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COUNCILMEMBER GREEN INTRODUCES LEGISLATION PROPOSING A BALLOT QUESTION TO PA VOTERS REGARDING RECREATIONAL CANNABIS



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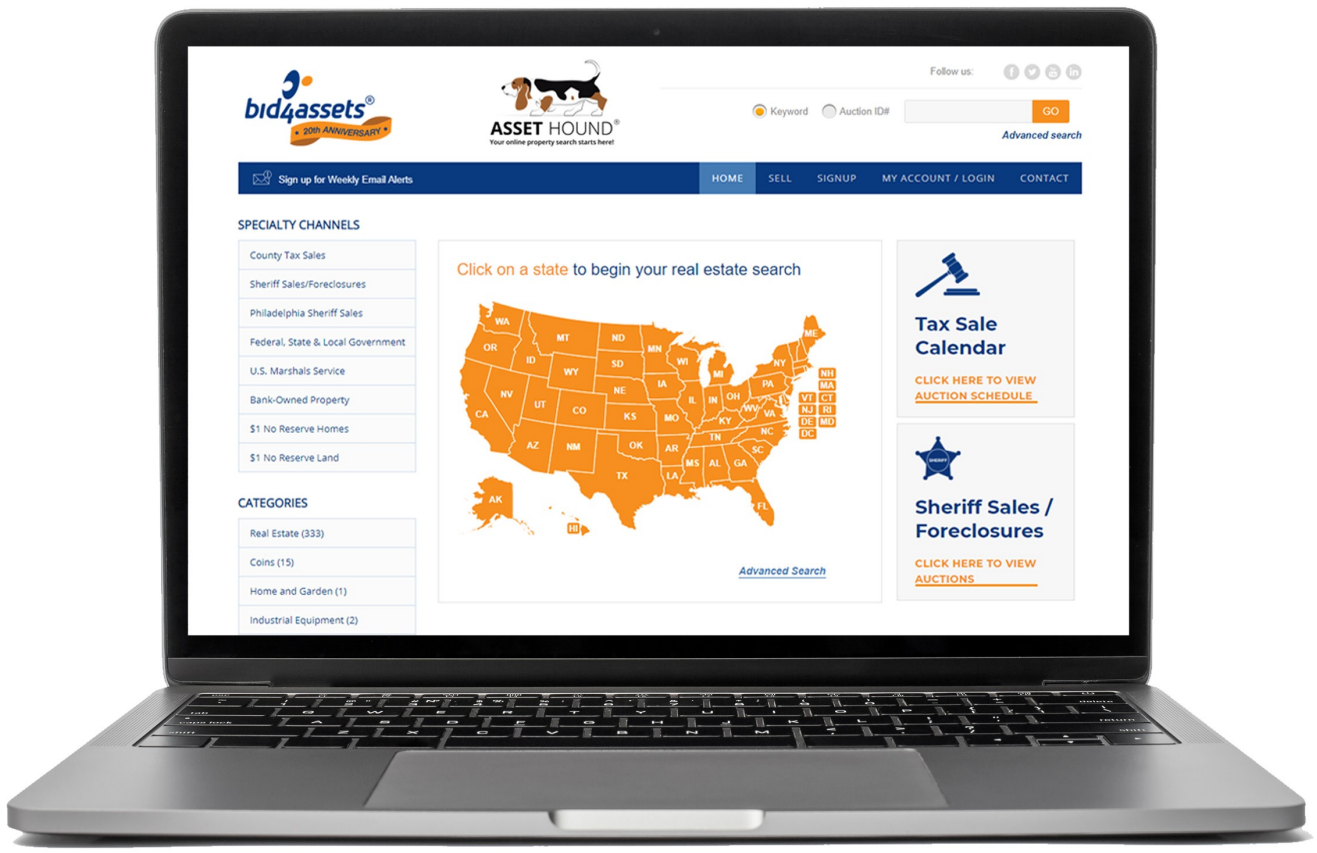
- HS SENIOR AKAYLA BROWN AWARDED KYW'S CHANGE MAKER AWARD.
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- COUNCILMEMBER OH INTRODUCES PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A MAJORITY-ELECTED BOARD OF EDUCATION.







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5 LBS. CHICKEN WINGS
5 LBS. CHICKEN DRUMS
5 LBS. BONELESS BREAST
2 WHOLE CHICKEN
5 LBS. GROUND BEEF
3 LBS. BEEF SHORT RIBS
3 LBS. BUTTER STEAKS
3 LBS. CHUCK STEAKS
5 LBS. BEEF BACK RIBS
5 LBS. TURKEY WINGS
3 LBS. TURKEY CHOPS
3 LBS. PARKS TURKEY SAUSAGE
5 LBS. WHITTING FILLIES
2 LBS. TILAPIA FILLETS
2 LBS. FLOUNDER FILLETS
5 LBS. FROZEN FRIES
FREE 5 LB. BAG POTATOES
FREE 4 LB. BAG OF SUGAR
FREE 1-LOAF OF BREAD
FREE 2 DOZEN EGGS

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BEEF & CHICKEN COMBO

5 LBS. CHICKEN WINGS
10 LBS. QTR'D CHICKEN LEGS
5 LBS. CHICKEN DRUMS
3 LBS. BONELESS BREAST
3 LBS. BEEF STEW
2 LBS. BUTTER STEAK
2 LBS. SHORT RIBS
5 LBS. GROUND BEEF
3 LBS. CHUCK STEAKS
2 LBS. BEEF HOTDOGS
3 LBS. BEEF SAUSAGE
2 LBS. CHICKEN NUGGETS
2 WHOLE CHICKENS
FREE 1-2 LITER SODA
FREE 1 DOZEN EGGS
FREE 5 LB. BAG POTATOES
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FOR ONLY **$159.99**

MEAT #1 SPECIAL

5 LBS. CHICKEN LEG QUARTERS
3 LBS. CHICKEN WINGS
3 LBS. BONE-IN CHICKEN BREAST
3 LBS. GROUND BEEF
3 LBS. BUTTER STEAK
2 LBS. BEEF SHORT RIBS

FOR ONLY **$49.99**

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5 LBS. CHICKEN DRUMS
5 LBS. CHICKEN LEG QUARTERS
3 LBS. BONELESS CHICKEN BREAST
2 LBS. PEPER STEAK
2 LBS. GROUND BEEF
2 LBS. BEEF CUBS

FOR ONLY **$49.99**

POULTRY SPECIAL #3

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5 LBS. CHICKEN DRUMS STICKS
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3 LBS. BONELESS CHICKEN BREAST
2 LBS. CHICKEN CHOPS
2 LBS. TURKEY CHOPS
2 LBS. GROUND TURKEY
5 LBS. TURKEY WINGS
FREE 1 DOZ. EGGS

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5 LBS. CHICKEN WINGS
5 LBS. CHICKEN DRUMS STICKS
3 LBS CHICKEN THIGHS
2 LBS. NUGGETS
3 LBS. GROUND BEEF
5 LBS. BAG FRENCH FRIES
2 LBS. BAG ONION RINGS
2 LBS. CHICKEN OR TURKEY HOT DOGS
FREE 1 DOZ. EGGS

FOR ONLY **$59.99**

RED MEAT SPECIAL #5

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10 LBS. TURKEY WINGS
3 LBS. STEW BEEF
3 LBS. CHICKEN DRUMS STICKS
3 LBS. BONELESS CHICKEN BREAST
3 LBS. GROUND BEEF
3 LBS. BEEF BACK RIB
3 LBS. BUTTER STECK
3 LBS. CHUCK STEAK
FREE - 4 LBS. SUGAR
FREE - 5 LBS. POTATOES
FREE - 1 -2LITER SODA

$109.99

RED MEAT SPECIAL #6

3 LBS. GROUND BEEF
2 LBS. BEEF SHORT RIB
2 LBS. SHOULDER STEAK
2 LBS. BUTTER STEAK
3 LBS. BONE-IN CHUCK STEAK
3 LBS. BEEF CUBE
FREE - 5 LBS. POTATOES
FREE - 2 DOZ. EGGS
FREE - 2 LOAF OF BREAD

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BBQ SPECIAL #7

5 LBS. PARTY OR WHOLE WINGS
3 LBS. PKG. DEITZ & WATSON HOT DOGS
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5 LBS. CHICKEN DRUMS
3 LBS. BONELESS CHICKEN BREAST
2 LBS. BUTTER STEAK
3 LBS. GROUND BEEF
2 LBS. BEEF SHORT RIBS
FREE 2-BOTTLES BBQ SAUCE

FOR ONLY **$89.99**

MEAT SPECIAL #8 MIX GIRARD

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2 LBS. BUTTER STEAK
2 LBS. SHORT RIBS
2 LBS. CHICKEN CHOPS
2 LBS. TURKEY CHOPS
3 LBS. CHICKEN WINGS
3 LBS. BONELESS BREAST
3 LBS. TURKEY WINGS
5 LB. CAN OF COLLARD GREENS OR GREEN BEANS
2 LBS. TILAPIA FILLETS
2 LBS. WHITING FILLETS
FREE 2 DOZEN EGGS
FREE 2 LOAVES OF BREAD

FOR ONLY **$99.99**

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3 LBS. OXTAIL
3 LBS. GOAT
3 LBS. LAMB CHOPS
5 LBS. BEEF BACK RIBS
3 LBS. GROUND BEEF
3 LBS. GROUND TURKEY
2 LBS. FLOUNDER FILLETS
2 LBS. WHITING FILLETS
2 LBS. RED SNAPPER
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5 LBS. CHICKEN WINGS
5 LBS. CHICKEN DRUMS
5 LBS. CHICKEN LEG QUARTERS
3 LBS. BONELESS BREAST
3 LBS. CHICKEN CHOPS
2 WHOLE CHICKENS
5 LBS. BEEF BACK RIBS
3 LBS. GROUND BEEF
3 LBS. RUMP ROAST
3 LBS. SHORT RIBS
2 LBS. SHOULDER STEAKS
2 LBS. BUTTER STEAKS
FREE 5 LB. BAG POTATOES
FREE (1) LOAF BREAD
FREE (1) 2 LITER SODA

FOR ONLY **$139.99**

ALL KINDS OF MEAT SPECIAL

5 LB. QUARTERED CHICKEN LEGS
5 LB. CHICKEN WINGS
5 LB. CHICKEN DRUMS
5 LB. TURKEY WINGS
3 LB. TURKEY CHOPS
3 LB. GROUND TURKEY
3 LB. GROUND BEEF
3 LB. SHORT RIBS
2 LB. SHOULDER STEAK
2 LB. BUTTER STEAK
2 LB. WHITING FILLETS
2 LB. UNCOOKED SHRIMP
2 LB. FLOUNDER FILLETS
2 LB. TILAPIA FILLETS
FREE 5 LB BAG FROZEN FRENCH FRIES

FOR ONLY **$149.99**

BIG BREAKFAST SPECIAL

1 LB. BEEF SAUSAGE
1 LB. TURKEY SAUSAGE
1 LB. TURKEY BACON
1 LB. BEEF BACON
FREE 5 LBS. POTATOES
FREE 2 DOZEN EGGS
FREE LOAF OD BREAD

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BREAKFAST SAUSAGE SPECIAL

1 LB. BEEF SAUSAGE
1 LB. TURKEY SAUSAGE
1 LB. CHICKEN SAUSAGE
1 LB. TURKEY SAGE SAUSAGE
FREE 5 LBS. POTATOES
FREE 2 DOZEN EGGS

FOR ONLY **$29.99**

SEAFOOD SPECIAL

2 LBS. WHITING FILLETS
2 LBS. COOKED SHRIMP
2 LBS. FLOUNDER FILLETS
2 LBS. TILAPIA FILLETS
5 LBS. FROZEN FRENCH FRIES
FREE 1- 2 LITER SODA

FOR ONLY **$49.99**

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1 DOZEN LARGE EGGS
1 LB. SMALL FINGER LINK SAUSAGE
1 LB. PORK BACON
1 LB. SAGE SAUSAGE
1 LB. HAM
1 LB. SCRAPPLE
1 LB. LARGE LINK SAUSAGE

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BIG DELI SPECIAL

1 LB. AMERICAN CHEESE
1 LB. COOPER SHARP CHEESE
1 LB. SMOKED TURKEY BREAST
1 LB. HONEY TURKEY BREAST
1 LB. TURKEY HAM
1 LB. BEEF BOLOGNA
FREE 1 PKG 6 CT. AMOROSO ROLLS

FOR ONLY **$31.99**

DELI SPECIAL #1

1 LB. AMERICAN CHEESE
1 LB. CORNED OR ROAST BEEF
1 LB. SMOKED TURKEY BREAST
1 LB. BEEF BOLOGNA OR SALAMI
1 LB. TURKEY HAM

FOR ONLY **$21.99**

DELI SPECIAL #2

1 LB. AMERICAN CHEESE
1 LB. TURKEY BREAST
1 LB. TURKEY HAM
1 LB. TURKEY SALAMI
1 LB. BEEF BOLOGNA

FOR ONLY **$21.99**

DELI SPECIAL #3

1 LB. ROAST BEEF
1 LB. TURKEY BREAST
1 LB. TURKEY HAM
1 LB. AMERICAN CHEESE
FREE 6 CT. PKG. AMOROSO ROLLS

FOR ONLY **$20.99**

GIRARD BEST SELLER

1 LB. AMERICAN CHEESE
1 LB. SMOKED TURKEY
1 LB. BEEF BOLOGNA
1 LB. TURKEY HAM
FREE 1 - LOAF OF BREAD OR 5 LB. BAG POTATOS

FOR ONLY **$21.99**

DELI SPECIAL #5

1 LB. TURKEY HAM
1 LB. AMERICAN CHEESE
1 LB. TURKEY BREAST



FOR ONLY **$11.99**

DELI SPECIAL #6

1 LB. TURKEY BREAST
1 LB. TURKEY SALAMI
1 LB. AMERICAN CHEESE



FOR ONLY **$13.99**

DELI SPECIAL #7

1 LB. TURKEY HAM
1 LB. TURKEY BOLOGNA
1 LB. TURKEY SALAMI
1 LB. AMERICAN CHEESE



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STATE REP. KINSEY GETS GRANT FOR FATHER'S HEART & LEGACY CENTER



What type of legacy would you like to leave as your mark in this life? How could your contributions better your community or society as a whole?
You do not have to have Bill Gates' money to help make a change.

The most valuable contribution a person can make is to give their time. To freely give your energy to anything, to any person, from a space of pure heart and pure intention is priceless.
These selfless superheroes go above and beyond every day to help their community. For them, it's just second nature. But For those who are blessed by the actions of these unassuming earth angels, the result could be life changing.

So what happens if you take a superhero and an organization dedicated to helping fathers make healthy, impactful, lasting change? Father's Heart & Legacy Empowerment Center and state Representative Stephen Kinsey, D-Phila. Representative Kinsey used his powers for the betterment of men.

Kinsey's advocacy on behalf of Father's Heart & Legacy Empowerment Center helped this deserving organization be chosen by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development as the recipient of a $20,000 grant.

"As a proud father of four and an active member of our community, I couldn't be more thrilled for the Father's Heart & Legacy organization to receive this grant," Kinsey said. "The more fathers we can help establish good jobs, find volunteer opportunities, and plan life goals, the better our communities will thrive."

The grant will help support the organization's Empowered Fatherhood Mentoring Program, an initiative that helps men, specifically fathers, with interpersonal skills, responsible fathering, employment preparation, and community volunteerism.

To change the world, one must start with themselves. One must learn that the art of self-love and practice self-care to pass it on, one person at a time..

"This wonderful grant sponsored by state Representative Stephen Kinsey will give our program the ability to serve more men and expand services that will dramatically influence the high rate of unemployment, community violence, and family success in the inner city," said Muhammad Skakur, CEO of the Father's Heart & Legacy Empowerment Center. "We are thankful to the Commonwealth of PA and state Representative Stephen Kinsey for this opportunity for growth!"
Residents can learn more about the Father's Heart & Legacy Empowerment check out their Facebook page.

By Alana Lukens
Photo Courtesy of PA.Gov

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LIVING FOR TOMORROW INC



Dinlitha A. Banks
Founder &
Executive Director



Abigail Hagler
Secretary



Marquita Middleton
Technology Director

Living For Tomorrow, Inc (LFTI) is a Philadelphia, Pennsylvania based non-profit that provides a diverse range of re-entry support services for female offenders. LFTI provides services that help the offenders successfully transition from prison to a productive life in the community and they help rehabilitate the offenders to set new, positive directions for their lives. Its services include Offender Re-entry Counseling, Drug and Alcohol Recovery, Family Reconciliation, GED/Diploma Preparation, Anger, Management Classes, Behavior Mediation Programs, a temporary home plan (while completing her sentence), and many other tailor-made services.
LFTI's purpose is to help the ex-offenders transition into better lives successfully by implementing a holistic approach as well as providing a safe place to access all the resources they need. The organization's operations are implemented by a well-trained staff (made up of skilled professionals, veterans, employees who are receiving TANF, SSI, SSD, and volunteers), emphasizing character development and changing the offenders from the inside out.

LFTI provides the ex-offenders with a thorough foundation for future success by supporting the development of self-sufficiency, self-confidence, healthful living, good judgment, and character. LFTI founders and staff are committed to provide positive and effective changes in our community.
Our mission at Living for Tomorrow, Inc (LFTI) is to obliterate recidivism by providing our residents with the necessities to gain or further their education, job readiness, drug and alcohol rehabilitation if needed, family reconciliation, and the societal stability to re-enter the society from which they came and become a positive, influential part of their community.
We are currently seeking funding that will enable us to acquire a building that will be the main living facility for those women who are accepted into our program to complete their sentences. The facility will also play host to several community events including feeding the homeless and the Share Program all of which our female residents will be an active part of as part of their mandatory community service.



Elizabeth Carpenter
Treasurer



Eber Devine M.Ed
Community Liaison

COUNCILMEMBER GREEN INTRODUCES LEGISLATION PROPOSING A BALLOT QUESTION TO PA VOTERS REGARDING RECREATIONAL CANNABIS



By Alana Lukens
Photo Courtesy of PHLCouncil.com

Reefer madness is sweeping across the country.
In the 1936 propaganda film, Reefer Madness was released warning parents about marijuana addiction and the inevitable descent into madness it would cause.

It has been 85 years since that silver screen gem. The message was all strategic, misinformative propaganda fed to the masses. Now we have slowly come out of the haze of the devil's weed and starting to toke up to truth. Now we watch as one little weed changes the world.
The potential of this economic impact could generate such economic growth and stability. Many avenues of revenue on a national, state, and county scale.

This budding industry is projected to be worth $30 billion by 2025.
The impact it has had in the medical community alone is outstanding. Giving people holistic, noninvasive options. An alternative to harsh pharmaceuticals. Or a miracle to a parent as their severely autistic child gives them a hug for the first time. The small gestures we all take for granted are the life-changing experiences to a parent of a child on the autism spectrum could only ever wish for.

All those who have tried everything, exhausting all other options, this is their magic herb.
The potential of this economic impact could generate such economic growth and stability avenues of revenue on a national, state, and county scale.

Legislation to reform marijuana statutes is being introduced across the nation. 15 states, including Washington, D.C, now permit non-medical marijuana use to adults 21 years and older. Pennsylvania along with 36 other states have approved medical marijuana use.
On March 11, Councilmember Derek Green introduced legislation to amend the City's Home Rule Charter. Green is urging Governor Tom Wolf and the Pennsylvania General Assembly to legalize recreational marijuana. In turn, allow the generated revenue to be taxed and regulate its sales.

"This measure is long overdue in Pennsylvania, and quite frankly, all across the country as times evolve and we, as a society, shift further and further away from the perspective of cannabis as taboo and unacceptable," said Councilmember Green. "Data continues to prove both the medical and health benefits as well as the economic potential of cannabis with responsible utilization and regulation. It's time to stop using cannabis law as a weapon against low-income communities and people of color and begin looking at ways to leverage this industry as a catalyst for permanent, equitable, and prosperous change." Voters will be able to decide via a ballot question this November.

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COUNCILMEMBER DAVID OH CALLS FOR ELECTED SCHOOL BOARD



Next up in the Reform forum? Philadelphia Board of Education.

On March 18, 2021, Councilmember David Oh (At-Large), proposed modifying The Philadelphia Board of Education's School Board into a majority-elect body. This proposal is a viable solution to improve public education in Philadelphia.

A ballot question would be offered to voters this fall if approved.

This would give the public an opportunity to have a direct line to voice their concerns regarding their children's education.

"Shifting the school board away from an all-appointed body is not a silver bullet solution for the ongoing crisis of public education in Philadelphia," said Oh. "But it is a bold leap in the right direction to ensure increased accountability, transparency, and provides parents and students with a much-needed seat at the table."

Currently, all nine appointees are hand-selected by the Mayor.

This innovative proposal would create a regional electoral process to allow the constituents of a Councilmember's district to select five of the nine members that make up the board.

Each elected member would represent two adjacent Councilman districts. The Mayor would select the four other appointees.

"By electing the majority of the school board by region, we can provide parents and students with the ability to select someone who is personally invested in and responsible for the quality of schools in their neighborhood," said Oh.

Over 30 percent of 12th-grade students fail to make it to graduation. Along with close to two-thirds of students falling short of the state's expectant level of comprehension in subjects of Math and English.

And as it stands right now, Philadelphia is the only county in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that does not have an elected board.

If passed the following regions would be established for the legislation.

Northwest (Districts 8 and 4), Northeast (Districts 10 and 6), Central West (District 5 and 3), Central East (Districts 9 and 7), South (Districts 1 and 2).

By Alana Lukens
Photo Courtesy of PHLCouncil.com





HS SENIOR AKAYLA BROWN AWARDED KYW CHANGE MAKER AWARD



Growing up in the city of Philadelphia can be tough. Something about it can bring out the best in those who can overcome it. For one young lady, she has decided to not only make the change but to be a change as well.

At 13 years old Akayla Brown saw the problems in her community and decided that enough was enough. She created a non-profit called Dimplez 4 Dayz Inc.

The mission is to provide resources for the community. This goal is achieved not by only helping the families but especially empowering the children and the youth of the community.

"It's so much money in the city and the youth have the power and the potential, [they] just have to keep going," says Brown who now at just 18 years old has been able to gather resources to help over 5,000 families in the city. She has hosted events to give out backpacks to school children, events to feed families, hosted youth pop-up shops, and more recently started a worked development program.

This program will help to develop resumes, conduct mock interviews, as well as allow the participants a way to receive compensation.

"We are helping youth to build their business and teaching them the skills they will need to either get a job or become a successful entrepreneur."

Her recent pop-up shop gave young entrepreneurs a chance to display their business and make money off their products. The entire event was youth-led and resulted in every vendor selling out of merchandise by the end of the event.

"People will put you down and discourage you, but you can't give up on yourself," Brown reflects on waking up at 3 am thinking about how she could help her community. "You can't give up on yourself just because it is hard, if you have a vision you need to keep your vision clear and work for what you believe in."

KYW awarded Akayla with the 2021 Game Changers award for her work she has done under her non-profit organization Dimplez for Dayz Inc.

"It felt good to receive the award, but awards don't phase me at this point, it feels great to be doing this work from the kindness of my heart as we continue to keep going strong."

Being humble is something that Brown says comes from remembering the times where things were a struggle for her in her personal life. One of her goals is to provide resources and lend a helping hand when the opportunity presents itself.

When asked how does it feel to be called an activist Brown responded, "I'm just being me!"

Being opinionated and passionate about the things that she believes is something that has always been normal for Akayla who wants to help people regardless of who is around.

Dimplez for Dayz Inc. is looking to continue its mission of helping the youth and their families. The newest addition of the Workforce Development program is at the forefront which will be set up and planned strictly by the youth. Another huge accomplishment for the organization is finding a property where they can have to provide to their fellowship.

To find out more information on Dimplez for Dayz and the Founder and Owner Akayla Brown go to their website at dimplez4dayz.org.

Akayla would like to thank her mother who keeps her activated, motivated, dedicated and keeps her thriving.

The city of Philadelphia can indeed be hard to overcome and achieve. Young people like Akayla Brown are stepping forward to create solutions to the problems in the community. We are dedicated to encouraging the words and support that will motivate them to achieve their goals and chase their dreams.

By Andre Brown
Photo Courtesy of Dimplez for Dayz Inc.



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Chew's Market
6709 Chew Ave

Mt Airy Deli
7200 Devon St

Rodriguez Mini Mart
6731 Ogontz Ave

Stop One
Food Market & Deli
6510 N 21st St.

Heems 1 Stop Shop
200 W. Clapier St

Town Supermarket
5031 Germantown Ave

M&F Supermarket
1431 E. Vernon Rd

Sam Meats
1524 Wadsworth Ave

Pat's Caribbean
1527 Wadsworth Ave

Day & Night Food Market
7722 Ogontz Ave
Crab & Claw
7801 Ogontz Ave

Roxie Market
8315 Stenton Ave

Famous Deli
7522 Ogontz Ave

Young's Deli
7401 Stenton Ave

Stenton Supermarket
6400 Stenton Ave

Royal Meats
1619 Wadsworth Ave

Pete's Deli
8016 Ogontz Ave

Riley Deli
7701 Ogontz Ave

NRC Mini Market
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Convenience Store Inc.
1951 74th Ave

Serrata's Grocery Store
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TNT Food market
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Uptown Seafood
6255 Limeklin Pk

Jeisy's Grilled Chicken
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Tasties
5241 Germantown Ave

Mr Hook
Fish & Chicken Halal
5625 Germantown Ave

Silver Star Kitchen
1453 Vernon Rd

Jeisy's Grilled Chicken
5701 Germantown Ave

Paradise
Jamaican Restaurant
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AGAPE Christian Café
1605 E. Wadsworth Ave

O Sunny Side Breakfast
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Food From The Heart
8010 Ogontz Ave

BBQ Town
7711 Ogontz Ave

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4441 Ger5mantown Ave

Eatibles Delight
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Z Laundry
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H2O Laundry
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Nickens Agency
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Ponzettas Tof
4928 N. Broad St

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$1 SHRIMP FROM 11AM UNTIL CLOSING
TUEDAY, THURSDAY, & SATURDAY
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SUZANN CHRISTINE TALKS MOVING TO NYC, RADIO PLAY, & GROWING UPTOWN



By: Shelly Shell Williams

Who Dat? SuDat is the chant from the stage as Suzann Christine performs. SuDat is an acronym Spiritual, Unique, Divine, Artistic, and Thankful! #SuDat As I write this column I'm blasting my favorite Suzann Christine songs, Falling Tears, Save me, Don't Rush and more. No cap, I absolutely love her music, style and her creativity. As an Indy artist, it's important to have the support of friends, family and the community.

SuDat has been navigating the Indy Artist scene for quite some time and she drops insight on what it takes to achieve success in the music business.

Shelly Shell: Uptown Native, what are some of your fondest memories of growing up in Uptown?

Suzann Christine: Some of my fondest memories use to be walking over to Morris Estate Rec Center to go swimming at the pool with some of my childhood friends. It used to be the place to be growing up seeing all the boys hanging out. I also loved riding my bike cycle all up and down Mt. Airy with my older cousin. We would always end up at McCloskey where my other cousin used to be on the drill team and sometimes we would ride our bikes over to Cedarbrook Plaza and find ourselves in the Toys R' Us that used to be up there.

Shelly Shell: When did you know that you wanted to be a Singer?

Suzann Christine: I always loved singing growing up. It was all I really did as an extracurricular activity along with theater. However, I grew up being told that singing would never get the bills paid and would be a hard goal to attain so I went after other jobs. It wasn't until I found myself tired, depressed and crying everyday that I realized I needed to consider following my true dream.

Shelly Shell: Describe Suzann Christine's style of music? Suzann Christine: Timeless, Versatile, and Relatable

Shelly Shell: What projects are you working on currently?

Suzann Christine: I have a ton of music that I am ready to give to you all but right now I am working on getting the music videos together to support the singles I plan to release over the Spring, Summer and Fall. I'm looking forward to showing my fan base a new level and side of Suzann Christine. Also, be on the lookout for the collaboration I have with Mike Africa "Fly Baby". We are working on the visual now.

Shelly Shell: Covid hit us hard, what are some ways you pivoted to continue to be seen and generate income?

Suzann Christine: Private Virtual performances especially during holidays. Virtual birthday songs, Virtual Party Planning. I've also been hired to do a few virtual performances. Collaborations etc. I occasionally go out to events live and in person.

Shelly Shell: You also use your talent to teach children, what are your upcoming plans for the Fly Star Program?

Suzann Christine : We have a fundraiser coming up soon and we are deciding whether or not we should re-launch this Summer or Fall in- person or virtually. Our plans are to continue what we've been doing over the last 9 years; serve the youth.

Shelly Shell: When you made that move from Philly to New York, what did you expect for it to do for your career? Are you pleased with the results?

Suzann Christine: I expected it to allow me to build and gain new relationships in the music industry and allow me to take myself to a level or levels I wasn't able to attain at home. It did everything and more than I expected and rather quickly. New York is my second home and always has been. Prior to moving up there I use to headline a show in Queens for 2 years. I've always been very well received in NY. Moving to NY helped with my mental health and expanded my network and fan base. I moved in January of 2019; by February I was played on Shade 45, by March I was played on Hot 97, WBLS, Sirius XM stations, Music Choice, BET, and my song "Falling Tears" made it to the R&B Italy chart as #3. My song has been played and heard across the nation. It's the furthest one of my songs has gone thus far and I am grateful that my city got to hear it in rotation on 100.3 Wrnb every week. It even made a Italy R&B chart placing #3. This would have never happened without making the investment to move to New York.

Shelly Shell: What does getting played on the radio do for your music career?

Suzann Christine: It helps you gain more fans and listeners who I wasn't able to reach on my own with social media and shows etc.

Shelly Shell: What do you ultimately want for your career?

Suzann Christine: To inspire, uplift, relate and heal my listeners. Oh and make millions so I can give back to the community the way I really, really want to.

Shelly Shell: It Takes Money to Make Money – what advice would you give to an aspiring artist?

Suzann Christine: I would tell them exactly that. Just like with any business, you will need money. You will need the right relationships and money to back everything you do.

Shelly Shell: What are your views on Independent vs Mainstream (Music, Indy Radio, etc).

Suzann Christine: It's 2 different roads; they both have their pros and cons. The independent route is freer with the ability to completely control what it is you put out and when, however, there can be challenges. You may not have the machine; therefore you may miss out on certain opportunities that only major labels have access to. You will need to find a financial sponsor (which can be yourself if you have it), a team who can make things happen on your behalf etc. Mainstream, you may or may not get the chance to shine depending on the love and support from the label, because not every signed artist will get the shine. It's a risk, however, if things work out in your favor and you work the money and relationships correctly, you can benefit. Visit SuzannChristine.com to find out more and to support dope music.

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SALUS UNIVERSITY TELLS HER-STORY WITH WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP



Jacqueline Patterson, vice president of Institutional Affairs; Dr. Juliana Mosley-Williams, special assistant to the president for DEI; Regina Scriven, vice president of Technology and Learning Resources.

'They' say this is a man's world? Well, I know a workforce of women would beg to differ. "Anything you can do; I can do better. I can do anything better than you." (You sang that as you read it, didn't you?!) Giggle.

Over the centuries, women have made the impossible possible. So many throughout history have dedicated their lives for the greater good and some for the not-so-good.

In a society that is inundated with strong patriarchal overtones, women are faced with an arduous uphill battle practically from birth.

Countless, courageous, beautiful souls have stared down that demon we call Doubt. Stoic. fearless. Emulating and embodying the prowess of a Goddess.

God-like in her own mind, she could change the world. And She(s) did!

Women's History Month is a time of reflection. A time we show respect to the warrior women of the past. And a time where we are also called to acknowledge and honor our present-day heroines. The ones we call neighbors.

The ones who routinely make impactful contributions daily. This century's Super Woman.

In our region, we kind of have our very own Superhero Lair of sorts.

A variation of Dr. Xavier's School for the Gifted, Salus University, located in Elkins Park, Pa., is impacting healthcare education on a global scale.

"This is a place where they want to be on top of technology, they want to be on the cutting edge and provide good service," Salus' Vice President of Technology and Learning Resources, Regina Scriven.

Specializing in health science, education, and rehabilitation, the University offers many degree programs. Some of the degrees offered by the accredited academic institution are professions of Optometry, Audiology, Physician Assistant, Blindness, and Low Vision Studies.
Salus University has some impressive female leaders in their employee starting lineup.

Last month, in honor of Women's History, University officials put a well deserved spotlight on their impressive female staff.

Herstory, was created as a platform to acknowledge women's everyday efforts.

With the addition of Dr. Kate Kinslow, Emily Turner, Shannon Tornoe, who are just three homegrown girls-doing-good, to their Board of Trustees, women now hold seat majority.

As of 2019, women only held 20% of the board seats in publicly traded U.S. companies.

"Joining the Salus University Board of Trustees at this time gave me the unusual perspective of seeing leadership, board members, students, and faculty take on great challenges and develop creative solutions," Emily Turner said. "I was immensely impressed with the innovation I saw in getting to know the University, but soon realized that this was not a new trend. Between moving to a new campus, transitioning to a University, and continuing growth in new programs, Salus University has a long history of being on the cutting edge of education. Beyond this, the personal relationships and strong community at Salus make it a special place, and I am thrilled to formally join the group."

Their innovation and dedication to their field had morphed itself into a powerhouse in the healthcare education field.

Salus University continually strives to elevate the community not only through education alone. Through fundraising, its many philanthropic partnerships, and 14,000 alumni worldwide, they have forged an amazing network and pledge to continue to empower and educate.

By Alana Lukens
Photo Courtesy of
Salus University

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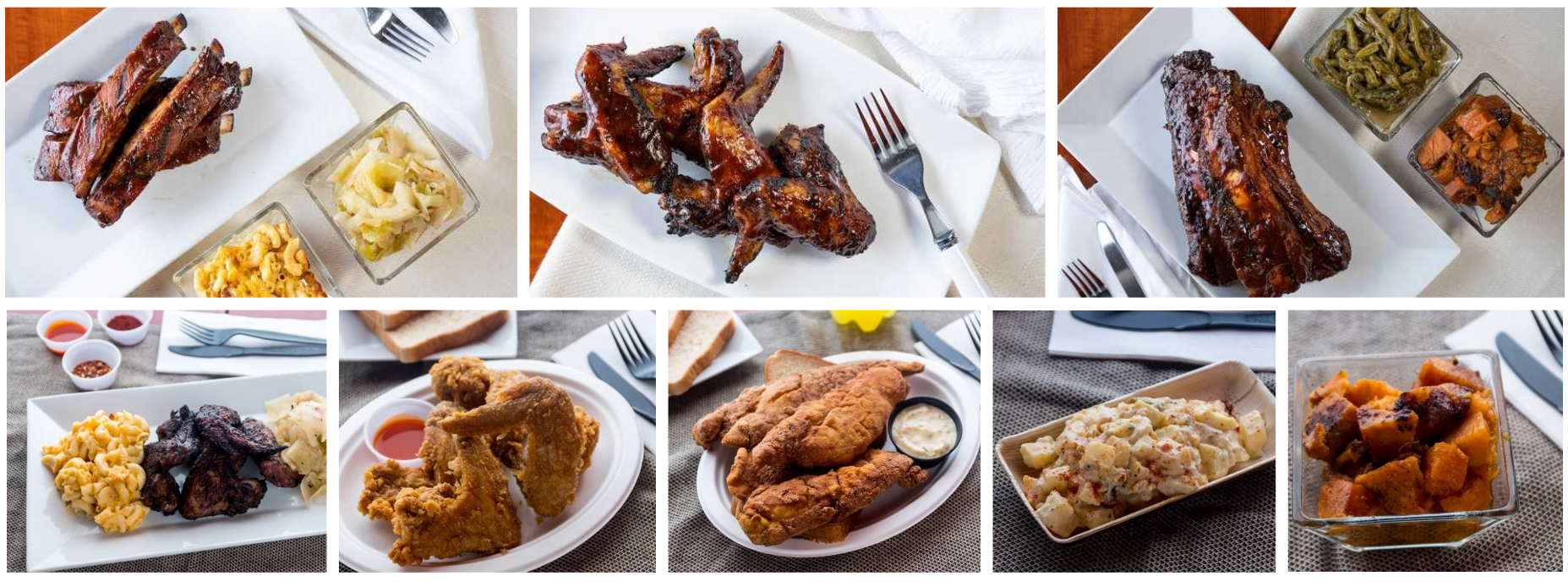
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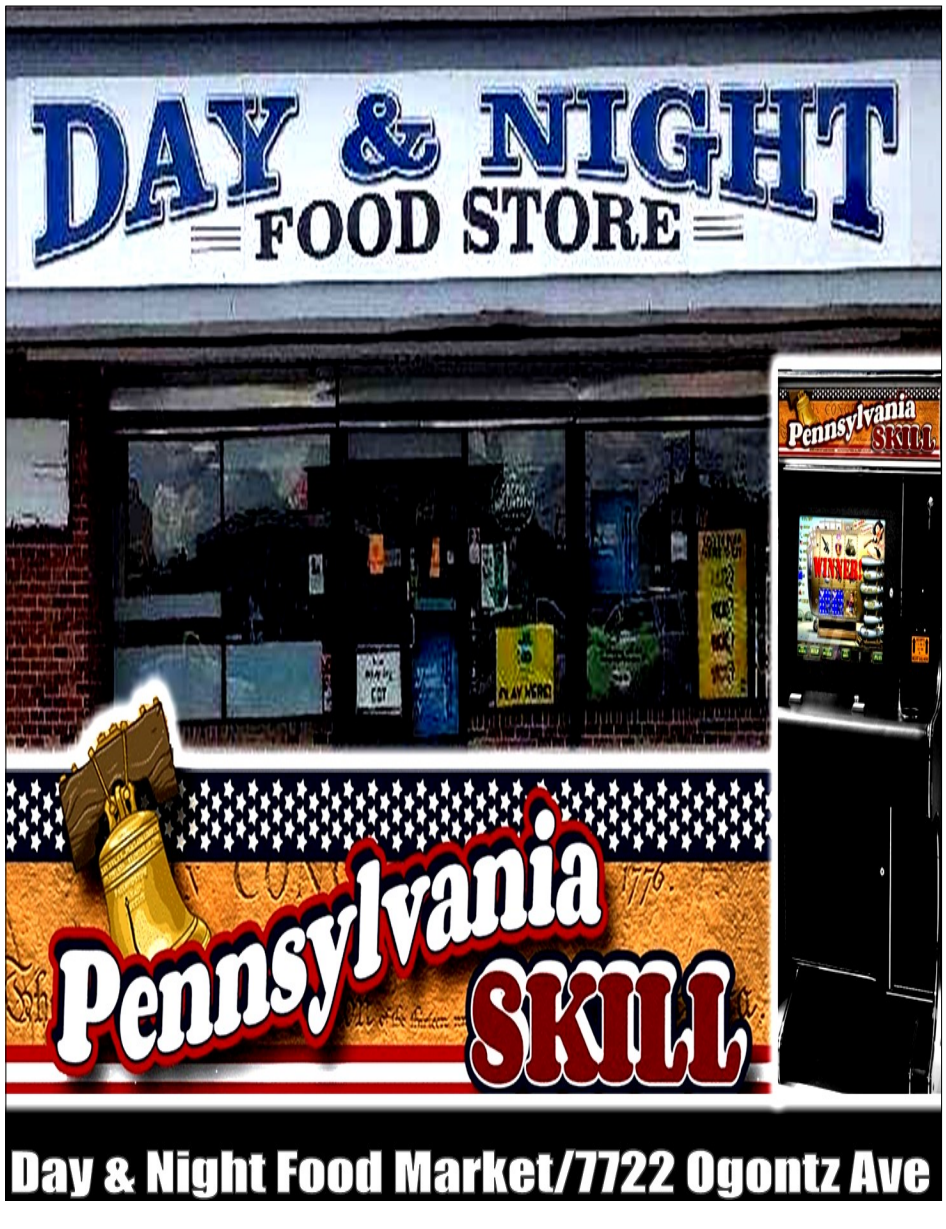
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EQUITY IN EDUCATION STARTS WITH SUPPORTING SCHOOL CHOICE, NO MATTER THE CIRCUMSTANCE

By Cierra Freeman

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to disproportionately affect Black, Latinx, and low income communities with regard to healthcare, income, food security, and, especially, education. Access to quality K-12 public schools in Philadelphia was not equitable before the pandemic, and the profound disparities in access to learning opportunities based upon one's zip code have only been exacerbated over the past 12 months.

As the School District of Philadelphia is transitioning elementary students to a hybrid learning model, the irony becomes even clearer. Suddenly families are given the *choice to select the quality education option that best fits their child's needs. While in pre-pandemic times, our demands for choice were met with resistance and sometimes ridicule. I have watched as inadequate state funding, local tax abatements and the absence of PILOTs continue to allow our schools to suffer, which has led me to take part in this battle for educational choice. I want a future where all Philadelphia parents and families have access to meet their child's academic, social-emotional, and environmental needs.* A recent report on K to eighth-grade school quality, choice, and access to high-achieving schools displayed just how dire the situation is for Philadelphia families. According to the report, Black and Latinx students are overrepresented in the City's lowest-achieving schools (predominantly located in Northwest, Southwest, and North Philadelphia), while White and Asian American students are overrepresented in the highest-achieving schools (predominantly located in Central, Northeast, and South Philadelphia). This achievement gap is rooted in systemic racism, and these disparities were again brought to the forefront one year ago when Philadelphians were first ordered to shelter in place. Many white and middle class residents found ways to continue with online learning activities, while Black and Brown students were largely left without support or the technology to access their materials online.

The continued struggle for the School District of Philadelphia to re-open safely has had one unexpected outcome. It has raised the voice of outcry from concerned parents of all races and socio-economic status. We seem to finally all agree that even in the most crucial and dire of times, there still remains a serious lack of investment in our education and schools. With the continued failure to create adequate, healthy school environments for ALL students, it's no wonder families are growing increasingly desperate for more options.

The path to success must start with action from both educators and parents. School leaders must recognize that families should have the right to choose a quality education for their children. Not just during the pandemic and not just when asked to choose hybrid or digital learning, but every year. No matter the circumstance.

As parents, we need to take advantage of new opportunities for learning and support that should have always been made available to us. Lastly, parents and supporters need to continue to raise their voices and increase their involvement with HSAs and other education-based organizations in order to remain at the forefront of these conversations and decisions.

While I hope that most would agree a child's zip codes should not be the deciding factor of whether they will be subjected to haphazard and unsafe environments, this is where we are today. This is our reality. We have to work together to improve student experiences & school achievement, ensuring that every student in Philadelphia is provided an equal opportunity to accomplish whatever they want in life..

Cierra Freeman is Manager of Parent Organizing with the Philadelphia School Partnership and Lead Parent for the Philadelphia Parent Coalition. She is also currently VP of the Executive Board for Philadelphia Home and School Council.





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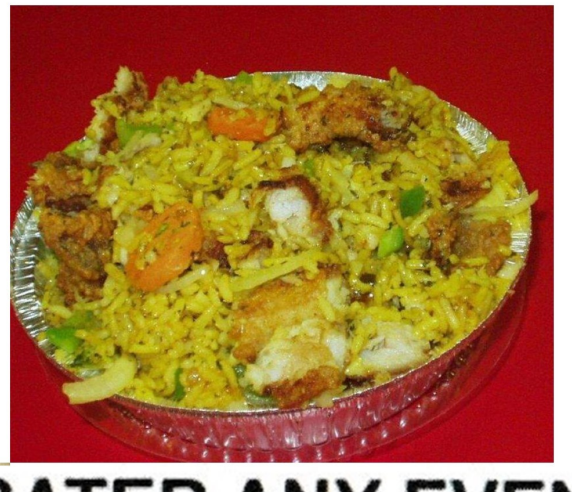
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