

## HOMICIDE: Life and death in Indianapolis

By **BREANNA COOPER**  
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Dontrell Hanyard was just 21 years old when he was murdered outside an Indianapolis apartment complex on the far east side in 2013.

His mother, Latricia Hanyard, described her son as a “good kid and loving father who would give you the shirt off his back.” At the time of his death, he worked at Amazon and left behind a 3-year-old daughter, Dezire.

“He did some stuff he probably shouldn’t have,” Hanyard said. “But that didn’t give nobody the right to murder him like that.”

Hanyard still doesn’t know who killed her eldest son, and violent crime in Indianapolis continues to worsen.

In 2019, 172 people were murdered in Indianapolis. Roughly 75% of those victims were Black.

According to the Marion County coronor as of Oct. 28, there have been 221 murders in the city — over 50 more homicides

than this time last year. Roughly 65% of murder victims were Black, and 43% of victims were under the age of 30. An overwhelming majority — around 90% — were killed by a firearm.

“I come from Gary, and we were the No. 1 murder capital a few years ago,” Hanyard, 47, said. “I come from a city of violence and murder. I thought moving here, I was bringing my kids into a better life, and my son got murdered.”

Hanyard acknowledged her son had drugs on him at the time of his death and was dealing to friends.

“All these murder victims is someone’s child,” Hanyard said. “[Dontrell] is my child, and I still love him no matter what he did

See **HOMICIDE, A3**▶



Latricia Hanyard and her son Dontrell, holding his daughter Dezire, at his 2010 graduation from Warren Central High School. Dontrell was murdered in Indianapolis in 2013. (Photo provided)

**Celebrating 125 years  
From the Recorder Archives  
FRIDAY, July 15, 2011**

## Archive: Can the Black church save Indianapolis?

By **BRANDON A. PERRY**

Throughout its 190-year history, Indianapolis has been described as many things, including “The Circle City,” “Naptown” and “The Racing Capital of the World.”

Many people who visit our city for events such as Indiana Black Expo’s Summer Celebration might say Indianapolis is also “a church town,” where faith-based institutions play a key role in the local culture.

I like to joke that Indianapolis has more churches per square mile than any city in the Midwest.

However, Indianapolis also has many of the problems associated with major urban areas, including street violence, a crowded judicial system, widespread illegal drug abuse, mistrust between police and residents, a rise in single-parent homes, an increase in teen pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases, low high school graduation rates and a high unemployment rate among minorities and young adults.

Can the faith community, particularly the Black church, save Indianapolis from these challenges?

The Recorder recently did something out of our norm by presenting this question not to leaders and “experts,” but to regular, hard-working people concerned about this city. During a lively discussion on Facebook, they gave some riveting responses.

As someone who has been blessed with the sacred trust of chronicling events in this newspaper for almost 10 years, I would like to humbly add my own thoughts.

Indianapolis should be thankful to have the presence of numerous churches and faith-based institutions of all denominations with programs that serve the community. We can name any problem and there is a ministry somewhere in this city working to address it.

Read the rest of this article at  
[indianapolisrecorder.com](http://indianapolisrecorder.com).

## Shelters struggle to combat domestic violence spike amid pandemic

By **HILARY POWELL**

At a time when they need her the most, Teshezia George says she’s forced to shutter her shelter doors to women without a safe home.

“A lot of times I’m getting off the phone feeling just terrible,” she said, “because I know these people are going to sleep in their car again or in an abandoned house.”

George is executive director of the 14-unit Rainbow-Ark Shelter in Gary, which is closed to clients during a much-needed renovation. Normally, the shelter invites women and children affected by homelessness, domestic violence or sexual assault to stay for about two months.

Now, George is working solo, stocking shelves and taking calls. Social distancing measures have forced her staff to telecommute. “I think the staff stress level is at



Teshezia George is executive director of Rainbow-Ark Shelter in Gary. The shelter is closed for remodeling, but George still mans the phone to offer support for those experiencing domestic violence. (Photo provided)

an all-time high,” she said. “Everybody’s worried.”

What hasn’t slowed down are calls for support. The shelter’s crisis line has seen a 50% uptick over the past few months, George said.

In Indiana, domestic violence calls and deaths are on the rise — a trend advocates link to the coronavirus pandemic. The Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence reports an 86% increase in domestic violence-related deaths over the

See **VIOLENCE, A9**▶

### Get help

If you or someone you know is experiencing abuse, call the National Domestic Violence hotline at 800-799-7233 or text LOVEIS to 22522. For the Families First Indiana Crisis & Suicide hotline, call 317-251-7575.

## MLK Center getting a facelift

By **TYLER FENWICK**  
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Depending on the time of year, some rooms inside the MLK Center are best avoided. It’s an old building with aging windows and a downtrodden heating, ventilation and air conditioning system.

Plus, it might not be obvious to people who visit nearby Tarkington Park or drive along North Illinois Street that the red, mostly bare building houses a historic and vital resource for the community.

The MLK Center’s leadership team is on a mission to change that through a \$2.2 million investment that will include new windows, new HVAC and electrical systems, a new front entrance and a mural of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his “Six Principles of Nonviolence.”

“We want to make sure that the

See **MLK, A6**▶



Part of the MLK Center’s \$2.2 million investment in improvements is a mural of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s “Six Principles of Nonviolence.” (Photo courtesy of Schmidt Associates)



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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](http://indianapolisrecorder.com) to learn of other ways to support the Recorder and Indiana Minority Business Magazine.





# ‘THIS IS MY FAMILY’: Why a nurse in her 70s beat COVID-19 and went back to work

By TYLER FENWICK  
tylerf@indyrecorder.com

Anyone who drives along Cold Spring Road on the northwest side of town can’t miss the big “HEROES WORK HERE” sign on the front lawn of Alpha Home Nursing & Rehabilitation.

The slogan, commonly bestowed upon health care workers during the pandemic, is meant to encompass those who risk their health to take care of others. And not that they’re racing for the status of most heroic among their peers, but if there ever was such a thing, Joyce Whorton would be a strong contender.

Whorton is a 73-year-old licensed practical nurse (LPN) at Alpha Home. She’s been there for 25 years after starting her career in health care at a women’s hospital in 1967.

Whorton is also a COVID-19 survivor. She contracted the virus in May and was hospitalized for nine days. Her worst symptom was dizziness, which caused her to fall multiple times and break the bones on the right side of her face. Whorton also blacked out, had no appetite, no strength.

But she kept in touch with the administration at Alpha Home, and they assured her she’d have a job waiting whenever she was ready to come back. That took about a month.

Why go back to work at

all, though, as a 73-year-old who’s dedicated more than 50 years to taking care of other people?

“This is my family here,” she said through a mask and face shield.

One of the reasons Whorton wanted to work at Alpha Home is because hospital patients came and went too quickly to really build relationships. Here, she gets to know the older people who reminisce about the history of Alpha Home, which a formerly enslaved woman opened in 1886 as the Alpha Home for Aged Colored Women.

“I think this is what keeps her going,” said Alexis Hooten, also an LPN. Another admirable trait, Hooten said, is Whorton doesn’t gossip.

Bonita White, a certified nursing assistant, said Whorton is known to go out of her way to help patients get whatever they need.

“She would give her last,” White said.

Whorton didn’t say those exact words when talking about why she decided it was worth healing and getting back to work at the place she loves, but that is her mentality.

“I had my faith, and I was determined to come back,” she said. “And I stayed in prayer.”

*Contact staff writer Tyler Fenwick at 317-762-7853. Follow him on Twitter @Ty\_Fenwick.*



Joyce Whorton, 73, has worked at Alpha Home Nursing & Rehabilitation for 25 years and has been in the health care field since 1967. (Photo/Tyler Fenwick)

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# HOMICIDE

► Continued from A1

in life. ... I'm not going to see my son no more, and it hurts. Nothing gives nobody the right to kill somebody.”

Hanyard’s youngest son is 25. Along with his brother, he’s lost countless friends to violence in the city. “I got so many obituaries in my closet of my son’s friends who been murdered,” Hanyard said.

Hanyard doesn’t think city officials are doing enough to prevent and solve homicides.

“They [police] just look at it as Black-on-Black crime,” Hanyard said. “These police ... don’t care about Black folks. It’s one less person they gotta worry about. I think they love to see our own color kill each other. We always say ‘Black lives matter.’ No they don’t. We out here killing our own people.”

Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) is working to deter and solve crime, said spokesperson Aliya Wishner. “The men and women of the IMPD grieve with this mother, and every family in our community who has lost a loved one to violence,” Wishner said via email. “And let me be clear — the background, race, ethnicity, or any other characteristic of a victim makes no difference when it comes to protecting lives and holding perpetrators accountable. IMPD homicide detectives work diligently to bring justice for every individual whose life was taken in our city, as far too many have this year.”

In 2018, Mayor Joe Hogsett launched the Peacemakers, local residents who work within the community to address the root causes of violence. Shonna Majors, the city’s first director of community violence reduction for the Office of Public Health and Safety (OPHS), oversees the group. “We all have to work together to stop violence,” Majors said. “People can’t put everything on the government’s shoulder to solve, but I think there are a lot of people in the community who want to help.”

Majors said the Peacemakers have been working to create new programs to stop violence before it happens, and to address domestic violence, which has been on the rise in the wake of COVID-19.

**‘It’s not enough!’**  
For 21 years, Rev. Charles Harrison, pastor of Barnes United Methodist Church, has led the Ten Point Coalition, a community activism group that works to curb the violence in Indianapolis. In recent years, Harrison said he’s seen a shift in how local government interacts with grassroots organizations, and it isn’t helpful.

“In the past, we had strong community initiatives that helped really address the issue of violence,” Harrison said. “We had faith-based and anti-violence groups work in collaboration with law

enforcement to address the root causes, and the city partnered with us rather than led the efforts.”

Not everyone is impressed with the coalition, or other community-led groups. Hanyard views the Ten Point Coalition as a waste of money. “We’re spending money on this man that walks through the neighborhood talking to people trying to get the violence under control,” Hanyard said. “It’s not working! We’re spending money on programs that ain’t doing nothing and expect the murders to just stop.”

The majority of funding for the Ten Point Coalition comes from grants from city government and local organizations. In 2019, Ten Point Coalition received a \$500,000 grant from the attorney general’s office for statewide expansion. Since 2014, the group has received grants up to \$50,000 from the Central Indiana Community Foundation.

Harrison said the city has failed to control violent crime over the past six years by not

letting community groups such as Ten Point Coalition lead the charge like they have in the past.

“I don’t think just anti-violence groups alone are going to be able to stop crime. It’s going to take a whole community effort, including law enforcement,” Harrison said. “The difference between today and 2010 and 2011, when the city was under 100 murders, is that it used to be a more community-driven effort to address the root cause of violence and offer resources for communities.”

Majors said city officials have been working toward more cooperation between the city and community organizations.

“This city has put in a considerable amount of money behind getting community-based and grassroots organizations the resources they need to further assist people,” Majors said.

Among the issues Harrison believes is driving violent crime is an increase in drug trafficking and a lack of gun control.

Earlier in the year, city officials announced Operation Legend, a federal program aimed at reducing violent crime. In a previous interview with the Recorder, Indiana State Police Superintendent Doug Carter said the program is a necessary step to fighting violence.

“Indianapolis has become a very violent city,” Carter said. “This program brings a specific expertise that we think every agency has, but they simply don’t. If we can follow guns, generally we can follow crime.”

Operation Legend recently was extended indefinitely, but some still don’t feel safe.

“I don’t even go nowhere now,” Hanyard said. “You used to be able to go downtown and walk the canal, and you can’t even do that no more. ... If I had another place to live, I would move out of Indianapolis.”

Kierra Bailey recently moved out of her Speedway apartment complex after two of her neighbors were shot. She said the incident kept her and her

husband from taking their dogs out at night, and Bailey avoids downtown as much as she can, particularly at night. More officers on the street, she said, isn’t a good solution.

Despite these concerns, Majors said there’s only so much anyone can do to truly prevent violent crime, unless the root issues are addressed first.

“Control is a hard word to use because we’re dealing with human beings,” Majors said. “There’s always an X-factor. You have low-income communities, and there’s a certain level of trauma that comes with generational poverty. We’ve been oppressed as Black people for over 400 years, so there’s a lot of mental weight. ... There’s not anything you can do to control violence, just try your best to lean on the influencers of the people doing the shooting and showing them there’s another way to solve their problems.”

One thing Harrison and Hanyard agree on is the lack of reentry programs plays a role in the city’s crime rate.

“I think crime would slow down if they just give people second chances in life,” Hanyard said. “A felon can’t get a job, an apartment, how could they get on their feet? The crime’s going to continue because they won’t open the doors for people when they get out of jail. There’s no programs. When they feel lost and no one wants to help them, they turn to crime. ... They got too much money in Indianapolis to not help these people.”

Carlette Duffy, who was named director of reentry for OPHS earlier this year, said she wants to make it easier for those with a felony record to find stable housing and employment. Specifically, she said she wants to ensure those with children are able to find housing in areas with good schools, so the problems they face — including legal problems — won’t become cyclical.

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

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## Meet the 21-year-old college student running for a school board seat

By TYLER FENWICK  
tylerf@indyrecorder.com

Khrisma McMurray appears to be the typical college student. She's a 21-year-old senior at IUPUI, working toward a psychology degree and navigating the obstacles brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

But McMurray has another significant responsibility: She's running for a school board seat in Warren Township.

McMurray, a 2017 graduate from Warren Central High School, has a few motivations. She's always heard people talk about what they would do if they were her age again, for one, and this difficult year showed her the importance of organizing and trying to do more for her community.

Anyone who's otherwise eligible to serve on the Warren Township school board just has to be 21 years old, so McMurray, who is also going for minors in English and African American studies, decided to give it a shot now rather than wait and run the risk of constantly making excuses later.

Plus, she thought, how can she be a leader in the future if she doesn't get this experience now?

"It's important for young people to see themselves in the political field," McMurray said.

Crystal Puckett, a 39-year-old running for an at-large school board seat in Lawrence Township, said younger candidates should "follow that nudge" when asked what advice she would give to someone thinking



about getting involved in politics.

"I think there is such a thing as born leaders," she said. "They tend to be those trouble makers, those strong-willed students. Lean into that and don't allow older people to disqualify you because of your age."

That's the main criticism McMurray said she gets — that she's too young and doesn't have the necessary life experience to hold an elected position. She's quick to point out that unlike other candidates for school board, she's logging into Zoom for classes just like so many K-12 students have been doing since spring.

Youth and inexperience are facts, though, and McMurray is learning along the way. She didn't realize just how expansive the school district is, for example, until she started running for an at-large seat that represents the whole district.

Still, it will take new leaders to understand the changes school districts and society are going into, McMurray said, and a school board seat could be that entryway to becoming a leader.

"That won't happen if people won't give us the opportunity to come in," she said.

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

**Khrisma McMurray is a 21-year-old college senior who is also running for an at-large school board seat in Warren Township. (Photo provided)**

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# Central Indiana hospitals pledge to fight racism as ‘public health crisis’

By **HILARY POWELL**

Three of Central Indiana’s largest health systems want people to know racism is a preventable public health crisis.

In a joint statement, the presidents and chief executive officers of Community Health Network, Eskenazi Health and Indiana University Health say they want to go on record to pledge to do more to end health disparities and inequity in minority communities, calling systemic racism a public health crisis.

“Most of health is determined by things that have nothing to do with what we do in health care,” Eskenazi Health CEO Dr. Lisa Harris said. “It’s about opportunities, food, access to good nutrition, to safe places to exercise.”

The leaders say social and economic inequities, including social impediments of health, such as poverty, inadequate housing, criminal justice bias, food deserts, joblessness and violence, contribute to health inequities in Hoosier Black and Latino communities.

“It’s not just our job to take care of people when they’re sick, but that it’s really our job to help them stay well,” said Dennis Murphy, president and CEO of IU Health.

He said the work of inching toward equity is not new. This year, for example, he says IU Health raised the minimum wage for workers and is aiming to implement a living wage of at least \$15 an hour in the future.

“If any of us as leaders aren’t fulfilling these obligations, we’re personally accountable,” he said. “If I’m not pushing this agenda, I’m probably not the right person for this job.”

When asked by the Indianapolis Recorder and

Side Effects whether their leadership boards include diversity that reflects the community, each organization’s leader said yes, but there should be more Black, Latino and Indigenous people of color added to the ranks.

Murphy says the hospital system’s governing board will be presented with each benchmark and be responsible for checking in with leadership about them.

“How do we better know the person that’s in front of us?” Community Health Network president and CEO Bryan Mills said of patients. “How do we better know their circumstances?”

The health systems, which have worked closely together to address the COVID-19 pandemic, have committed to improving workplaces by:

- Enhancing a culture of inclusion that seeks, welcomes and values all people. This means we will address and reduce discrimination among team members, patients and guests;
- Addressing the economic disparities in our community by ensuring our team members have the ability to achieve jobs that pay a livable wage; and,
- Transforming our organizations through an active review of policies, actions and procedures that have inhibited our ability to fully promote a diverse, equitable, inclusive and anti-racist organization with measures of accountability. One of those actions will be to improve the demographic makeup of our leaders to reflect the Indiana communities we serve with a particular focus on people of color.

Improving communities by building meaningful and sustained partnerships to promote health care equity and reduce health care disparities, impact social determinants of health, and build more

inclusive communities by:

- Improving the equity of care for all patients by regularly measuring, monitoring, and improving the care we provide to underserved populations;
- Identifying, researching, understanding and addressing racial disparities in healthcare access and outcomes including primary, specialty and behavioral health;
- Strengthening relationships with other Indiana health systems, as well as state and local municipalities, to improve the health of Indiana, especially in areas that disproportionately affect communities of color;
- Working with other community organizations (the Indy Chamber, Central Indiana Corporate Partnership and United Way) to develop, endorse, and provide support for creative solutions to social determinants of health, especially affordable housing, food security and workforce development;
- Deepening our engagement with Indiana organizations that have a mission and history of advocating for underrepresented minorities;
- Continuing to enhance and deliver on our commitments to minority, women and veteran-owned business suppliers; and,
- In support of the Alliance for a Healthier Indiana, continuing to advocate for investments that achieve enduring improvements in access, quality and health outcomes for our communities.

The statement has been posted on each health systems’ websites.

*This story was reported as part of a partnership between WFYI, Side Effects Public Media and the Indianapolis Recorder.*

## MLK

► Continued from A1

building is invested in and that it’s maintained as an asset,” Executive Director Allison Luthe said.

The MLK Center received a \$1 million grant from United Way and will match that through its own fundraising. Luthe said the goal is to have the projects completed by the summer of 2021. Contact Luthe at [allison@mlkcenterindy.org](mailto:allison@mlkcenterindy.org) to learn more.

The MLK Center building, at the corner of Illinois and 40th streets, was originally an office building, and the organization has been reshuf-

fling the inside to create more open spaces for programs such as the Best Buy Teen Tech Center, which opened in 2019 and gives teens hands-on experience with technology.

Outside of the building, overgrown landscaping shields the center from people who visit Tarkington Park across the street, so that will be reworked to provide a better line of site to the building. A mural of King was added to the west side of the building three years ago, but it’s likely there are still people who miss

out on what the center has to offer — from rental space for organizations to after-school programs for students — because it doesn’t grab their attention.

“It’s a branding issue,” board president Devin Thomas said.

The neighborhood in which the MLK Center is located is 70% Black with a median household income nearly \$20,000 less than the county average. About 70% of families with children under 18 live in poverty.

Regina Majors, a board member

and chair of the National Council of Negro Women, hopes the improvements draw more attention to the center, but she also said the exterior improvements — a new entrance and mural — could give people something else to be proud of.

“It needs to stand out in the community,” she said.

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



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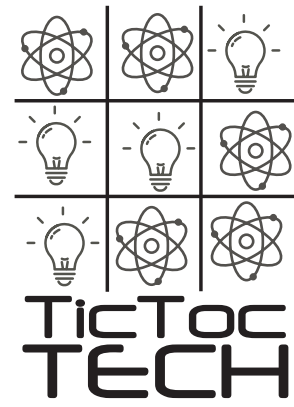


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Trolls interfering: Election 2020



By RUPAL THANAWALA



In a recent Facebook Live session, attendees posted dozens of biased messages within minutes of the event kickoff. It instantaneously started an argument between a few attendees, which was very disturbing and distracting. The trolls successfully met all of their goals — create disruption, spread rumors, provoke people, divert the conversation and hurt feelings. In checking some of those people’s profiles, these individuals’ profiles were not well maintained, used a fake or stolen identity or created duplicate profiles with the same names.

Trolls interfered in the 2016 elections, and they are incredibly active in 2020, spreading rumors about COVID-19 and sharing negative political and divisive news for upcoming elections. Russia was a key player in the 2016 election interference, but lately, China and Iran are also interfering with U.S. elections. To put it in perspective, Twitter released more than 10 million tweets circulated by propaganda farms and their associated puppet accounts to Congress in

2018. Twitter announced all the tweets it released came from “3,841 accounts affiliated with the Russian Toll Farm IRA [Internet Research Agency], and 770 other accounts, potentially originating in Iran.” The Twitter dump encompasses 10 million tweets since 2009 — 9 million of them from the IRA, the rest mainly from the suspected Iranian accounts.

What is a troll? It is a verb and a noun. A troll is a person who intentionally tries to instigate conflict, hostility or arguments in an online social community. Platforms targeted by trolls can include the comment sections of social media forums, personal accounts or chat rooms.

Trolls often use inflammatory messages to provoke emotional responses out of people or disrupt otherwise civil discussion. Many divisive hate groups on social media target people to join the group, engage them in conversations, share fake news with them, and encourage them to share it with their friends. It becomes a whirlwind of misinformation.

What is a troll farm? A troll farm is an organized operation of many users who may work together in a “factory” or from different places across a distributed network to generate online traffic to affect public opinion and spread misinformation and disinformation. Most of the troll farms are based abroad, but they often recruit Americans or post their employees in the U.S. to legitimize their activities. These groups also deploy sophisticated analytics tools

to learn the audience’s behaviors, and bots can make posts to instigate the conversation.

In closely observing the posts or messages, one can notice generic responses, short answers, grammar mistakes, incorrect reference of places or people, multiple hashtags and low-resolution pictures or images with a watermark. However, trolls are becoming more and more sophisticated in their appearances and language to disguise their identity. These phony groups or individuals make multiple posts in a day, ask for your opinions, invite to discussion forums and reshare the posts to several accounts and social media platforms.

Unfortunately, there is not a simple solution to avoid this menace. Most social media platforms have deployed tools to identify and block such activities, but it is far from perfect. It is important as a consumer of social media to follow simple common-sense rules. Be diligent while interacting with strangers, do not share your opinion in unknown public forums, trust the information from credible sources only, unfriend and block suspicious groups and individuals, and check your privacy settings to restrict who can post on your page and view your account.

Rupal Thanawala is managing director at Trident Systems, a leading business and technology consulting practice, and tech editor for Indianapolis Recorder. Contact her at rupalt@indyrecorder.com.

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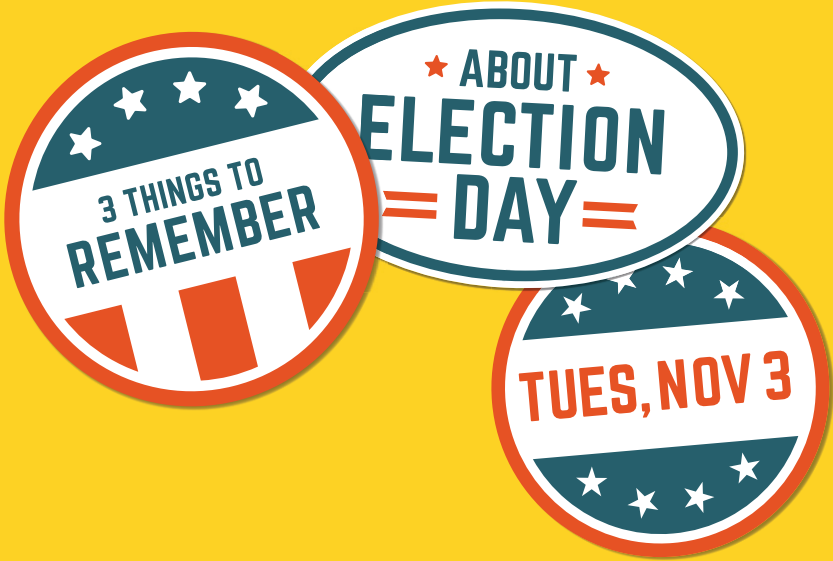
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- 2 Voting is safe with numerous protective measures in place for poll workers and voters.
- 3 Can’t vote in person on Election Day? Learn more about early or absentee voting at [IndianaVoters.com](https://IndianaVoters.com).

MAKE SURE YOUR VOICE IS HEARD

Cast your vote on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3rd.

INDIANA VOTERS.COM

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INDIANA BLACK LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS (PAC)

RECLAIM YOUR VOTE

VO  
TE  
NOV. 3<sup>RD</sup>

Black votes and Black voices are powerful, but too often we give that power away.

7%

In the 2016 presidential election, Black voter turnout fell 7%, and targeted voter disenfranchisement and suppression silenced Black voices even more.

12%

In 2020, Black voters will make up 12% of the electorate and have the power to dramatically shift the direction of the country.

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# CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, A MISSION FOUNDED ON BLACK YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT

The Center for Leadership Development (CLD) has been an educational equity leader for over 40 years. We provide transformational college readiness education to African American youth and families. Our programs and services support students from 4th grade through college graduation. Our success is evident: CLD graduates enter two and four-year college programs at a rate of 83% - more than 26% higher than the statewide average for African American youth.

Through our programs, youth from all school districts across Indianapolis:  
Develop the academic skills needed for high school and college success  
Acquire life skills and real-world exposure to careers that inspire future goals  
Grow social-emotional skills that lead to a balanced and healthy life

Today, we celebrate and value the support and trust our partners have demonstrated in these very trying times. Your actions have displayed your equitable generosity. With sincere gratitude, the Center for Leadership Development embraces your benevolence and values the significance of your trust. We could not achieve our mission without you.



We proudly recognize the following corporations, education institutions, and organizations that partnered with us in 2020 to transform the lives of African American youth and their families.

*This ad of appreciation made possible by the generous support of Strada Education Network.*



VIOLENCE

► Continued from A1

last few months.

Overall in Indiana, an estimated 40% of women and 26% of men experience intimate partner violence in their lifetimes, according to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Whitney Guthrie leads a team of 12 bilingual advocates for Families First Indiana, which serves survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault.

She says the economic uncertainty of the pandemic adds stress to relationships where abuse is already occurring. At the same time, shelters may have cut back on available beds to meet social distancing requirements.

“If the whole world feels unsafe and your own home is the most dangerous place that you have, you’re stuck,” she said. “What are your options? The need only increased, but the resources significantly decreased.”

That’s why the Domestic Violence Network and Families First Indiana are partnering to provide free, extended-stay hotel rooms to those who are escaping a violent situation and need more space to quarantine. Families First is also providing virtual support groups for those who have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault or child abuse.

Guthrie says clients housed at hotels are given a grocery stipend to nearby stores. They also have access to Wi-Fi for work and distance learning.

“[They need] to have that idea of being a safe location where my abusive partner doesn’t know that location,” she said.

Guthrie said it’s important for people to understand just how hard it may be for a survivor to break free from an abusive relationship. She’s frustrated that some people say abuse victims “should just leave.”

“That is the least helpful thing that we can say, especially during COVID-19,” she says. “How am I going to leave if I can’t go to my grandmother’s house? I can’t bring my children into that home and make her positively exposed to coronavirus, and I can’t call people and say

For more information on the IPS Title IX policy and teen dating violence resources, visit: [myips.org/teendating](https://myips.org/teendating).

that I need help because my partner is always around.”

The problem can affect teenagers, too. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports Indiana ranks third-highest in the nation for the percentage of high school students who report sexual dating violence.

To educate youth about dating violence, the Domestic Violence Network is partnering with Indianapolis Public Schools to launch a billboard and poster campaign this month.

The campaign puts resources on a half-dozen billboards near public high schools, on a dozen IndyGo bus ads and on posters to help students understand the signs of teen dating violence and where they can get help.

The need for social distancing has forced all advocates to get creative.

George is preparing to reopen the Rainbow-Ark Shelter at the beginning of 2021. But she’s not sure how the shelter can provide the needed intimacy while adhering to social distancing guidelines.

“We provide a lot of hands-on communication with clients from the moment they walk in the door because sometimes they’re coming from a traumatic situation,” she said. “We sit with them for hours just to get them comfortable.”

She’s seeking donations to buy personal protective equipment for families who sometimes show up with nothing.

“When they call, I am honest to let them know we are closed,” she said, “but I do not get off the phone until I try to find a resolution for them. It is [heartbreaking].”

*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](mailto:hpowell@wfyi.org). Follow her on Twitter @mshilary.*



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- ➔ Support small businesses and working families so that our economy works for everyone

CHRISTINA

FOR CONGRESS

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Local filmmaker debuts novel

By BREANNA COOPER  
BreannaC@indyrecorder.com

Alan Wills has been making short films for years through his company Steel Edge Films. Just in time for Halloween, he’s debuted his first novel, “Make Believe.” Based on several urban legends, the book tells the story of an 8-year-old girl who makes a terrifying discovery about a second-hand music box.

The Indianapolis native developed a passion for horror after watching local icon Sammy Terry on television as a child. “Ah, man, Friday nights, I never missed an episode,” Wills, 43, said. “I would sneak downstairs and sit real close to the TV so just I could hear it. ... I used to watch Godzilla movies with my mom all the time, too.”

These late nights watching classic horror films as a child inspired Wills to make movies of his own. He’s made 15 short films throughout his career and intended “Make Believe” to be another movie. After a location for the film fell through, he turned the screenplay into a novel with help from his wife.

According to Wills, there’s one major difference between screenwriting and writing a novel, and the devil is in the details.

“When you’re writing a novel, you’re describing more than just showing,” Wills said. “In a film, I can set the scene and just say ‘a guy walks down the hall,’ where in a novel, you have to describe everything. You have to say ‘A kid walks down the hall, angry and has a smoldering look on his face,’ so people reading can visualize what’s going on.”

Changing “Make Believe” from a script into a novel took Wills under three months, and he said he’s looking forward to writing more novels in the future. One thing that’s particularly important to Wills, both in his films and his writing, is diversity, especially in the predominately white horror genre.

“Diversity is huge to me because in horror, you have the cliché of the Black man getting killed first,” Wills said. “I think a great way to get rid of the stereotypes is to think outside the box with your characters. Get the cliché and stereotypes out of your script and actually create a unique character.”

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



Spooky reads!  
You can grab a copy of “Make Believe” at labricebooks.square.site or on Amazon.

Alan Wills with a copy of “Make Believe.” Wills turned a movie script into a novel. (Photo provided)



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SPOTLIGHT



Halloween at the zoo

By STAFF

There have been many difficult days for children this year, and Halloween could be another reminder of every-thing that's changed for them.

With health officials recommending against traditional trick-or-treating, it's still possible to give children a (mostly) normal Halloween experi-ence with ZooBoo at the Indianapolis Zoo.

Pumpkin Town features plenty of activities. Watch Professor Pump-kin perform science experiments at Pumpkin School, see black cats being fostered in Bewitching Bites, and visit rats, snakes and other spooky crea-tures in Jack's Barn.

ZooBoo runs 2-7 p.m. Oct. 29 and Nov. 1, and 2-9 p.m. Oct. 30 and 31.

ZooBoo is free for zoo members and included with the price of admission for other guests. Capacity is limited, so plan ahead. Reserve timed-entry tickets in advance at indianapoliszoo.com.

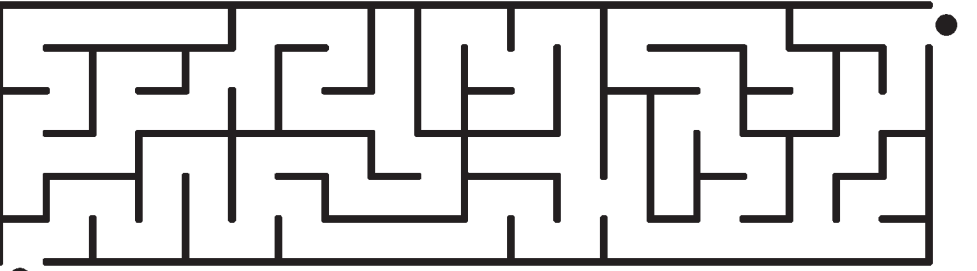
Children are encouraged to wear

**ZooBoo at the Indianapolis Zoo**  
• When: 2-7 p.m. Oct. 29 and Nov. 1, and 2-9 p.m. Oct. 30 and 31  
• Where: Indianapolis Zoo, 1200 W. Washington St.  
• Tickets: Free for zoo members and included with the price of ad-mission for other guests. Reserve a time at indianapoliszoo.com.

costumes and bring a reusable bag to collect candy on the Trick-or-Treat Trail, which is socially distanced with one-way foot traffic. Everyone 3 and older is required to wear a face cover-ing. Costume masks and full-face makeup are permitted for children 12 and younger, but they still must wear an additional face covering if there is an opening around the nose or mouth.

New at ZooBoo this year is the Adult Trick-or-Treating Trail, which is for those 21 and over and includes beverage sampling 5-8 p.m. Oct. 30 and 31.

Kids' Maze



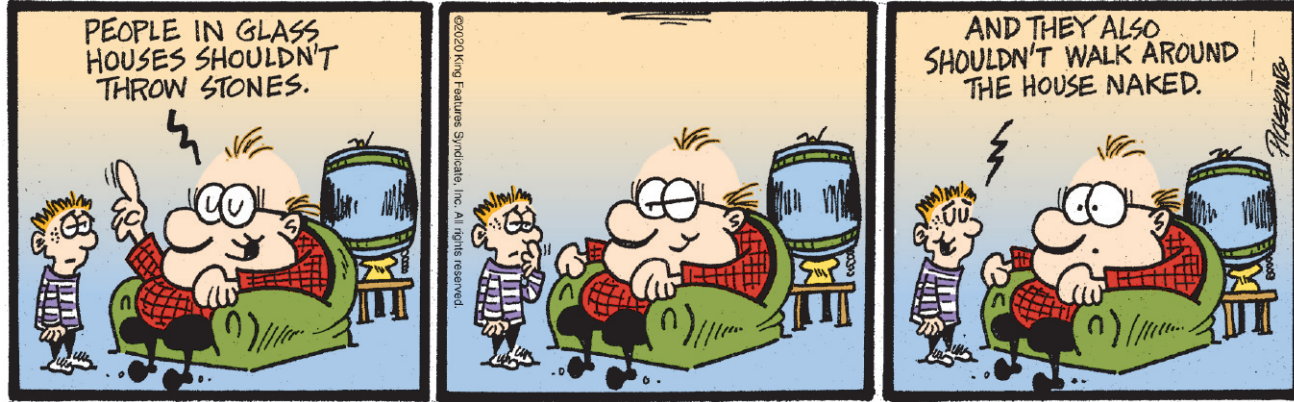
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Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

Puzzles4Kids CODED RIDDLE

by Helene Hovanec

Change each letter to the one that comes immediately BEFORE it in the alphabet to find a riddle and its answer.

Here's a copy of the alphabet to guide you:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

X I Z B S F K B D L - P ' - M B O U F S O T T N B S U ?

U I F D B O E M F N B L F T U I F N C S J H I U .

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Super Crossword C 5 ACROSS

- ACROSS 1 Patronize for purchases 7 Tennis segment won without loss of a point 15 Dude 20 Actress Duff or Swank 21 Not righted, as wrongs 22 Epic about Troy 23 What a siemens is a unit of 26 Open into flower 27 Seamless shift 28 Get fixated 29 Scottish port 30 Viper type 33 — T (just so) 34 Broiling bar 35 Diverse assortments 44 Flip out 46 "— help if ..." 47 — Khan (Islamic title) 48 Elicit an encore, say 49 Italian entree 55 Ore- — 56 Gift getter 57 Signs off on 58 "My treat" 59 Mars vehicle 61 "Dilate" artist DiFranco 62 Formerly 63 Oakland team 65 Flukes 70 Many a released prisoner 72 Grandpa Walton player Will 73 Tarzan player Ron 74 Draw out 75 Jai — 76 Reagan's "Star Wars" prog. 77 Tries to trim down 82 Luau chow 83 Dartboard's rings, e.g. 88 Astral bear 90 Alternate spelling of a word: Abbr. 91 Fair-hiring abbr. 92 Actor Kevin of "Weeds" 93 Part of a routine baby immuniza-tion 99 Churn up 100 Stetson, say 101 Ending of ordinals 102 Flow stopper 105 Err in finding the total of 108 Fruity pastries 110 Jaffa citizen 114 Assembly associated with a church creed 118 Put off 119 Cheapest ship quarters, formerly 120 Take out of the pier 121 Number of dwarfs 122 Infuriated 123 Gazes DOWN 1 The Bible's Queen of — 2 Far from flat, as terrain 3 Balsam fir or pine extract 4 Lobby orgs. 5 Part of MFA 6 Beginner 7 Jean- — Godard 8 — whim 9 Actors Kilmer and Avery 10 "And on and on": Abbr. 11 Bit of babble from a crib 12 Once-a-year 13 Old Persian 14 Academy email ending 15 Activity-tracking device 16 Stretchy 17 See 65-Down 18 Mille (Minnesota county) 19 Fruity beverages 24 Apple buy 25 Police cruiser 31 Post-it note, informally 32 Gyro breads 34 Utah's lily 36 Winans with 12 Grammys 37 Be fond of 38 French for "summer" 39 Govt. health agency 40 Tardy 41 Pitted garnishes 42 The Green Party's Ralph 43 Trades jabs 44 Watch readout, for short 45 "So that's your trick!" 50 For the — (temporarily) 51 Self-pride 52 Run up, as expenses 53 The "A" of OAS: Abbr. 54 Bana of "Troy" 60 Poem of exaltation 61 Suffix with pent- 62 Whale locale 63 Keepsake 64 At least one 65 With 17-Down, Princess or Royal Caribbean 66 Ad — committee 67 Baldwin of "Aloha" 68 Eye suggestively 69 British soldier of old 70 Add zing to 71 Beautify 75 Prefix for "height" 76 Food filter 77 Three, in Ulm 78 Optimistic declaration 79 Interior-design magazine 80 Saints linebacker Manti — 81 Tax form ID 84 Egg-shaped things 85 Salt, chemically 86 Clergyman's area: Abbr. 87 Ltd. cousin 89 Civil war folk song 94 Trendy 95 Pursued 96 Hauled (off) 97 Clothes 98 Trendy 103 1970s-'80s sitcom 104 Gets as much as one can out of 105 Docs' orders 106 Big name in slushes 107 1970s-'80s skit show 108 "Toodles!" 109 Read digitally 111 — chef (#2 in a kitchen) 112 Peewee pup 113 Cost an arm — leg 115 Belief system 116 Epoch 117 Guided

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Answers

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Answer

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3	7	1	2	8	4	5	9	6
6	9	8	7	5	3	1	2	4

Puzzles4Kids

Answer

Why are jack-o'-lanterns smart?  
The candle makes them bright.



EDITORIAL

Participation in democracy doesn’t end Nov. 3 — it’s only the beginning

By OSEYE BOYD



Election Day is just days away. We’ve seen record numbers come out early to cast their ballots for their chosen candidates. People are waiting to vote for hours in lines that snake around buildings. While I know “enduring” a long wait isn’t really that much of a challenge compared to what some of our grandparents went through to vote, but all things are relative. We’re used to walking in and out of our polling place with very little if any wait. So, I’m proud of everyone who has come out and “endured” the long wait. I’m going to break a vow I made in 2008 and vote early this year. See, 2008 was the first and only time I voted early, and it was the first and only time I stood in line to wait for hours to cast a vote. The line wrapped around J. Everett Light Career Center, and then snaked through halls until we finally arrived at the voting area. I remember feeling especially proud to not only have voted for the first Black president, but also to have stood in line for hours to cast my vote. Never in my history of voting had I waited so

long to cast my ballot. And never in my life would I do it again. Well, you know that old saying, “never say never.” The phrase “the most important election of our lifetime” is now cliché as is “these unprecedented times.” However, there’s often truth to clichés. More and more is on the line with each presidential election. Most of us also have never lived through a pandemic — and social unrest — so the times are unprecedented, indeed. Unlike 12 years ago, the weather won’t be warm when I vote early. Those who know me well know I dread cold weather and try to limit my time in at as much as possible. However, I’m prepared to “endure” chilly temperatures and long lines to cast my ballot because I believe this election is that important. And, it’s not just important because of the presidential election. School board members, congressional representatives, coroner, surveyor, treasurer and judges are on the ballot as well. These offices or seats may not receive as much attention as the president, but local and state government are vital to our democracy. My hope is the momentum we see happening for this election continues well afterward. I believe the

second Civil Rights Movement has been a catalyst for more people — especially young adults — to become involved in our political system. Once we cast our ballot, let’s not wait until the next election to pay attention to elected officials. When we walk out of our polling place, we need to be thinking about the next election. Every election cycle there’s murmuring about “this party takes us for granted” or “that party ignores us.” We can end all of that if we just hold elected officials — regardless of party — accountable. If they know they have to actually earn our vote, they will work harder to do so. So, if our chosen candidate won the election, we need to remember their campaign promises and hold them to it. If our candidate didn’t win, we still need to watch the winner’s record and hold them accountable. We need to pay attention to their actions not just their words. I think a fire has been ignited among many Black voters, empowering us anew. We’re realizing we can’t take it for granted that our best interests will be considered just because we exist. We have to make our presence known and felt. America has come into a new day of reckoning with Black people, and I’m here for it.

OPINIONS

Where do we go from here?

By LARRY SMITH



“These eight days will be the longest month I’ve ever spent.” So reads a recent tweet referring to next week’s presidential election. Not only is America on the eve of said election; it is on the precipice of what one observer has called “a soft civil war.” That is not hyperbole. When domestic terrorists — emboldened by the president — plot to kidnap a sitting governor, the “unthinkable” becomes “thinkable.” Similarly, that president encourages people who are prone to violence to “watch” polling places — and to “stand back and stand by.” When the lowest morality comes from the highest office, the risk of civil war metastasizes from preposterous to plausible. I have always supported Joe Biden’s presidential bid. History suggests that only a compassionate, centrist, older white man could help to bridge our racial divides. Presidents cannot — by themselves — heal America’s deepest wounds. But the right president can apply psychological salve to them.

America’s greatest prophet, Martin Luther King, gave compelling voice to those wounds. King’s final book is “Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?” Published a year after his assassination, King’s prescient words easily apply to today. For example, consider how the following aligns with what happened following the Obama presidency: “A year (after the Voting Rights Act), the white backlash had become an emotional electoral issue in California, Maryland and elsewhere. In several Southern states men long regarded as political clowns had become governors or only narrowly missed election, their magic achieved with... bigotry, prejudice, half-truths and whole lies... Many of us wept at the funeral services for the dead and for democracy.” King understood that democracy is a living organism. Thus, he correctly asserted that it could die — just as he recognized that his “dream” had. Consider further what King wrote about the Watts rebellion in light of Black Lives Matter and today’s civil unrest: “A simple explanation holds that Negroes rioted in Watts, the voice of Black Power was heard through the land and the white backlash was born; the public became infuriated and sympathy evaporated. This (easy)

explanation founders, however, on the hard fact that the change in (white people’s) mood had preceded Watts and the Black Power slogan. Moreover, the white backlash had always existed underneath and sometimes on the surface of American life... The outraged white citizen had been sincere when he snatched the whips from the Southern sheriffs and forbade them more cruelties. But when this was to a degree accomplished, the emotions that had momentarily inflamed him melted away. White Americans left the Negro on the ground and in devastating numbers walked off with the aggressor. It appeared that the white segregationist and the ordinary white citizen had more in common with one another than either had with the Negro.” I have just one more quotation. As King sat in a telephone-less room in Jamaica so that he could focus his thoughts, his pessimism pours from the page: “Why is equality so assiduously avoided? Why does white America delude itself, and how does it rationalize the evil it retains? The majority of white Americans consider themselves sincerely committed to justice for the Negro. They believe that American society is essentially hospitable to fair play and to steady growth toward a

middle-class Utopia embodying racial harmony. But unfortunately this is a fantasy of self-deception and comfortable vanity... (White America) has been sincere and even ardent in welcoming some change. But too quickly apathy and disinterest rise to the surface when the next logical steps are to be taken. Laws are passed in a crisis mood... but no substantial fervor survives the formal signing of legislation. The recording of the law in itself is treated as the reality of the reform.” For the past several years, I have publicly criticized many people (including elected officials) who invoke King’s name during the celebration of his birthday. Too many people who think, feel and act in ways that are completely contrary to King engage in the sick and sad charade of quoting one line from just one of his speeches. Their views are not his views; their actions are not his actions. Yet, the charade continues. As we await King’s birthday (and a presidential inauguration) in January 2021, I am hopeful that our nation will have heeded his warning.

Larry Smith is a community leader. Contact him at [larry@leaf-llc.com](mailto:larry@leaf-llc.com).

Resist and renew

By NICHELLE M. HAYES



The year 2020 continues to be one that is unprecedented in its upheaval and turmoil. Now, as we enter the final quarter of the year we have shifted into this new normalcy of social distance, masks, rising COVID-19 cases, record unemployment numbers and rampant hunger and deaths that have rocked our country to its core. America encompasses 4.25% of the world’s population, according to the United Nations Population Division data, and an astonishing 19% of the global COVID-19 cases, according to the Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention (CDC). America has the highest number of COVID-19 cases and deaths of any other country. It doesn’t take a rocket scientist to realize that our country has been hit very hard by this global pandemic. Each family has a different story of the impact they’ve felt during this tumultuous year. Some families have been able to keep their jobs and health. Others have a very different story of personal and financial impact as well as loss. For people of African descent, the mortality rate is significantly higher than other groups. As we move ahead, we must redouble our efforts to slow the spread of this deadly virus and mitigate its impact. I encourage everyone not to become weary. Continue to practice social distancing of 6 feet or more. Use a mask, either paper or cloth. Dispose of paper masks carefully by discarding them in a receptacle and then washing your hands. Cloth masks should also be removed carefully and then washed daily. The masks should cover your mouth and nose. Continue to wash your hands or use hand sanitizer frequently during the day. Avoid large crowds, especially indoors. As we are approaching the holidays take care when making plans with family and friends. Keep the gatherings small. Remain cautious and steadfast so that we can remain safe. Redouble your efforts to increase your health by getting enough rest, eating a balanced diet and getting in daily exercise. As a people we are not strangers to difficult times. We have weathered enslavement, war, Jim Crow, redlining and disparate treatment throughout our time on these shores. During this same time, we have created the blues, jazz, gospel, gumbo, rent parties, the Dozens, novels and poetry. We have used our creative energies to rise above our circumstances and make it through to the next day where hope

awaits. I encourage us to pay heed to our mind, body and spirit. Each of these components need nurturing. It is up to each one of use to determine how to best attain that balance. During this trying time, I have increased my time spent exercising, started a garden and re-read poets who have given me joy in the past. Times such as this call for resistance and renewal. We need not look very far to find inspiration and joy. As we navigate these challenging times, let us also re-imagine a better world. Many local poets both past and present have an incredible body of work to draw from: Mari Evans, Ethridge Knight, Wendell Parker, Adrian Matejka, Allyson Horton, Too Black, January York, Manon Voice, Chantell Massey and Ethel McCane just to name a few. Take this time to renew yourself as we prepare for the challenging days ahead. We are a strong people, we have survived much and will continue to press on toward the mark. Maya Angelou said, “My mission in life it not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor and some style.” Mari Evans in her signature poem “I am A Black Woman” from the book of the same name says, “Look on me and be renewed.” Ethridge Knight in his poem “The Idea of Ancestry” speaks of his family by saying, “I am all of them, they are all of me, I am me, they are thee”. We are connected. In that connection find strength. I see poetry as a means for resistance and renewal. Be well.

Nichelle M. Hayes is a native of Indianapolis. She is an information professional, genealogist, civic leader and lifelong learner.

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BRIEFS

New regional communication director at American Red Cross

The Indiana Region of the American Red Cross announced LaMar Holliday will be the organization’s regional communication director, effective Nov. 2.

Holliday will be responsible for leading internal and external communications, public affairs, executive communication, and media and public relations.

Holliday has been an American Red Cross volunteer since 2017. He deployed to disasters including hurricanes, tornados and floods.

“I have seen first-hand the humanitarian impact this organization has on building resilient communities locally, nationally, and internationally,” he said. “It is that passion and dedication to humanity that led me to serve full-time in my new capacity with the Red Cross.”

Prior to joining the American Red Cross, Holliday was chief communications officer for the city’s Office of Public Health and Safety. Holliday is also currently board president for the Kennedy-King Neighborhood Association and a board member for the Kennedy-King Memorial Initiative.

Apprenticeship program for high school students

EmployIndy and Ascend Indiana launched a new program to prepare high

school students for high-demand careers.

Students who participate in Modern Apprenticeship (MAP) will work with local employers in a two-to three-year program while they earn a high school diploma, college credits, credentials and receive hands-on experience. The program starts in the junior year of high school.

Up to 30 students from five area school districts and charter schools will work for 16 employers with jobs in information technology, financial services, health care and advanced manufacturing. Opportunities are also available in business operations, including human resources, sales and marketing.

Participating schools are Indianapolis Public Schools, Phalen Leadership Academy, Pike High School, Metropolitan School District of Washington Township and Victory College Prep.

Participating employers are Ascend Indiana, Ascension St. Vincent, City of Indianapolis, Employ-Indy, Katz Sapper & Miller, iLAB, Indianapolis Airport Authority, Indianapolis Public Schools, Indy Chamber, Ivy Tech Community College, OneAmerica, Roche Diagnostics, Skillful Indiana, TechPoint, The Heritage Group and United Health-care.

Students earn an average of \$13 an hour working as junior coders, quality assurance techs, IT support techs, medical assistants, billing and cod-

ing specialists, staff accountants, maintenance technicians and project coordinators.

Students learn soft skills and technical skills. The first two years students will work during part of the school day. The third year, students work and complete requirements for credentials in their chosen industry.

To learn more visit, [indymodernapprenticeship.com](http://indymodernapprenticeship.com).

COVID-19 relief funds for Black-owned businesses

Indy Black Chamber of Commerce and Comcast are offering grants to Black-owned businesses in Indianapolis that experienced economic loss caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Indy Black Chamber will distribute a total of \$40,000 in grants to help sustain the Black business community.

Business owners can apply at [indybcc.org](http://indybcc.org) until Nov. 1. Selected candidates will be contacted no later than Nov. 15.

The purpose of Indy Black Chamber of Commerce is to assist small businesses develop, grow and sustain by providing mentorship, seminars and networking opportunities.

For more information on Indy Black Chamber of Commerce, visit the website.

**City seeks input on development**


Residents near 25th Street and the Monon Trail can give input

on what investments they would like to see at four sites owned by the Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD).

The DMD is using a text-to-vote campaign and an online survey to get responses. There are signs in the neighborhood with more instructions for the texting campaign.

Access the online survey at [indy.gov/activity/25th-monon](http://indy.gov/activity/25th-monon).

The DMD will take responses through mid-November, with a final opportunity for input during a virtual meeting at 6 p.m. Nov. 17.



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**Sisters Together, part of the Centers of Wellness for Urban Women, partnered with GrassROOTS Community Foundation for a walking event at Eagle Creek Park. (Photo provided)**

**SISTERS TOGETHER WALK**  
Sisters Together: Move More Eat Better hosts monthly walks on Saturday mornings at various Indianapolis parks. The next walk is in November.  
• When: 9 a.m. Nov. 14  
• Where: Holliday Park, 6363 Spring Mill Road  
• Learn more: facebook.com/cwuwonline or cwuwonline.org

## Walking group promotes self-care for Black women

By TYLER FENWICK  
tylerf@indyrecorder.com

Sometimes only two people show up to the walks. Other times it's in the dozens. No matter what, though, you can find Dannielle Norris and Sharvonne Williams at an Indianapolis park ready to lead a monthly Sisters Together Walk.

Sisters Together: Move More Eat Better is a national initiative of the Weight-control Information Network and part of the Centers of Wellness for Urban Women (CWUW) Indianapolis.

The program targets Black women, but walks are open to anyone — including husbands, boyfriends and children. The women meet one Saturday each month throughout the year at various parks around Indianapolis to walk and talk for an hour.

The next walk is 9 a.m. Nov. 14 at Holliday Park, 6363 Spring Mill Road. Find more information about walks on the group's Facebook page and at cwuwonline.org.

Williams has been a walk leader since February and has been on the CWUW board for almost a year. She got involved for the first time three of four years ago when she was one of the winners of CWUW's "7

Days of Wellness" challenge.

"It's a time to release," said Williams, who also enjoys visiting different parks since she's not from Indianapolis. "For me, I call it self-care. Even though it's once a month, that's a self-care hour."

Participants bring their water bottles and walking shoes — and masks during the COVID-19 pandemic — and are encouraged to talk about anything but work. It's supposed to be a time of some physical exercise paired with a social outing.

Norris said one of the most common things she hears as a walk leader is people don't have someone to exercise with, so there's no one to hold them accountable. Sisters Together Walks are supposed to provide that motivation and support.

Of course, walking for an hour once a month isn't going to drastically improve anyone's life outlook, but there are clear benefits to making walking a regular exercise routine.

A daily brisk walk can help maintain a healthy weight, improve your mood, strengthen bones and muscles, and prevent or manage conditions such as heart disease, high blood pressure and Type 2 diabetes, according to the Mayo Clinic.

Unlike running and other higher-intensity fit-

ness routines, walking is an exercise that people can continue with — or start — in old age. The Lifestyle Interventions and Independence for Elders (LIFE) trial found that after 2 1/2 years, people between 70 and 89 years old who exercised with daily walking, along with strength and balance training, were 28% less likely to become disabled than those who took part in education workshops on healthy aging that included some gentle stretching routines.

Along with physical health, it can also be good to have a routine and something to look forward to with other people. The seven dimensions of wellness CWUW focuses on include emotional, spiritual and social health.

"A lot of people get so bundled up in life — working, school, family, parenting, whatever it is," said Norris, who is also a behavioral therapist. "If you can just get that one time for yourself once a month, that's very vital to your self-care."

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

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+

Watch

your distance

+

Wash

your hands

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### Marion County's Black Infant Mortality Rate was a Record Low in 2019

The Marion County Public Health Department reports that the overall infant mortality rate improved in 2019 from the previous year, and the rate among Blacks in Marion County was the lowest ever.

Infant mortality is defined as baby who dies before his or her first birthday.

For 2019, the overall infant mortality rate in Marion County was 8.8 deaths per 1000 live births. This number is slightly lower than the overall rate of 9.2 in 2018, and more than 2 points higher than the 2020 Healthy People goal of 6.0 per 1,000 live births.

The Black infant mortality rate in Marion County for 2019 was 10.9 deaths per 1000 live births, a significant drop from 14.0 in 2018 and is the lowest ever. In 1984, Marion County's Black infant mortality rate reached 24.6 deaths per 1000 live births, ranking it the highest among the 22 major U.S. cities with populations over 500,000.

Top causes of infant mortality are low birth weight, premature birth, and birth defects. Contributors to these causes include maternal smoking, lack of adequate prenatal care, lack of folic acid, and alcohol use.

The infant mortality rate among Hispanics in Marion County for 2019 was 7.6 per 1000 live births, and the rate for whites was 7.5.

"Pregnant women now face a variety of challenges with food insecurity, nutrition, housing evictions, environmental stresses and other barriers," said Virginia A. Caine, M.D., director and chief medical officer of the Marion County Public Health Department. "We must provide assistance to our pregnant mothers on how to navigate newly formed resources."

One key resource used to address infant mortality is Indianapolis Healthy Start, a program of

the Marion County Public Health Department. With funding from a federal grant for the past 20 years, the program provides education, referral and support services to pregnant women and their families in an effort to eliminate the disparities in birth outcomes and improve infant survival rates.

"This is promising news, a result of our citywide commitment to prevent infant deaths and address racial disparities in infant mortality," said Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett. "We must continue to focus on ensuring access to comprehensive, affordable, high quality health care as it is critical to eliminating racial disparities and protecting our mothers and children."

For infants, the benefits of breastfeeding include lowering the risk of asthma, obesity, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), ear and respiratory problems, and type 2 diabetes.

Smoking during pregnancy increases the risk of stroke and heart disease for the mother, while placing the baby at risk for low birth weight and prematurity (birth before 37 weeks of gestation), and other long-term health problems.

Prenatal care during the first three months of pregnancy is associated with many benefits leading to better birth outcomes.

"Nationally, African Americans have the highest infant mortality rate of any racial or ethnic group," said Paul Babcock, interim president and CEO of the Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County. "In the U.S., the death rate for Black infants is twice that of infants born to non-Hispanic white mothers. Policy makers and health care providers must work together to provide assistance to pregnant mothers to eliminate disparities that exist."

###



Pope names 13 new cardinals, including 1st Black US prelate



In this Oct. 6, 2019, file photo, Washington D.C. Archbishop Wilton Gregory greets churchgoers at St. Mathews Cathedral after the annual Red Mass in Washington. (AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana, File)

By FRANCES D’EMILIO  
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis on Oct. 25 named 13 new cardinals, including Washington D.C. Archbishop Wilton Gregory, who would become the first Black U.S. prelate to earn the coveted red hat.

In a surprise announcement from his studio window to faithful standing below in St. Peter’s Square, Francis said the churchmen would be elevated to a cardinal’s rank in a ceremony on Nov. 28.

Francis asked for prayers so the new cardinals “may help me in my ministry as bishop of Rome for the good of all God’s faithful holy people.”

The selection of Gregory won praise from LGBTQ advocates in the United States, days after Pope Francis grabbed headlines for voicing support for civil unions for gay couples.

Other new cardinals include an Italian who is the long-time papal preacher at the Vatican, the Rev. Raniero Cantalamessa, who is a Franciscan friar; the Kigali, Rwanda, Archbishop Antoine Kambanda; the Capiz, Philippines, Archbishop Jose Feurte Advincula; and the Santiago, Chile, Archbishop Celestino Aos Braco.

Another Franciscan who was tapped is Friar Mauro Gambetti, in charge of the Sacred Convent in Assisi. The pope, when elected in 2013, chose St. Francis of Assisi as his namesake saint. Earlier this month, the pontiff journeyed to that hill town in Umbria to sign an encyclical, or important church teaching document, about brotherhood.

Gambetti was so surprised, at

first he thought the pope was joking when he heard he was named, convent spokesperson the Rev. Enzo Fortunato said. Gambetti quickly pledged to “put himself at the service of humanity at a time so difficult to us all,” including offering compassion to the needy, Fortunato said in reference to the coronavirus pandemic.

In a reflection of the pope’s stress on helping those in need, Francis also named the former director of the Rome Catholic charity, Caritas, the Rev. Enrico Feroci, to be a cardinal.

The prestigious Washington archdiocese traditionally brings elevation to cardinal’s rank, so the appointment of Gregory, 73, last year by the pope had positioned him to be tapped for the honor.

Still, the timing of his rise to cardinal is noteworthy, coming in the thick of increased U.S. attention on racial injustice following the police killing of George Floyd, a Black man, in Minnesota this year. Gregory was publicly critical of U.S. President Donald Trump’s visit to the St. John Paul II National Shrine in Washington a day after civil rights demonstrators were forcibly cleared from a square to facilitate the president’s visit to an Episcopal church in the U.S. capital.

Gregory has had his pulse on factions in the U.S. Catholic Church, which has both strong conservative and liberal veins since he served three times as the head of the U.S. Conference of Bishops.

Conservative prelates in the United States have openly lambasted Francis for his more liberal stands, including his support for same-sex civil unions that came out in a new documentary this week.

Gregory said in a statement that becoming a cardinal would allow him to work more closely with the pontiff in caring for the Catholic Church.

While Gregory headed the Atlanta diocese earlier in his career, he wrote positively in a column about his conversations with Catholic



Pope Francis delivers his message during the Angelus noon prayer from the window of his studio overlooking St. Peter’s Square, at the Vatican, Oct. 25, 2020. (AP Photo/Alessandra Taran-tino)

parents of LGBTQ children. An advocate for LGBTQ Catholics, Francis DeBernardo, told The Associated Press that choosing Gregory for a cardinal’s post signals Francis wants “LGBTQ people to be part of the church, and he wants church people to respect them.”

DeBernardo linked the appointment to Francis’ recently reported comments supporting civil unions for same-sex couples.

He also praised the elevation to cardinal’s rank of a Vatican bishop who comes from Malta, a tiny, traditionally Catholic nation which has made significant progress in LGBTQ civil rights and protections in recent years.

DeBernardo was referring to Mario Grech, 63, who serves at the Vatican as secretary general of the Synod of Bishops office and who formerly headed the diocese on the Maltese island of Gozo.

“Since naming cardinals also affects who the next pontiff will be, the pope also shows that he is planning for the future of the church to continue in this affirming posture on issues of sexual orientation and gender identity,” the U.S.-based DeBernardo said in a written statement.

Not all of the pope’s picks might stir positive recollections.

In 2010, while preaching at a Good Friday service attended by the then-pope, Benedict XVI, Cantalamessa upset both Jewish and sex abuse survivors’ groups when he likened allegations that the pontiff had covered up sex abuse cases against clerics to the “more shameful aspects of anti-

Semitism.” The Vatican quickly distanced Benedict from Cantalamessa’s remarks.

Nine of the new cardinals are younger than 80, and thus eligible to elect the next pontiff in a secret conclave. Some cardinals head powerful Vatican offices, and pontiffs frequently turn to cardinals for advice.

No details were immediately given by the Vatican about the formal ceremony to make the churchmen cardinals, especially in view of travel restrictions involving many countries during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As he has in other groups of cardinals he tapped in his papacy, Francis in this selection reflected the global nature of the Catholic Church and his flock of 1.2 billion Catholics.

Others receiving the honor include Monsignor Marcello Semeraro, an Italian serving as prefect of the Vatican office which runs the saint-making process; Bishop Cornelius Sim, a Brunei native who serves as apostolic vicar of Brunei; the Italian archbishop of Siena and nearby towns in Tuscany, Augusto Lojudec; the retired bishop of San Cristobal de las Casas, Mexico, Monsignor Felipe Arizmendi Esquivel; and an Italian former Vatican diplomat, Archbishop Silvano Tomasi.

Churchmen over 80 who are named cardinals are chosen to honor their life of service to the church. Those in this batch too old to vote in a conclave are Cantalamessa, Tomasi, Feroci and Arizmendi Esquivel.

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.





SPIRITUAL OUTLOOK

Believing God against the odds

By JOHNSON BEAVEN III

“Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, ‘So shall your offspring be.’ Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead — since he was about a hundred years old — and that Sarah’s womb was also dead.” Romans 4:18-19 NIV



The month of October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. It’s a time to inform, educate, support and provide hope. It’s also a time to celebrate cancer survivors and remember those who fought

the fight against it.

I’m sure you’ve heard the phrase “against the odds.” This idiom means being faced with something in which the chances of winning are stacked so high that it doesn’t look likely for one to succeed or come out on top. When one is against the odds in life, it becomes a matter of survival.

Who is a survivor? The dictionary definition is a person who copes with a bad situation or affliction and gets through, a person who remains alive and continues to function during and after overcoming a serious hardship or life-threatening disease. From my perspective, a survivor is a fighter!

A “cancer survivor” refers to someone who has a history of cancer, having gone through several phases from the time of diagnosis until the end of his or her life. Dr. Chasse Baily-Dorton, a breast cancer surviving physician, explains it as “moving from ‘fight mode’ during treatment to ‘I hope it doesn’t come back mode’ after treatment.” The American Cancer Society estimates there are more than 16.9 million cancer survivors in the United States.

None of us want to be faced with any disease, especially cancer. The initial shock can incite mental and emotional agitation, especially if it’s stage four. It can make you feel frightened or wonder about your capacity to wage and win the battle. It can be such a daunting fight that one would dare ask, “Why do I have to face this disease?”

Spiritually, we have to be careful not to misread the nature of God in viewing sickness, illness and disease only as punishment or judgment. In thinking such, we misunderstand the nature of forces that distort our human experience.

Disease is a byproduct of living in a world under the curse placed upon the earth after sin entered into the human experience. Sickness is a reality that affects us all. We are prone to develop disease that can lead to death. Even the prophet Elisha developed a terminal illness and died from it (2 Kings 13:14).

Having to go through trials and torments, experience different kinds of diseases, especially a battle against cancer, can be like living in a wilderness. Although we are prone to diseases, as people of God we always hold on to hope — hope in God who is able to sustain and deliver. For God’s grace will bring us out, or it will supply sufficiency to sustain us to survive (Jeremiah 31:2; 2 Corinthians 12:9).

Sometimes things may get to the point where you have to take a stand like Abraham, who, against hope — and against the odds — believed in hope. Being against hope, yet believing in hope, is really saying, “I’m believing God against the odds.” Believing such in God puts you in a position to beat the odds.

Being in that position, you don’t have to watch episodes of the reality TV show “Survivor.” God can make you, as he has others, the star of your own survivor show whereby you obtain a good report through faith. Whatever battle you may be waging now, you can survive and thrive believing in God.

When faced with a situation where human survival seems improbable or even impossible, we yet can believe God against the odds. If all things are possible with God, then we can beat the odds with God!

Rev. Johnson A. Beaven III is pastor of Citadel of Faith Church of God in Christ. Contact him via email at jabeaven@gmail.com or Twitter @jbeaven.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey



1. Is the book of Beelzebub in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. From Matthew 12, when an evil spirit returns to a person, how many companions does it bring? 2, 3, 7, 16

3. In which book’s 22:18 does it state, “Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live”? Exodus, Numbers, Isaiah, Hebrews

4. From 1 Samuel 16, what king of Israel was tormented by an evil spirit? Solomon, David, Elah, Saul

5. Who called the city of Nineveh the mistress of witchcraft? Ahab, Nahum, Lucifer, Peter

6. What mark of the beast number comes from Revelation 13? 7, 333, 490, 666

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) 7; 3) Exodus; 4) Saul; 5) Nahum; 6) 666

Sharpen your understanding of scripture with Wilson’s Casey’s latest book, “Test Your Bible Knowledge,” available in bookstores and online.

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5750 E. 30th St. Indpls, IN

**Fishers Campus:** .....9:15 AM  
**Cooper Road Campus:** .....10:45 AM  
**Main Campus:** .....12:15 PM

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GUION CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM  
4401 W 52ND ST., INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46254  
**SUNDAYS**  
9:30am

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# Five credit mistakes that can haunt you

By BEV O'SHEA  
NerdWallet

Some credit mistakes are a lot worse than others. Little ones, like paying a credit card bill a day late, may cost you a penalty fee, but that's a relatively minor irritation — it's not going to stand between you and a mortgage. Other seemingly small slip-ups can lead to full-fledged disasters.

## WHAT MAKES A CREDIT MISSTEP HAUNT YOU?

Some things can be reversed quickly. Running up credit card bills can tank your credit score, for instance, because the portion of your credit limits you're using is weighed heavily in credit scoring. But when you pay down the debt, the damage disappears as lower balances get reported to the three major credit bureaus: Equifax, Experian and TransUnion.

Mistakes that have long-running ripple effects hurt the most, says credit expert John Ulzheimer. A late payment, for example, can get sent to a collection agency, then perhaps grow into a repossession or bankruptcy. Those batter your credit and stay on your credit record for years. Likewise, co-signing a loan for someone who is later unable to pay can hamstring your finances for a long time.

## COMMON MISTAKES THAT CAN HURT YOUR FINANCES

### MISSING A PAYMENT:

Paying just a day late might cost you

a penalty fee, but your credit score won't suffer because creditors can't report your account as delinquent until it's 30 days past due. If you have a high score, going 30 days late can knock as much as 100 points off your score — and it stays on your credit report for seven years. The damage gets worse if you let the account slide to 60 days past due, 90 days past due or more. Your score can recover, but it will take time. Catching up on that account, and keeping all other payments up to date and balances low, can help.

### RAIDING RETIREMENT FUNDS TO PAY DEBT:

Most people don't want to file for bankruptcy. Almost half of Americans say they would not file no matter how much credit card debt they had, according to a recent study commissioned by NerdWallet. Bankruptcy attorney Roderick H. Martin of Marietta, Georgia, says some of his clients have tapped — or even emptied — retirement savings in a desperate attempt to stay afloat. That often just delays the inevitable — “then they turn around and file for bankruptcy,” he says. Retirement savings are typically protected in bankruptcy, but money already withdrawn cannot be recovered.

### CO-SIGNING A LOAN:

Aaron Smith, a financial planner in Glen Allen, Virginia, says co-signing so a friend or relative can get credit is often a mistake. “My personal and professional opinion is if they can't get it on their own, there must be a problem,” he says. If the primary borrower doesn't pay as agreed, it can leave both your relationship and your credit in tatters. Even if the borrower repays as agreed, remaining on the loan can limit your borrowing capacity. Before you co-sign, ask if you can be taken off the loan at some point.

## SOMETIMES DOING NOTHING IS THE

### MISTAKE

We may think we're too busy to trouble ourselves with fine print or financial chores. Either can come back to bite us.

### NOT CHECKING YOUR CREDIT:

“I think checking your credit is like going to your dentist for a cleaning,” says Elaine King, a certified financial planner and founder of the Family and Money Matters Institute. “You need to make a habit of doing it. If you wait too long, there can be some rotten stuff there.” A credit report isn't exciting reading; it's a summary of your past handling of credit. But “boring” is what you want — anything you didn't expect to see is worth investigating in case it's an error or a sign of fraud. Through April 2021, you can get a free credit report weekly from the three major credit bureaus by

using AnnualCreditReport.com. Plan to check at least annually, and more often is better.

### IGNORING THE DETAILS:

Not knowing your credit cards' interest rates or when a 0% interest rate ends can cost you. Knowing interest rates can tell you which card to use when you're paying for a new transmission and need to carry that balance for a while, for instance. Knowing when a teaser rate ends can help you ensure you've paid off the balance by then. It's important to read the fine print. Some cards — primarily store cards — charge deferred interest if there is still a balance at the end of the introductory period. That means the “savings” from the teaser rate are added to your balance, wiping out any benefit.

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### Aesthetics Haircare

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Beauty/Barber shop or Personal care

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### Clear View Enterprise Co. LLC

Marketing, Communications

### Cleo's Bodega

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### Clint Breeze, LLC

Music Education (youth), Services: producing artists works and writing music for tv/film

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Beauty/Barber shop or Personal care

### Diversity Press

Printing, Marketing, Communications /Branding, Apparel, Direct mail

### Dunique LLC.

Voice Overs, Spoken Word, Workshops, Performing Arts, GhostWriting, Creative Writing

### Eminent Advising Solutions

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Beauty/Barber shop or Personal care

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Legal

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FOLLOW INDY #BLACKBUSINESSMATTER TO MEET A NEW BLACK BUSINESS EVERY WEEK

INDIANAPOLIS  
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NEWSPAPER



**New Rates**

As an historic publication that has served the Indianapolis community for nearly 124 years, it's with regret that the Recorder must raise its rates for legal notices.

Over the past few years there have been undeniable increases in the cost of the paper, yet our company has absorbed the costs without increasing rates. Unfortunately, that is no longer feasible as costs continue to skyrocket. While our rates will increase effective Jan. 1, 2019, the rates are still lower than other media outlets.

We want to thank you for all the support you have shown us and ask for your continued support.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Rapheal Matthew at (317) 924-5143 or email [legals@indyrecorder.com](mailto:legals@indyrecorder.com)

**New Rates Adoptions \$118.00\*\*\***

**Determine Heirship \$118.00\*\*\***

**Dissolution of Marriage \$118.00\*\*\***

**Guardianship Notice \$118.00\*\*\***

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**Notice of Administration \$87.00\*\***

**Dissolution of Corporation \$76.00\***

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\* = One run date

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**ADOPTION**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION SS:  
MARION COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT  
CAUSE NO.  
49D08-1912-AD-053292  
IN THE MATTER OF THE  
ADOPTION OF  
TROY REED,  
Minor child,  
RICO REED,  
Petitioner.

**AMENDED NOTICE OF ADOPTION**

To: Vincente Allen  
317 E. 30th St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46201  
Vincente Allen is notified that a petition for adoption of a child, named Troy Reed, born to born to Caitlin Reed and Vincente Allen on March 27, 2009, was filed in the office of the clerk of the Marion County Court, 200 E. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46201. The petition for adoption alleges the consent of Caitlin Reed and that the consent to adoption of Vincente Allen is not required because Vincente Allen abandoned or deserted Troy Reed and that Troy Reed has been in the custody of another person for a period of at least one (1) year and you have failed without justifiable cause to communicate significantly with the child when able to do so and knowingly failed to provide for the care and support of the child when able to do so as required by law.

If Vincente Allen seeks to contest the adoption of the child, Vincente Allen must file a motion to contest the adoption in accordance with IC 31-19-10-1 in the above named court not later than thirty (30) days after the date of service of this notice. If Vincente Allen does not file a motion to contest the adoption within thirty (30) days after service of this notice, the above named court will hear and determine the petition for adoption. The consent to adoption will be irrevocably implied and Vincente Allen will lose the right to contest either the adoption or the validity of Vincente Allen's implied consent to the adoption. No oral statement made to Vincente Allen relieves Vincente Allen of any of Allen's obligations under this notice.

This notice complies with IC 31-19-4.5-3 but does not exhaustively set forth a person's legal obligations under the Indiana adoption statutes. A person being served with this notice should consult the Indiana adoption statutes. DATED: 10/21/2020  
**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/16/20  
10/23/20  
10/30/20

**ADOPTION**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF HAMILTON SS:  
IN THE HAMILTON  
SUPERIOR COURT  
IN RE THE ADOPTION OF:  
DAWSON REED MORTON,  
The Minor Child  
CAUSE NUMBER:  
29D01-2002-AD-000385

**ORDER GRANTING CONTINUANCE**

COMES NOW Petitioner, Jeremy Hutsler, by counsel, Elisha Comer, and having heretofore filed his Motion for Continuance and the Court having examined said Motion and being duly advised therein, now finds the same shall be GRANTED.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED by this Court that the hearing set for October 1, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. is hereby vacated and this matter is reset for October 29, 2020 at 1:30pm. The SO ORDERED THIS DAY September 25, 2020  
**Kathy Kraag Williams, Clerk**

10/16/20  
10/23/20  
10/30/20

**ADOPTION**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF VIGO SS:  
IN THE VIGO CIRCUIT COURT  
PROBATE DIVISION  
ADOPTION DOCKET  
48D00-2009-004718  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF  
X.J. MINOR

**NOTICE TO UNNAMED FATHER**

The unnamed putative father of the child born to Darielle Dominique Jordan on the 23rd day of March, 2013 or the person who claims to be the father of the child born to Darielle Dominique Jordan, is notified that a petition for adoption of the child was filed in the Office of the Clerk of Vi go County, Indiana, 33 South 3rd Street, Courthouse 1 st floor, Terre Haute, IN 47807. If the putative father seeks to contest the adoption the unnamed putative father must file a motion to contest the adoption in accordance with I.C. 31-19-10-1 in the above named court or a paternity action under I.C. 31-14 within thirty (30) days after the service of this notice. A hearing is not yet scheduled. If the unnamed father does not file:  
(A) A motion to contest the adoption  
(B) A Paternity action under IC 31-14; within thirty (30) days after service of this notice and (2) after filing a paternity action under IC 31-14 fails to establish paternity; The above named court shall hear and determine the Petition for Adoption. The unnamed putative father's consent shall be irrevocably implied and the unnamed putative father loses the right to contest the adoption or the validity of the unnamed putative father's implied consent to the adoption. The unnamed putative father loses the right to establish paternity of the child under IC 31-14.

Indiana law. A putative father is a person who is named and or claims that he may be a father of a child born out of wedlock but who has not been legally proven to be the father. This notice complies with I.C. 31-19-4.4 but does not exhaustively set forth the unnamed putative father's legal obligation under the Indiana adoption statutes. The person being served with this notice should consult the Indiana adoption statute. DATED: 10/23/20  
**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/23/20  
10/30/20  
11/06/20



**Time to advertise**  
Call 317-924-5143

**DISSOLUTION**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION  
SUPERIOR COURT OF  
MARION COUNTY  
CIVIL DIVISION  
IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:  
ROSE PIERRE,  
Plaintiff,  
Vs  
JEAN PIERRILLUS,  
Defendant.  
49D03-2017-DN-023892

**NOTICE OF SUIT**

The State of Indiana to the defendants 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. And to the following defendant whose whereabouts are unknown: JEAN PIERRILLUS. In addition to the above named defendant being served by this summons there may be other parties who have an interest in this law suit. If you have a claim for relief against the plaintiff 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. Dated this 20th day of July, 2020.  
**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/16/20  
10/23/20  
10/30/20

**DISSOLUTION**

**SUMMONS—SERVICE BY PUBLICATION**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION  
IN THE MARION COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT  
CAUSE NO.  
49D06-2006-DN-020192  
IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:  
ADEGOKE J. ADERINOLA  
PLAINTIFF  
-V-  
SHANETTA TENELLE RA  
Defendant

**ORDER**

The state of Indiana to the defendants 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 This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following named defendant(s) whose addresses are: UNKNOWN and to the following defendant(s) whose whereabouts are unknown: SHANETTA TENELLE RA. In addition to the above named defendants 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 plaintiff 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 -, 2020, (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.  
**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/16/20  
10/23/20  
10/30/20

**DISSOLUTION**

**SUMMONS—SERVICE BY PUBLICATION**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION  
IN THE MARION COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT  
CAUSE NO.  
49D01-2009-DN-031033  
IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:  
TAYO ISAAC AKINDOTE  
PLAINTIFF  
-V-  
MIRANDA MARSHALL-  
AKINDOTE  
Defendant

**ORDER**

The state of Indiana to the defendants 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 This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following named defendant(s) whose addresses are: UNKNOWN and to the following defendant(s) whose whereabouts are unknown: MIRANDA MARSHALL- AKINDOTE. In addition to the above named defendants 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 plaintiff 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 -, 2020, (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.  
**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/23/20  
10/30/20  
11/06/20

**DISSOLUTION**

**SUMMONS—SERVICE BY PUBLICATION**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION SS:  
IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT  
PROBATE DIVISION  
ADOPTION DOCKET  
48D00-2009-004718  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF  
X.J. MINOR  
**NOTICE TO UNNAMED FATHER**  
The unnamed putative father of the child born to Darielle Dominique Jordan on the 23rd day of March, 2013 or the person who claims to be the father of the child born to Darielle Dominique Jordan, is notified that a petition for adoption of the child was filed in the Office of the Clerk of Vi go County, Indiana, 33 South 3rd Street, Courthouse 1 st floor, Terre Haute, IN 47807. If the putative father seeks to contest the adoption the unnamed putative father must file a motion to contest the adoption in accordance with I.C. 31-19-10-1 in the above named court or a paternity action under I.C. 31-14 within thirty (30) days after the service of this notice. A hearing is not yet scheduled. If the unnamed father does not file:  
(A) A motion to contest the adoption  
(B) A Paternity action under IC 31-14; within thirty (30) days after service of this notice and (2) after filing a paternity action under IC 31-14 fails to establish paternity; The above named court shall hear and determine the Petition for Adoption. The unnamed putative father's consent shall be irrevocably implied and the unnamed putative father loses the right to contest the adoption or the validity of the unnamed putative father's implied consent to the adoption. The unnamed putative father loses the right to establish paternity of the child under IC 31-14.

Indiana law. A putative father is a person who is named and or claims that he may be a father of a child born out of wedlock but who has not been legally proven to be the father. This notice complies with I.C. 31-19-4.4 but does not exhaustively set forth the unnamed putative father's legal obligation under the Indiana adoption statutes. The person being served with this notice should consult the Indiana adoption statute. DATED: 10/23/20  
**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/23/20  
10/30/20  
11/06/20

**DISSOLUTION**

**SUMMONS—SERVICE BY PUBLICATION**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION SS:  
IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT  
PROBATE DIVISION  
ADOPTION DOCKET  
48D00-2009-004718  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF  
X.J. MINOR  
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**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/23/20  
10/30/20  
11/06/20

**DISSOLUTION**

**SUMMONS—SERVICE BY PUBLICATION**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION SS:  
IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT  
PROBATE DIVISION  
ADOPTION DOCKET  
48D00-2009-004718  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF  
X.J. MINOR  
**NOTICE TO UNNAMED FATHER**  
The unnamed putative father of the child born to Darielle Dominique Jordan on the 23rd day of March, 2013 or the person who claims to be the father of the child born to Darielle Dominique Jordan, is notified that a petition for adoption of the child was filed in the Office of the Clerk of Vi go County, Indiana, 33 South 3rd Street, Courthouse 1 st floor, Terre Haute, IN 47807. If the putative father seeks to contest the adoption the unnamed putative father must file a motion to contest the adoption in accordance with I.C. 31-19-10-1 in the above named court or a paternity action under I.C. 31-14 within thirty (30) days after the service of this notice. A hearing is not yet scheduled. If the unnamed father does not file:  
(A) A motion to contest the adoption  
(B) A Paternity action under IC 31-14; within thirty (30) days after service of this notice and (2) after filing a paternity action under IC 31-14 fails to establish paternity; The above named court shall hear and determine the Petition for Adoption. The unnamed putative father's consent shall be irrevocably implied and the unnamed putative father loses the right to contest the adoption or the validity of the unnamed putative father's implied consent to the adoption. The unnamed putative father loses the right to establish paternity of the child under IC 31-14.

Indiana law. A putative father is a person who is named and or claims that he may be a father of a child born out of wedlock but who has not been legally proven to be the father. This notice complies with I.C. 31-19-4.4 but does not exhaustively set forth the unnamed putative father's legal obligation under the Indiana adoption statutes. The person being served with this notice should consult the Indiana adoption statute. DATED: 10/23/20  
**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/23/20  
10/30/20  
11/06/20

**DISSOLUTION**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION SS:  
IN THE MARION COURT  
SUPERIOR COURT  
CAUSE NO.  
49D04-2009-DC-034383  
IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:  
AURELIA F. CARDONA  
RAMIREZ  
Petitioner,  
and  
BAYRON A. PEREZ  
VASQUEZ  
Respondent.

**SUMMONS – SERVICE BY PUBLICATION**

You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above-named and a hearing will take place in Marion Co. Superior Court. The nature of the suit against you is a Petition For Dissolution. This summons by publication is specifically directed to Bayron A. Perez Vazquez residence unknown. You must answer the Petition, in writing, by you or your attorney, within twenty (20) days after notice of suit, and if you fail to do so, a judgment will be entered against you for what the petition has demanded. Date: 10/1/2020  
**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/16/20  
10/23/20  
10/30/20

**DISSOLUTION**

**SUMMONS—SERVICE BY PUBLICATION**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION  
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF MARION COUNTY  
TEMITOPE T. ADEMOLA  
Plaintiff  
AJENUA N.H. EZELL  
Defendant  
CAUSE NO.  
49D12-2010-DN-034893

The court, having considered Petitioner's Praecipe for Service by Publication in Marion County, Indiana, and being duly advised, hereby grants Respondent X may not be served for Notice of these proceedings by publication in Marion County, IN

SO ORDERED this 6 day of October, 2020  
**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/23/20  
10/30/20  
11/06/20

**DISSOLUTION**

**SUMMONS—SERVICE BY PUBLICATION**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION  
IN RE MARRIAGE OF:  
SHELEITA N. OGO  
Petitioner  
And  
ERANWU OGO  
Respondent  
CAUSE NO.  
49D10-2008-DN-026751

**ORDER**

The court, having considered Petitioner's Praecipe for Service by Publication in Marion County, Indiana, and being duly advised, hereby grants Respondent X may not be served for Notice of these proceedings by publication in Marion County, IN. SO ORDERED this 11 DAY OF AUGUST, 2020.  
**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/30/20  
11/06/20  
11/13/20

**GUARDIANSHIP**

**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION SS:  
IN THE MARION COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT  
PROBATE DIVISION  
CAUSE NO.:  
49D08-2009-GU-033925  
IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF:  
BLAYNE K. REITMEYER,  
a minor child.

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND NOTICE OF HEARING**

(1) Name of party being sued: Michael Pearson  
(2) Name of court and cause number: Marion County Indiana Superior Court 8, Probate Division, Cause Number: 49D08-2009-GU-033925 and Title of case: In re the Guardianship of Blayne K. Reitmeyer.  
(3) Name & address of attorney representing the person seeking service: Shane A. Toland 7748 Madison Avenue, Suite C Indianapolis, Indiana 46227 (317) 921-0094 shane@shanetoland.com  
(4) Nature of the suit: Verified Petition for Guardianship of Minor Child.  
(5) On the 12th day of December, 2020, in Marion County Superior Court 8 at Indianapolis, Indiana, the court has appointed for Blayne K. Reitmeyer. The purpose of this proceeding is to protect Blayne K. Reitmeyer. At the hearing the court will determine whether Blayne K. Reitmeyer is an incapacitated person or minor under Indiana law. This proceeding may substantially affect the rights of Blayne K. Reitmeyer. If the court finds that Blayne K. Reitmeyer is an incapacitated person or minor, the court at the hearing shall also consider whether Craig Burns, Catherine Burns, Christopher Glidden, and Lindsey Glidden should be appointed as guardian for Blayne K. Reitmeyer. The court may, in its discretion, appoint some other qualified person as guardian. The court may also, in its discretion, limit the powers and duties of the guardian to allow Blayne K. Reitmeyer to retain control over certain property and activities. The court may also determine whether a protective order should be entered on behalf of Blayne K. Reitmeyer. Blayne K. Reitmeyer may attend the hearing and be represented by an attorney. The petition may be heard and determined in the absence of Blayne K. Reitmeyer, and the court determines that the presence of Blayne K. Reitmeyer attends the hearing, opposes the petition, and is not represented by an attorney, the court may appoint an attorney to represent the alleged incapacitated person. The order setting hearing Notice is hereby given that Petitioner pro se, filed a Verified Petition for Change of Name of Minor to change the name of minor child from SOLEE MARVELL SCHOFIELD to GWYNETH SOLI SCHOFIELD. The petition is scheduled for hearing in this Court on (which is more than thirty (30) days after the third notice of publication. Any person has the right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections on or before the hearing date. The parties shall report to 200 East Washington Street, Room W506, City County Building, Indianapolis, IN 46204.  
Date: February 5, 2020  
**Myla A. Eldridge, Clerk**

10/16/20  
10/23/20  
10/30/20

**NAME CHANGE**

**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION SS:  
IN THE MARION CIRCUIT COURT  
CAUSE NO.  
49C01-2009-MI-030540  
IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:  
LE'KALE JAMIRA CARVER  
Petitioner.  
CAUSE NO.  
49C01-2009-MI-030540

The court, having considered Petitioner's Praecipe for Service by Publication in Marion County, Indiana, and being duly advised, hereby grants Respondent X may not be served for Notice of these proceedings by publication in Marion County, IN. SO ORDERED this 11 DAY OF AUGUST, 2020.  
**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/30/20  
11/06/20  
11/13/20

**NAME CHANGE**

**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION SS:  
IN THE MARION CIRCUIT COURT  
CAUSE NO.  
49C01-2009-MI-030540  
IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:  
LE'KALE JAMIRA CARVER  
Petitioner.  
CAUSE NO.  
49C01-2009-MI-030540

The court, having considered Petitioner's Praecipe for Service by Publication in Marion County, Indiana, and being duly advised, hereby grants Respondent X may not be served for Notice of these proceedings by publication in Marion County, IN. SO ORDERED this 11 DAY OF AUGUST, 2020.  
**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/30/20  
11/06/20  
11/13/20

**NAME CHANGE**

**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION SS:  
IN THE MARION CIRCUIT COURT  
CAUSE NO.  
49C01-2009-MI-030540  
IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:  
LE'KALE JAMIRA CARVER  
Petitioner.  
CAUSE NO.  
49C01-2009-MI-030540

The court, having considered Petitioner's Praecipe for Service by Publication in Marion County, Indiana, and being duly advised, hereby grants Respondent X may not be served for Notice of these proceedings by publication in Marion County, IN. SO ORDERED this 11 DAY OF AUGUST, 2020.  
**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/30/20  
11/06/20  
11/13/20

**CALL NOW 317.924.5143**

**GUARDIANSHIP**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION ss:  
IN THE MARION COUNTY  
PROBATE COURT  
49D08-2007-GU-021928  
IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF:  
JOANN E. THOMAS

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO MOVE WARD**

On October 1, 2020, Guardian Janet L. Gaither, filed her Petition to Move the Ward. The Court will rule On said Motion without a hearing unless there are any objections are filed with the Court within 14 days of service of this Notice. Dated at Indianapolis, Indiana this 6th day of October, 2020.  
**Myla Eldridge, Clerk**

10/16/20  
10/23/20  
10/30/20

**NAME CHANGE**

**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION, ss:  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF JEANMARIE ELISE HEGARTY CONNOR.  
Any person has the right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections on or before the hearing date. The parties shall report to 200 East Washington Street, Room W506, City County Building, Indianapolis, IN 46204.  
Date: February 5, 2020  
**Myla A. Eldridge, Clerk**

10/16/20  
10/23/20  
10/30/20

**NAME CHANGE**

**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION, ss:  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF: DEMARCUS GLENN HARRIS, Petitioner.  
CAUSE NO.  
49C01-2009-MI-030873  
IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF: JOSEPH SUNG Name of Minor REBECCA MUJAN Petitioner  
CAUSE NO.  
49C01-2009-MI-030873

**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

The State of Indiana to the non-petitioning parent, David Khai, and any other person who may be concerned, hereby gives notice that the hearing will be held on her Verified Petition for Name Change on the 9th day of October 20, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at 200 East Washington Street, Room W506, City County Building, at Indianapolis, IN 46204. OR THIS MATTER MAY BE SET FOR HEARING PRIOR TO THE HEARING FOR HEARING LOCATION.  
**Myla A. Eldridge, Clerk**

10/16/20  
10/23/20  
10/30/20

**NAME CHANGE**

**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF MARION, ss:  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF: TANYA KAYE WINTERS, Petitioner  
CAUSE NO.  
49C01-2010-MI-035497  
IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF: TANYA KAYE WINTERS, Petitioner  
CAUSE NO.  
49C01-2010-MI-035497

Notice is hereby given that Petitioner Tanya Kaye Winters, filed a verified Petition for Change of Name of Tanya Kaye Winters (Tanya Kaye Winters) on the 11th day of January, 2010, in the Marion Circuit Court, Room 1100, at 200 East Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204. The hearing will be held on the 11th day of January, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. in the Marion Circuit Court, Room 1100, at 200 East Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Any







## Time to give Bjorkgren the chance he deserves

By **DANNY BRIDGES**

I know many of you out there are tired of hearing me complain about the soap opera that is the Indiana Pacers and their head coach appointment. You've read my criticism of both the ownership and the front office of the franchise, and yes, I've received the emails telling me it's time to let it go.

In theory, that makes perfectly good sense, but in reality, I haven't been able to do it. First, the Pacers extend the contract of a capable coach, and then they show him the door a week or so later in stunning fashion.

They then refuse to pay market value for a number of proven, available coaches, proclaiming they're better off with a fresh name, one without any NBA head coaching experience on his current resume.

My well documented rants about the aforementioned aside, it recently dawned on me as I was scouring NBA coaching statistics that new Pacers head coach Nate Bjorkgren has one thing in common with all those other candidates I preferred to see get the gig have. He finally received what Glenn Rivers, Stan Van Gundy and Billy Donovan all needed to make their impact on the NBA, which is the opportunity itself.

Yes, every great coach was once someone I never heard of laboring in obscurity, awaiting their chance to distinguish themselves upon arrival to the big show. Bjorkgren has certainly traveled a long road from high school jobs, to small colleges, the NBA Developmental League and most recently as an assistant with the Toronto Raptors.

Despite my angst over the Pacers' refusal to pay the freight necessary to bring an established name to town, I cannot argue that this gentleman deserved consideration after being part of championships in the D-League and with the Raptors, and despite the glaring question marks surrounding the Pacers roster that may very well be his eventual undoing, it's time for his maiden voyage to set sail and for old school NBA curmudgeons like me to sit back and watch it unfold.

I will give his tenure the respect it deserves and refrain from any "I told you so" type statements if the wheels fall off unexpectedly this season. For those of you fans out there who, like yours



**Nate Bjorkgren (with Kawhi Leonard) spent the last two seasons with the Raptors. (Tom Szczerbowski/AP)**

truly, felt he wasn't the right guy for the job, you too should take a similar wait-and-see approach and welcome your new coach and his family to the community.

He deserves your support until he proves otherwise, and hopefully he'll make me look stupid for being critical of his hiring. Good luck, coach Bjorkgren, and may your start here lead to great success

in the NBA. Don't worry about my second guessing both the Pacers and yourself. You don't have time for that, as you're busy writing the next chapter in your career. Let's just hope it becomes a best seller.

*Danny Bridges who preferred Stan Van Gundy, but wishes Coach Bjorkgren all the best, can be reached at 317-370-8447, or at bridgeshd@aol.com.*

## Christian Coleman banned, runs out of chances for Olympics

By **EDDIE PELLIS**

To believe that the evidence supporting Christian Coleman's two-year ban from track is flawed is to believe that the 24-year-old sprinter really has redefined the title "World's Fastest Man."

It's to believe that in the span of 29 minutes last Dec. 9, Coleman bought dinner from a Chipotle near his house, hurried back home and ate it, watched the kickoff of "Monday Night Football," then headed back out to a nearby Wal-Mart, where he purchased 16 items and checked out.

"It would have been simply impossible," a panel of arbitrators wrote Oct. 27 in delivering a two-year sanction that, if upheld, will keep the 100-meter world champion out of next year's Olympics.

Coleman's agent, Emanuel Hudson, said the decision was "unfortunate and will be immediately appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport."

The episode last year marked Coleman's third violation in a 12-month span of the anti-doping "whereabouts" system, which is designed to streamline the ability for drug testers to reach the world's best athletes without advance notice.

It's a system that, for years now, has befuddled and bedeviled Coleman, who last year escaped a sanction on a technicality that came about because of imprecise language in the anti-doping rulebook.

He attempted to secure another reprieve — this time for the Dec. 9, 2019, failure — by saying he had been out Christmas shopping but was, indeed, home during the 60-minute window he gave to authorities.

But a key part of his alibi — that testers must have left his doorstep before the 7:15-8:15 window had run out — was disproved by nimble work from investigators. They



**In this Sept. 28, 2019, file photo, Christian Coleman, of the United States, celebrates winning the gold medal in the men's 100 meter final race at the World Athletics Championships in Doha, Qatar. Coleman was banned for two years Oct. 27, 2020, for missing three doping control tests. Track and field's Athletics Integrity Unit said Coleman will be banned until May 2022, forcing him to miss the Tokyo Olympics next year. (AP Photo/David J. Phillip)**

tracked down receipts from a shopping trip that began, they said, no later than 7:13 p.m., and included stops at Chipotle (at 7:53 p.m.) and Wal-Mart (at 8:22) near Coleman's house. They coupled the receipts with a picture taken (at 8:21) by a tester sitting in his car in front of the house, added it all up and caught the sprinter in what appears to be an embarrassing lie.

The arbitrators concluded that Coleman, instead of admitting fault, turned his wrath on the authorities, accused them of trying to trap him, "denied the offence, and persisted in an exculpatory version of events as to what happened ... that is simply untrue."

One of Coleman's key arguments was that he never received a call from the drug

testers as his 60-minute window was winding down. But according to the rules, no call is necessary and, in this instance, testers had been specifically instructed not to call Coleman, in part because of his history of missed tests.

Even with the missed tests, Coleman saw the testers plenty in 2019. He was tested no fewer than 14 times by collectors from the U.S. Anti-Dop-

ing Agency, who did work both for the agency and on behalf of other agencies, including the Athletics Integrity Unit, which is handing down the two-year sanction.

That U.S. athletes are tested more frequently than athletes from many countries is a source of frustration among some, who view the differing levels of thoroughness of anti-doping agencies around the globe as a fundamental flaw in the system.

Regardless, Coleman has long been in the crosshairs of testers because of his sustained success — he won a silver medal at worlds in 2017 — and perhaps because of his established record of struggling with the whereabouts system.

In a previous violation that was also reviewed by the arbitrators, testers showed up and called Coleman from in front of his house on April 26, 2019.

He told them he was not available for testing because he had traveled to the Drake Relays in Iowa.

Four minutes after the call, according to the evidence, Coleman updated his whereabouts form to indicate he was, in fact, in Iowa.

The retroactive changing of the form was, according to the panel, a cut-and-dried "filing failure" that put Coleman one step away from a possible sanction.

The panel noted that Coleman's suspension could have been reduced to one year, but it decided against leniency.

"Unfortunately, we see this case as involving behavior by the athlete as very careless at best and reckless at worst," the panel wrote. "In those circumstances we impose a two-year sanction."

*AP Sports Writer Pat Graham contributed.*



EDITORIAL

Getting out the vote

By OSEYE BOYD



Elections are over, but we’re still awaiting the results as ballots continue to be counted. I knew this was going to be a doozy of a presidential election because it’s 2020, and it’s been a doozy of a year. I know we like to predict in this country, but I try not to put too much energy into speculation because polls have been wrong before. However, I did take heed to one prediction: The outcome of the presidential election won’t be determined on election night. I didn’t allow myself to stress about results because I knew there were tons of votes that needed to be counted.

What I find disappointing, though, is even though Marion County had 58% voter turnout, and surpassed the 53% voter turnout achieved in 2016, that’s still an awful lot of voters who didn’t “turn out.”

What is keeping the other 42% of voters from casting their ballot?

I think that is a question those of us who believe in democracy must ask — and listen to those who don’t vote. Is it a matter of transportation, disinterest, disillusion or something else? Gov. Eric Holcomb

didn’t allow Hoosiers who didn’t want to vote at a polling site because of COVID-19 to vote absentee. Did the fear of contracting COVID-19 while voting keep some away?

I’m someone who believes everyone should vote. I believe many politicians don’t want everyone to vote because it could ruin their chances of continual election. Why else do so many invest in making it difficult for people to vote? Voter suppression is real, and as long as members of the electorate stay home, they’re allowing someone to represent them who likely doesn’t have their best interests in mind.

We need to find out why we don’t have 100% turnout every election. Community leaders and politicians who care should put more effort into understanding the reasons so many don’t participate in elections and educate those individuals on the importance of their vote. I’m going to venture to say that many who don’t vote don’t see how their vote counts. They feel hopeless, unseen and unheard, and they think voting will do little to change that. I understand that sentiment, but I believe part of that is because for so many years we voted and believed that ended our civic duty. As I said in a previous column, voting is just the beginning of our civic duty. We can’t let politicians off the hook until the next election rolls around. While I had and still have issues with Ice Cube meeting with the Trump admin-

istration, I understand his point that Black people can’t be uninvolved in the political process if our chosen candidate isn’t elected. We must be involved, make demands and be heard no matter who wins. For too long we’ve let others decide the important issues for us then feel ignored when our concerns aren’t part of the conversation.

And, we need to make sure we spend just as much time on local elections as we do national elections.

Speaking of local elections, I vowed a while ago to pay more attention to judges. I’m trying to keep that promise, but it’s difficult to find information on judges. I want to know the record of judges running to retain their seats. I easily found the information I sought for the Indiana Supreme Court judge and Indiana Court of Appeals judges, but it was like looking for a needle in a haystack when it came to Marion County judges. I admit I don’t know every resource available in cyberspace, but I’m pretty handy with Google, and I couldn’t find the information — nor could anyone I know. The information may be online, but it shouldn’t feel like hunting for buried treasure to find it. Judges wield a lot of power, and I’d like to be more informed when I vote for them. If anyone can point me in the right direction, I’d appreciate it. If such information is not easily accessible, it needs to be ASAP.

OPINIONS

And the winner is ...

By LARRY SMITH



Coaches have a phrase — “I’ll take the win” — which they utter after grasping victory from apparent defeat. As I write, the presidential election of 2020 has yet to be decided. I don’t know whether the “blue” team or the “red” team won. Irrespective of the political outcome, America has lost morally.

This election is the mother of binary choices, pitting two radically different men against each other. Donald Trump and Joe Biden, both septuagenarian white men, have radically different agendas. Trump would drag America “back to the future,” trying to recapture a bygone era in which white supremacy went largely unchallenged. (His beloved wall is a perfect metaphor for his presidency.)

Conversely, Joe Biden, embracing the America of today (and tomorrow) understands that nobody can bend the future to his or her will. America is evolving away from old standards, values and power structures. That change has begun — and it is inexorable. The

differences between these two men are so stark that the outcome should not even be close (i.e., in Biden’s favor). Sadly, we have what appears to be essentially an electoral tie.

For decades there had been a sharp partisan divide that was based largely on dull political differences. In other words, Republicans and Democrats primarily debated along the margins of public policy (e.g., whether to raise or lower taxes, how to deal with the national debt, etc.). Here and there they had heated arguments about substantial ideological differences, such as regarding abortion, but those were the exceptions. Europeans looked at most of the differences between the two major parties and scoffed at the intensity of our parochialism. (For example, Republicans have long called Democrats “socialists” without any regard to objective reality.)

Those halcyon days are long gone. Around the time that George W. Bush became president, long-standing fault lines became tectonic shifts, resulting in volcanic political eruptions. These rifts have grown immensely — largely as a result of right-wing talk radio and the rise of Fox News. At base these divisions are primarily due to the evil twin sisters of racism and fears about

economic decline. In short, white Americans have become increasingly concerned about this nation’s rapidly changing racial and ethnic demographics. They also experience substantial anxiety regarding socioeconomic dislocation (i.e., no longer being “at the top of the food chain”).

The rise of Donald Trump, a political neophyte, is the inevitable result of those concerns. Deftly navigating — and intensifying — the politics of white grievance led him down the yellow brick road to the White House. I believe that, were it not for the pandemic and ensuing economic depression, Trump would have been able to declare an easy victory early on election night. That is a frightening prospect that won’t go away even if Biden ultimately prevails.

Irrespective of who the American people elect to lead this nation, there is a core set of challenges that must be addressed. Right now. Too many people in America are poor. Too many people in America are poorly educated — or are educated but unable to pay their college loan bill. Too many people in America lack access to high-quality health care. (Note that all of these facts also apply to most countries in the world, so the problems must be ad-

dressed on a global scale.)

Even if Joe Biden won the election, now is not the time to be complacent. Even before the pandemic, too many people died unnecessarily due to lack of health care. Too many people are one or two checks away from homelessness. And our planet is prematurely dying due to man-made climate change.

At its base, politics is primarily a fight about the allocation of resources. To the extent that one side can convince enough people that their causes are good and just, it should be easy enough to win them over. But the proliferation of miseducation and misinformation constitute a toxic brew, especially when dissension and division are the daily diet from the White House. In short, what we’re facing today is not about partisan politics; it is about justice, dignity and recognizing our shared humanity. One candidate agrees with this view; the other does not.

Joe Biden is an imperfect candidate for the presidency. But, if he prevails, I’ll take the win.

*Larry Leaf is a community leader. Contact him at [larry@leaf-llc.com](mailto:larry@leaf-llc.com).*

The next fight should be redistricting

By MARSHAWN WOLLEY



So, now that we got through Election Day, the next fight should be redistricting.

Following what is called a decennial census year (every 10 years), Indiana legislative bodies are responsible for drawing new district maps.

The Indiana General Assembly will develop state and congressional legislative districts, and the city-county council will prepare council district maps.

According to the Brennan Center for Justice, Indiana law is wanting in several respects.

There isn’t a compactness requirement, which means districts can sprawl.

There isn’t a requirement to create competitive districts. This means that in too many instances around the state, elected officials are essentially elected in their primary.

There isn’t a policy on encouraging partisan balance.

The center notes there are not requirements for preservation of political boundaries, communities of interest or nesting.

They note that in drawing the maps they are not prohibited from protecting incumbents.

The drawing of maps is a little tricky for the Black community.

Around 48% of the Black community lives in a predominantly Black community.

To draw maps that enhance our collective political influence in more districts you run a strong possibility of losing Black representation in legislative bodies. It doesn’t have to be the case, but it is a consideration.

In a political environment where too many politicians think Black political concerns are a negotiation, not having actual representation could stymie progress.

Nevertheless, the status quo certainly has its flaws. Right now elected officials may not be aware of, or sensitive to, Black concerns because there simply aren’t enough of us in their districts to compel a focus on our issues.

I contend that they could be educated to care and arguments can be developed to show mutual interest among a variety of constituencies, but if we aren’t a significant constituency in their elections the politics of that position aren’t as strong.

Civic organizations like Women4Change, the NAACP, the League of Women Voters and others have been engaged on this issue.

What has been proposed is a nonpartisan redistricting committee.

The idea that politicians have so much influence on the process of identifying their constituencies, including hiring consultants to essentially create their competitive advantage for decades, is clearly problematic.

The general response from the Indiana General Assembly has been that the Indiana Constitution says that the Indiana General Assembly is responsible for preparing the maps.

The reality is they haven’t done a good job at a number of the more basics protections other states use to avoid the most objectionable aspects of gerrymandering.

To be fair, there have been games played at the local level with the maps including the removal of four countywide city-county councilors.

The Black community lost a Black city-county

councilor in the last election cycle, but in recent years the president of the city-county council has been Black. (I think demographics accelerated a change but the new councilor is sensitive to Black issues.)

We need better processes to support the interest of people of color including Black and Latinx voters. Adding common sense provisions to how we develop the district maps for all legislative bodies is critical for our democracy.

What I’m hearing ...

To prognosticate on this election seems to be ill-advised mostly because at the time of writing this it isn’t over.

But one observation that I think will be a topic of conversation is the division within the electorate.

We are deeply divided as a country — which is another way of saying we are a diverse country with a broad range of rationales for political behavior.

We will need to avoid a Manichean (good vs. evil) dismissal of others as evil for actions we do not understand if we actually are interested in achieving the kind of progress for people of color in Indianapolis, the state and the country.

There is also the issue of whether we all think progress looks the same.

We should be humble in our lack of understanding.

There is a good chance that the exit poll demographic data will look unusual or counterintuitive depending on your source of news.

There is racism, misogyny and a host of other “isms” in the world but arriving at an explanation based on your understanding about why people voted the way that they did, without a conversation seeking to understand a person who is the momentary target of your disapproval, is not only counterproductive, it is harmful to you.

Part of inclusion is understanding diversity.

Seeking understanding of people who think differently from you is both the best way to pursue change as well as to experience growth.

*Marshawn Wolley is a lecturer, commentator, business owner and civic entrepreneur. Contact him at [marshawnwolley@gmail.com](mailto:marshawnwolley@gmail.com).*

INDIANAPOLIS RECORDER

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1925-1988

Eunice Trotter

Editor-in-Chief-Publisher

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