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With widespread at-home testing, more COVID-19 cases will be missing from official counts

By TYLER FENWICK
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Widespread availability of at-home COVID-19 tests could be one of the more useful tools in an effort to reach the end of the pandemic, but they could also be a complicating factor as health officials try to keep track of how many cases there are at any given time.

That's because it's unlikely an at-home test result — whether positive or negative — will show up in an official count. The state health department

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knows tests are out there, but officials don't include them in their counts because they don't have a way to confirm results.

That doesn't necessarily mean health departments are in the dark.

Dr. Virginia Caine, director of the Marion County Public Health Department, said the

department can use the official case count and positivity rate to make a reasonable assumption about how widespread the virus is locally. People also regularly call the health department after testing positive at home to see what their next steps should be, giving health officials an informal idea of

See AT-HOME, A7►

Long-haul COVID-19 baffles health care professionals

By BREANNA COOPER
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Nearly 20,000 Hoosiers have been diagnosed with COVID-19 since March 2020. If researchers from Penn State College of Medicine are correct, more than half of these people went on to develop long-haul COVID-19, meaning their symptoms lasted for at least a month after diagnosis. For many, these symptoms will eventually fade. For some, however, symptoms including brain fog and an altered sense of taste and smell will last months, even years, after diagnosis.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) isn't sure if African Americans or other minority groups are more

See LONG-HAUL, A6►



GettyImages

Inmate dies in new jail that's supposed to be safer for detainees

By TYLER FENWICK
tylerf@indyrecorder.com

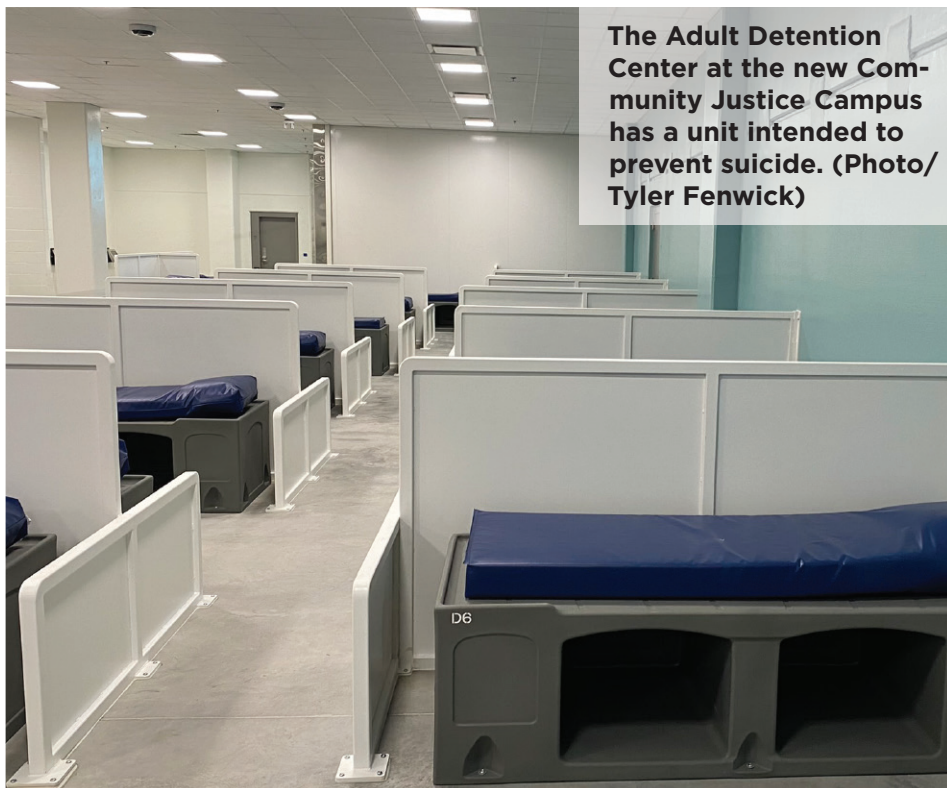
A 45-year-old man died Jan. 17 in the jail at the new Community Justice Campus, according to the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

Staff at the Adult Detention Center found Jonas Mooneyham unresponsive and not breathing at 6:50 a.m., according to the sheriff's office. Staff started CPR, called for medical staff and requested help from Indianapolis Emergency Medical Services, which pronounced Mooneyham dead at 7:07 a.m.

Preliminary information suggests Mooneyham died by suicide, the sheriff's office said.

Mooneyham, who was white, was booked into the facility Jan. 15 on preliminary charges of possession of a narcotic drug, robbery and resisting law enforcement. He also had a warrant in Hendricks County for drug possession felonies.

Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department and the Forensic Services Agency will investigate the death, along with the Marion County Sheriff's Office Internal Affairs Unit.



The Adult Detention Center at the new Community Justice Campus has a unit intended to prevent suicide. (Photo/Tyler Fenwick)

Mooneyham's death came two days after the sheriff's office started moving detainees to the new detention center from Marion County Jail 1, Marion County Jail 2 and the City-County Building. Around 700 detainees remained at Jail 2 as of Jan. 10 and should be moved to the new jail by the end of the month.

During a tour of the jail that was open to press, the sheriff's office touted the jail's enhanced safeguards against suicide. The sheriff's office said Mooneyham was not housed in a suicide housing unit because he "did not present with suicidal ideations at or after booking." He was in a detox housing unit.

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

Breaux discusses health equity, state of legislature

By BREANNA COOPER
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Jean Breaux

In her 16th year serving in the state legislature, Sen. Jean Breaux, D-District 34, is calling attention to the need for increased equity in the health care field through Senate Bill 151. If passed, the bill would create a scholarship fund for African American and minority students pursuing careers in health care. Administered by the Commission for Higher Education, the scholarship would provide up to \$4,000 and require recipients to work in Indiana for two to four years following the completion of their degree.

Breaux, a member of the Indiana Black Legislative Caucus (IBLC), has already had success during this year's legislative session — Senate Bill 95, which she co-authored, is headed to the House of Representatives after being heard by the Committee on Insurance and Financial Institutions. If passed, the bill would prohibit insurance companies from increasing rates or dropping an individual from an insurance plan if they are living organ donors. Breaux hopes this change would encourage more Hoosiers to donate. She's also planning ahead to this summer, when she hopes the legislature will consider helping more women access doulas who guide mothers through pregnancy, labor and the postpartum period in the upcoming budget cycle.

Despite a shorter session this year

See BREAU, A6►

Influential fashion journalist André Leon Talley dies at 73

NEW YORK (AP) — André Leon Talley, the towering former creative director and editor at large of Vogue magazine, has died. He was 73.

Talley's literary agent David Vigliano confirmed Talley's death to USA Today on Jan. 18, but no additional details were immediately available.

Talley was an influential fashion journalist who worked at Women's Wear Daily and Vogue and was a regular in the front row of fashion shows in New York and Europe. At 6-feet-6 inches tall, Talley cut an imposing figure wherever he went, with his stature, his considerable influence on the fashion world, and his bold looks.

In a 2013 Vanity Fair spread titled "The Eyeful Tower," Talley was described as "perhaps the industry's most important link to the past." Designer Tom Ford told the magazine Talley was "one of the last great fashion editors who has an incredible sense of fashion history. ... He can see through everything you do to the original reference, predict what was on your inspiration board."

Designer Diane von Furstenberg praised Talley on Instagram, writing: "no one saw the world in a more glamorous way than you did ... no one was grander and more soulful than you were."

In his 2003 memoir, "A.L.T.: A Memoir," Talley

See TALLEY, A7►



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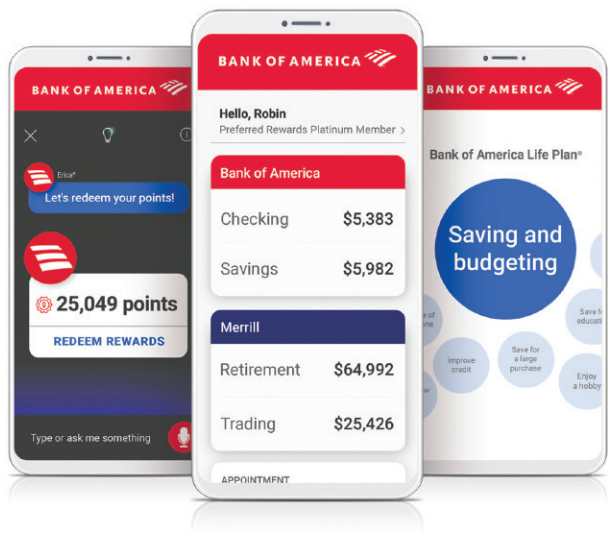
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Dr. Flora out at Pike Township, school board picks interim superintendent

By ERIC WEDDLE and ELIZABETH GABRIEL

Flora Reichanadter is no longer the superintendent of Pike Township Schools following months of parent and teacher criticism over her management of the district and concerns over teacher pay.

On Jan. 13, the school board voted unanimously to appoint an interim superintendent and signaled Reichanadter’s contract would soon be terminated. Reichanadter, who is often referred to as Dr. Flora, was hired as the district leader in January 2017. “Our board council is in discussion with Dr. Flora’s council regarding an amicable separation between Dr. Flora and MSD of Pike Township,” said Pike School Board President Terry A. Webster Sr.

Last month Webster described recent months as the toughest board members faced as they took “lumps and hits” from the public about their commitment to students and the community.

In late November, some parents of the district’s roughly 11,000 students started an online petition to remove Reichanadter as superintendent, partially due to her leadership during the teacher contract bargaining sessions. Later, members of the Pike teachers association approved a vote of no confidence in the superintendent. Following a mediation process, the district and teachers union reached an agreement to raise educator pay.

Pike Township has struggled to offer in-person classes throughout the first part of this school year and this month.

Larry Young, assistant superintendent of operations, was approved by the board at the meeting Jan. 13 to be interim superintendent for the remainder of the school year. Young said he knows the community is frustrated. “I hear and really offer no excuses for the concerns that have been brought by parents, by staff, even by the board, and those concerns are justified,” said



Young, who is also a Pike graduate. “Getting children to school should not even be a discussion that we’re having. Please, I want to let the community know that the board has the expectation that my staff gets this thing right. We are going to.”

Reichanadter could not immediately be reached for comment. She did not attend the public school board meeting, as well the last three public meetings.

The board approved a new three-year contract with her in July which set an annual base salary of \$206,907, not including other compensation such as performance pay, fringe benefits and retirement contributions.

According to the contract, the board can terminate the agreement prior to June 2024 if it gives 30 days notice and pays out whatever is greater — a year of compensation or half the compensation due for the remainder of the contract period.

Reichanadter’s total compensation in 2020 was \$277,395, according to the listing in the state’s public employees database.

Bus driver absences lead to remote learning

Students were forced into remote learning for most of this month because staff absences prevented transportation to school. Although the district resumed in-person learning Jan. 13 after more than seven days of remote instruction, Pike parent Rhonda Moore said the inconsistent school schedule and bus delays may force her to remove her kindergartener from Pike Township.

“My kids sat for almost two hours waiting on somebody to come and pick him up,” Moore said. “This is ridiculous.”

In response to the transportation problems, the Pike board members unanimously approved a motion to

begin paying bus drivers based on their experience, which increases the hourly wage for some “top tier drivers” from roughly \$24 to nearly \$28 and provides an annual step increase.

“I believe part of our shortage over the last few years has been because we don’t pay drivers for their years of experience,” Young said. “So for drivers next door — and they’re making \$25 per hour and they’ve been working as a driver for 10 years — if they came over to Pike they would start at the bottom of our pay — which has been lower — and they’d only make \$19 per hour.”

This motion also allows the district to implement bus route changes to ensure in-person learning can continue when some bus drivers are absent.

Contact WFYI education reporter Elizabeth Gabriel at egabriel@wfyi.org. Follow on Twitter: [@_elizabethgabs](https://twitter.com/_elizabethgabs).





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Starts February 2nd, 6-7:30PM

This title explores the history of racial caste systems in America and the ways Black communities have used their relationships and resilience to fight back against them.

February 4th, 3-4:30PM

Dr. Terri Jett, Professor of Political Science at Butler University, joins the Kheprw space for a discussion on strategies to elevate the Black voice, disrupt systemic oppression, and maintain a more inclusive community.

February 11th, 3-4:30PM

Kheprw's resident Afrofuturist, Maurice Broaddus and creatives from our ALKHEMY program discuss Hip-Hop as a tool for reexamining the past, critiquing the present, and creating new futures for community.

Friday 18th, 3-4:30PM

Dr. Leslie Etienne, Founding Director of IUPUI's African Studies Program, takes a deep dive on the lessons Black communities can draw from our collective pasts, and the tools we can use to bring those lessons into the present.

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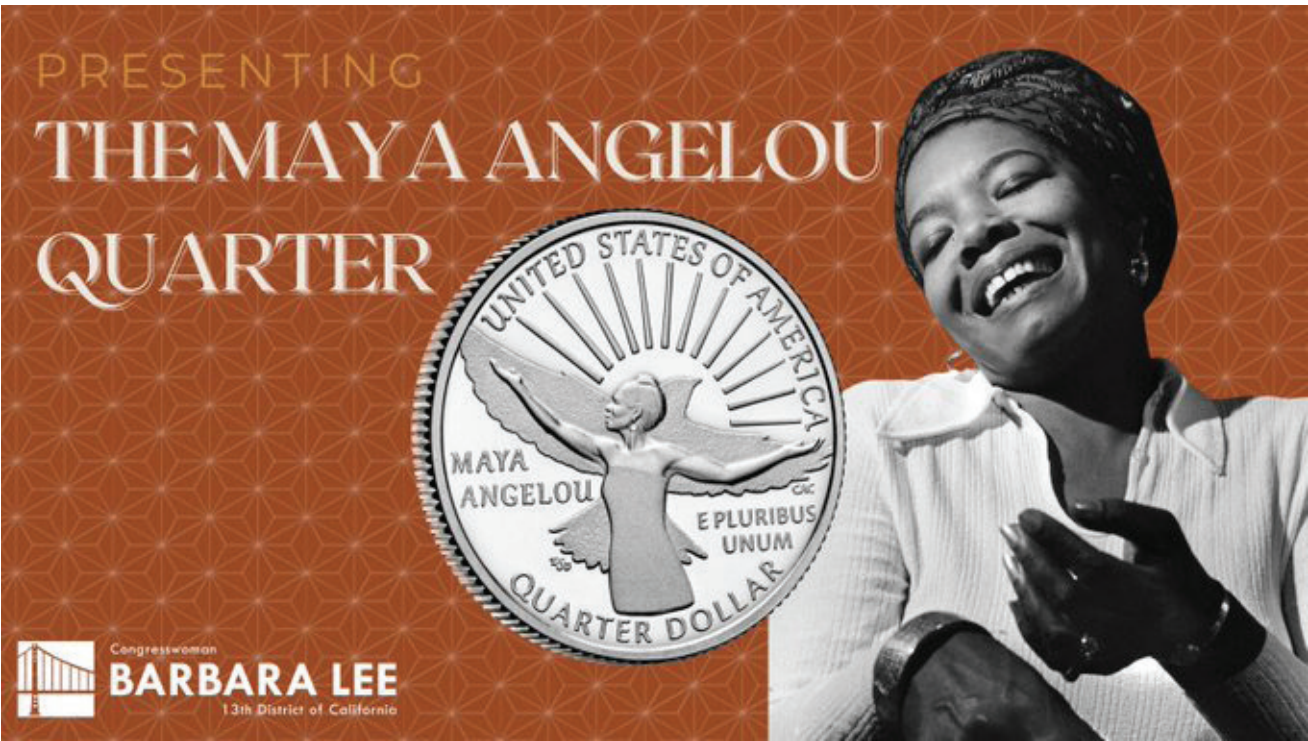
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Maya Angelou first Black woman on U.S. coin

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

Famous author and noted civil rights leader Maya Angelou became the first African American woman featured on the 25-cent coin. The U.S. Mint began shipping the quarters on Jan. 10. Reportedly, the Angelou coin is the first in a series designed to celebrate the accomplishments of American women. “Each time we redesign our currency, we have the chance to say something about our country — what we value, and how we’ve progressed as

a society,” U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet L. Yellen said in a statement. “I’m very proud that these coins celebrate the contributions of some of America’s most remarkable women, including Maya Angelou.” Angelou, whose works include such classics as “I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings,” “And Still I Rise,” and “The Heart of a Woman,” died in 2014. She received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian honor, from President Barack Obama. The commemorative new coin features Angelou with her arms up-



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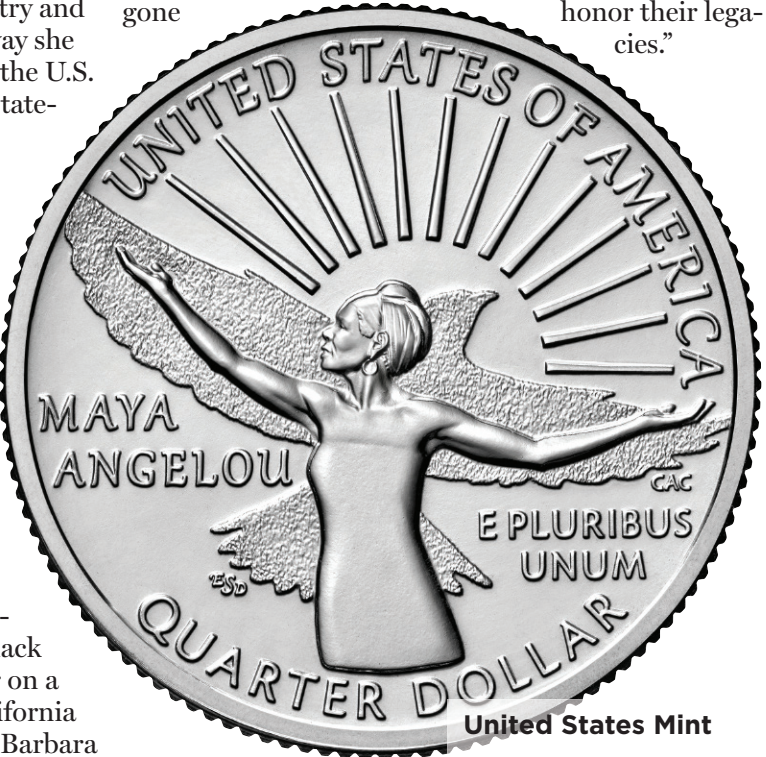
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lifted like a bird in flight and a rising sun behind her. “They are images inspired by her poetry and symbolic of the way she lived,” officials at the U.S. Mint said in the statement. To the right are the words “e pluribus Unum,” Latin for “out of many, one,” a phrase also on the national seal. The flip side features a portrait of George Washington. “Excited to announce that Maya Angelou becomes the first Black woman to appear on a U.S. quarter,” California Democratic Rep. Barbara

Lee wrote on Twitter. “The phenomenal women who shaped American history have gone unrecognized for too long — especially women of color,” Lee wrote. “Proud to have led this bill to honor their legacies.”



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SPOTLIGHT

'You Don't Know Us Negroes and Other Essays' by Zora Neale Hurston

By TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

That's just the way it was. People did things differently in times past. They were a little more likely to judge others, a little less apt to open their minds. They had notions we might think are odd; they held beliefs that we know now are wrong. But as in the new book "You Don't Know Us Negroes and Other Essays" by Zora Neale Hurston, times change. Sometimes.

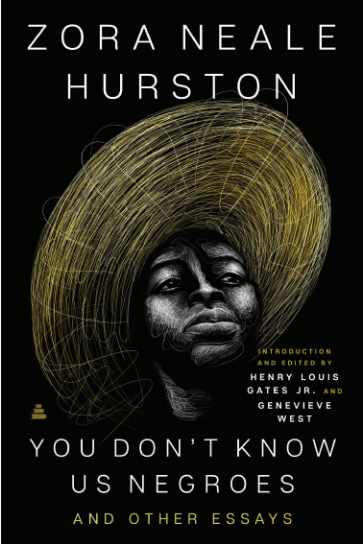
Throughout her career of nearly 40 years, Zora Neale Hurston prodigiously wrote novels that resonate today. In this nonfiction book, readers get a taste of the other side of Hurston's career: her journalism, essay-writing and a reflection of the times in which she lived.

In the essay "High John de Conquer," she offers "some help to our brothers and sisters who have always been white" by introducing them to a man who "romps ... clowns, and looks ridiculous" and then disappears. John de Conquer is a scamp and a "mystery," but he also offers hope and "the secret of Negro song and laughter."

If you ever imagined what it was like to have been captured and sold into slavery, "The Last Slave Ship" is Hurston's interview with Cudgo Lewis, the last survivor of the Clotilda. Lewis told Hurston about a rivalry between villages, his capture, the cruelty of the Dahomey king and the eradication of an entire tribe of people.

Here, Hurston writes of novelist Fanny Hurst, encouraging readers to sample Hurst's work. She mourns that white publishers of her time were reluctant to offer more diverse works because they believed that "the average American just cannot conceive of it." She writes first with pride about attending Howard University, then about what led to her disillusionment and why she called Negro colleges "Begging Joints."

She writes about noses and charm, be-



"You Don't Know Us Negroes and Other Essays" by Zora Neale Hurston, edited and with an introduction by Genevieve West and Henry Louis Gates Jr. 464 pages \$29.99 Amistad c.2022

ing "a little colored girl," and of having no race. With barely simmering anger, she reveals her "Most Humiliating Jim Crow Experience." And she reports on the lengthy trial of Ruby McCollum, an experience that left Hurston in a dream "of fog and mist ..."

For sure, "You Don't Know Us Negroes" isn't a book to take — or read — lightly.

From the beginning of the introduction to the very last words on McCollum, this book demands that readers stop and think about what's been said. It's natural that you would anyhow: Much of what author Zora Neale Hurston observed in her day is still relevant now; Hurston died on the very cusp of the beginning of the Civil Rights Movement, and so racism and race issues feature highly in the works inside this book.

What's unexpected — and very delightful — is Hurston's voice. Some of these stories ring with a wonderful sense of sarcasm that tells you everything you need to know about Hurston's mindset. Some tales ache with frustration. Others spark like lightning in a jar.

This is a carry-it-everywhere-with-you kind of book, perfect for times when you need some introspection as diversion. "You Don't Know Us Negroes" is like that, and that's just the way it is.



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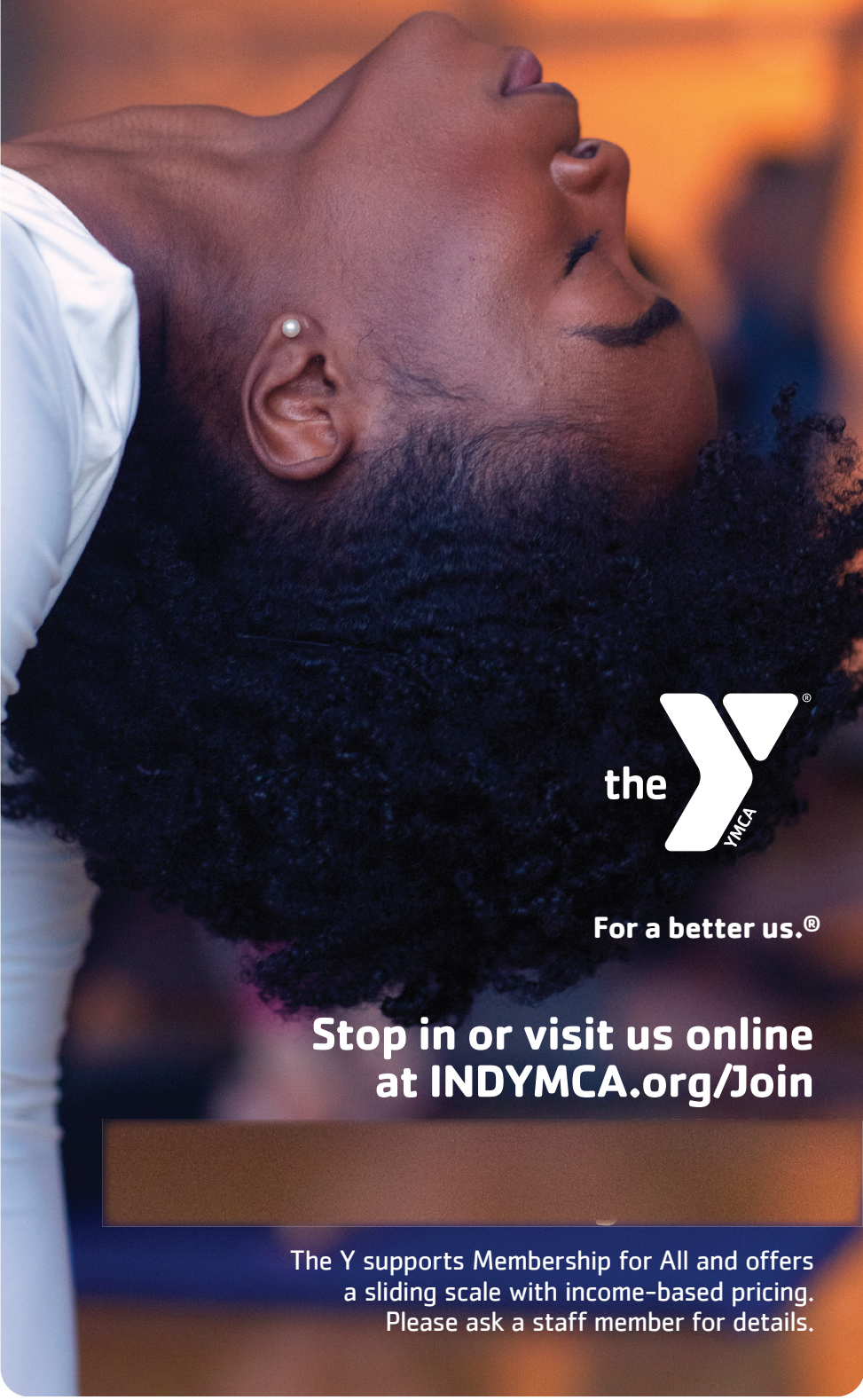
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LONG-HAUL

► Continued from A1

likely to develop long-haul COVID-19. John Brooks, chief medical officer at the CDC, said given the disproportionate rate of infection in African Americans, it's likely they would be more susceptible to long-haul symptoms.

"We do believe that they are likely to be disproportionately impacted by these conditions as they are more likely to acquire COVID-19 and less likely to be able to access health care services," Brooks said at a congressional hearing last year.

Access to care is critical and costly — even for those with insurance. Hannah Hudson, who is white, tested positive for COVID-19 in November 2020. Though her symptoms were fairly mild, she still has not recovered her sense of taste and smell and struggles with post-acute COVID-19 tachycardia (rapid heartbeat). She's been to several specialists — a cardiologist and an ear, nose and throat doctor — who found nothing that could cause her symptoms.

While her symptoms have impacted her life — her tachycardia keeps her from a lot of physical activity, and she's had to drastically change her diet — Hudson said she's one of the lucky ones.

"A lot of people like to preach about the survival rate being really high, but no one wants to talk about the 98% of survivors and how awful their lives can be," Hudson, 28, said. "I'm lucky, my sense and smell and taste changed, but some people can have really debilitating side effects for a long time. You have no idea the long-term effects that come from COVID, or if there's

a cure for it."

According to Dr. Virginia Caine, director of the Marion County Public Health Department, there's no way to know what impact long-haul COVID-19 will have on public health in the years to come. Doctors have been aware of the virus's impact on the lungs, heart and other organs, and recent studies have shown that children infected with COVID-19 have an increased risk of developing diabetes. One of the more troubling side effects of long-haul COVID-19, Caine said, is the neurological symptoms, namely "brain fog."

"It makes it to where people can't follow a conversation, or maybe they're not able to watch a TV show for an hour," Caine said. "There can be significant memory loss and disorientation. Some doctors say COVID-19 may cause more brain damage than Alzheimer's disease, to give you an idea of how bad it can be."

Caine is also concerned about chronic fatigue and weakness, which can lead to an inability to walk without assistance and loss of income if the person can no longer hold a job.

While questions remain about who gets long-haul COVID-19 and why, Caine suspects the virus may lie dormant in the body for some time, and could be triggered by a viral infection, for example, which may cause symptoms to flare up again. However, Caine said the only foolproof way to lower your risk of long-haul symptoms is to protect yourself from the virus. Omicron, the most recently discovered variant, is far more contagious than its predecessors. She em-

phasized cloth masks and face shields are no longer protective against the new strain, and urges Hoosiers to wear N95 or KN95 masks, which are more effective at containing respiratory particles.

Getting vaccinated and boosted, Caine said, is not just important to your individual health, but to the well-being of the overall community.

"We have to understand the significance of how deadly this disease is," Caine said. "Omicron is way more contagious than delta, and though the symptoms may be milder, way more people are being infected. When you have hospitals filled with a large number of COVID patients, it means people having a heart attack or a stroke are going to have a difficult time finding an emergency room bed. We know that 90% of the people hospitalized for COVID are unvaccinated, and we also know that African Americans and Blacks are hospitalized at least three times their counterparts and are twice as likely to die from the COVID-19 as compared to their white counterparts."

The CDC recommends people who got the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccination at least five months ago get a booster shot. Those who received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine are eligible for a booster shot two months after their vaccination. To schedule your vaccination or booster appointment, visit ourshot.in.gov.

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

BREAUX

► Continued from A1

— the 2022 legislative session ends March 14 — Breaux is hopeful Senate Bill 151 can get a hearing. The senator spoke with the Recorder about the bill and its potential impact for not just the students receiving the scholarship, but for the entire state.

Indianapolis Recorder: What kind of data were you looking at to determine the need for this bill in Indiana?

Sen. Jean Breaux: It came from an intuitive place. I required the services of some health care professionals recently, and I found a lot of very young, entry level African American females, many of whom were single parents. They were providing great service and care and were very bright and talented but didn't have access to the

resources necessary to pursue higher positions, but when I spoke to them, they expressed interests in becoming RNs and LPNs. When you look at the health care industry right now, due to COVID and all the people walking away from the field, there is a great demand for talent in this area. I think it's a merging of supply with demand. You have bright, talented people of color who want to be in some of these demanding positions, and they need help getting there.

IR: For patients, what impact does having more representation in hospitals and care facilities have for health outcomes?

Breaux: I would have to believe that it will only have a positive outcome, and that's because health care is a very complex field, particularly when

you're talking about your own personal health. Sometimes it's hard to understand, or you might be timid and afraid to ask a question. I hope if we can populate the industry with people of color, it can bring a certain level of comfort to people who might find themselves afraid to talk about a personal issue. They might be more expressive if they feel their health care provider understands them a little more, or who looks like them and can identify with them. Ultimately, this will lead to more people having a better health care experience.

IR: How do you envision the scholarship program will operate?

Breaux: I've been in conversation with (Ivy Tech Community College President) Sue Ellspermann and trying to form

a partnership with Ivy Tech. They have a great nursing program, and Ivy Tech might be one of the schools people can attend.

IR: You work a lot on issues pertaining to infant and maternal mortality. Do you have any plans this session to address Indiana's rates?

Breaux: I want to request that over the summer, we consider a measure that would help doulas be assigned their own Medicaid number so they can be billed directly. I want to get that considered for the next budget cycle. Right now, doulas are had by people who can afford to pay for them by themselves, and if we can get more doulas dispatched around the state, we'll see a reduction in infant mortality. Doulas can provide new mothers the emotional and

medical support and just be a friend to go through the process with them. With Medicaid covering pregnancy for one year postpartum, that will help keep babies alive for the first year. The only way we're going to address our state's infant mortality rate is by addressing the high mortality rate in communities of color.

IR: It's a short session this year. How confident are you that this bill and others put forward by IBLC members will get a hearing?

Breaux: You know, we've become much stronger as a caucus, and we're under the great leadership of [Rep.] Robin Shackleford, and we've earned the respect of our colleagues across the aisle. There's more willingness now than I've ever seen before of them wanting to listen

to some of our bills and perhaps give some of them hearings.

IR: The state legislature has received national scrutiny this week. What do you want Hoosiers to know about the work that you and your fellow legislators are doing?

Breaux: I want them to know that those bills that have received national attention, they are fringe legislation and are not the kind of legislation that we're spending our time on as the IBLC. We're trying to deal with everyday issues that real Hoosiers are facing, like getting adequate COVID tests and child care availability. We want to deal with issues that impact the quality of life, and CRT (Critical Race Theory) and telling teachers how and what to teach and whether or not you have to have a permit to carry a gun, these aren't issues that are going to put food on the table and make our families healthier. There are too many important issues that deserve our attention, and too many people suffering in our state. We need to help our people with the real issues.

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

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AT-HOME

► Continued from A1
how many cases there are.

At-home tests have become difficult to find and can be pricy, but the federal government is trying to make them more readily available.

Every household can order four free tests at covidtests.gov, and President Joe Biden’s administration will require insurance plans to cover the cost of up to eight over-the-counter tests per month for each person on the plan.

The government plans to buy and distribute 500 million tests, many of which probably won’t become part of any official case count. Some counties in other states have set up systems to get a more formal collection of at-home test results.

With the rise of the omicron variant, which is more transmissible than previous variants, even among people who are fully vaccinated, some have wondered if it’s still useful to closely track the number of positive results.

“It’s actually the best data that we have across the state,” said Dr. Michele Saysana, vice president and chief patient safety and quality officer at IU Health.

Health officials use case counts as a clue to figure out what trends in hospitalizations and deaths could look like in the near future. In general, higher case counts precede more hospitalizations, which precede more deaths.

The majority of positive results will still be reported, Saysana said, whether through a testing clinic, doctor’s office or another avenue such as a school district.

One area where experts seem to have more disagreement is whether it’s important to confirm an at-home positive result by going to a testing clinic. On one hand, it would add another data point for health officials, but the infected person also risks spreading the virus if they are actually positive.

Dr. Caine said people who test positive at home should still try to get confirmation, no matter if symptoms are mild or more severe. She said at-home tests are typically 85% sensitive, meaning if 100 positive people are tested, you could expect the test to detect 85 cases.

Kara Cecil, an assistant professor of public health at the University of Indianapolis, said it isn’t important in most cases to know for sure that you’re positive because a person’s behavior shouldn’t change just because of that information. Instead, she said anyone with symptoms should act as though they have the disease by managing it at home and trying to avoid spreading it to others.

Cecil said exceptions include if the person is immunocompromised or around someone else who is, in which case it might be important to know for sure if it’s COVID-19.

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

TALLEY

► Continued from A1

focused on two of the most important women in his life: his maternal grandmother, Bennie Frances Davis and the late fashion editor Diana Vreeland.

“Bennie Frances Davis may have looked like a typical, African American domestic worker to many of the people who saw her on an ordinary day, but I, who could see her soul, could also see her secret: that even while she wore a hair net and work clothes to scrub toilets and floors, she wore an invisible diadem,” he wrote.

His relationship with Vogue started at Duke University, where his grandmother cleaned dorms; Talley would walk to campus in his youth to read the magazine.

Talley was also a familiar figure to TV audiences, serving as a judge on “America’s Top

Model” and appearing on “Sex and the City” and “Empire.”

Raised in Durham, North Carolina, Talley worked assorted jobs before arriving in New York in the 1970s, soon meeting Vreeland striking up a friendship that lasted until her death in 1989.

Talley worked as a park ranger in Washington, D.C., and Maryland, where he told visitors about slaves who built Fort Washington and dressed up like a Civil War soldier, he told The Associated Press in 2003.

After stints with Interview magazine and Women’s Wear Daily, Talley was hired at Vogue in 1983 by Editor in Chief Anna Wintour and was appointed its creative director in 1988.

Talley released another memoir in 2020,

“The Chiffon Trenches,” that included gossip behind-the-scenes tales about Wintour and other fashion figures like the late designer Karl Lagerfeld.

Of all the elements of a person’s apparel, Talley considered shoes to be most important.

“You can tell everything about a person by what he puts on his feet,” Talley told the AP.

“If it’s a man and you can see the reflection of his face on the top of his black shoes, it means they’ve been polished to perfection. ... If it’s a woman and she’s wearing shoes that hurt ... well, shoes that hurt are very fashionable!”

Talley’s death was first reported by celebrity website TMZ.



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OMPP Approved: 05/28/2021

EDITORIAL

The Biden administration needs to do better

By OSEYE BOYD



The Biden administration fumbled the ball. Big time. As a presidential candidate, former Vice President Joe Biden heavily criticized then President Donald Trump’s handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. I expected more (let’s be honest, the bar was set really low) from President Joe Biden, and he seemed to expect government to do more to take care of its people. Biden started out strong: making vaccination access a priority and encouraging Americans to get vaccinated. Although we still haven’t hit the mark with the number of vaccinations, things were looking up for Americans. Infections dipped. Test manufacturing declined. We thought we could go back to normal. Well, as this pesky coronavirus has done time and again, it switched up on us and made a fool out of us. We’re two years into a global pandemic that shows no signs of ending. Instead, the ever-evolving coronavirus morphs into variants that wreak all manner of havoc on our lives and caught the Biden administration flat-footed. Then before the Biden administration could get a handle on delta, the omicron variant came out of nowhere and took over. While the symptoms may be milder, it’s more contagious, meaning more people

are contracting it. The Indiana State Department of Health announced the first detected case of the omicron variant Dec. 15, 2021. The variant was found in a specimen taken Dec. 9, 2021. On Dec. 15, 2021, there were 697 newly confirmed COVID-19 cases in Marion County. At the time, that number was the most confirmed cases since Sept. 9, 2021. On Jan. 18, the number of newly confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Marion County was 1,562. The numbers are drastic, and the response from the federal government should be just as drastic. How was the Biden administration caught off guard so badly? There are supposed to be people who predict, plan and strategize for occurrences such as this. There are supposed to be contingency plans in place if A, B or C happens. It’s one thing for the general population to be caught off guard, but it’s another thing all together when its government is — especially an administration that was critical of its predecessor and promised to do better. I’m glad we’ll finally get free at-home test kits. These 500 million test kits are sorely needed, especially after hearing story after story of long lines and long waits at testing sites. Four test kits per household may not last long, though, unless they arrive after the omicron variant has reached its peak. In addition to tests, the Biden administration will give away 400 million N95 masks starting next week. Each person can get three masks. So four tests and three masks. That’s a start.

At the very least, the Biden administration could’ve provided Americans with masks months ago. If this is a public health crisis, it makes sense government provide the public with the means to protect itself. Mask wearing should be easy and accessible. People are always free to get fancy and upgrade but providing a basic mask should’ve been a priority to stop the spread of COVID-19 as local governments reopened businesses and people started congregating again. Many places operated as normal but asked or required patrons to wear a mask. The Biden administration put all of their eggs in the vaccination basket. They’ve beat the drum of vaccination for months now. While I wouldn’t dare suggest the administration stop asking Americans to get vaccinated, or making vaccines easily accessible, that can’t be the only strategy. During a recent interview, TODAY’s host Craig Melvin asked Vice President Kamala Harris if it was time to shift course with regard to COVID-19. Harris’ response: “It is time for us to do what we have been doing. And that time is every day. Every day it is time for us to agree that there are things and tools that are available to us to slow this thing down” I don’t know what this means. Harris then returned to her talking point of vaccinations. At this point, I want better from the Biden administration (and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

The Black movie theater experience

By LARRY SMITH



“A wistful desire to return in thought or in fact to a former time in one’s life, to one’s home or homeland, or to one’s family and friends; a sentimental yearning for the happiness of a former place or time.” Such is the way that Dictionary.com defines nostalgia. Of course, nostalgia is not something that one merely intellectually knows; nostalgia is something that one inexpressibly feels. Etymologically speaking, the word originates in the notion of homesickness. One of the key formative (and, yes, nostalgic) experiences of my childhood was going to movie theaters and drive-ins in which most of the patrons were African American. Given the demise of nearly all such venues in Indianapolis, homesickness is an appropriate way to describe the sense of loss that I have regarding those erstwhile experiences. As a young child I learned that Black people, especially when packed in crowded theaters, love to talk to characters on the screen. Not just casually; we do it a lot. My children have never

experienced the joy (and frustration) of being in a movie theater with dozens of other African Americans who apparently believe that the folks on screen can hear our running commentary or even heed our warnings: “Girl, don’t go in there!” “Brother, what are you doing?!” There is an ethereal realm between abject annoyance and ecstatic hilarity. I know that plane exists because my experiences in theaters transported me there on several occasions. On the one hand, it can be incredibly irritating to listen to incessant chatter while trying to focus on the movie. On the other hand, there is something almost sacred about the communal experience of cavorting with complete strangers with whom one can forge an immediate — if ephemeral — bond. Of course, not all of us talk to the screen. Many of us are perfectly content to talk to each other — while the movie is playing. One of my favorite experiences in this regard occurred when my then-girlfriend and I went to see “Waiting to Exhale.” Wesley Snipes made an unexpected — and very welcome — cameo. When he sauntered into a scene with Angela Bassett, several Black women in the theater began

to swoon and loudly call his name. One brother, who clearly had nothing better to do, began to mock these sisters’ exultation. One of the women yelled at him, “You just mad because that you ain’t no Wesley Snipes!” Without skipping a beat, the man replied, “Well, you ain’t no Angela Bassett!” The theater erupted in laughter. I experienced a different vibe when I went to see Spike Lee’s “Malcolm X.” There were several powerful, evocative scenes in the movie, but three of them engendered a particularly strong call-and-response reaction from the congregation ... I mean audience. One is the scene in which Denzel Washington (as Malcolm) gathers members of the Nation of Islam in front of a police station in which one of their members is being held. Cheers and shouts of “That’s right!” filled the room. (And who can forget the iconic gesture of Malcolm lifting his hand to direct the “soldiers” to leave the premises?) Another scene is when Denzel and Angela Bassett (as his girlfriend, Betty Sanders) are talking on the phone. Malcom abruptly asks her to marry him. Betty immediately and effusively agrees, at which point multiple women in the theater screamed. The final

scene is when Malcolm and Betty are arguing. Several women shrieked when Malcolm yells, “Don’t you raise your voice in my house!” I truly miss those days. The two inside theaters that my family and I frequented most were General Cinema at Eastgate and Lowes Cherry Tree (both on Indianapolis’ east side). Neither the theaters nor the companies that owned them still exist. (AMC Theatres purchased General Cinema in 2002; Lowes Theaters merged with AMC in 2006.) These theaters were legendary among African Americans. They were more than mere places of entertainment; they were community centers. They were places that we could go and be unapologetically Black. Most of us are familiar with the lament, “You can’t go home again.” For me, it could be said that “home is where the Black theater is.” Unfortunately, those domiciles no longer exist in my native city. Larry Smith is a community leader. Contact him at larry@leaf-llc.com.

Yes, I got shot

By ABDUL-HAKIM SHABAZZ



Although there are very few things that surprise me in this world, I have to admit I was a bit taken back by some of the reactions on social media lately that I had been shot, booster shot, that is. I received my booster shot recently at Meijer, and as I was getting my shot, I decided to take a selfie and post it on social media. I did the same thing back in March when I got my original shot. I got the shot for several reasons. First and foremost, with COVID-19, and the subsequent variants running crazy, I wanted to make sure that if I did contract the coronavirus, I likely would not end up in an intensive care unit. As of this past weekend, according to the Indiana Department of Health, there were nearly 16,000 new coronavirus cases. Of the 15,926 positive cases reported Jan. 14, 15,896 were confirmed Jan. 13. There were also 97 more deaths reported, bringing the state’s total since the pandemic began to 19,491. In addition, Indiana set a new record for hospi-

talizations. According to WTHR, as of this Jan. 13, there were 3,519 patients being treated for COVID-19 in hospitals around the state. It’s the first time since March 2020 that the number has exceeded 3,500. And as of Jan. 14, the state had 9.2% of its ICU beds available. Nearly 38% of all the ICU beds in use around the state were occupied by COVID-19 patients. The state reported 4,557 newly fully vaccinated Hoosiers on Jan.14, bringing the total to 3,599,575. I would have likely been 4,558. Also, throw in the fact my teaching jobs required me to have a booster shot, and even more importantly, my father passed away in 2020 due to complications stemming from COVID-19; you can see I didn’t need much motivation to get my booster. What amazed me, though, was the reaction from the anti-COVID-vaccination crowd. By posting the picture of myself getting my booster shot, I was accused of virtue signaling, the popular modern habit of indicating that one has virtue merely by expressing disgust or favor for certain political ideas or cultural happenings. So by posting my photo of me getting a shot, I was allegedly showing

how virtuous I was, and I was looking down on those who hadn’t been vaccinated. I was also accused of being “sheeple” because I got the shot. I was filling my body with toxins. Or my personal favorite, the amount of time it took for me to get my booster shot, I could have had a heart attack. I have no idea what that means, but it seemed worth repeating. When it comes to COVID vaccinations, I subscribe to the adage of “my body, my choice.” In other words, you have the right to exercise your choice and get vaccinated or not. Now please note, with those choices also come consequences. And if your employer makes having a shot a requirement, then to me, the options are pretty straightforward: You get the shot or get another job, which in a universe of 3% unemployment should not be too hard to find. And forgive me, but when it comes to “religious exemptions,” I don’t recall God telling Moses when he issued the Ten Commandments that shall not be vaccinated against COVID. So like I said, you have the choice to get vaccinated/immunized from COVID-19. And if you decide not to, I promise I won’t look down on you. Sorry, yes, I will look down on you (physically) as I am visiting you in the ICU ward, and you are in a bed taking up space from someone else who could have used it because you wouldn’t take 20 minutes out of your day and get shot. Abdul-Hakim Shabazz is an attorney, political commentator and publisher of IndyPolitics.org. You can email comments to him at abdul@indy politics.org.

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Biden to give away 400 million N95 masks starting next week

By ZEKE MILLER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Biden administration will begin making 400 million N95 masks available for free to Americans starting next week, now that federal officials are emphasizing their better protection against the omicron variant of COVID-19 over cloth face coverings.

The White House announced Jan. 19 that the masks will come from the government’s Strategic National Stockpile, which has more than 750 million of the highly protective masks on hand. The masks will be available for pickup at pharmacies and community health centers across the country. They will begin shipping this week for distribution starting late next week, the White House said.

This will be the largest distribution of free masks by the federal government to the public since the COVID-19 pandemic began. In early 2020, then-President Donald Trump’s administration considered and then shelved plans to send masks to all Americans at their homes. President Joe Biden embraced the initiative after facing mounting criticism this month over the inaccessibility — both in supply and cost — of N95 masks as the highly transmissible omicron variant swept across the country.

After facing similar criticism over a winter shortage of COVID-19 at-home

test kits, Biden launched a website for Americans to order four rapid tests to be shipped to their homes for free, with the first tests to ship later this month.

The White House said the masks will be made available at pharmacies and community health centers that have partnered with the federal government’s COVID-19 vaccination campaign.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently updated its guidance on face coverings to more clearly state that properly fitted N95 and KN95 masks offer the most protection against COVID-19. Still, it didn’t formally recommend N95s over cloth masks.

The best mask “is the one that you will wear and the one you can keep on all day long, that you can tolerate in public indoor settings,” CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky said.

Details were not immediately available on the specifics of the program, including the sort of masks to be provided, whether kid-size ones will be available and whether the masks could be reworn.

The White House said that “to ensure broad access for all Americans, there will be three masks available per person.”

N95 or KN95 masks are more widely available now than at any other time during the pandemic, though they are often more costly than less-protective surgical masks or cloth masks.

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Who We Are

Every year there are thousands of small businesses in Indiana that need funding for their business or startup dreams. However, many small businesses do not qualify for a traditional bank loan and can’t get the funding they need. This leaves a large number of Hoosiers without the necessary and deserved capital for their startup or existing venture. Because of this issue, many aspiring entrepreneurs resort to harmful funding sources, such as high interest credit cards.

Recognizing the need for accessible small business capital, The Flagship Enterprise Center founded Bankable in 2010. Bankable is a nonprofit lender that creates opportunities for all entrepreneurs in Indiana, offering a second chance to receive proper funding. We provide small business loans that are safe and affordable, and help entrepreneurs at any stage of business to build credit, increase financial literacy, and grow sound business foundations to make them Bankable for the future.

Bankable made only four loans during our first year, and six in the second. After finding success on a small scale, Bankable began expanding throughout the state. By 2016, we were making more than 150 loans per year to small businesses in Indiana, and the numbers just keep climbing. As of the end of 2021, we have closed over 1,000 loans, accumulating to over \$50 million in total to small businesses in Indiana. Bankable makes it a mission to be intentional about creating start-up opportunities and helping minority and Black-owned businesses receive funding. Our minority and Black-owned business clients account for over 30 percent of total clients and 17 percent of our clients have received capital for start-ups.

The Indiana Black-Owned Business Loan Fund

Bankable’s loan scoring model has always been based on numbers alone. Our process was originally deemed as effective in avoiding biases related to ethnicity, careful not to contribute to the problem of racism within lending practices; however, the

Bankable team desired to play a bigger role. So, instead of being careful not to make the problem worse, Bankable wanted to help take part in the solution — starting with the Indiana Black-Owned Business Loan Fund.

Launched in September 2021, The Indiana Black-Owned Business Loan Fund is designed to support Black-owned businesses throughout Indiana by providing them with the resources necessary to secure safe and affordable capital, as well as access to a range of business development support services. There are three key goals of the Indiana Black-Owned Business Loan Fund:

- The fund will make loans more accessible to Indiana Black-owned businesses by providing fair financing and business development support.
- The fund will provide financial support to businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially for those who missed out on funding from federal relief programs.
- The fund will help small businesses become “Bankable” by building positive credit history, completing accurate financial reporting, and reaching business profitability.

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History and data have shown that there is an ongoing measurable wealth gap between white and Black families in the United States. This wealth gap can make it difficult for families or individuals to launch and grow a business. Since launching in September of 2021, 35 loans have been funded through our Indiana Black-Owned Business Loan Fund. Bankable hopes to continue to play a small role in narrowing the gap by unleashing the wealth building power of entrepreneurship.

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US begins offering free COVID test kits, but doubts persist

By **MATTHEW PERRONE**
and **KATE BRUMBACK**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — For the first time, all Americans can log on to a government website and order free, at-home COVID-19 tests. But the White House push may do little to ease the omicron surge, and experts say Washington will have to do a lot more to fix the country's long-troubled testing system.

The website, COVIDTests.gov, allows people to order four at-home tests per household and have them delivered by mail. But the tests won't arrive for seven to 12 days, after omicron cases are expected to peak in many parts of the U.S.

The White House also announced Jan. 19 that it will begin making 400 million N95 masks available for free at pharmacies and community health centers. Both initiatives represent the kind of mass government investments long seen in parts of Europe and Asia, but delayed in the U.S.

Experts say the plan to distribute 1 billion tests is a good first step, but it must become a regular part of the pandemic response. In the same way that it has made vaccines that are free and plentiful, the government must use its purchasing power to assure a steady test supply, they say.

"The playbook for rapid tests should look exactly like the playbook for vaccines," said Zoe McLaren, a health economist at the University Maryland. "They're both things that help keep cases down and help keep COVID under control."

The U.S. bungled its initial rollout of government-made COVID-19 tests in the early days of the outbreak and has never really gotten back on track. While private companies are now producing more than 250 million at-home tests per month, that is still not enough to allow most Americans to frequently test themselves.

The Biden administration focused most of its early COVID-19 efforts on rolling out vaccines. As infections fell last spring, demand for testing plummeted and many manufacturers began shutting down plants. Only in September — after the delta surge was in full swing — did the Biden administration announce its first federal contracts designed to jump-start home test production.

Countries like Britain and Germany purchased and distributed billions of the tests soon after they became available last year.

"If you leave the manufacturers to their own devices, they're just going to respond to what's happening right now," said Dr. Amy Karger, a testing specialist at the University of Minne-

sota Medical School. "And then there's not a lot of bandwidth if something surprising happens, as it did with omicron."

Even with government intervention, the U.S. faces a massive testing load because of its population, which is five times larger than Britain's.

The U.S. would need 2.3 billion tests per month for all teens and adults to test themselves twice per week. That's more than double the number of at-home tests the administration plans to distribute over several months.

Dr. David Michaels, a former member of President Joe Biden's COVID-19 advisory board, said the administration will probably need to request more federal money to fund testing for years to come.

"Congress was willing to put trillions of dollars into infrastructure primarily to improve transportation. This is infrastructure," said Michaels, a public health professor at George Washington University. "We need billions more in testing to save lives and maintain the economy."

For now, testing will probably continue to be strained. And even the most bullish proponents say the U.S. will have to carefully weigh where home tests can have the greatest benefit — for instance, by dispensing them to those most vulnerable to the virus.

"The fact is we just don't have that kind of mass testing capacity in the U.S.," said Dr. Michael Mina, chief science officer for home testing service eMed, who once called for using billions of tests per month to crush the pandemic. "We should now be thinking about how to use these tests in a strategic way. We don't want to just dilute them out across the population."

Mina was recently a professor at Harvard and has informally advised federal officials on testing.

Mina and others acknowledge widespread use of rapid tests is not without its downsides. Results from at-home tests are seldom reported to health authorities, giving an imperfect picture of the spread and size of the pandemic.

More than 2 million test results a day are being reported to U.S. health officials, but nearly all of them come from laboratory-processed tests. Some researchers estimate the real number of daily tests is roughly 5 million, when accounting for at-home ones.

Brumback reported from Atlanta.

The Associated Press Health and Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

A Well-Fitted Mask Helps Protect from COVID-19

Masking is a critical public health tool for preventing the spread of COVID-19, and it is important to remember that any mask is better than no mask.

To protect yourself and others from COVID-19, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to recommend wearing the most protective mask that fits well and can be worn consistently. Masks and respirators are effective at reducing transmission of COVID-19 when worn consistently and correctly. Some masks and respirators offer higher levels of protection than others, and some may be harder to tolerate or wear consistently than others. It is most important to wear a well-fitted mask or respirator correctly that is comfortable and provides good protection.

While all masks and respirators provide some level of protection, properly fitted respirators provide the highest level of protection. Wearing a highly protective mask or respirator may be most important for certain higher risk situations, or by some people at increased risk for severe illness. Masks are made to contain droplets and particles a person breathes, coughs, or sneezes out. If a mask fits closely to the face, it can also provide some protection from particles spread by others, including the virus that causes COVID-19.

Respirators are made to protect a person by filtering the air and fitting closely on the face to filter out particles, including the virus that causes COVID-19. They can also contain droplets and particles breathed, coughed, or sneezed out so they are not spread to others.

Loosely woven cloth products provide the least protection; layered finely woven products offer more protection; and well-fitting disposable surgical masks and KN95s offer even more protection. Well-fitting NIOSH-approved respirators, including N95s, offer the highest level of protection.

CDC recommends that specially labeled "surgical" N95 respirators — a special subtype of N95 respirators that provide additional protection against hazards present during medical procedures, such as blood splatter — should be reserved for use by healthcare personnel.

Most publicly available respirators are disposable and should be discarded when they are dirty, damaged, or difficult to breathe through.

Whatever product is used, it should fit closely on the face without any gaps along the edges or around the nose and be comfortable enough when worn properly, covering your nose and mouth.

For more information about masks, please visit CDC.gov.

ABCs of Diabetes Free Online Diabetes Education

The ABCs of Diabetes is a free, four-part diabetes self-management series offered monthly by the Marion County Public Health Department.

Classes provide instruction on medications, nutrition, exercise, monitoring, complications, and available community resources.

This program is open to anyone with diabetes or pre-diabetes. Family members and friends are also welcome.

Classes in the month of February will be offered online each Wednesday evening. Class dates are Wednesday, Feb. 2, 9, 16 and 23 from 5:30-7 p.m.

In March, classes will be in-person at the Martindale-Brightwood Branch Library, 2434 N. Sherman Drive, on Wednesday, March 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Advance registration is required and participants should plan on attending all four classes for that month.

Please visit MarionHealth.org/diabetes or call 317-221-2094 to register or for more information about classes in 2022.

ABCs of Diabetes is accredited by the Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists.



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At many churches, pandemic hits collection plates, budgets

By **HOLLY MEYER and HALELUYA HADERO**
Associated Press

Biltmore United Methodist Church of Asheville, North Carolina, is for sale.

Already financially strapped because of shrinking membership and a struggling preschool, the congregation was dealt a crushing blow by the coronavirus. Attendance plummeted, with many staying home or switching to other churches that stayed open the whole time. Gone, too, is the revenue the church formerly got from renting its space for events and meetings.

"Our maintenance costs are just exorbitant," said the Rev. Lucy Robbins, senior pastor. "And we just don't have the resources financially that we used to have to be able to do the kind of ministry work that we would like."

Biltmore is just one of an untold number of congregations across the country that have struggled to stay afloat financially and minister to their flocks during the pandemic, though others have managed to weather the storm, often with help from the federal government's Paycheck Protection Program, or PPP, and sustained levels of member donations.

The coronavirus hit at a time when already fewer Americans were going to worship services — with at least half of the nearly 15,300 congregations surveyed in a 2020 report by Faith Communities Today reporting weekly attendance of 65 or less — and exacerbated the problems at smaller churches where increasingly lean budgets often hindered them from things like hiring full-time clergy.

"The pandemic didn't change those patterns, it only made them a little bit worse," said Scott Thumma, director of the Hartford Institute for Religion Research and co-chair of Faith Communities Today.

Attendance has been a persistent challenge. As faith leaders moved to return to in-person worship, first the highly transmissible delta variant and now the even faster-spreading omicron have thrown a wrench into such efforts, with some churches going back online and others still open reporting fewer souls in the pews.

At Biltmore, for example, attendance at weekly services is down from around 70 pre-pandemic to just about 25 today, counting both in-person and online worship.

After congregants voted last May to put the church property, a two-building campus perched on a verdant knoll just off Interstate 40, on the market, church leaders are still figuring out what comes next, including where the congregation will call home. But they hope to use some of the proceeds from the property sale to support marginalized communities and causes like affordable housing.

Unlike Biltmore, Franklin Community Church, about 20 miles outside of



Getty Images

Nashville, Tennessee, doesn't have its own sanctuary, holding services instead at a public school. That turned out to be a blessing during the pandemic, with no need to worry about a mortgage, upkeep, insurance or utilities.

"We wouldn't have survived if we'd had all that," said the Rev. Kevin Riggs, the church's pastor.

Still, it has been a battle. During the 15 months that services at Franklin went online-only, some members left for other congregations or got out of the habit of giving, according to Riggs. Weekly attendance is down from around 100 to less than 40, and the omicron spike recently forced the church to go virtual again.

The impact is felt in the collection plate: The money coming in now is just about a third of what it was before the pandemic, the pastor said. The church has cut spending where it could, turned to grants to try to make up the difference and worked to raise more money from community members who don't attend but support the church's ministries, such as serving homeless people.

"We're surviving. ... But we have felt the hurt," Riggs said.

Another struggling congregation, Friendship Baptist Church in Baltimore, is essentially living week to week. The predominantly Black church received a PPP loan of more than \$55,000, but that barely made a dent in expenses. The Rev. Alvin Gwynn Sr. has given up his pastor's salary and for now is living off Social Security checks and his other job in construction.

Slumping attendance has hurt the bottom line there, as elsewhere. Friendship Baptist counts around 900 active members but only about 150 of them are showing up, making their donations especially crucial.

The church is "surviving because of

the sacrificial giving of the 150," said Gwynn, who doesn't intend to start drawing a paycheck again until the church is stable. "They give way, way more than a normal offering each Sunday individually."

During the pandemic, experts said many congregations embraced online giving, which could boost contributions by \$300 per person annually, according to The Faith Communities Today report.

More broadly, various other surveys and reports show a mixed picture on congregational giving nationwide.

Gifts to religious organizations grew by 1% to just over \$131 billion in 2020, a year when Americans also donated a record \$471 billion overall to charity, according to an annual report by GivingUSA. Separately, a September survey of 1,000 protestant pastors by the evangelical firm Lifeway Research found about half of congregations received roughly what they budgeted for last year, with 27% getting less than anticipated and 22% getting more.

Hope Presbyterian Church in Austin, Texas, a largely upper-middle-class congregation of about 400, is among those that have enjoyed relative stability despite the pandemic.

The Rev. Josh Robinson had expected contributions to drop off when in-person services paused for more than a year, but they remained steady. So have member pledges for upcoming gifts in 2022. Some in the congregation even donated their government stimulus checks to the church, which used them to set up a fund to provide direct financial assistance to those who lost income due to the pandemic.

It all prompted the pastor to reexamine his own approach to the pandemic.

"I needed to step back and think, what did it mean for me as a spiritual

leader to not have the same faith mindset, since I was anticipating a downturn?" Robinson said. "Here were the members of the church stepping up — I had to lean into that. And rightfully, I was able to do so with great joy."

Even before, the church had embraced frugality in order to pay down its debt, which has fallen from \$2 million in 2013 to less than \$300,000 today.

When services went virtual, savings on utilities and other costs helped keep the budget balanced. PPP loans of some \$290,000 were also key to maintaining employees on the payroll and offsetting lost revenue from renting out space and other services.

At West Harpeth Primitive Baptist Church, another church in Franklin, giving is down but only slightly. Hewitt Sawyers, the pastor, attributes that to the scant turnover among the more than 150-year-old historically Black congregation's members, many of whom are committed to financially supporting the church and work in sectors that were less damaged by the pandemic than others.

"We've just been wonderfully, wonderfully blessed," Sawyers said.

Budget projections for this year are rosy enough that West Harpeth leaders are hopeful they can tackle a needed building renovation.

"We are extremely optimistic about it," Sawyers said. "We're planning on trying to do that in '22, and we feel very, very, very comfortable about trying to get that done."

The Associated Press receives support from the Lilly Endowment for coverage of philanthropy, nonprofits and religion, in partnership with The Conversation US. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

Fund to preserve, assist Black churches gets \$20M donation

By **JAY REEVES** Associated Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — A new effort to preserve historic Black churches in the United States has received a \$20 million donation that will go to help congregations including one that was slammed during the tornado that killed more than 20 people in Mayfield, Kentucky, last month.

Lilly Endowment Inc., which supports religious, educational and charitable causes, contributed the money to the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund as seed funding for the Preserving Black Churches Project, according to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which launched the fund.

The announcement about the donation from the Lilly Endowment was timed to coincide with the Martin Luther King Jr. national holiday Jan. 17.

Rather than simply replacing broken windows or straightening rafters, the project will provide assistance with things including asset management and helping historic churches tell their own stories, said Brent Leggs, executive director of the fund.

St. James AME Church, founded in 1868 just three years after the Civil War and crumpled by the Mayfield twister, will receive \$100,000 as the first recipient of the project's special emergency funding, Leggs said.

With its sanctuary virtually destroyed and only 15 or so active members, all of whom are older, St. James AME needs all the help it can get, said the Rev. Ralph Johnson, presiding elder of a church district that includes the congregation. Black churches served a vital role after the war ended and Black people no longer were considered the property of white people.

"Once the slaves were freed one of the things they wanted to start was a church home. They wanted to



Getty Images

work out their spiritual salvation and have a place to congregate, and they also were used as schools and other things," he said.

Black churches have been a key element of the African American community through generations of faith and struggle, and preserving them isn't just a brick-and-mortar issue but one of civil rights and racial justice, Leggs said in an interview.

"Historically Black churches deserve the same admiration and stewardship as the National Cathedral in Washington or New York's Trinity Church," he said. Trinity, where Alexander Hamilton and other historic figures are buried, was near Ground Zero

and became a national touchstone after the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

In all, the project plans to assist more than 50 Black churches nationwide over the next three years, including some that are vacant or set for demolition or are struggling with inadequate funding, aging members and dwindling membership. While active congregations are the main priority, funding can also go to old church buildings that now house projects like community centers or treatment programs, Leggs said.

"It still stewards the legacy of the Black church but for a new purpose," he said.

SPIRITUAL OUTLOOK

Leap and let go

By SHEILA P. SPENCER



“Haven’t I commanded you? Strength! Courage! Don’t be timid; don’t get discouraged. God, your God, is with you every step you take.” Joshua 1:9 (Message Bible)

“The day came when the risk to remain tight in the bud was more painful than the risk it took to blossom.” -Anais Nin

I was about to do something on my bucket list.

When I was done, I would be able to put a check next to ... skydiving.

We boarded the small plane and we ascended 5,000, 10,000 to over 15,000 feet in the air.

It was at that moment my instructor said, “Sheila, are you ready?”

In that moment, I wasn’t ready. I was completely terrified, yet my response was: “Let’s do this!”

And I leaped.

Initially, I was holding on to the parachute straps so tightly, I could feel my instructor tell me, “Sheila, let go and open up your arms. You need to completely surrender in order to enjoy the whole experience.”

I let go and surrendered and it was amazing.

As I soared through the limitless sky, I realized that I would have missed all of this beauty and wonder if I did not take the leap. I was able to view the world through a different perspective and point of view. All of this was waiting for me on the other side of my leap.

It was amazing.

When I landed on the ground, I realized I could have stayed on the plane and arrived at the same place. However, I would have missed the joy of the journey of the leap. As I drove home, I reflected on the lessons that my skydiving experience taught me.

1. Letting go takes courage, yet that does not mean you don’t do it afraid. It takes courage to let go and surrender. Whether it is a new assignment, relationship or opportunity, it is normal to be scared. Courage does not



Rev. Sheila Spencer crossed off an item on her bucket list when she went skydiving, which taught her how to “take the leap and let go.” (Photo provided by Sheila Spencer)

mean having no fear; courage calls us to do it in spite of it. A friend shared that if your dream does not scare you a little bit, maybe it is not big enough. Remember it takes courage to let go of the familiar and embrace the new.

One of the examples of letting go that has happened during this season what has been called “The Great Resignation” — (term coined by Anthony Klotz) where massive numbers of Americans resigned from their jobs. During the pandemic with waits, lockdowns and life changing experiences, people really had the time and the motivation to sit back and say, “Do I like the trajectory of my life? Am I pursuing a life that brings me well-being?” These decisions took courage, and some did it afraid, but it was worth it.

2. Letting go releases you from expectations. I tend to be a planner. We plan our lives and schedule when we plan to reach certain milestones. There are our pre-set expected dates when we will graduate, start our careers, begin our families, purchase our cars, buy our homes and retire. But

what happens when you do not accomplish the milestone by your expected date? We are imprisoned by our own expectations, remaining paralyzed because it did not go as we expected. This past season has been an example of life not going as we expected and we had to surrender. Letting go means surrendering. It reminds us that the life we scheduled is not always the life that God has planned for us. We must be willing to let go of the life we planned to have the life that is waiting for us. Letting go frees you from being stuck when life does not go as expected. Letting go liberates us from the expectations of others and our own expectations of ourselves. Letting go in this season of quarantine allowed me to develop relationships with friends that I never anticipated.

3. Letting go opens up new possibilities. When I leaped, I opened myself up to a breathtaking experience that was waiting for me. Letting go opens you up to new perspectives and expands your life.

Letting go takes courage, but it does

not mean you do not do it afraid.

Take the leap and let go.

Letting go releases you from expectations.

Take the leap and let go.

Letting go opens up new possibilities.

Take the leap and let go.

There is another lesson from my leap. Before I took the leap, my instructor told me, “Sheila, remember I am attached to you. When you jump out of the plane, I am with you because we are connected. Even if you don’t hear me, remember that I am with you throughout the whole experience.”

When we let go and surrender, God is with us.

“Haven’t I commanded you? Strength! Courage! Don’t be timid; don’t get discouraged. God, your God, is with you every step you take.” Joshua 1:9 (Message Bible)

Rev. Sheila P. Spencer is an author, poet, teacher and preacher. You can contact her at CustomMadeInspiration@gmail.com and her website is www.sheilapspencer.com.

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Indiana vaccine exemption bill advances, faces GOP hurdles

By TOM DAVIES
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indiana House Republicans pushed through a proposal Jan. 18 that would severely limit workplace COVID-19 vaccination requirements even as the move faces resistance from Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb and GOP state Senate leaders.

The Republican-dominated Indiana House voted 58-35 largely along party lines in favor of the bill, sending it to the Senate for consideration.

Supporters maintain the bill would protect individual rights by forcing employers to grant exemptions to workers who claim medical or religious objections and limit them to requiring COVID-19 tests no more than once a week. It also requires businesses to accept as a vaccine exemption a worker's medical test results showing some level of immunity through a previous infection and makes anyone fired for not getting a COVID-19 vaccination eligible for unemployment benefits.

Major business organizations argued against the proposed vaccination exemptions, which employers would have to accept from workers "without further inquiry."

Republican House Majority Leader Matt Lehman of Berne said workers shouldn't lose their jobs over not being willing to get the COVID-19 vaccination.

"I am vaccinated, I would encourage you to get vaccinated," said Lehman, the bill's sponsor. "But this isn't about the effectiveness of the vaccine or the ineffectiveness of the vaccine. This is about the right of the individual, as an employee, what their rights are."

The vote comes after the U.S. Supreme Court's decision last week to block the Biden administration's attempt to require COVID-19 vaccinations or testing for workers at big companies. The court, however, let stand a federal vaccination requirement for most health care workers, so Indiana hospital systems, such as Indiana University Health and Accension St. Vincent, with vaccine mandates wouldn't be affected by the proposed state law.

Holcomb and top Senate leaders have opposed the bill as wrongly interfering in the decisions of private businesses. The Senate is advancing a bill limited to administrative steps Holcomb says are needed to end his statewide COVID-19 public health emergency by allowing the state to keep receiving enhanced federal funding for Medicaid and food assistance programs.

Those steps are included in the House bill, but House Republicans have pushed the vaccination mandate limits in response to conservative grievances over government-ordered virus precautions.

Democratic Rep. Ed DeLaney of Indianapolis criticized the House



A chandelier hangs in the Indiana Statehouse (Photo/Tyler Fenwick)

proposal as doing nothing to improve the state's low vaccination rate and only encouraging those who don't want to get the shots.

"Liars and hypocrites and chickens can sign a piece of paper saying they have a religious exemption and the employer must accept it," DeLaney said.

The fast-spreading omicron variant has pushed Indiana's number of confirmed COVID-19 infections to an average of nearly 14,000 a day, according to state health department tracking. That is the highest level during the pandemic as Indiana's hospitals were treating almost 3,400 COVID-19 patients as of Jan. 17 — a number that is up about 190% from two months ago and the highest since mid-December 2020 before the vaccines were widely available.

The state has averaged more than 50 such deaths a day since mid-December, and the pandemic death total has reached almost 20,400.

Indiana's vaccination rate has stagnated for months despite pleas from Holcomb and medical groups for more people to get the shots. Indiana has the country's ninth lowest rate for a fully vaccinated population at 52.6%, according to the Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention.

Seven Republican House members joined Democrats in voting against the bill, with some of them arguing that it didn't go far enough by not seeking an outright ban on workplace COVID-19 vaccination requirements.



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STATE OF INDIANA IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT

COUNTY OF MARION
CAUSE NUMBER: 49D07-2111-MF-036975

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR GSAMP TRUST 2007-HSBC1 MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-HSBC1, Plaintiff,

vs. ANNIE B MALONE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES OR LEGATEES, AND THEIR SPOUSES, IF ANY OF ANNIE B MALONE UNKNOWN OCCUPANT 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:

Lot Numbered 90 in Gateway West, Second Section, an addition to the City of Indianapolis, Indiana, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 32, page 145, in the Office of the Recorder of Marion County, Indiana.

This property is commonly known as 3949 Steinmetz Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46254

This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following Defendants whose addresses are known: Unknown Occupant 3949 Steinmetz Dr Indianapolis, IN 46254

And to the following defendant whose addresses are unknown: Unknown Heirs, Devisees or Legatees, and Their Spouses, if any of Annie B Malone

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 6th day of March, 2022 (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.

Matthew C. Gladwell (30493-49) Amanda L. Krenson (28999-61) David W. Cliffe (36402-15) Attorney's for Plaintiff Reisenfeld & Associates LLC

3962 Red Bank Road Cincinnati, OH 45227 Voice: 1-513-322-7000 Facsimile: (513) 322-7099 ATTEST: /s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Marion County Superior Court 5320-936057

01/21/22, 01/28/22, 02/04/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT
() SS: PROBATE DIVISION
COUNTY OF MARION)
ESTATE DOCKET 49D08-2109-ES-032078

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: LULA G. BRIDGEFORTH NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

In the Marion Superior Court, Probate Division. In the Matter of the Estate of Lula G. Bridgeforth, Deceased.

Notices is hereby given that, on October 22, 2021, Robin M. Bankhead was appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Lula M. Bridgeforth, deceased, who died on July 3, 2020, while domiciled in Marion County, Indianapolis, Indiana.

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 October 22, 2021, date.

/s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Marion County Probate Court Attorneys: Stacey M. Davis Law Office of Stacey M. Davis LLC

3500 DePauw Blvd. #10820 Indianapolis, IN 46268 Tel: (317) 662-4718 5320-936036

01/21/22, 01/28/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT
() SS: PROBATE DIVISION
COUNTY OF MARION)
CAUSE NO.: 49D08-2109-EU-031781

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: PAUL W. BONNER, JR., Deceased.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that Derek E. Bonner was, on September 21, 2021, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Paul W. Bonner, Jr., deceased, who died February 17, 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 September 21, 2021. /s/ Myla A. Eldridge CLERK, MARION COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT I.C. 29-1-7-7

Notice to be published in newspaper for two (2) consecutive weeks. Jennifer Norton Attorney No. 28709-49 Norton Estate Planning & Elder Law Firm, LLC 3750 N. Meridian Street,

Ste 300 Indianapolis, IN 46208 (317) 572-8866 5320-936037

01/21/22, 01/28/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT
() SS: PROBATE DIVISION
COUNTY OF MARION)
Estate Docket: 49D08-2112-ES-042482

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUPERVISED ESTATE) OF MICHAEL EDWARD KEARNS, DECEASED.)

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that on January 3, 2022, Christine Schmitz was appointed personal representative of the estate of Michael Edward Kearns, deceased, who died on July 30, 2020.

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 January 3, 2022. Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Superior Court of Marion County 5320-936489

01/21/22, 01/28/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT
() SS: PROBATE DIVISION
COUNTY OF MARION)
ESTATE DOCKET: 49D08-2112-EU-042584

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: JUAN C. GANT

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

In the Marion Superior Court, Probate Division In the Matter of the Estate of Juan C. Gant, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that, on January 3, 2022, Phyllisia J. Gant and Phylindia C. Gant were appointed co-personal representatives of the Estate of Juan C. Gant, deceased, who died intestate on November 11, 2021, while domiciled in Marion County, Indianapolis, Indiana.

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 January 3, 2022 date. /s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Marion County Probate Court Attorneys: Stacey M. Davis, Esq. Law Office of Stacey M. Davis

3500 DePauw Blvd. #10820 Indianapolis, IN 46268 Tel: (317) 662-4718 Email: staceymdavislaw@aol.com 5320-936035

01/21/22, 01/28/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT
() SS: COUNTY OF MARION)
CAUSE NO. 49D08-2112-EU-042782

IN RE: THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF: RODERICK DALE ESCUE, Decedent.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

In the Superior Court No. 8 of Marion County, Indiana. In the Matter of the Estate of Roderick Dale Escue, deceased.

Estate Docket 49D08-2112-EU-042782

Notice is hereby given that Ronald D. Escue was, on the 29th day of December, 2021, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Roderick Dale Escue, deceased, who died on the 30th day of November, 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 Marion County, Indiana, this 29th day of December, 2021. /s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Superior Court No. 8

Probate Division of Marion County, Indiana 5320-935953

01/21/22, 01/28/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT
() PROBATE DIVISION
COUNTY OF MARION)
ESTATE DOCKET 49D08-2112-EU-042910

IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF CHARLES E. GREGORY, Deceased.

NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION TO BE MAILED TO DISTRIBUTUTES

proval of any action, including the amount of attorney fees or personal representative fees.

4. Within two (2) months after the appointment of the personal representative, must prepare an inventory of the estate's assets. You have the right to request and receive a copy of this inventory from the personal representative.

5. The personal representative is required to furnish you with a copy of the closing statement that will be filed with the court and, if your interests are affected, with a full account in writing of the administration of the estate.

6. You must file an objection to the closing statement within three (3) months after the closing statement is filed with the court if you want the court to consider your objection.

7. If an objection to the closing statement is not filed with the court within three (3) months after the filing of the closing statement, the estate is closed and the court does not have a duty to audit or make an inquiry.

IF, AT ANY TIME BEFORE THE ESTATE IS CLOSED, YOU HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE SHOULD BE SUPERVISED BY THE COURT, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO PETITION THE COURT FOR SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION.

IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND THIS NOTICE, YOU SHOULD ASK YOUR ATTORNEY TO EXPLAIN IT TO YOU.

The personal representative's address and telephone number is 44 E. 55th Street Indianapolis, IN 46220, and telephone number is (317) 250-7531. The attorney for the personal representative is Alex Murphy, Atty.# 10205-49, 9833 Scotch Pine, Indianapolis, IN 46256; (317) 413-0945.

Dated at Indianapolis, Indiana, this January 3, 2022. /s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Marion County Superior Court #8 Probate Division 5320-936390

01/21/22, 01/28/22

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
In the Marion Superior Court

In the Matter of the Estate of Robert H. Sanders, Deceased.

Estate Docket: 49D08-2201-EU-000204

Notice is hereby given that was on that date shown below was appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Robert H. Sanders, Deceased, who died November 8, 2021, a resident of Marion County, Indiana.

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 this date: January 6, 2022. /s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Marion Superior Court 5320-936397

01/21/22, 01/28/22

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOAN E. GORDON, DECEASED
CAUSE NUMBER: 49D08-2201-EU-000226

Notices is hereby given that, on the 4th day of January, 2022, Michelle R. Patrick was appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Joan E. Gordon, deceased, who died on the 7th 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 January 4, 2022. /s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Superior Court of Marion County, Indiana Steven L. Harris, #7494-55 Harris & Currens 9 West Main Street Mooresville, IN 46158 (317) 831-4466 5320-936398

01/21/22, 01/28/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT
() SS: COUNTY OF MARION)
CAUSE NO. 49D08-2201-EU-001050

IN RE: THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF: DEBORAH J. MILLER, Decedent

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

In the Superior Court No. 8 of Marion County, Indiana In the Matter of the Estate of Deborah J. Miller, deceased.

Estate Docket 49D08-2201-EU-001050

Notice is hereby given that Denise A. Byrd was, on the 12th day of January, 2022, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Deborah J. Miller, deceased, who died on the 20th day of December, 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 Marion County, Indiana, this January 12, 2022. /s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Superior Court No. 8 Probate Division of Marion County, Indiana 5320-936428

01/28/22

Legal Notice
STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
NOTICE TO BIDDERS ON BEHALF OF: Family and Social Services Administration

SOLICITATION FOR: Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) Maintenance and Operations (M&O) and Medicaid Business Operations, Request for Proposals 22-70376

PROPOSAL DUE DATE: February 28, 2022 by 3:00 PM EST/EDT

<https://www.in.gov/idoa/procurement/current-business-opportunities/> 5320-936048

01/21/22

Legal Notice
STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
NOTICE TO BIDDERS ON BEHALF OF: Indiana Department of Education

SOLICITATION FOR: STEM & Literacy Plan Work; RFP 22-70334

PROPOSAL DUE DATE: February 14, 2022 by 3:00 PM EST/EDT

<https://www.in.gov/idoa/procurement/current-business-opportunities/> 5320-936605

01/21/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION CIRCUIT COURT
() SS: PATERNITY DIVISION
COUNTY OF MARION)
CAUSE NO.: 49C01-0908-JP-039634

49C01-0607-JP-030396 IN RE THE PATERNITY OF: ALEXIS KANTNER, MADISYN KANTNER AMANDA MORRIS, Petitioner, and JARED KANTNER, Respondent.

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

PUBLISHED NOTICE: Notice is hereby given that A Petition to Terminate Parenting Time or in the Alternate Supervised Parenting Time was filed by Respondent Jared Kantner in the Marion Circuit Court on November 11, 2020. Any person has the right to appear at the hearing scheduled on said petition scheduled February 22, 2022, at 11:30 a.m., and to file objections.

Hearing may be held in person or remotely. The Court will advise.

The following manner of service of Summons is hereby designated: BY PUBLICATION, TO BE PUBLISHED BY THREE (3) CONSECUTIVE WEEKLY PUBLICATIONS IN THE INDIANAPOLIS RECORDER.

PRITZKE & DAVIS, LLP. Dated: January 4, 2022. By: /s/ Edward L. Walter Edward L. Walter Party Seeking Service: Edward L. Walter, Attorney PRITZKE & DAVIS, LLP 728 North State Street Greenwood, Indiana 46140 (317) 462-3434 (317) 462-3494 (fax) 5320-935392

01/14/22, 01/21/22, 01/28/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION CIRCUIT COURT
() COUNTY OF MARION)
CASE NO.: 49C01-2112-MI-042327

49C01-2112-MI-042326 IN RE THE CHANGE OF NAMES OF MINORS: DJ ANDREW JOHN, MEKO ANDREW JOHN, MINORS PRINCESS BANDARDS PETITIONER.

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR PUBLICATION IN NEWSPAPER

Notice is hereby given that Petitioner, as a self represented litigant, filed a Verified Petition for Change of Name to change name from DJ Andrew John to DJ Bandards and Meko Andrew John to Meko Bandards. The Petition is scheduled for hearing in the Marion Circuit Court on March 29, 2022, which is more than thirty (30) days after the third notice of publication. Any person has the right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections on or before the hearing date. This hearing will be in the Marion County Circuit Court, 200 E. Washington Street, City County Building, Room W506, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204. This hearing will be held remotely by WebEx. A separate WebEx invitation will be sent with instructions to joining the hearing.

Date 29, 2021 Clerk of Marion Circuit Court Judicial Officer Distribution: Petitioner 5320-935651

01/14/22, 01/21/22, 01/28/22

SUMMONS-SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION CIRCUIT COURT
() SS: COUNTY OF MARION)
CAUSE NO. 49C01-2112-PL-039925

Jeff Lawson Plaintiff v. Chase & Lawson Property Management; Neil L. Cowen; Heirs of Mary Lou Cowen; Donald Chase; unknown husbands, wives, widows, widowers, heirs, devisees, successors, assigns, and all other persons claiming any right, title or interest in the Real Estate by, or through them, or any other person or entity, names of all whom are unknown to the Plaintiff

Defendants **NOTICE OF SUIT** To the defendants named below herein, and any other person who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Court named above.

The purpose of this proceeding is to quiet the title to real estate legally described as follows:

Lot Numbered 42 in German Park Addition, to the City of Indianapolis, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 15, page 91, in the Office of the Recorder of Marion County, Indiana.

Real Estate is commonly known as: 2023 Gent Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46202; Property I.D. No. 49-06-34-107-046.000-101 (hereafter "Real Estate").

This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following defendants who may claim some interest in the Real Estate and whose whereabouts are not known with certainty: Chase & Lawson Property Management; Neil L. Cowen; Heirs of Mary Lou Cowen; Donald Chase; unknown husbands, wives, widows, widowers, heirs, devisees, successors, assigns, and all other persons claiming any right, title or interest in the Real Estate by, or through them, or any other person or entity, names of all whom are unknown to the Plaintiff

You must respond to this summons by publication, by you or your attorney, on or before thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit has been published. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you.

ATTEST: Clerk of the Marion County Circuit Court John B. Flatt, Attorney Number 20883-45

Attorney for Plaintiff NELSON & FRANKENBERGER, LLC 550 Congressional Boulevard, Suite 210 Carmel, Indiana 46032 Telephone: (317) 844-0106 5320-935505

01/14/22, 01/21/22, 01/28/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION CIRCUIT COURT
() COUNTY OF MARION)
CAUSE NO.: 49C01-2112-PL-042515

JOSE A. ANGEL NUNEZ Plaintiff, v. NICHOLAS A. CAROTHERS, CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS & NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES, and STATE OF INDIANA, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

and unknown husbands, wives, widows, widowers, surviving spouses, heirs, legatees, devisees, grantees, children, descendants, mortgages, 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:

LOT NUMBERED FOUR (4) IN BLOCK THREE (3) IN C.A. OWEN'S PARK GROVE ADDITION TO THE CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, THE PLAT OF WHICH IS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 12, PAGE 15, IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA.

Commonly known as: 1315 Edgemont Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46208

To the following Defendants whose whereabouts are not known: NICHOLAS A. CAROTHERS, CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS & NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES, and STATE OF INDIANA, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE and The unknown husbands, wives, widows, widowers, surviving spouses, heirs, legatees, devisees, grantees, children, descendants, mortgages, 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.

In addition to the above named defendants being served by this summons there may be other defendants who have an interest in this law suit. If you have a claim for relief against the plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer.

You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, on or before thirty (30) days after the Third Published Notice of Suit, and if you fail to do so a judgment will be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.

The Name and Address of the Attorney Representing the Plaintiff is: Kathleen S. Crebo HOCKER LAW LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 6626 E. 75th St., Suite 410 Indianapolis, IN 46250 T: (317) 578-1630 F: (317) 849-1892 E: Kathleen.Crebo@hockerlaw.com /s/ Myla A. Eldridge Marion County Clerk 12/27/2021 SEAL: Prepared By: Kathleen S. Crebo #29876-49 HOCKER LAW LLC

5320-935284 01/

LEGAL S ■ LEGAL S ■ CLASSIFIED

NOTICE TO BIDDERS ON BEHALF OF: FSSA, Division of Family Resources
SOLICITATION FOR: IEDSS System Maintenance and Operations; RFP-22-69735
PROPOSAL DUE DATE: April 4th, 2022 PM ET
https://fs.gmis.in.gov/psc/guest/SUPPLIER/ERP/c/NUI_FRAMEWORK.PT_LANDINGPAGE.GBL 5320-935356
01/14/22,
01/21/22

STATE OF INDIANA IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT 3
COUNTY OF MARION
CAUSE NUMBER: 49D03-2111-MF-037741
WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF THE RESIDENTIAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES TRUST VII-A, Plaintiff,
vs.
UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, AND PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES, AND CREDITORS OF LYNETTE KENDALL (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:
All that certain parcel of land in City of Indianapolis, Marion County State of Indiana as more fully described in instrument #94-45680 Tax ID # 701-7011687 being known and designated as Lot 61 in Walker's Sunnyside Subdivision as per plat book 6 pages 48 and 159.
This property is commonly known as 119 South Butler Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46219
This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following Defendants whose addresses are known:
Unknown Occupant, if any
119 South Butler Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46219
National City Bank
Serve Highest Officer Found
251 East Ohio Street,
Suite 500
Indianapolis, IN 46204
State of Indiana Department of Revenue
Serve Highest Officer Found
100 N. Senate N105
Indianapolis, IN 46204
And to the following defendant whose addresses are unknown:
Unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, and personal representatives, and creditors of Lynette Kendall (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 20th day of February, 2022 (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.
Matthew C. Gladwell (30493-49)
Amanda L. Krenson (28999-61)
David W. Cliffe (36402-15)
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Reisenfeld & Associates LLC
3962 Red Bank Road
Cincinnati, OH 45227
Voice: 1-513-322-7000
Facsimile: (513) 322-7099
11/10/2021
ATTEST:
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge
Clerk of the Marion County Circuit Superior Court
5320-935177
01/07/22,
01/14/22,
01/21/22

ADVERTISMENT FOR BIDS
The Trustees of Purdue University will receive sealed bids for the following projects until 3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) on the 10th day of February 2022 in the offices of Capital Asset Management, 2550 Northwestern Avenue, Suite 1100, West Lafayette, IN 47906.
1. West Lafayette Campus - Bearing Hall Rooms 2208 Renovation - 2022
2. West Lafayette Campus - Bearing Hall Rooms 2292, 2293 and 2297 Lab Renovation - 2022
3. West Lafayette Campus - Krach Leadership Center Lawn Pedestrian Pathway Installation - 2022
Bids will then be publicly opened and read aloud in the offices of Capital Asset Management, 2550 Northwestern Avenue, Suite 1100, West Lafayette, IN 47906.
Bids received after such time will be returned unopened. Bids may be withdrawn prior to such time, but no bids shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days

thereafter.
The Principal Subcontractor Questionnaire listing the names of the bidder's principal subcontractors shall be submitted with the bid. The remainder of the Questionnaires and Material Lists shall be submitted prior to 3:00 p.m. (EST) on the 17th day of February 2022, to:
Capital Asset Management
2550 Northwestern Avenue, Suite 1100
West Lafayette, IN 47906
Phone (765) 494-0580
Bids shall be for complete construction only, properly executed and submitted on Form 96, accompanied by executed Form 96A (as prescribed by the State Board of Accounts) giving financial data as recent as possible, and a Non-Collusion Affidavit together with other documents as required by the Instructions to Bidders and addressed to The Trustees of Purdue University, clearly marked with the project and the bid opening date.
Each bid must be accompanied by the Contractor's written plan for a program to test the contractor's employees for drugs in accordance with IC 4-13-18.
Each bid must be accompanied by a Contractor's Combination Bid Bond and Bond for Construction in the form included in the specifications made payable to The Trustees of Purdue University in an amount equal to the maximum total of the base bid and any alternate bids, guaranteeing the execution and faithful performance of the contract for the work if awarded.
The Instructions to Bidders contained in the specifications for the projects are by this reference made a part hereof, and all bidders shall be deemed advised of the provisions thereof, and of the General Conditions of the contract, specifications, plans and drawings for the project.
A voluntary pre-bid meeting for Project No. 1 will be held on January 24, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. EST. The meeting will be "virtual". Please contact the Project Manager (Jim Mellish at jwmellish@purdue.edu or 765-494-0590) if you would like to be added to the invite list. Following the meeting, site visits can be scheduled with the Project Manager.
A voluntary pre-bid meeting for Project No. 2 will be held on January 24, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. EST. The meeting will be "virtual". Please contact the Project Manager (Jim Mellish at jwmellish@purdue.edu or 765-494-0590) if you would like to be added to the invite list. Following the meeting, site visits can be scheduled with the Project Manager.
A voluntary pre-bid meeting for Project No. 3 will be held on January 24, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. EST. The meeting will be held at Krach Lawn, located behind Krach Leadership Center (KRCH) at 1198 Third Street, West Lafayette, IN.
The architectural/engineering firms for these projects are:
Project Nos. 1 & 2 Schmidt Associates, Inc.
415 Massachusetts Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone (317) 263-6226
Fax (317) 263-6224
Project No. 3 MKSK
608 Columbia Street
Lafayette, IN 47904
Phone (765) 250-9209
To view or obtain bid documents online:
Repro Graphix Inc.
437 N. Illinois St
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Web: PurduePlanroom.com
Phone: 1-800-718-0035
Email: Plans@Reprographix.com
A \$300 deposit will be required for each hardcopy set of bidding documents. One compact disk or download is available at no charge. Postage and handling fee may apply.
All orders must be placed online and bidders may choose to pick up orders at:
Purdue Print & Digital Services delivered by Xerox:
698 Ahlers Drive
West Lafayette, IN 47907
Phone: 765-494-2006
Bidding Documents are on file in the office of:
Senior Vice President for Administrative Operations
2550 Northwestern Avenue, Suite 1100
West Lafayette, IN 47906
Phone (765) 494-0580
The Board of Trustees of Purdue University reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive, to the extent permitted by law, any of the terms, conditions and provisions contained in this Advertisement for Bids or the Instructions to Bidders or any informality, irregularity or omission in any bid, provided that such waiver shall, in the discretion of the Board of Trustees, be to the advantage of The Trustees of Purdue University.
THE TRUSTEES OF PURDUE UNIVERSITY
By
James K. Keefe
Senior Director of Capital Asset Management
Date: 12/22/2021
5320-934889
01/07/22,
01/21/22

FOR SALE - MERCHANDISE
Use Happy Jack® ToneKote® on dogs & cats to insure a warm winter coat, prevent shedding & eliminate doggy odor. At Tractor Supply® (www.happyjackinc.com)
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LIVE PAIN FREE with CBD products from AceWellness. We guarantee highest quality, most competitive pricing on CBD products. Softgels, Oils, Skincare, Vape & more. Coupon Code: PRINT20
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Guaranteed Life Insurance! (Ages 50 to 80). No medical exam. Affordable premiums never increase. Benefits never decrease. Policy will only be cancelled for non-payment. 833-535-1043
NOTICES
DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY! FAST FREE PICKUP-24 HR RESPONSE! Help Children in Need, Support Breast Cancer Education/Prevention or Veterans. Tax Deduction 844-820-9099
DIAGNOSED WITH LUNG CANCER? You may qualify for a substantial cash award. NO Obligation, NO risk! We've recovered millions. Let us help you!! Call 24/7, 844-284-4920
REAL ESTATE
Looking to SELL your Home? Save time & money, connect with the Top Agents in your area to get more MONEY and close FASTER! Call 317-854-9781
SERVICES
Wesley Financial Group, LLC - Timeshare Cancellation Experts - Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 877-329-1207
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Indiana's Finest Wrecker will be having an auction/public sale on January 31st, 2022 at 8AM.
7576 W Washington St Indianapolis, IN 46231
List of vehicles to be included in the sale:

Year	Make	VIN	Sale Price
2012	CHEVROLET	1G1PC5SH2C7287738	\$1,500.00
2017	GMC	1GDY7RFF7H1131054	\$1,500.00
2004	HYUNDAI	KMHWF25S94A056707	\$1,500.00
2003	TOYOTA	4T1BE32K93U755411	\$1,500.00
2017	JEEP	1C4NUPFA1H1D172781	\$1,500.00
2007	CHEVROLET	1G1ZS58N27F262438	\$1,500.00
2007	CADILLAC	1GYEE637X70145974	\$1,500.00
2007	DODGE	1D8GT58K37W629737	\$1,500.00
2009	PONTIAC	1G2ZG57BX94192674	\$1,500.00
2003	FORD	1FAPP38383W289514	\$1,500.00
2008	MITSUBISHI	4A3AB36F78E014792	\$1,500.00
2012	CHEVROLET	1G1ZE5E09CF283233	\$1,500.00
2015	WABASH NATIONAL	1JJVS32D0FL870841	\$1,500.00
2006	HONDA CIVIC	1HGFA16566L145186	\$1,500.00

5320-936563
01/21/22

IT IS ILLEGAL TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ANY PERSON BECAUSE OF RACE, SEX, COLOR, RELIGION, HANDICAP, FAMILIAL STATUS, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN.



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LUNAR NEW YEAR

Discover Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and Vietnamese traditions surrounding the Lunar New Year and welcome the Year of the Tiger at the Global Village Welcome Center!

On exhibit:
January 8, 2022 – February 2, 2022

Join the festivity as we hold a pretend countdown to the Lunar New Year with a traditional lion dance.


Countdown:
January 29, 2022 from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm.
We will ring in the Lunar New Year at 2:00 pm.







EXPLORE. CONNECT. CELEBRATE.

4233 Lafayette Road Indianapolis, IN 46254 317-751-5229 imcoalition.org

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 10 am – 5 pm
Wed: 10 am – 7 pm
Sat: 12 pm – 4 pm
Sun: Closed



Martin University Launches Center for Racial Equity & Inclusion



2022 BLACK HISTORY MONTH TABLOID

BLACK HISTORY MATTERS

DIVERSITY EQUITY AND INCLUSION

Artwork Deadline:	Ad sizes:	Width X Height	Rates:
Monday, February 14, 2022	Full Page	10.325 X 9.95	Full Page \$1,835
	Half Page Vertical	10.325 X 4.925	Half Page \$1,335
Publication Date:	Half Page Horizontal	5.1375 X 9.95	Quarter page \$1,075
Friday, February 25, 2022	Quarter Page	5.1375 X 4.925	Inside Front Cover \$2,000
			Inside Back Cover \$2,000
			Back Cover \$2,235
			Center Spread \$2,800

From slavery to Reconstruction, Jim Crow to the Civil Rights Movement to the current protests against injustice, Black history exists on a continuum and is made every day. In honoring the past, the Recorder recognizes our perseverance and triumphs, using our achievements to guide our future. The Black History Month special section will highlight local African American history makers of today and those who prioritize diversity, equity and inclusion. Whether breaking ground in the boardroom, making a difference in government or organizing protests, local and national leaders stand on the shoulders of greatness and continue in the advocacy of their forebears.

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CFP needs revenue sharing more than expansion

By DANNY BRIDGES

It was more than simply ironic that the College Football Playoff national championship game was held just 1.4 miles from the NCAA corporate offices. You know, the power brokers who finally agreed to share some crumbs from the enormous financial pie with athletes by granting them permission to personally profit through the marketing of their respective name, image and likeness, which the NCAA has profited from for ages. Mighty generous of the storied institution that for decades has taken cover under the guise of preserving amateur athletics and all things pure and wholesome within such. All the while they've stockpiled enough cash to make even Wall Street envious, as TV networks and corporate America "partnered" with them for the good of the game and their share of all that money being printed. Now the only decision left is how to make even more money off the young men who lined up last week at Lucas Oil Stadium and left the power football conference commissioners salivating for the potential of expanded playoffs, which will of course guarantee bigger payouts to their coffers. The ongoing discussions regarding the expansion of this sham disguised as true athletic competition unfortunately do not include any provisions regard-

ing payouts to the participating players, and while that's no surprise to anyone who truly sees this out-of-whack financial sham for what it truly is, there is certainly no rush to grant the players their cut. After all, ESPN is only paying a mere \$470 million annually for the broadcast rights in a deal that will expire after the 2025 season, and it won't be long before the vultures from the other TV networks join them in hovering over the offices of the powers that be looking to do more than simply wetting their powerful beaks. The age-old questions here are how much is truly enough in terms of the obscene amounts of funds changing hands, and when will the young men who provide the entertainment content begin to be paid for their essential services? The long overdue remedy to all that and then some is quite simple and right there for, shall we say, the taking. It won't happen until the players organize and bring litigation against those who refuse to share with them what is rightfully theirs. For starters, how about every player on both teams in the championship game simply walking off the field after the national anthem has been performed, signaling they're not playing tonight as a result of the blatant financial inequality. That would undoubtedly prompt a conference call between those who write the enormous checks and those who up until now have been cashing them

and not sharing a dime with the players. These talented athletes deserve more than a chartered flight to the host city and a commemorative golf shirt in a backpack bearing the CFP logo. It's obvious the money they're entitled to isn't going to be given to them without a fight of epic proportion, so it's time to put all this talk about the paltry NIL money aside and discuss how the real money being brought in can be equally shared immediately. The players have an overwhelming advantage and must organize and force negotiations. For those of you out there who feel that walking off the field right before the big game or filing a lawsuit is too much, it's time for you to take your head out of the proverbial sand and look at the numbers. I was downtown quite a bit on the last few days leading up to the championship tilt, and I'm wondering, didn't you notice the stitch of greed permeating the air between the hotels in which the power brokers were being housed and Lucas Oil Stadium? I sure could.

Danny Bridges, who often wonders what is taking the players so long to claim their share of the enormous wealth associated with college football, can be reached at 317-370-8447 or at bridgeshd@aol.com.

Pacers lose to Suns at home



Domantas Sabonis tries stealing the ball during the Pacers' 112-94 loss to the Suns on Jan. 14.

Suns veteran Chris Paul had 12 points and nine assists.



Suns star Devin Booker goes up for a basket over Caris LeVert. Booker led all scorers with 35 points. (Photos/Walt Thomas)



LC wins battle for Lawrence

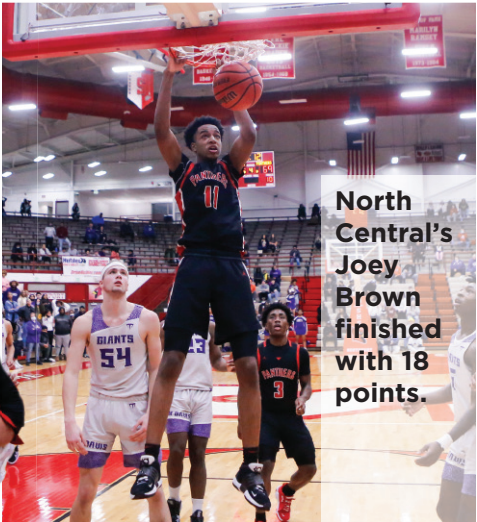


The Lawrence Central Lady Bears won the battle for Lawrence over the Lady Wildcats, 61-55. (Photos/David Dixon)



Lawrence Central's Victoria Smiley finished with 14 points.

North Central takes down Ben Davis



Panthers first-year head coach Kevin Gant cuts down the nets.

North Central won the county championship game over Ben Davis, 74-73 in overtime. It was the first county title for the Panthers since 2012. (Photos/David Dixon)

North Central's Joey Brown finished with 18 points.