

**Celebrating 125 years
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Archive:

A Dubious Distinction

Marion County leads state in incarcerating juveniles

By **FRAN QUIGLEY**
NUVO Newsweekly

State Rep. William Crawford, D-Indianapolis, says there is a better way to solve Marion County's juvenile incarceration problem.

If you know about the problem, chances are you've heard it described in financial terms. The county owes \$38 million and counting to the State of Indiana for the cost of incarcerating juveniles sent from the county to state-operated facilities like the former Indiana Boys School (now known as the Plainfield Juvenile Correctional Facility) and Girls School (now known as the Marion County Juvenile Correctional Facility.)

The recent county budget approved by the City-County Council essentially ignored the overdue debt, balancing the books by agreeing not to pay the state for at least another year. But state officials with their own budget problems are in no mood to wait, and last month cited the past due juvenile bill in refusing to release \$2.5 million in Marion County option income tax.

Marion County Treasurer Greg Jordan, who is also seeking the Republican nomination to challenge Mayor Bart Peterson this fall, has responded to the money problem in a time-honored fashion: He sued them. Jordan filed suit against the state in November, claiming that the Indiana Constitution mandates the state pay the full cost of housing juvenile offenders. This despite the fact that there is a state law directing counties to pay half the cost of juvenile incarceration, a law most of the rest of the counties follow and Marion County itself has honored since 1989.

Filing lawsuits and refusing to pay is one way to address the problem, but Rep. Crawford suggests a different approach: We can stop sending more of our local kids to the prison system than any other county in the state does. "Where other counties have looked creatively at ways to solve the problems of the high human and financial costs of incarceration, Marion County has not," Crawford says.

Crawford, the new chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, points out that Marion County, with approximately 14 percent of the state's population, accounts for some 40 percent of the juveniles sent to the Department of Correction.

Noting that the county leads the state in per capita juvenile commitments to the D.O.C., Crawford sees the \$16 million a year the county incurs for juvenile incarceration as both lost dollars and lost opportunities. Several studies and reports, including a recent analysis by the American Youth Policy Forum, show success and cost savings realized from using community-based rehabilitation as an alternative to institutionalizing juvenile offenders. "We could save some of this money to fund any number of programs to reduce recidivism," Crawford says.

Crawford's call to reduce juvenile commitments is bolstered by state-collected data suggesting that many of the youth sent to the Department of Correction are not exactly desperados.

Over half of the children incarcerated with the DOC in November of this past year (52.7 percent of males, 56.6 percent of females) had as their most serious offenses non-violent crimes like property offenses, substance possession or juvenile status offenses such as truancy and runaway charges.

Marion County Superior Court Judge James Payne, who oversees the county's juvenile courts,

See **JUVENILES, A4**►

Explained: The boards that shape and oversee IMPD



By **TYLER FENWICK**
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It can be confusing trying to keep track of all the boards and committees that have a hand in shaping Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department and attempting to hold it accountable to the community.

As part of the Recorder's continued look at policing in Indianapolis, we are taking a look at some of those boards. What are their responsibilities? Who are the members? When do they meet?

There are dozens of boards, most of which are internal at IMPD, so we have included the ones with the most public-facing tasks.

Use of Force Review Board (proposed)

• Members — Unclear

Mayor Joe Hogsett and Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department Chief Randal Taylor announced a new Use of Force Review Board in May after police shot and killed two Black men — Dreaseon Reed and

See **BOARD, A5**►

The Indianapolis Recorder is partnering with InnoPower to recognize 12 individuals who exemplify professional and community excellence. The Golden Laurel Shining Stars Awards will be 3:30 p.m. Aug. 28 during Beyond 2020 InnoPower Minority Business Conference. The conference will be Aug. 28-29. The Shining Stars will be



recognized for their positive work — both professionally and personally — in the community. With careers ranging from agriculture and law to education, the Shining Stars help make Indianapolis a thriving city by demonstrating how to maintain a career while being civically involved.

See **STARS, A6**►

USPS delays impact businesses, possibly election

By **BREANNA COOPER**
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Kimberly Quall hasn't received mail in two weeks.

The 44-year-old business owner said she's had to go to the post office to inquire about her bills and other important mail. Beyond worrying that her payments will get lost or delayed, Quall said issues with the postal service are impacting her business, Chibbey Wee Crochet.

"I ship out all my packages from the post office, and I've been doing that for four or five years," Quall said. "I've never had an issue. Now, packages that used to take three days to be delivered are taking 15 days, and customers keep calling."

While Quall doesn't blame postal workers for the problems, she said delays could force her to find more expensive options to ship her products.

After Postmaster General Louis DeJoy — an ally of President Donald Trump — stepped into his position in June, postal workers across the country have complained of cuts to overtime pay and limited post office hours, which they say have caused extensive delays in deliveries.

Doug Brown, state president of the Indiana Postal Workers Union, said cuts to overtime and a push to privatize the USPS could have a major impact on Americans, particularly the elderly and veterans.

"It's very upsetting for us, because there are a lot of elderly people who rely on medications through the mail, and veterans who rely on timely medications," Brown said during a protest at a Carmel post office Aug. 25. "And people in rural areas rely on the postal service for financial transactions, because they don't have access to broadband and the internet like we do here in the city."

"The post office belongs to the public. It's in the Constitution," Brown said. "How can you privatize



Postal workers gathered outside a post office in Carmel to protest changes to the postal service under Postmaster Louis DeJoy. (Photo/Breanna Cooper)

something that belongs to the public?"

Many worry that DeJoy's appointment and the changes made since earlier in the summer will affect more than the speed you receive your mail. Katie Blair, director of advocacy and public policy at the ACLU of Indiana, said threats to the USPS is a direct threat to democracy.

"Voting by mail is going to be the safest way for

See **USPS, A4**►



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Indy allocates COVID-19 funding for postsecondary education

By TYLER FENWICK
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Indianapolis will distribute more federal COVID-19 relief funds to help local college students continue their education and support adult learners.

The new appropriation includes \$327,500 for Indy Achieves completion grants, which IUPUI and Ivy Tech students impacted by COVID-19 can use to cover debt, unpaid bursar bills and other debts preventing them from continuing their postsecondary education.

The appropriation also includes \$1.1 million for Rapid Reskilling Grants distributed by Employ-Indy to seven adult education providers: Washington, Wayne and Warren township school districts, Goodwill Excel Centers, Marian University, Indy Reads and the YMCA.

Adult learners in those programs can get their high school diploma, high school equivalency or retrain for a new career.

Indy Achieves is part of EmployIndy, which targets specific zip codes in Marion County for workforce development initiatives.

Mayor Joe Hogsett and city-county council President Vop Osili touted education as a way to improve equity in Indianapolis during a press conference Aug. 20 at Ivy Tech.



Joe Hogsett announces federal COVID-19 relief funds to be used for grants for college students and adult learners. (Photo/Tyler Fenwick)

“Postsecondary education will be just as big a part of gainful employment post-pandemic as it was pre-pandemic,” Hogsett said.

The average in-state tuition for Indiana colleges and universities was about \$17,600 for the 2018-19 school year, according to CollegeCalc, which was about \$3,000 more than the country’s average.

About 30% of Marion County residents 25 and older have at least

a bachelor’s degree, and 85% have a high school diploma, according to census data.

Those numbers get worse when only considering neighborhoods with a significant percentage of African American residents, though. In the 46218 zip code, for example, where 72% of residents are Black, only 8% of those 25 and older have at least a bachelor’s degree, and 77% have a high school diploma.

No one knows how long Indianapolis will be impacted by COVID-19 and the economic fallout, Osili said.

“But we do know at least one of the steps we can take to position Indianapolis for a rebound,” he added, “to give our residents access to educational opportunity. So when the cloud of COVID has cleared, we have workers and graduates prepared to take full advantage.”

About 65% of jobs today

require some form of postsecondary education, Hogsett said, which is what the Rapid Reskilling Grants are supposed to prepare adult learners for.

“Our success as a city depends not only on attracting the businesses of the future, but it depends on our collective commitment to educating the workforce of the future,” he said.

About 53% of people in Marion County who have filed for unemployment since March 15

have a high school diploma or less, EmployIndy Chief Operating Officer Marie Mackintosh said.

The city previously allocated \$1.5 million to Rapid Reskilling Grants in June, and Employ-Indy has been able to enroll an additional 1,367 workers in Marion County who have been impacted by COVID-19 into secondary education programs, Mackintosh said.

It isn’t yet clear how many students could benefit from Indy Achieves completion grants because students are still enrolling for the fall semester. Boyd Bradshaw, an associate vice chancellor at IUPUI, said there are currently 84 IUPUI students who have received a grant, which averages about \$2,500 per student.

Indianapolis received \$168 million in federal funding from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act in June. The city has been slowly allocating that money because it isn’t clear if Congress will agree on another relief package.

The city-county council approved \$76 million in CARES Act funding June 8. The most recent approval on Aug. 10 was for \$16 million.

Contact staff writer Tyler Fenwick at 317-762-7853. Follow him on Twitter @Ty_Fenwick.

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African Americans still heavily overrepresented in local homeless population

By **TYLER FENWICK**
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More than half of those experiencing homelessness in Marion County earlier this year were Black or African American, and the number of unsheltered homeless was up by 77%.

That’s according to the 2020 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count conducted by the IU Public Policy Institute and Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention (CHIP) in January.

Chelsea Haring-Cozzi, executive director of CHIP, described the PIT Count as a one-night census and said it’s generally a representative number for what homelessness looks like in Indianapolis throughout the year — although the proportion of those who are unsheltered and sheltered can shift with the seasons.

Housing advocates and experts are predicting a wave of evictions as people struggle to make rent during the COVID-19 economic collapse, but that wouldn’t be reflected in this count.

The racial disparities are a common feature of the annual count. African Americans represented 61% of the homeless population in 2019 and 54% this year. African Americans are about 30% of the population in Marion County, according to census data.

“Homelessness is the failure of almost every other system,” Haring-Cozzi said. That includes education, criminal justice, employment and health care. There’s a false perception that people become homeless as the result of making bad decisions, Haring-Cozzi said,

which redirects blame from systemic failures to individuals.

Among the 132 people who were chronically homeless, 31% identified as Black or African American, and 60% were white.

The total number of people experiencing homelessness rose slightly to 1,588. Almost three-quarters of the homeless population in Marion County is male, and the vast majority of people experiencing homelessness are in either emergency shelters or transitional housing.

Unsheltered homeless — the most visible of the homeless population — accounted for a little more than 10% of the count this year.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) mandates a count of people experiencing homelessness in order to receive funding.

‘I have to make it work’

Anthony Ford has spent roughly the last four years on the streets of Indianapolis. He’s a slim man, 27 years old with a scruffy beard and tattoos down his arms.

Ford has a girlfriend and can stay at her place occasionally, but she lives in Section 8 housing and he has a felony record, so he can’t stay with her for more than a few days at a time.

“This lifestyle of being homeless, being on the streets, that’s not me,” Ford said as he sat along the wall of a building on North Delaware Street, diagonal to the transit center. “This lifestyle will turn you into a totally different person.”

Ford does his best to distinguish himself from other people experiencing



Anthony Ford, 27, stands for a picture by where he was sitting on North Delaware Street with his Indianapolis Department of Public Works shirt hanging out of his back pocket. (Photo/Tyler Fenwick)

homelessness, especially those who are most visible on downtown streets. He doesn’t spend the last of his money on drugs or alcohol, he said, and he’s quick to talk about how he actually has a job through an Indianapolis Department of Public Works program that pays ex-offenders re-entering the workforce to clean up roadside litter.

The perception that unsheltered homeless people use all of their money to fuel drug and alcohol use leads to further stigmatization of a group of people who rarely have a way to defend themselves. At the same time, around 40% of chronically homeless people identified drugs or alcohol (or both) as a disabling condition, on the PIT count.

Ford, who has six children, has been close to getting into housing, but the landlord learned of his felony record and backed off. Still, he’s a hopeful person with a sense of pride.

Asked what he wants people to understand about him and other people who don’t have permanent housing, Ford said he wants understanding.

“When you see me, it might have just been a hard day for me,” he said. “I have to do what I have to do to get by. I have to make it work, feed my kids, all that stuff. It’s like, ‘Damn, I just need \$1.75 to make it back home or make it to work.’”

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USPS

► Continued from A1

many people to vote in November,” Blair said, referencing the COVID-19 pandemic. “We can expect higher than ever absentee voting, and by cutting back funding [to USPS] and making changes in operations that cause delays, they are standing in the way of people participating fully in democracy by voting.”

Despite arguments from Trump that mail-in voting could lead to fraud, Brown said, in his three decades working with USPS, there’s no potential for

fraud.

“It’s important to note that mail-in balloting has been done for generations through the postal service, especially by the military and the elderly,” Brown said. “The Postal Inspection Service, they all monitor postal employees. We are also vetted by the FBI, all postal workers have background checks. I have never seen any fraud, and I don’t think there’s any potential for fraud.”

Blair said Hoosiers may have trouble

Get out the vote!

Women4Change Indiana is looking for volunteers to help Hoosiers cast as many ballots as possible.

For more information on how to get involved, visit [women4changeindiana.org](https://www.women4changeindiana.org).

getting permission to vote by mail in the upcoming general election due to “vague” state laws.

“Right now, there are 11 reasons why someone can request an absentee ballot, and one of those reasons is being confined due to illness,” Blair said.

“What we need is clarity on what that actually means, and we need the governor and secretary of state to come out and say if quarantining due to the pandemic is an excuse people can use to request a ballot.”

It seems unlikely that will happen.

Despite expanding mail-in voting for the primary in June, Gov. Eric Holcomb has since said it’s safe to vote in person.

“There are a lot of people out and about, whether it’s working or going to the grocery store or doing your lives, and they’re doing it safely,” Holcomb said in a COVID-19 briefing Aug. 5. “And we can vote safely in person as well.”

Holcomb reiterated this idea in a press conference Aug. 19.

“Our plans for how to express your vote is exactly as it has been advertised to date,” Holcomb said. “You have opportunities to vote absentee, in person early, or on Election Day. You have multiple shots on goal.”

Blair said this still doesn’t provide the guidance needed to help Hoosiers make the best decisions for their health. For votes sent through the mail to be counted, they must be in the mail by noon on Election Day.

“That doesn’t mean it’s postmarked by Election Day,” Blair said. “You don’t know how long it will be in the mail. The mail could get there at 2 p.m. and you miss your chance to have your ballot casted. These vague laws and an increase in absentee ballots is going to run the risk of people

not having their votes counted.”

The ACLU of Indiana is currently working to get election officials to enact no-excuse absentee voting, which would allow all Hoosiers the ability to vote by mail. Blair said they’ve sent over 10,000 messages from state residents to officials.

Rima Shahid, executive director of Women4Change Indiana, encourages anyone who is eligible to get an absentee ballot to request one now, fill it out and return it as soon as possible.

“I think that this is another way in 2020 that we’re seeing voter suppression come to the forefront,” Shahid said. “We cannot rely and wait for a number of days before we do that [mail ballots], as we saw during the primary, votes get lost that way.”

On the topic of voter suppression, Shahid referenced Marion County — the state’s most populated and diverse county — which only had one early voting site in 2018, unlike surrounding counties, which had multiple.

Regardless of what decisions are made regarding absentee voting, Quall is determined to cast a vote. Although she originally planned on voting through the mail, she said she’s willing to risk her health to vote in person to ensure her ballot is counted.

“They’re trying to make sure our ballot doesn’t get there in time,” Quall said. “If I mail it, I’ve got no clue when it will get to where it needs to be. I’m going to bring a chair, pack a lunch and some battery packs, and I’ll sit there for hours. I’m not leaving until I cast my vote.”

Contact staff writer Breanna Cooper at 317-762-7848. Follow her on Twitter @BreannaNCooper.



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JUVENILES

► Continued from A1

says he has not seen the state figures, but insists he sends only juveniles with serious offenses to the D.O.C. Payne says that a comparison of commitments with the number of children referred to his court system would likely reveal that Marion County’s high incarceration rate is reflective of the area’s serious juvenile crime problem, rather than a propensity to send kids away. (Such a comparison was not available from the D.O.C. or state judicial or court agencies.)

“Part of the issue is that urban cities generally attract more serious kinds of problems than rural communities,” Payne says. “There are different problems that exist in different cultures and areas.”

But Rep. Crawford says that Payne’s explanation does not account for the fact that Indiana’s other urban counties, including Lake and Allen counties, put a far lower percentage of their youth into the D.O.C. than Marion County does. “The basic fundamental issue is still there,” Crawford says. “Why does Marion County send more of our juveniles to the Department of Correction than any other county?”

BOARD

► Continued from A1

McHale Rose — within hours of each other.

The board will review every officer’s use of force and determine if the officer was in compliance with department training and policy. Members would then give a recommendation to the chief. The review process is different and separate from any criminal investigations.

The board is now in the final stages of internal review and approval, according to Aliya Wishner, an IMPD spokesperson, but there’s still a debate about if the board will have adequate civilian participation.

The board will include a mix of police officers and civilians, but Wishner declined to say exactly how many of each because it is still being discussed and amended.

“What I can say definitively is that IMPD has committed to majority civilian representation on the board,” Wishner said in an email.

When Hogsett and Taylor announced the board, there were three civilians, with nominations from the mayor’s office, rank-and-file police and the city-county council president. Taylor would get final say on appointments.

Taylor later said he would add another civilian seat but that it would be automatically filled by the director of the Citizens Police Complaint Office, which is a city agency.

In May, IndyStar reported the board would include nine members, including five officers and four civilians, but Wishner said that isn’t what’s in the current proposal.

Once established, the Use of Force Review Board will take over the responsibilities of the internal Firearms Review Board, which is tasked with deciding if an officer’s actions were within or outside of department policy but doesn’t have the authority to recommend discipline.

GENERAL ORDERS COMMITTEE

- Members — Three people (two appointed by the chief, one appointed by the Fraternal Order of Police)

The internal General Orders Committee has final say when it comes to department policy. For example, the committee had to sign off on an updated use-of-force policy announced in July.

Critics say three people is too few to have such a large task without civilian participation.

City-county councilors Keith Potts and Crista Carlino, both Democrats, announced their intention to create a General Orders Board that would replace the current committee. Their board would include civilians.

“It is time to put the voice of the public back in public safety,” Carlino said at a press conference in July.

The councilors recently announced they will host

town halls to get community feedback on what the makeup of a new board should be. In an interview for this article, Potts said there will be two town halls with more details about those coming soon, and that at least one will be accessible through Zoom.

The General Orders Committee exists through the city’s contract with the Fraternal Order of Police, but Potts said state law allows the city-county council to create a new board and assign it tasks, effectively replacing the committee’s functions.

The plan is to introduce the proposal at the next full council meeting Sept. 14. From there it will go to committee and then back to the council for a full vote, which Potts said he hopes happens in October.

CIVILIAN POLICE MERIT BOARD

- Members — Seven people (four appointed by the mayor, one appointed by the city-county council, two elected by active members of the department)
- Meetings — 12:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month as often as monthly
- Contact — Call the chief’s office at 317-327-3282 and ask for the merit board

The Civilian Police Merit Board spends most of its time considering hiring and promotion recommendations from the chief, but its most visible task is deciding whether to uphold or deny punishment for officers.

When the chief wants to punish an officer — such as when former Chief Bryan Roach wanted to fire two officers involved in the fatal police shooting of Aaron Bailey in 2017 — the officer can appeal. That’s when the Civilian Police Merit Board conducts hearings and chooses to agree with the chief, reverse the chief’s recommendation or reduce the punishment.

The board is not allowed to punish officers on its own.

Joseph Slash, the longest-tenured member of the board, emphasized that the board currently has four African Americans.

The board ends up agreeing with the chief most of the time, Slash said, because a vast majority of the board’s responsibilities are more mundane than determining whether to punish officers who kill people. (Slash was one of two members to vote to fire the officers who killed 45-year-old Bailey.)

Slash also touted the screening process the board uses for potential new hires, which was updated about 12 years ago under former Mayor Greg Ballard. The process includes checking for affiliations with fringe groups such as white nationalist organizations.

Fewer than a dozen candidates have been screened out because of their affiliation with a

white nationalist group since then, Slash said, adding that one of the most common reasons potential hires don’t make it is because of drug use in the last year, which either comes from a candidate’s admission or from a lie detector test.

CITIZENS’ POLICE COMPLAINT BOARD

- Members — 12 people (six appointed by the city-county council, three appointed by the mayor, three non-voting members who are officers)
- Meetings — 6 p.m. on the second Monday of the month (at least quarterly but as often as monthly)
- Contact — 317-327-4380 or cpco@indy.gov

The Citizens’ Police Complaint Board reviews all formal complaints made to the Citizens’ Police Complaint Office. The board was established about 30 years ago as part of an effort to promote trust and accountability between the community and police department.

The board sends complaints to IMPD Internal Affairs, which has 60 working days to do its own investigation and allow the chief to take any action. The board can vote to conduct its own investigation at the same time.

When the department gives the investigation back to the board, it can agree with the findings and any action the chief takes. If the board doesn’t agree, it can vote to: do an informal administrative hearing on the complaint, order the office’s director to do informal mediation to resolve the complaint or conduct its own investigation.

The board recently updated policies to allow people up to 120 days to file a complaint (it had been 60 days) and to give people two minutes to talk (they had no time before).

DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF CAPTAINS

The internal Disciplinary Board of Captains, among other tasks, either approves or disapproves of recommended discipline levels when the department’s General Orders are updated.

VEHICLE OPERATIONS REVIEW BOARD

The internal Vehicle Operations Review Board reviews police vehicle crashes, damage to police vehicles and other incidents. Its most relevant public responsibility is to determine if police pursuits were within compliance.

Contact staff writer Tyler Fenwick at 317-762-7853. Follow him on Twitter @Ty_Fenwick.

Anthem and the Indianapolis Colts — a winning team

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Rafael Sanchez, president of Private Banking, Old National Bank



As president of private banking at Old National Bank, Rafael Sanchez is a member of the executive team. Sanchez is an attorney and former president and CEO of Indianapolis Power and Light Company. He was previously vice president of Business Development and Legal Affairs for

Fineline Printing Group and a former partner at the law firm Bingham Greenebaum Doll LLP. Sanchez is a native of Puerto Rico. He moved to Indiana in 1996 to study law at Indiana University Maurer School of Law and moved to Indianapolis in 2002.

He currently is co-chair of the Indianapolis 2021 NBA All-Star Game, chairman of the Board of United Way Central Indiana, chairman of the board of Indiana Latino Institute and secretary for Indy Championship Fund. He is president-elect for Crossroads Boy Scouts of America.

Sanchez earned a bachelor's degree in social sciences and political science from the University of Puerto Rico and a law degree from Indiana University Maurer School of Law.

Shondria Seaton, president, Black Data Processing Associates (BDPA)



In her duties as a member of the Information and Digital Solutions organization at Eli Lilly and Co., Shondria Seaton leads process improvement and organizational change managements in medicines development. She recently led an award-winning initiative that ensured key business critical systems data could be recovered after a digital disaster.

She previously worked at IBM and Anthem before returning to Lilly. She is a former adjunct professor at Indiana Wesleyan University and taught an online basic web design course at IUPUI.

Seaton is president of the Black Data Professionals Association Indianapolis Chapter, board of trustees for Oaks Academy, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Indianapolis Alumnae Chapter.

Seaton's volunteer work includes reading to third graders for Read Up, serving as a Christian storyteller at Traders Point Christian Church and serving on the Fathers and Families Center annual luncheon planning committee for more than 10 years.

Seaton earned a Bachelor of Science degree in computer and information science from Florida A&M University and a Master of Business Administration from Indiana Wesleyan University.

LaTasha Sturdivant, senior director of Special Initiatives and Research, Community Foundation of Central Indiana (CICF)



Latasha Sturdivant is the senior director of special initiatives and research at Central Indiana Community Foundation (CICF), where she leads the Indianapolis Foundation Library Fund, the Herbert Simon Family Foundation Roots to Read project, as well as research related to CICF's strategic initiatives.

Theater company builds confidence, awareness

From balancing school and a social life, first heartbreaks and hormones, adolescence is a difficult time. Add in a global pandemic, a recession and a national reckoning on race, and children today perhaps have more on their plate than previous generations.

That's where the Sankofa Paradigm Initiative hopes to help.

The theater program, created in 2019 as a partnership with the Asante Children's Theatre, Boys and Girls Club of Indianapolis, and Community Health Network, gives girls ages 7 to 18 the opportunity to not only hone their artistic skills, but gives them a chance to discuss issues and build their sense of community.

"The theater is focused on emotional well-being, building a sense of confidence and identity, and having pride in your community," Camike Jones, program coordinator for Sankofa Paradigm Initiative, said. "We want to build the girls' wellness overall, and also focus on self-care and coping skills, as well as the theater we're

doing."

Throughout the six-week program, the girls meet twice a week — virtually, for now, due to the pandemic — to create an original play. Throughout the process, they do team building exercises meant to start conversation, as well as let them process all that's happening in the world around them.

"The main thing we addressed pre-COVID was systemic traumas that the girls face, especially those in the African American community," Jones said. "... With COVID, we were also able to address the global trauma of the pandemic."

At each session, a worker from Community Health Network was involved to help both the adults and the diverse group of girls discuss COVID-19 and the ongoing discussions surrounding race. Through the conversations, Jones said the girls were able to process their own traumas and create a play that reflects the "wounds of the world" and possibilities to heal.

"We incorporated

Sturdivant is also the founder and owner of Delta River Consulting, a consulting agency that utilizes research and best practices to drive strategic change in corporations and nonprofits.

Sturdivant holds a Ph.D. in adult learning and development from Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, a master's degree in international education from George Washington University and a bachelor's degree in bilingual education from Kalamazoo College. She has a nonprofit management certificate from Indiana University and a secondary teacher certification in the state of Michigan.

Corey Wilson, vice president of Community Engagement, Pacers Sports and Entertainment



Corey Wilson is vice president of community engagement and executive director of the Pacers Foundation, which is part of Pacers Sports and Entertainment.

Wilson has previously worked for Nike and the Marion County Public Health Department, and he served on the staff of the lieutenant governor of Indiana.

Wilson became chairman of the Shoes for Children Program when he was 17. He has also been in leadership roles for the Indiana Black Expo Elected and Appointed Officials Reception and Beaulieu Military Scholarship Program. Wilson has also been on the boards of 100 Black Men of Indianapolis and Boy Scouts.

Wilson has a bachelor's degree from Indiana State University and a master's degree in business administration from Purdue University.

Vincent Wong, interim head of Physician Office Lab and Specialty Diagnostics, Roche Diagnostics



In his role at Roche Diagnostics, Vince Wong leads the Physician Office Lab and Specialty Diagnostics teams in serving various customer segments including distribution, physician lab systems, clinician sales, donor screening and custom biotech. He is a member of the CEO's leadership team, the North America Diagnostics Executive Committee.

Previously, Wong was a general manager of broadband and VPN services at Telamon Corporation. He represented Fortune 500 clients in federal and state litigation for the law firm Locke Reynolds, now Frost Brown Todd LLC), and in 2000, he served as counsel to the Indiana Senate. Wong also was a consultant to multinational firms, supporting their China market leadership teams.

He is a member of the board of directors for International Violin Competition of Indianapolis, Dance Kaleidoscope, Asian American Alliance Inc. and the Indianapolis Museum of Art. He serves on the board of directors for the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce. He was recognized as one of Indianapolis Business Journal's 2001 Forty Under 40 honorees.

Wong received a Bachelor's of Arts in economics and government from the University of Notre Dame, a Master of Business Administration from Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management and a Juris Doctor from Indiana University School of Law.

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To learn more about enrollment for the Sankofa Paradigm Initiative, call Camike Jones at 317-296-4679.

and is about how a community can overcome challenges and heal.

Enrollment is currently open for the group's next session. Jones said, for now, the plan is to have a hybrid model for meetings, but most will take place virtually.

As the mother of two children who were involved in theater as children, Jones knows the importance of human connection and creativity. "When you develop performing arts skills, you learn to love yourself and form a sense of identity," Jones said. "The kids already have a lot of resiliency. Adults just need to recognize that and support it."

Contact staff writer Breanna Cooper at 317-762-7848. Follow her on Twitter @BreannaN-Cooper.

EDITORIAL

Keeping tabs on IMPD review boards

By OSEYE BOYD



Contrary to what some may believe, the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department isn’t autonomous or omnipotent. There are checks and balances in the form of boards in place to keep the department from running rogue. How well those checks and balances work depends on whom you ask.

However, I’m betting many of us regular folk don’t know what those boards are, what the boards do and who serves on them. That’s why this week the Recorder took a look at the boards — their function and makeup. My hope is that you will take this information and use it. Clip it or print it and hang it on your refrigerator, fold it and carry it in your purse or wallet. My point: Know about these boards. Tell your friends and family about these boards and the duties of each board.

We often complain that our complaints aren’t being heard. I’ve learned over the years that we often complain to the wrong people. Complaining to each other about IMPD does little to change IMPD. Now, if you take those claims to those who have oversight of

IMPD, that’s when you can start to affect change.

The boards are the General Orders Committee, Civilian Police Merit Board, Citizens’ Police Complaint Board, Disciplinary Board of Captains and Vehicle Operations Review Board. The creation of the Use of Force Review Board is in the final stages of approval, and two city-county councilors would like to replace the General Orders Committee with a General Orders Board that would include civilians — the current committee is made up of appointees from the chief and Fraternal Order of Police. While some boards operate internally, citizens are able to track the actions of others.

As we continue the conversation of what policing in Indianapolis looks like — and should look like — it’s imperative we understand the functions of these boards. While members of these board are usually appointed, we need to know who is doing the appointing and who they appoint so we know where and how to address grievances.

We can no longer be casual observers, leaving it up to other people to address these issues. We can no longer afford to be ignorant of what’s happening in our city, right under our noses. We can no longer sit idly by, letting incidents occur and then reacting to

them. The pressure we are putting on government — not just IMPD — can’t stop after a few concessions are made. We have to continue being the squeaky wheel and teach our children and grandchildren to do the same. It’s never over. We can’t be complacent ever again.

I understand we get busy living life, just trying to survive and thrive on a daily basis. By the time we finish work and any parenting or caretaking duties, it’s time to go to bed, wake up and do it all over again. Before you know it, days, months and years have passed by. I’m not casting blame on any of us for not always being as involved as we should be. It’s hard to keep up, but we have to prioritize civic involvement. We are the taxpayers that keep IMPD going, so we have every right to be involved. I continue and will continue to go back to this point because I think it’s forgotten. We have the right to make demands of IMPD and any other government official paid by public dollars.

For too long, Black people have been passive when we should be aggressive. Sometimes being busy with life isn’t the issue: it’s fear. We’re afraid of rocking the boat, of holding people accountable and being that squeaky wheel.

That’s what citizens are supposed to do. That’s getting into the good trouble former Congressman John Lewis often

spoke about.

I understand some on IMPD may feel attacked and like they’re not supported. It’s a tough spot to be in. I’m in an often-misunderstood profession as well so I empathize. I get tired of the media being blamed for just about everything. No one forced me into this profession. I chose it, so I take the criticism. Sometimes the critics aren’t wrong. I often wish the general public understood most journalists do their very best to be as unbiased as possible and convey the facts as we know them at the time of reporting.

Don’t mistake my empathy for sympathy. Just as I chose this profession, lumps and all, police officers did the same. Just because criticism stings, doesn’t mean it’s wrong. And if a few bad apples are making the entire force look bad — as the cliché goes — well, get rid of the bad apples. I certainly don’t let bad apples sit around and taint my good ones.

One of the lessons I hope we learn this year is we have more power than we realize. We can and will be heard, and we can no longer worry about the comfortability of others. We have every right to be fully recognized as Americans. America has shown it won’t happen until we start demanding it happen. We can start with IMPD.

OPINIONS

The limits of philanthropy



By LARRY SMITH

Beginning last year, some of Indy’s largest philanthropic institutions started to designate what now totals more than \$100 million toward improving the lives of low-income African Americans. The funds will be distributed primarily through African American nonprofit organizations.

This becomes even more significant when one knows that Black-run nonprofit organizations historically have received — on average — substantially smaller grants from foundations than have white-run nonprofit organizations. (Notably, white-run nonprofit organizations that primarily serve the Black population tend to receive more dollars than their Black-run counterparts.)

I am cautiously optimistic that these grant dollars will effect positive change in some of our most distressed Black communities. Housing, food insecurity, health care, youth activities, education and job readiness are all areas that need an immediate influx of substantial financial resources just

to bring thousands of people out of dire circumstances (e.g., going hungry, staving off the threat of homelessness, and fighting the effects of COVID-19). To use a well-worn medical analogy, these grant dollars constitute emergency triage. I genuinely applaud our local foundations for stepping up in a major way.

Yet, despite the good that such efforts will undoubtedly bring, the fact remains that philanthropy, by itself, will not bring about that which should be everyone’s ultimate goal: economic, social and political equality between African Americans and whites. This is true because philanthropy is generally designed to address basic needs rather than to close the overall wealth gap. The other major factor is that philanthropic institutions tend to not give money to for-profit businesses. That fact matters because entrepreneurship is a stronger tool than is philanthropy in facilitating African Americans’ drive to achieve economic parity.

For example, donating to education-focused nonprofits can help youth to prepare themselves for the job market. Yet, decades of doing so has not closed the racial wage gap — much less the wealth gap. The very noble goal of

“keeping kids out of trouble” should be a floor rather than a ceiling. If those kids’ parents had greater access to substantial capital to start their own businesses, Black communities would need less philanthropy — or government assistance.

There is a study from the New School titled “Umbrellas Don’t Make It Rain: Why Studying and Working Hard Isn’t Enough for Black Americans.” It says, in part:

“For Black families and other families of color, studying and working hard is not associated with the same levels of wealth amassed among whites. Black families whose heads graduated from college have about 33 percent less wealth than white families whose heads dropped out of high school...The average black household would have to save 100 percent of their income for three consecutive years to overcome the obstacles to wealth parity by dint of their own savings activity.”

Further, even African Americans who earn graduate degrees make less money than their white counterparts — though greater education leads to greater wage parity.

Lest some people think that I am naive, I will hasten to add that mak-

ing startup capital available to African Americans would need to be carefully planned and executed. Business mentorship and coaching, along with rigorous financial and management training, are crucial factors in the success of such endeavors. (This is true irrespective of race.)

Since I believe in action rather than mere advocacy, I will share that I contacted a few friends early this year to ask whether they would join with me to start a real estate development and investment firm. All of them agreed to do so. I had two main goals in mind. One is to build “legacy” Black wealth (i.e., to leave substantial financial resources to my children and their children). Second, I wish to preserve Black homeownership. I am beyond tired of watching Black residents being gentrified out of the homes in which they have lived for decades. I also want to foster homeownership among those who don’t have them.

I want to give fish to people who need to eat today. I also want to teach people to fish so that they may provide for themselves and their families. Most importantly, I want our people to have the means to buy or build their own ponds.

A new generation of protest holds great promise for America

By JESSE JACKSON
TriceEdneyWire.com



The inspiring rise of a new generation protesting against racial injustice is driving a new era of change in America, like the generation that emerged 60 years ago to build the civil rights movement of that time. July 16, 1960 is marked in my memory: That is the day I joined seven other friends to walk into the whites-only Greenville Library, and to be arrested for violating the segregation laws.

That was more than five years after the 1954 Brown v. Board Supreme Court decision that declared “separate but equal” — the lie that justified segregation — a violation of the U.S. Constitution. Yet in Greenville, South Carolina, where I grew up, nothing had changed.

We still lived in a segregated bubble. The public library, the buses, the schools, the pool — all were still

segregated. There were no Black police officers, or firemen, no Black elected officials. Even the graveyard was segregated. Our options were limited.

For example, graduating from high school, I could not even apply to Furman or to Clemson or to the University of South Carolina. I went to the University of Illinois on a football scholarship. When I returned from Christmas vacation in 1959, I could not use the public library to do my assignments. The Blacks-only library did not have the book I needed; the white library did, but I could not walk in the door.

I vowed that I would not accept that when I came home in the summer. Protests were beginning to spread, as a young generation decided to burst the bubble of segregation and claim their rights under the Constitution. Students in Nashville and Greensboro and elsewhere were beginning the sit-ins.

The July demonstration at the library was a turning point in my life, as demonstrations were for many across the South. We met with fierce resistance. We were denounced as outside agitators, tarred as socialists or communists, and suffered from violent opposition from private vigilantes and uniformed police officers. But the movement kept building and would not go back.

In 1964, we won the Public Accommodations Act, that declared an end to segregated public facilities. In 1965, we won the Voting Rights Act, propelled in part by the horrible spectacle of the police riot on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. Personally, I started working with Dr. King in 1965. The barriers that we struck down opened the way for a new South. Industries and modern companies like CNN would come to the South.

As universities desegregated, so did athletic fields. Professional teams like the Atlanta Braves could be built. African Americans began to win elections at the state, local and national level. We broke the chains of legal apartheid in the United States and transformed the country. Yet, as we have witnessed time and again, we did not end racism in this coun-

try. We did not succeed in breaking the biased institutional structures that still enforce racial injustice — from red-lined neighborhoods to savagely unequal schools to wage and hiring discrimination to a dangerously discriminatory criminal justice system.

Dr. King’s drive for economic equality as the next stage of the civil rights movement was cut short by his assassination. Now a new generation is emerging to challenge these injustices. The demonstrations in the aftermath of George Floyd’s murder have been the largest in our history. On opinion surveys, a stunning 15 million to 26 million Americans report that they have participated in demonstrations for Black lives in 2,500 places from small towns to big cities.

Forty percent of the counties in the country have witnessed protests. White participation has far exceeded that in the first civil rights movement. And already politicians have begun to respond — reforming police practices, banning choke holds. Mississippi legislators voted to retire the state flag with its Confederate battle emblem.

This new generation of protest holds great promise for America. Despite its breadth and depth, it will face great resistance — and not simply from a Donald Trump desperate to discredit it for his political purposes.

Entrenched interests will resist change. The movement is focused on reforming areas — criminal injustice, economic inequalities, basic economic and political rights — that threaten the privileged and the powerful. Yet what we learned 60 years ago is that when people move, change is possible. Then the powerful forces of segregation that seemed overwhelming could not withstand the moral force of a generation not willing to put up with glaring injustice silently. Now this generation has an opportunity to make America better, and the lives and options of millions are at stake in their struggle. This is a time for anyone with a conscience and a pulse to join this extraordinary movement.

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Racial disparities in Indiana health care: what’s being done?

By BREANNA COOPER
BreannaC@indyrecorder.com

Diabetes. Hypertension. Infant and maternal mortality. COVID-19.

All of these issues are more likely to affect — and kill — Black Hoosiers at a disproportionate rate. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 14.2% of diabetes cases in Indiana are found in African Americans, compared to 12.7% for whites. The American Heart Association found African Americans nationwide are twice as likely to develop hypertension — which can cause heart attacks and strokes — than whites, and Black women and babies are significantly more likely to die during birth than white women and babies.

During a press conference earlier this month, Gov. Eric Holcomb touted Indiana’s infant and maternal mortality rate — which is at its lowest since 2012 — as a sign that racial disparities in health care are improving, although he noted there’s still a long way to go.

Despite the lowering numbers, the racial disparity still exists. Dr. Lindsay Weaver, chief medical officer for the Indiana State Department of Health, said Black infants are more than twice as likely than white babies to die within their first year of life. And while Black infant mortality is down from 15.3 infants out of every 100,000 in 2017, 13 African American babies per 100,000 live births will die or be stillborn, as opposed to 6 out of every 100,000 live births for white babies.

“Clearly, we have a lot of work to do,” Weaver said.

Weaver said the health department, led by State Health Commissioner Dr. Kristina Box, has launched the OB Navigator program, which helps pregnant women find obstetricians and gynecologists near them. The department has also partnered with organizations to help make care and information readily available, particularly in Black and brown communities.

State Rep. Vanessa Summers, D-Indianapolis, however, said it’s not enough, especially not for Black women. Summers plans to introduce legislation on infant and maternal mortality when the General Assembly returns to the Statehouse in 2021.



“In Indiana, 53 Black women die out of every 100,000 through childbirth,” Summers said. “... When he [Holcomb] talks about OB Navigator, he isn’t digging down and helping the African American community. He isn’t addressing implicit bias, or doctors who don’t believe what their patients are telling them.”

While many say the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is shining a light on racial disparities in health care throughout the country, Summers said it isn’t a new phenomenon. The evidence is simply reaching a new audience.

“It’s nothing that we didn’t already know,” Summers said. “What has happened is ... white folks see it now. That’s the difference. We’ve been knowing, and we’ve been fighting.”

Roughly 10.8% of the 88,421 COVID-19 cases statewide are found in African Americans, despite African Americans making up only 9.8% of Indiana’s population. In Marion County, Black residents make up 23% of the 35,380 positive cases and 32.3% of COVID-19-related deaths.

Weaver said the state health department plans on tackling racial disparities

in COVID-19 similarly to how it handled disparities in infant and maternal mortality: through information campaigns and increasing accessibility.

“We want to make sure there is good access to testing,” Weaver said. “Before COVID, we recognized there were disparities, so we weren’t surprised to see disparities because of COVID. We’re making sure ... we’re providing resources and working with local coalitions, whatever we can do to help us make sure we’re sending the right message and addressing concerns in the community.”

While the state doesn’t track socioeconomic status as it relates to COVID-19 positivity and morbidity, Weaver said she “wouldn’t be surprised” if — like other medical conditions — there was a correlation between testing positive for COVID-19 and having a lower income.

“If you’re worried about paying the bills so you can keep your lights on ... getting those good, healthy foods becomes more difficult,” Weaver said. “Having regular doctor appointments, prenatal visits ... those types of things truly affect people when it comes to socioeconomic issues.”

That’s where the newly created Chief of Equity and Inclusion Officer, announced by Holcomb in a press conference earlier in August, will hopefully come in. The position, which Holcomb wants filled as soon as possible, would entail working to ensure equity in state businesses and to increase accessibility to workforce development.

Tracy Barnes, chief information officer for the state, said increasing diversity and equity across the board would likely impact other areas of life through policy changes.

“When you talk about diversity in the workplace, it helps any conversation by bringing a different perspective to the conversation that may or may not be presented if folks from diverse backgrounds are not at that table,” Barnes said. “... That helps the boardroom, small office meetings when conversations are happening with folks that can speak to the true impact of those decisions and those policies that are being set.”

Contact staff writer Breanna Cooper at 317-762-7848. Follow her on Twitter @BreannaNCooper.

Pregnancy and the Importance of Immunizations

The Marion County Public Health Department is joining other public health and healthcare organizations in recognizing August as National Immunization Awareness Month. This is the perfect time to understand the importance of following the vaccination schedule from birth to adulthood as a way to protect against certain diseases.

When a woman is pregnant, she shares everything with her baby. Any vaccine a woman gets is not only protecting her, but is giving the baby some early protection. A woman should get a flu shot and whooping cough vaccine, also called Tdap.

Whooping cough can be serious for anyone, but for a newborn, it can be life-threatening. Up to 20 babies die each year in the United States due to whooping cough. About half of babies younger than one year old who get whooping cough need treatment in the hospital.

The younger the baby is when he or she gets whooping cough, the more likely he or she will need to be treated in a hospital. It may be hard to know if a baby has whooping cough because many babies with this disease don’t cough. Instead, it can cause them to stop breathing and turn blue.

When a woman gets the whooping cough vaccine during pregnancy, her body will create protective antibodies and pass some of them to the baby before birth. These antibodies will provide the baby with some short-term, early protection against whooping cough.

Changes in the immune, heart, and lung functions during pregnancy make it more likely to get seriously ill from the flu. Catching the flu also increases a woman’s chances for serious problems for a developing baby, including premature labor and delivery. A flu shot protects a baby for several months after birth from flu-related complications.

An OB-GYN or midwife may recommend a woman receive some vaccines right after giving birth. Postpartum vaccination will help protect from getting sick and passes some antibodies to the baby through breastmilk. Vaccination after pregnancy is especially important for those who did not receive certain vaccines before or during your pregnancy.

The baby will also get his or her own vaccines to protect against serious childhood diseases. Learn more about CDC’s recommended immunization schedule for children and the diseases vaccines can prevent at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/.

Keep in mind that many diseases rarely seen in the United States are still common in other parts of the world. Talk to an ob-gyn or midwife about vaccines if international travel during pregnancy is planned. More information is available at www.cdc.gov/travel/.

Even before becoming pregnant, it’s important to stay up-to-date on all vaccines. This will maximize protection for mom and baby. For example, rubella is a contagious disease that can be very dangerous if contracted during pregnancy. In fact, it can cause a miscarriage or serious birth defects. The best protection against rubella is MMR (measles-mumps-rubella) vaccine.

A pre-pregnancy blood test will show any immunity to rubella. Most women were vaccinated as children with the MMR vaccine, but confirm this with a doctor. For women without the vaccine should avoid becoming pregnant until one month after receiving the MMR vaccine. Ideally, they should wait until after immunity is confirmed by a blood test.

CDC has guidelines for the vaccines needed before, during, and after pregnancy. Resources are available at [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

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Video shows Muslim man’s faith mocked during fatal arrest

By TERRY TANG
Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — An advocacy group released what they say is previously unseen body camera footage Aug. 20 showing Phoenix police mocking the religion of a Black Muslim man who later died in their custody.

Muslim Advocates, a national civil rights organization, released video from the 2017 death of Muhammad Abdul Muhaymin Jr. in which he can be heard crying out in pain and calling for Allah, the Arabic word for God.

“Allah? He’s not going to help you right now,” an officer is heard saying. “Relax dude. Stop moving. Stop resisting. You understand?”

Previous body camera footage from the police included Muhaymin’s plea that he couldn’t breathe, but left out the statements related to his faith.

David Chami, the attorney representing the Muhaymin family in a lawsuit against the city, said he’s certain that police deliberately left out this portion of the video when it was initially given to the media.

“We think this type of information will help maybe get somebody to take a second look whether these officers should still be patrolling this neighborhood,” Chami said. “There’s no doubt that the city manipulated the narrative.”

Muhaymin’s sister was left angered by the footage.

“The city of Phoenix and the Phoenix police targeted my brother for his race, they mocked him for his religion and disability, and then brutally killed him,” Muhaymin’s sister, Mussallina Muhaymin, said in a statement. “Muhammad Muhaymin Jr. was a man with a family who loved him.”

She has said her brother was homeless and suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder and schizophrenia.

None of the officers have been criminally charged or faced internal discipline for their actions.

Daniel O’Connor, a lawyer defending the officers in the suit, said in an email that he is prohibited from discussing ongoing litigation. The Phoenix Police Department did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Muhaymin’s family, who have filed a \$10 million wrongful death suit against the city, see echoes of his killing in George Floyd’s death at the hands of Minneapolis police officers in May. It will likely not go to trial until early next year, Chami said. Attorneys are also looking into opening a federal investigation to see if Muhaymin’s civil rights were violated.

The incident began when police were called to the community center in the city’s Maryvale neighborhood in January 2017 after a dispute arose over



FILE - In this June 5, 2020, file photo, Mussallina Muhaymin, left, and Zarinah Tavares, sisters of Muhammad Abdul Muhaymin Jr., a homeless man who died while in Phoenix police custody, pose in Phoenix. An advocacy group released what they say is previously unseen body camera footage Thursday, Aug. 20 showing Phoenix police mocking the religion of the Muslim man who later died in their custody. Muslim Advocates, a national civil rights organization, released video from the 2017 death of Muhaymin in which he can be heard crying out in pain and calling for Allah, the Arabic word for God. (AP Photo/Matt York, File) (Copyright 2020 The Associated Press. All rights reserved)

whether Muhaymin could bring his service dog into a public bathroom.

Muhaymin was eventually allowed to go into the bathroom. But officers ran a records check and discovered he had an outstanding warrant for failing to appear in court for a misdemeanor drug-paraphernalia possession charge.

Once outside the community center, tensions rose as an officer told Muhaymin to put down his dog because he was under arrest. An officer knocked the dog out of Muhaymin’s hands after he said he didn’t have anyone to care for the animal, according to the lawsuit.

Muhaymin was forced to the ground after police asked him to cooperate, and he screamed in pain as officers handcuffed him. An officer made a profane, belittling comment to Muhaymin that he was now facing a felony.

After officers brought Muhaymin to a police SUV

in the parking lot, officers again urged Muhaymin to stop moving. Still, the struggle continued, with officers again forcing him to the ground. “I can’t breathe,” Muhaymin said. “I can’t breathe.”

Minutes later, the 43-year-old Muhaymin went into cardiac arrest, began vomiting and died, the lawsuit said.

After a review, the Maricopa County Attorney’s Office declined in February 2018 to criminally charge the officers involved, saying it didn’t believe the officers committed acts that warranted prosecution.

Transcripts and video from depositions in the case became available after a federal judge in June denied a request made by the city of Phoenix to bar their release.

The request was made after attorneys for the city accused a lawyer representing Muhaymin’s sister of using social media to garner news coverage and incite violence against officers.

Generation to Generation Conference at Scott UMC



L-R: Ahmad Perry, Michelle Perry and Regina Majors were part of a panel for the "18 Ain't Grown" workshop.



Nicole Holder was the facilitator for "18 Ain't Grown."



James Johnson III, a single father, was on the panel for the "18 Ain't Grown" workshop.

The 12th Generation To Generation Conference at Scott United Methodist Church from Aug. 21-23 featured multiple panel discussions and workshops, including "18 Ain't Grown," which addressed some of the challenges parents face. The theme this year was "Rebuilding the Village." (Photos/Curtis Guynn)

SPIRITUAL OUTLOOK

Beware of those seeking a pat on the back! Disaster ahead!

By JAMES A. WASHINGTON JR.

My mother used to have a phrase when she was alive, usually referring to me and my attitude when I thought I had done something particularly noteworthy. She used it when describing somebody who started acting like they were better than someone else or basically felt their No. 2 didn't stink. She would say that person was simply "smellin' him or herself." I came to see it as fishing for a compliment.

The Bible says unless your deeds are done to glorify God rather than yourself, you're "smellin' yoself." I'm here to tell you it's at these times that one ought to be very careful because spiritually, you're entering deep water.

"Be careful not to do your acts of righteousness before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward in heaven." Matthew 6:1.

It appears that intent and motivation are the true indicators of a person's real character and ultimately how he or she is viewed by God. Doing the right thing for the wrong reasons gets you nothing, zilch, nada. I mean, supposedly, if you are trying to impress friends and family, or trying to receive honors from your fellow man for doing good deeds, you're smelling yourself and sorely in need of some Right Guard.

Doing what you know is right — forgiving your enemies, turning the other cheek, helping the less fortunate, speaking truth to power — these are the things that are supposed to be done so that others might see the deed(s) as glorifying the Almighty, not so that people will be impressed with you.

Even in prayer, the Bible says, "But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Your Father will reward you." Matthew 6:6.

Haven't we all been unimpressed with someone who appears to sincerely help us or help another person out of what appears to be the goodness of their heart, only to find them with their hands out to get theirs, or their backs turned so the world can pat them on it? God tells us in his own ways that if you do that, talk to the hand because the ears ain't listening.


Give because you want to and love because it's who you are. Anything else is a fraud and an affront to Jesus. "In the same way let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise the father in heaven." Matthew 5:16.

All of this points to being true to one's self, then talking the talk and walking the walk. The echo of mother's wit resonates in my mind as I try to remember exactly what mom was trying to teach me about myself.

Before I get too full of me, the real test just might be a good whiff of the fragrance underneath my arm. Nobody can pour anything into a full vessel. How you smellin' today?

May God bless and keep you always.

James A. Washington Jr. is co-publisher of the Dallas Weekly News.



Vincent Watkins, 56, passed away Tuesday August 18, 2020. On Tuesday, August 25, a Celebration of Life Service was held at Stuart Mortuary Chapel with Rev. Dr. Ricky McCray as the Officiate. He leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Tonya Watkins, sons, Courtney Murphy, Anthony D., and Vincente Akers, and William A. Brown, and mother Ethel McFarland.

Anthony "Juice" Watkins, 56, passed away Tuesday August 18, 2020. On Tuesday, August 25, a Celebration of Life Service was held at Stuart Mortuary Chapel with Rev. Dr. Ricky McCray as the Officiate. He leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Tonya Watkins, sons, Courtney Murphy, Anthony D., and Vincente Akers, and William A. Brown, and mother Ethel McFarland.

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Thurs. Family Living
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Fri. Victory Over Addictions
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Black-owned bookstores want action after influx in business

By CHEYANNE MUMPHREY
Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — A renewed focus on social justice in the wake of police killings of Breonna Taylor and George Floyd has seen sales soar at Black-owned bookstores around the country as customers seek out knowledge from their own communities.

The stores have always served as a community space for Black people to gather and educate themselves and their communities about their culture and history.

Sales increased exponentially after calls on social media in June encouraged people to spend their money at Black-owned businesses amid national tension.

Ali Nervis, the owner of Grassrootz Books and Juice Bar, Phoenix's only Black-owned bookstore, said in two days his store received 200 orders for books on race relations, more than all they had received since opening in September 2019.

"People have this sense to be educated on what is happening in the country and what led up to this point," Nervis said of protests and community tension in Phoenix. "We carry a lot of books about social commentary, history and books written by Black authors. I think that is part of the reason why we've seen a dramatic increase in our book sales."

Nervis has since caught up with an increase in sales and



has taken time to reflect on what is happening in society, like other Black leaders in the industry.

"It's wonderful that Black people are wanting to support Black people — it's not new, but support has expanded, interest has increased and more people have taken it on," said Paul Coates, owner of Black Classic Press, a Black-owned publishing and printing company based in Baltimore.

"I've seen increases in demand before. There was a bump during the Civil Rights Movement and during the Black Power Movement. People were searching for information. There was interest around the time Roots came

out too."

"Roots," written by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Alex Haley, became a wildly popular nine-hour miniseries that gripped the country in 1977. Haley based the epic tale on his own family history from his ancestors' enslavement though several generations to their liberation.

Black Classic Press has operated as a publisher for 42 years and has printed books for 25 years, Coates said, adding that he has seen books help power movements for decades.

Donya Craddock, co-owner of The Dock Bookshop in Fort Worth, Texas, said she could attest to the correlation.

"Every time we have a com-

munity crisis, the bookstore is a place for people to vent on," she said. "We have created a space for people to gather, and talk about their frustrations."

She has always seen parallels with what is going on in the community and in the bookstore because it energizes people. "People want to share their emotions, people are hurt, and everybody don't want to go to a bar believe it or not," she said.

Craddock opened The Dock Bookshop with her sister, Donna, in 2008. The store serves to educate people about Black history and culture through books, in-person events and other programs. It is one of the largest Black-owned book-

stores in the Southwest.

The owners not only want to educate their communities, but also encourage people to use what they learn to take action against systemic racism.

The owners of Turning Page Bookshop have said Goose Creek, South Carolina, does not have a large African American community, but they provide and serve surrounding communities, such as Charleston and Summerville since opening in June 2019.

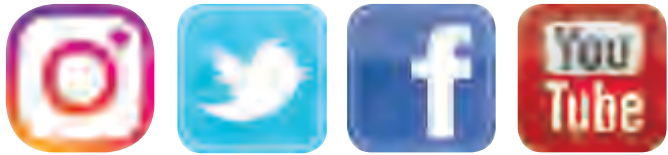
"From June 2 until about July 25 we received from 75 to 150 orders a day," said VaLinda Miller, who runs the store with her best friend Arrylee Satterfield.

She said some of the biggest sellers included "White Fragility," "Me and White Supremacy," and "How to Be an Antiracist."

Miller said she didn't want people to just buy the books because they were popular, but to help them understand how the system has made them the way they are. "I don't want you to stop learning after reading the book. I want you to take that book and go out and look for something else to listen to and learn from."

There has to be some action that follows the education, Nervis said, adding that he is not optimistic interest will last much longer. "That's why we continue to do what we do and ask for the support. Not just our bookstore, but everyone doing work in Black communities."

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INDIANAPOLIS RECORDER



Entrepreneurship education in the classroom leads to improved academic performance

Teaching children the impor-

This concept is something that I believe deeply in because I benefited from such teachings as a young boy. The education I received then helped to shape my life early on and has greatly influenced the man I am today.

Corps (AAAYC). The AAAYC is a mentoring program led by State Rep. Dr. Vernon G. Smith that teaches young Black males how to run a business. The program operated a retail store in the local mall and it was ran by us and for us. We were in charge of every aspect of the business. There was just one

I learned every aspect of the business. I used the knowledge and skills from AAAYC to create and launch my own candy business. While volunteering, I learned many skills like marketing, customer service, supply chain management and time management that I still use today. My mother, who spent over 30 years in public education, noticed how my grades and reading skills improved in school once I got exposed to entrepreneurship. A light went off for me! I was finally able to connect education to economics.

Through the Kenneth Allen Foundation for Entrepreneurship Inc., we have taught over 10,000 youth of color how to start their own business. Many of these young

Kenneth “Biznessman” Allen is a Baptist minister, entrepreneur and nonprofit leader. Follow him on Twitter @Kennethbizallen or email him allen4ips@gmail.com.

AutoReturn will be having an abandoned vehicle auction 09/03/20 at 12:00 PM. The auction will be held at 2451 S Belmont Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46221. Viewing begins at 10:00 AM. All vehicle release prices as of 08/20/20. The following vehicles will be sold:

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1830 TAO TAO OTHER
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1832 TAO TAO RAVA
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2001 TOYOTA 4 RUNN
2006 TOYOTA PRIUS
1822 TOYOTA CAMRY
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2012 VOLKSWAGENJETTA
2007 VOLKSWAGENJETTA
1999 VOLKSWAGENJETTA
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2004 VOLVO XC90
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SUMMONS

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION SS:
IN RE: MARION SUPERIOR
COURT
49D10-1002-MF-008660
LAKEVIEW LOAN
SERVICING
Plaintiff,
vs.
JANET MARIE KOHNE AND
UNKNOWN OCCUPANT
Defendants.
FB-2051
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the Court named above. The
nature of the suit against you
is: Foreclosure of real estate
mortgage loan.
Lot Numbered 48 in Valley
View Addition, An Addition to
the City of Indianapolis, as per
plat thereof, recorded in
Plat Book 21, page 141, in
the Office of the Recorder of
Marion County, Indiana.
This summons by publication
is specifically directed to the
following named defendant
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46034;
and to the following defendant
whose whereabouts is
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Janet Marie Kohne
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named defendants being
served by this summons,
there may be other
defendants who have an
interest in this lawsuit. If
you have a claim for relief
arising from the same transaction
or occurrence, you must assert
it in your written answer. You
must answer the Complaint
of the plaintiff, within thirty (30)
days after the third (30)
days after this Suit is published, and if
you fail to do so, a judgment
may be rendered against you for
what the plaintiff has
demanded.
MYCER BELANGER
By: /s/ Jennifer R. Fitzwater
JENNIFER R. FITZWATER,
Attorney for Plaintiff
Clerk of the Marion Superior Court
JENNIFER R. FITZWATER,
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Myla A. Eldridge, Clerk
08/28/20
09/02/20
09/04/20

SUMMONS

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION
IN RE: MARION SUPERIOR
COURT
COUNTY OF MARION
CIVIL DIVISION
CICELY WARREN,
Plaintiff,
vs.
TIMOTHY PRICE AND
AMERICAN FAMILY
INSURANCE.
CAUSE NO. 49D03-2003-CT-011806
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of lawful age and being first
duely sworn, states:
That he is the attorney in the
above entitled action.
That the names and
residences of all defendants
known to me are as follows:
That the names of all
known defendants whose
names are unknown to me
are as follows: TIMOTHY
PRICE, 3424 OXFORD ST,
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46218
That the affiant does not know
and with reasonable inquiry
cannot ascertain the residence
of those defendants, who are
or may be concerned with
the subject of this litigation,
and who he desires to serve
with process.
That this action is one of
those mentioned in Rule 4.4
of the Indiana Rules of Civil
Procedure.
Subscribed and sworn to
before me this 14th day of
August, 2020.
Myla A. Eldridge, Clerk
08/14/20
08/28/20
08/28/20

SUMMONS

ALIAS SUMMONS
SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MARION SS:
IN RE: MARION SUPERIOR
COURT
49D10-1912-CC-053708
JASPER TRUCK SALES
vs.
BLACK STAR
TRANSPORTATION GROUP, LLC,
AND STANLEY L. FRAZIER,
Defendant.
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Orchard Park,
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resides in the complaint
which is attached to this
Summons. It also states the
relief sought or the demand
made against you by the
Plaintiff.
If you answer or other
appropriate response in
writing to the complaint must
be filed either by you or
your attorney within twenty
(20) days. Commencing the
day after you receive this
Summons, or (twenty-three
(23) days if this Summons
was received by mail) or a
judgment by default may be
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Teaching children the importance of financial literacy and entrepreneurship is a K-12 experience we can give them a solid footing to navigate adulthood. This concept is so simple, I believe deeply in it. I learned from such teachers as my father. The education system helped to shape me, and I have greatly influenced my son today.

In 1996, at age 14, I started my first business, a candy store. My grandfather's gift of a candy store got me into the candy business. It was a lifelong dream of mine because I wanted to help my single mother. I often struggled to support her and my siblings. As a middle school student, I didn't know what an entrepreneur was until my mother enrolled me in the African American Young Entrepreneurs Corps (AAAYEC). This mentoring program was created by Rep. Dr. Vernon G. Riffe. It teaches young Black entrepreneurs to run a business. They started a retail store in my neighborhood and it was ran by us. We were in charge of everything in the business. There was a problem: This particular program was for middle school males. So I was 14 inches tall and 110 pounds, preparing to enter high school. I obviously was not a high schooler. He told me that deter me. I decided to help my mother. I volunteered my time to this program. That was the high school boys' program. I paid cash money, I worked hard labor. Though I was while in the program, I gained valuable knowledge. I learned every aspect of a business. I used the knowledge and skills from AAAYEC to launch my own business. While volunteering, I learned many skills like customer service, sales, management and time management that I still use today. I was who spent over 30 hours in education, noticed my reading skills improved in school once I got into entrepreneurship. A lightbulb moment! I was finally able to use my education to create a business. When children are taught skills that are relevant, they immediately become engaged because they want to make money. Instead of a global perspective, like entrepreneurs, financial literacy are missing from our public schools. We know that when we can connect what we learn in the classroom to the legitimate dollar in their pocket, they will sit up and listen. Through the Kenyon Foundation for Entrepreneurship, we have taught thousands of youth of color how to start their own business. Many people are still in need, just like my mother. Any academic improvement organization has a goal: to help children improve their academic performance. Entrepreneurship is the panacea for the needs of our youth of color in the classroom but it is not enough. We need to help improve academic performance. Additionally, many of our youth desire or need to go to college, so we must provide alternative paths for young people. Most people hear the phrase, "You can't eat a fish without catching it," but if you teach a person a fish they will eat for a day. If you teach a person to fish, they will eat for a lifetime. Entrepreneurship in schools is the best way to improve the quality of a child's life.

Kenneth "Bizness" Allen, a Baptist minister and nonprofit leader, can be reached on Twitter @KennethAllen4 or email him allen44@gmail.com.

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Sato wins 2020 Indy 500 with no fans



The U.S. Air Force did a flyover with its famous planes, the Thunderbirds, before the race.



Rookie driver Alex Palou hits the wall on Turn 1. (Photos/Walt Thomas)



Takuma Sato, from Japan, wins the 2020 Indianapolis 500. Sato also won the 500 in 2017. His average speed was 157.824 miles per hour and he completed the race in 3:10:05.

Empty seats watch thrilling Indy 500, spectacular wrecks

By DAVE SKRETTA
AP Sports Writer

The only drawback that Takuma Sato could find in winning the Indianapolis 500 was the absence of fans.

The coronavirus pandemic that forced the race to be delayed from its typical Memorial Day weekend date also caused it to be run without fans for the first time in 104 editions. It created an eerie scene as Sato took the checkered flag under caution with runner-up Scott Dixon and teammate Graham Rahal flanking him along with thousands of empty seats.

“Of course we missed the fans. We’re just so fortunate to perform as a sport so that millions of people watching on TV at home could have some energy,” Sato said. “I’m very glad to be part of that.”

His team owner, Bobby Rahal, admitted that it was a bit strange driving into Indianapolis Motor Speedway without the typical gridlock on the nearby roads. But the 1986 race winner also said that he was so focused on what was shaping up to be a thrilling duel between Sato and Dixon to even notice the complete lack of crowd noise.

“In all seriousness, we’ve said this time and time again, it’s eerie. It’s weird. Nobody likes it,” Rahal said. “I hope our fans who watched it on TV really enjoyed the race. I know it’s not the same thing as being there but I think everybody understands the situation that exists and we have to make the most of it.”

The speedway, now owned by Roger Penske, tried to make it up to fans throughout the week. Drivers delivered gifts to some longtime ticket-holders, and there was a special flyover by the Air Force’s famed Thunderbirds.

DEMOLITION DERBY

There were plenty of wrecks during the race. James Davison brought out the first caution when he hit the wall and his car caught fire. Dalton Kellett hit the wall hard a bit later and, when the race went green, Conor Daly and Oliver Askew were involved in a heavy crash. Alexander Rossi hit the wall late in the race after a penalty.

The biggest wreck, though, involved Spencer Pigot. He slapped the outside wall in the closing laps to bring out the caution that effectively ended the race, then slid back

across the track and hammered the safety tires guarding the entrance to pit road. His car finally came to a rest with debris thrown all over the front stretch.

Pigot was taken to IU Health Methodist Hospital but was alert and expected to be fine.

“He hit a ton,” Bobby Rahal said. “Seems OK, but that was my first concern.”

ROSSI RUES THE PITS

The winner of the 100th edition of the Indy 500, Alexander Rossi was jockeying for the lead with Dixon through the middle stages of the race when a couple of miscues on pit road cost him dearly.

On the first, some radio miscommunication caused him to get the signal late to enter the pits, and Rossi wound up losing speed and missing pit road that lap. On the second, Rossi was let go from his stop by a crew member and wound up bumping into Sato as they exited the pits, and stewards penalized him to the back of the pack.

“We were never planning on being that far back,” Rossi said. “I thought we had the car to win. I don’t even want to talk about the penalty right now. I’m going to have a long conversation with somebody about that.”

ROOKIE REWARDS

The top finishing rookie was Pato O’Ward, who wound up sixth and trailed only fifth-place finisher Josef Newgarden as the top Chevy in the field. O’Ward failed to qualify last year, started 15th this year and steered clear of trouble all day.

“I mean, honestly, last year never really brought down my confidence,” he said. “This year I had a very capable car, a car that deserved to be in the show, deserved to be up front, and I was just doing what I am paid to do.”

Other rookies weren’t as fortunate. Rinus VeeKay had some pit problems that left him a lap down, and Kellett and Askew were joined by Alex Palou in crashing out of their Indianapolis 500 debuts.

“It’s awesome. I had lots of fun,” Palou said after leaving the infield care center. “At the beginning my time was not so good, and I started to gain confidence, and I had lots of fun. I’m sad now, but hopefully it will be better.”



Brownsburg drops Ben Davis in opener

Ben Davis dropped the 2020 season opener to Brownsburg, 38-7, on Aug. 21 at home. The Giants trailed 31-0 at halftime and finished with only 141 yards of offense compared to Brownsburg’s 335. Ben Davis scored its lone touchdown in the fourth quarter.

Above: Ben Davis junior quarterback J’uan Swanson (15) was under constant pressure from Brownsburg’s defense. He finished with 51 passing yards, two interceptions and a touchdown. (Photos/Tyler Fenwick)



Fans at Ben Davis were supposed to practice social distancing while in the stands. Capacity at football games in Marion County is capped at 1,000 people or 25%, whichever is lower.



Brownsburg junior wide receiver Dylan Hollen (81) is wide open for a 32-yard touchdown on fourth down in the second quarter.



Brownburg sophomore Alijah Ballance (5) stands on the sidelines with his face mask on. Players are supposed to spread out and wear a face mask when they aren’t playing.