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TRANSGENDER IN INDIANA Writer and producer Andrea James will headline event at this week's Circle City IN Pride. 1E

# THE SUNDAY STAR

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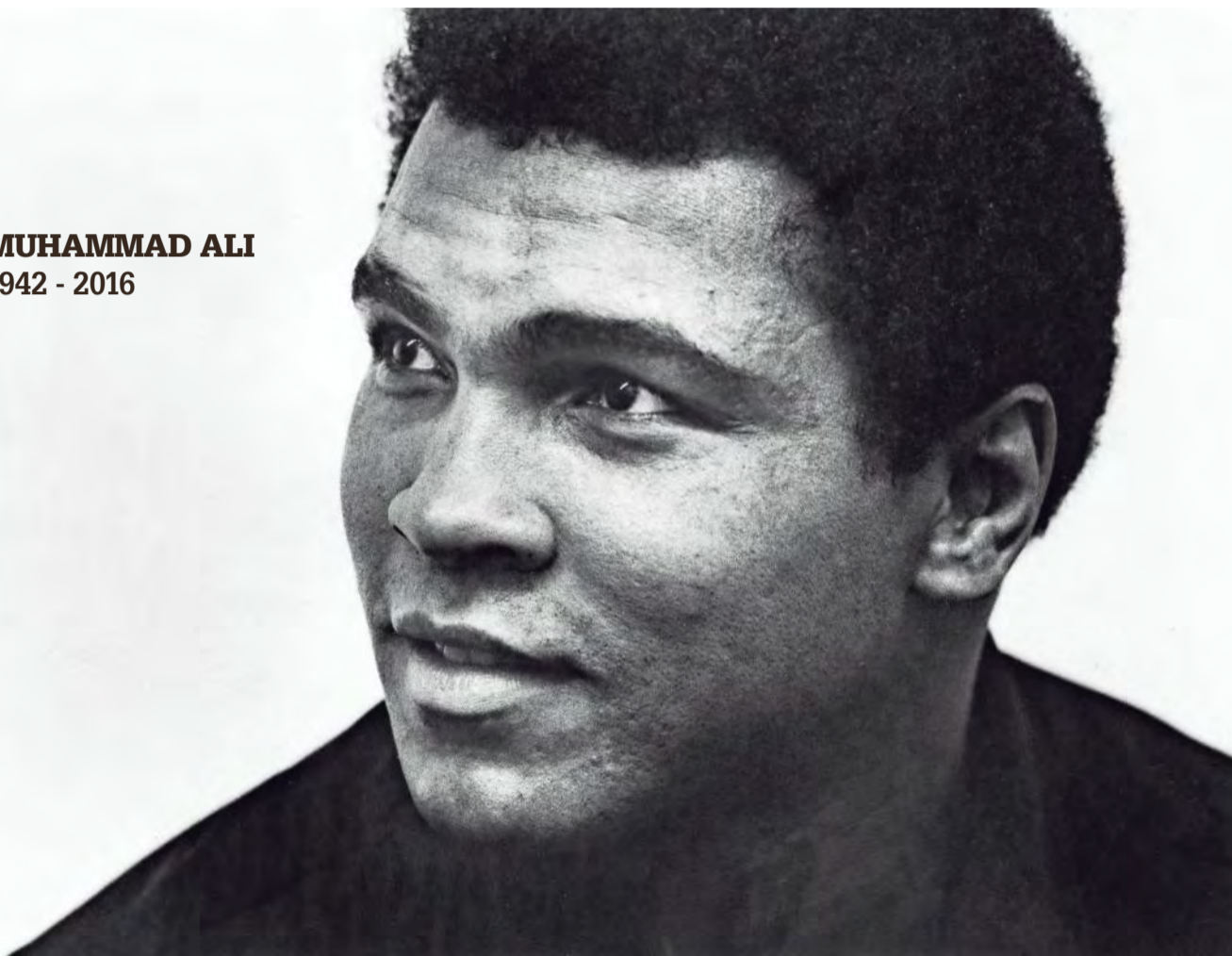
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SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2016 | CITY EDITION AN ISSUE OF THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

## ALI'S BIGGEST FIGHT HIT HOME IN INDY

## FEW TEENS ON TRACK TO RECEIVE STATE AID

MUHAMMAD ALI  
1942 - 2016



THE COURIER-JOURNAL FILE PHOTO

Born Jan. 17, 1942 in Louisville, Ky., Cassius Clay, who changed his name to Muhammad Ali, won an Olympic gold medal at 18. Since gaining fame in 1960, he inspired millions with his courage inside and outside the ring, including his three-decade fight with Parkinson's disease.

### Boxing legend's 3-decade battle with Parkinson's disease inspired fellow champions who fight disease's effects at Rock Steady Boxing

One ... two ... three ... Again and again the bell chimes Saturday morning as a boxing gym on the north side mourns the death of Muhammad Ali. He was a fighter, one of the best ever, and boxing gyms remember their own with a mournful 10-count. This is indeed a boxing gym, if not the kind that produces champions like Muhammad Ali. This gym produces champions like Ron Horton, a retired personnel manager on the

Gregg Doyel  
Sports Columnist



east side who has never fought in the ring but uses boxing to fight a more damnable opponent, Parkinson's disease, the affliction that contributed to Ali's death Friday at age 74. The hell of Parkinson's is that it shuts down the brain's ability to tell muscles what to do, even as the brain — even as the Parkinson's patient — understands exactly what is happening. Parkinson's revealed itself to Ron Horton five years as a tremor in his finger.

» See DOYEL, Page 8A

INDY REMEMBERS  
Central Indiana figures remember a giant. 7A

IN USA TODAY  
Ali's power lives on. 1-2B  
Ali's cultural impact. 10-11C

AT INDYSTAR.COM  
See videos of Ali, as well as photos from his visits to Indy.

8 in 10 incoming seniors who qualify risk losing scholarship from 21st Century Scholars

Chelsea Schneider  
chelsea.schneider@indystar.com

The vast majority of incoming high school seniors who could qualify for a state-funded scholarship are running the risk of losing out on the assistance that covers up to four years of college tuition, according to newly released state data.

About 80 percent, or more than 14,000 students, are behind on meeting new requirements for the state's 21st Century Scholars program, which is designed to help low-income Hoosiers afford college. In Marion County alone, nearly 3,300 students aren't on track.

Faced with a large number of students falling behind on the program's mandates, state officials are working to make members of the Class of 2017 aware of the new requirements, including conducting meetings throughout the summer to connect with potential scholarship recipients.

Next year's graduating class is the first group of students that must complete 12 tasks, including creating a graduation plan, visiting a college campus and participating in a service activity. In exchange, those students can receive as much as four years of tuition at an Indiana public university, or a comparable amount to what a public school costs to attend a private school.

The scholarships, which started under then-Gov. Evan Bayh, reward financial assistance to low-income students who meet certain academic requirements and stay out of trouble. Even before the newest round of conditions, state data showed on average about half of students who could qualify for a 21st Century scholarship were meeting requirements to receive the assistance.

Lawmakers added new requirements after becoming concerned about poor college completion rates of the program's students, said Sen. Luke Kenley,

» See SCHOLARS, Page 14A

## Despite turbulent life, Dakota finds 'care' in foster care



Matthew Tully  
Columnist



I drove by one of Dakota Gensler's childhood homes on my way to meet him for lunch, hoping to get a better sense of what his life had been like. The house, at 28th Street and Boulevard Place, was boarded up, with crumbling bricks and trash on the porch and overgrown weeds covering the yard. The sad truth, though, is that it was worse when Dakota lived there. It was worse when police arrived one

spring day in 2009 and found Dakota, then 11, living in a house with no food to eat and "trash and debris everywhere." An officer wrote of the "horrible and unhealthy living conditions" that were marked by drug-related graffiti on the walls, "feces all over" and the stench of dog urine so bad it "made this officer's throat and lungs itch." The house, he wrote, "was not fit for an animal, let alone humans." There was Dakota, the mattress he

slept on sitting on the floor, being removed from his mom's custody by the Department of Child Services. Just as he had been at age 2 after a neighbor spotted him staring out of the window of a home that looked otherwise empty; police found him alone that day, coughing and feverish.

"How I see it," Dakota, now 18, told me over lunch, "is you can accept life for what it is, or you are just going to be stuck in a box. You're not going to be able to become the person you want to be if you can't just accept the things that happened and move on."

Dakota's struggles have been mighty

» See TULLY, Page 4A



MATTHEW TULLY/INDYSTAR

Often changing foster homes and schools, Dakota Gensler could've given up. He didn't.

TODAY'S WEATHER  
LOW: 65 HIGH: 71  
Chance of storms. Details, 26A

Business .....1-2D  
Classifieds ..3-8D

Deaths ...23-25A  
Editorials ....15A

Life .....1-4U  
Living .....1-8E

Lottery .....2A  
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