

METRO

NOLA.COM | SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2023 1B

Murder trial set for November

Date set after delays with DNA evidence in Frickey killing

BY LEAH CLARK
Staff writer



Frickey

The trial of four teenagers accused of killing Linda Frickey is now set for November, giving attorneys for the defendants several months to

analyze DNA evidence after that issue had threatened to push the trial until next year.

Orleans Parish Criminal District Court Judge Kimya Holmes on Friday set the trial date for Nov. 20, according to an attorney for one of the defendants. That is the Monday before Thanksgiving.

Frickey, 73, was attacked and

killed in March 2022 while in her sport utility vehicle on Bienville Street. Her attackers dragged her for a block while trying to push her out of the driver's seat and then fled in her vehicle.

John Honore, 18, Lenyra Theophile, 17, Briniyah Baker, 16, and Mar'Qel Curtis, 16, were arrested and charged as adults with second-

degree murder in Frickey's death.

Each teenager has pleaded not guilty and is being held on \$1 million bail. If convicted, each faces a life sentence with the chance for parole after 25 years.

The family of Frickey arrived at the courthouse on Friday optimistic about a new trial date. Jinny Lynn Griffin, Frickey's sister, said

the family was hoping for a date as early as October, but would be there for the trial whenever it begins.

"She would have been there for us, so we're going to be there for her," Griffin said.

The teens' trials had been set to start in early April, but days before jury selection, the Louisiana Supreme Court placed a stay or-

► See TRIAL, page 2B



Smiley Anders

Draggin' Canal Street for Buddy D

Dear Smiley: Submissions about men in dresses remind me of one of the biggest "drag shows" in history: "The Buddy D Parade," in 2010, when the Saints were headed to the Super Bowl.

The late Buddy Diliberto, radio host for Saints' games, had said, decades before, that if the Saints ever went to the Super Bowl he'd walk down Canal Street wearing a dress!

Bobby Hebert had replaced Buddy on his radio show, and said, "In honor of Buddy, let's all walk down Canal Street wearing dresses!"

My son-in-law and I went to Goodwill and bought dresses. We were part of about 800 men who paraded from the Dome to the French Quarter. A crowd of over 5,000 lined the streets.

Some of the ladies commented that my dress "accentuated my figure."

Ya reckon with the current laws, were it to happen again, that nobody under 18 could attend the parade?

HODGES "HOODLUM" MERCER
Slidell

Dear Hoodlum: Judging from the photos of you and your son-in-law in your gowns, I wouldn't want anyone, of any age, to see it!

Blind date blues

Dear Smiley: As a teenager, I got a summer job as a dishwasher at summer camp in North Carolina.

My co-workers fixed me up with a blind date on my day off. I was surprised when she showed up. She was 6 feet tall; I'm 5-foot-7.

At the movie theater, the ticket lady said, "That'll be \$3 for you, Ma'am, and \$2 for your son."

I decided on "Dr. Zhivago" at a drive-in movie.

A great movie, but it started sprinkling and I had to use my windshield wipers intermittently through the lengthy movie.

When it finally ended, my car wouldn't start (the battery was dead) and I had to get someone to jump my car!

That was our last date, and my last blind date!

EDDIE COLE
Blairsville, Georgia

Dear Eddie: And I'll bet she said the same thing, Shorty.

No Lance Armstrong!

Dear Smiley: I wrote recently of my bike riding mishap, but I was also an award-winning cyclist.

In 2008, my son Adam and I entered the annual Bike MS, a two-day 150-mile bike ride from Hammond to Percy Quin State Park in McComb, Mississippi, to raise awareness of multiple sclerosis.

Within the first mile, Adam T-boned a rider. He survived with

► See SMILEY, page 2B



Volunteers work installing roof trusses.

STAFF PHOTOS BY BRETT DUKE

Building with pride

New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity hosted a Pride Build on Tennessee Avenue in New Orleans on Friday. Pride Build brought together local members of the LGBTQ+ community and allies to help build a home for a local family. The home will be purchased at a no-interest mortgage by a single mom. In lieu of a cash down payment, the homebuyer has worked more than 250 volunteer hours helping others become first-time homeowners.



Volunteers Shaneika Dabney-Henderson and Justine Drake help raise a roof truss.

St. Bernard group opposes project

Litigation targets container terminal

BY ANTHONY MCAULEY
Staff writer

The Port of New Orleans is prepping for the next legal scuffle against a group of St. Bernard Parish residents opposed to its proposed \$1.8 billion container terminal, with an attorney for the residents now saying that a funding cut by the Louisiana Legislature is a sign that the project isn't ready for prime time.

The lawsuit, filed by Stop the Destruction of St. Bernard Parish Inc., is part of the group's media and legal campaign against the Louisiana International Terminal that began soon after the port an-

nounced in late 2020 that it planned to build its new terminal in Violet. The suit was originally filed in December, 2021.

A St. Bernard Parish District Court halted the residents' legal effort in February, saying a lawsuit aimed at blocking the terminal was premature until environmental and other studies were completed during the permitting phase.

However, Stop the Destruction, which is represented by attorney Sidney Torres III, was granted an appeal, which will be heard in the 4th Circuit Court of Appeal in New Orleans later this summer.

On Thursday, the board of the Port of New Orleans discussed the ongoing litigation during an executive session. A spokesperson for

► See PORT, page 2B

ST. TAMMANY

Teachers set for pay raises

Support staff to see boost as well

BY JONI HESS
Staff writer

A crowd of St. Tammany Parish public school employees, parents and community members erupted in applause Thursday after the School Board unanimously voted to give permanent pay raises for the district's 5,800 employees.

Teachers will receive a \$1,000 increase, while support staff will see \$700.

Teachers and staff say the additional money is needed to combat the rising prices consumers face and the school district's critical staff shortages. Staff frustrations over pay spilled onto social media the past week, and into the meeting where a crowd of people came to voice their concerns.

Last year, the School Board approved over \$20 million in raises and incentives with a two-level increase for teachers. This year, during negotiations between the St. Tammany Federation of Teachers and School Employees and the school system, the package totaled about \$13 million, including a \$500 teacher pay raise and a one-time \$500 stipend that could eventually become permanent.

But the union rejected that package.

The union, however, did support the new package the board adopted during a special meeting Thursday afternoon in Covington.

Audience members were clearly in support of the raises.

"I'm not a schoolteacher. I don't work for the School Board.

► See SCHOOLS, page 2B