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INSIDE, 2A

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Burlington County Times

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Community members link hands to encircle the family of Esiyah Dixon-Waheed, a traffic-accident victim from Camden. She was honored with a memorial march on Aug. 13. JIM WALSH/COURIER-POST

'A daughter any mother would want'

Camden march honors memory of teen killed in crash

Jim Walsh Cherry Hill Courier-Post | USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

Esiyah Dixon-Waheed was a Camden success story, a standout teen who went on to complete college and recently hoped to help others through her own church. • But the 26-year-old's life of promise ended tragically. • A motorist going the wrong way on a divided highway and allegedly driving drunk in late-night darkness crashed head-on into a car carrying Dixon-Waheed.

The South Jersey native died at the scene of the July 24 crash in northeast Missouri, while three other women in the car, also in their 20s, survived with injuries of varying severity.

"She was a daughter that any mother would want," Mahasin Waheed said of Esiyah at a memorial march Aug. 13 in Camden.

Esiyah Dixon-Waheed is shown at her graduation from Wiley University in Texas. PROVIDED BY WAHEED AND DIXON FAMILIES

"She did so much." Some 60 people, including several small children, carried signs and chanted during the almost-mile-long walk in the city's Parkside section. Many expressed anger at the circumstances of her death and demanded jus-

tice for Esiyah as they walked past people gaping from their homes along Park Boulevard.

At a rally in Farnham Park, the participants clasped hands and formed a circle of support around the Dixon and Waheed families.

"This is a way we can make a difference," said Ronsha Dickerson, a community advocate who led the march.



Mahasin Waheed embraces a supporter before a memorial march for her daughter, Esiyah Dixon-Waheed, in Camden on Aug. 13.

JIM WAI SH/COURIER-POST

"We want the world to know that Camden will rise around our community and make sure that they are protected. We will not let you suffer alone."

Rally participants said the wrong-way driver, 61-year-old William Strausbaugh of Clarence, Missouri, must be held accountable.

See MARCH, Page 6A

Ex-trooper with tattoo linked to skinhead group won't regain job

Jim Walsh

Cherry Hill Courier-Post | USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

An appeals court has upheld the dismissal of a former state trooper from South Jersey who walked away from a mental health facility in March 2023.

The Aug. 14 decision shed more light on Jason "Jay" Dare's troubled record with the State Police, citing disciplinary charges from 2015 to 2017, including an alleged hit-and-run.

It said Dare's disappearance from a health care facility in Media, Pa., had violated a "last chance plea agreement" reached in 2018 to resolve the earlier charges.

The plea deal said Dare could face summary dismissal for any new allegation of "significant" misconduct.

See EX-TROOPER, Page 2A



A site plan exhibit for Township Walk, a townhome development with an "affordable" apartments component by U.S. Home LLC/Lennar. Washington Township planners approved the project on Aug. 12.

JOSEPH P. SMITH/COURIER-POST

Township Walk latest housing project cleared in Washington Twp.

Joseph P. Smith

Joseph P. Smith
Cherry Hill Courier-Post | USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

WASHINGTON TWP. — A 217-unit housing development, largely consisting of three-story town-homes, has been approved for construction on vacant land off Fries Mill Road near Watson Drive.

The community is set for an area designated locally as a future "town center," with an anticipation of building it out with a mix of municipal, commercial and residential uses including affordable housing.

Township Walk, which is a project of Miami-based developer Lennar, is likely to take several years to complete following a period of land preparation.

See HOUSING, Page 2A

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