

'BLACK WOMEN ARE TARGETED':

RACIAL RECKONING IN INDIANAPOLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

By **BREANNA COOPER**
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Black workers at the Indianapolis Public Library (IndyPL) continue to come forward to discuss their experiences with racism throughout the system. Staff members from various levels of leadership say they've experienced racism, and Black women seem to face the brunt of the issue.

While the library told the employees of plans to make changes — including an internal climate study — Bree Flannelly, whose address to the board May 24 inspired the outpouring of allegations from other workers, believes more needs to be done.

"I'm glad action is being taken, but I still believe [IndyPL CEO Jackie Nytes] should step down because she's been so dismissive and disrespectful," Flannelly wrote in a text message to the Recorder. "She owes me and all the Black women she's terrorized, disrespected and gaslit an apology."

Nytes previously told the Recorder she doesn't plan to step down.

Even IndyPL board members aren't immune to perceived experiences of racism.

'It's a very political atmosphere'

Dr. Terri Jett served on the board of trustees for four years after being appointed by



Getty Images

the city-county council in 2016. During that time, Jett was the liaison between the library and the library board foundation, chair of the library board finance committee and chair of the library board facilities committee.

Jett ran for president of the board and during a board meeting Jan. 27, 2020, she emphasized her contributions to IndyPL, describing herself as a "very active and engaged library trustee."

Her opponent, Judge Jose Salinas, was on the board for eight months before winning the election by a vote of 4-3. Jett and board members Drs. Patricia Payne and Khaula Muradha — all Black women — voted for Jett.

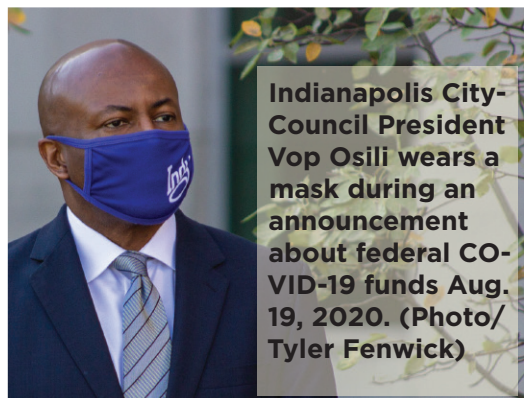
Despite her tenure, Jett wasn't surprised by the outcome of the election.

"It's a very political atmosphere, and there were also two people that were brand new to the board," Jett said. "I felt that perhaps they would be reasonable people and go by merit as presented."

Before being elected, Salinas hadn't chaired any committees. Both Jett and Payne feel there was a concerted effort to keep Jett from becoming board president because she was frequently outspoken about her concerns with the library, often butting heads with Nytes. According to Jett, Salinas "rarely challenges

See **LIBRARY, A7** ►

No more mask mandate if you're fully vaccinated



By **TYLER FENWICK**
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People who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 no longer need to wear a mask in most situations after the Indianapolis City-County Council voted to loosen health restrictions June 7.

Marion County residents will be on the honor system, according to Dr. Virginia Caine, the county's top health official. That means people won't have to prove their vaccination status before dropping their masks, though businesses can continue to require masks.

Masks will also be required at hospitals, airports and while on public transportation, including ride-sharing services such

See **MANDATE, A7** ►

Incident with district police officer left Black teacher 'stressed and anxious'

By **TYLER FENWICK**
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Craig Jordan

A school police officer in Franklin Township accused a Black teacher of lying about being a faculty member to get into a soccer game in 2019 and put the teacher in handcuffs when he tried to walk away.

The teacher, Craig Jordan, said the district hasn't taken the incident seriously. He went on family medical leave in March and has been going to therapy because of the stress.

Jordan, a special education teacher in the district's alternative school, said he went to a Franklin Central High School soccer game Aug. 28 after coaching cross country practice.

According to a police report provided by Jordan, the officer, James Wheatley, was standing next to the ticket booth and saw Jordan walk past the ticket taker without paying.

The ticket taker asked Jordan if he would pay or if he was a teacher (staff don't have to pay), according to Wheatley's report, and Jordan said he was a teacher. Wheatley commented that Jordan, who was 29 at the time, looked young enough to be a senior and told him to show his ID to prove he's a teacher.

Jordan ignored him three times and walked away, the report says, before telling Wheatley he worked at Franklin Township Learning Center.

The district denied the Recorder's request to release body camera footage from officer Wheatley because it is believed the video depicts someone younger than 18, and the

See **POLICE, A5** ►

Jimmie Luton dies at 103: 'She just loved life'

By **TYLER FENWICK**
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Jimmie Luton, an active resident of the Martindale-Brightwood community and longtime business owner, died May 26. She was 103 years old.

Luton's daughter, Pearl Carter, lived across from her mother on Yandes Street for the last 50 years. The two were often together as Luton continued to live in her home. "The Jerry Springer Show" was appointment TV for them in the living room.

"She just loved life," Carter said. "She did life her way and the way the good Lord led her."

Carter, a steady presence at community meetings, said her mother was usually with her at any event concerning the neighborhood, and she was especially passionate about the people on her street.

Luton also opened a beauty salon, Jimmie's Lapetite, in the early 1960s on 16th Street. She was a



Jimmie Luton

beautician there for 45 years, Carter said.

Luton was born June 21, 1917, in Hopkinsville, Kentucky, to George Bernard and Ivory Pearl Caldwell, according to her obituary. She was an only child.

The family moved to Indianapolis

when Luton was a child and attended Emmanuel Baptist Church and 16th Street Baptist Church, which later became Oasis of Hope Baptist Church. She was baptized at 17.

Luton was the oldest living alumnus of the former John Hope School #26. She told the Recorder for an article commemorating the school's 100th anniversary in 2020 that music was her favorite class.

Luton graduated from Crispus Attucks in 1936 and worked in box offices at various Indianapolis theaters, including Walker Theater Company. She later took a factory job before opening her salon.

"It wasn't like she was a stranger to the city," Carter said.

Luton's visitation and funeral were June 4 at Oasis of Hope Baptist Church. She is buried at Sutherland Park Cemetery.

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Volume 126
Number 23
Two Sections

Published weekly by: The George P. Stewart Printing Co., Inc., P.O. Box 18499, 2901 N. Tacoma Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46218. Periodicals postage paid at Indianapolis, IN. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Indianapolis Recorder, P.O. Box 18499, 2901 N. Tacoma Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46218.

INDIANAPOLIS RECORDER USPS (262-660)

Subscription price by mail or carrier: \$39 per year; \$19.50 for 6 mos., 75 cents per copy. National advertising representative: Amalgamated Publishers Inc., 45 W. 45th St., New York, NY 10036. Member: National Newspaper Publishers Association, Central Indiana Publishers Association, Hoosier State Press Association.

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Diane Hull (left) and Kristin Mays-Corbitt pose for a picture during Hull's retirement ceremony. (Photo/Terrence Lambert)

Mays Chemical secretary retires after over 30 years of service

By **TERRENCE LAMBERT**
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Mays Chemicals celebrated the retirement of longtime secretary Diane Hull on June 4. Hull began working for the company in 1987 — the year Whitney Houston's "I Wanna Dance With Somebody (Who Loves Me)" led the Billboard Top 100 charts — and served as the executive assistant to owner and founder William "Bill" Mays, and his daughter Kristin Mays-Corbitt, who now serves as president. "You were the glue that bridged the old to the new," Mays-Corbitt said during the retirement celebration. Hull laughed as she recalled a memory with Bill Mays in the early days of the company. While waiting for her husband to pick her up after work, Mays jokingly said, "Don't you

have something to do?" From that moment on she built a great relationship with him and worked her way up to the executive assistant role. "I loved it," Hull said. "It was just a great family organization. I've learned a lot, I've been blessed and my family has been blessed." Hull's advice to young people is take advantage of any job opportunity they have because you never know where those opportunities will lead you. Now that she is retired, Hull plans to spend time traveling to see her family in Mississippi, Pittsburgh and Arizona, and she looks forward to what God has planned for her.

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New fiscal package gives more money to IMPD

By **BREANNA COOPER**
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A multimillion-dollar fiscal package will allocate \$1.5 million to the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) for "enhancing IMPD capabilities." Mayor Joe Hogsett announced the allocation, as well as plans to address the growing gun violence in the city, during a press conference June 3. Hogsett hopes the budget will decrease violence throughout the city, although he said it "isn't a magic wand."

- The \$1.5 million going toward IMPD will be broken down into four investments:
- \$550,000 for information-gathering and intelligence work, including working with the community
- \$180,000 to upgrade internal technology infrastructure and hardware
- \$620,000 to increase data capabilities to prevent violent crime
- \$170,000 for an officer intervention system to increase accountability and increase community trust

"The funding announced today will give our officers additional insight as we combat violent crime in Indianapolis neighborhoods," IMPD Chief Randal Taylor said. "It will also enhance our accountability to the community, which will help improve trust and open lines of communication as we seek to promote safety in collaboration with residents."

Over 100 people have been killed in Indianapolis this year, surpassing Chicago's homicide rate. Hogsett said, while an increase in homicides is happening in cities around the country, "we must do better" in our city.

Hogsett cited the exacerbation of mental health issues and domestic violence throughout the pandemic as a reason for the increase in crime. Nearly \$1.8 million will be allocated to non-law enforcement public safety investments, including domestic violence reduction efforts, juvenile mental health care and trauma resources.

"These changes will bolster the city's current efforts around community-based violence prevention," Lauren Rodriguez, director of the



Mayor Joe Hogsett announced a new fiscal package, allocating millions of dollars to IMPD, to combat violent crime during a press conference June 3. (Photo/Breanna Cooper)

Office of Public Health and Safety, said. "Realizing there is no single solution to this sizeable challenge, this range of programming will directly address many of the elements that contribute to cycles of violence."

Despite the broad effort, no mention was made of the economic stressors that often lead to crime. According to a study from World Economic Forum, violent crime tends to increase during recessions. At the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, 16.9% of Hoosiers were on unemployment and nearly 16,000 households needed rental assistance. Even before the pandemic began, 22% Indianapolis residents lacked reliable access to food.

Community activist Aahron Whitehead said this fiscal package won't help the Hoosiers most in need. Further, he said an increase in IMPD spending a year after the height of Black Lives Matter protests is misguided.

"This city isn't learning from its past mistakes," Whitehead said. "That money should be funded into community programs and schools. There were a lot of families during the pandemic, and now still, that can't provide for their kids to have lunch. That money is needed there."

Whitehead said violence often ensues when people living in poverty don't see a way out, and the focus should be on lifting people out of poverty. Then, he said, we might find solutions to the city's homicide problem.

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



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‘I finally did it’:

Once behind in high school, Indianapolis students celebrate graduation

CARSON TERBUSH
Chalkbeat Indiana

After collecting her high school diploma, Mahkenzee Osby, 18, posed for a photo in her white graduation gown with her 7-month-old daughter perched on her hip.

Osby, who graduated May 27 from Simon Youth Academy at Circle Centre Mall, said she feels proud to finish high school. After getting pregnant in her junior year, she wasn't sure she would be able to do it on time.

“It means everything,” she said, wiping away tears. “I finally did it.”

Simon Youth Academy, an alternative high school in Indianapolis Public Schools, was created to help students like Osby overcome challenges to earn diplomas. The school recruits juniors and seniors at risk of dropping out and gets them back on track with individualized course loads, one-on-one instruction and opportunities to graduate early.

The academy's teaching model proved effective even during a pandemic. This year, 62 students earned diplomas from the school, the most in its six-year history.

All students who were on track to graduate at the beginning of the year did, along with additional students who graduated early through accelerated course plans, yielding a 132% graduation rate. The academy's graduation rate has exceeded 100% every year since it started, school officials said, far outpacing last year's state average of nearly 88%.

Over 125 family and friends, many holding shiny balloons and colorful bouquets, whooped and cheered as their loved ones crossed the stage. Shouts of “Go, girl!” and “That's my baby!” echoed across the Indianapolis Artsgarden as students pulled down their masks and smiled for photos with their diplomas.

“It means a lot,” said Tina Jackson, mother of graduate Lamonica Vener-



Students from Simon Youth Academy at Circle Centre Mall listen to Principal Robert Moses speak at their graduation. (Photo/Carson TerBush/Chalkbeat)

able, who finished all her courses last fall. “When she graduates, she can go right off to college, pursue her career.”

Many students, who transferred from schools including Arsenal Tech, Purdue Polytechnic and Shortridge high schools, said if they hadn't found Simon Youth Academy, they weren't sure they would have graduated.

The Simon Youth Foundation, a national nonprofit, runs 41 academies in Simon-owned malls across the country. Over 22,000 students have graduated from the academies since the foundation opened the first one in 1998.

Principal Robert Moses said the academy at Circle Centre faced many challenges this year, including virtual instruction, parents losing their jobs, students and their families contracting COVID-19 and more. He worried some students would not complete high school, but in the end he was amazed by the high number of graduates.

“I have to chuckle, because some of you guys made it by the skin of your teeth — but you made it,” Moses said in a speech at the graduation.

Simon Youth Academy's teach-

ers, who in previous years frequently texted and called students and parents, amped up their communications during virtual schooling, Moses said. If a teacher noticed a student wasn't actively working on their virtual lessons, they would text the student reminding them to focus. Teachers often video chatted with students or even visited their homes to check in.

Chris Perez, a first-generation high school graduate, said the one-on-one relationships he developed with teachers were often busy or absent.

Perez spent the first half of high school at Arsenal Tech and Purdue Polytechnic, where he said classes typically had 20 to 30 students and teachers were often busy or absent.

“They weren't really into what they were teaching, they were just trying to get through the day,” Perez said.

Partly because of this lack of oversight, Perez said he goofed around with his friends most of the time, leading him to give up on several classes at the end of sophomore year. Since he was so behind, he no longer saw a point in

trying.

“I think that was like the lowest point I had gotten to,” Perez said.

But at Simon Youth Academy, Perez thrived. In the quiet mall classrooms, a teacher was always available to answer his questions, and since he was working on a personalized class schedule, he could focus on himself rather than on friends. He made up the five classes he flunked sophomore year and got back on track.

He delivered the commencement speech for his class.

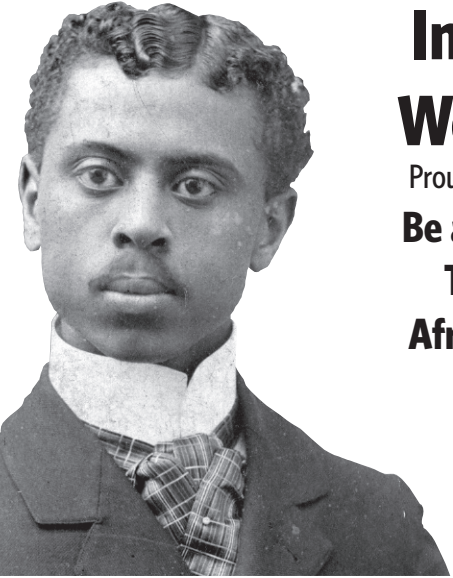
After Perez spoke, Moses handed him an orange folder. Perez had earned a Simon Youth Scholarship, which will provide him \$3,750 for up to four years — almost covering the \$4,500 tuition at Ivy Tech Community College, where he plans to major in finance.

“A lot of weight was lifted off my chest,” Perez said. “I can finally transition into the next part of my life.”

Chalkbeat is a nonprofit news site covering educational change in public schools.

CORRECTION

The Manning family was misidentified in a photo caption for an article on porch parties in the May 28 edition. We apologize for the error. The Recorder makes every attempt to correct its mistakes.



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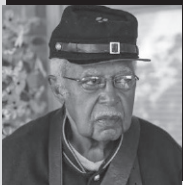
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Brandon Warren is a young, empathetic speaker who started his journey of speaking and inspiring by advocating against gun violence.



Januarie York, the First CBLC Poet Laureate, has been carving her own lane in poetry, writing and performance art. She is currently putting the final touches on her first full-length book, "NOMAD", set for a June 2021 release.



Andrew Bowman, a local genealogist, co-authored the book "Carrying the Colors: The Life and Legacy of Medal of Honor Recipient Andrew Jackson Smith" in 2020.

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Purdue Polytechnic
High School



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Township



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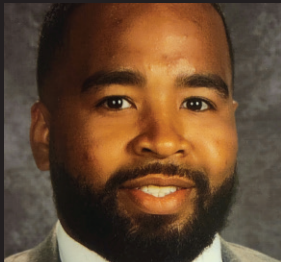
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Academy



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Local bassist leads from the background, connects musicians



By **MADISON SMALSTIG**
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Bassist Ronald Hedrick, also known as Poncho, does not typically stand at the front of the stage when he performs. Instead of soaking up the limelight, this cool and quiet leader focuses on keeping the band together and playing his notes correctly without overpowering the music — like a solid bass line.

Poncho, 46, has been performing in Indianapolis for about 25 years. He is a member of five bands — Entry Point, The Unit, Sidewalk Souls, The Dopacetics and the band for Teresa Reynolds — and he is the leader for Blackberry Jam-Productions. He practices about five hours and performs at least once a week at a local bar, music venue or church.

Poncho's interest in playing the bass started when he was about 7, watching the smooth choreography of bassists such as BrownMark from Prince and The Revolution on BET's Video Soul. However, he didn't start playing until he was 21, when he went to an IRC Music store to get an instrument fixed and ended up attending about six weeks of bass lessons.

Poncho's first gig with a group was later that year at Wishard Hospital, now Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital — the hospital he was born at. He wore a black and yellow baseball cap and black Miles Davis T-shirt with the sleeves torn to show off his guns, he said.

"If I found that video, I would look at it now and I would just cringe," he said.

Poncho said this isn't just because of the fashion but also because he focused more on showmanship than playing. Now, he still incorporates some of the swagger he witnessed in music videos, but he is more concentrated on being precise and entertaining the crowd.

Poncho plays his bass guitar Aug. 27, 2019, at Radio Radio. (Photo provided by Poncho)

Guitarist Brian Weir-Harden, 47, said multiple groups, including his band Sidewalk Souls, have sought out Poncho because of his professionalism.

Singer Teresa Reynolds, 40, said Poncho was the first person she called and asked to join her band. Reynolds said even though she is the lead, she asks Poncho for advice on different aspects of the show, such as the setlist.

"Poncho is so solid," Reynolds said.

As a respected musician, Poncho has made many contacts in the Indianapolis music scene. Drummer Matthew Dupree, 36, said Poncho knows almost everyone at every gig and enjoys bringing musicians together, and Poncho introduced him to four musicians at a recent rehearsal.

Weir-Harden said Poncho uses these connections not only to build relationships between musicians but also create platforms for new artists.

Aquilah Hedrick, lead singer for Blackberry Jam-Productions and Poncho's niece, said when she was 15 Poncho organized her first solo performance. He formed her band, served as the band director, gave her tips on how to improve her stage presence, booked a club and convinced that club to allow teenagers to attend the show. Poncho also made sure she thanked the venue and reminded people to tip their bartenders.

These connections with other musicians also allow Poncho to explore and perform multiple genres of music, including reggae, country, jazz and hip-hop. And the more genres he performs the more musicians he gets to meet, the more bands he gets to lead, the more audiences he gets to entertain and the more opportunities he gets to be the suave background leader.

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SPOTLIGHT

Ballroom culture: hidden in plain sight

By **TERRENCE LAMBERT**
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When people hear the term "ballroom," they think of a large room where two or more people perform various styles of dance. However, for the Black and Latinx LGBTQ+ community, ballroom, or balls, is a way of life.

Ballroom allows Black and Latinx LGBTQ+ people to express themselves without prejudice. Many members of this community have been ostracized by their community for being queer or trans. They can join a house, compete in categories at the balls and build their own families.

Categories include "realness," where contestants give the illusion of being able to pass as cisgender or heterosexual, and "runway," where you are judged on your supermodel strut.

Notable members of ballroom culture include Willi Ninja, founding mother of the "House of Ninja," who had many chapters throughout the nation, including Indianapolis.

Tre'Mont Prodigy, father of the Indianapolis House of Ninja chapter, was mentored by Ninja.



Tre'Mont Prodigy prepares to walk in "BigBoys European Runway" in 2018. (Photo provided by Tre'Mont Prodigy)

"Willi taught me the ways, the moves and basically how to co-exist in ballroom culture and not get caught up in the shenanigans," Prodigy said.

Ballroom is more than just the glitz and glamour of competing and winning a trophy or prize money, it is about family and support.

Ninja believed in building a community with his house, and if you wanted to be in the house then you had to go to school and have a job in order to compete in the balls, Prodigy said.

He had about 30 children once the chapter was formed in 2004 and existed until Ninja died in 2006. Once he started his own house — the "House of Imperial" — Prodigy continued what he learned from Ninja.

"I made sure my kids finished high school, went to meetings with their teachers and took on the role of being their parent because many of them were kicked out by their own parents," he said.

In Indianapolis, ballroom culture didn't begin until the early 2000s. The first ball had about 300 spectators and icon Opey Ebony and Amey Glory Clinique taught many about the local ballroom scene, Prodigy said.

Now, ballroom has become much more of a spectacle since it first began. Prodigy recalled at one ball a contestant arrived in a chopper on top of a building in Chicago and walked "European Runway."

Shows and documentaries such as "POSE," "Legendary" and "Paris is Burning" have reached mainstream attention and highlight the origins of ballroom but don't tell the full story.

"I tell people that 'Paris is Burning' is the Bible, but even with 'Paris is Burning' there are cuts and so many pieces missing," Prodigy said.

Joseph Coleman, founding treasurer of Indiana Pride of Color, said these depictions only give a surface level view of what ballroom culture is. He believes learning the true history of ballroom is important during Pride Month because much of the history taught is whitewashed. The Black and Latinx trailblazers of ballroom play an integral part in understanding LGBTQ+ culture, Coleman said.

Contact staff writer Terrence Lambert 317-924-5243. Follow him on Twitter @TerrenceL_.

POLICE

► Continued from A1

technology used at the time doesn't allow edits to blur faces.

The Recorder was allowed to review the footage, which starts after Jordan said where he works. "I'm detaining you right away," Wheatley said as Jordan walked away.

Wheatley then grabbed Jordan's shirt. In the report, Wheatley wrote he grabbed the shirt "gently," but the video shows him pull Jordan's shirt over his shoulder and down his arm.

"You're getting out of hand," Wheatley said.

There is a delay between the audio and video, making it difficult to match the audio to what the video shows.

Wheatley continued: "Whenever an officer tells you to do something, you tensed up. That's resisting."

Wheatley, seemingly referring to the ticket taker, said he was asked to verify that Jordan was a teacher. The ticket taker's statement, provided by Jordan, did not mention that. She said she didn't ask to see Jordan's badge because she usually knows everyone. "Wheatley said he was lying and that's all I know," the statement said.

In the video, Jordan said he was embarrassed and felt harassed. He told Wheatley to let go of his shirt. Wheatley put Jordan in handcuffs shortly after that.

The athletic director confirmed to Wheatley that Jordan was a teacher, and Jordan was able to get his ID out of his pocket for Wheatley to see. Wheatley said he would remove the handcuffs "as a professional courtesy," according to the police report, and said the situation "would have played out different" had Wheatley been an Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department officer rather than a district officer.

Wheatley wrote in his report that he explained to Jordan that "he mentioned harassment but that I am a minority too."

In an interview, Jordan said the way he was treated is indicative of the way teachers and even students of color are treated throughout the district.

In a statement, district spokesperson Kent Pettet said the district "celebrates and values inclusion and diversity. We are proud that we have grown over 1,300 students in the last four years, and 100% of the growth is in our minority populations." He said the

district created an Inclusive Leadership Team last year to "continue to grow in our celebration of diversity."

Pettet said the district police department would not participate in media interviews, "particularly regarding incidents that occurred in years past." Wheatley is still employed, according to Pettet.

Jordan struggles to talk about the incident almost two years later, in part because he said he felt he went through all of the proper channels to resolve the issue and didn't feel the district took his complaints seriously.

Jordan provided a statement written by the alternative school's principal, John Eckerle, about a meeting Sept. 6, 2019, between himself, Jordan, Jill Britt, the district's human resources director, and Ken Short, the district's chief of police.

Britt said she wanted Jordan to be able to "move

on" from the incident, according to the statement. Short wasn't originally part of the meeting but was called in to answer Jordan's questions about why he was detained. Short said Wheatley followed district guidelines and state law, according to the statement. "As time went on, I started seeing that they didn't view everything that had been done as an issue," Jordan said in an interview.

Jordan said it has also been difficult to process what happened in light of police violence and protests in 2020.

"The whole thing made me very stressed and anxious," he said. "A lot of anxiety."

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


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Indiana Poor People’s Campaign demands end to poverty and homelessness

By **ABRIANA HERRON**
aherron@indyrecorder.com

Indiana Poor People’s Campaign held a press conference June 7 asking Indiana legislators to support the Third Reconstruction resolution, a 19-page document addressing issues of poverty, systemic racism and low wages in the U.S.

Standing near Rep. Andre Carson’s office, Trevor Richardson, 34, spoke about his lifelong struggles with poverty and homelessness.

“I see this campaign as very instrumental in pushing for a lot of the moral changes that are going to help end things like homelessness and poverty,” Richardson said.

Richardson is currently homeless and is an advocate within the Indiana homeless community. He believes the Indiana Poor People’s Campaign will hold lawmakers accountable for providing solutions to poverty.

Over the summer, the organization plans to visit all nine congressional districts in Indiana to encourage legislators to sign the resolution.

Poor People’s Campaign member Louis Vurgess Jr., 75, believes it is important to take care of the less fortunate. He said when it comes to social and economic justice, it’s our morality that makes us “concerned with whether our neighbor has food, whether he has clothes, whether he has shelter.”

While singing songs such as “This Little Light of Mine” and chanting “everybody’s got a right to live” the organization explained why the Third Reconstruction resolution is needed.

The resolution is a response to the millions of people within the nation living in poverty and calls for legislation on living wages, affordable health care, voting rights and immigration reform.

A National Poor People’s and Low-Wage Workers Assembly will be June 21 in Raleigh, North Carolina, where the one-year campaign, Moral March on Washington, will be announced. The Moral March will be June 18, 2022, in Washington, D.C.

Richardson hopes the campaign will provide protection to people living in poverty and relieve some of their daily stresses.

“I would like to see what I believe the American dream is really about, which is everybody having the right to live, not just struggle to survive,” Richardson said.

Contact staff writer Abriana Herron at 317-924-5143. Follow her on Twitter @abri_onyai.



James Solomon Benn, with the Indiana Poor People’s Campaign, sings during a rally June 7 to urge members of Congress to sign the Third Reconstruction resolution. (Photo/Tyler Fenwick)

Third Reconstruction resolution

Indiana Poor People’s Campaign is advocating for a congressional resolution for the millions of people living in poverty. The organization would like policies addressing the following issues:

- Update the poverty measures to get a true accounting for who is poor to expand the nation’s social welfare programs and meet the needs of poor citizens.
- Enact living wages and protect the right to form and join unions.
- Provide universal single payer health care and guarantee that everybody has the right to housing, welfare, water and diverse public education.
- Relieve debts that cannot be paid, including student, housing and medical debts.
- Expand and protect our voting rights to save our democracy.
- Ensure the rights of Indigenous and tribal nations.
- Establish national commissions on truth, racial justice transformations and reparations.
- Enact comprehensive and just immigration reforms.
- Embrace a climate agenda that prioritizes the poor and those impacted more by climate disasters.
- Demilitarize our foreign policies, borders and policing.
- Redirect military spending, implement fair taxes and break free from decades of trickle-down economics.

Source: Indiana Poor People’s Campaign



Get the facts about the COVID-19 vaccine. AARP has the latest information.

AARP is working to protect Americans 50+ by making sure you have the latest information you need about the COVID-19 vaccines and the distribution plans in Indiana.

Find out who's eligible for the vaccine, when and where vaccines will be available and what you need to discuss with your doctor before you decide.

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INDIANA UNIVERSITY

LIBRARY

► Continued from A1

[Nytes] in any decisions.”

Jett described finishing her last year on the board under Salinas as “difficult.” According to Jett, Salinas was antagonistic toward her and “positioned himself as if he was watching me closely.” Further, she said Salinas limited her ability to work as the chair of the strategic planning committee and threatened to remove her from the position.

“We didn’t agree on some issues, but she was the chair,” Salinas said. “But we both agreed that we needed to forward our library system. ... I would dispute [those claims].”

Salinas was appointed to the board by Indianapolis Public Schools.

“There were no Latinos on the board, and they wanted some representation,” Salinas said. “I was asked, and I thought it was time for me personally to get back into the community. ... I’m disheartened if anyone thinks I’m not sensitive to diversity issues. Diversity is so important in how I run my personal life and my public life.”

Jett also claimed Black employees at IndyPL were “quick to be fired” and it was the board that recommended a chief diversity officer be hired because “we saw a lot of Black people having to appeal their punishments, and it went right to the top,” she said.

Michael Torres, president of the Library Workers Union’s local chapter, concurred with Jett’s assessment.

“As union president, I sit in grievance meetings,” Torres said. “I can name two meetings where [Nytes] has said ‘fire these people,’ on the spot, and those

decisions have been overturned by the board. In one instance, she wanted to have these two guys who worked in security fired. Come to find out, they weren’t trained properly, but she wanted to fire them immediately. They were both Black.”

IndyPL leadership said they can’t address personnel issues but offered a statement:

“The library takes all personnel issues seriously and deeply regrets if anyone ever felt unsupported in their role with the library. Our CEO, Jackie Nytes, is committed to the DEI work and has been a driver of the equity work taking place throughout the library.”

Promising changes

Following the allegations, Nytes sent an email to staff, obtained by the Recorder, promising change within the system.

“I am heartbroken to read some of the statements included in the Recorder article, including from board members,” Nytes wrote. “We value our staff above all else and are deeply sorry for the troubling experiences that some have had.”

Nytes, who has served as CEO since 2012, promised to bring in an outside expert to assist with personnel issues, and a third-party consultant to conduct an internal climate study to “provide a roadmap for improving the employee experience.”

Board member Murtadha will oversee the climate study. More information will be released following the board meeting June 28.

“Any public serving institution has to hold itself accountable for the way it works with the public,” Murtadha said in an interview. “That’s our responsibility as a board ... and this is not something we’re going to shy away from. We’ve been talking about it, and clearly a change is needed.”

Increase in diverse hires, disparities in pay

In 2020, 19% of new hires in IndyPL were Black. However, an increase in diverse hires doesn’t always mean equal pay.

According to a former member of the executive committee, whose name is withheld for professional concerns, Black employees were frequently paid significantly less than their white counterparts.

The source, who was a department director, said a Black woman hired to replace a white man who was moved into another position was paid \$11,000 less. The woman had the same job title, credentials and work experience as the man she replaced. IndyPL did not respond to this matter, citing personnel concerns.

‘Black women are targeted’

The anonymous source also said she faced retaliation after voicing complaints to the board, including Nytes questioning her use of library funds, accusations of being incompetent and trying to remove her from her post by creating a “mob mentality.”

In one instance, the source said Nytes

told another employee to search her office for anything indicating she was lying about her travels, paid for by IndyPL.

“The allegations are inaccurate, incomplete, or lack appropriate context,” Nytes said in a statement. “More context cannot be provided for accusations regarding confidential personnel matters.”

A party familiar with the incident confirmed the situation in a text chain seen by the Recorder.

“Black women are targeted within IndyPL,” the source said. “Before I went to the board, my job performance review was stellar to being six pages long about all the ways that people don’t enjoy working with me, how I’m inadequate in my job. It was a witch hunt.”

Jett said, for Black women specifically, the climate of the library is taxing.

“I think that we pose a threat to [Nytes] because of her perception of who we are, which I think is misguided,” Jett said. “She relates to Black women as if she has to control us. Black women are perceived as these strong, aggressive women, especially by people who have no real understanding of Black history, and so they stereotype us and then engage with us as if we’re difficult to work with. It’s challenging and extremely traumatizing.”

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

MANDATE

► Continued from A1

as Uber.

The public health order also loosens capacity restrictions:

- Religious services and funerals — 100%
- Indoor service in bars and restaurants — 75% (6-foot distancing still required)
- Personal service business such as salons — No appointment required (6-foot distancing still required)
- Indoor and outdoor sports — 50%
- Entertainment, cultural and tourism sites — 75%

- Large gatherings — 500 people
- Community pools — 100%
- Gyms, fitness studios, dance studios, etc. — 75%
- Music venues — Dance floors open (6-foot distancing still required)
- Libraries — 75%
- Youth and young adults camp — Overnight camping permitted, no mask required for campers younger than 7

As of May 30, about 35% of Marion County residents were fully vaccinated, meaning they either received the one-dose Johnson & Johnson shot or are

two weeks out from the second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna shots. Caine said the goal is to reopen when the vaccination rate gets to 50%, hopefully by July 4.

White people have paced the county’s vaccination rate at 36%, according to health department data. Latino and Asian people are at 24%, and Black or African American people are at 21%.

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



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EDITORIAL

Library environment far from tranquil for many Black employees

By OSEYE BOYD



The allegations leveled by Indianapolis Public Library employees regarding the CEO, Jackie Nytes, and the culture of the library demonstrate something is amiss. That's an understatement. When you have multiple people across library branches in different positions saying the same thing, that's a good sign there's a problem. When you have a board member and former board member cosign those same sentiments, that goes beyond a sign. That's clearly telling you something is wrong. Big time. Allegations of racism came to light after a former employee addressed the board during a recent meeting. Little did we know those allegations were the tip of the iceberg. A deluge of complaints from other library employees soon followed, many contacting the Recorder to share their experiences. It doesn't matter whether board members or the CEO think something is wrong. The employees do. A lot of employees do. Many of them Black women. It doesn't matter that the library has crafted a strategic plan to become more diverse, equitable and inclusive if that is just pretty wrapping paper on a piece of coal. We saw many businesses and organizations jump on the DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion) bandwagon in 2020. Many posting statements in white letters on black backgrounds and making

promises of how they'll do better but doing little in reality. What many of these leaders don't understand is things are different today. When you make a statement now, you're held accountable in ways you weren't before. We're checking to see if your Black lives matter statement aligns with your hiring practices, your retention and promotion practices and where you donate. You donate to causes you support, so you can't say you support diversity while giving money to politicians who don't. No doubt many of these leaders are well-intentioned. They may even consider themselves liberals. Unfortunately, many white liberals have blind spots when it comes to racism, falsely believing they don't have a racist bone in their body because they have a Black friend and support diversity, while secretly stereotyping Black people. In his "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. expressly stated his disappointment in the white moderate. After calling them a "stumbling block in the stride toward freedom," King went on to say, "Shallow understanding from people of goodwill is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will. Lukewarm acceptance is much more bewildering than outright rejection." King was spot on then and now. To say you want and support diversity, but then to make Black employees feel you're doing them a favor but they're unwanted, unsupported and inadequately compensated misses the point of diversity. Who wants to

feel unwelcome and treated as incompetent? I've experienced some degree of this, and I understand how it can take a toll on one's health. Going into a toxic work environment day in and day out wears you down. Questioning if you're capable of doing your job and seeing others praised for doing far less is hurtful. You start questioning your self-worth, as if what you do is who you are. I've never understood people who enjoy making life miserable for others. I've never understood people who are so insecure and intimidated by others that they need to make others feel small just so they can feel good. These actions speak volumes about the character of people like this and none of it is good. Since we spend a nice chunk of our lives "at work," I'm a firm believer that it should be as pleasant and toxic free as possible. We're all adults and should treat each other as such. Sad to say, but that doesn't seem to be the culture at the library. The library board would do well to take heed to what their employees are saying and make changes quick, fast and in a hurry as my mother would say. I've loved libraries since I was a child. I've spent many hours in the library for "fun" (don't judge). For me, libraries exude tranquility. Libraries are peaceful bastions of knowledge. I've never considered what it's like to work in one other than it has to be so much fun to be around so many books. IndyPL has forever crushed that vision.

OPINIONS

What's up with critical race theory?

By LARRY SMITH



Critical race theory. It's difficult to think of an academic concept that causes more angst among politically conservative whites (and the small percentage of African Americans who are their allies). Critical race theory (CRT) is the newest boogeyman that is vexing the far right, perhaps even surpassing "socialism" as America's greatest danger — as opposed to the white nationalists who the FBI identifies as our No. 1 domestic threat. (I'm not being hyperbolic; one can witness borderline hysteria in certain news outlets, on social media platforms and in town hall meetings.) Irrespective of whether one favors or opposes CRT, is it too much to ask that they take the time to actually learn what it is? Or, equally as important, what it isn't? In the Dark Ages (i.e., the days before Google), one had to physically go to a library to find information on any number of topics. One could peruse microfiche or even — gasp! — find books to read! (This ordeal is no longer necessary, though I highly recommend it.) While I often criticize people who

use Google as a primary research tool, it can be helpful in offering a basic understanding of various topics, including CRT. In a very small nutshell, CRT is an academically based ideology which emphasizes the role that racial discrimination has always played in America. It is particularly focused on the historic inadequacies of legal remedies. For example, CRT examines the failure of the Civil Rights Movement to ensure greater racial equity, largely due to its "incremental" approach. Having grown out of critical legal studies, CRT challenges traditional progressive approaches to fighting racial inequity, primarily by attacking systems of power. CRT seeks to ensure that Black liberation moves from analysis in the classroom to action in the courts — and in the streets. In short, it is not sufficient merely to be a scholar; those who genuinely believe in racial equity must actively engage in the struggle to achieve it. Its ethos owes as much to the Black Panthers as it does to Black intellectuals. Sadly, conspiracy theories about CRT abound among conservatives. Many claim that school systems are introducing CRT by calling it something else (e.g., social and emotional learning).

To be charitable, social and emotional learning is not critical race theory. Those who claim that it is are either intentionally lying or don't know what either discipline is. I cannot overemphasize the fact that CRT is not being taught in K-12 schools. It is taught in a few undergraduate courses but is mainly reserved for graduate school. (I marvel as I watch parents express outrage at the thought of CRT being taught in their kids' school — especially since virtually none of them can even define it.) To be sure, there are reasons to be critical of CRT. For one, like most esoteric academic disciplines, it is in danger of collapsing under the weight of ever-expanding jargon — and increasingly narrow definitions. Further, one simply doesn't need an advanced degree to (for example) fight police brutality effectively. But that's a story for another day. Fear is at the core of conservatives' complaints. One fear is that children of all races will learn more about America's extremely troubling racial history, thereby stoking "division." (Apparently, telling the truth causes more division than the police who summarily execute Black folks.) Such fear is coupled with the fact that right-wing "news" outlets

continually whip up racial animosity, including by pushing so-called white replacement theory, which was advanced by the neo-Nazis in Charlottesville. (Tucker Carlson and other apologists push it as well.) The bottom line is that millions of whites are genuinely afraid that America is becoming irrevocably Black and brown. They believe that, once whites become a numerical minority, their privilege (which many of them vehemently deny exists) will evaporate. Further, many of them believe that people of color will exact "revenge" for "past wrongs." (I'm old enough to remember this concern being voiced before Barack Obama assumed office.) White America must understand that a racial reckoning is coming. It has been coming for 400 years. I, for one, don't believe that it will be a violent one — unless we take seriously the threats of right-wing extremists. (Why would Blacks want a race war when racial "peace" puts us through hell?) Critical race theory is not the problem; it merely exposes it.

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

Commentary: 100 days of Biden-Harris

By JULIANNE MALVEAUX
NNPA Newswire Contributor



President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris are off to a running start. With more than a third of Americans fully vaccinated against the coronavirus, and now potentially more shots than arms, President Biden did what he said he'd do, thus jumpstarting our sluggish economy. Unemployment rates have lowered (although the racial unemployment rate gap remains — that won't disappear in just 100 days). Economic growth at 6.4% is at a healthy high, proving that controlling the coronavirus is essential to economic health. However, when asked to provide a letter grade for President Biden, all I could give him was an Incomplete, or perhaps an Incomplete Plus. The plus means that he's moving in the right direction. The

Incomplete means just that, incomplete. It means we need more results. But it occurs to me that I'm not fair, that my expectations may be too high. Through his efforts and those of Vice President Harris, the American Rescue Plan was passed. He has now proposed the American Families Plan and touted it in his speech to the joint houses of Congress on April 28. It provides many features for low- and moderate-income working families, including a child and dependent care tax credit, more affordable health insurance and more paid family and medical leave. It's a good plan, but Republicans have lined up in lockstep to oppose it. There is likely to be more consensus around infrastructure because our nation's infrastructure is crumbling. Biden and his team use the term "Build Back Better" to describe the goal of an infrastructure plan, the American Jobs Plan, that will fund jobs both for construction and for the "caretaking" economy, for social service workers, health workers and others. Republicans prefer the more traditional definition of infrastructure: roads and bridges, bricks and mortar. They forget that people, too, are part of our nation's infrastructure. That's why it is essential that the expansion of educational opportunities is part of the American Families Plan. Free community college. An increased Pell grant. More money for HBCUs and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs).

These three pieces of legislation cost about \$6 trillion and will add to our national debt. Republicans are balking at the price tag, but they weren't so hesitant when their massive tax cut for corporations added trillions to the national debt. While we don't expect consistency from Republicans, we know they only oppose deficits when they benefit people. I see the \$6 trillion price tag on the Biden legislation as more of an investment than simple spending. A better-educated workforce earns more money, pays more taxes. A healthier workforce means less ab-

senteeism, more efficiency and productivity. Quality child care means more women in the workforce — millions of women left in the wake of COVID-19. The investment makes sense to build our labor force back better. Many have compared President Biden's vision to that of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, whose New Deal created jobs, reduced poverty, replaced fraying infrastructure and more. It has been decades since we've seen this kind of significant investment in infrastructure. Lyndon Baines Johnson focused on the human infrastructure, but no one has done so since. Republican presidents have been disinclined, and Democratic Presidents have either been too moderate or too timid (Obama) to push hard for their vision. I think one of the benefits of Biden's presidency was the time he spent with President Obama, observing what happens when you don't go big enough. Biden has a big vision, and now he has a big job getting others to buy into it. There are Republican governors and mayors who would benefit from infrastructure improvements. There are Republican college presidents who know the value of more Pell grant money. These are the Republicans who must pressure their senators to support the Biden legislation. The first 100 days of Biden have been a stark difference from the previous president. It's not just what Biden says, but the way he says it. He doesn't bark, although he can be emphatic. He doesn't call names or use epithets. He listens. My grade for Biden's first 100 days stands: Incomplete Plus. It means moving in the right direction. Thanks for the vision, President Biden.

Dr. Julianne Malveaux is an economist and author. She can be reached at juliannemalveaux.com.

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Grand reopening celebration
Edna Martin Christian Center Leadership and Legacy Center recently celebrated its grand reopening with a formal dedication and a ribbon cutting. With the two-phase, \$6 million renovation and expansion complete, the Leadership and Legacy Center will serve about 300 school-age youth and 50 seniors and house a preschool and incubation center for new businesses. (Photo provided by Edna Martin Christian Center)



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Saturday, June 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Avondale Meadows YMCA, 3908 Meadows Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46205

Sunday, June 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at New Direction Church, 5330 E. 38th St., Indianapolis, IN 46205

To learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine, eligibility and how to get your vaccination, please go to EskenaziHealth.edu.

    **ESKENAZI HEALTH**

by Kara Kavensky

Sam Reskala Eguiarte has moved around a lot. He was born in Mexico and before the age of twelve, he and his family had moved eight times due to his father’s job as a developer and software engineer.

“My dad was very much apart of the IT world,” says Sam. “Not long after we moved to Chicago, my dad had an offer to relocate us to Italy and my sister said, ‘No more!’ to the moving, so we stayed in Naperville.” An avid soccer player, Sam continued playing for clubs wherever they lived and was a member of Mexico’s U16 National Team. “It was a great experience,” recalls Sam of his soccer days. “We traveled to China, Brazil, and across Europe.”

Sam’s parents strongly encouraged him to get the most out of his college experience, so he decided to forgo soccer for finance at the IU Kelley School of Business. A self-proclaimed finance nerd, Sam landed a job after graduation with a third party logistics firm. Not knowing which direction he wanted his career to take, he then became a top tech recruiter with a different firm. Sam loved engaging with the tech recruits and having been exposed to tech by his parents, he became more interested in pursuing a career in tech for himself. Even though his dad was an IT expert, Sam was not that into computers as a kid and had an average exposure to technology during school.

The more Sam networked, the more interested he became in possible technology careers. The stories he heard of the application of daily creativity and flexibility as a software engineer sounded appealing to him. So much so, that Sam engaged in an inexpensive online course to explore learning how to code, which he dabbled on the weekends since he was working during the week. By the end of 2019, he decided that he



could see himself in tech and looked towards bridging opportunities to make this happen. He first enrolled in a business analytics graduate school program, then the pandemic hit and everything shut down. Sam and his girlfriend wanted to remain based in Indianapolis and they consulted with their friend, Natalie Hart, a Career Placement Advisor with Eleven Fifty Academy, who was encouraging about his career prospects in Central Indiana. He recognized this as an opportunity since a lot of people were getting laid off and the economy was slowing. He looked at the positive aspects of the pandemic and he left his job to commit to becoming a software developer via Eleven Fifty Academy. Sam was able to immerse himself full-time into coding thanks to grant opportunities through Eleven Fifty Academy. “I went all-in, which I highly recommend. If you are motivated, you will find a way to make it happen,” states Sam, who loved his instructor, Andrew Torr. “I love seeing the LinkedIn notifications of my fellow graduates from my cohort with news of their new employment.” Sam began his career as a software developer with 120Water within a month of graduating from Eleven Fifty Academy. To prepare for the initial job interview, he built an app from scratch that mimicked what their product looked like and got the job.



Sam is excited about the opportunities of working with 120Water. “I work for a company that helps people. They track pollutants in water, such as lead, which helps keep people healthy.” “The Eleven Fifty Academy experience prepared me to not only write my own code, but to read other people’s code and adapt accordingly,” says Sam of his immersive educational experience with Eleven Fifty Academy. “The way they teach you things helps you gain the confidence to apply what you learn on your own and within teams.”





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IU researcher: Pandemic confirms how low-quality jobs affect African Americans' health

By FARAH YOUSRY

As 25-year-old Torian Jones sorted the fresh produce section at Cleo's Bodega grocery store, he put the bad tomatoes in a small box. Part of his work as manager of inventory is to gather them and take them for composting at a nearby farm. Working at the grocery store makes Jones feel good because, "the store is part of the community, it's a nonprofit and we are offering an important service."

But it doesn't pay enough. Besides his job at the store, Jones has at least four other side hustles — DJ, jewelry designer and freelance contractor, among others.

"I have to do that to keep a roof above my head," he said. As a grocery store worker, Jones is considered part of the essential workforce. He worked at the grocery store since the beginning of the pandemic. And even though Jones has severe asthma, he couldn't stay home.

After all, his grocery store job is the only one that provides a steady paycheck. Still, he can't afford to sign up for any benefits like health insurance.

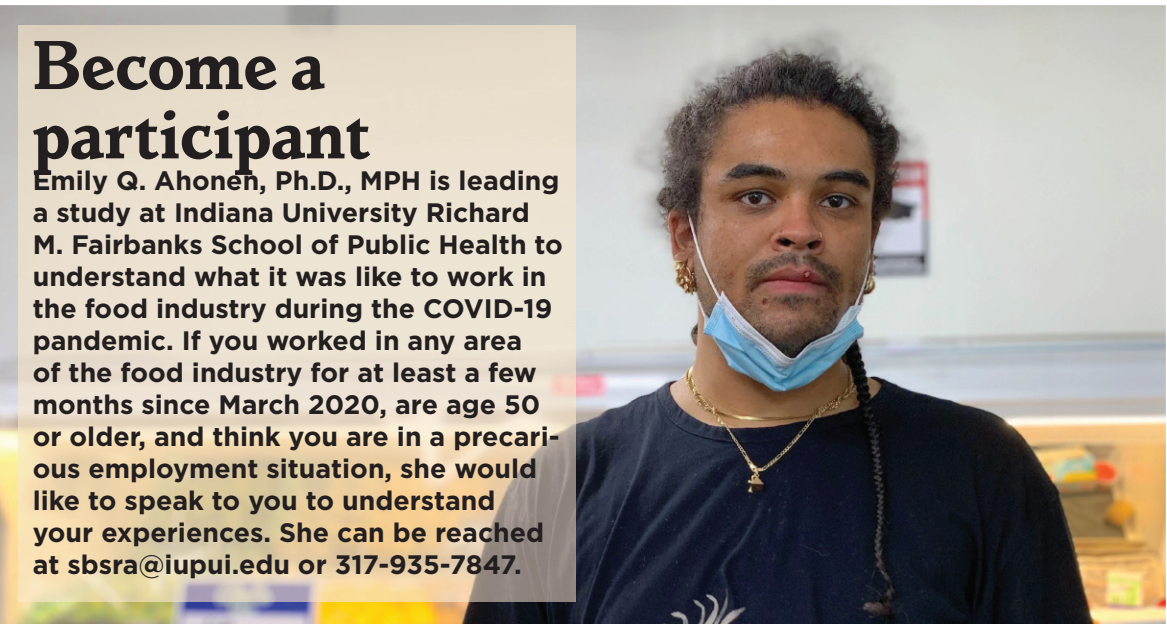
"It will take about \$140 out of my paycheck," he said. "I can't afford that. It will come out of the budget I use to get food or pay rent."

With all the jobs Jones takes on, he is still struggling to afford his asthma medical supplies like inhalers — leaving him scrambling to borrow from other people.

Now with the pandemic taking a turn and mask mandates being lifted for vaccinated Hoosiers, Jones feels vulnerable and anxious. He is not confident people will keep their masks on if they are not

Become a participant

Emily Q. Ahonen, Ph.D., MPH is leading a study at Indiana University Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health to understand what it was like to work in the food industry during the COVID-19 pandemic. If you worked in any area of the food industry for at least a few months since March 2020, are age 50 or older, and think you are in a precarious employment situation, she would like to speak to you to understand your experiences. She can be reached at sbsra@iupui.edu or 317-935-7847.



Torian Jones has severe asthma. He wished he could stay at home during the pandemic but he can't afford to do that. He remembers seeing people panic-buying and clearing shelves. It was scary working at the store especially at the beginning of the pandemic, he said. (Photo/Farah Yousry)

vaccinated.

"And with everything I hear about mutations and variants, it's scary," he said. He is not vaccinated yet. He said he's been dealing with three deaths in the family, including his grandmother who's been struggling for a long time, and couldn't find the time to get his vaccine.

The pandemic has had a compounded impact on people like Jones.

"When our systems are shaken and disrupted as they have been by the pandemic, those people whose employment was most precarious to begin with are the first ones to suffer," said Emily Ahonen, associate professor at the Indiana University Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health.

African Americans are overrepresented in essential jobs that — compared to the national average — pay less, offer limited benefits, provide less stability and, during the pandemic, sometimes exposed

them to COVID-19 at higher rates than other groups.

These frontline jobs are typically categorized as "precarious employment," said Ahonen, who studies how work and housing affect population health and well-being.

For example, while grocery store workers have been at the frontlines of the pandemic, they were largely not prioritized in vaccination efforts. They also have fewer options to work remotely or take time off.

Work and health

Employment is not among the recognized "social determinant of health" — factors contributing to a person's well-being and quality of life. Ahonen said this leaves a blind spot in the study of population health and equity.

"Work is a place where people obtain income and other things related to money and maintenance of health and occupation," she said. "A job is one of the ways we put

people into class locations and social prestige hierarchies. If we forget about it as a place for action, we're missing a big part of the picture."

Studies show that precarious employment has been on the rise nationwide and is increasingly affecting college educated white Americans. But women and racial groups remain the most affected.

The fact that African American precarious unemployment rates are higher than those of whites is not new. In fact, it is baked into the nation's social and economic system, said Ahonen.

"Employment is both an institution itself and shaped by other institutions in our society, which has an unavoidably racist history," Ahonen says.

Excluded from protection

Federal protection programs and Department of Labor policies excluded agricultural and domestic workers — two

areas where people of color have been historically over-represented. Those programs and policies show how long-standing barriers play a role in limiting African Americans' chances for social and economic mobility and accumulation of generational wealth.

Some scholars argue that the 1935 Social Security Act's exclusion of agricultural and domestic workers from coverage is only a matter of "administrative feasibility" to collect taxes. But, for the millions of African American workers earning below the national average, the impact of such policies still stands.

"Regardless of how it came about, the result was that a large proportion of African Americans were excluded, at least for a period, from systems of support," Ahonen said. "Our systems and institutions embody our society, and when we see disproportionate impact, it doesn't matter whether that was intended or not — it still is."

Jones at the grocery store agrees.

While he enjoys his work as well as his side gigs, he wishes he can have only one job that pays enough for him to have a steady income and afford basic benefits like health insurance. Ahonen said studying employment as a key prong in a population's health outcomes is one step to addressing these long-standing disparities.

This story was reported as part of a partnership between WFYI, Side Effects Public Media and the Indianapolis Recorder. Contact Farah Yousry at fjyousry@wfyi.org or 857-285-0449. Follow her on Twitter @Farah_Yoursrym.

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Forty years later, efforts continue to end HIV and AIDS

On June 5, 1981, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported five cases of a rare form of pneumonia among five previously healthy young men in Los Angeles and gave it a name: AIDS. All five men were defined as homosexual; two of them died.

Forty years later, CDC has defined this rare pneumonia as *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia (PCP) which is an opportunistic infection and an indicator of a positive test for the Human Immunodeficiency Virus, also known as HIV, and the resulting AIDS disease.

While HIV by itself does not cause AIDS, a weakened immune system and its inability to fight infections allows infections that are normally not harmful to then infect a normally healthy individual.

At first, the disease was thought to be only among gay individuals. This stereotype reinforced the stigma toward the LGBT community in the 1980's and slowed HIV care. Attitudes changed when 13-year-old Ryan White of Kokomo, Indiana, was diagnosed with HIV after contracting it through a blood transfusion.

After many years of public discrimination toward Ryan White and his family, and a national campaign for LGBT rights and fair access to HIV care for everyone, Congress passed the Ryan White CARE Act in 1991.

Since 1981, HIV has claimed the lives of more than 700,000 Americans. More than 1.1 million Americans are currently living with HIV.

The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program is a national effort to fund local services in the United States. The Marion County Public Health Department is home to the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program for the Indianapolis Transitional Grant Area (TGA) which includes 10 counties: Boone, Brown, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Marion, Morgan, Putnam and Shelby.

Early in the HIV pandemic, no treatment was available, so HIV patients were hopeless and waiting to die — sometimes without emotional support. Eventually, drug therapies were discovered and improved over the years to better treat the virus. HIV care is not limited to drug therapies; many other medical and supportive services are available through the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Service Program.

In 2019, the federal government launched Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. The goal of this initiative is to end the HIV epidemic in the U.S. by the year 2030. Marion County was identified as one of 48 counties in the nation with a high HIV incidence.

The Marion County Public Health Department unveiled its Plan to End the HIV Epidemic by 2030, which is available on the local Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program website, ryanwhiteindynga.org. The plan targets minorities in high incidence zip codes, and other priority populations. It is designed to reduce new infections by 75% by the year 2025, while reducing new infections by 90% by the year 2030.

The focus is on four key strategies:

- Diagnose all individuals with HIV as early as possible.
- Treat people with HIV rapidly and effectively to reach sustained viral suppression.
- Prevent new HIV transmissions by using proven interventions, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and syringe services programs.
- Respond quickly to potential HIV outbreaks to get needed prevention and treatment services to people who need them.

For more information, please contact the health department's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Services Program at 317-221-3560 or visit ryanwhiteindynga.org.

From 13-hour days to 6-month sabbatical, Pastor Johnson finds time for rest

BY TYLER FENWICK
tylerf@indyrecorder.com

Jeffrey Johnson Sr., the long-time pastor of Eastern Star Church, will spend the next six months doing the things he mostly neglected for 33 years: renewing himself spiritually and physically, taking time to reflect on and restore his mental health.

Johnson started his sabbatical June 8.

“Hopefully I’ll be spending time in the presence of God as much as possible,” he said.

Johnson, who turned 59 in May, said he comes from a time when the emphasis was on working harder and putting in longer hours. Translated to the job of a pastor, that meant 12- and 13-hour days every day of the week sometimes.

Johnson is one of those people who gets satisfaction out of seeing the product of his work — the fruits of his labor, to reference a psalm. But 84-hour weeks are unsustainable.

“It was ridiculous,” he said.

Johnson stumbled into his wake-up call in August 2008. He was coming off one mara-

thon and getting ready for another when he heard about a runner who died during a race. Playing it safe, Johnson went to the doctor and got blood tests.

Prostate cancer. No symptoms or ill effects to tip him off.

He had surgery in December 2008 and recovered, but that’s when it hit him: The church, the community, the whole world — it went on just fine without him.

“If I’m not there, God’s will is still gonna be done,” he said. “I don’t think God is gonna have an issue figuring out how to accomplish his will.”

It’s taken a shift in mindset to step away for an extended period, Johnson said, but it’s not something he or the church rushed. Johnson spent 1 1/2 years preparing the church; that’s three times longer than he’ll be gone.

Even farther back, though, this has been on his mind. He found notes from six or seven years ago where he started planning what a sabbatical would look like.

“It was not an easy mental adjustment for me,” he said.

While Johnson is away for six months, the rest of the



Pastor Jeffrey Johnson Sr. speaks at the groundbreaking for Eastern Star Church's new youth center March 15. (Photo/Tyler Fenwick)

church is supposed to rest and work on their relationship with God and family. Staff will take Fridays off.

The church has also documented the steps it took to get to this point. Sabbaticals aren’t as common in Black churches as white churches, Johnson said, so it will be important to be able to show others any successes and failures along the way.

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

'You can have God and a therapist': balancing mental health and faith

BY BREANNA COOPER
breannac@indyrecorder.com

TaMara Breeding-Goode was 16 the first time she attempted suicide. At the time, she said she didn’t have a strong relationship with God, despite being raised Baptist. She struggled alone for years with depression and post-traumatic stress disorder. After “being led” to Scott United Methodist Church a few years ago, Breeding-Goode found her calling.

There, she started Project WINGS, a mental health care service rooted in faith. However, Breeding-Goode said it’s OK if faith isn’t enough to help someone through a mental health crisis.

“You can have God and a therapist,” Breeding-Goode said. “People think because you’re a Christian, you’re not allowed to get depressed or allowed to struggle, it means you’re not praying enough. That’s not true. It doesn’t mean you have a lack of faith or that you’re possessed or that God doesn’t love you. It means you’re human.”

Breeding-Goode understands the stigma attached to mental illness. As a Black woman raised in a family that didn’t discuss mental health and as someone who grew up in church, Breeding-Goode empathizes with those ashamed of their struggle but said there are Biblical figures who went through the same trials.

“When Christ went to the garden, he was grieved to death,” Breeding-Goode said about Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. “This was the Christ, OK? Elijah was so distressed he hid in the cave, and this was one of God’s prophets. People in the Bible mourned, rejoiced, gnashed their teeth. It’s important to know that you can rely on our God for healing and to go get professional help if you need it.”

And clergy, she said, may need help more than anyone. Pastors lead their congregants through the highs and lows of life, and that can take a toll. Breeding-Goode said clergy members taking time for their mental health shows “ultimate faith.”

Pastor Jeffrey Johnson has led Eastern

Star Church for 33 years. He recently started a six-month sabbatical to focus on his physical, spiritual and mental health. Johnson doesn’t struggle with a diagnosable mental health condition but felt the stress that comes with the job.

Part of that stress, he said, comes with the unpredictability of the job. From officiating weddings to leading services at funerals, pastoring comes with a lot of highs and lows.

"This goes on every day," Johnson said. "It's an emotional roller coaster and anybody, whether it's a pastor or educator or doctor, anyone that doesn't get the rest that is necessary, then they're gonna have some challenges."

To address mental health challenges specific to the clergy, Breeding-Goode and Project WINGS will host the town hall at 7 p.m. July 8, “Combating the Stigma While Embracing the Call.” Open to the community, both in-person and on Zoom, Breeding-Goode hopes the conversation provides support and solutions.

“Combating the Stigma While Embracing the Call”

Project WINGS will host the town hall, “Combating the Stigma While Embracing the Call,” at 7 p.m. July 8. For more information, contact Scott United Methodist Church at 317-925-1997.

“We saw clergy that were suffering, so we knew there was a need to address it,” Breeding-Goode said. “People gotta be supported period, regardless of their title. God calls us to help in everybody’s healing, so that’s what we’re trying to do.”

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

SPIRITUAL OUTLOOK

Train up a child

By DR. PRESTON T. ADAMS, III



Proverbs 22:6: “Train up a child in the way he [she] should go, and when he [she] is old he [she] will not depart from it.”

As I pen this column, the city of Indianapolis has recorded an unacceptable total of 114 homicides in less than six months of 2021. Add to this dismal reality the fact that there have also been well over 510 non-fatal shootings and stabbings during this same time period.

A recent Fox59 news report stated, “At 10.6 homicides per 100,000 residents, Indianapolis’ rate of intentional murder is greater than that of Chicago and several other large, regional U.S. cities.” Indianapolis has become a very violent place to live.

If you listen to most debates about why violence has escalated in our city, at some point you will hear this question asked as it relates to the perpetrators (and victims) of violent crimes: “Where are the parents?”

The speculation behind this question is that our present-day dilemma with violence and homicides is directly tied to the failure of parents to be good parents. After all, the “good parents” in our society don’t raise children who grow up to be violent, homicidal or victims of homicide, right? Nothing could be farther from the truth!

Here are two harsh realities concerning this subject matter. First, an alarming number of our children are not being “trained in the way they should go.” I’ve observed a growing number of children living in homes that do not espouse the same foundational morals, values, ethical and faith-based practices that were prevalent in most homes 20 to 30 years ago.

Additionally, many of our children are not raised in the church or with any other form of faith and religious foundation. Many do not respect their own parents, elders or other adults in authority. And many are allowed to form their own opinions regarding what is the right or wrong way to approach the issues of life. Consequently, many of these same children grow up to become perpetrators and, sadly, victims of violence and homicide.

Secondly, many of our children are “trained in the way they should go,” but when they get older, they actually depart from the way they have been trained. Here’s where I will defend parents who tried their hardest to raise good kids. I’ve seen firsthand children who come from solid families, many with both parents in the home, still follow a wayward path in life that leads to prison or death. Is this the parents’ fault? Absolutely not!

So, what is “the way,” and how do we infuse this wisdom principle into more parents and, ultimately, our



Getty Images

children? Proverbs 22:6 is sound instruction for all parents. To train is to initiate or instruct a child in “the way” as soon as he or she is capable of receiving instruction (Benson Commentary). “The way” is rooted in solid moral, ethical and, yes, religious precepts and, ultimately, practices. For the Christian, our precepts are grounded in the Bible, God’s Holy Word.

The power of this timeless principle is found in the first four words: “Train up a child...” The Wisdom Writer’s intent is to impress upon the reader that parents must begin training

our children in “the way” from birth. Then, and only then, can we be better assured of the promise that when that child is older “he [she] will not depart” from “the way” they have been taught.

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

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

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

2. How did the paralyzed man’s friends present him through the crowds to get to Jesus? Donkey-pulled cart, Lowered through roof, Pulled up stairs, Trumpets blaring

3. From Genesis 8, what was the first thing Noah did after leaving the ark? Burned it, Built an altar, Performed a marriage, Hiked to mountains

4. What group did John the Baptist exhort to be content with their pay? Priests, Zealots, Judges, Soldiers

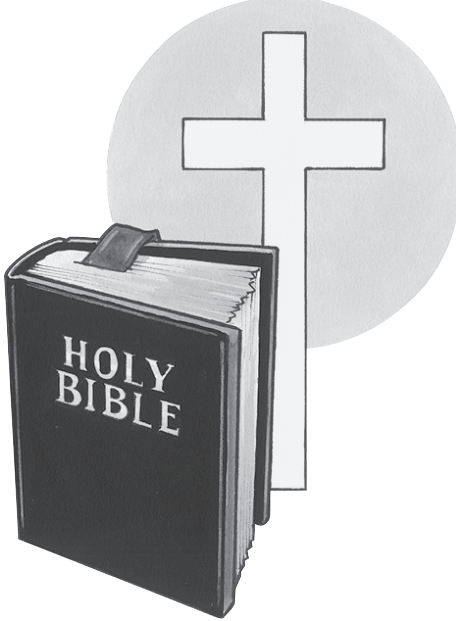
5. Which king of Israel had a reputation as a wild chariot driver? Jehoahaz, Jehoash, Jehu, Jehoram

6. Whose biblical name means “eagle”? Nehemiah, Timothy, Aquila, Miriam

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Lowered through roof; 3) Built an altar; 4) Soldiers; 5) Jehu; 6) Aquila

Comments? More trivia? Gift ideas? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Answers

U G N I L I A F N U

K G H W L X D O E S

J F G T O L L T R M

U L A G R R A R I L

S O H I L A D U G O

T V Z I T L E E H V

I E D R S H U G T E

C I R R A Y F F I S

E W O I O N O U I G

X O L X S F D S L L

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie’s Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 33:4-5

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Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

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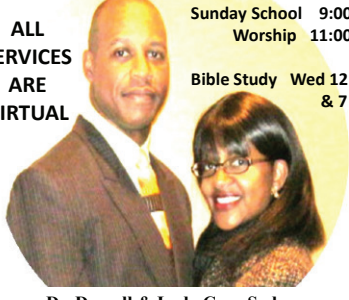
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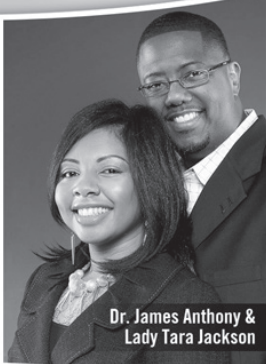
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Facebook suspends Trump for 2 years, then will reassess

By **BARBARA ORTUTAY**
AP Technology Writer

Facebook announced June 4 that former President Donald Trump's accounts will be suspended for two years, freezing his presence on the social network until early 2023, following a finding that Trump stoked violence ahead of the deadly Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol.

At the end of the suspension, the company will assess whether Trump's "risk to public safety" has subsided, Nick Clegg, Facebook's vice president of global affairs, wrote in a blog post. He said Facebook will take into account "external factors" such as instances of violence, restrictions on peaceful assembly and other markers of civil unrest.

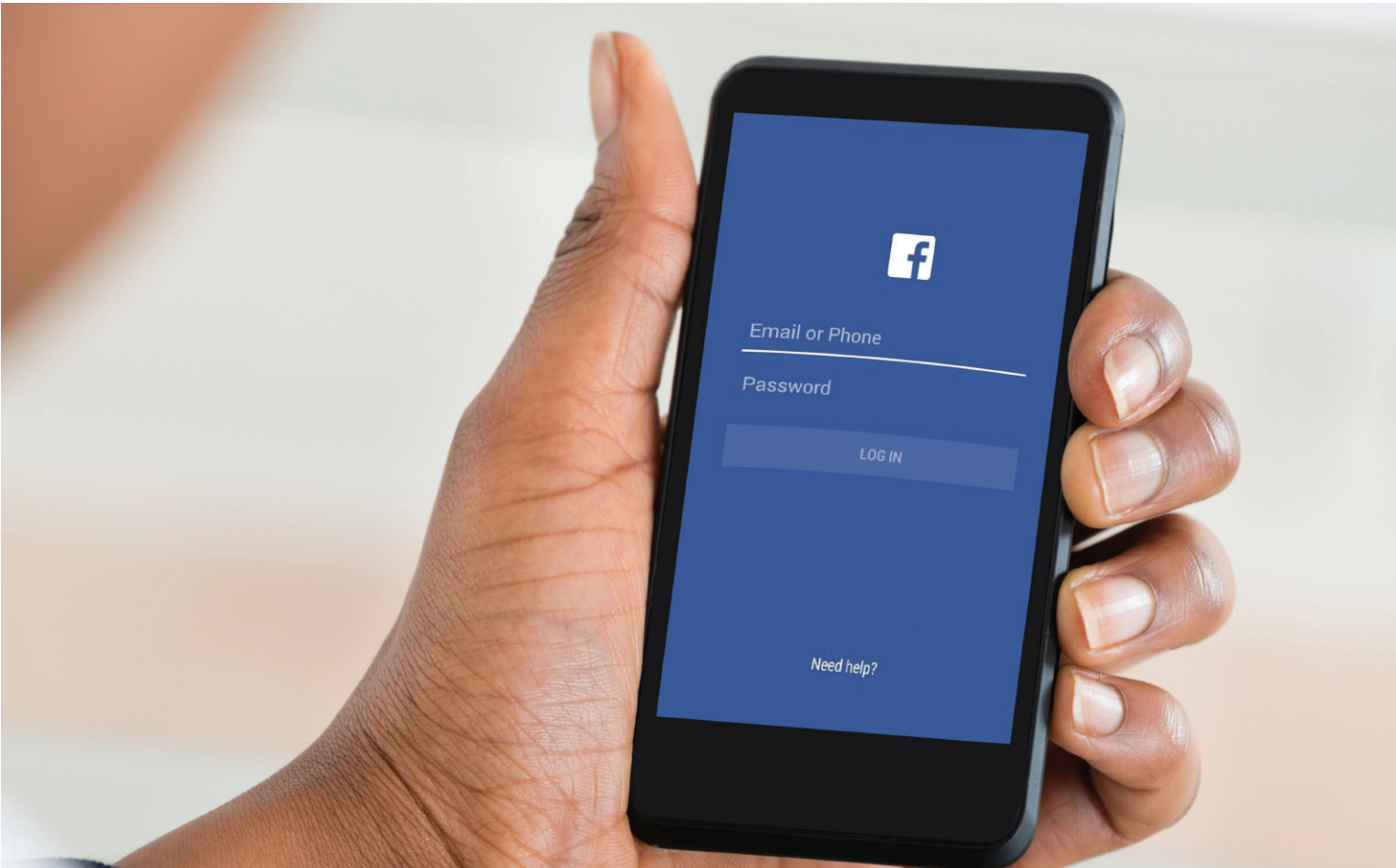
The former president called Facebook's decision on the suspension "an insult." The two-year ban replaced a previous ruling that ordered Trump to be suspended indefinitely.

"They shouldn't be allowed to get away with this censoring and silencing, and ultimately, we will win. Our Country can't take this abuse anymore!" Trump said in a news release.

Trump has teased running for president again in 2024. His aides say that he has been working on launching his own social media platform to compete with those that have booted him, but one has yet to materialize. A blog he launched on his existing website earlier this year was shut down after less than a month. It attracted dismal traffic.

On Facebook, Trump's suspension means that his account is essentially frozen. Others can read and comment on past posts, but Trump and other account handlers are unable to post new material. Twitter, by contrast, has permanently banned Trump from its service, and no trace of his account remains.

"What they've done here is shield themselves from potential presidential rage" with a reassessment of Trump's account in two years, said Jennifer Grygiel, a Syracuse University communications professor.



Getty Images

In a color-coded chart on its blog post, the company said public figures who violate its policies during times of crisis can be restricted from posting for a month (yellow) or as long as two years (red). Future violations, it said, will be met with "heightened penalties, up to and including permanent removal."

The social media giant said it will still apply the "newsworthiness" exemption to certain posts it deems to be in the public interest, even if they violate Facebook rules. But it will no longer treat material posted by politicians any differently than other posts.

The announcements are in response to recommendations from the company's quasi-independent oversight board. Last month, that panel upheld a decision by Facebook to keep Trump suspended, but the board said the company could not merely suspend him indefinitely. It gave the company six months to decide what to do with his accounts.

In its decision, the board agreed with Facebook that two of Trump's Jan. 6 posts "severely violated" the content standards of both Facebook and Instagram.

"We love you. You're very special," Trump said to the rioters in the first post. In the second, he called them "great patriots" and told them to "remember this day forever."

Those comments violated Facebook's rules against praising or supporting people engaged in violence, the board said. Specifically, the board cited rules against "dangerous individuals and organizations" that prohibit anyone who proclaims a violent mission and ban posts that express support for those people or groups.

The two-year suspension is effective from Jan. 7, so Trump has 19 months to go.

For years, Facebook gave the former president special treatment and free reign to spread misinformation and threats on the platform. Outside critics

and even Facebook's own employees called for the company to remove Trump long before the Jan. 6 comments.

In his post, Clegg anticipated criticism from both sides of the political aisle.

"We know that any penalty we apply — or choose not to apply — will be controversial. There are many people who believe it was not appropriate for a private company like Facebook to suspend an outgoing President from its platform, and many others who believe Mr. Trump should have immediately been banned for life," he wrote.

Facebook's job, he said, is "to make a decision in as proportionate, fair and transparent a way as possible, in keeping with the instruction given to us by the Oversight Board."

Associated Press writers Tali Arbel, Matt O'Brien and Zeke Miller contributed to this report.

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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.

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STATE OF INDIANA) IN
THE MARION CIRCUIT
COURT
()
COUNTY OF MARION)
CASE NO. 49C01-2104-
MI-011612
IN RE CHANGE OF NAME
OF MINOR:
KY'REE SYNCERE
ALEXANDER, KY'REE
SYNCERE ROBERTS,
Petitioner.
VERIFIED PETITION FOR
CHANGE OF NAME OF
MINOR
P. Sorretta Roberts, pro se,
respectfully petitions this court to change the name of the above-noted child.
In support of this Petition, Petitioner states as follows:
1. Petitioner is the father/mother/guardian of the child whose name is sought to be changed.
2. The written consent of the child's petitioning parent or guardian for the name change of the minor child is not required under I.C. 31-19-9.
3. That the child's current name is: KY'REE SYNCERE ALEXANDER.
4. That the child's date of birth is: 08/23/2018.
5. That the child's mailing address is: 1424 Anniston St., Indianapolis, IN 46227.
6. That the child's residential address is: 1424 Anniston St., Indianapolis, IN 46227.
7. The following is a list of all of the previous names of the child:
8. That the child (does) (does not) hold a valid United States passport. Proof that the child is a United States citizen is . I will bring this document to the Change of Name Hearing for verification.
9. That the following judgments of criminal conviction of a felony under the laws of any state or the United States have been entered against the child, or I have stated immediately below that the child does not have any felony convictions:
10. That changing the child's name is not an effort to defraud any of the child's creditors.
11. That notice of the request for name change has been published in a local publication as required by law and will be brought to the Change of Name Hearing.
12. That the child is not confined to a Department of correction facility or a sex or violent offender who is required to register under I.C. 11-8-8.
13. That pursuant to Indiana Code 34-28-2-1, I petition this court to change the child's name Pursuant to Indiana Code 34-28-2-2 (b), the reason the change of the child's name is: PETITIONER WAS IN A ESSI IN A MARRIAGE. AFTER A MINOR WAS BORN SHE STARTED A NEW LIFE WITH SOMEONE NEW AND CUT ALL CONTACT WITH PETITIONER AND MINOR. PETITIONER DOESN'T KNOW THE WHEREABOUTS OF HER.
14. That I request that the child's name be changed to Ky'Ree Syncere Roberts.
15. I request this Court to act on a hearing to consider the Petition for Change of Name of Minor Child.
WHEREFORE, I respectfully request that this Court grant this Petition for Name Change of a Minor, and for all other just and proper relief, I affirm under the penalties of perjury that the foregoing representations are true.
Notary Public, State of Indiana
Commission Number
NPO722983
/s/ Sorretta Roberts
P. Sorretta Roberts
1424 Anniston St.
Indianapolis, IN 46227
(317) 403-7798
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
I hereby certify that I sent a copy of this Petition for Name Change of a Minor by first class mail to the opposing party on 4/6/2021.
/s/ Sorretta Roberts
5320-921722

06/11/21,
06/18/21,
06/25/21

MDK # 20-011434
STATE OF INDIANA)
IN THE MARION CIVIL
SUPERIOR COURT #3
()
COUNTY OF MARION)
CAUSE NO. 49D03-2105-
MF-016221
US Bank National
Association, as Trustee,
successor in interest to
Bank of America National
Association, as Trustee,
successor by merger to
LaSalle Bank National
Association, as Trustee for
Residential Asset Mortgage
Products, Inc., Mortgage
Asset-Backed Pass-
Through Certificates, Series
2007-RS2
Plaintiff,
vs.
The Unknown heirs,
devisees, legatees,
beneficiaries of Patricia
Beauchamp AKA Patricia
A. Beauchamp and their
unknown creditors; and
the unknown executor,
administrator, or personal
representative of the Estate
of Patricia Beauchamp AKA
Patricia A. Beauchamp,
et al.
Defendants.
NOTICE OF SUIT
SUMMONS BY
PUBLICATION
TO: The Unknown heirs,
devisees, legatees,
beneficiaries of Patricia
Beauchamp AKA Patricia
A. Beauchamp and their
unknown creditors; and
the unknown executor,
administrator, or personal
representative of the Estate
of Patricia Beauchamp AKA
Patricia A. Beauchamp,
upon diligent inquiry is unknown,
and that said cause of action
is for default on the promissory
note, and to preclude a
motion to dismiss on the following
described real estate in
Marion County, State of
Indiana, to wit:
Lot 177 in Northbrook
Addition, Section Seven, an
addition in Marion County,
Indiana, as per plat thereof,
recorded in the Office the
Recorder of Marion County,
Indiana as Instrument #72-
7065

06/11/21,
06/18/21,
06/25/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN
THE MARION SUPERIOR
COURT
()
COUNTY OF MARION)
CAUSE NO. 49D08-2105-
EU-011758
IN THE MATTER OF THE
SUPERVISED ESTATE OF
MARK ALLEN WICKHAM,
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NOTICE OF SUPERVISED
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Jodi M. Felix was, on
May 24, 2021, appointed
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2, 2021, at Indianapolis,
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May, 2021.
All persons having claims
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Indianapolis, Indiana, this
24th day of May, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Myla Eldridge
Clerk of the Superior
Court of Marion County,
Indiana
Attorney for the Estate
Julie Fred
Law Office of Julie Fred LLC
202 West High Street
Noblesville, Indiana 46158
Supreme Court ID#
28371-49
5320-921626

06/11/21,
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or the claims will be
forever barred. Dated at
Indianapolis, Indiana, this
24th day of May, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Myla Eldridge
Clerk of the Superior
Court of Marion County,
Indiana
Attorney for the Estate
Julie Fred
Law Office of Julie Fred LLC
202 West High Street
Noblesville, Indiana 46158
Supreme Court ID#
28371-49
5320-921626

06/11/21,
06/18/21,
06/25/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN
THE MARION SUPERIOR
COURT
()
COUNTY OF MARION)
CAUSE NO. 49D08-2105-
EU-011758
IN THE MATTER OF THE
SUPERVISED ESTATE OF
MARK ALLEN WICKHAM,
DECEASED
NOTICE OF SUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION
IN THE MARION COUNTY
PROBATE COURT OF
INDIANA
Notice is hereby given that
Jodi M. Felix was, on
May 24, 2021, appointed
Personal Representative of
the Estate of Mark Allen
Wickham, who died on April
2, 2021, at Indianapolis,
Indiana, this 28th day of
May, 2021.
All persons having claims
against said estate, whether
or not now due, must file
the claim in the office of the
Clerk of this Court within
(3) months from the date of
this first publication of this
notice, or within nine (9)
months after the decedent's
death, whichever is earlier,
or the claims will be
forever barred. Dated at
Indianapolis, Indiana, this
24th day of May, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Myla Eldridge
Clerk of the Superior
Court of Marion County,
Indiana
Attorney for the Estate
Julie Fred
Law Office of Julie Fred LLC
202 West High Street
Noblesville, Indiana 46158
Supreme Court ID#
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(3) months from the date of
this first publication of this
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months after the decedent's
death, whichever is earlier,
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forever barred. Dated at
Indianapolis, Indiana, this
24th day of May, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Myla Eldridge
Clerk of the Superior
Court of Marion County,
Indiana
Attorney for the Estate
Julie Fred
Law Office of Julie Fred LLC
202 West High Street
Noblesville, Indiana 46158
Supreme Court ID#
28371-49
5320-921626

06/11/21,
06/18/21,
06/25/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN
THE MARION SUPERIOR
COURT
()
COUNTY OF MARION)
CAUSE NO. 49D08-2105-
EU-011758
IN THE MATTER OF THE
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May 24, 2021, appointed
Personal Representative of
the Estate of Mark Allen
Wickham, who died on April
2, 2021, at Indianapolis,
Indiana, this 28th day of
May, 2021.
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against said estate, whether
or not now due, must file
the claim in the office of the
Clerk of this Court within
(3) months from the date of
this first publication of this
notice, or within nine (9)
months after the decedent's
death, whichever is earlier,
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forever barred. Dated at
Indianapolis, Indiana, this
24th day of May, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Myla Eldridge
Clerk of the Superior
Court of Marion County,
Indiana
Attorney for the Estate
Julie Fred
Law Office of Julie Fred LLC
202 West High Street
Noblesville, Indiana 46158
Supreme Court ID#
28371-49
5320-921626

06/11/21,
06/18/21,
06/25/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN
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PROBATE COURT OF
INDIANA
Notice is hereby given that
Jodi M. Felix was, on
May 24, 2021, appointed
Personal Representative of
the Estate of Mark Allen
Wickham, who died on April
2, 2021, at Indianapolis,
Indiana, this 28th day of
May, 2021.
All persons having claims
against said

Suits after the Third Notice of Default, and if you fail to do so a judgment will be entered against you for what tort or other damages has been claimed by the petitioner has demanded.	Estate of Margaret J. Jones, deceased. All person(s) who have claims arising from said estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in said Court within three (3) months from the date of the third notice of default; otherwise, your rights are waived. This notice, or within Nine (9) months after the decedent's	06/04/21, 06/11/21, 06/18/21	
INDIANAPOLIS LEGAL AID SOCIETY, INC. COURT REPORTER Jill M. McGrath Madonna F. McGrath, #14600-49	SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF INDIANA) IN RE THE ESTATE OF) THE CIVIL SUPERIOR COURT) SS: CLERK DIVISION	opening. There is a limit of three (3) sets per bidder, one (1) set per subdivider and supplied as non-refundable refundable policy. Additional sets may be purchased at non-refundable printing cost plus a non-refundable fee will be added for postage when necessary. Electronic.	
		interest in this lawsuit. If you have a claim for relief against the Plaintiff arising from the same matter which occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. This Publication of Notice is pursuant to Indiana Code 32-20-3-14 and Indiana Code Clerk, Marjorie County	
		Notice is further given that a hearing will be held on said Petition on August 13, 2021, at 9:00 AM. All parties shall be heard remotely, and the Court will issue a WebEx Zoom invitation for attendance via email. Pursuant to Indiana Code 32-20-3-14 and Indiana Code Clerk, Marjorie County	
		If you have an interest in this lawsuit, If you have a claim for relief against the Plaintiff arising from the same matter which occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. This Publication of Notice is pursuant to Indiana Code 32-20-3-14 and Indiana Code Clerk, Marjorie County	
		Indiana's Finest Wrecker will be having an auction/public sale on June 21st, 2021 at 8AM. 7576 W Washington St Indianapolis, IN 46231 The vehicles to be included in the sale:	
Year	Make	VIN	Sale Price
1997 <td>HONDA</td> <td>1HGEJ22XVU09879</td> <td>\$1,500.00</td>	HONDA	1HGEJ22XVU09879	\$1,500.00
2015	CHRYSLER	BYC36A22NKL3SCB789	\$1,500.00
2006	FORD	2G2WV5E2871147530	\$1,500.00
2007	CHEVROLET	1GNDT13S772101991	\$1,500.00
5320-921739			

**Indiana's Finest Wrecker will be having an auction/
public sale on June 21st, 2021 at 8AM.**
5756 W Washington St Indianapolis, IN 46231

List of vehicles to be included in the sale:

Year	Make	VIN	Sale Price
1997	HONDA	1HGEJ622XVL097879	\$1,500.00
2005	CHRYSLER	1C3CCCA0BFN536879	\$1,500.00
2017	PONTIAC	2G2W5P552871147599	\$1,500.00
2007	CHEVROLET	1GNDT13S772101991	\$1,500.00

5320-9217138

Counsel, Angela D. Coe, and having filed her Verified Petition for Dissolution states the following:

1. The Petitioner resides at 11328 Water Birch Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46235.

2. That the petitioner has for more than 6 months prior to the filing of the Petition for Dissolution of Marriage been a resident of the State of Indiana.

3. That the parties were married on June 5, 2019.

4. That the parties were separated on February 2, 2020.

5. That there has been an irretrievable breakdown of the marriage of the parties and that said marriage should be dissolved.

6. The Respondent was not pregnant upon the parties separation in February 2020.

7. That there were no children born as a result of the marriage.

8. That there is no property in dispute in this case.

9. That the Respondent's last known whereabouts was in Indianapolis, IN, but the exact address is unknown.

10. That Petitioner will serve the Respondent by Notice by Publication in this matter.

VERIFICATION

I hereby swear and affirm that the foregoing statements are true and accurate.

_____/s/ Rodney E. Phillips,
Petitioner **/s/ Angela D. Coe,**
#23905-49
Attorney at Law
Law Office of Angela D. Coe, LLC
Attorney at Law
1111 E. 54th Street, Suite 103
Indianapolis, IN 46220
(317) 525-5878
5320-921109

05/28/21,
06/04/21,

of the real estate mortgage,
legally described as:
Lot numbered Fifty-six (56)
in the Kenmore Heights
addition, adjacent to the city
of Indianapolis, the plat of
which is recorded in plat book
31, page 7, in the office of the
Recorder of Marion County,
Indiana.

SUBJECT TO ALL LIENS,
EASEMENTS AND
INTERESTS OF THE GRANTEES OF
RECORD.

This property is commonly
known as 343 South Kenmore
Road, Indianapolis, IN 46219.
This summons by publication
is specifically directed to the
above named Defendant whose
addresses are known to:

Unknown Occupant, if any
at 343 South Kenmore Road
Indianapolis, IN 46219

ABN AMRO Mortgage Group,
One East Highest Officer Road
Suite 250 East Ohio Street, Suite
1100
Indianapolis, IN 46204

And to the following
defendant whose addresses
are unknown:

Unknown heirs, devisees,
legatees, personal
representatives, and
creditors of Ina J.
Cunningham (deceased)

In addition to the above
named Defendants being
served by this summons
there may be other
Defendants who have an
interest in this lawsuit. If
you have a claim for relief
from the same lawsuit arising
from the same transaction
or occurrence, you must
assert it in your written
answer. You must answer
the Complaint in writing, by
your attorney, on or before
the first day of July 2011,
the same being within thirty

ARTIST: [REDACTED] has contacted
 Clerk of the Marion County Court
 Tasha R. Roberts
 Attorney for Petitioner
 Roberts Litigation Group
 118 North Delaware Street
 Indianapolis, IN 46204
 Telephone: (317) 613-0172
 5320-921045

05/28/21
 06/04/21
 06/11/21

**NOTICE OF LAWSUIT
 CONCERNING CAROLYN**
**In the Marion Superior
 Court #11**
 Title of Case: Willie Quinn
 Sr. and LaShawann Quinn
 v. Newbridge Apartments,
 LLC, ADM Enforcement,
 Inc., and Carolyn Young
 Cause Number: 49D11-
 2012-CT-045615

This summons by publication
 is directed to codefendant,
 Carolyn Young, whose
 whereabouts is unknown.
 Notice is hereby given that
 on 12/29/2020, a lawsuit was
 filed affecting your interest in
 the Carolyn Young, whose
 Court in Indianapolis, Indiana,
 by Willie Quinn Sr. and
 LaShawann Quinn on behalf of
 the Estate of Marquis Quinn.
 The case stems from the
 Marion Superior Court in
 Indianapolis, Indiana on
 8/11/2019.

You must file an appearance

writing, by you or your attorney, on or before 7/12/2021, and if you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for relief requested in the complaint.
 Plaintiffs are represented by Eric S. Pavlack of Pavlack Law, LLC, 50 E. 91st St., Ste. 305, Indianapolis, IN 46240. This notice is pursuant to court order entered 5/3/2021.
 5320-9211226
 05/28/21,
 06/04/21,
 06/11/21

SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
(STATE OF INDIANA) IN
THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT
VS:
(COUNTY OF MARION)
 Case No.: 49D12-2103-
 SLB-006833
SLB ACCORDS LLCs
 Plaintiff,
 vs.
 HUGH GRIFFITH
 Defendant.
 NOTICE OF SUIT
 You are notified that you have been sued in the above-referenced Court. The nature of the suit against you is a Complaint For Cancellation of Land Contract, Immediate Possession of Real Estate, and Damages, as to the following described real estate:
 PARCEL:
 JOHN S SPAMANN AND CO'S
 15200N TERRACE L 36,
 Parcel # 9020862, All Parcel
 #49-11-09-113-249-000-901
 More commonly known as:
 752 South Mount Street,
 Indianapolis, IN 46221 (the
 "Real Estate")
 This summons by publication

This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following person who may have an interest in the described real estate located in Marion County, Indiana that is the subject of this proceeding, and whose whereabouts are unknown to Plaintiff are as follows:

Hugh Griffith

And all other persons claiming any right, title of interest in the described real estate herein, through or under them or any other person or entity, the names of all whom are unknown to the Plaintiff.

In addition to the above-named Defendant being served by this summons, there may be other Defendants who

**Indiana's Finest Wrecker will be having an auction/
public sale on June 21st, 2021 at 8AM.**
7576 W Washington St Indianapolis, IN 46231

List of vehicles to be included in the sale:

Year	Make	VIN	Sale Price
1997	HONDA	1HGEJ622XVL097879	\$1,500.00
2005	CHRYSLER	1C3CCCAB0FN536879	\$1,500.00
2017	PONTIAC	2G2W5P552871147599	\$1,500.00
2007	CHEVROLET	1GNNDT13S772101991	\$1,500.00

5320-9217138

3. That the parties were
 married on June 5, 2019.
 4. That the parties were
 separated on February 2020.
 5. That there has been an
 irretrievable breakdown of the
 marriage of the parties and
 that said marriage should be
 dissolved.
 6. The Respondent was not
 pregnant upon the parties
 separation in February 2020.
 7. That there were no
 children born as a result of
 the marriage.
 8. That there is no property in
 dispute in this case.
 9. That the Respondent's last
 known whereabouts was in
 Indianapolis, IN, but the exact
 address is unknown.
 10. That Petitioner will serve
 the Respondent by Notice
 by Publication in this matter.
 VERIFICATION
 I, _____, do hereby swear and affirm that
 the foregoing statements are
 true and accurate.
 _____/s/ Rodney E. Coops,
 Petitioner /s/ Angela D. Phillips,
 #23905-49
 Attorney at Law
 Law Office of Angela D.
 Coe, LLC
 Attorney at Law
 11111 E. 54th Street, Suite
 103
 Indianapolis, IN 46220
 (317) 525-5878
 53320-921109
 05/28/21,
 06/04/21,
 06/11/21

ADVERTISERS: You can
 place a 25-word classified ad
 in more than 140 newspapers
 across the state for as little as
 \$340.00 with one check through
 our paying with one check order
 system. Indiana Classified
 Advertising Network. For
 Information contact our
 classified department of your
 local newspaper or call ICAN

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 Be a
 part of
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SERVICES &
MISCELLANEOUS**

AT&T TV - The Best of Live & On-Demand On All Your Favorite Screens. CHOICE Package, \$69.99/mo plus taxes. Includes Premium Channels at No Charge for One Year! Anytime, anywhere. Some restrictions apply. W/ 24-mo. agmt TV price higher than 12-mo. Regional Sports Free up to \$39.99/mo. Extra fees & applies. Call IVS 1-844-412-9997

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how you can save \$1,000
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COVID19. No home visits
necessary. $40 OFF with
coupon 86407! Restrictions
apply. 888-715-8176</p><p>Need Help with Family Law?
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our latest No Win/No Fee
417-462 Mon-Fri 10am - 6pm
PCT

Denied Social Security
Disability? Appeal! If you're
50+, filed for SSD and denied,
our attorneys can help get you
approved! No money out of
pockets! Call 1-855-995-4758

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an AUTO ACCIDENT? Let
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 New Starting Base Pay - \$60 cpm w/ option to make \$70 cpm for Class A CDL Flatbed Drivers, Excellent Benefits, Home Weekends, Call 800-648-9915 or www.boyardandsons.com

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FREON WANTED: We pay \$\$\$ for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified Professionals. Call 312-291-9169 or visit RefrigerantFinders.com Pickup from 6.13.21

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Indian Creek

Weekly Newspaper

ADVERTISERS: You can place a 25-word classified ad in more than 140 newspapers across the state for as little as \$24.95 with one year of advertising paying with one check through ICAN, Indiana Classified Advertising Network. For information contact the classified department of your local newspaper or call ICAN

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DISH Network. \$64.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet. \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL devices. Call today! 1-855-551-9764

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SERVICES

Wesley Financial Group, LLC - Timeshare Cancellation Experts - Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare with consultations. Over 150 positive reviews. Call 877-329-1207

Make your service with us for only \$1.00 per month! 1-877-327-0930

Disability? Appeal If you're 50+, filed for SSD and denied, we'll help you appeal. If approved! No money out of pockets! Call 1-855-995-4758

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Never Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Complete Care Home Warranty covers ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. 30 DAY TRIAL. MONTHLY \$39.95. NO OUTFEE. Free Month 1. 1-855-408-3834

May Be Covered by Medicare!
Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 877-930-3271

HELP WANTED - DRIVERS

**Indiana's Greatest
Weekly Newspaper**

[illegible]

ADVERTISERS: You can place a 25-word classified ad in more than 140 newspapers across the state for as little as \$24.95 with one year of advertising paying with one check through ICAN, Indiana Classified Advertising Network. For information contact the classified department of your local newspaper or call ICAN

412-9997

DISH Network. \$64.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet. \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL devices. Call today! 1-855-551-9764

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HELP WANTED - DRIVERS

**Indiana's Greatest
Weekly Newspaper**

[illegible]



Lawrence Central's Kam Garrett fulfills his dream of winning a state title in the high jump by clearing 7 feet. Next, he'll try to qualify for the Olympics. (Photos/David Dixon)

Track & field state finals



Cathedral won the girls team title.



North Central track phenom Ramiah Elliott defended her title in the 400-meter race and won the 220 and anchored the 400 relay team.

Clippers at Indians



Columbus Clippers starting pitcher Triston McKenzie delivers a pitch during the Clippers' 4-1 win on June 6. (Photos/Jeff Brown)



Indianapolis Indians second baseman T.J. Rivera (28) tags out Columbus Clippers left fielder Daniel Johnson (7).



Indianapolis Indians first baseman Christian Bethancourt (29) connects for a single.

Attending sporting events safely is clearly possible

By DANNY BRIDGES

If you're like me, the pandemic scared you. It made us take a bit of an inventory on what's important and what we can actually live without if forced to forgo sports continuously.

Like millions in our country, I mourned the fact that we couldn't attend a live sporting event, and while adapting to it, I was constantly thinking about when a hot dog could be consumed in the stands at a baseball game or watch IndyCars blast by me from the media center deck at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway (IMS).

Now with vaccinations administered and restrictions slowly lifting, the question remains: Is it safe to attend sporting events? That answer is yes, but only if

one takes the sensible and highly necessary precautions that will ensure your continual good health.

Before you ask me to come down from the environmental pulpit and quit preaching about precautionary measures you can take, just remember that it's your responsibility, and not the venues providing our beloved sporting events, to protect yourself from the avoidable risks associated with congregating once again.

It's really easy if you simply take the time to plan your outing and enjoy the triumphant return of your favorite sport. For instance, ask the box office to isolate you as much as possible when purchasing your tickets and enjoy the extra elbow room that's generally available in the cheap seats. I still think a mask is in order, but if you insist on not wearing one, give others their space as you root for the Indianapolis Indians at their picturesque ballpark.

Catching an Indy Fuel or Indiana Fever game at the Indiana State Fairgrounds Coliseum is no problem either. Tickets are readily available, and there's plenty of room to spread out, so go for it. Again, ask the box office what game they have the most tickets for and plan your trip wisely. By the way, their concession prices are family friendly, and they always have special discount nights, so it's easy to save money and enjoy a safe



environment as well.

While there's not another IndyCar race at IMS until August, when they'll share the stage with NASCAR on the road course, there are plenty of small tracks offering bread-and-butter-type racing throughout the state. The newly opened Circle City Speedway, located on Troy Avenue at the Marion County Fairgrounds, offers some great dirt track racing, and the mask I still wear for COVID-19 comes in handy for keeping my respiratory system free of the dust the cars inevitably will kick up.

Whether it's any of the aforementioned or simply attending a Little League baseball game to cheer on your children, get out there and enjoy the sporting event of your choice. Just ease into it and be smart, as I'd hate to hear about any of you out there who email me from time to time telling me how wrong I am about sports getting sick.

The pandemic isn't over, but things are clearly loosening up, and sports are indeed back, so go out and enjoy them safely.

Around the Horn: While attending a

sponsor announcement for the August IndyCar-NASCAR event recently at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Roger Penske told a group of us gathered that he wants to raise the profile of IMS even further. The man never rests when it comes to improving the product, and as a racing purist, I'm so glad he continues to take the hands-on approach that has served him so brilliantly in all his business endeavors. Thank you, sir.

A brief chance encounter with Pacers President Kevin Pritchard on race day at IMS was both congenial and somewhat interesting. No, I did not ask him about Nate Bjorkgren, but he did say the Pacers will be better next year.

Colts training camp is just around the corner, and yes, they will allow a limited numbers of fans to observe practices on certain days. Go to Colts.com for specific details on how you can attend at Grand Park in Westfield.

Danny Bridges, who has always enjoyed the extra elbow room one can create at a sporting event, can be reached at 317-370-8447 or at bridgeshd@aol.com.