood was a church elder at the time and admired how Jointer was never afraid to play against grown men.

“I thought he handled it quite well,” said Seawood, who now lives just outside of Huntsville, Alabama.

Jointer never stopped playing basketball. He also never stopped living out the lessons he learned by watching fierce competitors on the court still respect one another, becoming known as someone who was just as gracious as he was competitive.

Jointer died June 24 at 57 years old due to heart issues.

Led by his sister, Debra Wilson, family and friends want Jointer’s legacy to live on. Wilson created a GoFundMe campaign — Jointer’s Family Brotherly and Sisterly Love — with the goal of raising \$100,000 by the end of 2021 to donate to school athletics and education programs across the country.

“The legacy is having a giving spirit,” Wilson said of her late brother. “He would touch other lives so it would recycle through others.”

Jointer was known to hand out \$20 here and there for gas or lunch if he hadn’t seen you in a while. Wilson said he worked overtime at Citizens Energy Group so he would have enough extra money to help other families during the holidays.

But before all of that, Jointer’s love was basketball. He played on the team at Thomas Carr Howe High School and was good enough to draw interest from some smaller college basketball programs. Jointer was born with a heart murmur, though, and was nervous about playing at a higher level. Plus, Wilson said, he would have been afraid to fly to games.

“Can I drive?” he would ask college coaches. They said no.

Jointer took a job at Citizens out of



Debra Wilson with her late brother, John Jointer Sr., who died in June at 57 years old. (Photo provided)

high school and worked there for 38 years until his death. He kept playing basketball, though — on the company team, on friends’ companies’ teams, on the church team.

He never lost his edge, either. “John was definitely very competitive,” said George Harris III, who knew Jointer from church. “He was always trying to win.”

The two played together on the Indianapolis Eastside Seventh-Day Adventist Church team, which is where Harris used to be the youth leader. It’s also where Jointer had a reputation for getting involved wherever he was needed, especially when it came to the youth.

“Every time I asked him to contribute or donate or come to a program, he was always willing,” Harris said. “If it wasn’t his time, it was his finances.”

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Temperature check: How are Black entrepreneurs feeling?

By TYLER FENWICK
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When Bernice Taylor started a fireplace accessories business in 1998, she ran into a lot of the same problems other new business owners do.

For one, it was much more difficult in those days to find a manufacturing site that would do production, distribution, packaging and everything else for her business, Ashes to Go. Taylor was also trying to help take care of a family and work at the post office (a job she still has).

Through it all, though, Taylor said she’s always felt America’s economic system is “pretty fair” for Black entrepreneurs, with one caveat.

“It’s just we don’t have the avenue,” she said. “We don’t know who to go to.”

Therein lies what seems to be one of the most significant issues for Black entrepreneurs. It’s not a lack of ideas or passion; it’s that information is hard to come by — whether that’s information about how to start a business or what resources there are for business owners.

It’s one of the reasons Taylor appears to be somewhat of an outlier in her assessment of the country’s economic system.

In a survey of entrepreneurs commissioned by SecondMuse, an innovation and collaboration agency, respondents were about twice as likely to describe America’s economy as “unfair” rather than “fair.”

Non-white entrepreneurs were twice as likely as whites to describe the



#BlackBusinessesMatter is a campaign from Black Onyx Management. (Photo/Tyler Fenwick)

economy as “racist,” and more than half of non-white respondents said the economic system makes it more difficult to be an entrepreneur.

Ten percent of survey respondents were Black, which is a little less than representative.

Todd Khozein, founder and co-CEO of SecondMuse, said he wasn’t surprised to see the results, including that a third of entrepreneurs described America’s economy as “corrupt.”

“It’s kind of the world that we assume is out there,” he said.

Entrepreneurs are supposed to be an optimistic bunch. They take big risks, after all, and who would do that if with a pessimistic outlook? Khozein suspects the COVID-19 pandemic and rising awareness of racial inequity have made entrepreneurs more skeptical in general, but Black entrepreneurs in particular have never enjoyed the full rosiness of this American system.

“The economic system was not really created for Black entrepreneurs,” said Emil Ekiyor, founder and CEO of InnoPower, a community development organization.

Take a hypothetical 12-year-old Black boy from the east side of

Indianapolis, Ekiyor said. Unless he happens to have a successful business owner in the family, who is he supposed to look up to if he has dreams of starting his own business someday?

Sandy Crain, owner of Neonapi, an online boutique store, said the opportunities are there for Black entrepreneurs. It just takes a little know-how.

“Nobody’s gonna jump in your face and say, ‘Here’s all these opportunities,’” she said.

If there’s hope in Indianapolis, it might be around the push to find local support for business owners through recent initiatives such as Indy Accompliceship, which involves a network of support for Black-owned businesses.

Nearly 90% of respondents in the SecondMuse survey said they believe local coordination is essential to entrepreneurial success.

“Local coordination allows you to do you,” Khozein said. “Economies can’t just be waiting for some external business to come save them.”

Contact staff writer Tyler Fenwick at 317-762-7853. Follow him on Twitter @Ty_Fenwick.

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Five tips for staying healthy this flu season during COVID-19

By CAMEUAL WRIGHT

Flu season is upon us again and many people have questions about how to stay safe, especially as we continue to face COVID-19. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), influenza is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. In the U.S., flu season occurs during the fall and winter and typically peaks between December and February. Having proper knowledge on the flu and its symptoms is a key way to stay healthy during flu season. Dr. Cameual Wright, medical director at CareSource, a nonprofit health plan, has important information to share regarding the upcoming flu season.

Know the Symptoms of Influenza

Now more than ever, it is important to know the symptoms of the flu. Some symptoms of the flu are very similar to COVID-19, including fever, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose and fatigue. It is essential to identify your symptoms to move forward with proper treatment. One unique symptom that may occur if you have COVID-19 is the loss of taste or smell. When in doubt, you should get tested. Higher numbers of flu tests are expected this year to help determine if a patient has the flu or COVID-19.

The Flu Shot is More Important than Ever

The flu shot is important every year, but COVID-19 has prompted even more urgency in receiving the vaccine, which offers benefits including reducing the risk of flu illnesses, hospitalizations and even the risk of flu-related death. Getting the flu vaccine this year will decrease your likelihood of getting the flu and will help rule out what illness you may have if you do get sick. CareSource encourages its members to get a flu vaccine



and sends out yearly reminders to its members to get the flu vaccine, helps members find locations to receive a vaccine and covers the cost.

Proper Hygiene and Protection Prevents Transmission

After months of increasing personal protection and hygiene to protect against COVID-19, we should plan to continue these through flu season to stay healthy. Best practices to avoid transmission of the influenza virus include effective handwashing, not touching the face, avoiding sick contacts and wearing facial coverings. Flu season is a good time to emphasize these practices with children.

The Flu Should Be Taken Seriously

It is a common misconception that

the flu is not that serious, but it can have serious health effects. The virus should not be taken lightly, even if COVID-19 appears to be the larger threat. Some may be able to let the flu run its course with low to moderate symptoms, but others may be affected more seriously. Like COVID-19, those who are immunocompromised will see more serious effects that could result in death. If you are immunocompromised or have a weakened immune system, you should be diligent about taking safety precautions.

Know What to Do if You Think You Have the Flu

If you think you have the flu, you should seek care as soon as possible. The flu can be treated with antivirals but are most effective if taken within

48 hours of getting sick. While getting treatment early is ideal, antivirals can still be effective after the 48-hour window. If you're not sure if you have the flu or another illness including COVID-19, you can call CareSource24, our 24-hour Nurse Helpline with registered nurses to help answer questions, make distinctions and provide guidance.

CareSource is helping their members stay healthy this flu season by covering the cost of the flu shot, educating their members on best practices, and offering guidance on questions they may have. For more information visit www.caresource.com.

Dr. Cameual Wright is medical director of CareSource Indiana Market.



VIRGINIA A. CAINE, M.D., *Director & Chief Medical Officer*
Marion County Public Health Department

AND FIGHT THE FLU TOGETHER.

Getting a flu vaccine is more important than ever. Roll your sleeve up and help protect the Indianapolis community by getting your flu vaccine this fall.

To learn more about flu shot clinics near you, visit MarionHealth.org/immunize or call 317-221-2122.



Lower Your Risk of Lung Cancer

According to the American Lung Association (ALA), lung cancer is second only to skin cancer as the most common cancer in both men and women. In men, prostate cancer is more common, while in women breast cancer is more common.

ALA also says that lung cancer mainly occurs in older people. Most people diagnosed with lung cancer are 65 or older; a very small number of people diagnosed are younger than 45. The average age of people when diagnosed is about 70.

On a positive note, the number of new lung cancer cases continues to decrease, partly because people are quitting smoking. Also, the number of deaths from lung cancer continues to drop due to people stopping smoking and advances in early detection and treatment.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says smoking can cause cancer and then block the body from fighting it. Nearly 9 out of 10 lung cancers are caused by smoking cigarettes.

For people in Marion County and across Indiana, help is available by calling the Indiana Tobacco Quitline at 800-QUIT-NOW (800-784-8669), or text "QUIT" to 47848. It's never too late to quit.

Another way to prevent cancer, according to CDC, is by avoiding secondhand smoke, which is smoke from other people's cigarettes, pipes, or cigars. Secondhand smoke causes lung cancer in adults who have never smoked. Nonsmokers who are exposed to secondhand smoke at home or at work increase their risk of getting lung cancer by 20-30%.

Also, residents should get their home tested for radon. Radon is an invisible gas that has no taste or smell. It is a natural gas that comes from rocks and soil, and

can dissolve in groundwater. Radon is thought to be the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States, responsible for more than 20,000 lung cancer deaths each year.

People can be exposed to radon mainly from breathing radon in air that comes through cracks and gaps in the foundation of buildings and homes. One out of 15 homes has a high level of radon. Testing your home is the only way to find out if you have a radon problem. If you do, then you can fix it.

Free home radon testing is available through the Marion County Public Health Department by calling 317-221-2266.

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends yearly lung cancer screening with low-dose computed tomography (CT) scan for people who:

- Have a history of heavy smoking
- Smoke now or have quit within the past 15 years, and
- Are between 55 and 80 years old.

Lung cancer screening is not without risks, which is why lung cancer screening is recommended only for adults who are at high risk for developing the disease because of their smoking history and age.

People who are thinking about getting screened should learn more about it and talk to a primary care medical provider. Lung cancer screening is not a substitute for quitting smoking. Each year, about 221,000 people in the United States are told they have lung cancer and about 146,000 people die from this disease. Different people have different symptoms for lung cancer. Most people with lung cancer don't have symptoms until the cancer is advanced.

To learn more about lung cancer, please visit cancer.org or CDC.org.

Leader of US Catholic bishops: Biden's stances pose dilemma

By DAVID CRARY
AP National Writer

The head of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops told colleagues recently that President-elect Joe Biden's policy positions, including support for abortion rights, pose a “difficult and complex situation” for the church.

Los Angeles Archbishop Jose Gomez, completing his first year as the USCCB's president, welcomes many of Biden's stances, including on immigration, racial justice and climate change. But some conservative bishops, noting the church's strong opposition to abortion, were upset last week when Gomez congratulated Biden — a fellow Catholic — on his victory.

On Nov. 17, as the USCCB ended the public portion of its two-day national meeting, Gomez departed from the official agenda to broach the issue.

“We are facing a unique moment in our history,” he said. “The president-elect has given us reason to think he will support some good policies” but also some that “undermine our pre-eminent priority of the elimination of abortion.”

“These policies pose a serious threat to the common good,” Gomez said. “When politicians who profess the Catholic faith support them ... it creates confusion among the faithful about what the church actually teaches on these questions.”

Gomez said he would form a working group to address the matter, headed by the USCCB's vice president, Detroit Archbishop Allen Vigneron.

There was no immediate response by Biden's transition team to an AP request for comment.

Gomez's unexpected remarks followed a two-hour session in which bishops from across the U.S., meeting online due to the coronavirus outbreak, shared their dioceses' efforts to cope with the pandemic and to combat systemic racism.

Some who spoke during the racial injustice discussion represent communities that have seen protests and occasional violence after the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis in May.

Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore was among several who described church-organized listening sessions for community members to share their experiences with racism and their thoughts on how to curtail it.

“These conversations can be difficult, painful,” Lori said. “A lot of people don't



In this Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2019, file photo, Archbishop Jose H. Gomez, of Los Angeles, speaks during a news conference after being elected as president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops during their Fall General Assembly in Baltimore. On Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2020, Gomez addressed an online national meeting of bishops. During the previous week, Gomez congratulated Joe Biden on his presidential election victory. Now, Gomez is sounding a different tone, saying some of Biden's policy positions, including support for abortion rights, pose a “difficult and complex situation” for the church. (AP Photo/Steve Ruark, File)

think they need those conversations because they don't have a racist bone in their body. The reality is much different.”

As one of several race-related initiatives, Lori said his archdiocese is building a new K-8 Catholic school in one of Baltimore's poorest neighborhoods.

Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski of St. Louis said his archdiocese is seeking to promote racial equity in its hiring practices and has hired a diversity officer for a group of Catholic schools.

Rozanski recently toured predominantly Black neighborhoods including a stop in nearby Ferguson, where he prayed at the site where Michael Brown, an 18-year-old Black man, was fatally shot by a white police officer in 2014.

Mark Seitz, the bishop of El Paso, Texas, recalled the 2019 mass killing of 23 people at a Walmart by a gunman who said he was targeting Mexicans.

“It brought home the fact that white supremacy is not a harmless fringe ideology. It's a death-dealing ideology,” Seitz said. “It reminded us that words matter — words that denigrate immigrants and other people of color

really matter and feed into these ways of thinking.”

Seitz said the diocese is looking at forming a truth commission exploring the history and current status of racism in the region, and how it has impacted Native Americans, Hispanics, immigrants and others.

The discussion was led by Bishop Shelton Fabre of the Louisiana diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, who heads the USCCB's Committee Against Racism.

“The work is hard, the work is slow, but the work is being done,” he said. “In my diocese, hearts are being changed.”

Amid the protests following Floyd's killing, some Black Catholics were outspoken in urging the church to take substantive steps conveying that their presence is valued. There have been calls for some form of reparations, and for the teaching of Black Catholic history in Catholic schools.

Black Catholics' somewhat marginal place in the U.S. church is illustrated by statistics compiled by the USCCB: There are about 3 million African American members of the faith, roughly 4% of the nation's 69 million Catholics, but as of January there were just 250

Black priests, or less than 1% of the total of 36,500.

Also on Nov. 17, a dozen bishops shared their experiences coping with the coronavirus pandemic, which has forced many dioceses to halt or sharply reduce in-person worship.

Bishop Oscar Cantu of San Jose, California, described outreach efforts aimed at sick and older adult parishioners and recounted the painful decision to lay off 15% of the diocese staff due to reduced income from offerings.

Cardinal Sean O'Malley of Boston, where several priests and an auxiliary bishop have died of COVID-19, said a specially trained team of priests that was equipped with state-of-the-art protective equipment won permission to administer end-of-life sacraments to Catholic patients in hospitals.

John Wester, the archbishop of Santa Fe, New Mexico, said many parishioners were angry when restrictions forced the cancellation of in-person Masses at which they could receive Holy Communion.

“We're grateful for that devotion,” Wester said. “On the other hand, we're trying to keep people safe.”

Black clergy, United Way to launch anti-coronavirus effort

By ELANA SCHOR
Associated Press

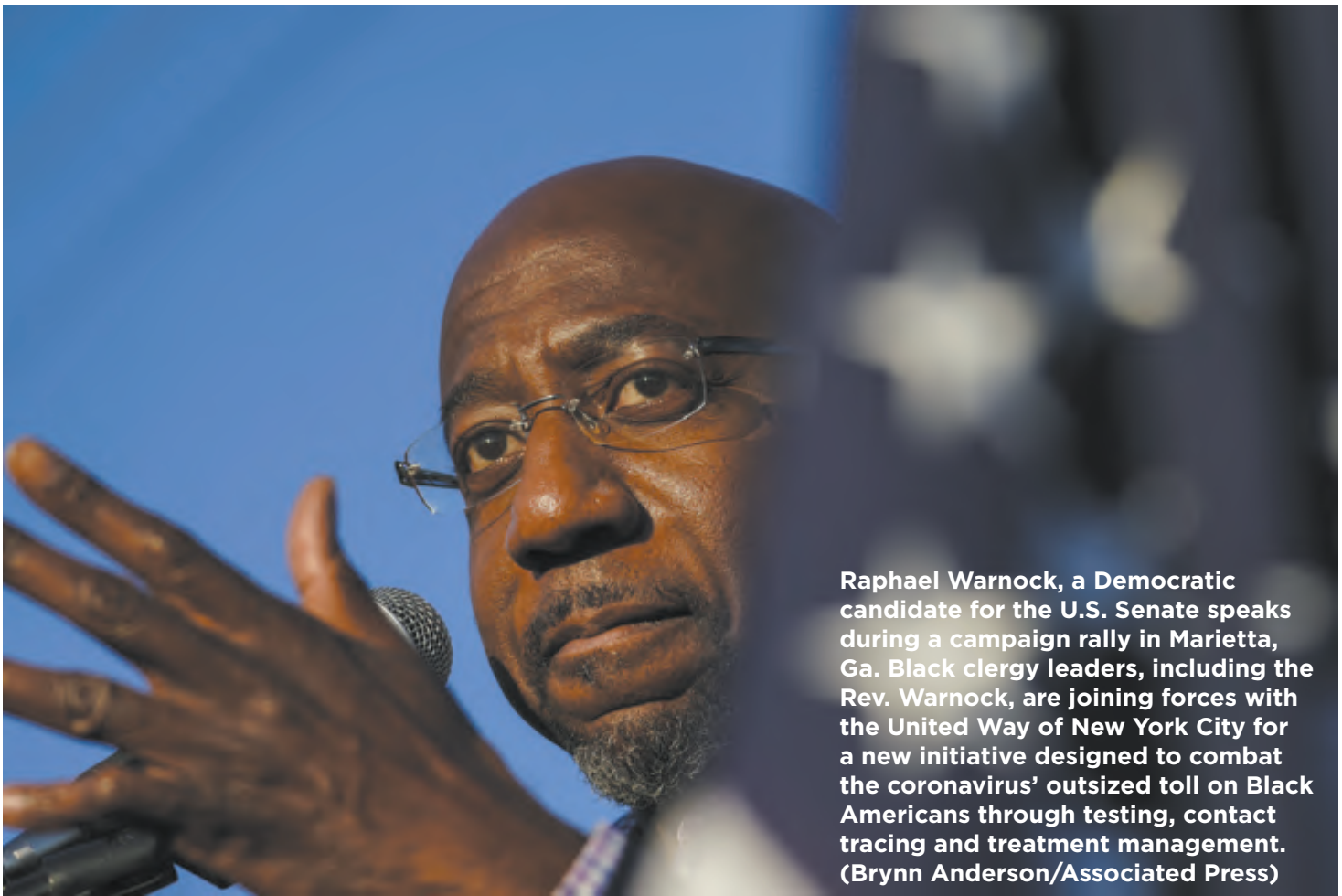
NEW YORK (AP) — Black clergy leaders are joining forces with the United Way of New York City for a new initiative designed to combat the coronavirus' outsized toll on African Americans through ramped-up testing, contact tracing and treatment management.

Details of the new effort, shared with The Associated Press in advance of its launch, rest on harnessing the on-the-ground influence of church leaders to circulate resources that can better equip Black Americans in safeguarding against and treating the virus. Its rollout will begin in five major cities with initial seven-figure funding, focusing on expanded testing and public health education, with a goal of further expansion and ultimately reaching several hundred thousand underinsured or uninsured Black Americans.

The Rev. Calvin Butts, pastor of Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City, said participating churches were stepping forward to serve as a “first line of defense” for the Black community against the virus.

“I'm delighted to say we are strongly together across denominational lines and, even when there may be political differences, we still stand shoulder to shoulder in meeting this crisis,” Butts said.

The coronavirus has killed more than 250,000 Americans, with hospitalizations reaching an all-time high as U.S. deaths from the virus reached their highest levels since the pandemic surged in the spring. The Black community has been hit hard, with an August study from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention finding that African Americans had a virus hospitalization rate 4.7 times higher and a death rate 2.1 times higher than the white population.



Raphael Warnock, a Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate speaks during a campaign rally in Marietta, Ga. Black clergy leaders, including the Rev. Warnock, are joining forces with the United Way of New York City for a new initiative designed to combat the coronavirus' outsized toll on Black Americans through testing, contact tracing and treatment management. (Brynn Anderson/Associated Press)

Sheena Wright, CEO of the United Way of New York City, highlighted that impact in describing plans to help boost the partnership's technical and fundraising capacities.

“We are focused on really closing the opportunity gap for communities of color around the city, and we've certainly seen in COVID-19 the profound disparities and impact on the Black community,” Wright said, pointing to a historic “lack of investment in health institutions” that serve Black Americans.

The virus testing is set to start in January in five cities: New York, Detroit, Atlanta, Washington and Newark, New Jersey. Among the clergy

helping to spearhead the effort are the civil rights activist the Rev. Al Sharpton and the Rev. Raphael Warnock, pastor at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta and a Democratic Senate candidate in Georgia.

Funding support will come from testing company Quest Diagnostics and Resolve to Save Lives, a nonprofit-backed public health initiative led by Tom Frieden, director of the CDC during the Obama administration.

The project is modeled in part on the strategy used by the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, founded in the 1980s to battle another epidemic that disproportionately hit Black Americans. The coronavirus ini-

tiative will involve the establishment of leadership roles at participating churches with responsibility to coordinate testing, tracing and connection of virus-positive people with health care, said Debra Fraser-Howze, founder of the AIDS commission and a partner in the new project.

The coronavirus struggle “is similar to the AIDS epidemic” in that the Black community has “been again left out, locked out of resources,” Fraser-Howze said. “We have the highest rates of death and illness. So it is time for those that lead us to understand what is going on.”

SPIRITUAL OUTLOOK

O’ give thanks!

By **PRESTON T. ADAMS III**



“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever.” Psalm 136 (NLT)

As we continue to navigate our “new norm” it can become increasingly difficult to find things to be thankful for. Thanksgiving 2020 is starkly different from any other Thanksgiving in my lifetime, and I would imagine it is different for you as well.

Families that normally gathered together, sometimes only once per year on Thanksgiving, are asked to avoid gathering out of valid concerns for our safety and the safety of our loved ones and friends.

COVID-19 has changed our way of life dramatically. Tragically, we have lost over 1.3 million loved ones, friends, co-workers and human beings worldwide to this dreaded disease. In the United States, over 252,000 people have died. And in Indiana, the number of deaths has surpassed 5,143 as of this writing.

Thankfully, over 35 million have recovered. But this still cannot remove the pain of losing those we love, or the painfully lingering effects of the millions who have been personally affected.

So, what do we have to be thankful for? The Psalmist reminds us in Psalm 136 that we should “give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!” God is good, and God’s faithful love endures forever.

Enduring Word Commentary notes that Psalm 136 is a special psalm, with each one of its 26 verses repeating the sentence, “His mercy endures forever.” Psalm 118 repeated that affirmation five times. Throughout the Hebrew Scriptures, the phrase has somewhat of a liturgical sense to it, as if the assembled people of Israel said or sung this in response to the direction of the Levites leading singing and worship.

Ezra 3:11 indicates that this encouragement was part of a responsive singing among God’s people: And they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the Lord: “For He is good, For His mercy endures forever toward Israel.”

So, what do we have to be thankful for? Personally, I’m thankful for life, health and strength. I’m thankful for my family and extremely grateful to God that my immediate family has been spared the wrath of the virus. I’m thankful for a sound mind and peace in my spirit. I’m thankful for gainful employment that allows me to support my loved ones.

I’m thankful for my grandchildren who are growing up healthy, vibrant and strong. I’m thankful for a roof over my head, clothes on my back, shoes on my feet, food on my table.

Most importantly, I’m thankful that Jesus Christ is my personal Lord and savior. I’m thankful that Christ promised us peace in the pandemic. I’m thankful that scriptures remind us that Christ never leaves us nor forsakes us. I’m thankful that even though tribulation abounds, I can be of good cheer because Christ has overcome the world.

What are you thankful for? I imagine we share in some of the same thanksgiving praises. I’ve found the key to being thankful is perspective. We can find many things that cause us to be unthankful. But sometimes, we simply need to remind ourselves that the Lord is good, and God’s mercy endures forever.

O’ give thanks! If this is not your daily affirmation, I encourage you to try it during this season of Thanksgiving. I’m a witness that you will find something to be thankful for.

Dr. Preston T. Adams III is senior pastor at Amazing Grace Christian Church in Indianapolis. Contact Pastor Adams via email at senior-pastor@agecindy.org or via Twitter @DrPrestonTAdams. For more information, visit agecindy.org.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Obadiah in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Matthew 9, after Jesus healed a paralyzed man, what did the man pick up and carry home? Brother, Bed, Mother, Cart
3. What is the largest number phrase specifically mentioned (described) in the Bible? Scores upon scores, One hundred thousand, Thousand thousand, Thousands of millions
4. Which book begins, “And the Lord spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai”? Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
5. From Psalms 5:9, on referring to enemies, their throat is an open ...? Wound, Door, Sepulchre, Cave
6. In Exodus 7 what river was turned into blood? Red, Galilee, Marah, Nile

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Bed; 3) Thousands of millions (Genesis 24:60); 4) Numbers; 5) Sepulchre; 6) Nile

Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey’s subscriber site at www.patreon.com/triviaguy.

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‘Make or break time’: Black business owners counting on Small Business Saturday

By TYLER FENWICK
tylerf@indyrecorder.com

Sandy Crain decided to take a leap of faith about a month ago. She had been saving money from her job at a factory in Greenfield and got to the point where she felt comfortable enough to quit and dedicate her time to Neonapi, her online boutique store.

Neonapi had been more like a hobby for years, but Crain is now in the same position as so many other Black small business owners: She’s trying to get people to spend money during a pandemic that has led to mass job loss and economic uncertainty.

Small Business Saturday on Nov. 28 could be the boost many need.

One of the biggest letdowns for Black small business owners has been the cancellation of in-person vendor events. Many small businesses don’t have a physical location and rely on online sales, but owners also depend on vendor events to have more of the traditional interaction with potential customers.

Andrea Jenkins, owner of Harmonious Insights, said she would normally be at anywhere from six to eight vendor events around the holidays, but that’s not possible right now.

Jenkins started Harmonious Insights in 2018 and said there would probably be more interest in her self-care business — where people can by sage, incense sticks and yoni eggs — because of all the stress 2020 has caused, but she hasn’t had enough opportunities to introduce her products to customers.

Jenkins said vendor events are also important because it’s an opportunity for her to talk to people about their specific self-care needs. As a licensed social worker and therapist, she knows how to figure out what might be causing stress and can then



from their business — Washington said she’s heard from other owners who are starting to wonder if they should give up and move on.

A successful Small Business Saturday could save some businesses.

“It could definitely be a revitalizing thing and keep a lot of people in business,” Washington said.

Contact staff writer Tyler Fenwick at 317-762-7853. Follow him on Twitter @Ty_Fenwick.

Sandy Crain is owner of Neonapi, an online boutique store. (Photo provided)

make a suggestion.

“I don’t have that opportunity to individualize,” Jenkins said.

For some small Black-owned businesses, Small Business Saturday could be “make or break time,” she said, as owners contemplate the viability of their business.

Katina Washington, who started the S.H.E. Event eight years ago to help Black business owners promote their products, said Small Business Saturday will be especially important now that health departments have started implementing more restrictions amid rising COVID-19 case numbers and positivity rates.

Washington recently launched the S.H.E. Marketplace online, where buyers can sift through products from vendors. There isn’t a firm plan yet, but Washington said she would look at ways to promote the businesses on the marketplace for Small Business Saturday.

While some small business owners have another job that they consider to be their main source of income — or at least supplement the income

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ADOPTION

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION SS:
IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT
CAUSE NO.
49D08-1910-AD-042876
IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF
JAY MANI WARDELL
ZAYON SCHOCLET,
A MINOR CHILD.

AMENDED PETITION FOR ADOPTION

COME NOW Petitioners, Sheree Dunay and Brian Dunay, who first being duly sworn upon their oath, respectfully petitions the Court as follows:

1. That Petitioners reside at 11071 Indian Lake Boulevard, Indianapolis IN 46236, Marion County, Indiana.

2. That Sheree Dunay is Forty-Six Years Old, born 1973, a resident of the State of Indiana and a citizen of the United States of America, was married to Brian Dunay on July 4, 2013 in Hamilton County, Indiana.

3. That Brian Dunay is Fifty-Four Years Old, born 1964, a resident of the State of Indiana and a citizen of the United States of America, was married to Brian Dunay on July 4, 2013 in Hamilton County, Indiana.

4. Sheree Dunay is the Co-Owner of Zedco Carpet Care since 2013 and a realtor with KQ Tucker since 2018.

5. Brian Dunay is the Co-Owner of Zedco Carpet Care since 2013, is a member of the Indiana National Guard since 2005.

6. That the name of the minor child sought to be adopted is JAY MANI WARDELL ZAYON SCHOCLET (the "Child"); that the Child is a multi-racial dark-skinned male born in Midland, Texas on September 8, 2013.

7. That Petitioners are the de facto custodians of the child. They have continuously raised him, under a Guardianship since October, 2014 under Cause 49D08-1410-GU-035007.

8. That the Child does not possess real or personal property of its own.

9. That if this petition is granted, Petitioners desire that the Child shall be given the name of Jason Michael Dunay.

10. That Petitioners believe they have sufficient ability and income to rear the Child and to furnish him with love and affection and suitable support and education.

11. That the name of the biological mother of the Child is Aliqua Schochet, born September 22, 1989. Mother is known to reside at 3117 E. Louisiana Avenue, Midland, TX 79701; and that the consent of the biological mother with regard to the adoption of the Child is not required pursuant to IC 31-19-9-8, on the grounds that the biological mother is unfit, has abandoned or deserted the Child for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the date of the filing of the petition for adoption, is incompetent or mentally defective, has knowingly failed to provide for the care and support of the child when able to do so as required by law or judicial decree, or has made only token efforts to support or to communicate with the child.

12. That the name of the biological father is unknown. No father is listed on the birth certificate of the Child and the biological mother has only ever disclosed that the Child's father was Hispanic. The consent of this unknown male is not required pursuant to IC 31-19-9-8, on the grounds that the biological father is unfit, has abandoned or deserted the Child for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the date of the filing of the petition for adoption, has failed without justifiable cause to communicate significantly with the child when able to do so, or has knowingly failed to provide for the care and support of the child when able to do so as required by law or judicial decree.

13. That Petitioners have not been convicted of a felony of a misdemeanor relating to the health and safety of children.

14. That the Child is not an "Indian Child" under the Indian Child Welfare Act, 25 U.S.C. § 1901 ("ICWA"), and, therefore, ICWA is not applicable to these proceedings. IS. There is no existing order on child support.

15. Indiana Code 31-19-16-1 provides for post-adoption contact with the child if the parent consents to the adoption. Each parent is hereby notified that if he or she consents to the adoption, he or she may seek post-adoptive contact in an amount to be determined by the Court. Each parent is further notified that the failure to consent to the adoption may prevent that parent from seeking post-adoptive contact with the child.

WHEREFORE, Petitioners pray the Court to examine this petition, determine whether the same is in proper form, and if found to be so by this Court, to order the Clerk to forward one copy of this petition to the Indiana Department of Child Services and one copy of this petition to the Marion County Department of Child Services, for the purpose of investigating this petition and reporting to this Court, and to hear evidence on this petition to determine whether or not it should be granted, to confirm and order that the child cannot and should not be returned to the home of the biological parents, and for all other proper relief in the premises.

We, Sheree Dunay and Brian Dunay, affirm under the penalties for perjury that the foregoing representations are true.

11/20/20
11/27/20
12/04/20

Myia Eldridge, Clerk

11/20/20
11/27/20
12/04/20

DISSOLUTION

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION
SUPERIOR COURT OF
CIVIL DIVISION
OLAYINKA OYEBAMIJI
Petitioner
LEWIS BREZIA
Defendant
CAUSE NO.
49D12-2010-DC-037554

NOTICE OF SUIT

The State of Indiana to the Respondent above named, and any other person who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is Petition for Dissolution of Marriage. And to the following respondent whose whereabouts are unknown: Lewis Brezia. In addition to the above named respondent being served by this summons there may be other defendants who have an interest in this law suit. If you have a claim for relief against the Petitioner arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, on or before the _ day of __, (the same being within thirty (30) days after the third notice of suit, and if you fail to do so a judgment will be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.

Myia Eldridge, Clerk

11/20/20
11/27/20
12/04/20

DISSOLUTION

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION SS:
IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT
CAUSE NO.
49D08-2007-DC-024208
IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:
WHITNEY PEREZ
Petitioner,
And,
JOSHUA ADAMS
Respondent.

NOTICE OF SUIT - SUMMONS SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

The State of Indiana to the Respondent above named and any other person who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is: Dissolution of Marriage. This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following Respondent: JOSHUA ADAMS. And to the following Respondent whose whereabouts are: Unknown. In addition to the above Respondent, being served by this summons, there may be others who have an interest in this lawsuit. If you do not take any action in this case after receipt of this summons, the court can make a determination regarding any of the following: divorce and child custody on or before the _ day of __, 20__ (the same being within thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit).

Myia Eldridge, Clerk

11/20/20
11/27/20
12/04/20

DISSOLUTION

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION SS:
IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT
CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO.
IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:
OLUWATOYIN B. OLADIPPO
Petitioner,
And,
JEFFERY ALLEN MADRY
Respondent.

SUMMONS TO RESPONDENT: JEFFERY ALLEN MADRY

1030 N NEVILLE AVENUE, APT 113 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46201. You are hereby notified that you have been sued by the Petitioner in the Court indicated above. This summons is accompanied by a Notice to Appear, you should appear in Court on the date and time stated in the Order to Appear. If you do not appear, evidence may be heard in your absence and a determination made by the Court. If a Temporary Restraining Order is attached, it is effective immediately. You may receive or knowledge of the Order.

If you wish to retain an attorney to represent you in this matter, it is advisable to do so before the date stated in the Notice to Appear. If you take no action in this case after the receipt of this summons, the Court can grant an Annulment of the Marriage or make a determination regarding any of the following: property division (real or personal) and any other distribution of assets and debts.

Dated: 8/28/2020

Myia Eldridge, Clerk

11/13/20
11/20/20
11/27/20

DISSOLUTION

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION
SUPERIOR COURT
OF CIVIL DIVISION
JOCIFINA GIERREZ
Petitioner
JUAN CARLOS GERARDO AGUSTIN
Defendant
CAUSE NO.
49D14-2010-DC-038660
49D14-2010-DC-038660

The State of Indiana to the Respondent above named, and any other person who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is Petition for Dissolution of Marriage. And to the following respondent whose whereabouts are unknown: Juan Carlos Gerard Agustin. In addition to the above named respondent being served by this summons there may be other defendants who have an interest in this law suit. If you have a claim for relief against the Petitioner arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, on or before the _ day of __, (the same being within thirty (30) days after the third notice of suit, and if you fail to do so a judgment will be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.

Myia Eldridge, Clerk

11/20/20
11/27/20
12/04/20

DISSOLUTION

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION
COURT OF CIVIL DIVISION
MORUFAT SALAMI
Plaintiff
Vs
MORUFU SALAMI
MORALES
Defendant
CAUSE NO.
49D10-2010-DC-037371

NOTICE OF SUIT

The State of Indiana to the Respondent above named, and any other person who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is Petition for Dissolution of Marriage. And to the following respondent whose whereabouts are unknown: Morufu Salami. In addition to the above named respondent being served by this summons there may be other defendants who have an interest in this law suit. If you have a claim for relief against the Petitioner arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, on or before the _ day of __, (the same being within thirty (30) days after the third notice of suit, and if you fail to do so a judgment will be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.

Myia Eldridge, Clerk

11/20/20
11/27/20
12/04/20

GUARDIANSHIP

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION
IN THE
MARION COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
PATERNITY DIVISION
IN RE THE PATERNITY OF
ATENEYA MAYHUERE MORALES
MARISOL F. MAYHUERE
Petitioner/ Mother
JOSE MANUEL SANCHEZ GAMBOA
Respondent/ Father
CAUSE NO.
49C01-2005-JP-017190
To Respondent: Jose M. Sanchez Gamboa
Whereabouts unknown

Summons is to the above named Respondent, who, after diligent search his whereabouts are unknown and to any other person who may be concerned. Petitioner's counsel has conducted a diligent search of court records and social media and has not discovered an address or the whereabouts of the Respondent. The petitioner has not seen or heard from the Respondent has been unable to locate the Respondent. You are hereby notified that you have been sued in the Marion County Indiana Superior Circuit Court, Paternity Division in an action entitled: In Re Paternity of Atenea Mayhuere Morales. Marisol F. Mayhuere Morales and Jose Manuel Sanchez Gamboa Cause No. 49C01-2005-JP-017190 by the person named above as Petitioner. This summons by publication is specifically directed to the Respondent above named above whose current address and whereabouts are unknown. This matter is set for hearing on Friday, December 11, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. for a period of one hour in the Marion County Circuit Court, City County Building, Room 156, 200 E. Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204. The hearing will be conducted virtually via WebEx. Video attendance is preferred when possible, but telephonic appearance is acceptable. Meeting number (access code) 129 3535417; Meeting password: 8AQb7MOvU5s. Join by phone: 1-544-992-4726. The named Petitioner is represented by Vanessa Lopez Aguilera, LOPEZ LAW OFFICE, P.C., 3502 North Meridian Street Indianapolis, IN 46208. Telephone: (317) 634-9484. Email: vllopez@vannessalopezlaw.com

The nature of the suit against you is a paternity and child custody matter. The Petitioner and the Respondent are the parents of the minor child, Atenea Mayhuere Morales. An answer or other response in writing to the petition must be filed either by you or your attorney within thirty (30) days after this notice of suit, and if you fail to do so judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief requested by the Petitioner. If you have a claim for relief against the Petitioner arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert in your written answer or response.

Myia Eldridge, Clerk

11/27/20
12/04/20
12/11/20

GUARDIANSHIP

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION
IN THE
MARION COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
PATERNITY DIVISION
IN RE THE PATERNITY OF
ATENEYA MAYHUERE MORALES
MARISOL F. MAYHUERE
Petitioner/ Mother
JOSE MANUEL SANCHEZ GAMBOA
Respondent/ Father
CAUSE NO.
49C01-2005-JP-017190
To Respondent: Jose M. Sanchez Gamboa
Whereabouts unknown

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Myia Eldridge, Clerk

11/27/20
12/04/20
12/11/20

GUARDIANSHIP

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION
IN THE
MARION COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
PATERNITY DIVISION
IN RE THE PATERNITY OF
ATENEYA MAYHUERE MORALES
MARISOL F. MAYHUERE
Petitioner/ Mother
JOSE MANUEL SANCHEZ GAMBOA
Respondent/ Father
CAUSE NO.
49C01-2005-JP-017190
To Respondent: Jose M. Sanchez Gamboa
Whereabouts unknown

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Myia Eldridge, Clerk

11/27/20
12/04/20
12/11/20

GUARDIANSHIP

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION
IN THE
MARION COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
PATERNITY DIVISION
IN RE THE PATERNITY OF
ATENEYA MAYHUERE MORALES
MARISOL F. MAYHUERE
Petitioner/ Mother
JOSE MANUEL SANCHEZ GAMBOA
Respondent/ Father
CAUSE NO.
49C01-2005-JP-017190
To Respondent: Jose M. Sanchez Gamboa
Whereabouts unknown

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The nature of the suit against you is a Custody Matter wherein the Petitioner/Father is seeking a custody order providing him custody of the minor Child Who has been residing with him. The Petitioner and the Respondent are the parents of the minor child, Adrian I. Silguero.

This matter has been set for hearing on March 4, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. for a duration of one hour in the Marion County Circuit Court, Paternity Division, City County Building, Room E-156, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204. The hearing will be held via Video Conference through WebEx.

An answer or other response in writing to the petition must be filed either by theto dc so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief requested by the Petitioner.

If you have a claim for relief against the Petitioner arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert in your written answer or response.

Dated: 11/4/2020

11/13/20
11/20/20
11/27/20

DISSOLUTION

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION
COURT OF
CIVIL DIVISION
JOCIFINA GIERREZ
Petitioner
JUAN CARLOS GERARDO AGUSTIN
Defendant
CAUSE NO.
49D14-2010-DC-038660
49D14-2010-DC-038660

The State of Indiana to the Respondent above named, and any other person who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is Petition for Dissolution of Marriage. And to the following respondent whose whereabouts are unknown: Juan Carlos Gerard Agustin. In addition to the above named respondent being served by this summons there may be other defendants who have an interest in this law suit. If you have a claim for relief against the Petitioner arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, on or before the _ day of __, (the same being within thirty (30) days after the third notice of suit, and if you fail to do so a judgment will be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.

Myia Eldridge, Clerk

11/20/20
11/27/20
12/04/20

DISSOLUTION

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION
COURT OF CIVIL DIVISION
MORUFAT SALAMI
Plaintiff
Vs
MORUFU SALAMI
MORALES
Defendant
CAUSE NO.
49D10-2010-DC-037371

NOTICE OF SUIT

The State of Indiana to the Respondent above named, and any other person who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is Petition for Dissolution of Marriage. And to the following respondent whose whereabouts are unknown: Morufu Salami. In addition to the above named respondent being served by this summons there may be other defendants who have an interest in this law suit. If you have a claim for relief against the Petitioner arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, on or before the _ day of __, (the same being within thirty (30) days after the third notice of suit, and if you fail to do so a judgment will be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.

Myia Eldridge, Clerk

11/20/20
11/27/20
12/04/20

GUARDIANSHIP

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION
IN THE
MARION COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
PATERNITY DIVISION
IN RE THE PATERNITY OF
ATENEYA MAYHUERE MORALES
MARISOL F. MAYHUERE
Petitioner/ Mother
JOSE MANUEL SANCHEZ GAMBOA
Respondent/ Father
CAUSE NO.
49C01-2005-JP-017190
To Respondent: Jose M. Sanchez Gamboa
Whereabouts unknown

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Myia Eldridge, Clerk

11/27/20
12/04/20
12/11/20

GUARDIANSHIP

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION
IN THE
MARION COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
PATERNITY DIVISION
IN RE THE PATERNITY OF
ATENEYA MAYHUERE MORALES
MARISOL F. MAYHUERE
Petitioner/ Mother
JOSE MANUEL SANCHEZ GAMBOA
Respondent/ Father
CAUSE NO.
49C01-2005-JP-017190
To Respondent: Jose M. Sanchez Gamboa
Whereabouts unknown

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This matter has been set for hearing on March 4, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. for a duration of one hour in the Marion County Circuit Court, Paternity Division, City County Building, Room E-156, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204. The hearing will be held via Video Conference through WebEx.

An answer or other response in writing to the petition must be filed either by theto dc so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief requested by the Petitioner.

If you have a claim for relief against the Petitioner arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert in your written answer or response.

Dated: 11/4/2020

11/13/20
11/20/20
11/27/20

NAME CHANGE

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION SS
IN THE MARION CIRCUIT COURT
CIVIL DIVISION
CHANGE OF NAME
MARLEE AVA MAE THURMON
KATHERINE SCHERER,
Petitioner
CAUSE NO.
49C01-2010-MI-036589
ORDER SETTING HEARING AND

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

COMES NOW the Petitioner, Katherine Scherer, and submits her Verified Petition for Name Change of Minor and hereby gives notice to the Court for Change of Name for Minor has been filed in the MARION County Circuit Court request that the name of minor Marlee Ava Mae Thurmon be changed to Marlee Ava Mae Scherer. The Court, being fully advised in the matter, now finds that this matter should be and is hereby set for hearing on the _ day of __, 2021 at 9:00 a.m., which is more than thirty (30) days after the third publication of this Notice, for Thirty (30) minutes. Notice is further given that any person has the right to appear at the hearing on said Petition and/or to file objections on or before the hearing date. THIS MATTER WILL BE HELD REMOTELY, AND THE COURT WILL ISSUE WEBEX/ZOOM INVITATION FOR THE HEARING. IT IS SO ORDERED ADJUDGED AND DECREED this October

Pacers' hesitancy to move disgruntled Oladipo is puzzling

By DANNY BRIDGES

We've all seen this story before. An athlete falls out of favor with his employer and the fan base proceeds to help the franchise run them out of town.

While it's usually quick, sometimes a prolonged affair transpires, but either way, the change of address occurs.

Sure, the timeline varies, but in the end both parties get the opportunity to move forward and turn the page. Often a contract must be bought out, but that's an item that can be negotiated, and when it's said and done, the player's agent earns their keep by finding their scorned client a new team.

The Indiana Pacers seem steadfast in taking the high road with Victor Oladipo, and while that sounds good from a public relations standpoint, they know the time for a deal to jettison him out is way overdue. Yes, they're staring down the reality of being stuck with any trade they can make that at least garners something in return, without allowing him to walk away as a free agent when his current contract expires at the conclusion of the upcoming 2020-21 season.

How a team orchestrates that type of fire sale can be defined as an art, and with the entire NBA knowing Oladipo will never be the same physically after a catastrophic injury, coupled by his desire to play elsewhere, it's a monumental task to secure anything even remotely valuable in return for him at this point of the rather ugly, yet necessary process.

The Pacers found that out on draft night and when the current free agency period was ushered in. Sure, a couple of multi-player deals that included Oladipo as a throw-in player were on the table, but the Pacers didn't bite. They focused their



In this Aug. 10, 2020, file photo, Indiana Pacers guard Victor Oladipo warms up for an NBA basketball game against the Miami Heat in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. While Oladipo's future with the Pacers remains murky, his investments become clearer every day. Oladipo and business manager Jay Henderson have joined a group that includes former Florida basketball player Matt Walsh to purchase the New Zealand Breakers of the Australian National Basketball League. (Kim Klement/AP, File)

attention on moving Myles Turner in trades that would have brought different types of players with similar salaries back in return, all the while thinking the elephant in the room known as Oladipo would take care of itself before the trade deadline. Despite the fact that his actual trade value is diminishing by the minute, there's a good chance the Pacers will bring him back into the fold and allow the mercurial Oladipo to have a negative impact on the team this season as he continues to struggle with the fact that his injury has stripped away a maximum-deal contract and

relegated him to a co-star status (at best) behind both Malcom Brogdon and T.J. Warren and, if healthy, even his best friend, Domantas Sabonis.

In the end we must not shed tears for Oladipo, as when it's all said and done, he'll get a new deal with his next team and by then grossed over \$140 million in his career. Sure, that's less than what he could've commanded prior to the unfortunate injury, but it's still enough money to underwrite his fledgling musical interests away from the game and then somehow manage to pay the rent and utilities on time every month.

If I seem brazen about all this, please understand it's the Pacers I'm puzzled with in this situation. Every team has a diva and how you deal with them is no secret. Oladipo has been coddled by this franchise and allowed to believe his personal interests are more important than that of the team, and without the NBA street cred a true superstar brings to the table every night, he's become both an enigma and a major distraction that has to be dealt with for whatever the Pacers can get for him.

He's not a bad person, but he's taken some absolutely horrible advice from those who handle his affairs. Along the way he's disrespected the Pacers' medical staff and their fine media relations personnel, and that's just a few of his unconscionable mistakes.

His grasp of reality is crippling an average team in a small market, and that has to end soon before his moodiness and inconsiderate attitude toward his teammates crush the Pacers further into mediocrity this season.

Yes, the Oladipo era is over, and it's time to tell him to stay home. Don't even bring him to camp; just allow him to brood in his Miami residence until a trade can be finalized.

He'll be less of a distraction in Florida, and this team no longer needs the circus his life has become. Every great relationship between a once-coveted player and the franchise comes to an end, and this one is obviously beyond the much-needed separation.

I just wonder what's taking the Pacers so long to face the music and move forward without him.

Danny Bridges, who thinks Victor Oladipo is a very fortunate young man and wishes him well, can be reached at 317-370-8447 or at bridgeshd@aol.com.

Colts get statement win in OT vs. Packers



Colts cornerback Rock Ya-Sin (26) intercepts a pass intended for Packers wide receiver Marquez Valdes-Scantling (83) for one of the Colts' four takeaways against one of the best offenses in the NFL. Indianapolis won, 34-31, in overtime.



Indianapolis Colts wide receiver Zach Pascal (14) breaks from from an attempted tackle by Green Bay Packers safety Darnell Savage (26). Pascal finished with three catches for 54 yards. (Photos/Jeff Brown)

Pike vs. Cathedral



Pike guard JJ Loudon is one of the top local players in the Class of 2022. (Photos/David Dixon)



Cathedral's Tayshawn Comer is also one of the top point guards in the state.



Pike assistant coach Shawn Teague wears a mask, as is mandatory for winter high school sports.

48-HOUR BLACK FRIDAY DEAL

NO TICKET FEES

NOVEMBER 29 | 1:00PM

COLTS.COM/SINGLEGAME

*OFFER ENDS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, AT 12:00PM ET