



Rep. Robin Shackleford, leader of the Indiana Black Legislative Caucus, called for Kate Sweeney-Bell to step down from her role as chair of the Marion County Democratic Party, citing conflicts of interest and discrimination. (Photo/Breanna Cooper)

BLACK POLITICAL LEADERS CALL FOR DEMOCRATIC PARTY CHAIR RESIGNATION

By BREANNA COOPER
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Citing conflicts of interest and discrimination against minority candidates, Monroe Gray, president of the Marion County Black Elected Officials (MCBEO), and members of the Indiana Black Legislative Caucus (IBLC) called for the resignation of Marion County Democratic Party Chair Kate Sweeney-Bell during a press conference Feb. 1.

In a letter to the Indiana Democratic Party sent Jan. 28, MCBEO representatives outlined their

concerns about Sweeney-Bell's candidacy for Marion County Clerk because of the power she has as the sitting chair of the county party. The IBLC and MCBEO members claim Sweeney-Bell has gained an inordinate level of power as chair by selecting precinct committee people — or PCs — who essentially work as a middleman between voters and candidates and are responsible for things such as canvassing.

According to the IBLC and MCBEO, Sweeney-Bell has “abused her power” to deny support for minority applicants by appointing PCs who will support her

See RESIGNATION, A6▶

Parents, teachers question education bill

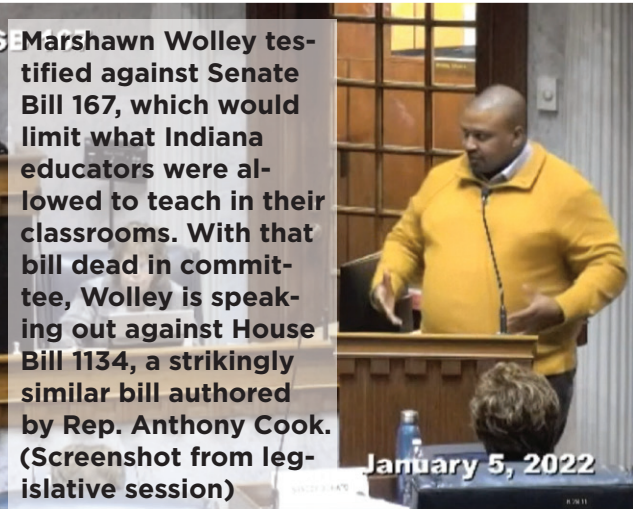
By BREANNA COOPER
BreannaC@indyrecorder.com

House Bill 1134, Education Matters, passed in the Indiana House along party lines — 60-37 — Jan. 26 and is headed to the Indiana Senate for debate.

HB 1134 — which would require teachers to post their curriculum online and allow parents to opt their children out of certain lessons — has sparked debates about keeping children safe and teaching American history accurately. Many proponents argue that history lessons regarding slavery or the Holocaust could disturb children, and that parents have a right to know and weigh in on what their children learn at school. Some Black parents and educators, however, see the bill as a way of whitewashing history for the comfort of white parents.

Marshawn Wolley, a business owner and father of a fourth grader at Fishback Creek Public Academy in Pike Township, said the bill would severely limit the historical leaders his son can learn about in school.

See BILL, A7▶



Marshawn Wolley testified against Senate Bill 167, which would limit what Indiana educators were allowed to teach in their classrooms. With that bill dead in committee, Wolley is speaking out against House Bill 1134, a strikingly similar bill authored by Rep. Anthony Cook. (Screenshot from legislative session) January 5, 2022

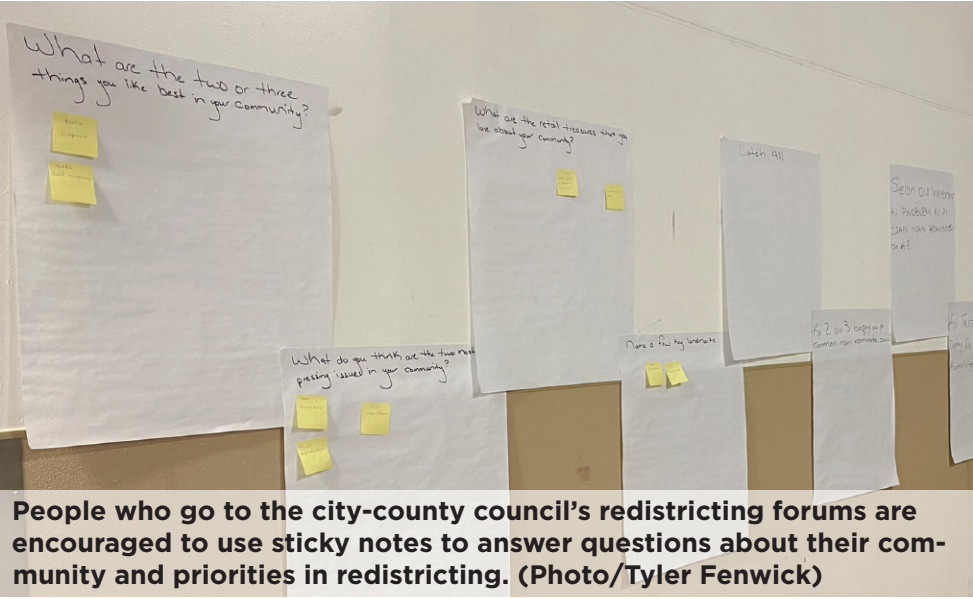
Can a commission lead redistricting in Indianapolis? Depends who you ask

By TYLER FENWICK
tylerf@indyrecorder.com

The scene at the City-County Building a little more than four years ago resembled something closer to a football game than a typical council meeting. It was November 2017, and a boisterous crowd was there to show its support for Proposition 285, a special resolution encouraging the Indiana General Assembly to adopt “comprehensive redistricting reform.”

It passed mostly along party lines with Democratic support.

Chief among the suggestions for state lawmakers was creating a citizen-led commission to oversee redistricting. The move didn't sway the heavily



People who go to the city-county council's redistricting forums are encouraged to use sticky notes to answer questions about their community and priorities in redistricting. (Photo/Tyler Fenwick)

Republican General Assembly to adopt a commission when lawmakers redrew state Senate, House of Representatives and congressional districts in 2021.

Calls for a redistricting commission continue, except now it's city-county councilors on the receiving end.

Reform advocates appear to be in for more disappointment, with councilors pointing to state law to say the council alone is responsible for redistricting, but it's not clear exactly what part of state law councilors and others are citing.

In general, the idea of a commission is to take redistricting out of lawmakers' hands and put people who aren't

See REDISTRICTING, A6▶

New DEI officer joins IndyPL staff

By BREANNA COOPER
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After a tumultuous year for Indianapolis Public Library (IndyPL), Keesha Hughes stepped into her first day as the diversity, inclusion and equity (DEI) officer in November.



See OFFICER, A9▶ Keesha Hughes

NEW IMPD DISCIPLINE POLICY ‘more fair across the board’

By TYLER FENWICK
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Indianapolis police officers will work under a new discipline policy approved by the Civilian Police Merit Board on Feb. 1, capping an effort that started in 2018 to create more flexibility in the discipline process.

The new policy creates a system that's similar to the current one with categories of misconduct that correspond to certain levels of punishment. Where it differs is now the department and merit board — which conducts discipline hearings for officers — can take into account how an officer's conduct affects the community and the police department's image.

The 38-page handbook lays out six categories of offenses, ranging from A-F, where A is the least serious. Violations come with a certain level of punishment, ranging from 1-7.

A category A infraction (failure to properly main-



An Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department car. (Recorder file photo)

tain and use equipment, for example) could come with anything from a verbal warning to a written reprimand. Repeat violations within six months increase the severity of the punishment.

A category F infraction (lying in court, for example) is left to the chief's discretion, including termination. The merit board steps in when officers appeal their punishment.

According to the policy, the lowest level of offense

See IMPD, A7▶

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Based on review of curated content between September and December 2021.

Franklin Township Schools settles with former teacher

By TYLER FENWICK
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A former Franklin Township Schools teacher will receive \$50,000 as part of a settlement with the district after a school police officer accused him of lying about his position to get into a soccer game for free and then arrested him.

Craig Jordan, a special education teacher in the district’s alternative school at the time, sued the district in August 2021 for violating his Fourth Amendment rights, saying the officer didn’t believe him and detained him because he is Black. The incident occurred in August 2019.

The district denied the allegations, and a settlement is not an admission of guilt. “Franklin Township Community School Corporation condemns and does not tolerate discrimination of any kind,” a district spokesperson said in a statement following the settlement.

As part of the court case, the district also released body camera footage of the officer, James Wheatley, questioning and detaining and Jordan. View the footage at indianapolisrecorder.com.

The video starts after Jordan tells Wheatley he’s a teacher. Wheatley said he was detaining Jordan “right away,” and the video shows him pull Jordan’s shirt over his shoulder and down his arm.

“Whenever an officer tells you to do something, you tensed up. That’s resisting,” the officer said at one point.

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



Police body camera footage shows Craig Jordan, a former Franklin Township Schools teacher, being detained after a school officer accused him of lying about being a teacher to get into a soccer game for free. (Screenshot)

what the video shows.

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

The athletic director confirmed to Wheatley that Jordan was a teacher, and

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

“At the end of the day, there was no reason to arrest him,” Jordan’s attorney, Jon Little, said. “There was no reason to hassle him.”

In an interview in June 2021, Jordan told the Recorder he went on family medical leave

and had been going to therapy because of the stress.

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

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

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ESKENAZI HEALTH

BLACK FILMS THRIVE AT SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL 2022

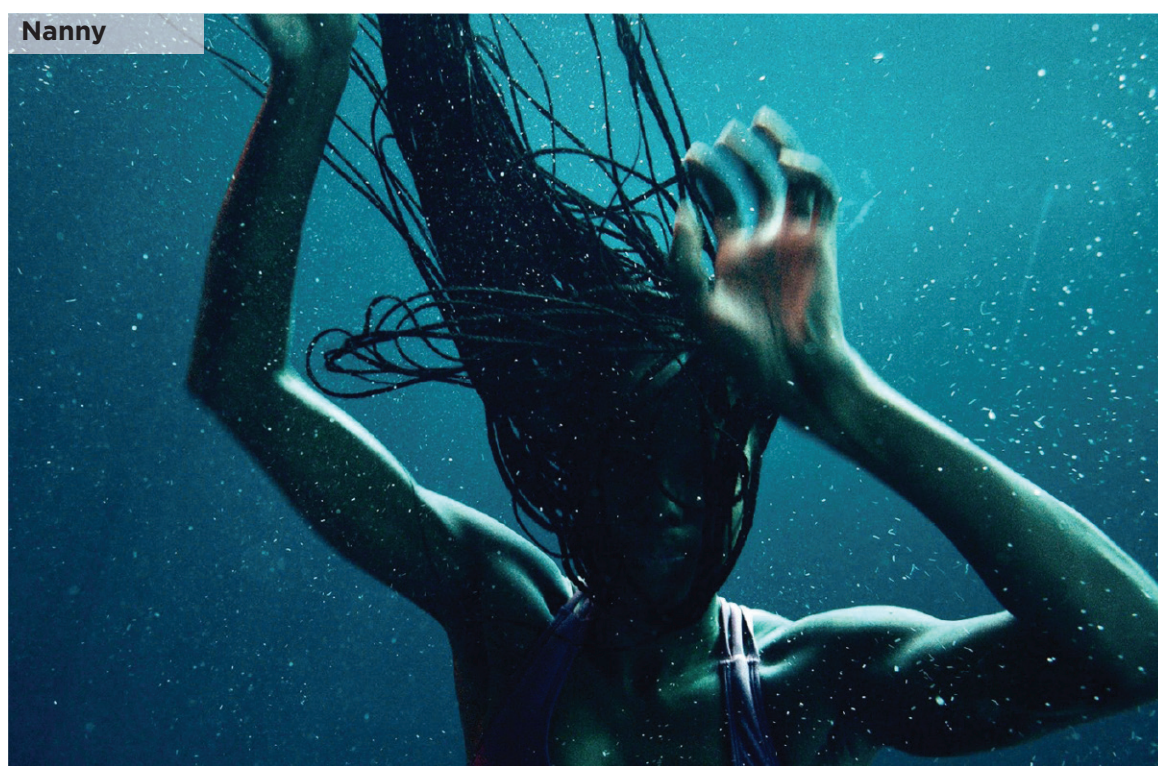
By DWIGHT BROWN
NNPA Film Critic

At the last minute, due to omicron concerns, the 2022 Sundance Film Festival morphed from an in-person and virtual event to a purely digital experience. Thanks to streaming, Black filmmakers and Black films were on center stage all over the world. Check them out ...

AFTERSHOCK (***)

According to WHO, the U.S. ranks 60th on the list of countries with the lowest maternal mortality ratio. The Population Reference Bureau cites, "Black women are three times more likely to die in pregnancy postpartum than white women." Directors Paula Eiselt and Tonya Lewis Lee's illuminating documentary breaks down the contributing factors and possible solutions for maternal mortality in the aftermath of two specific women's deaths. Shamony Gibson and Amber Rose Isaac both died after labor and a grassroots movement for birth justice and equity, in their honor, is heroically launched by Omari Maynard and Bruce McIntyre, the fathers of their children. The courageous dads, like shamans, guide you through the perils and needs for a change in obstetric care from pregnancy to births, to aftercare.

Systemic issues (hospitals profit more from risky, fast-buck C-Sections than slow vaginal births), disparities, root causes and communication errors are revealed. Notably a job once done by Black slave midwives is now the domain of white male OB-GYNs. Watching the consciousness-raising support groups of widowed Black men is as inspiring as a thousand Million Man Marches. Very solid doc filmmaking



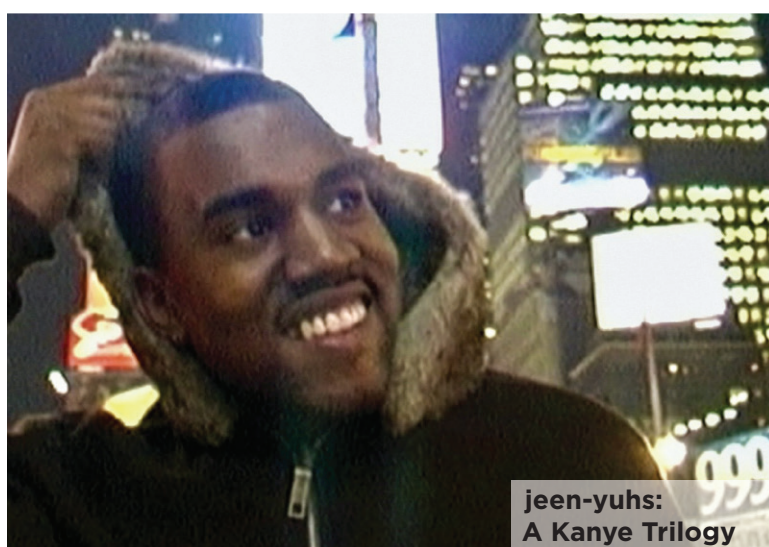
Nanny

instincts reflect an empowering movement born from painful experiences. The revolution in pre- and postnatal care for Black women will be Instagrammed, Twitted, Facebooked...

DESCENDANT (***1/2)

A yearning for a definitive history is the driving force of this heart-warming doc. The Cotilda schooner was the last American slave ship to bring Africans to the U.S. The imprisoned captives from Benin arrived in Mobile, Alabama, in 1860. The Black descendants of that ship settled in Africatown, which has since been parceled away by public domain highway projects, a lumber yard and other businesses. Still the proud residents keep their history alive, orally, passing on info, names and dates to future generations who become historians and record keepers.

Director Margaret Brown captures the spiritual experiences of these chosen Alabamians. She films their interviews



jeen-yuhs:
A Kanye Trilogy



Descendant

For more information about the annual Sundance Film Festival go to: www.sundance.org.

just as a white journalist and white owner of a mechanic's shop decide to look for the ship that was burned by its owner, Timothy Meaher, and hidden in neighboring swamps.

Brown's chronicling of this hunt and what it means to the heirs of the Cotilda's last passengers is never obtrusive. Her style is reminiscent of the grassroots doc "Something in the Water." Culture, history, reckoning and reparations all add a richness that makes the film emotionally compelling. Grainy footage of the ship's last survivor Cudjo Lewis, as filmed by author Zora Neale Hurston in the 1930s, is as astounding to see as an heir of Meaher's showing up for a ship discovery ceremony. These stalwart descendants of slavery save their culture and history. Their tenacity and courage prevail in a very illuminating way.

JEEN-YUHS: A KANYE TRILOGY (***)

Ten minutes into this lively documentation of 21-year-old Kanye West the unsettling contrasts between this hopeful, humble adolescent and his embittered and inflated persona these days is quite jarring. Chicago public access TV host Coodie chronicled West's pilgrimage from Chicago to New York in the late '90s as he tried to transition from music producer to superstar rapper. Fuzzy-looking footage reveals all. Consider Coodie's homage to be more like a home movie/travelogue with famous people (Damon Dash, Pharrell) than a typical doc. No video tricks. No gimmicks. No mounds of news footage, interviews, etc. Just

► Continued on A5

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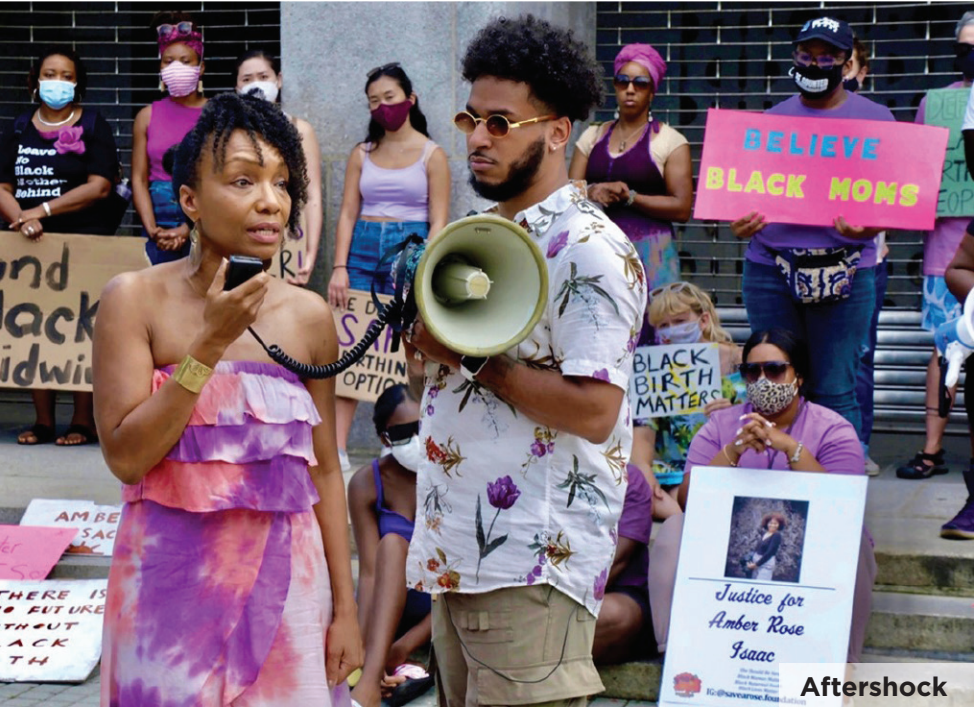
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largely an unfiltered look at West fighting for a record deal at hop-hop's holy grail, Roc-A-Fella Records.

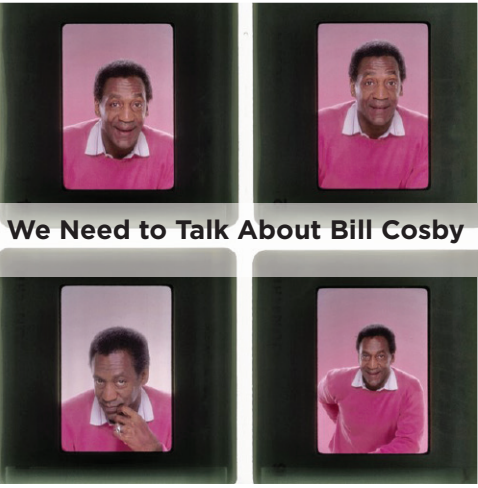
The most touching scenes are West and his wise, nurturing schoolteacher mother who wants him to remain humble: "You can stand on the ground with your head in the air at the same time." The most awkward scenes are watching Jay-Z, RR's CEO, keep Kanye at bay: He wants the milk (West's "jeen-yuhs" producing) but not the cow (Kanye as a rapper). The fly-on-the-wall filmmaking lets you cavort with family, friends, adversaries, mentors and hangers-on. Discovering West's middle-class background explains his early brand of rap and its often-spiritual elements, which are evidenced in the making of his classic hit "Jesus Walks." West, with no gangsta cred whatsoever, was on a mission: "I'm gonna bridge the gap to hip-hop." And he did, with a verve and naivet  that was reflected on his smiling face. Luckily, Coodie documented the good old days, or no one would believe the 1990s West and the 2022 Ye were the same person.

NANNY (**1/2)

African immigrant stories often possess an innate appeal. In this instance, Senegalese writer/director Nikyatu Jusu's odd mixture of horror, thriller, romance and muddled family drama has the opposite effect. Aisha (Anna Diop), a 20-something from Senegal, leaves her young son behind to find work in New York. A white couple (Michelle Monaghan and Morgan Spector) hires her to tend to their young daughter Rose (Rose Decker). The wealthy spouses are lax with pay, Aisha loses communication with her son and weird visions of a boy in rain haunt her. Supernatural aspects and cryptic images have no context for 90 minutes of this 97-minute motion picture. Regardless of the iffy narrative choices, Jusu and cinematographer Rina Yang make a very attractive film that displays their excellent taste in staging, composition, angles, lighting, etc. Scenes look fresh and modern. The director also excels at depicting a love story between Aisha and an understanding doorman (Sinqua Walls, "American Soul"). Jusu shows great promise as a director. Even a genre-messy film can't hide her talent.

WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT BILL COSBY (***)

Really?! Is there some explosive secret about the shamed comedian that has yet to be revealed? Stand-up comic turned documentarian W. Kamau Bell thinks so. To make his case, he assembles an exhaustive array of talking



We Need to Talk About Bill Cosby

heads (Roland Martin), comedians (Hannibal Buress), rape crisis counselors and even a journalist who investigates date rape drugs. Cosby's well-publicized fall from '60s TV pioneer ("I, Spy"), to 1980s/'90s quintessential all-American boob tube daddy ("The Cosby Show"), to convicted, imprisoned felon is meticulously charted. Victim after victim exposes his pattern of drugging, assaults and rapes. The Black community's initial ambivalent feelings are pondered. His hypocritical jabs at young Black men while he's molesting women are documented too.

Two hours of this in-your-face negativity is more than enough. Four one-hour segments are overkill. Too many clips of Fat Albert. Too much faux indignation over stupid stuff like Cosby playing an obstetrician on "The Cosby Show." The barrage of info will test your patience. Also, watching folks hypothesize as they sit on expensive leather coaches, dressed like fashionistas and lit like they're in a fashion shoot is off-putting. But credit Bell for his inventive style. Incriminating words dance across the screen and victims are noted on a horizontal calendar that pinpoints Cosby's crimes from the '60s, '70s, '80s and '90s. Plus, Bell's insights into Black culture, history and the TV industry are thorough and sometimes profound.

Indicting rapists like Cosby is fair game and newsworthy. But many viewers may wish the second two hours of this doc were spent teaching women how to beware of predatory situations, detect rapists, self-defense, report incidents and find supportive aide (e.g., rape crisis centers). We have talks with our sons about encounters with police. Why don't we have talks with our daughters about dealing with people like him? Bell and this doc had a chance to be an advocate for rape victims and provide a public service. It's a missed opportunity that would have given the series some depth.

There wouldn't be a President Obama without a Bill Cosby. There wouldn't be 60-plus rape victims without a Bill Cosby. It's an ugly paradox now captured on film.

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RESIGNATION

► Continued from A1

and the candidates of her choice.

This weekend, the Marion County Democratic Party will have its convention, where candidates will attempt to get support from the county party. Rep. Robin Shackleford, leader of IBLC, said many Democratic candidates will not be seeking support from the county party.

“It is time that our Marion County Democratic Party take a hard look at how we treat and support minority candidates,” Shackleford said. “We state we are a party of diversity, equality and inclusion, but we currently practice something totally different. The upcoming pre-primary convention is not advantageous for minority candidates, who are not incumbents, which is why most of the Marion County State legislators will not be participating this year.”

However, Shackleford wants people to continue to

support the Democratic Party as a whole, and said voters can do that by supporting the legislators taking a stand by not seeking support from the party.

“What we’re asking for people to do is still come out and support the Democrat Party,” Shackleford said. “We’re still here fighting for the least of thee, fighting for housing, access to health care, and fighting to make sure that you’re able to live and support your family and have a good education. We want you to come out to the polls. We need your vote to continue that fight. ... We ask that you continue to support the Democrat Party by supporting us.”

Following the press conference, Sweeney-Bell released a statement, touting the diversity of the county’s candidates.

“I have great admiration for the public service of

those who expressed concerns today, and I respect their decision to not seek the Marion County Democratic Party’s support at our pre-primary convention,” the statement reads. “I am also proud that this weekend, the Democratic Party will endorse a group featuring 50% candidates of color — one of the most talented, diverse tickets in county history. This is the continuation of a multi-year strategy to make our organization more reflective of the Democratic Party and our constituents in Marion County, which included the recent election of an executive committee with representatives from the Black, Latino and LGBT communities.”

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

REDISTRICTING

► Continued from A1

directly impacted in charge of the process.

“We’re doing the next best thing,” Councilor Zach Adamson said.

Adamson introduced the pro-commission resolution in 2017, saying at the time he’d be skeptical of the motivation of anyone who didn’t support the proposal. He’s not backtracking his support for a commission now, Adamson said, but the law governing redistricting is in the hands of state lawmakers.

Council President Vop Osili has said the same thing, calling it the council’s “statutory requirement.”

This is also the position of the mayor’s office.

“The redistricting process is governed by state law, which holds that the City-County Council is responsible for the drawing of new council districts,” spokesperson Mark Bode said in a statement.

To understand how redistricting works also requires an understanding of Unigov, the consolidation of the governments of Marion County and Indianapolis in 1970 by an act of the Indiana General Assembly.

According to state law, the city-county council “shall, by ordinance, divide the whole county” into 25 districts. It reads slightly differently for other cities, where the law says the legislative body “shall adopt an ordinance to divide the city” into five or six districts, depending on population.

But even Ice Miller, the law firm contracted to provide legal and technical services for the council in redistricting, said there is no legal distinction between the two statutes.

“The statutes do not use identical words, but the differences have no bearing on an independent commission,” the firm said in a statement provided

REMAINING REDISTRICTING FORUMS

Two redistricting forums scheduled for Feb. 2 and Feb. 3 have been postponed to Feb. 9 and Feb. 10 because of anticipated weather.

Warren Township

- 5:30-7:30 p.m. Feb. 7
- Moorhead Community Resource Center, 8400 E 10th St.
- COVID-19 requirements: Masks must be worn at all times

Center Township

- 5:30-7:30 p.m. Feb. 8
- Crispus Attucks High School, 1140 Doctor M.L.K. Jr. St.
- COVID-19 requirements: Masks must be worn at all times

Wayne Township

- 5:30-7:30 p.m. Feb. 9
- Northwest Middle School, 5525 W. 34th St.
- COVID-19 requirements: Masks must be worn at all times

Pike Township

- 5:30-7:30 p.m. Feb. 10
- Fay Biccard Glick Neighborhood Center Gymnasium, 2990 W. 71st St.
- COVID-19 requirements: Masks must be worn at all times

through a council spokesperson, again leaving open the question of how state law might prevent Indianapolis from using a commission.

Julia Vaughn, one of the state’s most recognized proponents of a redistricting commission, said state law directs the council to adopt an ordinance that redraws districts, but there’s no limit on the process of drawing maps.

Vaughn, policy director for Common Cause Indiana, said in an email the organization envisions a “politically balanced” citizens commission. The commission would study feedback from the council’s current public engagement campaign and get input on its own through a community mapping website.

The council would then start the formal ordinance process with a map from the commission.

There already appears to be precedent for a citizens commis-

sion in Bloomington, which has a Citizens’ Redistricting Advisory Commission. The commission will make a recommendation to the city council, which can approve or deny it with a majority vote.

There are nine commission members: three Democrats, three Republicans and three independents.

If the council rejects the first recommendation, it has to give a reason, and the commission gets another opportunity to make a recommendation.

It’s a level of transparency and citizen involvement many have asked for, but it seems this isn’t the redistricting cycle that will give it to them.

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



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IMPD

► Continued from A1

is one that “has a minimal negative impact on the operations or professional image of the department.” The highest level of offense goes beyond “normal and acceptable professional practice” and “egregiously violates the public trust.” Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department Chief Randal Taylor said the current discipline matrix isn’t flexible enough because it doesn’t take into account different variables that can be relevant to discipline. “I think this new matrix is a little more fair across the board,” he said. “I think it’ll be accepted by the officers and the public.” The merit board’s president, Frank Sullivan, said the new policy does a better job accounting for the “difficult nature of the work” IMPD does.

The approved discipline policy still has some technical hurdles to clear before it goes into effect, including figuring out where officers on the current matrix will translate to the new one. The resolution the merit board passed gives IMPD, with the approval of the merit board’s president, a 180-day window to correct typographical errors and make “general, non-substantive” edits that are considered minor. Otherwise, any amendment proposed by IMPD that has to do with the disciplinary process will need approval from a majority of the seven-member merit board. The board passed the resolution 6-0. Member Joseph Slash was absent. Adopting a new discipline policy took longer than expected after complaints that IMPD only released a

draft of the proposal. The board extended the public comment period, though engagement remained low. At the board’s monthly meeting in January, Josh Riddick, an advocate with Faith in Indiana, said the policy seems sound and strong. “We see this policy shift as a win,” he said. John Walton, president of the Minority Police Officers Association, said the association was in favor of the policy update, though it still had some concerns about how bias could come through in the discipline process. “Any time you have flexibility,” he said, “you have subjectivity.” Contact staff writer Tyler Fenwick at 317-762-7853. Follow him on Twitter @Ty_Fenwick.


BILL

► Continued from A1

For a school project, Wolley’s son decided to write about Madam CJ Walker, a business owner and the first Black woman to become a millionaire. “He was able to point out that Black people were treated poorly and Walker developed something that helps Black women,” Wolley said. “The way this law is set up, it could potentially erase Madam Walker, because how does Madam CJ Walker exist outside the context of racism and the obstacles she had to overcome?” The bill, authored by Rep. Anthony Cook, R-District 32, would prohibit a school from teaching certain concepts about race and ethnicity, and discourages teachers from discussing topics that could make students feel “discomfort or guilt.” The bill is similar to Senate Bill 167, which died in committee in January after the bill’s author, Sen. Scott Baldwin, R-Noblesville, made national headlines for arguing teachers should not openly oppose Nazi ideology in the classroom.

Shawnta Barnes, a longtime educator and education consultant, is concerned the bill would make it difficult for students in need of counseling or other emotional assistance to get help. Further, it could make it difficult, she said, for teachers to help their students succeed. “When kids trust you, they’ll tell you things,” Barnes said. “And sometimes, like when it comes to suicidal ideation or things that could bring them harm, that trust can help you help them. When kids feel close to you and trust you, they know you care about them, and that can lead to greater educational success. When I can connect with students, I can get them to try, even when the work is hard.” Along with being an educator, Barnes is also the mother of twin boys, who are in the fifth grade and are avid readers. If this bill passes, both Wolley and Barnes said their


children will continue to learn about Black leaders, culture and history. “I’m raising a Black male, so he has to be empowered. He has to know what’s happened in the past, and what he’s able to do now because of the others that came before him,” Wolley said. “My concern is what happens to kids who don’t get this at home when they become adults and get into the workforce? How will they understand the pain Black people experience when another Black male is killed? How will they understand the distinction when we say ‘Black Lives Matter,’ because all they’ll have been taught is ‘All Lives Matter?’” House Bill 1134 had a first reading in the Senate’s Committee on Education and Career Development on Feb. 1. Contract staff writer Breanna Cooper at 317-762-7848. Follow her on Twitter @BreannaNCooper.



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WE CAN'T DO THIS ALONE.

There's nothing we wouldn't do for the health and well being of our fellow Hoosiers. But sadly, COVID-19 has tested the limits of what health systems can accomplish on their own. And now, almost two years into the pandemic — desire, expertise and modern medicine are simply not enough.

We need help. Your help.

The situation is dire. We have more patients in our hospitals than we have beds. We're converting available units into critical care wards, just to make room. And as you know, the entire healthcare industry is operating on a short staff, which means our caregivers are running out of steam. It's a daily challenge to treat incoming COVID-19 patients, as well as those who suffer from strokes, heart attacks, car accidents, cancer and appendicitis.

We need action. Right now.

Communities rally together. And the moment we're in requires all of us to do our part to regain control before the situation grows even worse. Here's what you can do:

- 1. Get vaccinated.** Join the millions of Hoosiers, five and older, who have rolled up their sleeves over the past year.
- 2. Get boosted.** It will strengthen your immunity and provide further protection from all variants of COVID-19, including Omicron.
- 3. Get tested.** If you have symptoms, please get tested. Should the result come back positive, inform those whom you've been in contact with.
- 4. Get masked.** Face coverings are a simple and effective way to reduce the spread.

And please remember, if you have a mild case of COVID-19, call your doctor or go to a MedCheck/Urgent Care facility. Do not go to an emergency room, as we'd strongly prefer to save those beds for the very sickest and most in need of immediate attention.

Our strength is in our ability to come **together**. And it is **together**, that we will finally see our way out of this.

OFFICER

► Continued from A1

“It’s definitely going to take a team effort; one person can’t do it all,”

In May 2021, a virtual board of trustees meeting went off the rails after former employee Bree Flannelly was muted while trying to share her experiences of racism within the library system. In the months that followed, more employees spoke out, the Library Workers Union held rallies and filled the room at in-person board meetings, calling for the resignation of CEO Jackie Nytes. In August 2021, Central Indiana Community Foundation announced it would withhold funding from IndyPL, and Nytes resigned later that month.

Since Nytes’ resignation, the library board moved forward with an internal climate study in hopes of measuring how employees feel about the library’s workplace culture and dedication to diversity. Even the climate study wasn’t free from controversy — board members Drs. Khaula Murtadha and Patricia Payne took issue with the law firm Ice Miller being paid \$100,000 to conduct the survey despite Murtadha’s offer to do it for free. Hughes, however, looks forward to seeing the results to know what work needs to be done within IndyPL.

Regardless of the results — the analysis is expected to be ready sometime in March — one thing is clear: Employees and administration will have to collaborate to make improvements, Hughes said.

“It’s definitely going to take a team effort; one person can’t do it all,” Hughes said. “I envision my role to be that of a leader or coach. We have to figure out what our needs are ... so once we get the survey results, that will give us more of a blueprint.”

Michael Torres, a Central Library branch employee and president of the Library Workers Union, said a lot of library workers are disillusioned by the process, largely due to the amount of time it’s taken for the climate study to be conducted (the process was announced in June). Further, Torres is concerned about accountability. If survey results show staff members believe the issues stem from administration, Torres said he isn’t sure what — if anything — would be done to make changes or progress. For now, the union is focused on the search for a permanent CEO, which is being conducted by Bradbury Miller Associates. “We just want somebody to lead us and someone who can be held accountable, which Jackie never was,” Torres said.

Hughes’ goal in her first year is to

get to know and build relationships with employees. She has a background in journalism and public relations and worked for five years as the anti-racism committee leader at Perry Township schools. Hughes hopes her presence and expertise can help rebuild trust among IndyPL employees, echoing the sentiment of interim CEO John Helling when he took over last year.

“We are very pleased to have Keesha on board,” Helling said in a statement. “Since joining our team, she has worked diligently to build relationships with staff and learn about our culture. Her experience and her expertise will be invaluable as we work to improve ourselves as an employer and as a library.”

Hughes knows there’s a lot of work to be done, and said she’ll measure her success by having discussions with IndyPL staff members and using data from the climate survey.

Released Dec. 9, IndyPL employees had two weeks to fill out the survey which was created through the website SurveyMonkey. The survey asked about employees’ experiences with discrimination and racism during their time at IndyPL, as well as questions pertaining to the employee’s faith in the board of trustees and library management. According to library administration, the survey had about an 80% response rate.

Hughes, who is an external hire, came to IndyPL after the organization announced its 2021-23 strategic plan. In May 2021 — just 11 days before the board of trustees meeting that sparked outrage — Nytes touted IndyPL’s dedication to diversity. The strategic plan includes the allocation of 50% of the annual recruitment budget toward diverse recruitment efforts and the goal of spending 30% of its annual collection budget on Black media.

Though she wasn’t on staff during the leadership change last year, Hughes said she’s encouraged by the work she sees being done to change the culture of the library. Among the efforts are town hall meetings hosted by Helling.

“It can’t all happen overnight,” Hughes said, “but I think he’s doing the right things to move the process along in a positive way.”

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

HOOSIERS CAN FUND EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL AFFORDABLY

According to an annual survey from INvestEd, 76 percent of Indiana residents are concerned that college graduates across the state now hold an average of nearly \$30,000 in student loan debt - which is slightly below the national average.

To help more Hoosiers pursue education beyond high school affordably, state officials are highlighting the numerous resources, innovative programs and need-based aid options available to them.

“Hoosiers have myriad options to maximize financial aid and minimize debt through programs such as the 21st Century Scholars program and the Indiana Career Accelerator Fund,” said INvestEd President and CEO Joe Wood. “Our focus is on helping everyone understand their options so they can pursue the postsecondary education needed for their desired career path.”

Some key findings from the annual survey commissioned by INvestEd – an Indiana-based nonprofit focused on providing free financial aid literacy and transparent education funding options to Indiana students and families – include:

- 86% of respondents say Hoosiers should have the option to pay for college using a percentage of their future income, if they prefer.
- 79% of Hispanic, 74% of white and 73% of Black Hoosiers are concerned about college graduates across the state now holding an average of nearly \$30,000 in student loan debt.
- Among those who have not pursued education beyond high school, 51% of Hispanic respondents cited “a degree is too expensive” as the main factor, compared to 30% of white and 21% of Black respondents.
- Among respondents who have not pursued education beyond high school, 46% of Hoosier men say they wish they had more people in their life that encouraged them, compared to 32% of Hoosier women saying the same.

“We need more Hoosiers to know that Indiana ranks first in the Midwest and fifth in the nation in need-based aid,” said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers. The free and expert services provided by INvestEd are assisting students and families as they navigate the process of paying for college and can help reverse the downward trend in college-going rates.”

During calendar year 2021, the INvestEd team provided free guidance to more than 32,000 Hoosiers by phone, over chat and at 759 in-person or virtual events across the state.

To get free help, Hoosier students and families can go to www.investedindiana.org, call 317-715-9007 or email outreach@investedindiana.org.

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The 2022 Charter School Board Recruitment Event

Indianapolis has emerged as a leader in public education reform. The city’s 40-plus Mayor-sponsored charter schools serve more than a third of students living within the boundaries of the city’s largest school district. And a majority of its 15 Innovation Network Schools were founded by Black Social Entrepreneurs who take advantage of an extraordinary level of autonomy in their quest to improve Black student achievement in Indy.



These Black Social Entrepreneurs are disrupting the K-12 landscape and driving innovation in Indy. To accelerate this change, these leaders need board members who are highly skilled and passionate about leadership and expanding access to quality education for all children in Indianapolis.

Join and lead the movement for education innovation in Indy – Become a board member.

Join us for a night of networking and refreshments on Wednesday, March 16 from 5:30 – 7:30pm at Tinker House Events (1101 E. 16th Street). Appetizers and beverages provided by Sun King Brewery will be served and Mayor Joe Hogsett will be in attendance as a guest speaker.

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Please contact me through email: pinpointsale@gmail.com

Meets the Artists ‘mecca’ for Black creatives

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

Tony Radford remembers the first Meet the Artists event like it was yesterday. After working with the African American History Committee at Indianapolis Public Library (IndyPL) to put his vision into action, Radford organized the first gallery in 1988. Nearly 150 people walked through IndyPL’s Central branch on opening day to see artwork by local Black artists — including Radford’s — as well as a fashion show featuring just enough people to fill the small stairwell in what is now the Simon Reading Room.

Now in its 34th year, Radford said Meet the Artists is a “Mecca for Black artists to share their work and talent” with the community. Every year, over 1,000 people filter through Central Library on opening day of Meet the Artists to see artwork in various mediums, meet local authors and take in a fashion show and other live performances. The opening ceremony has been postponed due to a rising number of COVID-19 cases in the state, but patrons can see the art in the Central branch now through April 2. Masks are required in the building.

This year, the gallery features work from members of Eighteen, a local collective of Black artists who created the #BlackLivesMatter mural on Indiana Avenue in 2020. One artist, Gary Gee, has several pieces displayed in the Simon Reading Room, including “Umoja,” which translates to “unity.” The painting, which portrays four people in front of a Pan-African flag, was also displayed in the Children’s Museum of Indianapolis on



Artist Gary Gee with his painting, “Umoja,” which is displayed in the Meet the Artists gallery at IndyPL’s Central branch. (Photo/Breanna Cooper)



Artist Kevin West’s “Enough” is on display at IndyPL’s Meet the Artist gallery. (Photo/Breanna Cooper)

the first night of Kwanzaa. Meet the Artists, he said, is one of the biggest events of the year for Black artists — as well as aspiring artists — in Indianapolis.

“It gives the public a chance to see that art is accessible,” Gee said. “It’s a lot of good people coming together with positive energy.”

Other artists involved in the event include Rebecca Robinson, Kyng Rhodes, Kevin West and Ess McKee. Authors Eunice Trotter, Ariel Jorman, Antwan L. Houser, Qiana Ticker, K.R.S. McEntire, and Dr. Theron Williams will have booths at the to-be-determined in-person event.

“The talented creatives that make up the Eighteen are civically engaged and passionate about uplifting the community through art,” Radford said.

Patrons can also see the art online at indypl.org. Despite COVID-19 throwing a curveball in the plans for an opening reception, IndyPL interim CEO John Helling said this year’s Meet the Artists showcases the resiliency of the arts community.

“The library and Meet the Artists hope to provide a place where artists can celebrate both their craft and culture,” Helling said. “For 34 years, we’ve found opportunities to celebrate the artists despite bad weather, building construction and a pandemic. We are excited to have the gallery available again in 2022.”

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





CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY WITH KHEPRW!

‘Caste’
by
Isabel Wilkerson
Monthly Book Group

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.



Centering The Black Voice
w/
Dr. Terri Jett

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.



HIP-HOP as Afrofuturism
w/
Maurice Broaddus

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.



Seeing the Past in the Present
w/
Dr. Les Etienne

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.

TO SIGN UP, GO TO: WWW.KHEPRW.ORG/BHM
OR WATCH LIVE ON [FACEBOOK.COM/INDYRECORDER](https://www.facebook.com/indyrecorder)

BRIEFS

COVID-19
VACCINATION,
TESTING

Indianapolis residents in need of a COVID-19 test or vaccination may do so at the Marion County Public Health Department. Both are free.

A COVID-19 drive-thru testing site operates 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at 3838 N. Rural St. PCR testing is available only. Rapid testing is not available. While appointments aren't necessary, making an appointment will decrease the wait time. To register for an appointment, visit MarionHealth.org/indycovid.

Find other test sites by visiting Coronavirus.IN.gov.

Vaccines are available at district health offices, ACTION Health Center, Indianapolis Public Library Martindale-Brightwood Branch, Indianapolis Public Library College Avenue Branch and IndyGo Carson Transit Center. Visit OurShot.IN.gov or 211 to find a vaccine clinic.

- Northeast District Health Office, 6042 E. 21st St.,**
Hours: noon-4 p.m. Mondays; 3-7 p.m. Tuesdays; 8 a.m.-noon Feb. 12

Eagledale Plaza Health Office, 2802 Lafayette Road, Suite 13
Hours: 8 a.m.-noon Tuesdays

Northwest District Health Office, 6940 N. Michigan Road
Hours: 3-7 p.m. Thursdays; 8 a.m.-noon Feb. 5, Feb. 26

South District Health Office, 7551 S. Shelby St.
Hours: 3-7 p.m. Mondays; 8 a.m.-noon Fridays; 8 a.m.-noon Feb. 19

ACTION Health Center, 2868 N. Pennsylvania St.
Hours: 3-5 p.m. Wednesdays, 9 a.m.-noon Feb. 12

IndyPL Martindale-Brightwood

Branch, 2435 N. Sherman Drive
Hours: 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays; 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays

IndyPL College Avenue Branch, 4180 N. College Ave. (ages 12 and up only)
Hours: 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays; 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays

IndyGo Carson Transit Center, 201 E. Washington St. (ages 12 and up only)
Hours: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays

INDYGO TO HOST
OUTREACH
EVENTS FOR
PURPLE LINE

Local residents can learn more about IndyGo's upcoming Purple Line through several outreach events.

The Purple Line, expected to open in 2024, will be 15.2 miles and connect Indianapolis to the city of Lawrence and replace existing Route 39.

A virtual meeting will be from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Feb. 8 on Zoom. Learn more at indygo.net.

In-person meetings:

- 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 9 at New Direction Church, 5330 E 38th St.
- 5-8 p.m. Feb. 9 at New Direction Church
- 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 10 at CAFE Indy, 8902 E 38th St.
- 5-8 p.m. Feb. 10 at CAFE Indy

All event locations are accessible by Route 39.

There will also be a drive-thru pop-up event from 7-9 a.m. Feb. 17 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds and Event Center to share information directly with drivers passing through the future construction zone.

Once construction starts in mid-February, IndyGo will host virtual office hours every Wednesday from 5-6 p.m.



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Racial Equity & Inclusion

2022 BLACK HISTORY
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DIVERSITY EQUITY AND INCLUSION

Artwork Deadline: Monday, February 14, 2022	Ad sizes:	Width X Height	Rates:
	Full Page	10.325 X 9.95	Full Page \$1,835
Publication Date: Friday, February 25, 2022	Half Page Vertical	5.1375 X 9.95	Half Page \$1,335
	Half Page Horizontal	10.325 X 4.925	Quarter page \$1,075
	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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EDITORIAL

Ban books but not guns?

By OSEYE BOYD



Let me get this straight: Parents are more concerned about books than they are guns?

That’s definitely the sense I get as I see so many communities across the country jumping the bandwagon to ban books. Are we all just sheep, blindly following each other down

Stupidity Lane?

It’s really quite sad that books get parents this worked up, but not school shootings. I find it interesting that white, affluent communities are often where school shootings occur, and these are the communities that are the most worked up about books. I’m thinking of Noblesville in particular. Maybe 2018 is too far back for people to remember, but a Noblesville West Middle School student brought a gun to school and used it. Up until then school shootings happened elsewhere.

Now, I don’t want anyone to think the community in Noblesville didn’t care. There was an outpouring of care and concern after this incident. However, I don’t recall much in the way of community members showing up en masse at local government meetings demanding better gun control legislation. Where was the zeal to actually save the lives of children, the ones that need so much protection?

Children need protection from books but not guns?

Parents are seriously losing their minds over books?

Yes. Banning books is a priority for some parents and conservatives. Again, these are the same people who advocate for less gun control. There’s currently legislation at the Statehouse that would remove requiring a gun permit. It’s laughable in a sad way.

You would think the item that is an actual weapon used to inflict harm would create more concern. Nope.

Art is subjective. Books are an art form. Books are tools used to educate the reader. Books can expand your vocabulary, imagination and horizons. Through books you can gain a better understanding of different people, cultures and experiences. You can gain empathy and compassion for others through books. You can travel to distant lands in a book without ever leaving the comfort of your home. Books free your mind. Oh, maybe that’s the problem!

I’m a book lover. I don’t think anyone is shocked to read the editor of a newspaper loves books. So I don’t understand book banning. It doesn’t make sense to me. Of all the things a kid could get into, a book is one of the least harmful.

It’s totally appropriate for parents to monitor what their children read and place parameters on the books that are allowed. That is being a responsible parent. My son grew up during the introduction of the Harry Potter series. Looking back, I can’t help but laugh at the hysteria these books created. It all seems so inconsequential now. However, back then,

conservatives were convinced — and managed to convince others — that those books were a slippery slope to hell. Determined not to let my son become a warlock, I read the first book to see what the hoopla was about. Once I realized his 9-year-old soul was safe, I allowed him to continue reading the series. He also read the “Left Behind” children’s series as I read the series for adults. I never heard any concern about these books although they dealt with themes such as Satan, the rapture, hellfire and damnation. You know, fun stuff.

In addition to the idea of banning books in general, I also find it disheartening that many of the books on these should-be-banned lists are ones written by Black authors. I recently saw a conversation about how difficult it is for Black authors to get published in the first place and make a living writing books only to have to deal with a new obstacle of parents now wanting their books pulled off library shelves.

I’ve said it on this page before, but it bears repeating. Some of the books on these banned lists make parents uncomfortable because the books deal with issues parents don’t want to face, specifically books with LGBTQ themes. Sometimes a book is just a fun read. Sometimes a choice of a book has deeper meaning. Too many parents are afraid to have these discussions. Grow up. Not reading a book won’t change real life issues children are facing.

I read “Flowers in the Attic,” and I turned out OK.

The Democratic plantation

By LARRY SMITH



Political mudslinging is as old as politics itself. Indeed, it’s hard to imagine a world in which opposing sides did not lob insults at one another, especially when much is at stake.

However, some charges go well beyond the pale. For example, one of the most egregious charges that Republicans level against African Americans is that we choose to exist on a modern day “Democratic plantation.”

Get it? Democrats enslaved Black folks, whereas Republicans fought to end slavery. Later, Republicans cheerily encouraged civil rights legislation, whereas Democrats were rabid segregationists. Black Democrats, then, choose to identify with the political party that kept us — literally and figuratively — in chains.

There is no way to sugarcoat the implications of being on said Democratic Plantation: African Americans are too stupid to know how each party has evolved during the last 60 years or so (not to mention the overly simplistic interpretation of Democratic and Republican stances going back to the antebellum period).

If that seems harsh, so be it. It is crucially important to understand the implications of what we think and say. For example, if I were to say that “A woman’s place is in the home,” the undeniable implication is that I favor denying economic opportunity to more than half the population.

To be clear, I have yet to meet even one Black person who has suddenly realized that he or she must “escape” said plantation, though the GOP loves to trot out former Black Democrats who have “seen the light” (i.e., have become Republicans). The fact is that the Republican Party is roughly 90% white — in a nation that is roughly 60% white. If they believe that Black folks are too stupid to know which party often countenances overt racism, the percentage of Black Republicans isn’t going to change much.

Beyond the numbers, consider the logic. If Black folks are indeed on a plantation, clearly, we are enslaved. Or, if one assumes that this analogy refers to the postbellum period, we’re sharecroppers. (Of course, even in the latter situation, African Americans often were prevented from simply “leaving the plantation.”) There is no interpretation of that analogy that isn’t extremely offensive.

Our political choice comes down to picking the lesser of two evils. Despite a very spotty historical record on race, only one of the two major parties has ever had a Black nominee for president — much less an actual Black president. Just as importantly, nobody can even become the Democratic nominee for the presidency without support from African Americans. This is why Kyrsten Sinema will never be the party’s nominee. (Joe Manchin clearly isn’t interested.) Indeed, Joe Biden would be at home today if Black folks in South Carolina had not rescued his flailing campaign. We are the proverbial tail that wags the proverbial dog.

This leads me to another point. There has long been a legitimate complaint that Black folks’ needs don’t receive nearly as much attention given our importance to Democratic victories. This fact manifests itself in many ways. For example, the Democratic National Committee doesn’t spend nearly enough dollars with Black media. Also, we often feel as though Democratic politicians only show up when they need our votes. And, as we have recently seen, pointing out Republican racism (including their insistence on voter suppression) is no longer enough to ensure heavy Black turnout. As I’ve

warned for several years now, the Democratic stranglehold on Black votes is increasingly slipping away. Fortunately, there is time to correct this situation before the trickle becomes a flood.

Will Republicans benefit in the meantime? Not likely. Despite an uptick in the percentage of Black men who voted for Donald Trump in 2020, there is no evidence of a widespread move among African Americans toward the GOP. Do they really believe that we’re going to support a party whose members are complaining that President Biden openly stated that he’s going to nominate a Black woman to the Supreme Court? (Perhaps Biden should simply emulate Donald Trump by only nominating people of one race, but never say that he’s doing so.)

Unless there are drastic changes to the Democratic Party, the reality will be that we will simply stay at home. I’m not convinced that the Democratic leadership fully comprehends what this portends for this year’s mid-term elections, not to mention the presidential contest in 2024.

Perhaps they should talk with Gov. Terry McAuliffe.

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

Creating opportunities for students, not fear in teachers

By BRANDON BROWN



I began my career as a ninth grade English teacher on the south side of St. Louis. I was a young white teacher right out of college, and over 90% of my students were Black. One thing became clear to me very quickly: My students were brilliant and had endless potential, but our education system and society at large were not designed to provide them with the opportunities they deserved.

My time in the classroom taught me that potential is evenly distributed, but opportunity is not. Here in Indiana, white students are over four times more likely to pass state math and English assessments than their Black peers. This is just one example of countless measures that show persistent — and sometimes growing — racial disparities within our education system. There must be something systematically wrong with a system that produces such divergent outcomes.

In recent months, efforts to ban “divisive concepts”

in K-12 schools have swept across a growing number of states. Many of these efforts seek to outlaw teachers discussing topics in the classroom that might make students uncomfortable. They would also allow parents to opt their children out of certain courses or lessons.

This has created a climate where educators are fearful that discussing racism in the classroom or teaching about painful episodes in American history will get them fired. Some teachers have already reported shying away from teaching anything that could be deemed controversial. This chilling effect comes at a time when teachers and school leaders are already exhausted after persevering through a global pandemic for the past two years. They need our collective support, not vilification.

At The Mind Trust, our mission is to ensure all Indianapolis students have access to a great school in pursuit of a day when a student’s race and income are no longer predictors of life outcomes. We know that accomplishing this mission will only be possible if we recognize the past and continued existence of systemic racism within the education system and its particularly negative impact on Black and Latino students in Indianapolis.

We seek to create opportunities that ensure historically marginalized families have the power to drive systemic change within their communities. We invest in leaders of color to launch new schools and organizations that are created explicitly for students who have previously not been served well by our education system. We also work to ensure that our financial resources are invested in service to our racial equity commitments.

However, we know it is necessary to not only commit to pursuing racial equity with our words but to demonstrate that commitment with our actions.

If we believe that educational change should be driven by those most impacted by educational inequity, then our team needs to reflect the community we serve. We have examined our own internal practices to reduce bias in our recruitment, hiring and onboarding processes. As a result, people of color now make up 59% of our staff, 50% of our board of directors and 100% of our fellows.

One of the main ways we have driven progress on our racial equity goals is by putting financial and

staff resources behind them. In 2020, we created a leadership and racial equity team and equipped it with a meaningful budget. Our racial equity team ensures that every part of our organization thinks critically about how they can pursue our commitments and that our resources are spent in ways that are aligned with what we say we believe.

This work has resulted in initiatives like Equity Cohorts for schools and nonprofits that want to join together to ensure their organizations are operating more equitably, as well as the Go Farther Literacy Fund that supports literacy projects led by families and community members. We have also invested in programs like Surge Academy to ensure that promising leaders of color have the support they need to achieve transformational change in partnership with our community. In addition, our racial equity mind-set helped spark initiatives like Community Learning Sites and Indy Summer Learning Labs when it became clear that Black and Latino families were disproportionately impacted from the pandemic.

It is the expectation that every team member at The Mind Trust participates in discussions on racial disparities and their impact on our work. Topics and discussions around race and inequality may sometimes make white folks like me uncomfortable, but that discomfort is necessary if we are serious about our own personal growth in pursuit of a more just and prosperous city.

Every time I hear someone say that white children should not experience discomfort when learning about historical injustices, I think about Ruby Bridges walking to school surrounded by angry white protestors fighting to keep her out of the schoolhouse. I want my two white sons to learn the good, bad and ugly of our country’s history. I want them to learn how slavery, Jim Crow and redlining continue to influence racial disparities today. I want them to grow into empathetic adults who are able to work across lines of difference.

The truth is that Black children don’t have the luxury of opting out of uncomfortable conversations about race. Neither should white children.

Brandon Brown is CEO of The Mind Trust, an education nonprofit.

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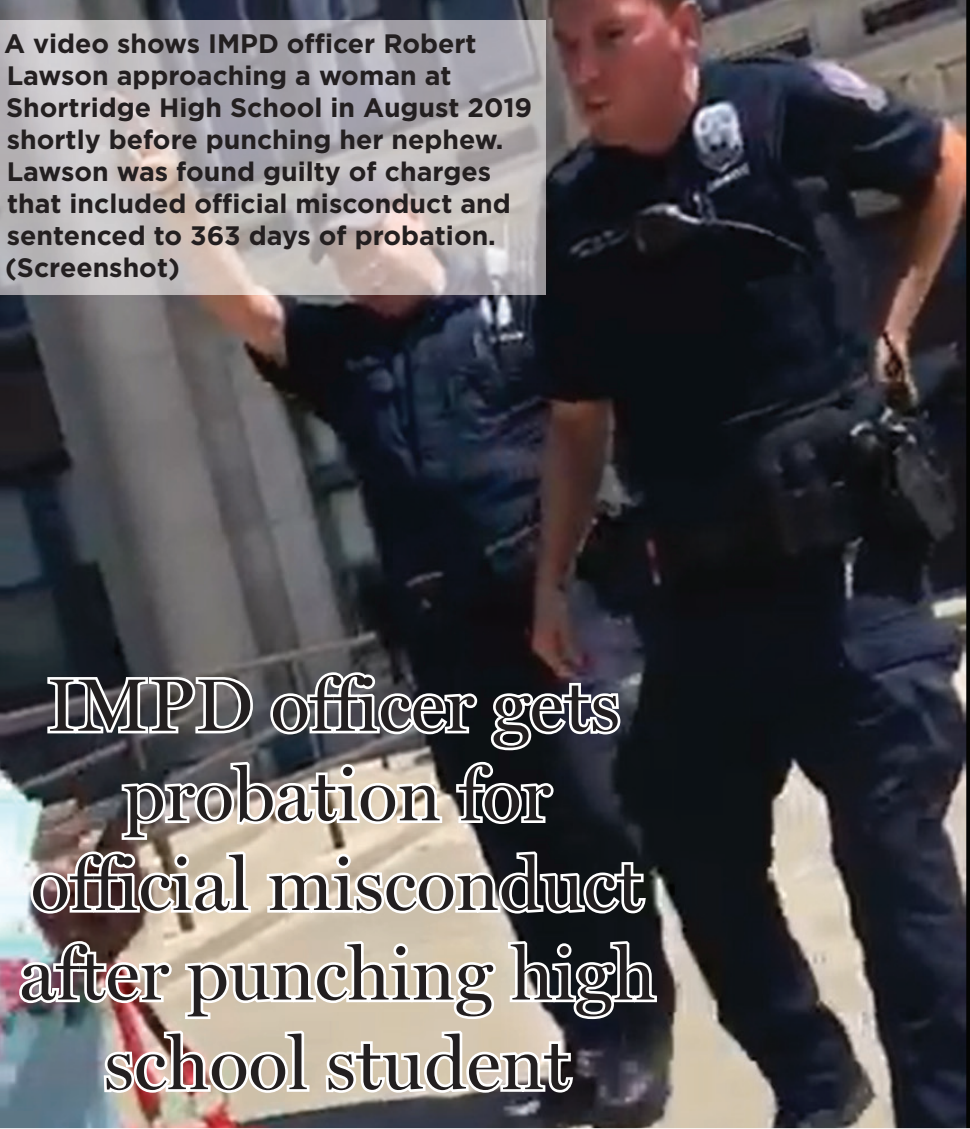
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By TYLER FENWICK
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An Indianapolis police officer who punched a Shortridge High School student in 2019 was sentenced to nearly a year of probation.

The officer, Robert Lawson, was found guilty of official misconduct and perjury by a jury in November 2021. Both are felonies. Lawson will be on probation for 363 days for the official misconduct conviction.

Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department suspended Lawson without pay shortly after the incident. He faced a total of five charges and was also found guilty of false informing and making a false statement while under oath. Lawson was acquitted of misdemeanor battery, and the jury did not reach a verdict on felony obstruction of justice.

The Civilian Police Merit Board will hold a hearing to determine if Lawson should be terminated. An IMPD spokesperson said the department

doesn't know when that will happen.

Video showed Lawson punch student

A 27-second video captured the incident in August 2019, when IMPD responded to a fight at Shortridge.


The video shows Lawson punch a 17-year-old who was stepping between Lawson and a woman, later identified as the student's aunt.

In documents prepared and signed by Lawson on the day of the incident, Lawson said he struck the student with an open palm and handcuffed him without using more force.

According to court documents, an IMPD detective who investigated Lawson said Lawson hit the student with a "closed fist with a protruding thumb," which appears consistent with what the video shows.

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

Latest COVID-19 Variant Creates Serious Issues for Health Care Systems and Patients



Broderick Rhyant, M.D., chief physician executive, Eskenazi Health Center Forest Manor

The new and highly contagious coronavirus variant named Omicron has recently sent COVID-19 positive tests soaring around the world and hospitals are overflowing with coronavirus patients like never before.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Omicron has been detected in most states and territories and is rapidly increasing the proportion of COVID-19 cases it is causing.

As the number of COVID-19 cases has increased, many of us have learned that it's become much more difficult these days to get tested for COVID-19. Unless you are ill, we advise you to explore the many testing options that are available to you at other locations aside from the Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital. To find a testing location near you, please visit [Coronavirus.IN.gov](https://www.coronavirus.IN.gov). To order four free COVID tests per household, visit: [Wwww.Covidtest.gov](https://www.Covidtest.gov)

Despite the overwhelming challenges health care systems are currently faced with, it's very important to not delay seeking care for conditions including but not limited to high blood pressure and diabetes, and for mental health care needs.

Options exist to connect with your provider, including using applications like Eskenazi Health MyChart, where online you can request medication refills, schedule appointments, view all other patient medical data, and medication instructions and summaries from previous appointments.

To set up an Eskenazi Health MyChart account, please visit [MyChart, EskenaziHealth.edu](https://mychart.eskenazihealth.edu) on a computer, tablet or smartphone, and click "Sign Up Now" in the "New User?" section. For assistance with MyChart, please call 317.880.2273.

Patients with active Eskenazi Health MyChart accounts can securely send messages with their care teams and get support for medical questions and other health care needs that do not require an appointment.

The COVID-19 vaccine (or booster when appropriate) along with practicing other safety measures, remain of utmost importance and the most effective way to combat this terrible virus mainly because people who are vaccinated have milder symptoms and do not require hospitalization or to be seen by a medical provider.

It is also critically important to receive the booster vaccine for the best protection and to reduce your risk of sickness and hospitalization. The booster can be received if your last Pfizer or Moderna shot was more than five months ago, or your Johnson & Johnson shot was more than two months ago. Receiving the booster shot is recommended even if you have had the COVID-19 infection.

For patients with upcoming appointments, please be advised that visitation restrictions are in place and you should plan to arrive to your appointment independently (by yourself). Please make arrangements for childcare if needed.

Pediatric patients and those requiring assistance will be permitted to have someone attend their appointment with them. This includes some vulnerable patient populations (e.g., patients with dementia, Down syndrome, autism, hearing impairment, etc.).



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The end is here for surprise medical bills

By **TRUDY LIEBERMAN**
Hoosier Health

The passage of the “no surprises” legislation in Congress and its implementation Jan. 1 has been a cause for celebration. Consumer protection legislation is hard to pass these days for a lot of reasons including heavy opposition from the business community and indifference from the politicians. But sustained media coverage and public outrage over the growing number of patients who were getting unexpected large medical bills pushed the law over the finish line.

Chad Terhune, a reporter for Reuters, told me, “This issue deserved all the media coverage it got because it affected so many and really exposed the predatory business practices in the system in a way readers and policymakers could understand.” The practice had become so widespread and unfair that politicians finally took notice.

So what does the new law do?

It takes the patient out of potential disputes between health care providers and the patient over whether the patient must pay the “surprise bill.” That’s an unexpected charge above what the patient’s insurance company would pay when they use in-net-



work providers. The law says that doctors, hospitals and other providers cannot require patients to pay those additional amounts and sets up an arbitration process between insurers and medical practitioners to resolve disputes.

Patients who now have a medical emergency and get care in hospital emergency rooms, freestanding emergency rooms, hospital outpatient departments, ambulatory surgical centers and air ambulances cannot be billed for more than the amount of what their in-network costs would be. For additional protec-

tion medical professionals who treat them — including emergency room physicians, anesthesiologists, radiologists and assistant surgeons — must also accept the in-network payment as full payment and can’t charge the patient more. Often those practitioners are out-of-network.

It’s fair to say that the legislation did not have smooth sailing through Congress, and lots of compromises were made that could still hurt many patients as they start using the law. There’s no protection for the 31 million uninsured Americans. They are

entitled only to a good faith estimate of charges in non-emergency situations. If a bill is at least \$400, an uninsured patient can dispute the charge with the Department of Health and Human Services.

Nor does the law cover services provided by out-of-network ground ambulances leaving patients on the hook for potentially high out-of-pocket bills.

Another loophole allows patients to sign away their right to pay only the in-network charges. Some health care providers are allowed to give patients

a consent form waiving their right to pay only the in-network charge. If they sign it, they will be obligated to pay the fees charged by an out-of-network doctor. Why would anyone want to do that? That’s a question I asked several experts. Jack Hoadley, research professor emeritus at Georgetown University’s Center for Health Insurance Reforms, told me consent might be given if there’s a complication and an out-of-network practitioner is necessary.

The experts point to some safeguards. Consent forms must be signed at least 72 hours before a procedure is done, or if it’s scheduled for the same day, the form must be given three hours in advance. Note, though, that while you must sign the opt-out form, your doctor is not required to do the same. “It’s a very limited right providers have, but one consumers should be aware of,” Hoadley said.

While there’s a list of procedures where such waivers can’t be used, including emergency care, lab services and care given by assistant surgeons, radiologists and anesthesiologists, federal regulators expect a lot of patients will use them. They estimate that in half of post-stabilization claims and for 95% of non-emergency ser-

vices done at in-network facilities, consumers will consent to waive protections.

Anyone asked to sign such a form should think hard before signing the document.

The law, while clearly an effort to remedy a big consumer problem, may have an unintended consequence if lawsuits filed by provider groups such as the Texas Medical Association and the Association of Air Medical Services are successful. If those cases are decided in ways that let providers charge higher fees, health care inflation could rise. In states like New York and New Jersey that have passed their own state balance billing laws, research suggests they may have contributed to significant price increases for in- and out-of-network services. The new protections are hardly straightforward, and patients and their families may need help enforcing their rights. To that end, Bob Herman, a health reporter at the news website Axios, is asking the public to share their experiences with the new law in a series called “Billed and Confused.”

Have you experienced a surprise bill? Write to Trudy at trudy.lieberman@gmail.com.

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Facts to Know About High Blood Pressure

February is National Heart Month, which is the perfect time for a reminder that heart disease continues to be the greatest health threat to Americans and is still the leading cause of death worldwide.

High blood pressure affects nearly half of the adult population in the United States, yet many people who have the condition do not know they have it.

Uncontrolled high blood pressure raises the risk for heart disease and stroke. Fortunately, high blood pressure is treatable and preventable.

To lower the risk, get a blood pressure check regularly and take action to control high blood pressure.

Recent studies show that high blood pressure is linked to a higher risk for dementia, a loss of cognitive function. Evidence suggests that having uncontrolled high blood pressure during midlife, ages 44 to 66, creates a higher risk for dementia later in life. This means it is never too early to start thinking about blood pressure and taking steps to manage the condition.

High blood pressure doesn’t just happen to older adults; young people can have it, too. Nearly 1 in 4 adults aged 20 to 44 have high blood pressure, a leading cause of stroke, which is on the rise among younger people. Experts think the increased risk for stroke in this age group is a direct result of the rising rates of obesity, high blood pressure, and type 2 diabetes – chronic health conditions that are preventable and treatable.

High blood pressure usually does not have any symptoms, which is why it is sometimes called the “silent killer.” Most people with high blood pressure do not have any symptoms. People think that, because they feel fine, they do not need to get their blood pressure checked.

About 1 in 3 adults in the U.S. have high blood pressure don’t know it. Even though most people with uncontrolled high blood pressure have health insurance and visit a healthcare provider at least twice a year, the condition is often not diagnosed. Learn what blood pressure numbers mean and if they are too high.

Women and African Americans face unique risks when it comes to high blood pressure. Women who become pregnant are more likely to have complications during pregnancy than those with normal blood pressure. High blood pressure during pregnancy can harm a mother’s kidneys and other organs, and it can lead to premature delivery and low birth weight babies.

African American men and women have higher rates of high blood pressure than any other racial or ethnic group. These individuals are also more likely to be hospitalized for high blood pressure. Experts think these health disparities are tied to higher rates of obesity and diabetes.

Living a healthy lifestyle helps keep blood pressure in a healthy range and lowers the risk for heart disease and stroke. A healthy lifestyle includes eating a healthy diet, maintaining a healthy weight, getting enough physical activity, not smoking, and limiting alcohol use.

Lifestyle changes, such as reducing sodium in your diet, being more physically active, and reducing stress, can help lower blood pressure.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) supports several public health efforts that address high blood pressure. To learn more about these programs, and steps for preventing or controlling high blood pressure, visit [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

Tenn. pastor, first African American, named to key SBC post

By HOLLY MEYER
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Tennessee pastor Willie McLaurin has been named interim president and CEO of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee, becoming the first African American to lead one of the denomination's ministry entities in its more than 175-year history.

McLaurin's appointment as one of the top administrators for the largest Protestant church body in the United States was announced Feb. 1 in Baptist Press, an official SBC news outlet. He will lead the day-to-day business of the committee, which acts on behalf of the convention when it is not holding its annual two-day national gathering in June.

"Our EC staff is committed to serving our Convention well. ... My prayer is that we will continue to put a laser-sharp focus on cooperation and collaboration," McLaurin told Baptist Press.

McLaurin, 48, will temporarily fill the post vacated by Ronnie Floyd in October. Floyd resigned amid turmoil over the Executive Committee's handling of a third-party investigation into how the committee addressed sexual abuse reports.

McLaurin has served as the Executive Committee's vice president for Great Commission relations and mobilization since the post was created in 2020.

Due to internal rules, the seven officers who head up the committee comprising dozens of representatives were limited to naming an interim from among its current vice presidents. Recent resignations meant McLaurin was one of two options.

"He's a proven servant leader," said Rolland Slade, the committee's chairman. "We're serving Southern Baptists. ... That's our role. That's our lane as Executive Committee."

The SBC, which has a predominantly white membership, has long struggled to reckon with its racist, pro-slavery history but has made some strides in recent decades. In 2012, the convention elected New Orleans pastor Fred Luter Jr. to be SBC president, making him the first African American to hold the role.

McLaurin is the first to head up one of the denomination's ministry entities, which also include



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its publishing and public policy arms as well as its seminaries.

Slade, the first African American to serve as chairman of the Executive Committee, said the officers did not consider the historic milestone when selecting McLaurin.

McLaurin previously worked at the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board for 15 years and has held various pastoral roles for several churches. He also has served in state and national convention roles, including on the SBC Resolutions Committee, on the Tennessee Baptist Convention executive board, as president of the Black Southern Baptist Denominational Servants Network and with the African American Fellowship

of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

McLaurin, who lives in Nolensville, in the greater Nashville area, assumes the new role immediately and is expected to deliver his first report as interim leader when the Executive Committee meets Feb. 21-22, Slade said.

At that gathering the Executive Committee also is expected to decide who will sit on a search committee tasked with naming a permanent president, Slade said.

Associated Press religion coverage receives support from the Lilly Endowment through The Conversation U.S. The AP is solely responsible for this content.

Faith in the metaverse: A VR quest for community, fellowship

By LUIS ANDRES HENAO
Associated Press

Under quarantine for COVID-19 exposure, Garret Bernal and his family missed a recent Sunday church service. So he strapped on a virtual reality headset and explored what it would be like to worship in the metaverse.

Without leaving his home in Richmond, Virginia, he was soon floating in a 3D outer-space wonderland of pastures, rocky cliffs and rivers, as the avatar of a pastor guided him and others through computer-generated illustrations of Biblical passages that seemed to come to life as they prayed.

"I couldn't have had such an immersive church experience sitting in my pew. I was able to see the scriptures in a new way," said Bernal, a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, widely known as the Mormon church.

He's among many Americans — some traditionally religious, some religiously unaffiliated — who are increasingly communing spiritually through virtual reality, one of the many evolving spaces in the metaverse that have grown in popularity during the coronavirus pandemic.

Ranging from spiritual meditations in fantasy worlds to traditional Christian worship services with virtual sacraments in hyperrealistic, churchlike environments, their devotees say the experience offers a version of fellowship that's just as genuine as what can be found at a brick-and-mortar temple.

"The most important aspect to me, which was very real, was the closer connection with God that I felt in my short time here," Bernal said.

The service he attended was hosted by VR Church, which was founded in 2016 by D.J. Soto, a former high school teacher and pastor at a nonvirtual church. VR Church bills itself as a spiritual community existing "entirely in the metaverse to celebrate God's love for the world."

Soto had previously felt called to church planting, or starting new physical churches. But after discovering the VR social platform AltSpaceVR, he was awakened to the possibilities of connecting in virtual reality. He set out to create an inclusive Christian church in the metaverse, an immersive virtual world that has been gaining buzz since Facebook said last October that it would invest billions in building it out.

Attendance was scant for the first year as Soto often found himself preaching to just a handful of people at a time,



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most of them atheists and agnostics who were more interested in debating about faith. His congregation has since grown to about 200 people, and he has ordained other ministers remotely from his Virginia home and baptized believers who are unable to leave their houses because of illnesses.

"The future of the church is the metaverse," Soto said. "It's not an anti-physical thing. I don't think the physical gatherings should go away. But in the church of 2030, the main focus is going to be your metaverse campus."

The Rev. Jeremy Nickel, an ordained Unitarian Universalist who is based in Colorado and calls himself a VR evangelist, also saw the potential to build community and "get away from the brick and mortar" when he founded SacredVR in 2017.

Inspired by time spent in Nepal with Tibetan Buddhists and his alternative practices studies at seminary, Nickel began with secular meditations with the aim of being inclusive for all comers. But some religiously unaffiliated members of the community were put off by the name, he noticed, so he changed it to EvoVR and more people joined.

It wasn't until the pandemic, however, that attendance soared from a few dozen to the hundreds who now attend dharma talks and meditation sessions

via their chosen avatars, at times meeting at a virtual incarnation of a Tibetan Buddhist temple high in the mountains or floating weightlessly looking down at the Earth.

"One of the reasons we've become so popular is you get the meditation that you need, but you get the community also," Nickel said. "We have deep relationships, hundreds of people from around the world who know each other and wonder, 'Is your dog, OK? How's your wife?'"

The anonymity of virtual reality can help people feel more confident about sharing deeply personal issues, said Bill Willenbrock, who leads a Christian fellowship on the social platform VRChat with worship and counseling services for a flock of mostly teens and early 20-somethings.

"I can't even count the number of times that I've heard, 'I'm considering suicide.' ... It's helpful that we're in VR," said Willenbrock, a hospital chaplain and longtime Lutheran pastor who recently converted to Eastern Orthodoxy and calls himself a "digital missionary."

On a recent Sunday, he preached at a cavernous virtual cathedral, its long halls illuminated by light from stained-glass windows. A colorful assembly of avatars listened to the sermon: A giant banana sitting in the first pew next to

another of a man in a shirt and tie, plus a mushroom, a fox, armored knights.

At the end they took turns sharing why they came to the virtual community. Some saw it as something to complement, not replace, in-person gatherings.

A person with the username Biff Tannen, said it was convenient: "For example here in Scotland it's cold, it's wet, it's not very nice outside, but here I am sitting in this beautiful church with my heating on."

Another, represented by a robotlike avatar and the username UncleTuskle, said that "as a person with social phobia, it's easier for me to be here" than in a physical church.

Virtual reality can allow people to meet without judgment regardless of physical ability or appearance, said Paul Raushenbush, who is senior advisor for public affairs and innovation at the nonprofit Interfaith Youth Core and who hosted a VR talk show last month with religious leaders who use the technology.

"What I love about it is that it's taking ... whatever technological opportunities are being offered and they're leveraging it to gather people together for positive encounters," Raushenbush said.

"And they're changing lives." Alina Delp can attest to that.

A former flight attendant who traveled across the country for years and loved to skydive, since 2010 she has been mostly confined to her home in Olympia, Washington, due to a rare neurovascular condition called erythromelalgia.

She wept the first time she attended a VR Church service, knowing immediately that she had found a home. Delp was taken by the community's judgment-free ethos and focus on "God's love rather than fear." She began to volunteer with small groups, and eventually became a pastor.

"I was given a life. ... It's the difference between endless time of sleep and television versus my ability to be productive," she said.

Soto baptized her in a metaverse ceremony in 2018, submerging her purple robot avatar in a pool as relatives and friends cheered her on virtually. While even many VR proponents believe such sacraments should be offered only in a physical space, to Delp it felt like a real blessing.

"Jesus is who baptized me. Jesus is who changes me," she said. "The water, or lack thereof ... doesn't have the power to change me."

SPIRITUAL OUTLOOK

Islam’s contributions to African American greatness

By Imam Michael “Mikal” Saahir



Qur'an — “For We assuredly sent amongst every People an apostle, (with the Command), "Serve Allah, and eschew Evil": of the People were some whom Allah guided, and some on whom error became inevitably (established). So travel through the earth, and see what was the end of those who denied (the Truth).” Sura (chapter) 16:36 (Yusuf Ali translation)

African American greatness is well rooted in soil that has been tilled and refined by the hands of many great leaders who had our best interest in mind as we, by the Will of G_d — expressed in scripture and nature — rose up as a new people from the nadir of the worse slavery in the known history of mankind.

American slavery was a peculiar form of slavery that failed to reach its goal of total annihilation of our human essence; but it was successful in robbing us of our African-ness and humanity, making our racial and ethnic group a new people on Earth. To begin speaking about contributions to African American greatness, we have to remind ourselves of the depth from which we rise, or as Dr. Maya Angelou prosed, “And Still I Rise!”

One of the greatest achievements of Africans, pre-American slavery, was our Islamic lives on the Motherland. The kingdoms of Mali, Timbuktu, Songhai and other Islamic communities earned the nicknames “City of Books” and “Cities of Gold.” This is a snippet of our African Islamic greatness before being enslaved by a European version of Christianity that had very little regard for the human value of the children of Africa.

Our sojourn, as a stolen people who are trying to find their way back to the human excellence that we were created for, has been a dignified struggle. But as Prophet Muhammed, peace be upon him, taught, “No son of Adam enjoyed a meal better than the meal he

prepared with his own two hands.” Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. reflected this same message when he declared, “No Lincolnian Emancipation Proclamation can do this for us. ... If the Negro is to be free, he must move down into the inner resources of his own soul and sign with a pen and ink of self-assertive manhood his own emancipation proclamation.”

This is where Islam (properly called Al-Islam) shines as a major contributor to the rebuilding of our African American greatness as a new people in creation.

We still have the physical expression of the strong African phenotype: our beautiful broad noses, full lips and warm brown to black skin; however, internally we’re a brand new people on Mother Earth. Mentally, morally and spiritually we don’t think, talk, act or feel like any other racial or ethnic group on earth — and that also includes Africans. We don’t think, talk and act like Africans anymore.

If you are a descendant of America’s chattel slavery, you are a member of a race of people who were emptied of all of our African past. We had to start over again, with the help of Allah, because America’s form of slavery robbed us of our family ties. However, this process prepared us to be the best vessel for Allah to use in the making of a new people in creation.

How do you make a “new people”? You make a new people by giving them a new mind, by feeding them knowledge that had a virgin birth. Words that have a virgin birth are words that did not come from the thinking of man, especially words that came from the same man that enslaved your fore-parents.

The reconnection of the children of Africa with the meaning of the words in the Qur’an has been a major contribution to giving African Americans an independent intellect. Chapter 55 of the Qur’an that reads, “The Merciful Benefactor, taught the Qur’an — thus, creating the human being and gave them intelligent speech.”

Among the children of Africa — who



Getty Images

are now in America — it has been those of the Islamic faith who have given the most in the making and directing African Americans into a new people with a new mind, with a new way of doing almost every aspect of life; and we thank

Allah for this miracle-blessing.

Michael “Mikal” Saahir is the resident Imam of Nur-Allah Islamic Center. He can be reached at nur-allah@att.net or at 317-753-3754.

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Pastor

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10:00 AM

Morning Worship
11:30 AM

Tuesday Bible Study
7:30 PM

Pastor Nello A. Holman and First Lady Kay Holman

Pleasant Union Missionary Baptist Church
1202 Eugene St.
Indpls, Indiana 46208
phone 925-4382
fax 283-5615

Sunday Worship
10:50 am

Sunday School
9:15 am

Monday Morning Prayer
6:00am

Wed. Bible Study
12:00 noon & 7:00pm

Thurs. Family Living
7:00pm

Fri. Victory Over Addictions
7:00pm

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Indpls, IN 46208 • (317) 923-6667

Pastor Chas A. Sheppard
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Early Morning	8:00am
Sunday School	10:00am
Morning Worship	11:30am
Sunday Evening Service	6:30pm
Wednesday Bible Study/Prayers	7:00pm/8:00pm
Friday Bible Study	11:30am

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Fulfillment Hour (Sunday School)
9:30a-10:30are

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Bible Study - 12 PM & 7 PM

Pastor Tony & Lady Kim McGee
5950 E. 46th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46226
(317) 547-4387 | www.zionhopechurch.org

New Beginnings Fellowship Church

EAST LOCATION
2125 N. GERMAN CHURCH ROAD
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46229

SUNDAYS
8:00am | 10:45am | 12:45pm

THURSDAYS
7:00pm

WEST LOCATION
GUION CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
4401 W 52ND ST., INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46254

SUNDAYS
9:30am

Dr. James Anthony & Lady Tara Jackson

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2022 tax season considerations

By **BRITTANY SABALZA**

Tax season began Jan. 24, starting the processing of 2021 tax year returns and the IRS wants to address some of the obstacles this year may bring.

“The pandemic continues to create challenges, but the IRS reminds people there are important steps they can take to help ensure their tax return and refund don’t face processing delays,” IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig said.

While taxpayers get ready to file their 2021 taxes, there are a few things to consider this year when filing your return.

You can set up an IRS secure account online

By visiting IRS.gov/accounts you can set up a secure online account and log in. There, taxpayers can view their latest information, find info from recently filed returns, transcripts, payments and other federal tax account info. You can also access any Economic Impact Payment amounts or Advanced Child Tax Credit (CTC) payments previously received.

Gather and organize all documents before you file

Gather and organize tax documents to help avoid errors that may slow down the processing of your tax return. Having all your documents ready and available can help you find potential credits and deductions you may be eligible for, not to mention help you avoid unnecessary refund delays. Your records may include dependent info, mortgage statements, forms W-2, 1099s and other income statements from employers, or gig-income and contractor pay. Unemployment compensation, dividends, distributions from a pension, annuity or retirement plan, interest and/or virtual currency income should be included. Remember most income is taxable.

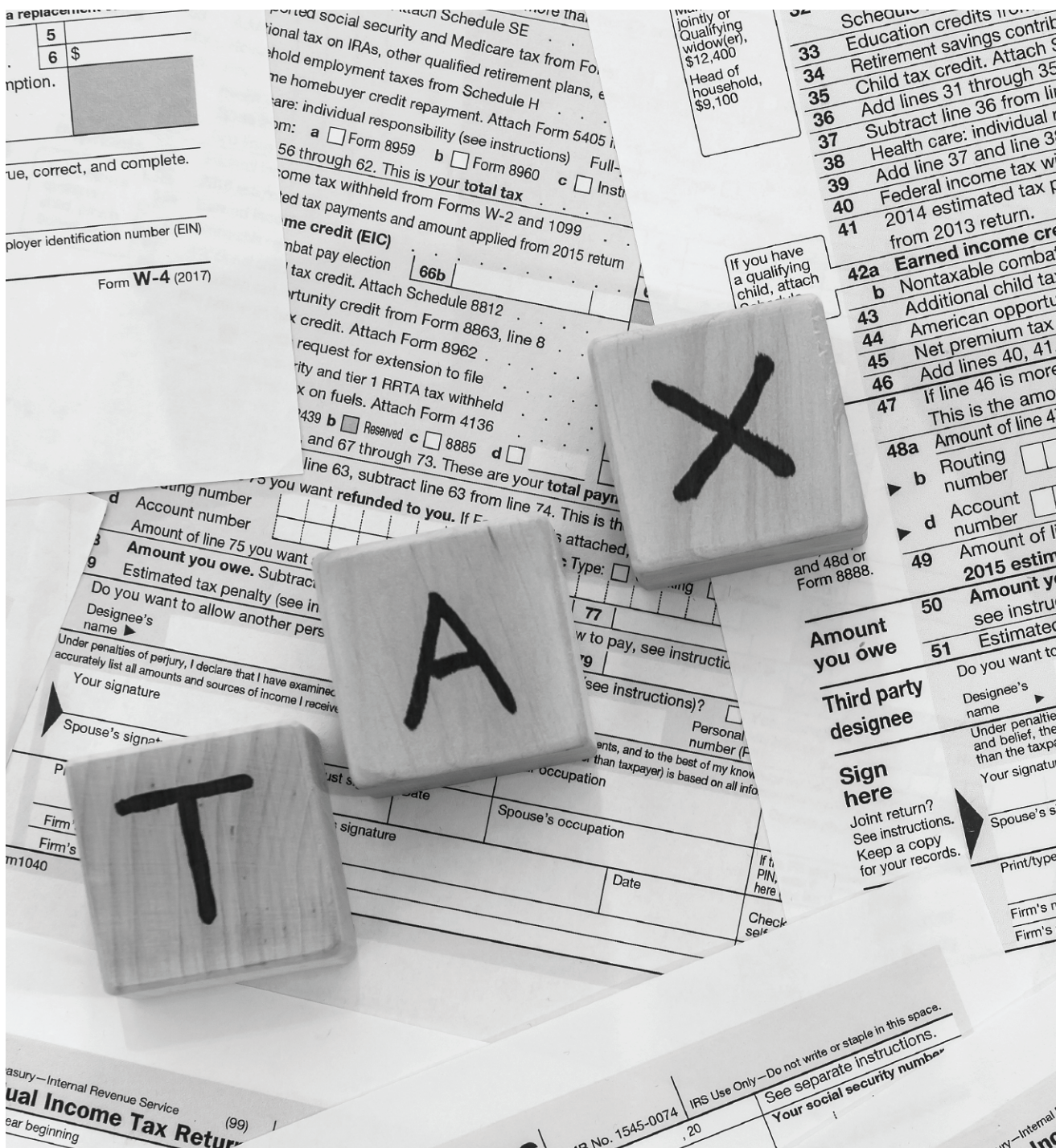
Important letters taxpayers should include

If you received advance payments of your child tax credit, keep a lookout for IRS Letter 6419, 2021 Total Advance Child Tax Credit Payments. Letter 6419 will be mailed to those who received advance payments in 2021 to help calculate the remaining CTC and reconcile payments on the tax return.

IRS Letter 6475, Your 2021 Economic Impact Payment is used to determine Recovery Rebate Credit eligibility. Those who didn’t qualify for the third stimulus payment or didn’t receive the full payment amount based on prior return info may be eligible to claim the credit based on their 2021 taxes. Taxpayers can use IRS Letter 6475 to provide the total amount of the payment received and calculate any third payment amounts. You can expect to receive the letter in the early part of the year.

Decide How to File

There are many ways to file your tax return



Impact Payment or an advance Child Tax Credit last year. People should make sure they report the correct amount on their tax return to avoid delays.”

Use IRS resources

Visit IRS.gov to find the interactive tax assistant, tax maps, IRS publications and other helpful resources. Use your online account to view information and visit tax centers to learn more about your tax situation.

Become a Resource

You can help those in your community by volunteering at the VITA/TCE Tax Center in your area. IRS VITA provides free income tax preparation assistance to eligible taxpayers. Community organizations such as the John Boner Center offer these services with the help of volunteers. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, please contact your local VITA/TCE center or the John Boner Center for more information. You can also visit IRS.gov/volunteers to learn more about the VITA/TCE programs.

Brittany Sabalza is director of tax education and tax columnist at Pro Tax Solutions Indianapolis.

including IRS VITA/TCE sites, IRS Free-File, Do It Yourself Software or seeking a tax professional’s help. Decide now how you’ll file. Also, ensure that your information is correct including direct deposit info and update any address changes

Consider refund and processing delays

The IRS generally issues refunds in 21 days and re-

funds for taxpayers with Earned Income Credit (EITC) or Additional Child Tax Credit (ACTC) are expected to be issued in mid-February. But, this year, the IRS advises to not anticipate getting your tax refund by a certain date. The IRS is still backlogged and there are possibilities of delays.

IRS Commissioner Rettig stated, “Filing electronically with direct

deposit and avoiding a paper tax return is more important than ever this

year. And we urge extra attention to those who received an Economic

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The Indiana Forest Alliance has an immediate opening for a part-time Bookkeeper / Office Manager in our downtown Indianapolis office. Please visit our website to learn more and apply.

<https://indianaforestalliance.org/about-ifa/jobs-internships/>

Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis has an opening in Indianapolis for Model Validation Manager. Master’s in Computational Finance and Risk Management plus 3 years of exp in model validation and/or model development. Please email resume referencing job title to: April Gaines, Recruiting Manager, againes@fhlbi.com; cc: kweeden@fhlbi.com.

The IU Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health is hiring an Executive Associate Dean, serving as COO of the school. Candidates must have a terminal degree and be qualified for a faculty appointment at the rank of professor with tenure in one of the school’s five departments.

For more information, please visit:
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Starting Saturday, February 4th and every Saturday in February. The Women and Minority Small Business Market Live will air @ 10 am on Channel 40 network app on Roku and Fire-stick. Brought to you by Jael LLC, Indy Chapter of IBE and the Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper.

Businesses featured February 5th 2022

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<http://www.thehollywoodaccessories.com>

Beyond Barcodes Bookstore
(765) 271-5537
beyondborderslanguage@gmail.com
<http://www.beyondbarcodesbooks.com>

Shoez Galore Shoe Bar
1715 Shadeland Ave Suite A
317-289-8444
shoezgalore17@yahoo.com
<http://www.iloveshoezgalore.bigcartel.com/>

April’s Jewelry Etc
Inside Screll Fresh (Circle Center Mall)
317-523-8413
amdalton74@yahoo.com
Business Facebook Page
April’s Jewelry & Etc



CHANNEL 40 NETWORK

New Rates

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

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

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

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

New Rates Adoptions \$118.00***

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Guardianship Notice \$118.00***

Name Change \$118.00***
(Court date must be 30 days from last publication date)

Summons \$118.00***

Notice of Real Estate \$118.00***

Notice of Administration \$87.00**

Dissolution of Corporation \$76.00*

Notice of Final Account \$76.00*

***** = Three run dates
** = Two run Dates
* = One run date**

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STATE OF MICHIGAN CASE NO. 21-0006-NA 39TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT -- FAMILY DIVISION PETITION NO. 1 LENAWEE COUNTY PUBLICATION OF HEARING (NOTICE TO PUTATIVE FATHER) IN THE MATTER OF: MAYA LINLEY TAKE NOTICE:
A petition has been filed with this court regarding the following minor(s):
Maya Linley who was born on 04/12/2017 at University of Michigan Hospital in Washtenaw County, Ann Arbor, Michigan.
The mother of the minor(s) is Alysianna Nicole Banda. If you are or may be the natural father, you should appear at Lenawee County Juvenile Court, Adrian, MI, 49221, on March 29, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. to state any interest you may have in the minor(s). Failure to appear at this hearing is a denial of interest in the minor(s), waiver of notice for all subsequent hearings, and a waiver of a right to appointment of an attorney. Failure to appear at this hearing COULD RESULT IN PERMANENT TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS.
5320-937701

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE HAMILTON COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT COUNTY OF HAMILTON) CAUSE NO. 29C01-2112-MF-008600 IN RE: THE PETITION OF THE NAME CHANGE OF PATRICK RODRIGO MALOY NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME BY INDIVIDUAL
Comes now Petitioner, Patrick Rodrigo Maloy, in person and by counsel, Cara M. Chittenden, and hereby gives notice that I have filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Hamilton County for the change of my name from Patrick Rodrigo Maloy to Patrick Jesse Maloy, and that said Petition will be heard by the Court on the 4th day of March, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. in the Hamilton County Circuit Court.
/s/ Judicial Officer Prepared By: Cara M. Chittenden, #27059-49

Rebecca W. Geyer & Associates, PC
11550 N. Meridian Street, Suite 200
Carmel, IN 46032
(317) 973-4555
cchittenden@rgeyerlaw.com
Prepared By: Cara M. Chittenden, #27059-49

Rebecca W. Geyer & Associates, PC
11550 N. Meridian Street, Suite 200
Carmel, IN 46032
317-973-4555
317-489-5195, fax
cchittenden@rgeyerlaw.com
5320-938145

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE HAMILTON COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT COUNTY OF HAMILTON) CAUSE NO. 29C01-2112-MF-008859 IN RE: THE PETITION OF THE NAME CHANGE OF HARRIETT DEBORAH JEWELL NEWMAN NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME BY INDIVIDUAL
Comes now Petitioner, Harriett Deborah Jewell Newman, in person and by counsel, Cara M. Chittenden, and hereby gives notice that I have filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Hamilton County for the change of my name from Harriett Deborah Jewell Newman to Deborah Jewell Newman, and that said Petition will be heard by the Court on the 4th day of March, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. in the Hamilton County Circuit Court.
/s/ Harriett Deborah Jewell Newman
/s/ Judicial Officer Prepared By: Cara M. Chittenden, #27059-49

Rebecca W. Geyer & Associates, PC
11550 N. Meridian Street, Suite 200
Carmel, IN 46032
317-973-4555
317-489-5195, fax
cchittenden@rgeyerlaw.com
5320-938144

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION) CAUSE NO. 49D01-2201-MF-001381 HUDSON CITY SAVINGS BANK, Plaintiff, vs. THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF MIKE KIRLEY, DECEASED, AND THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF JAMIE NAPIER, DECEASED, Defendants. NOTICE OF SUIT
The State of Indiana to the Defendant(s) above named, and any other person who may be concerned.
You are hereby notified that you have been sued in the Court above named.
The nature of the suit against you is the foreclosure of a mortgage upon the property legally described as follows: Lot numbered 41 in "Lutz Maple Heights Addition, Section 2" in Marion County, Indiana, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 29, page 21, in the Office of the Recorder of Marion County, Indiana.
Commonly known as: 3817 N Graham Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46226
This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following defendant(s) whose whereabouts are unknown: Patricia Mae Midgley
In addition, to the above-named defendants being served by this summons, there may be other defendants who have an interest in this lawsuit. An answer or other appropriate response in writing to the Complaint must be filed either by you or your attorney with the Clerk of the Court for Marion County at: Marion County Clerk, 200 East Washington Street Ste. W122 Indianapolis, IN 46204
on or before the 20th day of March, 2022, (the same being thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit), and if you fail to do so, a judgment may be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.
Phillip A. Norman, P.C.
Phillip A. Norman #13734-64 Attorney for Plaintiff
2110 Calumet Avenue Valparaiso, IN 46383
Telephone: 219-462-5104 21-00615
ATTEST: Clerk, Marion Superior Court
5320-938121

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

is specifically directed to the following named defendant(s) whose whereabouts are unknown: The Unknown Heirs and Devises of Mike Kirtley, Deceased, and The Unknown Heirs and Devises of Jamie Napier, Deceased
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 or response.
You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, within thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit, and if you fail to do so a judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief demanded, by the Plaintiff.
FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C. By /s/ BRYAN K. REDMOND BRYAN K. REDMOND Attorney No. 22108-29 Attorney for Plaintiff
BRYAN K. REDMOND FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C. 8415 Allison Pointe Blvd., Suite 400 Indianapolis, IN 46250 (317) 237-2727
NOTICE FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR.
1/14/2022 /s/ Myla A. Eldridge 5320-937724

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

STATE OF INDIANA IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT SS: COUNTY OF MARION CAUSE NO. 49D03-2112-MF-039904 MIDFIRST BANK Plaintiff, VS. PAMELA S. CHAFFIN A/K/A PAMELA CHAFFIN MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGEMENT, INC. Defendants. NOTICE OF SUIT SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO: Pamela S. Chaffin a/k/a Pamela Chaffin Plaintiff, by counsel, hereby gives Notice of the Complaint filed in the Marion Superior Court against the above-named Defendant. Plaintiff also filed an Affidavit of a competent person showing that the residence and whereabouts of Defendant, Pamela S. Chaffin a/k/a Pamela Chaffin upon diligent inquiry are unknown. The cause of action is for default on a promissory note and foreclosure upon a mortgage on the following described real estate: Lot Number Eight (8) in Barton's First Addition, an addition to the City of Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 21, page 209, in the office of the Recorder of Marion County, Indiana.
State Parcel #: 49-11-08-100-028.000-930
Address: 328 Barton Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46241
Therefore, said Defendant is hereby notified of the filing and pendency of said Complaint and that unless Defendant files an answer within (30) days of the last publication of this notice, default judgment may be entered against said Defendant for the relief sought in the Complaint.
Law Office of Gerald M. Shapiro, LLP
Brian K. Tekulve (#30882-49) 4805 Montgomery Road, Suite 320 Norwood, OH 45212
Phone: (513) 396-8100 Fax: (847) 627-8805
Email: btekulve@logs.com
Dated Marion Superior Clerk, Court 5320-937793

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION CAUSE NO. 49D06-2112-MF-040757 CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC Plaintiff, VS. LAWRENCE B. PEACOCK A/K/A LAWRENCE PEACOCK RUTH A. PEACOCK A/K/A RUTH PEACOCK Defendants. NOTICE OF SUIT SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO: Lawrence B. Peacock a/k/a Lawrence Peacock and Ruth A. Peacock a/k/a Ruth Peacock Plaintiff, by counsel, hereby gives Notice of the Complaint filed in the Marion Superior Court against the above-named Defendants. Plaintiff also filed an Affidavit of a competent person showing that the residence and whereabouts of Defendants, Lawrence B. Peacock a/k/a Lawrence Peacock and Ruth A. Peacock a/k/a Ruth Peacock upon diligent inquiry are unknown. The cause of action is for default on a promissory note and foreclosure upon a mortgage on the following described real estate: Lot Number Eight (8) in Barton's First Addition, an addition to the City of Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 21, page 209, in the office of the Recorder of Marion County, Indiana.
State Parcel #: 49-11-08-100-028.000-930
Address: 328 Barton Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46241
Therefore, said Defendant is hereby notified of the filing and pendency of said Complaint and that unless Defendant files an answer within (30) days of the last publication of this notice, default judgment may be entered against said Defendant for the relief sought in the Complaint.
Law Office of Gerald M. Shapiro, LLP
Brian K. Tekulve (#30882-49) 4805 Montgomery Road, Suite 320 Norwood, OH 45212
Phone: (513) 396-8100 Fax: (847) 627-8805
Email: btekulve@logs.com
Dated Marion Superior Clerk, Court 5320-937793

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION STATE OF INDIANA IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION CAUSE NO. 49D03-2201-MF-001315 PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO NATIONAL CITY BANK, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO NATIONAL CITY BANK OF INDIANA Plaintiff -vs- PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, PATRICIA MAE MIDGLEY Defendant(s) NOTICE OF SUIT
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 the foreclosure of a mortgage upon the property legally described as follows: Lot numbered 41 in "Lutz Maple Heights Addition, Section 2" in Marion County, Indiana, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 29, page 21, in the Office of the Recorder of Marion County, Indiana.
Commonly known as: 3817 N Graham Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46226
This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following defendant(s) whose whereabouts are unknown: Patricia Mae Midgley
In addition, to the above-named defendants being served by this summons, there may be other defendants who have an interest in this lawsuit. An answer or other appropriate response in writing to the Complaint must be filed either by you or your attorney with the Clerk of the Court for Marion County at: Marion County Clerk, 200 East Washington Street Ste. W122 Indianapolis, IN 46204
on or before the 20th day of March, 2022, (the same being thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit), and if you fail to do so, a judgment may be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.
Phillip A. Norman, P.C.
Phillip A. Norman #13734-64 Attorney for Plaintiff
2110 Calumet Avenue Valparaiso, IN 46383
Telephone: 219-462-5104 21-00615
ATTEST: Clerk, Marion Superior Court
5320-938121

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION CAUSE NO. 49D07-2201-MF-002043 JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, vs. THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF RONALD JONES, DECEASED, HERITAGE ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION, JOE'S AUTO SALES, INC., AUTOVEST, LLC, LVNV FUNDING LLC, BRITTE FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC, JEFFERSON CAPITAL SYSTEMS LLC, MARINER FINANCE, LLC, UNITED AUTO CREDIT CORPORATION, GREAT AMERICAN FINANCE CO., SPENCER RENTALS, MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC, BOWMAN, HEINTZ, BOSCIA & VICIAN, PC F/K/A BOWMAN & HEINTZ, JOSHUA BAXTER, SHELTON INVESTMENTS, LLC, INDIANA FARMERS MUTUAL INSURANCE CO, MED-1 SOLUTIONS, STATE OF INDIANA AND SCS CREDIT CORP, Defendants. NOTICE OF SUIT
The State of Indiana to the Defendants above named, and any other person who may be concerned.
You are hereby notified that you have been sued in the Court above named.
The nature of the suit against you is the foreclosure of a mortgage upon the property legally described as follows: PARCEL I: PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH, RANGE 4 EAST OF THE SECOND PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO WIT: BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID QUARTER SECTION DISTANT 259 FEET EAST OF THE THENCE NORTH AT RIGHT ANGLES TO SAID SOUTH LINE 205 FEET; THENCE WEST PARALLEL TO THE SOUTH LINE THEREOF 102 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 205 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. EXCEPTING THEREFROM THE FOLLOWING CONVEYED TO THE STATE OF INDIANA BY WARRANTY DEED DATED OCTOBER

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION CAUSE NO. 49D07-2108-MF-026195 LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVING, LLC Plaintiff -vs- ZUNG LIAN CUNG Defendant(s) NOTICE OF SUIT
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 the foreclosure of a mortgage upon the property legally described as follows: Lot numbered 41 in "Lutz Maple Heights Addition, Section 2" in Marion County, Indiana, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 29, page 21, in the Office of the Recorder of Marion County, Indiana.
Commonly known as: 3817 N Graham Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46226
This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following defendant(s) whose whereabouts are unknown: Patricia Mae Midgley
In addition, to the above-named defendants being served by this summons, there may be other defendants who have an interest in this lawsuit. An answer or other appropriate response in writing to the Complaint must be filed either by you or your attorney with the Clerk of the Court for Marion County at: Marion County Clerk, 200 East Washington Street Ste. W122 Indianapolis, IN 46204
on or before the 20th day of March, 2022, (the same being thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit), and if you fail to do so, a judgment may be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.
Phillip A. Norman, P.C.
Phillip A. Norman #13734-64 Attorney for Plaintiff
2110 Calumet Avenue Valparaiso, IN 46383
Telephone: 219-462-5104 21-00615
ATTEST: Clerk, Marion Superior Court
5320-938121

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION CAUSE NO. 49D08-2201-EU-000717 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: PAUL DEWITTE, Decedent, MICHELLE DEWITTE, Petitioner. N O T I C E O F ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that on the January 8, 2022, date, Michelle Dewitte was appointed personal representative of the Estate of Paul Dewitte, deceased, who died on 06/30/2018.
All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Marion County, Indiana, this January 8, 2022, date.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Court of Marion County 5320-938757

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

02/11/22,
02/18/22

SUMMONS STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: CIVIL DIVISION COUNTY OF MARION) CAUSE NO. 49D04-2111-PC-037023 JP SONLEY INVESTMENTS, INC., D/B/A LONGACRE BAR AND GRILL Plaintiff, v. TREVOR WAYNE SIMMS, JACKSON COUNTY BANK, MARION COUNTY TREASURER, and THE "WORLD" Defendant. STATE OF INDIANA to the defendant named above: Trevor Sims. You are hereby notified that you have been sued in the Marion County Superior Court 4, Civil Division. Plaintiff has made diligent efforts to find and serve you personally. The nature of the lawsuit against you is: Complaint to Foreclose on Real Estate, and Collateral Interests. You are further notified that you must respond within thirty (30) days from the last notice by publication of this action, and in the event you should fail to respond within the allotted time, a judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. ATTEST: Clerk of the Marion Superior Court: /s/ Daniel L. Russello 35589-49 5224 S. East Street, Suite C-14 Indianapolis, Indiana 46227 317-939-3000 V. 317-900-1888 F. Danny@IndyAdvocate.com Attorney for Plaintiff 5320-937859

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

STATE OF INDIANA IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT SS: COUNTY OF MARION CAUSE NO. 49D03-2112-MF-039904 MIDFIRST BANK Plaintiff, VS. PAMELA S. CHAFFIN A/K/A PAMELA CHAFFIN MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGEMENT, INC. Defendants. NOTICE OF SUIT SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO: Pamela S. Chaffin a/k/a Pamela Chaffin Plaintiff, by counsel, hereby gives Notice of the Complaint filed in the Marion Superior Court against the above-named Defendant. Plaintiff also filed an Affidavit of a competent person showing that the residence and whereabouts of Defendant, Pamela S. Chaffin a/k/a Pamela Chaffin upon diligent inquiry are unknown. The cause of action is for default on a promissory note and foreclosure upon a mortgage on the following described real estate: Lot Number Eight (8) in Barton's First Addition, an addition to the City of Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 21, page 209, in the office of the Recorder of Marion County, Indiana.
State Parcel #: 49-11-08-100-028.000-930
Address: 328 Barton Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46241
Therefore, said Defendant is hereby notified of the filing and pendency of said Complaint and that unless Defendant files an answer within (30) days of the last publication of this notice, default judgment may be entered against said Defendant for the relief sought in the Complaint.
Law Office of Gerald M. Shapiro, LLP
Brian K. Tekulve (#30882-49) 4805 Montgomery Road, Suite 320 Norwood, OH 45212
Phone: (513) 396-8100 Fax: (847) 627-8805
Email: btekulve@logs.com
Dated Marion Superior Clerk, Court 5320-937793

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION CAUSE NO. 49D06-2112-MF-040757 CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC Plaintiff, VS. LAWRENCE B. PEACOCK A/K/A LAWRENCE PEACOCK RUTH A. PEACOCK A/K/A RUTH PEACOCK Defendants. NOTICE OF SUIT SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO: Lawrence B. Peacock a/k/a Lawrence Peacock and Ruth A. Peacock a/k/a Ruth Peacock Plaintiff, by counsel, hereby gives Notice of the Complaint filed in the Marion Superior Court against the above-named Defendants. Plaintiff also filed an Affidavit of a competent person showing that the residence and whereabouts of Defendants, Lawrence B. Peacock a/k/a Lawrence Peacock and Ruth A. Peacock a/k/a Ruth Peacock upon diligent inquiry are unknown. The cause of action is for default on a promissory note and foreclosure upon a mortgage on the following described real estate: Lot Number Eight (8) in Barton's First Addition, an addition to the City of Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 21, page 209, in the office of the Recorder of Marion County, Indiana.
State Parcel #: 49-11-08-100-028.000-930
Address: 328 Barton Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46241
Therefore, said Defendant is hereby notified of the filing and pendency of said Complaint and that unless Defendant files an answer within (30) days of the last publication of this notice, default judgment may be entered against said Defendant for the relief sought in the Complaint.
Law Office of Gerald M. Shapiro, LLP
Brian K. Tekulve (#30882-49) 4805 Montgomery Road, Suite 320 Norwood, OH 45212
Phone: (513) 396-8100 Fax: (847) 627-8805
Email: btekulve@logs.com
Dated Marion Superior Clerk, Court 5320-937793

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION CAUSE NO. 49D08-2201-EU-001946 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOSIEPHINE HUNT, Deceased. N O T I C E O F ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that Gwendolyn K. Richardson was, on January 20, 2022, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Josephine Hunt, deceased, who died November 15, 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 claim will be forever barred. Dated at Indianapolis, Indiana, this November 4, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Marion County Superior Court, Probate Division 5320-937715

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION CAUSE NO. 49D07-2201-MF-002043 JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, vs. THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF RONALD JONES, DECEASED, HERITAGE ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION, JOE'S AUTO SALES, INC., AUTOVEST, LLC, LVNV FUNDING LLC, BRITTE FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC, JEFFERSON CAPITAL SYSTEMS LLC, MARINER FINANCE, LLC, UNITED AUTO CREDIT CORPORATION, GREAT AMERICAN FINANCE CO., SPENCER RENTALS, MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC, BOWMAN, HEINTZ, BOSCIA & VICIAN, PC F/K/A BOWMAN & HEINTZ, JOSHUA BAXTER, SHELTON INVESTMENTS, LLC, INDIANA FARMERS MUTUAL INSURANCE CO, MED-1 SOLUTIONS, STATE OF INDIANA AND SCS CREDIT CORP, Defendants. NOTICE OF SUIT
The State of Indiana to the Defendants above named, and any other person who may be concerned.
You are hereby notified that you have been sued in the Court above named.
The nature of the suit against you is the foreclosure of a mortgage upon the property legally described as follows: PARCEL I: PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH, RANGE 4 EAST OF THE SECOND PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO WIT: BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID QUARTER SECTION DISTANT 259 FEET EAST OF THE THENCE NORTH AT RIGHT ANGLES TO SAID SOUTH LINE 205 FEET; THENCE WEST PARALLEL TO THE SOUTH LINE THEREOF 102 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 205 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. EXCEPTING THEREFROM THE FOLLOWING CONVEYED TO THE STATE OF INDIANA BY WARRANTY DEED DATED OCTOBER

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: COUNTY OF MARION CAUSE NO. 49D07-2108-MF-026195 LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVING, LLC Plaintiff -vs- ZUNG LIAN CUNG Defendant(s) NOTICE OF SUIT
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 the foreclosure of a mortgage upon the property legally described as follows: PARCEL I: PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH, RANGE 4 EAST OF THE SECOND PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO WIT: BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID QUARTER SECTION DISTANT 259 FEET EAST OF THE THENCE NORTH AT RIGHT ANGLES TO SAID SOUTH LINE 205 FEET; THENCE WEST PARALLEL TO THE SOUTH LINE THEREOF 102 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 205 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. EXCEPTING THEREFROM THE FOLLOWING CONVEYED TO THE STATE OF INDIANA BY WARRANTY DEED DATED OCTOBER

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: PROBATE DIVISION COUNTY OF MARION) CAUSE NO. 49D08-2201-EU-000717 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: PAUL DEWITTE, Decedent, MICHELLE DEWITTE, Petitioner. N O T I C E O F ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that on the January 8, 2022, date, Michelle Dewitte was appointed personal representative of the Estate of Paul Dewitte, deceased, who died on 06/30/2018.
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 8, 2022, date.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Superior Court of Marion County, 5320-938757

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

2, 1969 AND RECORDED FEBRUARY 13, 1970 AS INSTRUMENT NUMBER 70-5819. A PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH, RANGE 4 EAST OF THE SECOND PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: BEGINNING ON THE NORTH BOUNDARY OF EDGEWOOD AVENUE (ALSO KNOWN AS STOP 8 ROAD) NORTH 88 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 45 SECONDS EAST 259.00 FEET (THE FOREGOING DISTANCE IS QUOTED FROM DEED RECORD 1934, PAGE 293) (ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID QUARTER SECTION) AND NORTH 1 DEGREE 57 MINUTES 15 SECONDS WEST 45.00 FEET (ALONG THE WEST LINE PROLONGED OF THE OWNER'S LAND FROM THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID QUARTER SECTION; THENCE NORTH 1 DEGREE 57 MINUTES 15 SECONDS WEST 46.21 FEET ALONG SAID WEST LINE; THENCE SOUTH 87 DEGREES 03 MINUTES 57 SECONDS EAST 102.37 FEET TO THE EAST LINE OF THE OWNER'S LAND; THENCE SOUTH 1 DEGREE 57 MINUTES 15 SECONDS EAST 37.48 FEET ALONG SAID EAST LINE TO THE NORTH BOUNDARY OF EDGEWOOD AVENUE (ALSO KNOWN AS STOP 8 ROAD); THENCE SOUTH 88 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 45 SECONDS WEST 102.00 FEET ALONG SAID NORTH BOUNDARY TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. PARCEL II: A PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH, RANGE 4 EAST OF THE SECOND PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO WIT: BEGINNING AT A POINT 257.5 FEET EAST AND 91.12 FEET NORTH OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID QUARTER SECTION THAT POINT BEING IN THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF EDGEWOOD AVENUE; THENCE NORTH 113.88 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE WEST 86.83 FEET TO A POINT IN THE EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF I-65; THENCE SOUTHEAST ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE 111.23 FEET TO A POINT IN THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF EDGEWOOD AVENUE; THENCE EASTERLY ALONG THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF EDGEWOOD AVENUE 63.47 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Commonly known as: 3830 E Edgewood Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46237
This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following defendant(s) whose whereabouts are unknown: Zung Lian Cung
In addition, to the above-named defendants being served by this summons, there may be other defendants who have an interest in this lawsuit. An answer or other appropriate response in writing to the Complaint must be filed either by you or your attorney with the Clerk of the Court for Marion County at: Marion County Clerk, 200 East Washington Street Ste. W122 Indianapolis, IN 46204
on or before the 20th day of March, 2022, (the same being thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit), and if you fail to do so, a judgment may be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.
Phillip A. Norman, P.C.
Phillip A. Norman #13734-64 Attorney for Plaintiff
Phillip A. Norman, P.C. 2110 Calumet Avenue Valparaiso, IN 46383
Telephone: 219-462-5104 20-00425
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk, Marion Superior Court
9/10/2021 5320-937808

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: PROBATE DIVISION COUNTY OF MARION) CAUSE NO. 49D08-2110-EU-036295 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GARLAND REGINALD OPP, Deceased. ATTORNEY: Terry L. Monday, #10302-49 MONDAY MCELWEE ALBRIGHT 1915 Broad Ripple Ave. Indianapolis, Indiana 46220 (317) 251-1929 N O T I C E O F ADMINISTRATION
In the Marion County Superior Court, Probate Division
In the matter of the Estate of Garland Reginald Opp, deceased,
Cause Number: 49D08-2110-EU-036295
Notice is hereby given that Regina Adams was, on the 4th day of November, 2021, appointed personal representative of the Estate of Garland Reginald Opp, deceased, who died on the 22nd day of October, 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 claim will be forever barred. Dated at Indianapolis, Indiana, this November 4, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Marion County Superior Court, Probate Division 5320-937715

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT) SS: PROBATE DIVISION COUNTY OF MARION) CAUSE NO. 49D08-2201-EU-001946 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOSIEPHINE HUNT, Deceased. N O T I C E O F ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that Gwendolyn K. Richardson was, on January 20, 2022, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Josephine Hunt, deceased, who died November 15, 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 claim will be forever barred. Dated at Indianapolis, Indiana, this November 4, 2021.
/s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Marion County Superior Court, Probate Division 5320-937715

02/04/22,
02/11/22,
02/18/22

LEGAL SERVICES CLASSIFIED

recruitment of health care providers, competitive marketing strategies and strategic planning of the Corporation.
Paul Babcock President and Chief Executive Officer of the Health & Hospital Corporation of Marion County, Indiana
5320-938147

02/04/22

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE HEALTH & HOSPITAL CORPORATION OF MARION COUNTY, DBA ESKENAZI HEALTH WILL ACCEPT PROPOSALS KEEPING & SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES IN ITS PURCHASING OFFICES. RFP PACKAGES MAY BE OBTAINED BY E-MAILING LYDIA.HONEYCUTT@ESKENAZIHEALTH.EDU P R E - P R O P O S A L CONFERENCE FOR THIS RFP PROCESS WILL BE HELD VIA WEBEX ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2022, AT 8:00 AM I 1 HOUR I EASTERN TIME (US & CANADA). ATTENDANCE IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED. THE URL TO ACCESS THE CONFERENCE IS: https://eskenazihealth.webex.com/eskenazihealth.php?MTID=ma6b219954506623981413666e603714

MEETING NUMBER: 2306 602 9758

PASSWORD: EIH7200 JOIN BY PHONE

+1-415-655-0001 US TOLL ACCESS CODE: 2306 602 9758

PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5 PM LOCAL TIME, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH, 2022 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA ARIA.

THE HEALTH & HOSPITAL CORPORATION OF MARION COUNTY DBA ESKENAZI HEALTH IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND ENCOURAGES PARTICIPATION OF MBE, WBE, VBE, DOBE AND OTHER DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES.

LYDIA HONEYCUTT ESKENAZI HEALTH 5320-937858

02/04/22

Indianapolis Airport Authority

Indianapolis Regional Airport

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Electronic bids (E-bids) will be received via PlanetBids (IAA's solicitation management system) by the Indianapolis Airport Authority, for Maintenance Building Pavement Rehabilitation at the Indianapolis Regional Airport; Project No. Q-21-023. All bids will be submitted electronically and opened via a Virtual Meeting and read aloud on February 17, 2022, at 1:30 p.m. E.T. No bids will be permitted after the designated time. To attend the bid opening on-line (virtual meeting), please contact P&DAdmins@ind.com. Bids are desired as set forth in the Instructions to Bidders, which is part of the specifications.

Each bid shall include all work, labor, equipment and materials necessary to complete the project as required in strict compliance with the drawings and specifications (Plans) prepared by Shrewsbury & Associates, LLC, 7321 Shadeland Station, Indianapolis, Indiana 46256.

Pursuant to the repeal of Indiana Code § 5-16-7, effective July 1, 2015, common construction wages are not required on this project.

The Indianapolis Airport Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit Bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

In accordance with Indiana Code Section 5-16-13-1, et seq., prequalification with the Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA) or the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is required of all contractors, in any contractor tender, performing work under contract to the IAA is estimated to be One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) or greater. Specifications are on file and may be examined at:

BX Indiana Construction League 1028 Shelby Street Indianapolis, IN 46203

www.bxindiana.com ConstructConnect 3825 Edwards Road, Ste. 800 Cincinnati, OH 45209

www.constructconnect.com Dodge Data and Analytics 3315 Central Avenue Hot Springs, AR 71913

www.construction.com Shrewsbury & Associates, LLC 7321 Shadeland Station Indianapolis, IN 46256

Plans and Bid Documents may be obtained from ReproGraphix Inc., 437 North Illinois Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204, (317) 637-3377, or on-line at https://www.reprographix.com. There will be no charge for the first set of Plans and Bid Documents; additional sets may be obtained for the cost of printing and shipping.

All bids shall be on Form No. 96 as prescribed by the State Board of Accounts, must be accompanied by a Financial Statement, must be properly and completely executed and shall be accompanied by a properly completed non-collusion affidavit. After opening bids, no bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) calendar days without written consent of the Owner.

All bids shall be accompanied by a scanned copy of the bid bond in an amount of not less than 5% of the contract amount. Original copy of the bid bond will be requested from the successful bidder immediately following the bid opening.

Contractors awarded a contract will be required to furnish acceptable surety bonds in the amount of 100% of the contract price. Said performance, material and payment bond shall remain in effect for twelve (12)

months after the date of the Owner's final acceptance of Contractor's work. Should a successful bidder withdraw their bid or fail to execute a satisfactory contract, the Indianapolis Airport Authority may declare the bid deposit forfeited. The Indianapolis Airport Authority reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

A Pre-Bid Meeting will be held in the Indianapolis Regional Airport in the blue maintenance building adjacent to the fuel farm, at 5881 B West Airport Blvd., Greenfield, IN 46140 on February 3, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. E.T. A tour of the construction site will also be available for interested parties. Please note that masks and social distancing protocols will be enforced during the site visit. Should special assistance or accommodations be needed for an individual's participation in this meeting, please contact Relay Indiana @ (800) 743-3333 (TDD compatible) or have them connect you to (317) 487-8578. For general information or questions, please contact Katie Adkins directly at (317) 487-8578.

INDIANAPOLIS AIRPORT AUTHORITY

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

By: Mario Rodriguez Executive Director 5320-937677

02/04/22

Legal Notice

STATE OF INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF

ADMINISTRATION

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

ON BEHALF OF: Family and Social Services Administration

SOLICITATION FOR: Community Mental Health Center Best Practices Assessment, Request for Proposals 22-69153

PROPOSAL DUE DATE: March 25, 2022 by 3:00 PM EST/EDT

https://www.in.gov/idoa/2354.htm

5320-938237

02/04/22

ADVERTISEMENT TO PRE-QUALIFY TO BID

Project: Whistler Hall of Agricultural Research

Mechanical Systems Replacement Project--2022, located on Purdue University's main campus, in West Lafayette, Indiana.

F.A. Wilhelm Construction Company will receive pre-qualification statements for the following trade scopes included in Bid Event #1 until 12:00 P.M. March 1st, 2022, for the Whistler Hall of Agricultural Research Mechanical Systems Replacement Project--2022.

• BE #1 – 03A- Concrete & Masonry I 05A- Structural Steel I 7A- Roofing & Sheet Metal I 08A- Doors, Frames, & Hardware I 09A- Metal Studs, Drywall & Ceilings I 09B- Painting I 21A- Fire Protection I 23A- HVAC & Equipment I 23B- Mechanical & Equipment I

26A- Electrical & Systems

All interested bidders must contact Jeff Litko at jefflitko@fawilhelm.com to gain access to the Pre-qualification form.

Pre-qualified bidders will receive an invitation to bid on the above referenced project.

Please direct all questions to Jeff Litko at (317) 359-5411 or jefflitko@fawilhelm.com.

F.A. Wilhelm is an Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to their protected veteran status and will not be discriminated against on the basis of disability.

F. A. WILHELM CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Jeff Litko – Preconstruction Manager

Tom Kerker – Project Executive

5320-938096

02/04/22

Notice of Public Sale of Collateral

We will sell to the highest qualified bidder in public, the property described below, on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. (Mountain) at the following location(s): The courthouse front steps of the Third District Court, 8080 South Redwood Road, West Jordan, Utah. Opening bid \$296,189.00. Winning bidder must pay non-refundable deposit of \$5,000.00 in the form of certified funds (bank cashiers' check/ money order), payable to the lender: DHM Industries, Inc., with remainder of sale proceeds paid by electronic funds transfer (EFT) or wire on or before Thursday, February 17, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. (Mountain). You may request information by calling William T. Jennings at (801) 787-9686. Description of Property: All rights, titles and interests in and to the limited liability company membership interests in, 1546 Hoyt Avenue Industries, LLC, held by debtor and all proceeds therefrom. The limited liability company 1546 Hoyt Avenue Industries, LLC owns the real property located at 1546 Hoyt Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46203 subject to a deed of trust or mortgage in favor of the Lender.

5320-937312

01/28/22

02/04/22

STATE OF INDIANA IN THE MARION CIRCUIT COURT

COUNTY OF MARION)

CASE NO. 49C01-2112-MF-004097

IN RE THE CHANGE OF NAME:

Alexander Malenkov

Petitioner

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR PUBLICATION IN NEWSPAPER

Notice is hereby given that Petitioner Alexander Malenkov, as a self represented litigant, filed a Verified Petition for Change of Name to change name from Alexander Malenkov to Cleo Tsubasa Konoda. The Petition is scheduled for hearing in the Marion Circuit Court on March 18, 2022, at 9:15 a.m., 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 join the hearing. Date Clerk of the Marion Circuit Court So Ordered: December 20, 2021 Judicial Officer Distribution: Petitioner 5320-936795

01/28/22

02/04/22

02/11/22

SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF INDIANA)

IN THE MARION CIRCUIT COURT

SS: PROBATE DIVISION

COUNTY OF MARION)

CAUSE NO.: 49C01-2201-MF-000128

WONG VENTURES, LLC

Plaintiff,

v.

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, ASSET ACCEPTANCE, LLC, AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE REAL ESTATE

Defendants.

NOTICE OF SUIT

The State of Indiana to Defendant, All persons unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the real estate located at 5337 Thornridge Place, Indianapolis, IN 46237:

You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named.

The nature of the suit against you is a Complaint for Strict Foreclosure and to Quiet Title to Real Estate.

This summons by publication is specifically directed to any and all persons unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in the real estate located at 5337 Thornridge Place, Indianapolis, Indiana 46237, that is the subject of this proceeding.

If you have a claim for relief against the Plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, on or before the 13th 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.

/s/ Grover B. Davis Attorney for Plaintiff

ATTEST: 1/3/2022

/s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Marion County Superior Court

200 East Washington Street Room No. T-1441 Indianapolis, IN 46204

Phone Number: (317) 327-4160

5320-936805

01/28/22

02/04/22

02/11/22

STATE OF INDIANA IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT

COUNTY OF MARION

CAUSE NUMBER: 49D06-2201-MF-000796

CALIBER HOME LOANS, INC.,

Plaintiff,

vs.

UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES OR LEGATEES, AND THEIR SPOUSES, IF ANY OF MARK D TOWERS

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 35 IN KEYSTONE MANOR, AN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 24, PAGE 22 TO 25 IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA.

SUBJECT TO ALL LIENS, EASEMENTS AND ENCUMBRANCES OF RECORD.

This property is commonly known as 6410 Walton Street, Indianapolis, IN 46241.

This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following Defendants whose addresses are not known: Unknown Heirs, Devisees or Legatees, and Their Spouses, if any of Mark D Towers, Unknown Address.

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 13th 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: 1/10/2022

/s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Marion County Circuit/Superior Court

5320-937178

01/28/22

02/04/22

02/11/22

STATE OF INDIANA)

IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT

SS: PROBATE DIVISION

COUNTY OF MARION)

CAUSE NO. 49D08-2112-EU-037886

IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF LARRY COLLINS, DECEASED.

N O T I C E O F ADMINISTRATION

In the Superior Court of Marion County, Indiana.

In the matter of the Estate of Larry Collins, deceased.

Estate Docket No. 49D08-2112-EU-037886

Notice is hereby given that Toni Charlene Collins was, on the 10th day of November, 2021, appointed personal representative of the Estate of Larry Collins, deceased, who died on the 12th day of

March, 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: November 17, 2021.

/s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk, Marion County Superior Court

Probate Division

Daniel Cueller

The Cueller Law Office

22 E. Washington St., Ste. 210 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

317-225-4588

Fax 317-245-0204

dan@cuellerlaw.com

5320-937113

01/28/22

02/04/22

STATE OF INDIANA)

IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT

SS: PROBATE DIVISION

COUNTY OF MARION)

CAUSE NO. 49D08-2112-EU-039920

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ROBERT T. DORTCH, SR.

Deceased.

N O T I C E O F ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that on the 11th day of January, 2022, Carrie A. Lawson was appointed personal representative of the Estate of Robert T. Dortch, Sr., deceased, who died on the 27th day of September, 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 11th day of January, 2022.

/s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk, Marion County Superior Court

5320-937313

01/28/22

02/04/22

STATE OF INDIANA)

IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT

PROBATE COURT

SS: COUNTY OF MARION)

CAUSE NO.: 49D08-2201-EU-000640

IN RE THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF EMMETT M. CASH, JR., DECEASED

N O T I C E O F ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that on January 8, 2022, Tawnya Padgett was appointed personal representative of the Estate of Emmett M. Cash, Jr., deceased, who died on October 8, 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, on January 8, 2022.

/s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Marion County Probate Court

Georgianna Q. Tutwiler, 32181-49

HUME SMITH GEDDES GREEN & SIMMONS LLP

54 Monument Circle, Suite 400 Indianapolis, IN 46204

Telephone: 317-632-4402

FAX: 317-632-5595

A T T O R N E Y F O R T H E P E R S O N A L REPRESENTATIVE

5320-937500

01/28/22

02/04/22

STATE OF INDIANA)

IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT

PROBATE COURT

SS: COUNTY OF MARION)

CAUSE NO.: 49D08-2201-EU-000640

IN RE THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF EMMETT M. CASH, JR., DECEASED

N O T I C E O F ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that on January 8, 2022, Tawnya Padgett was appointed personal representative of the Estate of Emmett M. Cash, Jr., deceased, who died on October 8, 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, on January 8, 2022.

/s/ Myla A. Eldridge Clerk of the Marion County Probate Court

Georgianna Q. Tutwiler, 32181-49

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A T T O R N E Y F O R T H E P E R S O N A L REPRESENTATIVE

5320-937500

01/28/22

02/04/22

STATE OF INDIANA)

IN THE MARION SUPERIOR COURT

PRO

Meeting McKnight was a Black history lesson and then some

By **DANNY BRIDGES**

I've said it a gazillion times. Sports has taught me many things in life that go beyond the sheltered existence in which I was raised. For the record, that's code for growing up white and privileged in a sleepy little agricultural town just south of Indianapolis.

I had to rely on what a conservative, Republican-owned newspaper told me, or what news I could only gather at 6 p.m. on TV.

The Black history I was afforded was limited to a couple of chapters in my U.S. history book at Greenwood High School that contained a lot more information regarding George Washington than it did Booker T. Washington. That's the way it was for yours truly, who never had the opportunity to interact and socialize with a person of color until I was 19 and attending IUPUI.

Despite how troubling that still is today to me, many of my childhood heroes were African American athletes who were distinguishing themselves in professional sports, and I was naive enough to think everyone was equal and subsequently treated accordingly.

Obviously, I had been existing in a bubble, but as I grew older and became more interested in the truth, the learning process evolved and I read everything I could about the history of sports in the United States.

Fast forward to 2011, where a chance encounter with a baseball legend would completely change how I viewed the game.

To call it a chance encounter is really putting it mildly as I simply walked into the Walmart on East 96th Street for a bag of dry dog food only to find a tribute to the Negro Leagues, which included a former great in attendance to sign autographs and talk baseball.

It was there that I met a mountain of a man named Ira McKnight, who offered me both a soft drink and a smile.

For 90 minutes I peppered him with questions about who he played for and what it was like barnstorming in the Negro Leagues.

McKnight was born in 1935 in Tennessee, but he grew up in South Bend, which is where the proverbial baseball bug bit him.

He'd parlay a stellar high school career into an opportunity with the Memphis Red Sox in 1952, which set the stage for a true caravan of travel that led him to the legendary Kansas City Monarchs from 1956 to 1960.

McKnight talked about how he once caught the



iconic Satchel Paige in the first game of a double header and switched teams for the second game and connected for a home run off of Paige. They traveled on beat-up buses and were paid \$250 a month. There were few hotels that would host them.

McKnight also recounted the story of going to spring training with the New York Yankees in 1960 as the third catcher behind legends Yogi Berra and Elston Howard. A broken hand curtailed the opportunity and, due to a lack of proper medical care, his hand was left impaired.

McKnight considered himself blessed and finished his distinguished career in the heralded Negro Leagues before retiring after a successful stint in the Canadian Leagues, where he was inducted into their Hall of Fame.

We exchanged phone numbers and kept in touch. I'd visit him in his apartment with a sack of cheeseburgers to discuss baseball but more importantly the world we were living in. I was saddened when he passed away in August 2018 because it took me back to our conversations about the inequalities he faced

and how he never complained about it during our numerous talks.

It was eye opening to have spent time with him, and it taught me more about the trials and tribulations of being a Black citizen in America both back then and today. None of what Ira shared with me over the years was chronicled in my U.S. history textbook circa 1977, and clearly that was by design. Thankfully he showed me how to connect the dots that were far beyond the baseball diamonds, and for that I'm eternally grateful. I miss my friend, and I'll always be thankful for the history lessons he gave me.

We should all know an Ira McKnight in our lifetime, and I'm glad I had the good fortune to finally learn the facts from a most qualified instructor, one with great pride and dignity, but no regrets or animosity.

Danny Bridges, who would give anything to break bread with Ira McKnight just one more time, can be reached at 317-370-8447 or at bridgeshd@aol.com.

Fired Miami Dolphins coach sues NFL, alleging racist hiring

By **LARRY NEUMEISTER**
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Fired Miami Dolphins coach Brian Flores sued the NFL and three teams Feb. 1 over alleged racist hiring practices for coaches and general managers, saying the league remains “rife with racism” even as it publicly condemns it.

The lawsuit, filed in Manhattan federal court, said the hypocrisy was on display with the chilly treatment Flores received from the Dolphins after he refused to accept a \$100,000-a-game offer from the club his first season to “tank” so it could secure the top draft pick.

The lawsuit sought class-action status and unspecified damages from the league, the Dolphins, the Denver Broncos and the New York Giants, along with unidentified individuals.

Flores, 40, was fired last month by Miami after leading the Dolphins to

a 24-25 record over three years. They went 9-8 in their second straight winning season, but failed to make the playoffs during his tenure.

In a statement released by the lawyers representing him, Flores said: “God has gifted me with a special talent to coach the game of football, but the need for change is bigger than my personal goals.”

“In making the decision to file the class action complaint today, I understand that I may be risking coaching the game that I love and that has done so much for my family and me. My sincere hope is that by standing up against systemic racism in the NFL, others will join me to ensure that positive change is made for generations to come,” he said.

In a statement, the NFL said it will defend “against these claims, which are without merit.”

The lawsuit alleges that the league has discriminated against Flores and

other Black coaches for racial reasons, denying them positions as head coaches, offensive and defensive coordinators and quarterbacks coaches, as well as general managers.

According to the lawsuit, Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross told Flores he would pay him \$100,000 for every loss during the coach's first season because he wanted the club to “tank” so it could get the draft's top pick.

The lawsuit alleged that Ross then pressured Flores to recruit a prominent quarterback in violation of the league's tampering rules. When Flores refused, he was cast as the “angry Black man” who is difficult to work with and was derided until he was fired, the suit said.

The Dolphins issued a statement, saying: “We vehemently deny any allegations of racial discrimination and are proud of the diversity and inclusion throughout our organization. The implication that we acted in a manner inconsistent with the integrity of the

game is incorrect. We will be withholding further comment on the lawsuit at this time.”

The lawsuit said the firing of Flores was typical for Black coaches who are not given the latitude other coaches receive to succeed. It noted that Flores led the Dolphins to back-to-back winning seasons for the first time since 2003.



LN gets runner-up rings from '21 tournament run



Lawrence Township Schools Superintendent Shawn Smith receives his state runner-up ring from 2021.



Lawrence North received its runner-up rings from the 2021 state tournament during the Wildcats' game against Center Grove on Jan. 28. (Photos/David Dixon)



CJ Gunn hits two of his 21 points during LN's 69-53 win over Center Grove.