

Over the Edge event returns in September

Abigail Vickers
The Daily News

The Barren River Area Child Advocacy Center invites the community to go Over the Edge for Child Advocacy from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 26 at Stadium Park Plaza to stand in solidarity with children who have experienced abuse. Elizabeth Calcaterra, BRACAC development and marketing manager, said OTE for Child Advocacy offers participants a glimpse into the fear, uncertainty and courage children face

when they disclose abuse — while simultaneously raising critical funds and awareness to ensure every child has access to safety, justice and healing. “While it raises funds, it also raises awareness for child abuse,” Calcaterra said. Calcaterra said participants hang over the edge of the downtown Bowling Green parking structure to symbolically step into a moment of vulnerability — representing the fear, uncertainty and courage children face when they disclose abuse.

She said anyone can go over the edge, including those living with disabilities to those who have wheelchairs. “Anybody can go over because child abuse can happen to anyone,” Calcaterra said. Calcaterra said she hopes the community will choose to go “over the edge” or support those who do. Regardless, community members can show their support through fundraising, volunteering, learning to minimize trauma, raising awareness, becoming an OTE sponsor or hosting

donation drives. Those who want to get more involved with OTE can also register to attend the Minimizing Trauma through Minimal Facts Training from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Sept. 24 at the BRACAC. Humana is the Title Sponsor for OTE. Med Center Health and FHG Clothiers are the Presenting Sponsors, alongside a variety of other sponsors at the event. More information on how to take action against child abuse can be found at bracac.org.



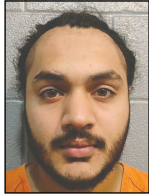
A previous Over The Edge event at the downtown Bowling Green parking structure.

POLICE NEWS

Glasgow PD arrests man after woman reports losing \$150K

The Daily News

A man arrested Wednesday in Glasgow is alleged by police to have targeted a woman in an organized financial scam. The Glasgow Police Department arrested Akashdeep Singh, 24, of Manteca, California, on charges of engaging in organized crime and attempted theft by deception. According to GPD,



Akashdeep Singh

police received a complaint from a woman who reported having more than \$150,000 stolen from her in the course of two weeks. GPD, the Barren River Drug Task Force and Kentucky State Police collaborated in an

investigation which resulted in Singh's arrest as he attempted to meet the woman at a store parking lot. Singh reportedly admitted to driving across the country in order to carry out the scam, GPD said. Singh is being held in Barren County Corrections Center under a \$150,000 cash bond, and more arrests are pending, according to GPD.

BG teen dies after car drives into lake

The Daily News

A Bowling Green teenager died early Wednesday after the car he was driving went into Barren River Lake from a boat ramp. According to Kentucky State Police, Jose Castillo, 18, was unable to swim to safety after getting out of the 2005 Subaru Impreza in which he and a juvenile

passenger were riding. KSP said that troopers were contacted shortly after midnight Wednesday regarding the incident at 1149 State Park Road. Investigators determined that the car was traveling north on State Park Road, which comes to an end at a boat ramp into the lake. The juvenile passenger was able to swim to safety, while Castillo drowned, KSP said.

BABY'S

Continued from 1A

criminal cases, which ended with Allen District Judge Martha Harrison finding probable cause to send each case to the grand jury. Detective Ryan Dillon of the Scottsville Police Department testified at Williams' hearing that a cause of death has not yet been identified, but doctors at the Kentucky Office of the Medical Examiner observed some concerning injuries to Mason's body at the autopsy he attended, noting bruises and describing the rectal injuries as recent trauma. “(Doctors) identified the trauma to the rectal area of the body as consistent with criminal trauma and not consistent with a normal childhood injury,” Dillon said while questioned by Allen County Attorney Hallye Arterburn. Dillon said he documented conditions at the house when he responded, saying that Williams, Alexandrae Price and Mason lived together in the basement area of the home, in a room infested with roaches, spiders and other bugs. Rotten food, soiled

Police learned from Williams and Alexandrae Price that Mason bathed in a kiddie pool outside the home near a heap of used diapers, with water being drawn from a nearby hose, with no other water access to anyone living in the basement. Dillon said he gathered evidence that the child appeared to be healthy in video footage taken of him and Alexandrae Price from a grocery store a few hours before police were called to the home, and that no health problems or injuries were reported by doctors when Mason was taken to a Bowling Green clinic five days before his death. Williams reportedly told police that he was watching the child that night after Alexandrae Price left to go to work, and described leaving the child at home to sleep for about 20 minutes while he brought a pair of shoes to Alexandrae Price at her workplace, Dillon said. When he returned home, Williams took a brief nap and reported being awakened by hearing what sounded like Mason falling, which led Williams to take the child upstairs and attempt to perform CPR, Dillon said. The detective interviewed Williams on three separate occasions, and he proved to be forthcoming, with Dillon

testifying that Williams reported inserting four or five Q-tips at a time into the child's rectum in an apparent attempt to relieve constipation. Dillon described the conditions at the home as “disgusting” and questioned Williams about them. “Mr. Williams himself admitted that he knew the living conditions at the house were not acceptable at all,” Dillon testified, adding later that he questioned why Williams did not attempt to clean the home. “He basically said he was not the father and there were certain things he could not do.” Dillon said police charged Williams with murder based on inconsistent statements he made regarding how the baby became unresponsive and on evidence that Mason was in Williams' care the night of the child's death. Detective Wayne Knox of the Allen County Sheriff's Office testified at Alexandrae Price's preliminary hearing that Price told investigators that she was aware that Williams fed the child extremely spicy foods and allegedly inserted Q-tips and, on one occasion, a water hose into the child's rectum. Dillon noted that a large amount of water was found in the child's abdominal cavity at the

time of autopsy. Knox testified that police interviewed witnesses who described Alexandrae Price as a caring mother, but also said that Mason was living in a home with “multiple hazards to his health.” According to Knox, Alexandrae Price moved into the home about a month before the child's death, saying she was removing the child from a home life with his father that included drug use and domestic violence. Tina Price lived in the upstairs portion of the home with two adult sons

who have special needs. Court records document similar living conditions in the upper floor as what police reportedly encountered in the basement. Williams' attorney, Christy Hiance of the Department of Public Advocacy, argued that there was no evidence to show that Williams intended to inflict fatal injuries or otherwise cause Mason's death, but Harrison allowed the murder charge to be presented to the grand jury. Alexandrae Price's

court-appointed attorney, Zanda Myers, argued that Price had not committed an intentional act of abuse against the child, while Arterburn countered that Price allowed Williams to care for the child while being aware of the hazardous living conditions at the home. “I do believe a parent has a special responsibility to entrust their children only to people can suitably care for them,” Harrison said while binding Alexandrae Price's case over to the grand jury.

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