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Friday, June 18, 2021
75 cents

'They have no hope': Local officials, community differ on how to solve soaring homicide rates

By BREANNA COOPER
BreannaC@indyrecorder.com

When Paula Stone got into an argument with her 90-year-old neighbor last October, she thought the tension had hit its peak. A few weeks later, she was shot by the same neighbor. The bullet — which went through her groin and leg — left the 69-year-old dependent on a cane.

Stone is no stranger to violent crime — the Indianapolis native has lost two nephews and a niece to homicide, and her son survived a stabbing years ago. The common denominator among the perpetrators, Stone said, is desperation. “They have no hope,” Stone said.

See **HOMICIDE**, A9 ►



Jessica Louise, member of Indy10 Black Lives Matter, addresses the public health and criminal justice committee June 9. (Screenshot)



By TYLER FENWICK
tylerf@indyrecorder.com

In April 2020, when Indiana's unemployment rate hit a record high of 16.9%, Tamarria Fernandez's food service job was among the casualties.

Fernandez, a cafeteria worker at a local charter school, was laid off. She was on unemployment through July but eventually got the same job back.

Her family's saving grace for those few months, Fernandez said, was the increased unemployment benefits, including an extra \$300 on top of the normal payment and

See **PROGRAMS**, A9 ►



Naloxone is available at different locations throughout the city. This one is outside Health-Net, 2855 N Keystone Ave #100. (Photos/Breanna Cooper)

Naloxone disparities a matter of life and death

By BREANNA COOPER
BreannaC@indyrecorder.com

Out of 10,000 doses of naloxone — a lifesaving drug which can reverse an opioid overdose — distributed throughout Indiana, only one dose went to an African American.

This is according to a study conducted by Overdose Lifeline, the statewide distributor of naloxone. While media depictions often paint opioid addiction as an issue facing white Americans, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration found the rate of overdose deaths among Black Americans is rising. From 2015 to 2016, African Americans faced a 41% increase in opioid-related deaths, compared to 21% in the general population.

Gina Fears, assistant director of recovery and community services at Public Advocates in Community Re-Entry (PACE), said untreated substance abuse disorder and the naloxone disparity exist for myriad reasons, including stigma, lack of trust in medical professionals and religious

beliefs.

“Beyond historic disparities, there's also a lack of education on what [naloxone] is and how to use it,” Fears said. “That's why PACE has begun major outreach to supply factual data about how the Black community is affected by the opioid epidemic.”

PACE has set up a “nalox-box” outside of the Genesis Plaza in Martindale-Brightwood at 2855 N. Keystone Ave. Free doses of naloxone and instructions on how to administer the inhalant are in the box. The organization also offers classes on how to use naloxone.

While Black Americans are less likely than whites to abuse opioids such as oxycodone and morphine, the powerful opioid fentanyl is often laced in cocaine, a drug common in the Black community. Further, “lean” is popular among young African Americans. A combination of cough syrup — which contains codeine and promethazine — soda, and often alcohol, lean is an often-overlooked form of opioid abuse, according

See **NALOXONE**, A11 ►

Supercentenarian dies at age 112

By STAFF

“I am not sure why God wants me here but I will live on and do his work until he comes to get me.” And live on she did to become the oldest living person in the state of Indiana. Live on she did to rank in the top 20 oldest living people in the United States.

On May 27, 2021, Anna Ethelina



Anna Ethelina Garrett

lina Garrett died at home at the age of 112.

Born in Sparta Georgia on July 26, 1908, to Ashley and Elsie Byrdsong, Anna was the fourth oldest of what would ultimately be a family of 16 children. Her father was a sharecropper, and when Anna was old enough to help in the fields, the family had to cut the hoe down to match her size. In

See **ANNA**, A11 ►

By STAFF

The Indianapolis Recorder won 18 awards at the Society of Professional Journalism Best in Indiana Journalism Awards.

The record number of awards is especially gratifying as the Recorder persevered through a global pandemic that challenged many media outlets and caused staff reductions or closures. Our coverage of the coronavirus pandemic and social justice protests continues the Recorder's legacy of advocating for the Black community.

Breaking news reporting (Publication circulation below 30,000)
Tyler Fenwick
‘We're just trying to get answers’: Fatal IMPD shooting captured on Facebook Live
1st place

Breaking news reporting (Publication circulation below 30,000)
Tyler Fenwick
‘They couldn't fix his face’: Dreasjon Reed's mother, attorneys give update
2nd place

Breaking news reporting (Publication circulation below 30,000)
Tyler Fenwick
The birth of a protest
3rd place

Criminal Justice Reporting (Publication circulation below 30,000)
Tyler Fenwick
Police have a legitimacy problem to address first
1st place

Coverage of Social Justice Issues (Publication circulation below 30,000)
Tyler Fenwick
‘Police Huggers’ put movement in a tough spot
2nd place

Coverage of Minority, Diversity and Inclusion Issues (Publication circulation below 30,000)
Breanna Cooper
History in the baking: Indianapolis pastry chef defies odds
3rd place

Coverage of Children's Issues (Publication circulation below 30,000)
Tyler Fenwick
‘They have nowhere to go’: When young people face homelessness
1st place

Features Writing (Magazines and non-daily newspapers)
Tyler Fenwick, Breanna Cooper, Oseye Boyd
‘We've been gentrified’
3rd place

See **AWARDS**, A9 ►



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By partnering with organizations here in Indianapolis, we’re continuing to align our resources to help drive sustainable progress locally. Our investments and partnerships will help address critical issues and long-term gaps including:

- *connecting workers to new skills and enhanced job readiness*
- *expanding affordable housing options for more people*
- *ramping up lending and support to local small businesses*
- *increasing access to healthcare and addressing food insecurity*

We know there’s so much more work to be done. My teammates and I remain committed to the job ahead. Together with our local partners, we can make a real difference. **What would you like the power to do?®**

Andy Crask
President, Bank of America Indianapolis

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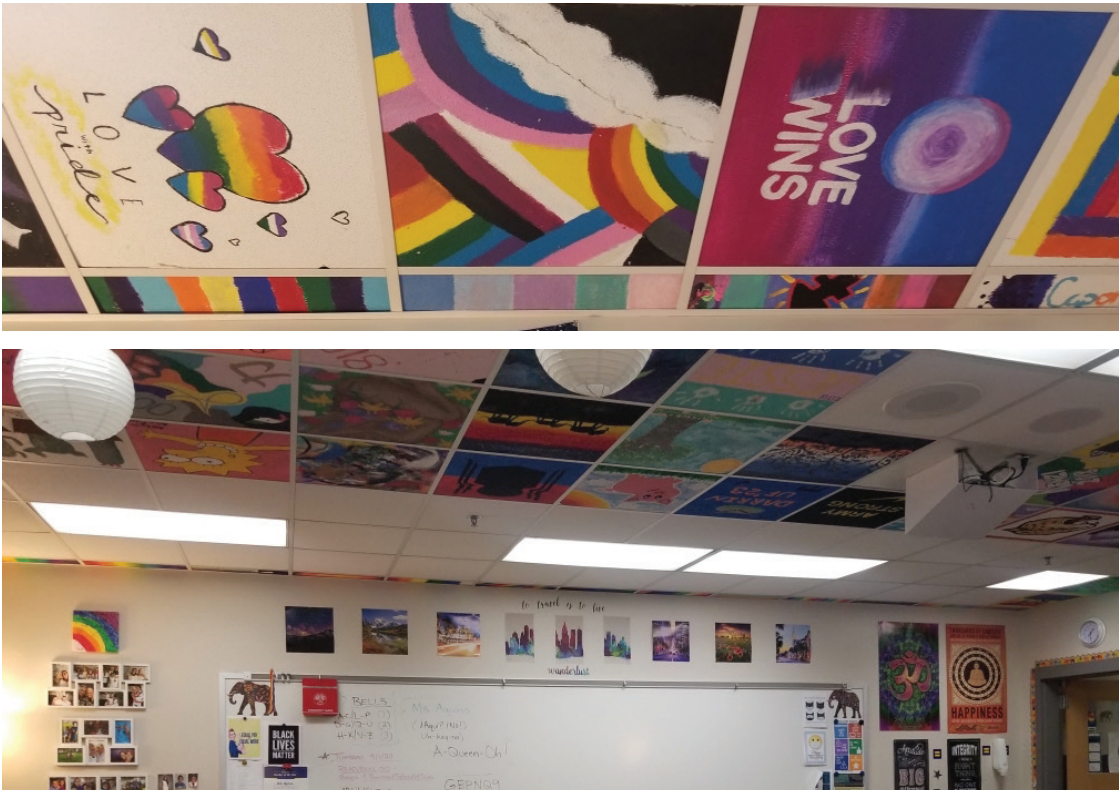
We’re collaborating with a variety of organizations to help our community move forward. They include:

- 100 Black Men of Indianapolis**
- Employ Indy**
- Dress for Success**
- 16 Tech Community Corporation**

Go to **bankofamerica.com/indianapolis** to learn more about the work we are doing with our incredible partners.



OUT AND PROUD IN SCHOOL



Debra Aquino, LGBTQQ and Friends club adviser, has students' hand-drawn rainbows on the ceiling tiles in her classroom. She and her wife, Stephanie Garcia, made the club to create a safe space at Ben Davis High School.

By ABRIANA HERRON
aherron@indyrecorder.com

At Fishback Creek Public Academy there were about 25 students in Mr. Cooper's fifth grade class. Circular tables filled the room, and among the four to five students sitting at "the bad-kid table" was Major Hughes.

For many, fifth grade is a distant memory, but for Hughes it was a life-changing experience. Hughes, now a junior at Pike High School, sat in his seat trying to understand his gender and sexuality. However, before he could openly accept it, he was outed by one of his classmates.

"It was really frustrating," Hughes said. "The silence hurt the most."

It may have been hard to remember the weird looks and the harsh words, but he could not forget the silence he received from his closest friends when they learned of his sexual orientation.

Outed is a term used when an LGBTQ+ member's sexual orientation and/or gender identity is revealed without that person's permission. After being outed, Hughes became quiet and reserved. Today, after learning more about himself, he is open to sharing his journey as a Black transgender man.

Whether it be in school, on social media, in public or around their family, teenagers today are more

open about their sexuality than in the past. Many have seen this transformation and attribute these changes to the growing presence and acceptance of the LGBTQ+ community.

Allen Wright, 16, came out on Instagram last month. He received a lot of positive feedback and support from his friends and followers and believes the media has an influence on students' openness with their sexuality.

"Ever since I have come out on social media, I have become more comfortable with myself," he said.

The junior at KIPP Indy Legacy High School has now come out to a few teachers at school but has yet to come out to anyone in his family because they are very religious. He plans to come out to his family while he is in college.

Pike's Gender Sexuality Alliance (GSA) club adviser, Chad Heck, believes having LGBTQ+ mentors and role models plays a crucial role in students' self-expression in school.

"I think that it's really important that students see LGBT in our schools," Heck said.

Whether it be teachers, parents or peers, Heck believes that seeing people open and unapologetic about their gender and sexuality inadvertently supports students in understanding themselves and their sexuality.

When you first walk up to the classroom door of

Ben Davis English teacher Debra Aquino, you see a rainbow poster with the words "Diverse, Inclusive, Accepting, Welcoming and a Safe Space for Everyone." Inside the classroom, the ceiling tiles are covered in hand-drawn rainbows, a Black Lives Matter poster is taped to the whiteboard, and a rainbow flag hangs in the back of the classroom.

Aquino, along with her wife, English teacher Samantha Garcia, founded LGBTQQ and Friends to create a safe and open environment for students to be themselves.

"Everyone can be who they are," Aquino said. "They recognize that they don't all have to be the same."

The club was created in 2019, and while the club was made for students, the advisers are also learning a lot about gender and sexuality from its students. Aquino said it will be a while before anyone completely understands gender and sexuality.

As they continue to learn new things from the students, it is important to keep an open mind and make sure the students' voices are heard.

Wright advises anyone who is trying to understand their gender and sexuality to take their time.

"Don't rush knowing yourself because that will just stress you out," Wright said.

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

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Celebrating Black freedom

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

If you are looking for a place to celebrate Juneteenth with your friends and family, Indianapolis is the place to be. With several events happening throughout Juneteenth weekend, you are sure to create memorable moments while honoring Black history with your community.

Juneteenth, also known as Jubilee Day, celebrates the end of slavery in the U.S. While the Emancipation Proclamation abolished slavery in 1863, many of the Confederate states did not recognize it and continued enforcing slavery.

It was not until June 19, 1865, that slaves in Texas were informed of their freedom. And when they were told of their freedom, they celebrated and created the holiday, Juneteenth, which we continue to celebrate in honor of Black freedom.

Whether you want to participate in a virtual 5K run, enjoy authentic soul food, listen to live music, go to a parade or attend a virtual book fair, there are many different events and options to choose from.

Activities such as a parade, a 3-on-3 basketball tournament and games will be from noon-6 p.m. June 19 at Riverside Park. Food trucks and live entertainment will also be featured.

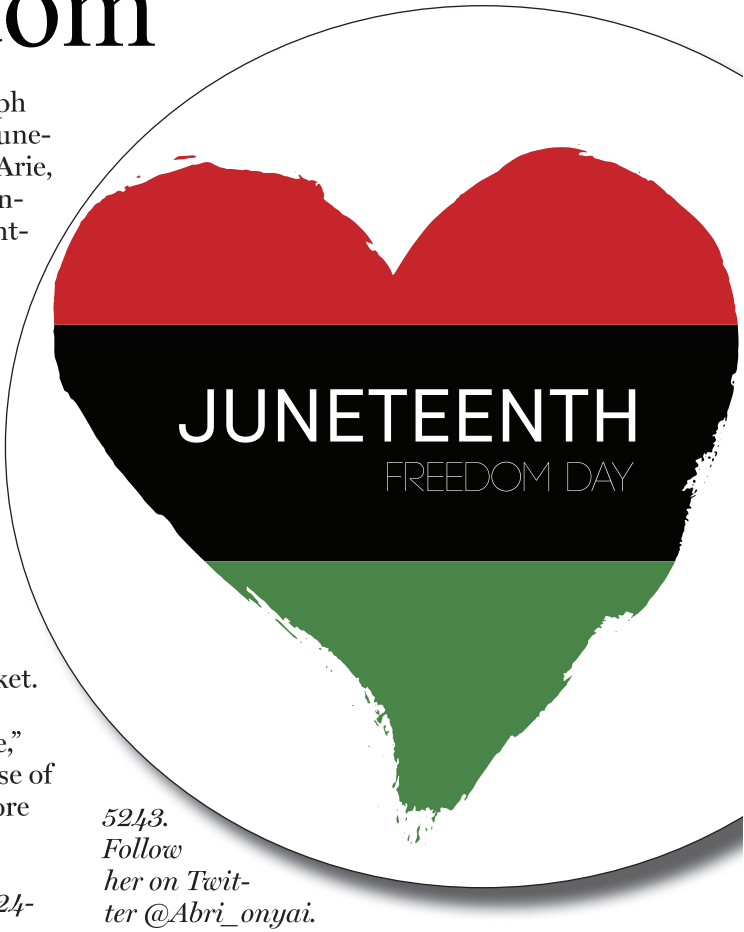
At 5 p.m. on Juneteenth, The Robert Randolph Foundation will host a national livestreamed Juneteenth Unity Fest with performances by India.Arie, Earth, Wind & Fire, Aloe Blacc and Robert Randolph. You can watch the event live at Juneteenth-unityfest.com.

Want to celebrate Father's Day while also celebrating Juneteenth? From 6-10 p.m. June 19, you can take your father to the Madam Walker Legacy Center for the Juneteenth Southern Soul Father's Day Celebration.

If you just want to enjoy a nice meal and hear live music with some close friends and family, Indy Night Market starts its three-part series on Juneteenth. This kickoff to the series celebrates Indianapolis' culture and Juneteenth through local Black artists, chefs and restaurants at Pan Am Plaza. For more information on this event, visit [IndyNightMarket.org](#).

"Juneteenth represents our freedom, our pride," said Antione McNear, the bar manager at House of Soul. "I think that's why we're celebrating it more and more."

Contact staff writer Abriana Herron at 317-924-



CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH

June 18

5-9:30 p.m. — Voices Corp Juneteenth, celebration includes live music and food from local vendors, 1415 Shelby St.

5-7:30 p.m. — Martin University Juneteenth program includes the official launch of Martin's National Center for Racial Equity and Inclusion, virtual and at Martin University, 2186 Sherman Drive.

6-8 p.m. — Center for Black Literature & Culture Virtual Book Fest. This program will spotlight several local authors including Brandon Warren, Januarie York and Andrew Bowman, visit [attendindypl.org](#).

7:30-11:30 p.m. — Juneteenth Weekend at The Jazz Kitchen, performer is SleepyNap Vibes (two-night event), 5377 N. College Ave.

June 19

Noon — Juneteenth Virtual 5K Walk/Run/Bike. This annual run is a health initiative celebrating Black freedom, 7840 W 56th St.

Noon-3 p.m. — BikeTeenth is a health initiative to unify the Black community for Juneteenth, Central Christian Center, 701 N. Delaware St. Register at [biketeenthindy.com](#).

Noon-6 p.m. — Riverside Park Juneteenth parade, 3-on-3 basketball tournament, live entertainment, food and games, Riverside Park near shelter #5

Noon-8 p.m. — Harrison Center's Annual Independent Music + Art Festival. A free day-long festival highlighting local and regional artist, musicians, food vendors and crafters in Old Northside neighborhood.

10 a.m.-3 p.m. — Juneteenth Jamboree will have live performances, activities, giveaways and an artist showcase, The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, 3000 N. Meridian St.

11 a.m.-5 p.m. — Grand reopening and Juneteenth Celebration will have door prizes, free food boxes and community vendors, Fay Biccard Glick Neighborhood Center, 2990 W. 71st St.

2-6 p.m. — Father's Day and Juneteenth Celebration featuring clothes and jewelry vendors, Just Wingin' It, 7834 Michigan Road.

4-9 p.m. — Juneteenth Jubilee will celebrate Black culture through local musicians, poets, dancers, singers and artists, Arts for Lawrence, 8920 Otis Ave.

7:30-11:30 p.m. Juneteenth Weekend — The Jazz Kitchen performer is SleepyNap Vibes (two-night event), 5377 N. College Ave.



Jeniece Cummins, RN

Community Surgical Nurse and 2021 Shining Star

She embodies Community's values by putting patients first. Colleagues describe her with words such as agility, bravery, tenacity, grace and poise. Thank you, Indianapolis Recorder for sharing our delight to now add "shining" to the list. Congratulations and thank you, Jeniece, for providing exceptional care through your light shown to our patients and our community.

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100th birthday celebration



Otha B. Rogers poses during her 100th birthday celebration June 12. (Photos/Jerome Brewster)



Members of Rogers' family pose with Mayor Joe Hogsett (kneeling left) for a family photo during her party.



Rogers (left) listens to Hogsett read a proclamation honoring her on her birthday.

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A close-up photograph of a dog's face, looking directly at the camera. The dog is wrapped in a blue towel, with only its head and eyes visible. The background is a blurred blue and white pattern.

The logo for Citizens Energy Group, featuring a stylized 'C' icon and the text "citizens energy group". Below the logo is the tagline "We're all citizens." and a small disclaimer: "This ad was not paid for by customer rates."

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A photograph of a city street at sunset. The sky is orange and yellow, and the buildings are silhouetted against the light. Cars are driving on the street, and a crosswalk is visible in the foreground.

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD. TAKE THE SURVEY.

A QR code located at the bottom right of the advertisement, used for linking to the survey.

The logo for AARP Indiana, featuring the AARP logo and the word "Indiana" below it.

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.

Just visit our website to get the most up-to-date information available about your vaccine options.

Learn more about COVID-19 vaccine availability and distribution at aarp.org/INvaccine

A circular icon containing a stylized image of a vaccine bottle and the text "COVID-19 Vaccine".



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you hug your grandmother.
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The COVID-19 vaccine is here.
Along with the reunions it allows.

Free walk-in Johnson & Johnson one-shot COVID-19 vaccines will be available on the following days for those 18 and older:

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](https://www.EskenaziHealth.edu).



ESKENAZI HEALTH

Look who’s 81



Friends and family surprised Grova Lewis recently to celebrate her 81st birthday. Lewis was serenaded by the soulful sounds of Mr. Don Burton during the party.



Family traveled from northern Indiana and from as far away as Leland, Mississippi, to celebrate. Lewis hugs her sister, Jo Ann Prude, who came from Gary. (Photos/Makenzie Carroll.)



Family members from Bardstown, Kentucky, came to celebrate the special occasion with Lewis. COVID-19 prevented the family from getting together for Lewis’ 80th birthday, making her 81st even more special.



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HOMICIDE

► Continued from A1

“When you feel like your life doesn’t matter, no life matters.”

So far this year in Indianapolis, roughly 120 people have been killed. Local officials continue to fund initiatives to stop the issue — the city-county council approved a \$3 million fiscal package to fund mental health initiatives, domestic violence prevention and included \$1.5 million for the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) on June 9. The money to IMPD, Chief Randal Taylor said, will go toward data collection and internal infrastructure.

“The funding ... will give our officers additional insight as we combat violent crime in Indianapolis neighborhoods,” Taylor said during a press conference earlier this month. “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.”

Councilman Ethan Evans, D-District 4, proposed an amendment to the proposition that would eliminate the funding for IMPD.

“... I heard from multiple community members who voiced concerns both about providing additional funding to IMPD and about the specific uses outlined for those funds,” Evans said. Evans said he wanted to divide the proposal to make funding for IMPD separate from funding for the city’s Information Services Agency two separate votes, but was told that couldn’t happen without an amendment.

The motion to amend failed, and the committee voted to send the proposal on to the full city-county council.

Community member David Rogers mentioned that, despite a \$7 million increase in the IMPD budget for 2021, homi-

cides have not decreased. At this time last year, just 80 homicides had occurred in Indianapolis. Further, while Assistant Chief Aaron Bailey said the increase in funding would go toward “proactive policing” to prevent crime, community member Emily Blum worries that means an increase in interactions between police and Black Hoosiers.

The majority of community advocates that addressed the committee said the money being allocated to IMPD should instead go directly to neighborhoods to meet the needs of residents. Advocate Noah Leininger called for IMPD to be “demilitarized” and defunded, and for that money to help address poverty, an often-ignored root of crime.

“Eighty percent of homicides and 3 in 4 violent crimes occur in the poorest half of Indianapolis,” Leininger said. “To fight crime, we must fight poverty, racism and exploitation.”

Carlette Duffy, director of reentry for the Office of Public Health and Safety, said we cannot address crime without addressing poverty.

“They’re directly linked,” Duffy said. “For a number of individuals involved in the criminal justice system, what started them on that path was some form of insecurity, like food or housing. ... Without knowing what resources are out there, or without having resources that will treat them with humanity, it can lead to crime.”

According to the Justice Policy Center in 2017, residents of low-income areas nationwide have higher rates of incarceration. While these individuals aren’t more likely to commit violent or drug-related crimes — a disproportionate police presence in these areas lead to more arrests — “crimes of poverty,” such as burglary, are often committed

by those who lack adequate access to necessities.

In a previous interview with the Recorder, activist Aahron Whitehead said investing in communities is the best way to prevent crime.

“A lot of times, if people need money or food, they’re gonna steal,” Whitehead said. “And that can lead to violence. When you’re constantly going without, you feel like there’s no way out, and that’s why we have more [homicides].”

To help those getting out of prison adjust to life outside the system, Duffy’s office helps them find housing and secure food on a regular basis. While it’s important to help them get a fresh start, she said it’s also important to make sure people have what they need to prevent crime in the first place.

“We need to make sure people have what they need to thrive, that way they know it isn’t necessary for them to go down the path of crime,” Duffy said. “A lot of people [dealing with insecurity] say ‘I don’t want to live like this anymore,’ and sometimes, crime is seen as the easier way to fix a situation. Having resources in place helps create a more sustainable path.”

Jessica Louise of Indy10 Black Lives Matter said a good place to start in addressing poverty would be to establish a guaranteed basic income and fund mental health care. She said we should only add funding to IMPD’s budget when we have “exhausted all other options to help and heal” Indianapolis.

“Pour resources into our community,” Louise said, “not our cops.”

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

AWARDS

► Continued from A1

Editorial writing (All publications and digital media)
Oseye Boyd
A word about white privilege
1st place

Editorial writing (All publications and digital media)
Oseye Boyd
The integration myth
2nd place

Sports Photography (Publication circulation below 30,000)
David Dixon
‘Cats sectional win
3rd place

Newspaper Page One Design (All newspapers)
Jeana Ouattara
Front page design
1st place

Design Other Than Cover (All print media)
Jeana Ouattara
What you need to know: Coronavirus
3rd place

Graphics and Illustrations (Publication circulation below 30,000)
John Hurst
Bryant left deep legacy in LA sports, basketball world
1st place

Best Online Multimedia Staff
COVID-19: virtual town hall
3rd place

Documentary or Special (Indianapolis market)
WFYI & The Indianapolis Recorder Staff
Where Do We Go From Here? A Community Conversation
2nd place
WFYI & The Indianapolis Recorder

Coverage of Minority, Diversity and Inclusion Issues (Circulation 30,000+, news services, digital)
Hilary Powell
Pandemic’s Impact on the Indianapolis Community
1st place
WFYI & The Indianapolis Recorder

Coverage of Minority, Diversity and Inclusion Issues (Circulation 30,000+, news services, digital)
Hilary Powell
Investigating Health Equity in Indiana
3rd place
WFYI & The Indianapolis Recorder



PROGRAMS

► Continued from A1

an extension to the normal 26-week period insurance lasts.

Fernandez, 43, said typical unemployment insurance wouldn’t have covered bills, groceries and rent, which is \$540 at the apartment where she lives with her husband.

Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb opted out of federal pandemic unemployment assistance programs, which will end June 19. Two organizations, including Indiana Legal Services, filed a joint lawsuit to stop the move.

Along with the extra \$300 and extended window for benefits, federal programs provide insurance to people who normally don’t qualify (the self-employed, for example).

Holcomb’s reasoning was straightforward: He wants more people working.

“There are help wanted signs posted all over Indiana, and while our economy took a hit last year, it is roaring like an Indy 500 race car engine now,” he said in a statement announcing the changes. “I am hearing from multiple sector employers that they want and need to hire more Hoosiers to grow.”

Jessica Fraser, director of the Indiana Institute for Working Families, doesn’t buy it.

The state’s preliminary unemployment rate was 3.9% in April, the most recent month data was available. That number dropped or held steady throughout the prior 12 months. The labor force participation rate — the percentage of the population that is either working or looking for work — has increased slightly over the last year, from 61.2% to 63.1%.

Those statistics and other research make Fraser believe

most of the people receiving unemployment benefits right now are in a medically high-risk group (or take care of someone who is), or there are other barriers such as child care and jobs that don’t offer good enough wages.

One explanation Fraser won’t entertain is that people don’t work because they’re just lazy.

“It’s really discouraging,” she said of the trope often leveled against people who are unemployed. “I think it’s dehumanizing to people who work hard for very low wages.”

The Century Foundation, a progressive think tank, estimates canceling federal unemployment benefits will affect about 286,000 people and cost a little more than \$1 billion in funds that could otherwise circulate in Indiana’s economy.

Louis Vurgess, who attended a recent rally with the Indiana Poor People’s Campaign, said the governor’s decision to end federal unemployment help adds one more thing to the list of reasons people have to “continue to fight and make sure everyone lives.”

Vurgess, 75, has a long history of advocating for workers and the poor. He helped Rev. William Barber II bring Moral Mondays to Indiana in 2014 to bring attention to issues such as voting rights and cuts to social programs.

People will be forced back into low-wage jobs, Vurgess said, which means some will have to decide between paying for rent, medication, groceries and other needs.

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

SPOTLIGHT

‘Dear Black Girl: Letters from Your Sisters on Stepping Into Your Power’

By TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

There’s some mail for you.

And it’s not the e-variety, either; it was brought by a human, carried down the street and left at your home. It’s in an envelope with a stamp, and the good news is that it isn’t a bill. It’s a letter for you, and in “Dear Black Girl” by Tamara Winfrey Harris, it could be important.

Well over a year ago, in anticipation of a workshop she was giving for a group of Black girls, Tamara Winfrey Harris asked a small group of Black women to write letters of support and positivity to give the girls. She wanted the letters to be “loving, truthful ... feminist, anti-racist ... and pro-Black girl.” She figured she’d receive 12 letters to hand out.

She got “more than fifty from all over the world.”

There’s a history behind the need Harris sees for these letters. For 400 years, she says, Black girls have been laboring under myths that belie their vulnerability; that make them more “grown” than they are, physically and emotionally; and that steal the opportunities they have to love their bodies, their hair and themselves. The lies ignore Black girls’ hopes and wishes and “lies can start to feel like facts.”

But: “Dear Black Girl ...”

Sometimes, it’s hard to remember that you are a star,” says one letter-writer. Another reminds girls that melanin is “an asset!” Others write acknowledging the issues of being a Black girl in a white family or foster situation.

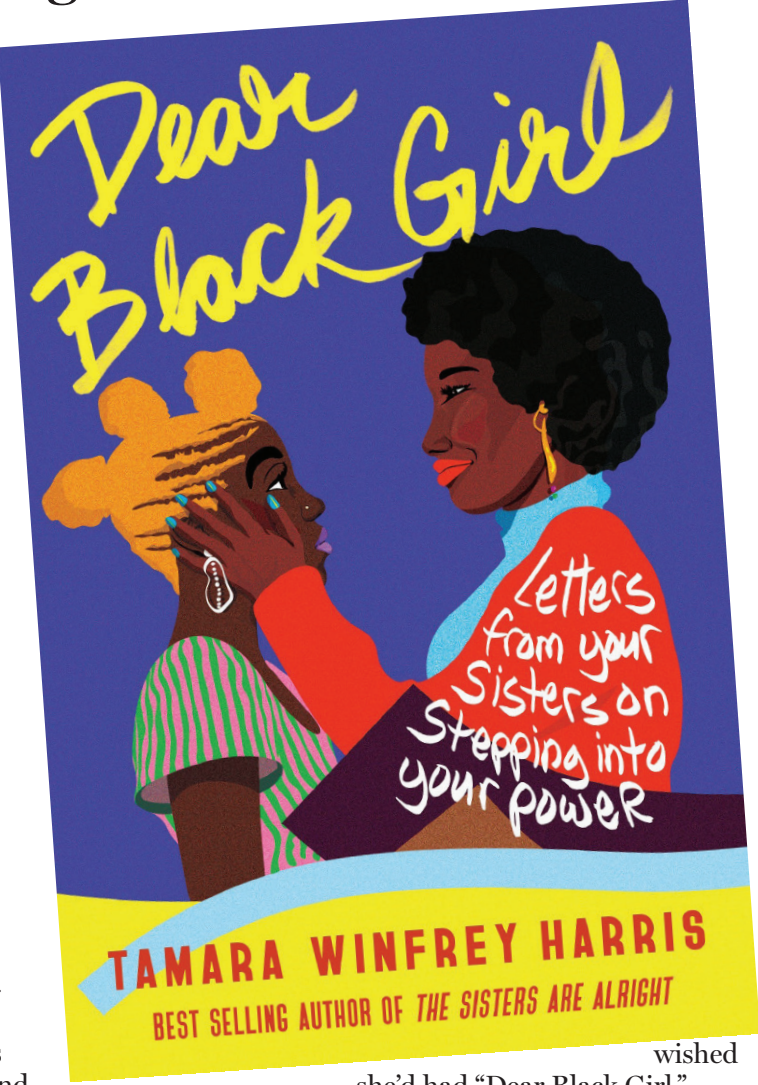
“... love your body beyond how appealing it is to others,” says one writer.

Remember “there is no single definition of family.” Love your mother but know that “daughtering ain’t easy,” either. You will attract close friends when you “learn to love, honor and value yourself...”

Know there’s “no shame” in working to pay the bills but life is better if a job is “a thing you really love and that suits you.” There’s also no shame in making your own path, in asking for help or in surviving.

“You are hope and promise for tomorrow in Black girl skin.”

Don’t you wish there was a book like this around when you were a teenager? Nobody’d blame you if you did; even grandma probably



wished she’d had “Dear Black Girl.”

Bottom line: It’s time for a book like this that doesn’t feel high-horsey or superior or preachy. No, author Tamara Winfrey Harris pulled together letters that are relevant and everyday, and that don’t make harsh demands on its readers. Instead, there’s empathy in here, a been-there-done-that tone, and a sense that a girl is about to be taken under someone’s wing for a while. Letters are loosely categorized, they’re accompanied by drop-in “Know This” pages of explanation, and there’s room for a girl to write a letter to herself to sort her feelings now or note taking for later.

Beware that some of the letter-writers dive deep into raw subjects, making this book best for ages 13-and-up. Give “Dear Black Girl” to your favorite teen, and envelope her in all its love.

“Dear Black Girl”
185 pages
\$16.95 / \$22.95
Canada Barrett-Koehler Publishers Inc.

c.2021

EDITORIAL

Netflix’s ‘High on the Hog’ celebrates Black food and culture

By OSEYE BOYD



I love food and consider myself a foodie. I’ve always enjoyed cooking and baking.

For me, food has always been about love. Not so much the love of food, that definitely plays a role, but the love of family and friends. I come from families that get together for holidays and just because and barbecue, fry fish or whip up a pot of spaghetti or chili to show how much we love each other. Food is our love language.

I grew up with family members who couldn’t just cook but could throw down in the kitchen. My maternal grandma’s cooking is legendary in my hometown. Many of my cousins are following suit and creating a name for themselves as well. So, I know good food.

What I don’t know, or at least I didn’t until recently, is just how connected our food is to Africa. I watched the four-part Netflix documentary “High on the Hog: How African Cuisine Transformed America” recently. The first episode starts in Benin. Okra and yams are all-important staples in this country, and I came away with a new appreciation for two foods I’ve never liked much. I can eat okra in a stew or soup, but I don’t eat it by itself. I don’t like sweet potatoes — at all. However, yams aren’t sweet potatoes! Sweet potatoes are often called yams, and since I don’t eat

them I never investigated the difference. I’m now thinking of giving yams a try and eating okra by itself. I also learned more about the food culture in Benin, the West African country from which many were stolen. If you’re of a certain age, images of starving children with distended bellies come to mind when you think of Africa and food. The scarcity of food is often the image of food from African cultures, not the beauty, flavor and ingenuity. It was beautiful to see food from this African country given the same treatment as food from any other travel show.

Much like the Transatlantic Slave Trade made its way to what would become America’s shores, the second episode travels to the Carolinas where we learn rice was a wealth-building crop well before cotton. In fact, South Carolina was the largest producer of rice — Carolina Gold — and it was the enslaved Africans and African Americans who labored in the rice fields. According to the documentary, once slaves were emancipated rice production declined by 80% in the lowcountry.

I don’t want to give it all away because I want you to watch the documentary, but episode three highlights renowned enslaved chefs, Hercules and James Hemings (Sally’s brother), who cooked for presidents George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. We learn how these chefs cultivated fine dining in America as well as an American staple of comfort food: macaroni and cheese. We travel west to Texas for the fourth episode, which features barbecue, cowboys and cow-

boy stew and Juneteenth.

My daddy always says you can tell when someone cooks with love. This documentary was made with love, and I felt it from start to finish. The way it intertwined our food with our history left me with a sense of pride. When my grandmother used to cook dandelion greens, chitlins and pig’s feet, etc., I used to tease her about us being free and no longer needing to eat slave food. That was nonsense on my part. I understood the ingenuity, but I didn’t appreciate the love that went into these dishes.

I’ve also decided to denounce any negative connotation related to soul food. For years, soul food has been blamed for our health disparities. The documentary noted how the cuisine of Black Americans is called soul food — it’s literally named for something you can’t see but can feel just like love. I also began to think about how everyone all over the world eats fried foods, but it’s only considered a negative in this country. Now, maybe we don’t need to fry everything. Frying butter, Kool-Aid and Pepsi is a bit much, but I’ll take my Snicker’s at the state fair, please! And we should participate in physical activity as well, but I’m done with the idea that soul food is bad for me.

Soul food doesn’t get the props it deserves. “High on the Hog” proves our food is just as important as we are to this country and should be a source of pride.

OPINIONS

Juneteenth will become a national holiday

By LARRY SMITH



Last week I wrote about the irrationality of the ever-expanding opposition to critical race theory (CRT). This week, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed a resolution to make Juneteenth a federal holiday. The House will soon pass the bill and President Joe Biden will sign it into law.

While I wholeheartedly support this legislative gesture, which is more than a century past due, I find it ironic for this bill to have passed so easily in Congress’ upper chamber. Virtually all Republicans oppose CRT, which is an academic discipline whose process concludes that race-based chattel slavery is at the very core of the American story. I am skeptical about Republicans’ motivation for supporting the resolution. However, I am genuinely surprised that the more dominant reaction that I feel is relief that it passed. Truly bipartisan bills are very rare these days; bipartisan bills regarding racial progress are nearly nonexistent.

For those who may not be aware

(which would be both very sad and completely unsurprising), Juneteenth commemorates the fact that enslaved African Americans in Texas were unaware that President Abraham Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which took effect Jan. 1, 1863. This presidential action declared that enslaved people who lived in the Confederacy were now free. (Unless, of course, they lived in the parts of the Confederacy that were under control of the Union. Or they lived in the Union itself. In both of those instances, they were still legally enslaved.)

In any case, on June 19, 1865, Union Major-General Gordon Granger read General Orders No. 3 in Galveston, Texas:

“The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor. The freedmen are advised to remain quietly at their present homes and work for wages. They are

informed that they will not be allowed to collect at military posts and that they will not be supported in idleness either there or elsewhere.”

A year later, the newly freed African Americans decided to commemorate the occasion by implementing what was initially known as Jubilee Day — a title that had overtly biblical underpinnings. Now known as Juneteenth, the celebration has often been referred to as “America’s second Independence Day.” In my opinion, that is an appropriate appellation. Appropriately, in 1980 Texas became the first state to recognize Juneteenth as a holiday. (Incidentally, the name is a portmanteau of June and nineteenth.)

This coming Saturday, 155 years after that first celebration, many African Americans (and others) will celebrate Juneteenth. Some businesses and nonprofits even close in honor of the day. Over the years, Juneteenth has frequently been more than a commemoration and celebration. For example, people have used the occasion to register voters or to advocate for racial equity. This year has particular resonance as we recently marked the 100th anniversary of the Tulsa Race

Massacre.

Today, I believe that we should focus on five areas: voting rights, economic mobility, anti-violence, education and racial equity. (Obviously, there is substantial overlap among these categories.) What if we used this annual occasion to redouble our efforts in these areas? What if we created spaces for the elders who we honor in parades to sit and talk with teenagers who are experiencing isolation and trauma? What if we started “giving circles” that created scholarships for low-income youth to attend college? In the words of retired DJ and social activist Tom Joyner, “Let’s party with a purpose.”

It is nearly impossible for me to imagine the incongruent mix of hope, optimism, joy and fear that must have engulfed the freedmen (and freedwomen) as they literally and figuratively walked out of physical bondage. We owe them a debt of honor not only to celebrate their will to survive, but also to reify that which they must have despaired of even dreaming.

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

Pride Month means Black pride too

By JULIANNE MALVEAUX



(TriceEdneyWire.com) — June is Pride Month, commemorating the violent police raid on the Stonewall Inn on June 28, 1969, when LG-BTQ activists fought abusive police officers who beat gay men, lesbians and those who cross-dressed. So-called law enforcement also participated in blackmail and extortion against those who were closeted.

It took 50 years, until June 2019, for the New York City police commissioner to apologize for the raid. While the LGBTQIA community has increased visibility and acceptance, there is also the putrid and hateful resistance to the very existence of this community.

In a tiny Texas town, a bakery that offered Rain-

bow cookies in honor of Pride Month faced a detestable backlash when a patron who ordered five dozen cookies, a sizeable order for a small family-run bakery, canceled their order (having not paid for it) because they felt that a Facebook recognition of Pride Month was “gay propaganda.”

In Jacksonville, Florida, a planned bridge lighting in honor of Pride Month was threatened, some say over intergovernmental jurisdictional issues, while others say it was simple homophobia. In a Washington, D.C., suburb, a teacher says he violates his religion to refer to young people by their preferred pronouns. He was fired, and he sues saying that it violates his faith for him to be courteous and compassionate to others. The court agrees with him, and he is headed back to the classroom, intolerant as ever.

These are incidents that have bubbled into the national consciousness, but there are others that go unreported. The bottom line is that hate — racism, homophobia and more — thrives in our nation, and few are prepared to stop it.

Police violence is at the root of Pride Month, just as it is at the foundation of the Black Lives Matter movement. The Movement for Black Lives has been firmly and fiercely supportive of LGBTQIA rights, especially sensitive to the rights of trans people, focusing on the trans women who are exponentially more likely to be murdered than others. But with police violence as the common root of two vital movements, why is there so little visible collaboration between those communities). Gay pride is Black pride, too. Let’s call the roll of Black LGBTQIA leaders and thinkers — Bayard Rustin, Pauli Murray, Audre Lorde, James Baldwin and so many others. And let’s look at hate and hate crimes from an intersectional perspective and solutions from that same place.

Pride Month has to be about Black pride, too, about embracing all LGBTQIA identities. After all, as we experience major demographic shifts, the population and the electorate are increasingly diverse. We need to see the intersectional in our commemorations, celebration and more. And we need to be vocal about our opposition to hate and hateful behavior no matter how it is directed. For example, in an ideal world, the NAACP would have bought some Juneteenth cookies (and maybe they still will) from the Confections bakery in Lufkin, Texas.

Our task is not to respond to each hateful incident but to build a movement that rejects hate. And our mission is to do it “at a time such as this” when the haters empower many who are fearful of inevitable change. Now is a time for a mass movement against racism, homophobia, sexism and hate. It begins when we know our histories and share them.

The carte blanche that so-called “officers of the law” have to terrorize communities they don’t like is especially contemptuous. The same way they bullied gay folks in the 1950s and ‘60s is the same way they terrorize Black communities today. Building on Stonewall’s history, the LGBTQIA communities should be some of the most vital voices supporting the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act.

Dr. Dorothy Irene Height was fond of speaking of collective strength. She would say, “If I tap you with my finger, you may never feel it, but if my fingers turn into a fist and I tap you then, you’ll feel it.” If Black folks and LGBTQIA folks join with others, perhaps we can stop the hate. The folks who patronized Celebrations Bakery in the face of hate put a firewall between ugly and love. They are the fist Dr. Height referenced. Are we part of the fist?

Dr. Julianne Malveaux is a D.C.-based economist and author. julianne@malveaux.com.

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NALOXONE

► Continued from A1

to experts.

Natasha Cheatham of the Minority Recovery Collective Inc. said many people who drink lean don't realize it's directly correlated with opioids. However, the chemical compounds of codeine and heroin are shockingly similar, and overdoses on codeine continue to rise. From 2004 to 2011, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found the number of hospital visits for codeine-related illness spiked 286%.

With the number of opioid users rising, Fears said it's important to have naloxone on hand because you never know who might need it.

"Persons that are using and may overdose are not wearing badges indicating that," Fears said. "We're all a part of our community, and I want everyone to be prepared for anything that's going to happen. The woman singing next to you in church or the man at the gas station might need it, and you could save their life."

ANNA

► Continued from A1

1922, at the age of 14, she was part of the family migration from Sparta to Indianapolis. She spent the rest of her teenage years growing up on the west-side of Indianapolis in the area that has since been redeveloped by IUPUI.

She married James Garrett in 1930. The couple traveled extensively. "Getting away" would remain a hobby the couple shared until the death James' death in 1993.

Anna joined Mount Paran Baptist church as a member in 1958 and was a faithful attendee up until her health

If you see someone overdosing, Fears said to call 911 first, and then administer the naloxone. Common symptoms of an opioid overdose include unconsciousness, slow or shallow breathing, faint heartbeat and an inability to speak.

Fears said another reason why it's so important to have naloxone on hand is because many Black and brown Americans have negative experiences with first responders. If naloxone is already administered and someone is there to speak to paramedics when they arrive, she said there is likely to be a better outcome.

"We need to be sure we're caring for our communities," Fear said. "We need to have [naloxone] on us in order to do that, to help as many people as we can."

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

prevented her from attending in person.

Anna is survived by daughters, Joyce Irvin and Saundra Tucker; grandchildren, Lynn Irvin, Paul Irvin (Matt Egbert), James Irvin (Troy Dunham), Kevin Bacon (Kristen Brayson) and Kimberly Bacon; great-grandchildren, Arturo Gonzales, Aisha Gonzales, Cassidy Bacon and Kiah Bacon; great-great grandson, Aidan Gonzales; and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.



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Advertorial

Perseverance Pays Off

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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Indianapolis organizations work toward HIV-free future

By **MADISON SMALSTIG**
msmalstig@indyrecorder.com

In 2019, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) started an initiative to end the HIV epidemic by 2030. Dr. Virginia Caine, Marion County Public Health Department director, said she believes this is an achievable goal based on the HIV testing, education and medication available in Indianapolis.

As a part of the 2030 initiative, the CDC identified 57 U.S. locations where more than 50% of new HIV diagnoses occurred in 2016 and 2017. Marion County was identified as one.

Caine said Marion County has about 5,000 cases of HIV/AIDS. Of those Indianapolis residents diagnosed with HIV/AIDS, about 2,500 are Black, about 1,650 are white, 500 are Hispanic and 150 are Asian or Pacific Islanders.

According to the CDC website, the organization identified these 57 areas so it could help the places with the highest case numbers before moving on to other areas of the U.S. Alan Witchey, Damien Center president and CEO, said the CDC effort involves a coalition of local organizations, such as the Damien Center, Marion County Public Health Department and local hospitals, working together to address the HIV epidemic using different methods.

In 2020, the CDC awarded about \$109 million to these communities to support the development and implementation of HIV programs. The Marion County Public Health Department received about \$500,000 from the CDC, which they redistributed to local organizations to assist with HIV education, testing and medication. Black Nurses Association, Indiana Youth Group, Minority Health Coalition of Marion County and Shalom Health Care Center are some of the organizations that received funding.

HealthNet, a nonprofit that provides medical services to underserved communities, received a \$100,000 grant from the Indiana State Department of



Getty Images

Health in 2020 to fund HIV testing and community outreach. The organization started conducting HIV rapid testing in February, HealthNet program manager Kendrick Washington said. The nonprofit has also reached out to minority populations, such as transgender communities, to provide HIV education.

Washington said education is key to ending the HIV epidemic, especially because comprehensive sex education is not provided in Indiana schools. He said the education provided by HealthNet is centered around learning why the virus is stigmatized and what people can do to either protect themselves or others from HIV.

The Damien Center, an Indiana AIDS service center, has been providing testing, medication, education and support to those with HIV for about 35 years. A new service provided by the center that started earlier this year

is harm reduction education, Witchey said. In harm reduction, center employees work directly with people who are using drugs to try to get them to reduce the amount of the drugs they are using and teach them safe drug-using practices, such as using clean needles.

Witchey said this type of education has been proven to reduce crime in neighborhoods and reduce the amount of sexually transmitted diseases, HIV and Hepatitis C.

Ashley Jackson, Damien Center HIV/STD testing team lead, said the organization opened a satellite location in February inside Center at Community Alliance of the Far East-side (CAFE) in an effort to reach more populations around the city. Now, the site is conducting limited testing and should be fully open by the fall.

Jackson said HIV testing is important because it can help prevent

spread and give people peace of mind to know their status. Once people know if they are positive or negative, then they can decide what next steps to take to either prevent themselves from passing it on to someone else or to prevent someone from passing it on to them.

Those who test negative for HIV can take pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) medication, which reduces the chance of getting HIV through sex by about 99%, according to the CDC. Isaiah Moore, 22, has been taking PrEP for about one year. He said it gives him peace of mind.

Moore took his first HIV test about four years ago through the Damien Center and has taken a test about two or three times a year since. Moore said he was anxious before he went in for his first test, but now he is not afraid because, due to medications and services offered, people who test positive for HIV can live with minimal symptoms.

“Luckily, we live in a time that we can live and survive with HIV with medication,” Moore said.

Many local organizations, including the health department and HealthNet, will participate in National HIV Testing Day on June 27, in which groups raise awareness on HIV testing.

Caine said, for years, resources relating to HIV, such as medication and education, were predominantly given to white patients. This unequal distribution is why the majority of those who test positive for HIV in Marion County are Black people, she said.

Today, organizations like the health department are focusing on providing HIV resources to minority communities, Caine said. Addressing these communities, which is where the majority of cases are, is what will most help the U.S. work toward reducing new HIV infections by 90% by 2030, she said.

Contact staff writer Madison Smalstig at 317-924-5143. Follow her on Twitter @madi_smals.

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Health Department Campaign Seeks to Increase COVID-19 Vaccinations

The Marion County Public Health Department launched a digital ad campaign focused on encouraging residents ages 18-39 to get their COVID-19 vaccine and get back to their favorite activities.

This age group has consistently made up more than 40% of new COVID-19 cases in Marion County over recent weeks and continues to have a lower vaccination rate than older age groups.

“We want our young adults to be able to safely get back to the things they love,” said Virginia Caine, M.D., director and chief medical officer of the Marion County Public Health Department. “It is incredibly important to encourage vaccinations among this population as we are still seeing disproportionate rates of new COVID-19 cases in this age group.”

The campaign features ads running on social media and through Google, as well as on several digital billboards in the city.

Additionally, the health department has worked with community partners over recent weeks to be able to provide incentives for vaccination. Residents who

got vaccinated at a recent pop-up clinic were entered to win a \$250 Simon Mall gift card.

Additional incentives, including tickets to The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, a gift package from the Indianapolis Zoo, and four tickets to an Indianapolis Colts game complete with a signed Peyton Manning jersey, will be announced over the coming weeks.

Receiving a COVID-19 vaccine greatly reduces the risk of serious illness due to the virus. Those with unanswered questions or concerns about the vaccine can call the Health Department vaccine hotline at 317-221-2100 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

It is important to not skip the second dose if receiving the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines – vaccine-induced protection is much stronger and longer-lasting after the second dose. Feeling some side effects after receiving the vaccine is normal, which can include a fever, chills, tiredness, headache, or aching at the injection site.

These side effects are signs that your body is building protection and typically go away in 24-48 hours.

Mosquito Control's Tire Recycle Day is June 26

One of the easiest ways to control the mosquito population is to limit areas of standing water where mosquitos breed. Unused tires, when left outside, can collect water and become an ideal place for mosquitos to lay eggs.

The Marion County Public Health Department's Mosquito Control program encourages residents to get rid of tires for free during Tire Recycle Day on Saturday, June 26 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Marion County residents can bring up to six car tires, off the rim, from passenger vehicles only. This event is for individuals and not for use by tire retailers or auto salvage yards. All tires collected will be recycled.

Drop-off locations on June 26 are:

Marion County Public Health Department Mosquito Control

4001 E. 21st Street

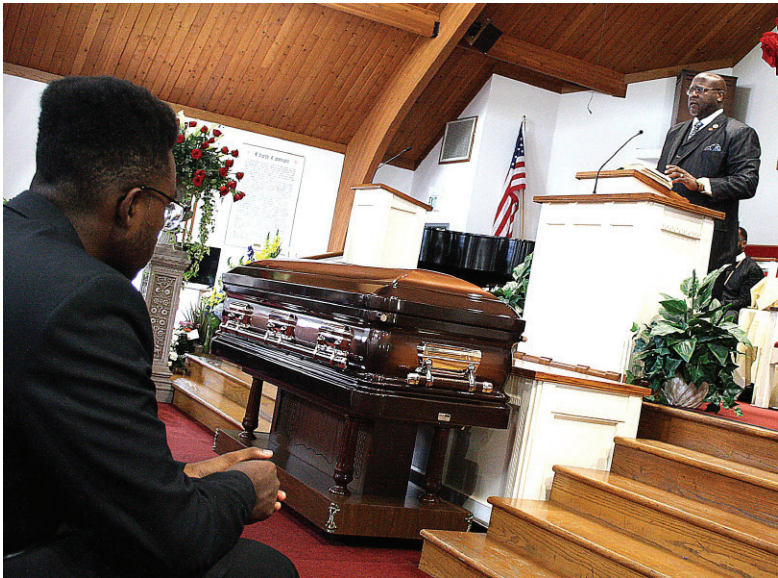
SECO - Southeast Community Organization
1925 Fletcher Ave.

Everyone is encouraged to walk around their yard or property to look for areas of standing water. Dumping water from containers of any size and flushing out bird baths frequently help control mosquitos. Also important is checking for clogged gutters, small recreational pools, and poorly operating septic systems.

Celebration of Life for Rev. Dr. Fitzhugh Lee Lyons Sr.



Rev. Lyons' sisters, Phyllis Davis and Bonnie Clark, share memories of their brother. (Photos/Curtis Guynn)



Fitzhugh Lyons Jr. speaks during his father's Celebration of Life service while his son listens.



Pallbearers carry the casket of Rev. Fitzhugh Lyons Sr. to the funeral procession.

Dedication of Holy Angels Catholic Church



Mass for the dedication of Holy Angels Catholic Church was held recently at the site of the original location at 28th and Martin Luther King Jr. streets. Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson, D.D. Archbishop of Indianapolis, was the main celebrant for the Mass. Some of the ceremonies included the anointing of the altar and walls of the church and inauguration of the tabernacle. (Photos/Curtis Guynn)

Racial tensions simmer as Southern Baptists hold key meeting

BY DAVID CRARY, TRAVIS LOLLER and PETER SMITH
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Race-related tensions within the Southern Baptist Convention are high heading into a national meeting next week. The election of a new SBC president and debate over the concept of systemic racism may prove pivotal for some Black pastors as they decide whether to stay in the denomination or leave.

It could be a watershed moment for America's largest Protestant denomination. The SBC was founded before the Civil War as a defender of slavery, and only in 1995 did it formally apologize for that legacy — yet since 2000 its Black membership has been increasing while white membership declines.

Over the past year, however, several Black pastors have exited the SBC in frustration over what they see as racial insensitivity within its overwhelmingly white leadership.

Depending on the outcome at the meeting in Nashville, the exodus could swell — or subside. Many Black pastors are comfortable with the SBC's conservative theology and grateful for financial support, but do not want it to wade into conservative national politics or distance itself from the quest for racial justice.

The Rev. Nate Bishop of Forest Baptist Church near Louisville, Kentucky, said some members of his Black congregation want to leave the SBC while others want to stay, and he intends to assess the "tenor and tone" of deliberations in Nashville to guide his decisions.

"There's a bigger question going on — will there even be an SBC in the next five, 10, 15 years?" Bishop said.

One of the SBC's most prominent



Getty Images

Black pastors, Dwight McKissic of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Arlington, Texas, said his church will quit the SBC if either of two leading conservative candidates wins the presidency: Albert Mohler, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, or Mike Stone, a pastor from Blackshear, Georgia, whose core supporters view Mohler as insufficiently conservative.

Both "have made statements that Black Baptists would find anathema, regarding racial matters and politics," McKissic said via email. "I could not proudly call myself a Southern Baptist if either of them wins."

A crucial dividing line in the presidential election and for the SBC overall is the issue of critical race theory, a term used to describe critiques of systemic racism.

Last year Mohler and the five other SBC seminary presidents, all of them white, declared that critical race theory is "incompatible with" the SBC's Scripture-based theology.

A resolution endorsed by Stone and

many of his key allies, to be proposed at the meeting, denounces critical race theory as "rooted in Neo-Marxist and postmodern worldviews." Stone's allies also will seek to rescind a 2019 resolution suggesting that critical race theory could be useful as an analytical tool.

McKissic said approval of any such measures might be another trigger for his exit.

Relatively few of the SBC's remaining Black pastors have echoed McKissic's explicit threats to leave.

Luter, as part of a recent video series titled "Why I Stay," said the sometimes-hostile environment within the SBC made it all the more important for Black pastors to stay and seek improvements. The Rev. Marshal Ausberry, who heads the SBC's association of Black churches, has urged respectful dialogue to resolve race-related differences.

Charles Jones, pastor of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Clute, Texas, has chosen to keep his small Black congregation in the Southern Baptists' Texas affiliate — the Baptist General

Convention of Texas — in part because of the opportunity for his church to support missionary programs.

Other churches have benefited from SBC ties for things like funding to construct a new building or the convention's ministry certification programs.

Jones considers the debate over critical race theory a distraction that lets people avoid serious discussions of social inequalities.

"They don't want to talk about schools, about why ghettos are ghettos," Jones said. "We debate theory after theory, and nothing gets done."

The debate flared last year just as the SBC was releasing statistics showing that African Americans have been a primary source of growth within the denomination since 2000, even as white membership steadily declined.

As of 2018 the SBC had about 907,000 African American members out of a total membership of 14.8 million, and roughly 3,900 predominantly Black congregations out of about 51,500.

The Rev. Joel Bowman Sr., senior pastor of Temple of Faith Baptist Church in Louisville, said his African American church maintains ties to Southern Baptists at the state and local level, but plans to sever its nominal ties with the national convention.

"The SBC to me is not currently a safe place for African Americans and other people of color," he said. "There are probably a number of churches and pastors who would leave the SBC, but because they're so financially tied to the denomination, they're probably slower to leave."


Smith reported from Pittsburgh and Crary from Carbondale, Colorado.

SPIRITUAL OUTLOOK

'The Forgiving Father'

By MARION J. MILLER

"So, he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'" Luke 15:20b-21



Father's Day is a time to celebrate a gift of God — earthly fathers. God created earthly fathers to be a living and breathing display of who he is: God is a protector, God is a provider and God is a leader. And while some earthly fathers may fail, remember who God is — he is a forgiving God, a loving God, and a merciful God. This God will forgive the lowest and foulest of sinners. This is why God is known as "The Forgiving Father."

Some of you fathers may say, “I’m too mean,” or “I’ve gone too far,” or “I’ve sunk too deep in sin” to be forgiven. That is nothing further from the truth! God will forgive the most terrible sinners. God promises to forgive us of “all” sin. There is nothing that is skimpy about God’s forgiveness. All of



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our forgiveness is contingent upon our obedience to God's will.

Luke's Gospel talks about obedience in this prodigal son story. Here he emphasizes the fact that God does forgive. Not only is this parable called the "prodigal son"; it could also be called the "parable of the forgiving father." The story says that the youngest son had made an unpopular decision! He asked his father for his share of the estate, left home and wasted every cent. This is why this story is so amazing! You see, this earthly father didn't get upset! Why? Remember, he is "a forgiving father"! So, he ran toward his son — with arms wide open!

Isn't it interesting how Jesus used "an earthly father" to depict the readiness — of the "Heavenly Father" — to forgive those who come to him in humble repentance? No matter how far we have strayed from God, we will be forgiven. Jesus is teaching us that no one has sinned — to such a degree that it's impossible to turn back to God in repentance and receive forgiveness.

Jesus used this parable to unveil the heart of God. It was intended to teach us about the infinite grace and tenderness of God, using the father's heart! It also pictures the image of a hunting God that seeks and searches for the least and the lost, the dead among the

living, and those who are a long way off.

So, it really doesn't matter if you were a murderer, a thief, or a drunk — rich or poor; or what you own, where you live or what you drive. Our God is constantly seeking and searching for each and every one of us because he is "The Forgiving Father."

Rev. Marion J. Miller is senior pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church, Jeffersonville. Contact her at 812-283-3747 or wesley1201@sbcglobal.net.

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Food truck promotes community health, generational wealth

By **BREANNA COOPER**
BreannaC@indyrecorder.com

If you find yourself at the green and black food truck outside Cleo's Bodega, there's a good chance you'll see 7-year-old Zanaya Slack peeking over the counter. She and her two older sisters, Zyla and Zion, help their parents run Black Leaf Vegan. Derrick and Taria Slack, who've been vegans for five years, started the food truck when their favorite vegan restaurants closed due to the pandemic.

Most would be wary of opening a business in the middle of a pandemic. But for Derrick, a veteran businessman, overcoming hurdles is just a normal part of entrepreneurship.

"We're African American, so there's always some kind of pandemic or something that hap-

pens, and we didn't feel [the pandemic] was any different," Derrick said. "When our favorite places closed down, we wanted to start making some vegan food and thought other people might want some as well."

The hard work paid off. This year, Black Leaf Vegan will be the first vegan vendor in Indiana State Fair history. Derrick hopes to show potential customers that you can have comfort food that isn't a detriment to your health.

The Slack family adopted a vegan lifestyle following the death of Taria's father. After researching their respective family histories, both Derrick and Taria found hypertension, diabetes and cancer. Both hypertension and diabetes are more common in African American populations,



Zion Slack, 9, cooking made-to-order vegan burgers, tacos and nachos. (Photo/Breanna Cooper)

but not necessarily because of predisposition. Instead, Derrick argues, changing diet habits can reduce one's risk of developing various diseases. The No. 1 goal for Black Leaf Vegan, Derrick said, is to protect the commu-

nity.

"We're a business, so we want to win customers, but we also want the community to be healthy," Derrick said. "That's our primary mission. If our community is healthy, everyone benefits and we have a more vibrant society."

Everything about Black Leaf Vegan is family oriented. All three daughters are listed as owners of the limited liability corporation (LLC), they're involved in meetings about ingredients and new food options — the girls came up with the idea to add nachos to the menu — and the daughters work the truck a few nights a week.

"When we talk about generation wealth, it isn't just about money," Derrick said. "It's about the knowledge we leave behind, the health that we have as norms in our

lives. It's about being emotionally and mentally healthy. That's what I consider generational wealth, and when they grow up, they can pass that on."

Derrick estimates about 50% of customers aren't vegan but said most wouldn't recognize they aren't eating meat. While his favorite menu item is the tacos, the best-seller — and his youngest daughter's favorite — is the bacon ranch burger. Topped with homemade vegan ranch, coleslaw and coconut-based "bacon" that would fool any carnivore, the burger is making customers question everything they thought they knew about vegan food.

Mike Wardlow tried Black Leaf Vegan's tacos at an event April 12. On April 14, he was in line at the food truck waiting on a bacon ranch burger.

Help wanted!

Black Leaf Vegan is looking for staff members to work during the Indiana State Fair. Employees make \$15 an hour. To apply, visit www.blackleafvegan.com.

"I'm not a vegan, but they're about to make me one," Wardlow said. "The food is so good, and I can't tell it's not beef."

Thanks to dedication and word-of-mouth advertising, Black Leaf Vegan is quickly growing. Derrick plans to add another truck later this year, and the girls hope to have a vegan ice cream truck over the summer. Regardless of the changes that may come to Black Leaf, Derrick said the main goal will always be to teach customers — especially those in the African American community — that health starts with what you eat.

"Our long-term goal is to keep introducing foods that are healthier to our community," Derrick said. "What you're ingesting — whether it's the food you eat or the media you consume — creates a balance in your life. The more we are conscious about those things, we as a community are better off physically, spiritually and financially."

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



The Slack family has operated the Black Leaf Vegan food truck for under 100 days. This year, they will be the first vegan vendors to work at the Indiana State Fair. (Photo/Breanna Cooper)

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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) SS: COUNTY OF MARION) CAUSE NO. 49C01-2106-MI-018501 IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF:

Malakhi Willoughby, Petitioner
ORDER SETTING HEARING AND NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Malakhi Willoughby, whose mailing address is 2908 Knickerbocker Pl, Apt 1A, Indianapolis, IN 46240, and if different, my residence address is:, in the Marion County, Indiana, hereby gives notice that Malakhi Willoughby has filed a petition in the Marion Circuit Court requesting that his name be changed to Malakhi Rashaad. Notice is further given that the hearing will be held on said Petition on September 14, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. This matter will be held remotely and the Court will issue a WebEx invitation for attendance at the hearing.
/s/ Malakhi Willoughby
Petitioner
Date
So Ordered: 6/7/2021
/s/ Susan Boatright
Judicial Officer
5320-922063

06/18/21, 06/25/21, 07/02/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION CIRCUIT COURT) CAUSE NO.: 49C01-2106-PL-019417 SIMPLE QUARTERS LLC Plaintiff, Vs. STATE OF INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

And The unknown husbands, wives, widows, widowers, surviving spouses, heirs, legatees, devisees, grantees, children, descendants, mortgagees, creditors, administrators, executors, trustees, receivers, guardians, successors, assigns, if deceased, of all persons above named, all persons, associations, partnerships, partners, trustees, assigns, representatives, successors, corporations, or claimants, who assert any title to claim upon or interest in the real estate herein described, all women once known by any of the names or designations above stated, whose names may have been changed and the names of all the spouses of persons above named; described and designated as defendants to this action who are married and whose names are unknown to Plaintiffs, Defendants.
NOTICE OF SUIT
The State of Indiana to the defendants above named, and any other person who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named.
The nature of the suit against you is:
Complaint to Quiet Title to the following Real Estate in Marion County, Indiana, to-wit:
TRACT I, PARCELS I & II LOT NOS. 74 AND 75 IN MARS HILL ADDITION IN MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, AS PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 16, PAGES 147-150, INCLUSIVE, IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA. Commonly known as: 3021 S Taft Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46241
AND
TRACT II LOT NO. 73 IN MARS HILL ADDITION IN MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 16, PAGES 147-150, INCLUSIVE, IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA. Commonly known as: 3023 S Taft Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46241
AND
TRACT III LOT NO. 72 IN MARS HILL ADDITION IN MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 16, PAGES 147-150, INCLUSIVE, IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA. Commonly known as: 3025 S Taft Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46241
To the following Defendants whose whereabouts are known: NONE.
To the following Defendants whose whereabouts are not known: STATE OF INDIANA, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE. The unknown husbands, wives, widows, widowers, surviving spouses, heirs, legatees, devisees, grantees, children, descendants, mortgagees, creditors, administrators, executors, trustees, receivers, guardians, successors, assigns, if deceased, of all persons above named, all persons, associations, partnerships, partners, trustees, assigns, representatives, successors, corporations, or claimants, who assert any title to claim upon or interest in the real estate herein described, all women once known by any of the names or designations above stated, whose names may have been changed and the names of all the spouses of persons above named; described and designated as defendants to this action who are married and whose names are unknown to Plaintiffs, Defendants.

Matthew C. Gladwell (30493-49)
Gregory A. Stout (29517-15)
Amanda L. Krenson (28999-61)
David W. Cliffe (36402-15)
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Reisenfeld & Associates LLC
3962 Red Bank Road
Cincinnati, OH 45227
Voice: 513-322-7000
Facsimile: 513-322-7099
ATTEST:
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Clerk of the Marion County Superior Court
5320-922000

06/18/21, 06/25/21, 07/02/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT) SS: PROBATE DIVISION) CAUSE NO. 49D08-2106-EU-004445 IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF LINDA KAY BROOKS PARKER, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that Debra L. Hostetler was, on February 9, 2021, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of LINDA KAY BROOKS PARKER, Deceased, who died on December 8, 2020. All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the clerk of this court within three (3) months from the date of the 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 This February 9, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Clerk, Marion County Superior Court 8
Probate Division
Prepared by:
Travis A. Van Winkle, #24432-49
Law Office of Travis Van Winkle, LLC
P.O. Box 34280
Indianapolis, IN 46234
(317) 643-2080
(855) 237-0960 (Fax)
travis@vanwinklelegal.com
5320-922276

06/18/21, 06/25/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT) SS: PROBATE DIVISION) CAUSE NO. 49D08-2104-EU-014681 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES A. STOCKTON, Deceased.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that LISA K. STOCKTON was, on June 4, 2021, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of JAMES A. STOCKTON, deceased, who died January 2, 2021. All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the

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, on June 4, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
CLERK, MARION COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
Jennifer Norton
Attorney No. 28709-49
Norton Estate Planning & Elder Law Firm, LLC
31750 N. Meridian Street, Ste 300
Indianapolis, IN 46208
(317) 572-8696
5320-921843

06/18/21, 06/25/21, 07/02/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) COUNTY OF MARION) CAUSE NUMBER: 49D06-1903-MF-012733 NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING, Plaintiff, vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, AND PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES, AND CREDITORS OF DEBORAH K. DOBBINS (DECEASED), et al.

Defendants.
NOTICE OF SUIT
SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
The State of Indiana to the defendants above named, and any other person who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is a foreclosure of the real estate mortgage, legally described as:
Lots Numbered 719, 720 and 721 in Mars Hill Addition to the City of Indianapolis, in Marion County, Indiana, as per Plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 16, Pages 147 to 150 in the Office of the Recorder of Marion County, Indiana. This property is commonly known as 2827 S Rybolt Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46241.
This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following Defendants whose addresses are known:
Unknown Occupant, if any 2827 S Rybolt Avenue Indianapolis, IN 46241
Americredit Financial Services, Inc.
Serve Alicia A Richeson CP 801 Cherry Street, STE 3600 Fort Worth, TX 76102
And to the following defendant whose addresses are unknown:
Unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, and personal representatives, and creditors of Deborah K. Dobbins (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 against the Plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. You must answer the Complaint in writing, by your attorney, on or before the 1st day of August, 2021 (the same being within thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit), and if you fail to do so a judgment will be entered against you for what the Plaintiff has demanded.
/s/ David Cliffe
Matthew C. Gladwell (30493-49)
Gregory A. Stout (29517-15)
Amanda L. Krenson (28999-61)
David W. Cliffe (36402-15)
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Reisenfeld & Associates LLC
3962 Red Bank Road
Cincinnati, OH 45227
Voice: 513-322-7000
Facsimile: 513-322-7099
ATTEST:
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Clerk of the Marion County Superior Court
5320-922000

06/18/21, 06/25/21, 07/02/21

06/18/21, 06/25/21

ATTORNEY: Randolph Kristel #17738-41 8005 South Meridian Street Indianapolis, IN 46217 (317) 435-3092

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

In the Marion Superior Court, Courtroom Number Eight
In the matter of the Estate of CHARLES S. ECKERT, deceased.
Cause Number: 49D08-2105-EU-015748
Notice is hereby given that Terry L. Eckert was, on May 10, 2021, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of CHARLES S. ECKERT, deceased, who died on the 9th day of May, 2020. All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the clerk of this court within three (3) months from the date of the 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 May 10, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Clerk of the Marion Superior Court
Courtroom Number Eight
5320-922066

06/18/21, 06/25/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION COUNTY PROBATE COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION) CAUSE NO.: 49D08-2105-EU-016170 IN RE THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF JUANITA L. MARLATT DECEASED

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that on May 28, 2021, Carol E. Marlatt was appointed personal representative of the Estate of Juanita L. Marlatt, Deceased, who died on the 20th day of February 2021. All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the 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 June 3, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Clerk of the Marion County Probate Court
Georgianna C. Tutwiler, #32181-49
John C. Green, #2728-49
HUME SMITH GEDDES GREEN & SIMMONS LLP
54 Monument Circle, Suite 400
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Telephone: (317) 632-4402
FAX: (317) 632-5595
gquinn@humesmith.com
5320-921845

06/18/21, 06/25/21

Attorney Fay H. Williams #1065-49 249 W. 44th St. Indianapolis, IN 46204-3024

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

In the Marion Superior Court, Probate Division
In the Matter of the Estate of Rosalee Owens Arnett, deceased.
Cause No. 49D08-2105-EU-017045
Notice is hereby given that Annie Mae Arnett was, on the 20th day of May, 2021, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Rosalee Owens Arnett, deceased, who died on the 21st day of February, 2021. All persons who have claims against this Estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the clerk of this court within three months from the date of the 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 May 20, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Clerk of the Marion Superior Court, Probate Division
5320-921959

06/18/21, 06/25/21

LETTER TESTAMENTARY (UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION) Cause No. 49D08-2105-EU-017840

State of Indiana, Marion County, Sct.:
I, MYLA A. ELDRIDGE, Clerk of the Marion County Superior Court, within and for said County of Marion and State of Indiana, do hereby certify that the Last Will and Testament of JOHN L. HESS, deceased, late of said County, has been duly admitted to probate and record in said Court, and DONNA J. HESS, having given bond and duly qualified as personal representative is duly authorized and empowered to take upon herself the administration of said estate according to law, and to carry out the terms of such will.
WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court, at the City of Indianapolis, Indiana, This 26th day of May, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Clerk, Marion County Superior Court
5320-922081

06/18/21, 06/25/21

IN THE MARION COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT 8 PROBATE DIVISION

STATE OF INDIANA IN RE: THE ESTATE OF BILL H. SLONE,

DECEASED. CAUSE NO.: 49D08-2105-EU-018331

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

In the Matter of the Unsupervised Estate of Bill H. Slone, deceased.
Notice is hereby given that on June 1, 2021, Jeff Slone was appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Bill H. Slone, deceased, who died intestate on October 1, 2020. All persons having claims against said estate, whether or not now due, must file a claim in the Office of the Clerk of this Court Within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice or within (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Indianapolis, Indiana June 1, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Clerk, Marion County Superior Court
Attorneys for the Personal Representative:
Lisa M. Dillman
Rachael C. Rode
APPLGATE & DILLMAN ELDREDGE LAW
2344 South Tibbs Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46241
Telephone No.: (317) 492-9569
lisa@aplegate-dillman.com
rachael@aplegate-dillman.com
5320-921955

06/18/21, 06/25/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: PROBATE DIVISION) CAUSE NO. 49D08-2106-EU-018765 IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF REX OWEN STOVALL, DECEASED

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
In the Superior Court of Marion County, Indiana.
In the matter of the Estate of Rex Owen Stovall, Deceased.
Notice is hereby given that on June 3, 2021, Amy Allen was appointed as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Rex Owen Stovall, who died on the 7th day of May, 2021. All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated June 3, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Clerk of the Marion County Superior Court of Marion County, Indiana
This Instrument Prepared By: David M. Henn, 18002-49
H E N N H A W O R T H C U M M I N G S + P A G E
1634 W. Smith Valley Road, Suite B
Greenwood, IN 46142
(317) 885-0041
5320-921842

06/18/21, 06/25/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION) CAUSE NO.: 49D08-2106-EU-019134 IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF THEODORE SCHABEL, DECEASED

P E T I T I O N T O A P P O I N T P E R S O N A L R E P R E S E N T A T I V E A N D F O R I S S U A N C E O F L E T T E R S

Comes now, Nan Schabel, the Petitioner ("Petitioner"), by counsel, and respectfully requests that the Court appoint her as Personal Representative of the Estate of Theodore Schabel, deceased ("Decedent"), and in support thereof, states the following:
1. Theodore Schabel, an adult, died testate on December 28, 2020, while domiciled in Marion County, Indiana.
2. The Petitioner herein, Nan Schabel, is person qualified to serve as Personal Representative of the Estate of Decedent in that she is the Decedent's wife and is otherwise suitable and qualified to serve as fiduciary.
3. The Petitioner's current residence is: 12667 E. 86th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46236.
4. The Petitioner is at least eighteen (18) years old and is not incapacitated by mental or physical health impairment, or infirmity, in any manner which would interfere with the ability to serve as fiduciary.
5. The name, office address, attorney number, telephone number, fax number and email address of the attorney for the Petitioner is as follows: Christopher P. Jeter (#25905-49)
Massillamary Jeter Carson LLP
11650 Lantern Road, Suite 204
Fishers, Indiana 4603
Telephone: (317) 576-8580
Facsimile (317) 203-1012
E-mail: chrisf@micattorneys.com
6. The name, residence address, and relationship to the Decedent of each person entitled to receive devise, bequest, or distribute share of the Decedent's estate per Ind. Code 29-1-2-1 are as follows: A. Nan Schabel, Wife 12667 E. 86th Street Indianapolis, IN 46236
7. That to the Petitioner's best knowledge, the decedent's estate is believed to be solvent and to consist of the following: A. Real Property located at: 12667 E. 86th Street Indianapolis, IN 46236 \$429,929
8. That to the best of Petitioner's knowledge, as of the filing of this Petition, there are no known creditors of the decedent.
9. Petitioner requests that any bond be waived. In the alternative, the Petitioner requests that the smallest bond amount permitted by law be ordered.
10. Should the Court determine that bond is required per Ind. Code 29-0-1 the estimated value of the Estate's personal property is \$250.00.
WHEREFORE, the Petitioner prays the Court for an order appointing Nan Schabel as Personal Representative of the Estate of decedent Theodore Schabel, directing Letters Testamentary be issued upon the taking of an oath, and authorizing said Petitioner to proceed with the unsupervised administration of the decedent's estate. Petitioner further requests that the Court's order find that bond not be required, but if it is so required, that it be established in the minimum amount required by law; and for all other relief which is property in the premises.
"I affirm under penalties of perjury, that the foregoing representations are true."
/s/ Nan Schabel, Petitioner
Respectfully Submitted,
/s/ Christopher P. Jeter, Atty. #25905-49
5320-922065

06/18/21, 06/25/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION) CAUSE NO. 49D08-2106-EU-018765 IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF REX OWEN STOVALL, DECEASED

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

In the Superior Court of Marion County, Indiana.
In the matter of the Estate of Rex Owen Stovall, Deceased.
Notice is hereby given that on June 3, 2021, Amy Allen was appointed as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Rex Owen Stovall, who died on the 7th day of May, 2021. All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated June 3, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Clerk of the Marion County Superior Court of Marion County, Indiana
This Instrument Prepared By: David M. Henn, 18002-49
H E N N H A W O R T H C U M M I N G S + P A G E
1634 W. Smith Valley Road, Suite B
Greenwood, IN 46142
(317) 885-0041
5320-921842

06/18/21, 06/25/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION COUNTY PROBATE COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION) CAUSE NO.: 49D08-2105-EU-016170 IN RE THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF JUANITA L. MARLATT DECEASED

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that on May 28, 2021, Carol E. Marlatt was appointed personal representative of the Estate of Juanita L. Marlatt, Deceased, who died on the 20th day of February 2021. All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the 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 June 3, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Clerk of the Marion County Probate Court
Georgianna C. Tutwiler, #32181-49
John C. Green, #2728-49
HUME SMITH GEDDES GREEN & SIMMONS LLP
54 Monument Circle, Suite 400
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Telephone: (317) 632-4402
FAX: (317) 632-5595
gquinn@humesmith.com
5320-921845

06/18/21, 06/25/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: PROBATE DIVISION) CAUSE NO. 49D08-2106-EU-018897 IN RE: THE ESTATE OF: GUAY LAW, DECEASED

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

In the Superior Court 8 of Marion County, Indiana.
Notice is given that Peng Lawm was, on June 7, 2021, appointed personal representative of Guay Law, deceased, who died on January 7, 2021, and is authorized to administer the estate without court supervision.
All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the clerk of the MARION COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT, Probate Division, within three (3) months from the date of publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months from the date of death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Marion County, Indiana, this June 7, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
CLERK OF MARION COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT 8, PROBATE DIVISION
Shane A. Toland
TOLAND LAW FIRM
7748 Madison Avenue, Suite C
Indianapolis, Indiana 46227
5320-922038

06/18/21, 06/25/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION) CAUSE NO.: 49D08-2106-EU-019335 IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF BONNIE C. STUART, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

In the Superior Court of Marion County, Indiana.
In the matter of the Estate of Bonnie C. Stuart, deceased.
Notice is hereby given that Charlotte M. Stuart was, on the June 8, 2021, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Bonnie C. Stuart, deceased, who died on the 3rd 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 three months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Indianapolis, Indiana, this June 8, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Myla Eldridge
Clerk of the Superior Court of Marion County
Claire E. Lewis, 115 North Girls School Road, Indianapolis, Indiana 46214, (317) 484-8115.
5320-922028

06/18/21, 06/25/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: SUPERIOR COURT 8) COUNTY OF MARION) ESTATE DOCKET: 49D08-2106-EU-019133 IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF DEBRA JEFFERSON, DECEASED

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that on the 7th day of June, 2021, Yolanda Nelson was appointed personal representative of the Estate of Debra Jefferson, deceased, who died on the 12th day of December, 2021. All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the 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 7th day of June, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Clerk, Marion County Superior Court, No. 8, Probate Division
5320-922077

06/18/21, 06/25/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION) CAUSE NO. 49D08-2106-EU-019401 IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF) SARA R. BELL, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

In the Superior Court of Marion County, Indiana.
In the matter of the Estate of SARA R. BELL, deceased.
Notice is hereby given that Jennifer J. Hammond, #35245-29
Attorney for Petitioner

06/18/21, 06/25/21

INDIANA

In the matter of the Estate of Sara R. Bell, deceased.
Notice is hereby given that Madonna L. Bell was on June 8, 2021, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Sara R. Bell, deceased, who died on the 20th day of December, 2020. 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 three months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Indianapolis, Indiana, this June 8, 2021.
Myla Eldridge, Clerk of the Superior Court of Marion County
Claire E. Lewis, 115 North Girls School Road, Indianapolis, Indiana 46214, (317) 484-8115.
5320-922122

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION COUNTY COURT) SS: PROBATE DIVISION) CAUSE NO. 49D08-2106-EU-019503 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: JOAN COWHERD, Decedent, DEBBIE DOREMIL, Petitioner.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that, on the June 9, 2021, date, Debbie Doremil was appointed personal representative of the Estate of Joan Cowherd, deceased, who died on 04/06/2021. All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the 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 Marion County, Indiana, this June 9, 2021, date.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Clerk of the Court of Marion County
5320-922076

06/18/21, 06/25/21, 07/02/21

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT 12) SS: COUNTY OF MARION) CAUSE NO.: 49D12-2103-CT-009575 LAKEISHA DILLARD,) Plaintiff,) V.) THOMAS BURNETT,) Defendant.) SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION - NOTICE OF SUIT

1. Thomas Burnett has been sued in the Court identified above.
2. This notice is being directed to Defendant, Thomas Burnett, whose whereabouts are currently unknown, and any other individuals who may have an interest in the lawsuit captioned Lakeisha Dillard v. Thomas Burnett, Cause No. 49D12-2103-CT-009575, in the Marion County Superior Court Civil Division 12.
3. A Complaint for Damages was filed on March 19, 2021, by Plaintiff, Lakeisha Dillard, against Defendant, Thomas Burnett. Defendant's negligence directly and proximately caused a collision that occurred on April 26, 2019, in Marion County, Indiana, and resulted in the Plaintiff sustaining injuries of a personal and pecuniary nature.
4. Thomas Burnett, you must respond to the Complaint, in writing, within thirty (30) days after the last notice of the action is published. To Wit: Schiller Law Offices, LLC, 210 East Main Street, Carmel, IN 46032. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.
Myla A. Eldridge
Date Clerk of the Marion County Courts
5320-922205

LEGALS ■ CLASSIFIED

manleydeas.com
5320-921407

06/04/21,
06/11/21,
06/18/21

S U M M O N S B Y PUBLICATION

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: CIVIL DIVISION COUNTY OF MARION) CASE NO. 49D14-2102-DC-001244 IN RE: THE MARRIAGE OF: SHOLA MUSIBAU ALLI Petitioner, And ABIMBOLA ISLAMIAH ALLI Respondent.

NOTICE OF SUIT

The State of Indiana to the above-named Defendant, and any other person who may be concerned, You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is: DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE.

This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following named Respondent whose whereabouts is unknown: ABIMBOLA ISLAMIAH ALLI

If you have a claim for relief against the plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, on or before the 18th day of July, 2021, (the same being within thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit), and if you fail to do so a judgement will be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.

/s/ Flora Ajolayo Owolabi, Attorney for Plaintiff 2/23/2021 ATTEST: /s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Marion Superior Court

MARION COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE 200 E. WASHINGTON STREET SUITE W122 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204 PHONE: (317) 327-4740 FAX: (317) 327-3893 5320-921566

06/04/21,
06/11/21,
06/18/21

SUMMONS – SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF INDIANA IN THE COURT OF MARION COUNTY SS: COUNTY OF MARION CAUSE NO. 49D16-2101-DC-000307

Leeann Ramirez Plaintiff(s) -V- Jose Oman Ramirez Rocha Defendant(s)

NOTICE OF SUIT

The State of Indiana to the defendants above named, and any other person who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named.

The nature of the suit against you is: Divorce. This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following named defendant(s) whose addresses are: Unknown

And to the following defendant(s) whose whereabouts are unknown: Jose Oman Ramirez Rocha

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 against the plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, on or before the 18th day of July, 2021, (the same being within thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit), and if you fail to do so a judgment will be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.

Attorney for Plaintiff 1117 N. Oxford St. Indianapolis, IN (317) 556-3874 ATTEST: Clerk of the Marion Court 5320-921521

06/04/21,
06/11/21,
06/18/21

DOCUMENT 001113 - ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS (PUBLIC)

1.1 NOTICE TO BIDDERS

A. Notice is hereby given that sealed Bids for the new construction of will be received at:

1. Athenaeum Foundation, 401 East Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204

B. Bids will be received until: 1. June 22, 2pm - Athenaeum - Wilkie Room

C. Bids received after that time will be returned unopened. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

D. Bids shall be performed under one Unified Contract. D. Bids shall be submitted on forms provided in this Project Manual.

E. This project is funded in part by a grant from the National Park Service's Historic Preservation Fund Program administered by the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. Compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations is required, including: federal and state audit requirements, prohibition on lobbying activities, the Copeland Anti-Kickback Act, the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, the National Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act, the Architectural Barriers Act, and Executive Orders and Department of Labor regulations regarding Equal Employment Opportunity.

1. See "Required Federal Language for Bidding Documents and Contracts" in Section 01100 "Summary" for additional requirements.

F. Bids shall be executed in accordance with Indiana Board of Accounts Form No. 96

(Current Revision) - "Contractor's Bid for Public Works" (available at: <http://www.in.gov/sboa/files/Form96.pdf>), with a financial statement complying with Section III of Form No. 96, Supplemental Bid Form (Document 004113), a

satisfactory Bid Bond, or certified check pursuant to I.C. 36-1-12-4.5, payable to: 1. The Athenaeum Foundation G. Bid Security shall be in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the total price and delivered in a sealed envelope showing the Bidder's name and address. H. Bid shall be delivered in a sealed envelope plainly labeled to indicate the following:

1. Addressed to: a. Athenaeum Foundation b. Athenaeum - Masonry Restoration Project - North Wall

2. The name and return address of the Bidder. I. Should a successful Bidder withdraw the Bid, or fail to execute a satisfactory Contract, the Owner may then declare the Bid deposit forfeited as liquidated damages.

J. Construction shall be in full accordance with Drawings and Specifications. Procurement Documents are obtainable from the printing company listed below for a deposit of \$50/set payable to the Owner, which will be refunded when documents are returned in good condition, within seven (7) days after the bid opening. There is a limit of three (3) sets per Bidder, one (1) set per subbidder and supplier, under the refundable policy. Additional sets may be purchased at non-refundable printing costs. A non-refundable fee will be added for postage when necessary. Electronic media of the Drawings and Specifications in PDF format is available to plan-holders (only) from the same printing company for a non-refundable fee of \$50.

/s/ Flora Ajolayo Owolabi, Attorney for Plaintiff 2/23/2021 ATTEST: /s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Marion Superior Court

MARION COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE 200 E. WASHINGTON STREET SUITE W122 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204 PHONE: (317) 327-4740 FAX: (317) 327-3893 5320-921566

06/04/21,
06/11/21,
06/18/21

Performance Bond and a one hundred percent (100%) Labor and Materials Payment Bond which cover faithful performance of the Contract and the payment of all obligations arising thereunder. Said bonds shall remain in full force and effect for twelve (12) months from the date of acceptance of the Work.

M. The Contract to which the Owner will be a party will contain a provision prohibiting the other party to the Contract, and their subcontractors, from engaging in employment practice that constitutes a discrimination against a person because of the person's race, color, sex, religion, national origin or ancestry. The Contractor shall provide an affidavit with each billing, assuring the Owner that this provision has not been violated.

N. Where trade names, brand names, or manufacturers' names are used in this Project Manual, it is for the purpose of establishing kind and quality and not for the purpose of limiting competition. Bidders may offer items or materials equal in quality and having the same durability and efficiency if the Bidder first receives written approval from the Architect/Engineer prior to the date/time of the Bid opening and complying with requirements indicated in Document 002113, "Instructions To Bidders". The Bidder shall identify such substitutions by name, kind, and type with the Bid.

O. A Pre-Bid meeting and tour is scheduled for: 1. Date: June 14, 2021 2. Time: 2pm 3. Place: Athenaeum - Wilkie Room

5320-921571

06/04/21,
06/11/21,
06/18/21

Calumet Civil Contractors, Inc., an Equal Opportunity Employer, is requesting participation from registered MBE, WBE, VBE and DOBE firms interested in providing bids for the construction of SD-20-043 Lawrence Trades District Drainage for The City of Indianapolis. The bid date is June 24, 2021. The following trades may be included in this work: Concrete, Seeding/Erosion Control, Excavation, Hauling, Construction Engineering, and Maintenance of Traffic. Calumet also requests subcontractors to provide additional MBE/WBE/DBE/DOBE participation concerning supply of materials, engineering, shipping, transportation of goods, fuel, or other items incidental to its work. If a MBE/WBE/VBE/DOBE could not perform all work, please notify us. Email quotes@calumetcivil.com for more information. 5320-922338

06/18/21

Calumet Civil Contractors, Inc., an Equal Opportunity Employer, is requesting participation from registered MBE, WBE, VBE and DOBE firms interested in providing bids for the construction of SD-20-043 Lawrence Trades District Drainage for The City of Indianapolis. The bid date is June 24, 2021. The following trades may be included in this work: Concrete, Seeding/Erosion Control, Excavation, Hauling, Construction Engineering, and Maintenance of Traffic. Calumet also requests subcontractors to provide additional MBE/WBE/DBE/DOBE participation concerning supply of materials, engineering, shipping, transportation of goods, fuel, or other items incidental to its work. If a MBE/WBE/VBE/DOBE could not perform all work, please notify us. Email quotes@calumetcivil.com for more information. 5320-922338

06/18/21

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06/18/21

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Founding president and CEO of Fathers and Families reflects on a legacy

By **TERRENCE LAMBERT**
tlambert@indyrecorder.com

Dr. Wallace McClaughlin’s father was a struggling minister who experienced racism, poverty and a broken health care system in the Jim Crow South. He died of a stroke at 60. McClaughlin was 13 years old. McClaughlin saw his widowed mother toil raising six kids by herself. With his physical father gone, McClaughlin gained a stronger relationship with God, his heavenly father, and began to see the importance of fatherhood. “I didn’t want to continue what I’ve lived,” he said. McClaughlin, who received his doctorate in family studies from Purdue University with a focus on the African American family, asked himself, “What can I do to give back?” Then came Fathers and Families. Founded in 1993 at Wishard Hospital, what started as a father’s resource program turned into a nonprofit organization that gives men — mainly African American — the resources, guidance and support they need to be good parents. The organization provides opportunities for participants to receive their high school equivalency (HSE) diploma, helps people find and maintain employment and created a program focused on parenting

and life skills. While McClaughlin is a pastor at Covenant Community Church, his nonprofit is secular. Participants range from atheists to spiritual and say the organization welcomes everyone without judgment. James Melton, manager of family services at Fathers and Families, said the work McClaughlin has done is vital for families. “Continuing a noble legacy of fatherhood” stood as the original motto for the organization, but participants were not able to connect to it. Men in this program had absent fathers, a history of drug use, or experienced abuse and didn’t want that legacy to continue. “Building noble legacies of fatherhood” now stands as the motto and was created to break generational barriers that came from from having an absent father. Fathers and Families has helped over 20,000 fathers, impacting around 50,000 children. McClaughlin still maintains relationships with people who have gone through the program. During an interview with the Recorder, a participant from nearly 20 years ago called, showing the impactful relationships he’s built throughout his time as president and CEO. He has received a Jefferson Award, Greater Indianapolis NAACP Humanitarian Award, a Hoosier Heritage

lifetime achievement award and other accolades. “Awards in many ways don’t mean a lot to me because I’m more concerned about the reward that God will give to me and say to me,” McClaughlin said. He says his greatest achievement was becoming a father. McClaughlin adopted his son at 54 and is now in the shoes of the men he’s mentored for nearly three decades. McClaughlin is set to retire at the end of the year. He hopes his successor can build relationships with more Black philanthropists to help maintain the program. “I’ve tried to help the men get a piece of the way home,” he said recalling a phrase his aunt told him growing up in Georgia when she walked him part of the way home. “We’re gonna give you the start, we’re gonna give you the HSE, we’re gonna give you a job, but you still have a long way to go. And thanks be to God we’ve never turned anybody away.” After he retires, he plans on writing memoirs to his son, preaching at Covenant Community Church and working in the community.

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

Fathers and Families

To learn more about about programs and services offered at Fathers and Families, call 317-921-5935, or visit fathersandfamilies.org.



Dr. Wallace McClaughlin (Photo provided by Dr. Wallace McClaughlin)

‘Water Scouts’: local documentary to highlight courageous girls

By **KHEPRW**

Should. Could. Would. Did. These four words encompass the spirit of action within Girl Scouts Troop 2715. In the past year, this group has used their curiosity about science, environmental conservation and community service to make waves in northeast Indianapolis so much so that a documentary film is in production highlighting their service. “Water Scouts” documents a grassroots endeavor that puts people of color at the forefront of environmental justice, with a diverse group of little girls as our guides downstream, disembarking to meet local environmental advocates taking unconventional approaches to conservation.

According to water-scouts.org, the film is an “environmental coming-of-age story” that showcases the young girls in Troop 2715’s efforts to team up with diverse local activists in a “mission to educate, protect, and explore their neighborhood’s natural resources” along the White River and its tributaries in and around Indianapolis. Indianapolis native and “Water Scouts” director Anna Zanoni says they are taking a risk with this film. “Fundamentally, [‘Water Scouts’] looks to capture how Hoosiers define, reimagine and protect their idea of ‘home’.” She adds, “These girls are the spirit of Indianapolis — they wholeheartedly care about their neighbors, where they live and are lend-

ing a hand to be the difference they want to see in the world.” Being from the same neighborhood as the girls in Troop 2715, Zanoni was thrilled to highlight their efforts. “If any story needs to be told, it’s this one. These young people did not ask for permission or wait for others to one day fix the problems they see. No, they got to work,” Zanoni said. “Water Scouts” seeks to understand and present the little ways anyone can be a steward of conservation, even little girls, by showing the network of diverse people from volunteers at Mud Creek Conservancy to local history buff Sampson Deon Levings-ton on a mission to conserve the forgotten stories along the waterways and activist Jade

Sollano, an unknown woman of color taking it upon herself and friends to clean up our local parks connected to waterways around the greater Indianapolis area. This band of unsung environmentalists of color will be met by a diverse troop of Girl Scouts, looking to learn from their agency and grit (visit water-scouts.org for more info on cast narrative). “Water Scouts” officially kicked off production on Earth Day 2021. The film is currently running a crowd fundraiser to raise \$10,000 to produce the film, which ends June 22. So far they have raised 6% of their goal through grassroots donations of \$20 or less, which speaks to the personal interest Hoosiers have in making sure their local stories are told. To

help them reach their goal you can make a contribution here. Producer of “Water Scouts” Turner Fair says, “With a community-based documentary like ‘Water Scouts’ is, the traditional model for film funding is not an option. Nothing is being sold here. A story is being told, an important one.” The goal is to raise enough money to be able to cover costs of production. They hope the campaign will also raise awareness and donations for all the individuals and organizations featured in the documentary itself. The film is also made possible by the financial and community support of Indiana Humanities and Kheprw Institute.

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Booing of anti-racism gesture reinforces need to take a knee

By **ROB HARRIS**
AP Global Soccer Writer

BURTON-ON-TRENT, England (AP) — What should be the perfect opening to England’s European Championship campaign — in its home stadium on a scorching summer afternoon — instead carries an element of trepidation about the reception the players will receive from their own fans.

When players took a knee before both Euro 2020 warm-up games, the response from sections of England fans was booing.

The disregard of the reasons for performing the anti-racism gesture has created a disconnect with many soccer fans viewing it as a political act.

Ahead of England’s Group D opener against Croatia at Wembley Stadium there was an intervention, albeit delayed, from Prime Minister Boris Johnson’s office.

“The prime minister wants to see everybody getting behind the team to cheer them on, not boo,” the message said.

The England team appears to be frustrated for continually having to explain why they want to take a knee, as they have done in the Premier League for a year as part of calls to eradicate racial injustice following the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

“Honestly, it’s something



Some soccer fans have taken to booing players who take a knee before games. (Photo/Mitch Rosen)

I didn’t even really want to speak on,” England forward Raheem Sterling said at the team’s St. George’s Park team base. “If you can’t understand the meaning behind it and the cause behind it, then it’s a real disappointment to see that.”

During team meetings,

England players have remained unwavering in their determination to take a knee.

“We believe in that,” said defender Luke Shaw, who is white, “and we won’t stop.”

Last year, center back Tyrone Mings helped the English Football Association create a

code to increase gender and ethnic diversity in coaching and senior leadership positions by setting targets for recruitment.

“Whether that message gets through to the minority or not is something we should not ever give up on,” Mings said. “I will speak about it until the day that I pass away. I am a strong advocate for trying to educate people who might not understand issues they have been subjected to.”

There is no unified public position from the fans jeering their own players, but some have tried to link taking a knee with a political agenda.

Yet the England games — like those against Austria and Romania in Middlesbrough, where players were booed for taking a knee — also see the line “No surrender” inserted by a large section of fans during the national anthem, a dated reference to the conflict endured for generations that saw Britain hit by Irish Republic Army terrorist attacks.

“If you are booing an anti-racist gesture in England then you do stand accused of being racist,” said Piara Powar, executive director of the anti-discrimination group Fare network.

It was also booed by Hungary fans when Ireland players kneeled during a friendly match recently — a move defended by Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán.

“Politics has no place in sports,” Orbán said.

The Scotland team had initially decided not to kneel during games at Euro 2020 but said it would when it goes to Wembley soon for the second group game against England.

“Our stance is that everyone, players, fans, teams, clubs, federations, governing bodies and governments, must do more,” Scotland captain Andy Robertson said.

Kick It Out, the English game’s anti-discrimination group, and the Football Supporters’ Association have called on fans at Wembley to drown out any booing with cheers.

“Fans who turn up to support the England team and make their first act after the referee’s whistle booing their own team’s stance against racism, should be ashamed of themselves,” FSA chief executive Kevin Miles said.

England coach Gareth Southgate has made clear his players won’t “just stick to football” if their platform can be used to achieve change in society.

“It’s their duty to continue to interact with the public on matters such as equality, inclusivity and racial injustice, while using the power of their voices to help put debates on the table, raise awareness and educate,” Southgate wrote in a letter to fans published by The Players’ Tribune.

Indiana All-Stars sweep Kentucky

Jayla Smith is the first Indiana Miss Basketball from Lawrence North. She is committed to Purdue. (Photos/David Dixon)



Indiana Mr. Basketball Caleb Furst helped lead the boys Indiana All-Stars team over Kentucky All-Stars, 86-70. The Indiana girls team also won, 78-76. Furst is committed to Purdue.

Fever lose — again



Seattle Storm star Breanna Stewart streaks down the lane for 2 of her 20 points June 15 at Indiana Farmers Coliseum. The Storm beat the Fever, 87-70. (Photos/David Dixon)



The Fever’s loss to Seattle dropped their record to 1-12. As of June 16, no other team had fewer than four wins.