

2023 BLACK HISTORY SPECIAL EDITION

THE ALICE and WADE HOUSTON STORY

A new documentary chronicling their lives, careers and their generosity of spirit.

KET.org

TUNE IN & STREAM
KET Monday, Feb. 27 9/8c pm
KET2 Thursday, March 2 9/8c pm



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Thursday, February 23, 2023

Section A & B

Volume 89, Number 51



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The 2023 Adult Black Achievers were all smiles as they posed for a photo following the YMCA Black Achievers Program on Saturday, February 18, 2023 held at the Galt House Hotel. Photo by Clinton Bennett (See additional photos inside)

Earnest Pugh & Dr. Jamal Bryant comes together for Black History Month Release, "Keep Hope Alive"

EPM Music Group and PrazKeez Media have announced a Black History Month collaboration between Gospel Superstar Earnest Pugh and Dr. Jamal H. Bryant, Senior Pastor at Atlanta's New Birth Missionary Baptist Church. The track, "Keep Hope Alive," was produced by GRAMMY® Award winning producer Cedric Thompson and Keith Williams, CEO of PrazKeez Media and former pianist for Rev. Donald Vails. The song is the first release under the EPM Music Group's new partnership with Shanachie Entertainment, an independent recording company known for its eclectic roster of Roots, Adult R&B, Gospel, and Smooth Jazz artists.

"But didn't you know why so many doors



Earnest Pugh

were being opened for you," Dr. Bryant sermonizes in the opening of this inspiring and hopeful ballad that shows off Pugh's stunning high notes and soulful style of crooning. "God is not answering your prayer. He's answering the prayer of somebody who had the audacity of hope."

"Keep Hope Alive" was originally written and recorded by the late choir-master, Rev. Donald Vails, for the 1992 Gospel Music Workshop of America LP entitled, *Live from Salt Lake City, Utah*. It borrowed from the Civil Rights anthem, "We Shall Overcome," and Rev. Jesse Jackson's "Keep Hope Alive" slogan that was popular during his 1984 U.S. Presidential campaign. The original album peaked at No. 23 on the Billboard

Top Gospel Albums sales chart in 1992. "The song resonated in my heart this year more than ever," says Pugh. "So, I felt an urgency to insert this message into today's climate of civil unrest, police brutality, and social injustice as a shot in the arm that will empower us with a greater determination to be hopeful that things will get better."

The "Keep Hope Alive" single is currently available at all digital music platforms. Pugh is also set to release his 13th

See Keep Hope Alive, page A3



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BLACK HISTORY EDITION

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WITH SPECIAL SUPPORT FROM: CHESTNUT STREET FAMILY YMCA BLACK ACHIEVERS AWARDS PROGRAM

Brandon Lawrence: Reminder

By Brandon Lawrence

People like to use the term meritocracy. The definition of meritocracy is, "government or the holding of power by people selected on the basis of their ability". I have come to find that the idea of a meritocracy is a myth. People enjoy holding power too much to achieve a meritocracy. I will provide you with an example. The legal profession like every other industry has felt the negative effects of the pandemic. It is more difficult to make money from criminal defendants because of changes in laws and changes in the way business is conducted nowadays. Employers are having trouble attracting and retaining employees. The Louisville Public Defender's Office is experiencing a shortage of attorneys. The Public Defender has contracted out work for misdemeanors cases because the caseload is voluminous. It is understandable



Brandon Lawrence

that the Public Defender's office would farm out some of its work because they do not have enough attorneys to adequately represent the cases.

I would not understand it if the Public Defender's office did not give any of that contract work to any female attorneys or black attorneys in Louisville. The

legal business, like any other business, is extremely tough. Lawyers are doing what they can in order to make it. It makes it all the more difficult for female lawyers and black lawyers who are shut out of the process when it comes to receiving contract work from public and private entities. Private civil law firms in Louisville do not have to hire black lawyers and female lawyers. The private civil law firms in Louisville do not make it a priority to hire black lawyers. Private civil law firms in Louisville do not make it a priority to retain and promote black lawyers.

I am sure it is tough being a female lawyer in Louisville, Kentucky. I know it is tough being a black lawyer in Louisville, Kentucky. Many white lawyers in Louisville go out of their way to preserve a white male dominated power structure that pre-exists any of us currently breathing free air. Many of these white lawyers boast about the number of people in their office suites

that happened to not be black nor female. You will be hard pressed to find a black lawyer working in a criminal law firm office suite. Would you like to see more black lawyers in law offices in Louisville? The easy answer is for black attorneys to go in on purchasing an office together or forming a business partnership that will be able to meet the legal needs of people. It is a two-way street. Black lawyers have to have black clients in order for their businesses to survive. I understand people having reverence for those that have passed on from this life.

In order for black people to achieve economic independence black people need to patronize black professional people that provide goods and services.

Brandon Lawrence is a local attorney. He can be reached by email at Brandon@lawyerforthecity

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Chestnut Street YMCA Black Achievers Program

Photo at left, R. Stephen Tarver, President & CEO for the YMCA of Greater Louisville gave a salute to the Youth Black Achievers, Adult Black Achievers and others as he spoke during the annual Black Achievers Program on Saturday, February 18, 2023 held at the Galt House Hotel in Downtown Louisville.

Photo by Clinton Bennett

THE ALICE and WADE HOUSTON STORY

A new documentary chronicling their lives, careers and their generosity of spirit.

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KET.org





Adult Achiever of the Year Lynn Johnson accepts the Award during the 2023 Chestnut Street YMCA Black Achievers Program on Saturday, February 18, 2023. Photos by Clinton Bennett

Adult Achiever of the Year Kim Burse accepts the Award during the 2023 Chestnut Street YMCA Black Achievers Program on Saturday, February 18, 2023. Photos by Clinton Bennett



The 2023 Youth Achievers posed for a photo during the YMCA Black Achievers Program held on Saturday, February 18, 2023.

LCCC to celebrate 75th Anniversary in local community

In 2023, LCCC will celebrate its 75th Anniversary, that's 75 years of being of service to the families of west Louisville and beyond.

The 2022 Annual Meeting and Lyman T. Johnson Distinguished Leadership Awards to be presented at their luncheon on Thursday, March 16th, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.. This year's recipient Senator Gerald Neal will receive the Distinguished Leadership Award and the 5-year Lifetime Achievement award will be presented to Raoul Cunningham past president of the Louisville branch of the NAACP.

And a tribute to Ms. Lizzie Gillian Miller will be recognized at the LTJ luncheon for her outstanding years of service to the community.

Keep Hope Alive

Continued from front album, *Fully Persuaded* (EPM / Shanachie), in the second quarter of 2023. The project features appearances by Zacardi Cortez, Nakita Foxx, and Crystal Aiken. The hip-slapping current radio single, "God Did It," has risen to No. 25 on the Billboard Gospel Airplay chart and continues to build at the gospel format.

February is Black History Month! Celebrate!



Dress In Blue Day
For a Future Free of Colon Cancer™

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month!

DRESS IN BLUE DAY

Saturday, March 4, 2023
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Republic Bank Foundation YMCA, 1720 W. Broadway

- Talk with Healthcare Providers
- Tour the West Louisville KAAAC/Gilda's Club Office
- Walk through the Incredible Colon

- Learn about Free/Low-Cost Cancer Screening



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Post to Facebook and add #dressinblue, #wipeoutcoloncancer, or #kcp.

Get Fit for Blue!
If you are age 45 or older, get screened for colorectal cancer.
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On July 29, 30, 2023 the Nation's Largest free Family Reunion will be held in Louisville, KY

WE ARE INVITING OVER 150 FAMILIES, COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE CLASS REUNIONS AND CHURCHES TO JOIN US FOR THE 41ST ANNUAL POST-COVID CELEBRATION OF THE NATION'S LARGEST NO CHARGE AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL - FAMILY REUNION!



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Don't miss being a part of this historical showcase of black family heritage!

Register your family and join the thousands of reunion members and friends coming together for a safe weekend of free entertainment and festival events!



SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FOR PARTICIPATING FAMILIES:

"Free Reserved Private Family Tents With Personalized Family Name Sign
Family Photo In "Festival" Review Edition • Family Entertainment & Games
Youth Activity • Seniors Bingo • Kid's Play Zone • Vendors Exhibit Center



As a part of the annual West Louisville Appreciation Festival, we are inviting families, churches, class reunions and community organizations to join us for this special event and spend an enjoyable day with family members! The Proud Heritage Family Reunion has grown in popularity and size and is one of the largest reunion events in the nation! All festival events are planned to support the reunion and are provided free, many families are utilizing this event as their annual family reunion summer get together.

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023

11:00 A.M. - 7 P.M. SHAWNEE PARK • LOUISVILLE, KY

PLEASE READ THIS GENERAL INFORMATION BEFORE SENDING IN ENTRY FORM!

We understand that the selection of families to participate will be made by a lottery-type drawing. We also understand that the selection process is final and cannot be contested. We (and all family members) also agree to abide by all of the rules of the Family Reunion as determined by the organizers of the West Louisville Appreciation Festival Reunion. We also agree that our family, if selected, will be denied participation in the 2023 reunion and future reunions, if any of the rules are broken.

We understand that the selection of families will be made by a lottery-type drawing of names between **March 15 and March 23, 2023** and all families names drawn and selected will be notified at the address on the entry form.

ONCE YOU HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED THAT YOUR FAMILY HAS BEEN SELECTED, YOU MUST RETURN THE REQUIRED REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT BY THE DEADLINE OR YOU WILL FORFEIT YOUR FAMILY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE 2023 FAMILY REUNION AND ANOTHER FAMILY WILL BE SELECTED!

() We (I) have read the entry form information and fully understand the selection process. **PLEASE ENTER OUR FAMILY IN THE SELECTION PROCESS**

FAMILY REUNION COORDINATOR / CONTACT PERSON MUST SIGN:

X _____

All families will be required to submit a 100% Refundable Damage & No-Show deposit in the amount of: \$50 for families up to 100 members; \$75 for families from 101 to 199 members; \$150 for families with over 200 members. The refundable deposit will help to insure families that registered actually participate in the reunion on reunion day. This will help eliminate incidence of; empty tents on reunion day by no show families, limiting of other families from participating, family ID signs stolen or vandalized tents, and the loss of monies or fees by (us) associated with supplying a tent and signs.

DEPOSITS WILL BE RETURNED BY AUGUST 31, 2023 AFTER YOUR TENT HAS BEEN INSPECTED FOR DAMAGE. TO RECEIVE YOUR DEPOSIT, YOUR FAMILY SIGN MUST BE RETURNED TO THE CHECK-IN STATION BY 6 P.M.: SATURDAY, JULY 29 OR YOUR DEPOSIT WILL BE FORFEITED.

THE LOUISVILLE DEFENDER NEWSPAPER'S PROUD HERITAGE®

FAMILY & CLASS REUNIONS

DEADLINE TO ENTER: 3:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023

YES, Our Family Will Participate in the Louisville Defender Newspaper's 41st annual Festival 2023 PROUD HERITAGE FAMILY REUNION

PLEASE REGISTER OUR FAMILY FOR THE:

[] Saturday, July 29, 2023 Reunion

FAMILY COORDINATOR: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELE: _____ EMAIL: _____

FAMILY NAME: _____

APPROX. NO. IN FAMILY _____ (MUST BE SAME NUMBER THAT WILL PARTICIPATE IN FAMILY REUNION)

DO NOT SEND REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT WITH THIS ENTRY FORM.

REFUNDABLE DEPOSITS ARE REQUIRED ONLY AFTER YOU HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED THAT YOUR FAMILY HAS BEEN SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2023 REUNION!

REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT REQUIRED AFTER FAMILY IS SELECTED:

FOR FAMILY SIZE:

[] \$50 for up to 100 members [] \$75 for 101 to 199

[] \$150 for families over 200 members

A service fee of \$35.00 will be charged for all unpaid returned checks due to insufficient funds or other reasons determined by bank or financial institution check is drawn on. If your deposit check and return check fee is not paid in cash within 15 days of your Notification date from the Louisville Defender, your Family will be eliminated from participating in the 2022 Reunion.

SEND ENTRY FORM TO:

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PROUD HERITAGE FAMILY REUNION
1720 Dixie Highway
Louisville, KY 40210

ENTRY FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY 3:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023



The Houston Family

KET documentary ‘The Alice and Wade Houston Story’ tells the story of one of Kentucky’s most prominent and philanthropic couples

The Alice and Wade Houston Story, a new original production from KET, chronicles the lives and careers of one of Louisville’s most prominent couples. From their childhoods in Louisville, Ky., and Alcoa, Tenn., we follow the Houstons as they move from the segregated worlds of their youth to their multiple successes in the arenas of both business and sports, and their lifelong friendship with Muhammad Ali. The story is told by a chorus of voices in addition to Alice and Wade, including their children, relatives and friends, including Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer, University of Louisville basketball coach Kenny Payne and former UofL star and NBA player Darrell Griffith, as well as business partners, civic leaders and former players whose lives have all been touched by the Houston’s generosity.

The couple began dating in 1966, when Wade was one of the first African-American basketball players at the University of Louisville and Alice worked as a counselor in the university’s Upward Bound Program. Married in 1969, the couple settled in Louisville where Wade coached the basketball programs at Ahrens High School and, later, Male High, which he led to a state championship in 1975. Later that year, Wade accepted an assistant coaching position at the University of Louisville basketball team under head coach Denny Crum. In 1989, Wade was named the head coach at the University of Tennessee, making him the first Black head coach in the Southeastern Conference, a position he held until 1994.

Alice, who earned her Master of Education from the university in

1975, worked for UofL in the financial aid office until 1988, when she left to enter the private sector, ultimately developing HJI Supply Chain Solutions, a logistics provider and warehouse management company that has become one of the largest woman – and minority – owned supply chain businesses in North America.

Both Alice and Wade have a long history of community service and philanthropy, working with such organizations as the National Urban League, the Greater Louisville Project, the James Graham Brown Foundation and the University of Louisville Foundation, among others.

The Alice and Wade Houston Story
KET Monday, Feb. 27 • 9/8 pm
KET2 Thursday, March 2 • 9/8 pm
Stream on-demand at KET.org and on

the PBS app

The Alice and Wade Houston Story is a KET production. The program is produced by Tom Thurman and Brandon Turner and is funded in part by the KET Endowment for Kentucky Productions.

KET is hosting a Lexington screening event in the week leading up to the film’s broadcast premiere:

Screening of *The Alice and Wade Houston Story* Lyric Theatre & Cultural Arts Center, Lexington Thursday, Feb. 23 • 6 pm

To RSVP, please visit KET.org/Events.

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THE LOUISVILLE DEFENDER NEWSPAPER’S

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JUNETEENTH
FREEDOM DAY

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SPECIAL WEEKEND EDITION:
JUNE 15, 16, 2023

Attention: Community Organizations & Event Celebration Planners

(Except Government / Businesses / Corporations) that are presenting special Juneteenth 2023 Celebration events, please send information to the Louisville Defender Newspaper to be considered for publication in the June 15, 16, “JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION” Special Weekend Edition at NO CHARGE. Send by 5 P.M. Friday, June 2, 2023 to: loudefender@aol.com.

For information, Please Call 502-772-2591.

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Amplifying Black Voices

JCPS Black Student Unions help students feel sense of belonging

By Juliann Morris

On a brisk November morning, Lassiter Middle School Black Student Union (BSU) members braved the cold to help unload and sort canned goods from generous parents and students for the group's second annual Thanksgiving food drive.

The BSU, along with the school's Student Council, organized the drive from start to finish. First, they met with Lassiter's principal to pitch hosting a school-wide drive with student incentives like dress-down days as a reward for participation. Then, they designed flyers, collected the food, sorted hundreds of donations, kept the student body updated on the drive's progress, and delivered all donations to Shively Area Ministries.

"We're trying to help families out here who are struggling," said Aniyah Davis, Lassiter eighth grade student and BSU president. "It's fun because you can see so many people getting engaged."

The food drive service learning project highlights what Lassiter's BSU strives to do every day—empower students of color, said Whitney Lanham, Lassiter special education teacher, team leader, and BSU faculty sponsor.

"A lot of our students of color do not feel like they have a place of belonging," Lanham said. "We are fortunate to have this group that gives them a sense of belonging and leadership roles within the school."

Lassiter is just one example of how Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) is supporting students with BSUs at their schools. JCPS has more than 50 active BSUs, said Greg Vann, an associate in the district's Diversity, Equity, and Poverty Department.

"The mission is to make sure that we amplify Black student voices and to increase the sense of belonging for Black students," Vann said. "(Students) like to come together to just speak and talk about the things that they are experiencing in their communities, in their schools...and then coming up with ways to try to make those things better."

At Lassiter, the BSU meets weekly and plans events throughout the year that give students a chance to get involved, Davis said.

"It's great for kids out here who are really struggling to know they're a part of something and that they're not nobody, they're somebody," she said.

BSUs across the district are finding unique and exciting ways to Black History Month this February. Grace M. James Academy of Excellence and W.E.B. DuBois Academy competed last week in the district's first Black History Bowl, a Jeopardy!-esque contest where students went head-to-head answering questions about Black history.

Kimani Bussey, an eighth grade student and BSU member at Grace James, said the high-energy event added depth to students' Black history knowledge.

"We really wanted to translate what we learned in the classroom about our history into a competition," Bussey said. "What people know about Black history is very limited. This is a chance for students to show off our history and extend that knowledge to others. I think that's really important."

At Seneca High School, the BSU gives students an opportunity to develop leadership skills, practice public speaking, and talk with community leaders like former state Representative Attica Scott, who visited with the group in November, said Seneca High School student and BSU president DeShay Felton.

It also gives students a chance to form positive relationships among the Black community and overcome "teenager things" that create conflict, she said.

The BSU is also helping students feel more empowered to speak up about the issues that are important to them, said Seneca student Gifte Tahir.

The skills she's learning in BSU, she said, help her stand up for her rights, stand up for other Black people, and push others to "get out of their comfort zone and change a lot of things that need to be changed and talk about things that need to be talked about."



Grace M. James Academy of Excellence and W.E.B. DuBois Academy competed recently in the district's first Black History Bowl, a Jeopardy!-esque contest where students went head-to-head answering questions about Black history.

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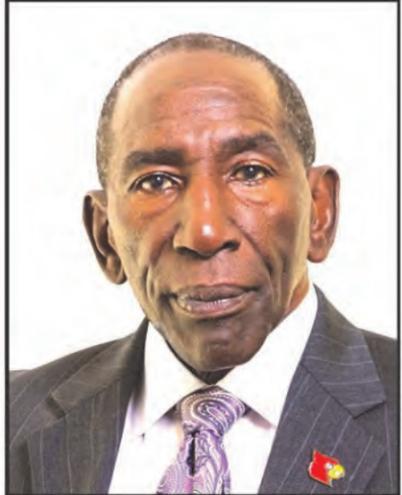
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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER



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BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION EDITION

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CHESTNUT STREET YMCA ANNUAL
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RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING
Culture, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

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WITH SPECIAL SUPPORT FROM: CHESTNUT STREET FAMILY YMCA BLACK ACHIEVERS AWARDS PROGRAM

Wayne Heard Achieving at PNC Bank

To fully appreciate the extent of Wayne Heard's diverse and far-ranging contributions to government, law and business would require a sophisticated understanding of the complex public policy landscape to which he has devoted much of his life's work. Appreciating his *impact*, however, is much more palpable – from his prolific legislative output, to his efforts to improve the lives and job prospects of Jefferson County (Ala.) prisoners reentering society, to spearheading the creation of a new clearinghouse for environmental finance during his service as a White House-appointed senior policy advisor for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – to name but a few of his achievements.

At age 34, Heard's breadth of experience rivals that of people twice his age, but his outlook is shaped by



Wayne Heard

humility, and he credits his success to a single prevailing principle. "In every position I've held and every role I've fulfilled, I've always challenged myself to be the *best version of myself*," says Heard. It's a principle he has applied to every endeavor, from building a business to being a devoted father to his two children. "Every day is an opportunity to learn, and even the most challenging

days provide a chance for me to improve myself and refine my skills so I can be of service to others in a meaningful way."

A key contributing factor to Heard's success has been his discipline to put a plan in place to deliver on his goals. It hasn't always been easy. "I can remember a period early in my career when I would wake up early to work with my personal training clients, then intern with the City of Birmingham during the workday and then attend law school at night," he says. The rigorous regimen paid off, resulting in the creation of a successful fitness enterprise and income to continue his education, the cultivation of valuable relationships and experience in public service, and a J.D. and L.L.M. in taxation from the University of Alabama School of Law.

Today, Heard applies his propensity for problem-solving, planning and goal-setting as a wealth strategist for PNC Private Bank, helping clients address complex fiduciary, estate and other wealth planning challenges and opportunities to ultimately achieve their financial goals. He brings to his work in wealth management a diverse cross-section of perspectives and experience – and embraces diversity not as a moral responsibility but as a business imperative. He now calls Greater Louisville home, having relocated in 2021 to join one of the oldest and largest trust companies in Kentucky, where he can contribute to closing the racial wealth gap within the region and help clients navigate what is expected to be the greatest generational wealth transfer in history.

A passionate lifelong learner, Heard is far

from done expanding his knowledge and creating meaningful impact for others. His love for public policy runs deep, as evidenced by his current chairmanship of the Washington D.C. advisory committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and he intends to play an active role in advancing progress in this realm, applying both his personal ethos of being the best version of himself and a learning that has remained consistent throughout his multi-faceted professional journey. "Throughout my career, I have found that the best approach to collaboration and teamwork is to focus on what unites us – not what divides us," says Heard. "Because the nature of human dynamics is the same at all levels of business and politics, I have found this theme to be universally true, and I strive to demonstrate this in all I do."

Louisville Metro Police Department: Major Tiffany Tatum

Major Tiffany Tatum joined the former Louisville Division of Police, where she patrolled in the 2nd and 3rd Districts. After merger in 2003, she was assigned to the 4th Division. During this time, she had the opportunity to serve as a patrol training officer, training many new officers on the department. In 2009, she received the Police Training Officer of the year for her work with training new officers.

In 2016, she was promoted to sergeant and served in the 2nd and 4th Divisions before being appointed to the Professional Standards Unit. In 2019, she was pro-



moted to lieutenant and served in the Special Investigations Unit and the 1st Division. In 2021, she was appointed to Major and currently serves as the commander of the 4th Division.

Major Tatum is currently attending the University of Louisville working on a bachelor's degree in Sociology and is a former recipient of the Woodford R. Porter Scholarship Program from YMCA of Central Kentucky Black Achiev-

ers. She has associations with National Organization of Black Executives (NOBLE) and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).

Major Tatum is a graduate of the 140th Administrative Officer Course at the Southern Police Institute and is a graduate of the 70th Academy of Police Supervision at the Department of Criminal Justice Training at EKU.

Photo at left
Major Tiffany Tatum



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Louisville Metro Police Department: Major Corey Robinson

Corey Robinson began his career in law enforcement with the Louisville Metro Police Department in August 2004. He served as a patrol officer from 2005 to 2007, then as a District Resource Officer from 2007 to 2009. In December 2009, he resigned from LMPD and served with the Federal Bureau of Investigation from 2009 to 2012 where he was assigned to the FBI's Critical Incident Response Group (CIRG) and investigated Counter-intelligence cases. In November 2012, he returned to Louisville Metro Police Department and served as a patrol officer from 2012-2016, and with the LMPD SWAT team from 2013 to 2016.



Major Corey Robinson

In February 2016, Robinson was promoted to Sergeant. He served in the Sixth Division, Community Policing Unit, and the Professional Standards Unit (PSU). While serving in the Community Policing Unit he oversaw the mission of increasing legitimacy and trust between LMPD and the community. While serving in the Professional Standards Unit he conducted internal administrative investigations of sworn and civilian department members.

In August 2019, Robinson was promoted to Lieutenant. He served in the Sixth Division where he managed a patrol sector. On July 21, 2020, Robinson was promoted to Major and has served as Division Commander of the Sixth Division, Second Division, and currently the Third Division which covers South Louisville.

Robinson is a graduate of the University of Louisville, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Political Science in December 2002, and a graduate of Indiana

Wesleyan University, where he received a Master of Science in Management in December 2008. In May 2018, he completed the Administrative Officers Course from the Southern Police Institute. Robinson is a member of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA), the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), and the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE). Robinson is also a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated (Alpha Lambda Fall 2022).

Corey Robinson is married with two daughters.

Robinson attributes networking as the single most effective factor in his law enforcement career. Being able to strategically partner and network with stakeholders in the community is essential in his success as a Division Commander.

Ryan Irvine: Chief Operating Officer at Park DuValle Community Health Center

Ryan O. Irvine, BDH, MPH currently serves as the Chief Operating Officer for Park DuValle Community Health Center. Irvine retired from the Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness in 2018 after 24 years of service where he served as the Deputy Director for Community Health Prevention and Maternal Child Health for 8 years.



Ryan Irvin

He also served as the Commander of the 1163rd Area Support Medical Company in the Kentucky Army National Guard, which he had been a member for more than 33 years. During his career in the Kentucky Army National Guard he had two tours of duty to Afghanistan serving in Operation Enduring Freedom, overseeing medical operations.

Irvine holds a Masters in Public Health with an emphasis in Health Behaviors and a Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene both from the University of Louisville.

Dante Simpson: Diversity Recruiter at Norton Healthcare



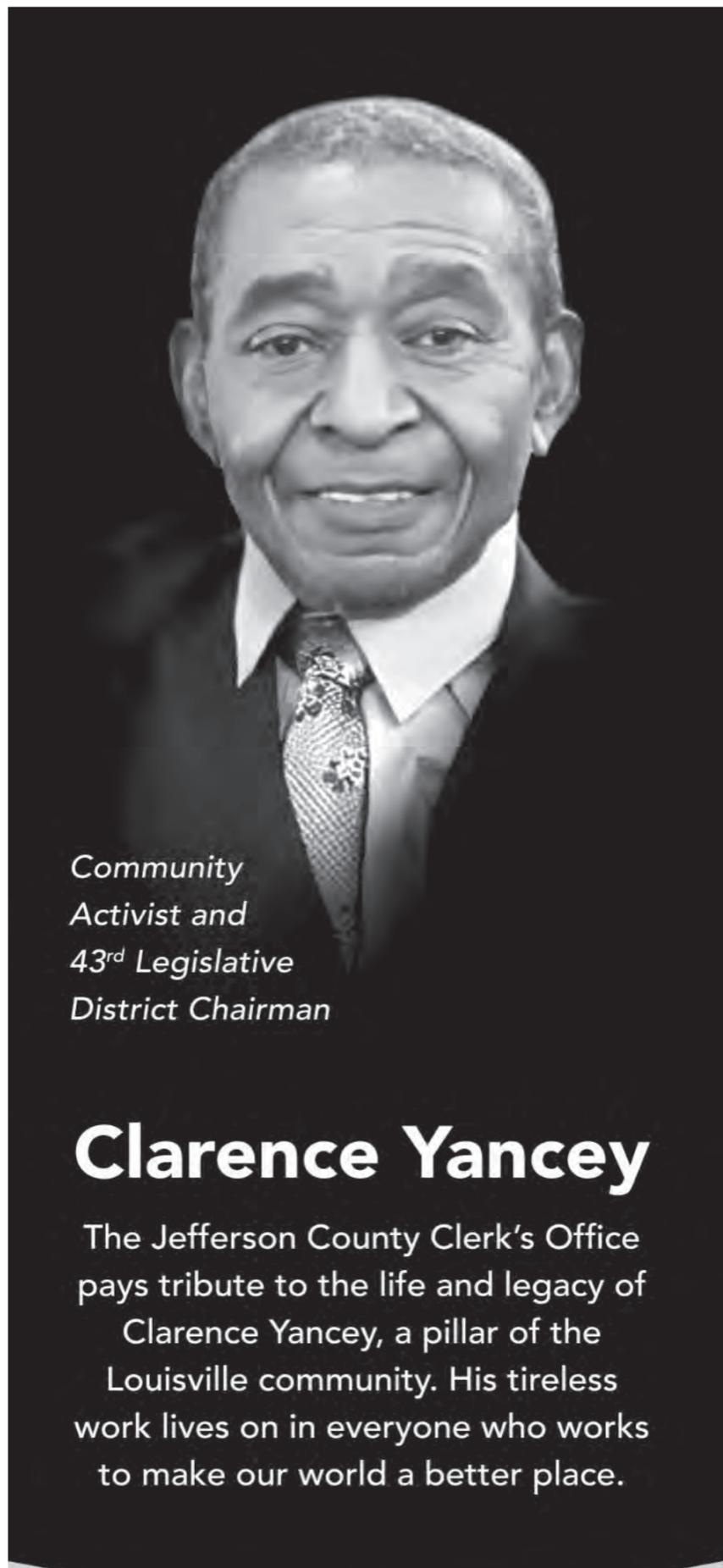
Dante Simpson recruiting for Norton Healthcare

Dante Simpson has been a member of Norton Healthcare's Diversity Recruitment team since November of 2021. As a diversity recruiter Dante's primary role is to bring in applicants from diverse communities and backgrounds. He achieves this goal by immersing himself in community events and collaborating with Norton Healthcare's employee resource groups

(ERGs). These ERGs offer support and advocacy for several different communities including African-Americans, LGBTQ+, Hispanic and Latinx, and people impacted by disability.

As a person of color who spent the majority of their childhood in Old Louisville, Dante

See Dante Simpson, page D6



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Dr. Swannie Jett: Leading Park DuValle Community

Dr. Swannie Jett was selected as the new CEO of Park DuValle Community Health Center in August 2021. Dr. Jett, most recent appointments were as Health Commissioner for the Brookline Department of Health in Brookline, MA in 2017. Dr. Jett was the Health Officer/Surgeon General for Seminole County, Florida from 2013-16, and Health Officer of Bullitt County Health Department in Kentucky from 2009-to 2013.



Dr. Swannie Jett

Dr. Jett is passionate about improving communities and addressing issues involving the Social Determinants of Health such as housing, women's health services, men's health, tobacco, homelessness, gun violence, climate change, and health inequities.

Currently, Dr. Jett is Lieutenant Colonel in the Rhode Island Air National Guard where his latest assignment was in Senegal, Africa assisting with the Ebola Virus Outbreak. Dr. Jett is a national leader in public health as Past President of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). He is an honorary member of Kentucky's Delta Omega Public Health Society. Dr. Jett has authored numerous publications over his 30-year career.

tucky for his distinguished service and contribution to the betterment of the city and its people. Dr. Jett is a Paul Harris Fellow.

Dr. Jett holds a Doctor of Public Health with an emphasis in Environmental Health and Preventive Medicine from the University of Kentucky, a Master of Science degree from the University of Tennessee in Bio-Systems Engineering, a Master of Health Care Administration from Suffolk University, and a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Statistics from Tennessee State University.

In 2011, he completed the National Public Health Leadership Institute at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He received the Bronze Star Medal for serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2006-to 2008. Dr. Jett received a Mayor's Citation in 2005 from the Mayor of Louisville, Ken-

February is Black History Month!



2023 YMCA
Black Achiever

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Matthew 19:26

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Alumnus brings passion for transformative learning back to Transylvania as visiting professor



C. Shawn McGuffey

Returning to Transylvania's campus is a homecoming of sorts for C. Shawn McGuffey. The Kenan Distinguished Visiting Professor began his educational journey as an undergraduate at Transylvania in the 1990s.

During his junior high and high school years, the Lexington native was active in the Fayette County Black Achievers Program, ultimately receiving the 1994 YMCA Black Youth Achiever of the Year award for Lexington. This cash award helped McGuffey pay for his tuition at Transylvania.

Once at Transylvania, McGuffey focused his research interests on middle childhood. After graduating in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in sociology and anthropology, he initially planned to continue this work during his doctoral studies at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, but changed his focus to the sociology of trauma.

For the past 25 years,

McGuffey has researched race, sexuality and trauma, winning multiple awards for his work, which has been published in Gender & Society, Social Problems, Du Bois Review and the Journal of Black Psychology. As he looks toward the future, he plans to expand his scope into other areas of sociology, including some that "might surprise people," such as geography, the sociology of human-canine interactions and the impact of Black LGBT people and their political participation.

Now an associate professor of sociology and past director of African and African diaspora studies at Boston College, McGuffey sees the classroom as a "spiritual place where you learn not just about how the world works sociologically, but also where you see yourself in the world and how you can best impact the world in a positive way."

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Shanaka Winters Manages a Team of Project Engineers at Louisville Water

Designing water pipelines and overseeing project engineers has given Shanaka Winters a fulfilling career at Louisville Water Company.

Winters grew up in Lexington and graduated from the University of Kentucky with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Civil Engineering. She moved to Louisville in 2008 to take a job with Louisville Water.

Winters was promoted in November 2022 to her current role as Louisville Water's Manager for Engineering Distribution Extensions. She manages a team of project engineers responsible for building infrastructures that supply water to new developments and extends existing water mains along private and public roads.

"This year will mark 15 years with the company. I entered this field because of the public works aspect: we aim to deliver projects that make the world a more livable place for all of society," Winters said.

Although her job is very technical, Winters said it's fast paced.

"We are continuously re-



Shanaka Winters

ceiving new water main extensions to evaluate and design, helping to grow our system," she said.

Winters is also active in the American Society of Civil Engineers where she currently serves as Vice President of the Kentucky Section.

For aspiring civil engineers, Winters gave the following advice: "Don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone."

Nichole DuBose: Achieving at the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

Nichole DuBose is an Information Technology Specialist for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office. Nichole, although new to the field, has proven to be an integral part of the team. In December of 2019 she graduated with a BS in Information Technology and Project Planning and Management. Ms. DuBose initially worked in the JCISO Property Tax Department and joined our I.T. team in April of 2020. Nichole is a native of Flint, Michigan but has loved every one of the 21 years she has lived in Louisville.



Nichole DuBose

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Congratulations 2023 Adult Black Achievers



Justin Morris



Chianina Roberts



Holli Turner



BLACK TOURISM ADVISORY COUNCIL

Louisville Tourism's Black Tourism Advisory Council (BTAC) was formed to drive intentional inclusivity in the hospitality industry by identifying areas for increased minority representation, to grow African American leisure travelers, and develop new opportunities to attract a diverse mix of convention groups to the destination.

Year Two Initiatives

- Advising ongoing series of DEI workshops for the hospitality industry
- Actively working to attract and host the following groups in 2023:
 - National Baptist Convention (June)
 - African American Golf Expo & Forum (August)
 - NOMADness Fest (September)
 - The Black Bourbon Society Bourbon Boule (September)
- Awarded 'Best in Show' at the 2022 Kentucky Tourism Industry Association Annual Conference

BTAC Members



Jecorey Arthur
Louisville Metro
Government



Erica Bailey
Bob's Steak &
Chop House



Tawana Bain
TBAIN & CO.



Kendall Boyd, Esq.
Ivy Tech
Community College



LaPrecious Brewer
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American Heritage



Kimberly Clay
Kentucky State
Tourism



Lamont Collins
Roots 101 African
American Museum



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Executive Class
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Chianina D. Roberts: Achieving at Humana

Chianina D. Roberts is a Supervisor in Kentucky Provider Medicaid, where she manages Humana's high volume provider call center. Her work includes developing and supervising front-end employees, overseeing Kentucky Medicaid's contractual agreement for the provider call center, and spearheading projects such as NPST (Net Promoter Score Total) to advance the goals of the Retail organization. Roberts joined Humana in 2019 at the initial start of the Kentucky Medicaid contract.



Chianina D. Roberts

She brought a wealth of knowledge with over 23 years of leadership experience and medical background working as a Registered Nurse for Norton Healthcare and Family Health Center. She soared right in exhibiting great leadership within her department, personally mentoring agents with a passion to advance within Humana.

She embraces mentoring young adults outside of Humana and is dedicated to giving back to

her community. Being a positive influence in her own life, and in the lives of others, is something for which she strives and pursues with passion. She has a motto that she lives by: "Your pain today will be your strength tomorrow."

Roberts is a proud University of Kentucky Wildcat! She enjoys spending time with her family and serving her community.

Marie Holmes: Achieving at Republic Bank

Marie Holmes is a wife and entrepreneur making a name for herself in the mortgage and home lending industry. She began her career with Republic Bank in 2012 working in collections and worked her way up through the chain and became a Community Reinvestment Act Loan Originator in 2018. With her work in this field, she has been able to assist prospective homebuyers in building generational wealth and realize their home ownership dreams. She has been recognized on numerous occasions for being one of the top producers with the Kentucky Housing Corporation. Recently, she was pro-



Marie Holmes

motored as an Associate Mortgage Sales Manager.

See Holmes, page D4

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Angela McCoy Achieving at Office of Circuit Court Clerk

Throughout her professional career and beyond, Angela McCoy has had a passion to help and serve others. Since 1999, the Louisville native has fulfilled that mission by being a part of the Office of the Circuit Court Clerk (OCCC) TEAM.



Angela McCoy

As Chief Deputy of Circuit Court, McCoy oversees a team of 39 Deputy Clerks, working directly with OCCC judicial partners, including Jefferson County's 13 Circuit Court judges, in the administration of justice. Circuit Court is the court of general jurisdiction that hears civil matters involving more than \$5,000, capital offenses and felonies, land dispute title cases and contested probate cases. Circuit Court also has jurisdiction to hear appeals from District Court and administrative agencies. In 2022, the OCCC processed approximately 11,500 new Circuit criminal and civil cases.

Before moving to her Circuit Court position in 2022, she held leadership positions in the OCCC driver's licensing division, culminating with her role as Chief Deputy. In that division, she led the daily operations of all six of the OCCC driver's license branch offices that were located across Jefferson County, processing more than 150,000 new driver's licenses a year. Per state law, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet assumed operations of all driver's licensing across the state as of June 2022.

In addition, McCoy, a Southern High School graduate, has been a longtime advocate and supporter for organ and tissue donation awareness in Kentucky, especially after her loved one's life was saved due to an organ transplant in 2017. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Donate Life Kentucky/Kentucky Organ Donor Association and has participated in numerous fundraisers over the years.

Leonard Watkins Achieving at Office of Circuit Court Clerk

Following a highly successful 31-year career as a local bank executive, Louisville native Leonard Watkins has continued his service to our community at the Office of the Circuit Court Clerk (OCCC), where he has worked as a Chief Deputy for the past 13 years.



Leonard Watkins

In his current role as Chief Deputy of Administrative Services, he oversees the office's busy Archives and Records Division, located in the Old Jail Building.

"Our Archives and Records Division offers a tremendous service to the public," Mr. Watkins said. "Whether it is assisting our judicial partners with records for cases or helping the general public, it is important work. We are very busy with requests from individuals researching their family histories and others seeking criminal records for employment opportunities."

The OCCC Archives and Records Division maintains hundreds of thousands of Jefferson County Circuit, Family and District court records onsite in a variety of mediums, including old log books, microfilm and paper documents. Some circuit cases date back to the 1800s.

A graduate of Central High School and Oakland City (Ind.) College, he retired as a Senior Vice President of PNC Bank (formerly Citizens Fidelity Bank) in 2004. During and after his bank career, he has continued to do volunteer work by providing professional advice about housing and mortgage-related issues through his church and other organizations to assist the elderly, minorities and low-income families in our area.

In addition, Mr. Watkins served as the District 1 Louisville Metro Council member from 2005-06, after being appointed to fill a vacancy.



**Women Who
Choose To Challenge**

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Volume 89 Number 5
SECTION A&B
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- Michelle Obama



Melinda French Gates ranked number 3 in the *Forbes* list of the 100 Most Powerful Women in 2013-2015, and 2017. She has held this distinction six other times, including as recently as 2020.

Ms. Gates, having worked in a male-dominated workplace at Microsoft, filled a void by encouraging more women to enter the computing and technology fields.

"Every company needs technology, yet we're graduating fewer women technologists. That is not good for society. We have to change it," said Melinda Gates.



-SONYA SOTOMAYOR



"The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate"

- Oprah Winfrey



Constance Baker Motley

began her college career at Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee in 1941. Two years later, she transferred to New York University. There she received her Bachelor's degree in economics. In 1944, she became the first Black woman to be accepted into Columbia Law School in New York City. Motley is the first Black woman to argue a case before the United States Supreme Court.

WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS TO BELIEVE IN SOMETHING SO STRONGLY THAT YOU'RE NEVER DISCOURAGED.

SALMA HAYEK



Douglas Craddock, Jr. Achieving at the University of Louisville

Douglas Craddock Jr. is the vice president for community engagement at the University of Louisville, a position he has held since February 2022. He also serves as chief of staff to the executive vice president and university provost.



Douglas Craddock, Jr.

In his role as vice president, Craddock builds and expands linkages for the university across multiple efforts within the Office of Community Engagement. He oversees UofL's Signature Partnership, the university's initiative to enhance the quality of life and economic opportunity for residents of west Louisville. By partnering with city and state governments, schools and other organizations, UofL coordinates and enhances existing programs and launches new ones to eliminate disparities that residents experience in social, education, health and economic development areas.

Craddock said, "At its core, community engagement means meeting people at the place where they currently are, finding out where they want to go and applying the strength of the University of Louisville to help them get there."

In addition, Craddock and the Community Engagement team oversee programs including Cards Come Together, the university's week of service; the university's TRIO, Upward Bound and Talent Search programs, which are federally funded efforts that identify and provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds; the student philanthropy program; and UofL's Annual Engaged Scholarship Symposium.

"The university reaches a broad scope of people and organizations through the Office of Community Engagement. Our work encompasses a wide variety of programs including working with college students who want to apply their learning to real-world situations; hosting students or groups who are interested in providing community service; and collaborating with faculty to address community issues," said Craddock.

Craddock has served as the provost office's chief of staff since 2021. From 2020 to 2021, he was chief of staff in UofL's College of Education and Human Development, where he has served as a faculty member since 2017. He also has faculty and administrative experience at the University of Alabama.

Raised in a military family, Craddock was born in Frankfort, Germany, and calls Abbeville, Alabama, home. He earned his bachelor's and doctoral degrees from the University of Alabama and a master's degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

With other faculty at UofL, Craddock also founded the Black Male EDquity Network (B.M.E.N.), a grassroots effort focused on creating a pipeline of Black male educators in multiple disciplines. The effort links Black male students from across disciplines and universities so they have peers to bond with while completing their graduate degrees. Many times, there are few or even just one student of color enrolled in a department's doctoral degree program. This program helps fill that gap.

He said, "I have a daily mantra that helps guide me into the journey of life: 'You cannot do it alone. You need your brothers. You need your sisters. You need your community. Link arms. Condemn hate. Cast a light and drive out the darkness so that all might flourish. Build together. Grow together. Be, together.' The importance of this mantra cannot be understated or ignored; it helps propel me to be the best I can be daily and to know I'm not alone."

Holmes continued from page D2

Holmes has been passionately involved in numerous community-focused organizations such as the Louisville Urban League and the Louisville Central Community Center that serve the wellbeing of Metro Louisville residents.

She is a 2013 graduate of Indiana Wesleyan University with a B.A. in Business Management.

Her motto is "*Making DREAMS of HOMEOWNERSHIP a REALITY.*"

**February is
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to
MARCH 2024**

Holli Turner: Director of Supplier Diversity at Humana, Inc.

Holli Turner is Director of Supplier Diversity and Sustainability initiatives for Humana, Inc. She currently resides in Louisville, KY but is a native of Cincinnati, Ohio. Turner is a highly experienced, innovative thinker with over 20 years of high-level Diversity, Operational and Sales leadership experience with progressive organizations. She has successfully demonstrated Six Sigma continuous improvement initiatives throughout a 10-distribution center and logistics network. Turner created new and improved supplier diversified, yet sustainable, solutions within an overall Global Supply Chain Network while further fostering collaborative growth opportunities, particularly in the business-to-



Holli Turner

business sectors. Turner is a critical thinker with a very diverse background.

Six Sigma certification aids in Turner producing operational excellence with safety as the first priority. She has been integral in various projects from supplier diversity strategic alliances, recruiting/retention, energy conservation, SKU optimization, network optimization, SAP conversion, company integrations and distribution network design to new conveyer system installation, and various other technology driven areas.

She is a proud Ohio University Bobcat out of Athens, Ohio. She has a close-knit family with twin daughters she absolutely adores. Holli has lifelong friendships, which are more like family that she has loved on since grade school.

With a passion for learning, mentoring and the community, Turner has served in various non-profit organizations. She is a visionary passionate about building up individuals, businesses, and communities. Driven to make a difference, she works both independently and collaboratively to build a legacy in honor of her oldest daughter, parents and grandmother - a legacy that enhances and encourages the disadvantaged by creating inclusive and diverse environments.

Turner states, "We are all here on the shoulders of giants that came before us, I just want to make them proud by making a difference."

Chandra Weathers: Achieving at Norton Healthcare

Chandra Weathers serves as a director on Norton Healthcare's Clinical Effectiveness team. In this role, she leads quality management and performance excellence projects, utilizing Lean Six Sigma principles to improve care process efficiency and achieve greater results for patients.

In 2016, Weathers joined Norton Healthcare as a clinical research coordinator for Norton Cancer Institute. As a member of the research team, she contributed to advancements in treatment and technology, adding years to lives and life to years. She quickly came to take great



Chandra Weathers

joy in interacting with patients and clinical staff,

which inspired her to expand her knowledge of the medical field. She carries over her passion for innovation into her new role in Clinical Effectiveness, leaving no stone unturned in the dedicated pursuit of improved health outcomes.

While no two days are ever alike in a fast-paced health care environment, Weathers consistently approaches unique challenges through a universal and replicable perspective focused on process improvement. Working collaboratively with providers and caregivers, she looks beyond the surface to identify root causes of issues,

leverages data to effectively measure opportunities for improvement and then implements strategic solutions designed to withstand the test of time.

Weathers was a key contributor in Norton Healthcare's COVID-19 response, working alongside colleagues to quickly but safely operationalize numerous process and procedure changes.

"We worked at a rapid, yet effective, speed to overcome challenges and to drive awareness and education throughout the organization," Weathers said. "We were able to develop sustainable solutions on the

spot and attempt to prepare for the unknown."

Outside of the office, she enjoys spending time with her husband and two children. She credits family for her drive to succeed, thanking her mother and grandmother for instilling the value of hard work and making a positive impact on the world around her.

"Don't let anyone talk you out of your hopes and dreams. When you're faced with a challenge, push through. Even when it feels impossible, keep pushing," Weathers shared.

Justin Morris: Senior IT Project Manager at Humana



Justin Morris

Justin Morris is currently a Sr. IT Project Manager at Humana where his team offers best-in-class project management practitioner leadership and guidance to Humana's IT organizations. He also offers his time and energy to fulfill his passion of helping others. He represents Humana as a business partner lead for Waggner High School's IT Academy, a program that allows students an opportunity to shadow Humana IT associates and participate in a mentorship program.

Morris was born and raised in the West End of Louisville, KY. He was a student athlete and ambassador during his time at Ballard High School. Upon graduating with honors in 2008, he continued his basketball journey and graduated from Virginia Intermont College in Bristol, VA, with his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in May 2013.

Morris said he is committed to helping underserved communities. His philanthropic efforts shine through his work on the Junior Achievement of Kentuckiana Board where he is involved with programs like 3DE that offer a unique learning experience that prepares students for the demands of tomorrow's economy. He also serves as a director on the JCPS Education Foundation board and is the Vice Chairman for Ballard High School's Alumni Association.

Morris recently built his home in Shelbyville, KY, and is an avid sports fan. He loves to travel and explore different cultures in his down time.

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Colonel John Aubrey
Jefferson County Sheriff

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Verná Goatley Continues to Lead HRC Forward

As the Executive Director of the Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission (HRC), Verná Goatley along with the staff embraces the mission and the vision of the work of the HRC. Beginning in 1962 the office was established by the City of Louisville to protect its citizens from unlawful discrimination. Since that time, numerous ordinances, laws, etc. have been passed supporting the work of the HRC. In addition to the Fair Housing, Employment, Hate Crimes, and Public Accommodations complaints received the Commission also certifies and monitors equitable business practices of Louisville Metro Government with the diverse business community.



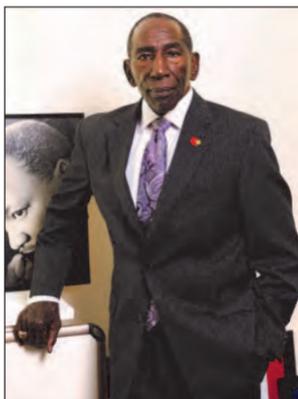
Verná Goatley

Through education and outreach, the HRC works to create opportunities for people of all backgrounds and experiences to connect with community partners and leaders, both inside and outside local government. Ensuring civic participation is an important part of the work of the HRC because it is essential to equitable representation and policy making of the local leaders, and for promoting community wellness and personal achievement.

Again, the work of Louisville Metro Government-Human Relations Commission is about connecting communities, advancing opportunities for our diverse businesses, and advocating fairness for our citizens.

Changing lives one step at a time is the aim of UofL's vice president for diversity, equity and inclusion

Since his Louisville arrival in May 2022, the message and aspiration of Lee Gill is unity. UofL's vice president for diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) is bringing people together under one mission – changing lives.



Lee Gill

“Higher education positively affects social mobility, meaning students from all backgrounds – white, Black, Hispanic, from eastern Kentucky, western Kentucky, the suburbs, the inner cities, small towns, rural areas -- become empowered to enhance the quality of life for themselves and their families, while increasing the talent dividend for the state of Kentucky,” Gill said.

Establishing a university-wide Inclusion and Equity Council represents a step toward oneness. The council includes representatives from across UofL, along with several community organizations including the NAACP, Americana World Community Center, Asia Institute Crane House, La Casita Center and the Louisville Urban League. Gill also is working with UofL's Commission on Diversity and Racial Equity to prioritize the numerous recommendations made in the Cardinal Anti-Racism Agenda report that will help move the university's DEI efforts forward.

The DEI division also is impacting current and future students. Through the Inclusive Excellence Scholars program, Gill is engaging with UofL alumni and a newly formed Corporate Chief Diversity Officer Advisory Board that provides students opportunity for mentorship, internships and co-ops. Other efforts involve a partnership with Jefferson County Public Schools, and will include the new Cardinals Rising initiative, a program open to all, that will reach young men of color in grades 7-12.

“Cardinals Rising will change the lives of the students and create a ripple effect that will impact the entire family toward generational wealth. UofL will be a leader in graduating first-generation, Pell-eligible students,” Gill said.

Dante Simpson continued from page C3

understands issues and concerns from the community's perspective. He says that the opportunity to interact and advocate for these communities and individuals drives his passion.

“I want to be that voice or be that person that inspires others,” Dante said. “I think it's important for them to see someone like me, who grew up in a diverse neighborhood and can understand what they mean when they're talking about certain things. This way I can give

them positive feedback and tell them why to choose Norton Healthcare.”

Offering the best of himself in service to others has long been a staple of Dante's professional pursuits. He began his career in the United States Navy. He enlisted shortly after graduating high school and worked for the Navy for 22 years before retiring as a Chief Petty Officer. During his time in the service he was deployed to the Middle East twice before transitioning into Navy recruit-

ment.

Dante said, “I didn't have any healthcare experience coming from the military – I just knew how to recruit. I thought why not bring my recruiting experience over, but be able to use it to help the community and people in the city.”

Outside of work, Dante enjoys traveling and spending time with his wife and three children. When asked what motivates him the most, he said “My family. Everything I do is for them because of them.”

February is Black History Month!

Jefferson County
Property Valuation Administrator
Colleen Younger



THE JEFFERSON COUNTY PVA IS PROUD TO HONOR BLACK ACHIEVERS IN OUR COMMUNITY AND WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING FAIR AND EQUITABLE ASSESSMENTS

2023 PROPERTY ASSESSMENT: HOW WILL IT AFFECT YOU?

Areas in and around Old Louisville, Russell, Chickasaw, Portland, Parkhill, California, Pleasure Ridge Park, Shively, Valley Station, Lake Dreamland and Kosmosdale will be reassessed in 2023.

To learn more about the assessment process and your right to appeal an assessment, join us at one of our community meetings:

Portland Library:
3305 Northwestern Pkwy
April 4, 2023
5 pm- 7 pm

Shively Community Center:
1901 Park Rd
April 6, 2023
6:30 pm-8 pm

Southwest Regional Library:
9725 Dixie Hwy
April 11, 2023
6:30 pm-8 pm

Southwick Community Center:
3621 Southern Ave
April 13, 2023
5 pm-7 pm

February is Black History Month



The YMCA of Greater Louisville
wishes to honor all of our graduating
YMCA Black Achievers

Class of 2023



Journee Abernathy



Erik Ballard



Ayana Bivens



Logan Boyd



Raven Brackens



Quinten Brady



Arabella Brown



Kyra Brown



Jaren Burge



JaVaughn Burton



Trinity Cardell



Austin Claycomb



Jada Connor



Noelle Crosby



Madison Davis



Max Duncan



Ross Echols



Sheree Edmonds



Keni Flynn



Kennedy Frederick



Terrena Harville



Marea Hawkins



Destinee Haynes



Ryan Johnson



Brooklyn Lanier-Eno



Kamorah Laye



Kaden Marshall



India McCormick



Saniyah McKellery-Tolbert



Dylan Minter



Zaria Mosby



Jovanna Okyere



Elyse Owens



Alexander Payton



Austyn Peake



Kamryn Perry



Teviah Pettus



Brionna Readus



Joshua Richards



Jada Ross



Jadyne Rowe



Chase Savage



Aniah Smith



Autumn Snorton



Karlye Sullivan



Alijah Sutton



Esther Uche



Camyiah Watts



Lazarus Weobong



Samar Whitt



Ava Young

Not pictured:

- Sania Anthony • Desia Dennis • Kendall Duncan • Latoya Duncan • Justice Dunson • Ameenah Hunter
Julia Kelly • Christian Kent • Faith Maji • Cam'Ron McNeely • John Peterson
Marissa Ponder • Dashia Sistrunk • Alexandria Woods

Congratulations to the
YMCA Black Achiever
of the **Year** **Tasha Otieno**



DeAmber Clopton: Achieving at the Presbyterian Church USA

DeAmber Clopton currently serves as the Associate Director of Finance Administration for the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.(PCUSA) and has been with the organization for 4 ½ years. She is responsible for the oversight and development of the operational budget for the Office of the General Assembly. Prior to working for PCUSA she worked as an accountant at Churchill Downs, Inc, as well as a public auditor at Ernst and Young. She has over 12 years of accounting and finance experience in public, for profit, and non-profit accounting.

DeAmber was born and raised in Louisville, KY by Debbie and Derek Shontee, and graduated from Louisville Male High School. She graduated with her Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting and continued her education by completing her Master's in Business Administration at Sullivan University. She has been married for 12 years to Ivonte' and has two wonderful children Malayiah (13) and Makai (10).



DeAmber Clopton

Her family loves to spend time together as a family golfing, cooking, and traveling.

Janeen Cummings: Kroger Company

Janeen Cummings is an Assistant Store Manager at the Kroger Westport Road location in Louisville, Kentucky. Retail operations has always been a passion of hers. She has worked in retail for over 24 years and has successfully held leadership roles for over 20 years.

Cummings attended Calumet College of St. Joseph in Indiana and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management in 2006. She relocated to Louisville, Kentucky in 2018.

After successfully completing the Management Training Program, she began working as an Assistant Store Manager over operations at the Holiday Manor store. Cummings has also worked in stores on Brownsboro Road and Central Station. She has worked from smaller box stores to larger high-volume stores, where she oversaw various critical processes.

In 2020 Cummings became a member of the African American Associate Resource Group, where she to invest in her career by networking, building her skill set, and serving her community. Her store participated in book drive for children, sponsored by



Janine Cummings

the AA ARG, and collected the largest number of books out of 115 Kroger stores in the Louisville Division.

Working with Kroger and joining the African American Associate Resource Group has allowed her to personally incorporate the Kroger promise – to be friendly and caring, provide everything fresh, to uplift every way and improve every day. She makes a difference in the lives of her associates

See Cummings, page E6

TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION AT TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY, WE PURSUE BOLD PATHS.

TRANSY.EDU | KENTUCKY'S FIRST UNIVERSITY

Dr. Jamesetta Ferguson
President & CEO
Molo Village CDC

Honoring leaders giving back to their communities

During Black History Month, AARP recognizes leaders who help build up their communities. Dr. Jamesetta Ferguson, President & CEO of Molo Village CDC is in Louisville's Russell Neighborhood.

AARP believes when our efforts drive change for the greater good, we thrive together.

Find Black History Month events in your community, visit aarp.org/local

Learn More: aarp.org/Louisville

/AARPKentucky

@AARPKY

On July 29, 30, 2023 the Nation's Largest free Family Reunion will be held in Louisville, KY

WE ARE INVITING OVER 150 FAMILIES, COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE CLASS REUNIONS AND CHURCHES TO JOIN US FOR THE 41ST ANNUAL POST-COVID CELEBRATION OF THE NATION'S LARGEST NO CHARGE AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL - FAMILY REUNION!

"AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE" FAMILY REUNION

ADVANCE 2023 REGISTRATION OPEN FOR NO-CHARGE PARTICIPATION FOR FAMILIES & CLASS REUNIONS!



LIMITED "FREE" FAMILY REUNION TENTS AVAILABLE!



Don't miss being a part of this historical showcase of black family heritage!

Register your family and join the thousands of reunion members and friends coming together for a safe weekend of free entertainment and festival events!



SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FOR PARTICIPATING FAMILIES:

- Free Reserved Private Family Tents With Personalized Family Name Sign
- Family Photo In "Festival" Review Edition • Family Entertainment & Games
- Youth Activity • Seniors Bingo • Kid's Play Zone • Vendors Exhibit Center



As a part of the annual West Louisville Appreciation Festival, we are inviting families, churches, class reunions and community organizations to join us for this special event and spend an enjoyable day with family members! The Proud Heritage Family Reunion has grown in popularity and size and is one of the largest reunion events in the nation! All festival events are planned to support the reunion and are provided free, many families are utilizing this event as their annual family reunion summer get together.

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023

11:00 A.M. - 7 P.M. SHAWNEE PARK • LOUISVILLE, KY

PLEASE READ THIS GENERAL INFORMATION BEFORE SENDING IN ENTRY FORM!

We understand that the selection of families to participate will be made by a lottery-type drawing. We also understand that the selection process is final and cannot be contested. We (and all family members) also agree to abide by all of the rules of the Family Reunion as determined by the organizers of the West Louisville Appreciation Festival Reunion. We also agree that our family, if selected, will be denied participation in the 2023 reunion and future reunions, if any of the rules are broken.

We understand that the selection of families will be made by a lottery-type drawing of names between **March 15 and March 23, 2023** and all families names drawn and selected will be notified at the address on the entry form.

ONCE YOU HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED THAT YOUR FAMILY HAS BEEN SELECTED, YOU MUST RETURN THE REQUIRED REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT BY THE DEADLINE OR YOU WILL FORFEIT YOUR FAMILY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE 2023 FAMILY REUNION AND ANOTHER FAMILY WILL BE SELECTED!

() We (I) have read the entry form information and fully understand the selection process. PLEASE ENTER OUR FAMILY IN THE SELECTION PROCESS

FAMILY REUNION COORDINATOR / CONTACT PERSON MUST SIGN:

X _____

All families will be required to submit a 100% Refundable Damage & No-Show deposit in the amount of: \$50 for families up to 100 members; \$75 for families from 101 to 199 members; \$150 for families with over 200 members. The refundable deposit will help to insure families that registered actually participate in the reunion on reunion day. This will help eliminate incidence of; empty tents on reunion day by no show families, limiting of other families from participating, family ID signs stolen or vandalized tents, and the loss of monies or fees by (us) associated with supplying a tent and signs.

DEPOSITS WILL BE RETURNED BY AUGUST 31, 2023 AFTER YOUR TENT HAS BEEN INSPECTED FOR DAMAGE. TO RECEIVE YOUR DEPOSIT, YOUR FAMILY SIGN MUST BE RETURNED TO THE CHECK-IN STATION BY 6 P.M.: SATURDAY, JULY 29 OR YOUR DEPOSIT WILL BE FORFEITED.

THE LOUISVILLE DEFENDER NEWSPAPER'S PROUD HERITAGE®

FAMILY & CLASS REUNIONS

DEADLINE TO ENTER: 3:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023

YES, Our Family Will Participate in the Louisville Defender Newspaper's 41st annual Festival 2023 PROUD HERITAGE FAMILY REUNION

PLEASE REGISTER OUR FAMILY FOR THE:

[] Saturday, July 29, 2023 Reunion

FAMILY COORDINATOR: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELE: _____ EMAIL: _____

FAMILY NAME: _____

APPROX. NO. IN FAMILY _____ (MUST BE SAME NUMBER THAT WILL PARTICIPATE IN FAMILY REUNION)

DO NOT SEND REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT WITH THIS ENTRY FORM.

REFUNDABLE DEPOSITS ARE REQUIRED ONLY AFTER YOU HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED THAT YOUR FAMILY HAS BEEN SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2023 REUNION!

REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT REQUIRED AFTER FAMILY IS SELECTED:

FOR FAMILY SIZE:

[] \$50 for up to 100 members [] \$75 for 101 to 199

[] \$150 for families over 200 members

A service fee of \$35.00 will be charged for all unpaid returned checks due to insufficient funds or other reasons determined by bank or financial institution check is drawn on. If your deposit check and return check fee is not paid in cash within 15 days of your Notification date from the Louisville Defender, your Family will be eliminated from participating in the 2022 Reunion.

SEND ENTRY FORM TO:
The Louisville Defender Newspaper
PROUD HERITAGE FAMILY REUNION
1720 Dixie Highway
Louisville, KY 40210

ENTRY FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY 3:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023

Greenberg: 'Disable confiscated guns'

Kentucky Revised Statute 500.090 requires all firearms confiscated by law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth be turned over to State Police and then sold at public auction to federally licensed firearms dealers.

Not surprisingly, many of these guns, already used to commit crimes, are returned to the streets—often to be used in additional crimes. This revolving door dumps more guns into a society that already has far more firearms than people.

While KRS 500.090 doesn't allow any options, Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg has found a way to at least frustrate the law by ordering LMPD to remove the firing pin and attaching a warning label to any weapon before it goes to State Police.

In a recent news conference, Greenberg said, "Today is just the first step in our administration's effort to end our illegal gun trade, to end our illegal gun crisis and get metro government out of the gun business."

While this fulfills a campaign promise, Greenberg's plan will most likely generate a court challenge and puts the mayor in direct conflict with ardently pro-Second Amendment state legislators.

"I don't think the mayor of the largest city in the state should start his administration in a battle with the General Assembly," said former Rep. Robert Damron, Republican from Nicholasville, who sponsored the firearms auction bill more than 20 years ago with revenues earmarked for police body armor.

As practical matter, removing the firing pin is a symbolic gesture at best since it can be easily replaced by any component gunsmith. However, the larger question is: Why is the state relying on confiscated firearms sales to protect officers?

Policing is already a perilous profession and these risks are compounded in states, like Kentucky, with weak or wildly misguided gun laws. From 2012 to 2021, 504 police officers in the U.S. were killed in the line of duty, with 456 fatally shot with guns—that's 90 percent of officer fatalities, according to the Center for American Progress, an independent nonpartisan policy institute dedicated to protecting Americans from gun violence.

And the situation is getting worse. From 2020 to 2021, the number of police officers fatally shot rose 35 percent. The Southern Poverty Law Center also reported domestic extremists, the nation's leading terrorism threat, fatally shot 42 police officers from 2005 to 2018.

If police need more body armor to protect them from gun violence, why not tax legal gun sales and licensed gun owners? After all, it's their fascination with guns that has created a dangerous culture that is made worse by perilous state gun laws despite opposition from law enforcement groups and the majority of the general public. To be clear, research data from numerous sources shows such weak or misguided laws put police and the public in greater danger.

Adding to problem are conservative elected officials who push lax restrictions on gun ownership, ignore opposition from police associations, prosecutors, and sheriffs as well as approve of state sanctioned gun sales.

Elected officials 'claim' they support police. If they do, then stop passing dangerous gun laws and instead pass commonsense preventive measures. To the Kentucky General Assembly: Do your job and protect citizens' lives and not put them in danger!

Is America one dimensional?

America is many things.

The world's leading democracy (at least for the moment); the only international military superpower; one of the most affluent nations on the planet; and, home to a widely diverse population from many different cultures, creeds and backgrounds. Additionally, America was founded on the principals of individual freedom and choice as well as allowing one's talents and hard work determine one's success.

So why are some in the unhinged, ultra-right wing MAGA crowd screaming that all 'true' Americans must think the same, act the same and accept only one way of honoring the country.

For example, Rep. Lauren Boebert (R-CO) and chief among the Congressional GOP crazies, tweeted, "America only has ONE NATIONAL ANTHEM. Why is the NFL trying to divide us by playing multiple!? Do football, not wokeness."

Boebert was apparently upset by Sheryl Lee Ralph's Super Bowl 57 rendition of "Lift Every Voice and Sing," known as the Black national anthem.

According to social media postings, Boebert and other MAGA 'culture warriors' were also apoplectic about featuring Rihanna during halftime; Kenneth (Babyface) Edmonds' version of "America the Beautiful" before the game; the hype about two Black quarterbacks playing on the NFL's biggest stage; the pre-game flyover by an all-women military pilot team; and, Doug Williams, first Black quarterback to ever start a Super Bowl, holding up the Lombardi Trophy to the crowd. Apparently, all of this was too much 'diversity' for Boebert's 'true' American crowd.

In fact, a USA Today columnist's headline declared 'Super Bowl 57 as the Blackest, most woke Super Bowl ever. Sorry haters!' This is surprising since the multi-millionaire owners of NFL teams are almost exclusively Republicans, according to the columnist.

While the NFL has some of the most conservative owners in all of professional sports, 69.4 percent of players are people of color, with 57.4 percent African American in 2020, according to NFL statistics. However, there are no Black owners or general managers and only three Black head coaches in the league.

In many ways, the NFL is a microcosm of America—a very few people at the top reap the lion's share of rewards generated largely by the talents and efforts of many. Stated another way, those with capital accrue far more benefits, while the value of those who work is diminished. And very often, those with the money are white and those who do the work are not.

Then there are the continuing and intensifying congregations of people into racial, cultural and political silos, creating 'echo chambers' in which only propaganda supporting their specific beliefs is allowed. There is little or no interest or effort to understand another person's point of view.

Of course, most MAGA efforts are designed to make America a white, Christian and authoritarian country. In that sense, they only want one 'America' (by their definition) and anything that challenges that notion is attacked.

To be clear, America was built and remains strong because of the diverse patchwork of peoples from all over the world. America is not one dimensional. In fact, the nation is a multi-cultural, multi-racial and multi-ethnic population and sooner everyone in America gets that message, the better off we will all be.

Community Forum

Guest Editorial
By Larry Elder
Conservative Talk
Show Host



The Sage from
South Central

Racializing the death of a Black Man by Police, Part 2

Last week we discussed how many on the Left considered the death of a black suspect, Tyre Nichols, following a beating by five Memphis black cops, an example of police anti-black "systemic racism."

Columbia Law Professor Kimberle Crenshaw, a proponent of critical race theory, offered this hysterical perspective: "Anyone who knows the history of enslavement, anyone who knows the history of policing knows that black people can do anti-black things. But what we were also trying to bring into the conversation is the structural dimension of anti-black racism, the fact that the incentive structures that are set up in policing are targeting particular communities, black communities."

"Targeting ... black communities"?

In this case, the head targeter is the black female Memphis police chief. As mentioned last week, blacks are 13 percent of the national population, but in the 75 most populous counties, blacks account for 60 percent of all homicide and robbery defendants. Would Professor Crenshaw prefer the police deploy their finite resources to Palm Beach, Florida, or Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, or Malibu, California? Eighty-one percent of blacks, many the supposed black victims of the targeting, according to Gallup, want the police manpower in their communities to remain the same — or to be *increased*.

"The View's" Whoopi Goldberg said police brutality will not be taken seriously until cops beat white people: "Seems things don't make sense to people unless it's somebody they can feel, or they can recognize. ... Do we need to see white people also get beaten before anybody will do anything?"

Again, during the five years prior to 2021, the police killed 39 percent more unarmed whites than unarmed blacks. As to police brutality against whites, go to YouTube and type "Tony Timpa" to see a tough-to-watch video of this white man's 2016

encounter with Dallas police officers. Timpa, pinned down for 15 minutes by several cops, even said, "I can't breathe." His death was ruled a homicide due to cocaine and being restrained. Then there's the tough-to-watch YouTube video of a 2011 Fullerton, California, police officers' encounter with a white mentally ill homeless man Kelly Thomas. He was beaten with fists, batons and the backside of a Taser. His death was ruled homicide by asphyxiation. In 2016, white and unarmed 19-year-old Dylan Noble was fatally shot by Fresno, California, officers after a traffic stop turned into a standoff.

Studies going back decades, including one done by black Harvard economics professor Roland Fryer, discussed in July 2016 in The New York Times, found cops more hesitant, more reluctant to use deadly force against a black suspect than a white one. In April 2016, a Washington Post article wrote: "Officers are three times less likely to shoot unarmed black suspects than unarmed white suspects."

In a 2021 paper called "BLM Spreads Falsehoods That Have Led to the Murders of Thousands of Black People in the Most Disadvantaged Communities," Thompson Reuters data scientist Zac Kriegman wrote about the growing number of cops who, fearing false allegations of "systemic racism," refused to engage in proactive policing. This, Kriegman argues, has resulted in thousands of "excess murders" of mostly black victims, who otherwise would be alive had policing not gone passive. So, due to this baseless anti-cop rhetoric, Biden, the Democrats and the media have blood on their hands. And Thompson Reuters fired Kriegman when he refused to retract his findings.

It also appears that the Memphis PD has been lowering hiring standards. Were these five black cops hired for "diversity" and/or because cops are now maligned as "systemically racist," resulting in early retirements, fewer applicants and therefore lowering hiring standards to maintain manpower? If white cops had beaten Nichols, that would have been an example of systemic racism. Black cops *did* beat him, and it's *still* systemic racism. Why, then, does the Left want a "diverse" police force? Bad cops come in all colors. The goal should be good cops, no matter the race.

Finally, there is a sad, tragic throughline in almost all of these dead black suspect/police encounter cases: resisting arrest. Why is it taboo for "black leaders" and blacks in the media to encourage black suspects *not* to resist arrest?!?



Editor's Note: *Guest Editorials are the views and opinions of the writers and not necessarily the views of the Louisville Defender Newspaper. Our goal is to publish various opinions for our readers.*

THE LOUISVILLE DEFENDER
WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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A CCIC NEWSPAPER

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"Voices of African American Affairs"

Dedicated to the life and memory of Frank L. Stanley, Sr.

Melody Hall: Achieving at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary

Melody Hall currently serves Louisville Seminary (lpts.edu) in the Business Office as the Accounts Receivable Specialist. Her duties include working closely with the Registrar and Financial Aid office. She helps ensure accurate information on student accounts and the maintaining of on-campus housing records. Prior to her current position, Melody served as an Administrative Assistant to the Black Church Studies Program. The program prepares leaders for - and in - African American Churches and communities in ways that enable them to navigate issues affecting the Black community. This includes, but not limited to: commitment to facilitating dialog, mutual understanding, respect and ministry between the Black Church and the wider Church in the world.

Prior to LPTS Hall worked over 30 years in the affordable housing industry as a compliance officer and manager in Louisville. Melody ensured regulatory requirements were met throughout the development to occupancy phase.

She studied Political Science at The University of Louisville and has been a life-long fan



Melody Hall

and supporter of her beloved Cardinals.

Hall is married to Durell Hall, Jr. a retired Courier Journal photo-journalist and small business owner who is also a former recipient of the Black Achievers Recognition. Her commitment to healthy living is most evident in her love of family and culinary skills. She and her husband enjoy spending time with their children, grandchildren, and extended family.

Melody is a member of Burnett Ave Baptist Church and looks forward to getting more involved in her faith journey there.

Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary: Trina Armstrong, LMFT

Dr. Trina Armstrong, affectionately known as Dr. Trina, joined the faculty of Louisville Seminary (lpts.edu) in August 2022 as Director and Associate Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy. She previously served as Director of Pastoral and Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, and the founder and inaugural Director of Interreligious Chaplaincy and Assistant Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities.

Dr. Trina earned a Ph.D. and MA in Practical Theology: Spiritually-Integrated Psychology at the Claremont School of Theology, a MA in Psychology, Marriage and Family Therapy from California Southern University, and an MDiv from Fuller Theological Seminary. Her research intersects with practical and womanist theology, post-trauma psychology, and relational cultural theory. She also researches issues of loss, grief, death and dying crisis care, and the impact of historical trauma on the wellbeing of African American families and interpersonal relationships.

Dr. Trina is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in multiple states. She is the founder of The Center for Wellness Encounters, a mental health wellness organization for individuals, families, and couples. She has extensive therapy and pastoral care and counseling experience in many settings as a hospice chaplain, community-based systemic family therapist,



Dr. Trina Armstrong

and as a marriage and family therapist in several group practices.

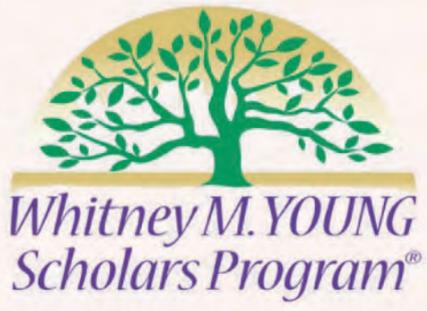
Dr. Trina is an ordained Itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) church. Her publications include *Caring for Single Black Mothers: Unveiling Trauma and Loss*, Pickwick, 2022; *Pastoral Care in Pandemics: Attending to Grief and Loss*, Wipf and Stock Publications, 2022; and *Removing the Rot at the Core: Black Theology and Psychotherapy: An Integrative Approach Towards Liberation from Psychological Slavery*, The A.M.E. Church Review, 2010.

During the 169th Academic Year Spring Convocation, Dr. Trina was installed as the Director and Associate Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy and gave a moving reflection on "Sankofa as the Authority of Our Identity" ([youtube.com/watch?v=eyMx_r5PHcw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eyMx_r5PHcw))

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Scholar
Alpha Diop
for Earning \$1.3
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Scholarships!**



*The Legacy
Continues*



**In
Celebration
of Black
History
Month**

YMCA 2023 Adult Black Achievers



Kita Tyler
GE Appliances



Felisha Short
GE Appliances



Demetrius T. Robertson
GE Appliances



Joy Walker
MSD



All Achievers not shown

Shelby Lockhart
MSD

Cummings continued from page E2

by providing a great working experience and her customers by providing a great shopping experience.

Cummings said she lives by the motto, "never mistakes, only lessons, in this journey that we call

life." She and her husband Chris, are both Ohio fans, enjoy spending time with their children, watching movies, and working out.



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**LOUISVILLE'S
BLACK
ACHIEVERS**



Think Wisely. Drink Wisely. Heaven Hill Brands. Bardstown, KY © 2023



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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR YMCA BLACK ACHIEVERS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY.



Congratulations, to Kroger Associates:

Janeen Cummings - Assistant Store Manager
Lisa Ellis - ZHZW Mobile Market Manager
Maurice "Mo" Smith - Meat Merchandising Specialist

At Kroger, we strive to reflect the communities we serve and to foster a culture that empowers everyone to be their truest self. We're committed to rallying our people, passion, scale and resources to transform our culture and aim to inspire collaboration as we stand together to feed the human spirit. As we work to create a more inclusive culture, we move forward as humans taking different steps in the same direction.



**Fresh for
Everyone**

Dr. Y. Dianna Wright: Achieving at the Presbyterian Church USA



Dr. Y. Dianna Wright

Dr. Y. Dianna Wright, Director of Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations for PC (U.S.A.) Her experiences has taken her all over the world, walking with the ecumenical and interreligious partners in ways that are faithful to the collective ministries. Her work focuses on building connections and relationships with God's people so that we may discern ways to can be the community of God's people together.

She served as Associate Presbyter for Equip and African American Ministries for Salem Presbytery in Clemmons, NC. An Education Consultant and Founder of Kuumba Center for Christian Education and Spiritual Growth. Past President of the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators, a former member of the General Assembly's Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations, and the Presbyterian Older Adult Ministry Network (POAMN). She currently serves on the US Board for Sister2Sister Ministry International, and a member of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus Board.

A graduate of the Presbyterian School of Christian Education, Richmond Va. and Columba Theological Seminary, Decatur, Ga., she is passionate about her work in education, ecumenism, and interreligious relations. She has served the church as an educator and have been involved in the ecumenical and interreligious work of the church for more than twenty years. She served the church as curriculum writer for These Days Devotions and Bible Study and Reflections on the Ecumenical Stance for the PCUSA called "God's Unity... Our Journey."

She has served congregations in New Harmony, Charlotte, and Salem Presbyteries. She is passionate about her work in education, ecumenism, and interfaith relations. She believes that as we walk together, we strengthen our witness and to build up the one Body of Christ.

She said she loves using the liturgical arts, including dance, storytelling, music, and drama, to glorify God. She enjoys walking, sewing, crafts, reading, and traveling.

The Sky's the Limit

The Louisville Regional Airport Authority proudly supports education about the inspiring Black pioneers of aviation and all that their stories bring to the youth of today and our community. Anything is possible for the achievers of tomorrow!



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MUHAMMAD ALI
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



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502-574-3631
745 W. Main Street
Suite 251
Louisville, KY 40202



The mission of the Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission is to promote unity, understanding and equal opportunity among all people of Louisville Metro and to eliminate all forms of bigotry, bias and hatred from the community.

We monitor equal access programs, enforce equal access laws, and educate the public.

We investigate complaints of discrimination based on race, sex, religion, disability, age, color, sexual orientation, gender identity and national origin through enforcement of employment, public accommodation, housing and hate crime laws.

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- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>Dinners
Bar-B-Que Half Chicken
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Chicken (3-piece)
Chicken Wings (4)
Chicken & Dressing
Beef Shoulder Roast
Pig Feet
Meat Loaf
Salisbury Steak</p> <p><u>SELECTION OF FRESH FISH:</u>
Catfish
Perch
Tilapia
Jax Salmon</p> <p><i>All Fish are cooked to order, all day, every day!</i></p> <p>Baked Ribs & Kraut
Bar-B-Que Ribs
Salmon Croquette
Vegetable Plate</p> <p>SPECIAL NOTE:
<i>Greens & Green Beans are Cooked with Smoked Turkey</i></p> | <p>Sandwiches
1/3 lb. Hamburger
Cheeseburger
Catfish
White fish
Jax Salmon</p> <p>Home Cooked Desserts
Peach, Blackberry And Cherry Cobbler
Individual Pie
Banana Pudding
Cake Slice</p> <p>Salads
Sliced Tomatoes
Macaroni Salad
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<i>Full Variety of Sandwiches including Franco's Special 1/3 lb. Hamburger!</i></p> |
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NOTICE

Case No. **22-AD-330**

In The Circuit Court for Wilson County, Tennessee

Hector Lopez and wife, Higinia Lopez, Petitioners and Armando Lopez, Co-Petitioner v. LaSierra Nicole Lopez, Respondent

**IN RE: Armando Lopez, Jr. (D/O/B 10/12/2010)
A Child Under Eighteen (18) years**

In this cause, it appearing from the Order of Publication, that the Respondent's, LaSierra Nicole Lopez, residence is unknown and cannot be ascertained upon diligent inquiry, it is ordered that publication be made for four (4) successive weeks, as required by law, in *The Louisville Defender*, a newspaper published in Jefferson County, Kentucky, notifying Respondent, LaSierra Nicole Lopez, to file an answer with this court and a copy to Petitioner's attorney, Julie M. Robinson, whose address is 137 Public Square, Lebanon, Tennessee 37087, within thirty (30) days from the last date of publication, exclusive of the last date of publication, or a judgment by default may be entered and the cause set for hearing ex parte as to said Respondent. If there is no answer, a hearing on Petitioners' *Motion for Default Judgment* shall be heard on April 10, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the *Petition for Adoption of a Related Child With Consent and Termination of Parental Rights*.

This 4th day of January, 2023.

Debbie Moss
Debbie Moss, Circuit Court Clerk

I, DEBBIE MOSS, CLERK, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL INSTRUMENT ON FILE IN THIS CASE

JAN 4 4 2023
Debbie Moss
DEBBIE MOSS
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
WILSON COUNTY, TN

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

INVITATION TO BID

Jefferson County Public Schools will receive sealed bids and award contract(s) for: **LIFE SKILLS KITCHEN RENOVATION AT DUPONT MANUAL HIGH SCHOOL, Louisville, KY.**
Pre-bid meeting will be held at 3:00., March 1, 2023, at DuPont Manual High School 120 W. Lee St, Lou, KY 40208.

Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m., March 14, 2023 at the Facility Planning Dept. C. B. Young Jr. Service Ctr, 3001 Crittenden Dr, Lou, KY 40209, at which time and place bids will be opened and read aloud. Bidders must be present at the bid opening. Bid documents are prepared by Pickett Passafiume Architects and are available at Lynn Imaging, 11460 Bluegrass Pkwy, Lou, KY 40209, phone (502) 499-8400.

JCPS Board of Education has established goals and good faith effort of 15% participation for Minority Business Enterprises, and 10% for Women Business Enterprises in all construction contracting. JCPS reserves the right to accept any bid, to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in bids received where such acceptance, rejection, or waiver is considered to be in the best interest of the Owner.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

INVITATION TO BID

Jefferson County Public Schools will receive sealed bids and award contract(s) for: **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM RENOVATIONS AT IROQUOIS HIGH SCHOOL, Louisville, KY.**
Pre-bid meeting will be held at 3:00., February 28, 2023, at Iroquois High School, 4615 Taylor Blvd, Lou, KY 40215.

Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m., March 14, 2023 at the Facility Planning Dept. C. B. Young Jr. Service Ctr, 3001 Crittenden Dr, Lou, KY 40209, at which time and place bids will be opened and read aloud. Bidders must be present at the bid opening. Bid documents are prepared by Schmidt Associates and are available at Lynn Imaging, 11460 Bluegrass Pkwy, Lou, KY 40299, phone (502) 499-8400.

JCPS Board of Education has established goals and good faith effort of 15% participation for Minority Business Enterprises, and 10% for Women Business Enterprises in all construction contracting. JCPS reserves the right to accept any bid, to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in bids received where such acceptance, rejection, or waiver is considered to be in the best interest of the Owner.

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Advertisement for Bid

Sealed Bids will be accepted at Louisville Metro Housing Authority (Purchasing Department) 3223 South Seventh Street Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40216 up to 10:00 a.m. Local Time on **Tuesday, March 28, 2023** for the following project:
Holly Park Renovations and Site Drainage Work
Proposal #1588

A pre-bid meeting will convene at 10:00 a.m. Local Time on **Tuesday, March 7, 2023** : at 3223 South Seventh Street Road in Louisville, Kentucky 40216

Copies of the bid documents may be obtained from the Housing Agency Marketplace at https://ha.economicengine.com/requests.html?company_id=9038
Or visit our website at www.lmha1.org and follow the link under bid opportunities.
There is no cost to receive plans/specifications from our agency
Section 3 Opportunities
The project will provide opportunities for Section 3 residents and Section 3 Business concerns.
Contract Phil Reidinger, MBE/ Section 3 Coordinator at (502) 569-4922 for further information.

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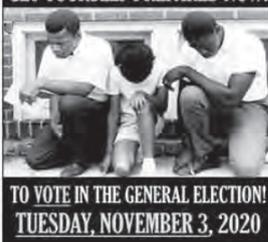
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is seeking Volunteers
Catholic Charities Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is dedicated to improving the quality of life for the residents who reside in long-term care facilities. We protect the rights of nursing home residents by identifying, investigating, and working to resolve residents' concerns. As a volunteer you can either provide companionship to residents that do not receive visits, or you can become certified to investigate concerns raised by residents and families. For more information you can go to our website at: <https://cclou.org/long-term-care> or contact Natalie Brown-Radtke, Director of the LTCO Program at 502-637-9786.

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"TRAYVON MARTIN" "TAMIR RICE"
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"ALTON STERLING" "PHILANDO CASTLE"

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Jacquelyn Russell: Achieving in the Healthcare Industry

Jacquelyn Russell, Vice President of Sales, is responsible for expanding Carrum Health's market leading Cancer Care Center of Excellence platform position working with the largest U.S. employers and their consultants. She is a highly motivated sales professional with over 18 years of experience in the Healthcare Industry. Described as a "Room Brighter", she exudes energy and an excitement for life that is contagious.



Jacquelyn Russell

7.5-year tenure with Virgin Pulse, she generated over \$8M in annual revenue. Russell has achieved Presi-

dent's Club numerous times and in 2019 set a personal record exceeding her sales quota by 210 percent.

As a champion and advocate for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, she aided Virgin Pulse in launching their first ever DEI initiatives including launching the DEI Council and establishing the first two Employee Resources Groups; BOLD (Black Organizers Leaders and Doers) and WOW (Women of Well-being). After joining Carrum in Fall of 2022, Jacquelyn

has since launched BLACC (Black Leaders Amplifying Carrum Culture).

She has also previously worked in both Sales and Account Management for Humana for over 10 years. During that time, she helped launch the Humana Vitality wellbeing solution (now known as Go365).

Russell spends her free time volunteering as a Board Member, Chair Incoming, and Annual Campaign Chair of the Greater Louisville YMCA Chestnut

Street Branch leading them to their first ever 100% Board Giving. She is a recipient of the YMCA's 2021 Volunteer of the Year Award.

Russell is an identical twin, enjoys spending quality time with family and friends, and is an aficionado and connoisseur of fine bourbon.

She received her Bachelor of Science in Broadcast Journalism at the University of Kentucky

Maurice Smith: Kroger Company

Maurice Smith started his Kroger career in 2019 as an Assistant Manager in the Management Training program. After graduating the Management Training Program, Maurice was assigned as the Operations Assistant Store Manager in Owensboro, Kentucky.

Smith has provided leadership to stores in Madisonville and Owensboro, KY, and is currently over Fresh Departments at the New Cut Road location in South Louisville.

In Fall of 2022, Maurice was placed on Special Assignment for Deli Fresh Production, where he coached, taught, and trained associates on the new production processes in Deli. While in District 3, which covers Southern Illinois and Western Kentucky, Smith was named Safety Champion for District 3, identified as a Future Leader and High Potential Assistant Store Manager. After relocating to Louisville last May, Maurice was assigned to District 2, which covers the south end of Louisville, Brandenburg, Elizabethtown, and Bardstown. Maurice was also named as High Potential Assistant Store Manager and is Co-Chair for the African American Associate Resource Group (AAARG where he serves over Personal Development.

Smith worked for the YMCA of Greater Louisville and the Owensboro Family YMCA for 7 years as Site Director and Membership Director respectively. He said, "It is a real honor to be



Maurice Smith

recognized for this award. I could not believe it when I received the news. I have a passion for serving – I am a Servant Leader! Thank you for the opportunity to show challenging work and dedication pay off."

Maurice has three children, Lex (24), Coley (16), and Tyler (13), two dogs, Winter and Disney, and his life partner Bobbi. In his spare time he enjoys spending time with his children, playing basketball, and he said he has a new zeal for playing Fortnite. He also likes to vacation and read John Grisham novels.

Lisa Ellis: Kroger Company

Lisa Ellis is the manager of the Kroger Mobile Market in Louisville, KY. She serves communities that could be considered food deserts, providing them with fresh, wholesome, and healthy food options. She started as a part-time clerk in Guest Care and quickly moved into a management role with the retail and customer service experience that she brought with her to Kroger. Ellis has been instrumental in the success of the Mobile Market by listening to her customers, taking initiative, and providing them with a great shopping experience!

"As a child my father always said he was blessed with girls and the one thing he expected of us, was to be leaders. I learned early in my journey that we as leaders must touch the lives of our youth. My children will tell you when they had issues to overcome, as a mother, I would ask them to tell me, how can we rise above this issue," she said.

She continued, "These are values that are instilled in me."

Ellis is a member of the African American Associate Resource Group. Her passion is serving people. Lisa states that she loves to mentor the youth and she always has something positive to say to everyone in passing. She said she hopes to have influence within Kroger and in the surrounding communities through the development of the youth that she leads.



Lisa Ellis

Lisa states, "I have spent my life trying to give back in my community. When I was afforded the opportunity to oversee the Kroger Mobile Market, I thought it was the greatest thing in the world." Thank you, Kroger, for the opportunity to achieve wonderful things and the ability to serve our communities. Thank you to the YMCA Black Achievers for celebrating me."

Lisa said she enjoys spending time with her children and grandchildren, serving in the community, and singing with her family.

At Louisville Seminary we Celebrate Black Achievement as Part of our Ethos

Our Values Include a Commitment to Anti-Racism Academically and throughout our Community, and Respect for the Dignity and Gifts of All

Black Church Studies Program

Louisville Seminary established the Black Church Studies (BCS) program in 2009 to prepare leaders for African American churches and communities in ways that enable them to navigate issues facing Black communities. BCS faculty and leadership are also scholars with lived experiences in African American congregations.

For info about our BCS faculty and leadership (pictured above) visit lpts.edu/academics/bcs

Acknowledging and Honoring Contributions

Upon entering Louisville Seminary, visitors are now welcomed in the roundabout by "Carter Circle." The recently dedicated Carter Circle recognizes and honors the Carter brothers, Bryant, Sr. and Bobi, who collectively served LPTS for more than 83 years. We are grateful for their influence, dedication, and legacy of service.

Pictured Left to Right: Bryant Carter, Sr., Bobi Carter, Alton B. Pollard, III

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