

Police shooting of Dreasjon Reed brought protests, but no charges

By TYLER FENWICK
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Indianapolis found itself in the middle of a country-wide reckoning with racism and police violence in May when Dreasjon Reed livestreamed his car chase with police and the moment an officer shot and killed him. It took six months to piece together what happened May 6, and Reed's shaky Facebook Live video — which didn't get the shooting in frame — was the only widely available piece of evidence for much of that time. The night Reed was killed, police said he was driving recklessly on I-65 around 6 p.m., which is when two Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department officers — one of whom was Chief Randal Taylor — pursued him in unmarked cars. Police said supervisors from the Northwest District called off the pursuit near 56th Street and Lafayette Road 10 minutes later because the driver was being too reckless to safely chase. An officer, later identified as De Joure Mercer, saw Reed park his car behind a business at the corner of North Michigan Road and East 62nd Street and chased Reed on foot.

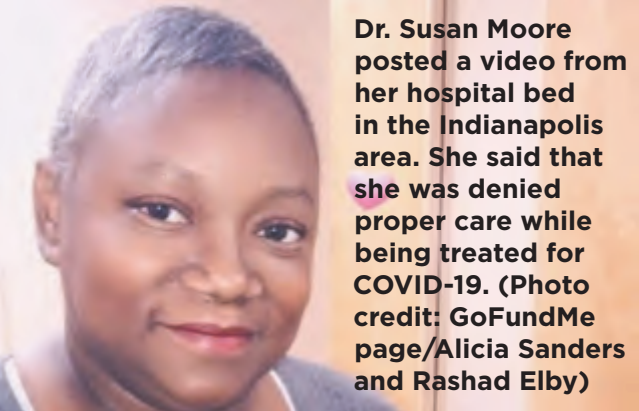


Then came the most disputed part of the incident: Police said Reed fired at Mercer, who returned shots and killed Reed. A crowd of people quickly gathered near where the shooting happened. "They tryna kill us," Ron Gee, from Indy Cease Fire, yelled into a megaphone at the scene, "and they don't want us to do nothin' about it." Adding to people's anger was another officer, later identified as Steven Scott, who was heard on the Facebook Live video saying, "I think it's going to be a closed casket, homie," after Reed was shot. Plus, shortly after Reed was killed, IMPD officers also shot and killed 19-year-old McHale Rose. Police said Rose lured and tried to ambush them, and they returned fire. Reed's mother, Demetree Wynn, and the family's attorneys spoke regularly at press

See REED, A4▶

Organizer Mat Davis leads a group of protesters at Monument Circle on Sept. 23. (Photos/Tyler Fenwick)

Doctor's video alleges bias in COVID care — just before she dies



Dr. Susan Moore posted a video from her hospital bed in the Indianapolis area. She said that she was denied proper care while being treated for COVID-19. (Photo credit: GoFundMe page/Alicia Sanders and Rashad Elby)

By DARIAN BENSON, CARTER BARRETT
AND HILARY POWELL
Side Effects Public Media

On Dec. 4, Dr. Susan Moore posted a video from her hospital bed in the Indianapolis area. Short of breath and with an oxygen tube in her nose, she said that she was denied proper care while being treated for COVID-19.

See DOCTOR, A6▶

IU Health CEO requests external review of Dr. Susan Moore's treatment

By STAFF

IU Health CEO Dennis Murphy requested an external review of the case of Dr. Susan Moore, who accused the health care provider of racism before she died of complications from COVID-19.

See IU, A6▶



Early voters wait in a long line outside of the City-County Building on Oct. 16. (Recorder file photo)

Elections brought record voter turnout

By BREANNA COOPER
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In 2020 fashion, election night — and the days leading up to it — were anything but ordinary. COVID-19 fears led many Hoosiers to vote early, as no-excuse absentee voting was not an option during the general election in Indiana.

See ELECTION, A9▶

Racism declared a public health crisis

By BREANNA COOPER
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Following months of protests related to police brutality and systemic racism, the Indianapolis City-County Council passed a special resolution in June declaring racism a public health crisis in Marion County. Co-sponsored by President Vop Osili, the council unanimously passed Proposal 182 on June 8. The proposal described racism as a "barrier to health equity" throughout the country, citing inequities in employment, housing, health care and food access, as well as links between school funding and tax revenue that historically put children of color at a disadvantage in education. Dr. Virginia Caine, director of the Marion County Public Health Department, said one in four Black children have been exposed to violence and called the declaration a first step in addressing the issues systemic racism causes in Indianapolis. However, she urged the council at the time to come back with more concrete recommendations to help the issue, comparing the proposal to prescribing aspirin for a brain tumor. When the council passed the special resolution, Osili was optimistic that it would allow the city to undo past injustices by examining data from all city and county departments. Various organizations, such



as school boards and businesses, can make pledges to promote diversity and inclusion. "We don't like to talk about things that are uncomfortable," Osili said in June. "But, the needle won't move unless we have those uncomfortable discussions and make changes that reverse, as much as possible, negative impacts of decisions we've made historically." Several businesses, including Citizens Energy Group and Fever Basketball Operations, took action in October, when a group of companies signed the Indy Racial Equity Pledge, which is a promise to fund change in areas such as health prosperity, education and criminal justice. The pledge was established, in part, by Eli Lilly. "This is more than just a statement just saying equity is important," said Tiffany Benjamin, senior director of corporate responsibility at Eli Lilly and president of the Lilly Foundation. "It's about meaningful action." Indianapolis became one of more than 20 cities throughout the country to formally de-

See RACISM, A9▶

A protester stands in the parking lot of Lafayette Square Mall on Nov. 11. (Photo/Tyler Fenwick)

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Viola Davis in “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom.” (Photo provided)

By DWIGHT BROWN
NNPA Film Critic

2020 kept us on our toes. Adapting became a way of life — especially for films and their fans. Part of the adjustment movie lovers had to make was viewing films on video on demand and streaming services while only a few enthusiasts ventured out to near-empty theaters.

Within that context, here’s a look at the best and the brightest in films, no matter where you saw them.

Enjoy.

The Closet (***) — Bless the demon children in this atypical genre film. Better yet bless the young actresses (Yool Heo and Si-ah Kim) who play them for crying and screaming like they’d just been told there’s no Santa Claus. Korean director Kwang-bin Kim gives this cautionary tale about abused and neglected kids at home in a horror movie that beats out all the other contenders (and there were many) that graced fright screens this year.

Hamilton (****) — Broadway is not dead. It’s moved to Disney+. This stirring film adaptation of Lin-Manuel Miranda’s signature theater piece reveals why so many think he is an artistic genius. He is. That’s evident in the very original premise, historic characters, vibrant storylines, catchy songs and enlightening dialogue. Daveed Diggs’ fiery performance, Leslie Odom’s smooth vocals, Renée Elise Goldsberry’s dignity, Anthony Ramos’ innocence and Miranda’s intelligence shine bright like they’re under a center stage spotlight.

Lingua Franca (***/2) — This story has never been told before, communicated in this way or created by such an astute and perceptive writer/director/actor like Isabel Sandoval. Olivia (Sandoval), a trans woman from the Philippines, is a paid, live-in caregiver for Olga (Lynn Cohen), an elderly Russian in Brighton Beach, Brooklyn. She’s overstayed her visa, is terrified ICE will deport her and eyes an iffy solution: a marriage of convenience to Olga’s grandson, Alex (Eamon Farren), an ex-jailbird/drug addict. Part perilous immigrant nightmare, part awkward love story and always fully compelling.

Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom (***/2) — The spirit of playwright August Wilson lives on in his American Century Cycle series of plays. This one gets a special lift from the strongest ensemble acting of the year. Ma (Viola Davis)

comes to Chicago to record an album. The tough-as-nails blues singer and her band (Chadwick Boseman, Colman Domingo, Glynn Turman, Michael Potts) are having “creative” issues. Superb drama and electrifying performances from all.

Minari (***) — The U.S. is a mosaic of various cultures, mixing together all over the land. Case in point: A Korean family moves to Arkansas in the ‘80s to start a farm — with no previous experience. They’re getting their hands dirty and playing out the American dream. The premise, by writer/director Lee Isaac Chung, plays out with surprisingly little culture clash but lots of friction between a pipe dream-loving husband, Jacob (Steven Yeun, Sorry to Bother You), his pragmatic wife, Monica (Yeri Han), and a doting grandmother, Soonja (Yuh-jung Youn).

Never Rarely Sometimes Always (****) — This is an odyssey no adolescent wants to go on, but if necessary, it would likely play out like this. Writer/director Eliza Hittman (Beach Rats) sensitively fathoms and realistically examines the journey of a teenage girl, Autumn (brilliantly played by Sidney Flanigan), who finds out she is pregnant, late. She’s making the biggest decision of her life on a trip from rural Pennsylvania to the mean streets of Times Square. Hittman’s invasive filmmaking takes you through every aspect of the kid’s tough decisions.

The Outpost (***/2) — It was somewhere between a call of duty and a suicide mission. A small unit of U.S. soldiers cornered and outnumbered at a combat outpost in Afghanistan. This retelling of the Battle of Kamdesh, the bloodiest American engagement of the Afghan War, scrapes the sheen off war. It’s a true-life story, masterfully directed by Rod Lurie, who instinctively captures the danger, risks and moments of desperation and humanity of the event.

Small Axe: Lovers Rock/Mangrove/Red, White and Blue (****) — Grouping these three films, which are part of a five-part series, into one “Best Film” entry is an adjustment worth making. Their focus is on West Indian life in England from the ‘60s to the ‘80s. Director extraordinaire Steve McQueen helms them and co-wrote all. “Lovers Rock” is a party, “Mangrove” is a courtroom drama, and “Red, White and Blue” is about reforming the police.

SPOTLIGHT



By BREANNA COOPER
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In a year shrouded in darkness, Indianapolis artists used their talents to revitalize the city.

Following the May death of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police officers, protests erupted around the country, including Indianapolis. Artists paired with local business owners to create racial justice murals following a weekend of protests in May.

A group of 28 Black artists worked with the Arts Council of Indianapolis to paint the boards that covered Indianapolis businesses with messages of support for Black Lives Matter. Artist Shade Bell spent roughly three days over the summer painting “Rejoice” outside of Homespun on Massachusetts Avenue. The painting depicts a group of Black people standing underneath a wide sun.

“I wanted to make the painting something that you’ll have to look at and to feel and reflect on the current state of the world at the moment,” Bell said in June. “My message? Black lives matter. You matter. Be unapologetically yourself.”

The paintings remained on business walls for a few weeks before they were taken down and placed in various spots around the city.

Artists joined together again later in the summer to create a mural reading “Black Lives Matter” outside of the Indianapolis Urban League and Madam Walker Theater. In total, 18 Black artists worked together to create the

mural, which was made possible by a resolution from the city-county council. The resolution said the creation of the mural was a way to “convey a message condemning racism and inequality.”

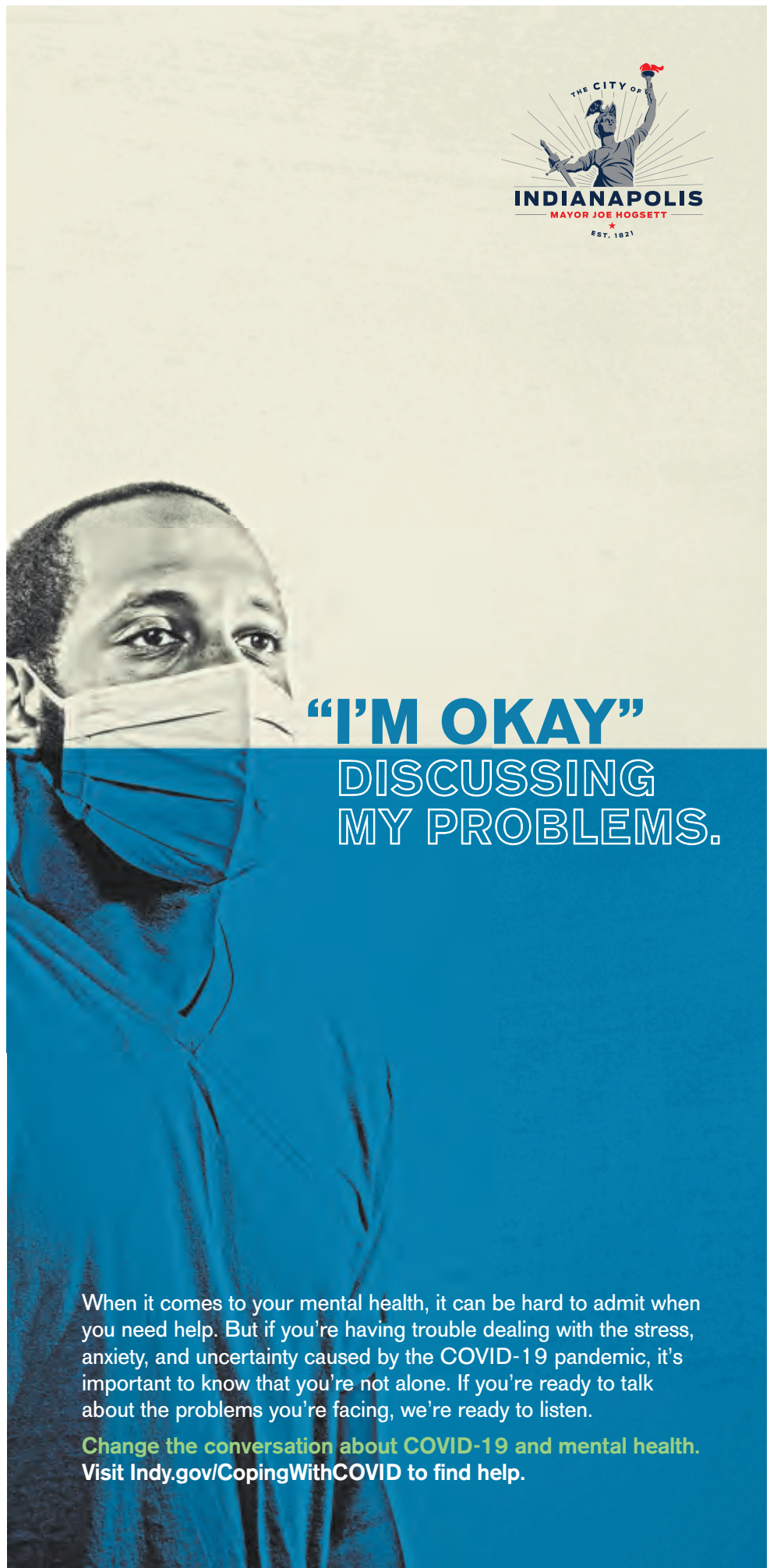
Harriet Watson, 25, was tasked with creating the “A” in “Matters.” Each artist was allowed to put their own spin on the letter they were assigned. Watson was inspired by Faith Ringgold’s protest art “The Flag is Bleeding” and said she pulled from other Black artists and her own experiences as a Black woman to create her part of the mural.

“Because I’m a Black person, I just feel greatly about the brutality that’s going on,” Watson told the Recorder in August. “I felt the need to participate. I’m not usually an artist who does Black identity-based work, so I definitely looked for inspiration from Black artists who were involved in revolutionary projects.”

The mural was defaced with white paint a few days after it was completed. Despite the setback, the artists got together to fix the mural, and the road was blocked off to cars for several weeks so pedestrians could see the artwork up close.

“It’s a huge honor, and I’m really proud to be a part of it,” Watson said. “It’s a really great message, and I hope it sticks. I just feel so grateful to be a part of spreading that message.”

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REED
► Continued from A1

conferences, including after the coroner released Reed’s body about a month after he was killed.

“They couldn’t fix his face,” Wynn said through tears near a makeshift memorial where Reed was killed. “They tried. He had one eyebrow that was almost at his nose and the other was on his forehead. That’s how much damage was done to his face alone.”

Marion County Prosecutor Ryan Mears quickly requested a special prosecutor, but it took nearly a month for the Marion County Superior Court to appoint Rosemary Khoury, a deputy prosecutor in Madison County.

Khoury requested a grand jury in August, and the grand jury delivered its decision — no charges against Mercer — on Nov. 10.

“No one wins here,” Khoury said at the announcement.

It’s rare for the public to see a significant amount of evidence from a grand jury case, but Indiana State Police presented its evidence, including that Reed’s gun was fired twice. State police also showed a slow-motion clip from Reed’s Facebook video, which shows two bullet shell casings cross each other, suggesting shots came from both directions.

The evidence state police presented, along with anything IMPD said, never meant much to those who already didn’t trust police because of their history of violence against Black and poor people.

“They gonna always say we got a gun,” Terrance Hood, CEO of HOOD2HOOD, said at a protest outside of the City-County Building the day after Reed was killed.

People gathered at the corner of North Michigan Road and 62nd Street multiple days to stop traffic and mourn at the memorial, but widespread protests in Indianapolis



Kwame Shakur, deputy chairman of the New African Black Panther Party, leads chants at a protest May 7 at the corner of North Michigan Road and East 62nd Street.

didn’t pick up until May 29, the Friday following George Floyd’s death in Minneapolis.

Police used tear gas against protesters downtown, which turned into a chaotic scene at night with looting and violence. Two people were killed May 30 amid the disarray.

Mayor Joe Hogsett instituted a curfew during the weekend, and police used tear gas again when people wouldn’t go home.

For many in Indianapolis, protests during the summer offered a chance to get involved with a movement that took hold in most of the country.

“I’ve been excited,” Timothy Parker Bay told the Recorder May 29 at a protest on 38th Street. “I’ve been running from my destiny my whole life. God wants me to do something. My prayer’s been answered.”

NiSean Jones, who formed the group Black Out for Black Lives after attending protests, talked to the Recorder about how many of the people at protests were young adults in their late teens and 20s.

“In our lives, we’ve witnessed horrific events that have happened between Black people and police, where George Zimmerman walked off scot-free, and those injustices we’re seeing are only magnified due to social media,” Jones told the Recorder in July. “... So, our generation knows what’s morally wrong, and we’re trying to change those things.”

Those who attended and organized protests usually had a list of demands for the city and police department. Some of the demands — such as “tell the truth” — were based on beliefs about what happened to Reed and Rose, but other demands included concrete steps toward transparency and accountability.

There is a new Use of Force Review Board, which doesn’t have the authority to recommend punishment but can advise the chief on whether an officer’s use of force was in line with department policy. Discussion about the board, which has a civilian majority, started in 2017 but got renewed attention because of protests.

IMPD updated its use-of-force policy, which now starts with an emphasis on de-escalation and prohibits chokeholds and other methods that restrict breathing or circulation.

The Indianapolis City-County Council also passed an ordinance to create the IMPD General Orders Board, which has a civilian majority and sets department policy. The board replaced the General Orders Committee, which only had three members from law enforcement.

One demand not met: defund the police. The city’s 2021 budget includes about \$261 million for IMPD, a \$7.3 million increase from 2020.

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Health officials address COVID-19 vaccine concerns

By BREANNA COOPER
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Centuries of medical mistreatment and trauma have left many African Americans and other minority populations hesitant to get vaccinations. This poses a significant issue in the fight against COVID-19, as public health officials urge Americans to get vaccinated as soon as doses become available to everyone.

In a webinar Dec. 22, Dr. Virginia Caine, director of the Marion County Public Health Department, and Dr. Lindsay Weaver, chief medical officer for the Indiana State Department of Health, explained the side effects of two COVID-19 vaccinations — from Pfizer and Moderna — and what the vaccine rollout will look like after health care workers are vaccinated.

Caine began her presentation discussing the Tuskegee experiment, which started in 1932 and prevented Black men from getting adequate treatment for syphilis. This experiment, along with many other historical examples, furthered the mistrust of medical professionals in the Black community, which still has fatal consequences today.

According to the World Health Organization, roughly 40% of African Americans get a flu shot every year as opposed to 50% of white Americans, resulting in the deaths of tens of thousands of Black and brown Americans.

According to the Pew Research Center, only 42% of Black Americans plan on taking the COVID-19 vaccine once it becomes available.

“The Tuskegee experiment changed everything about research,” Caine said. “Now, we have institutional review boards, ethics boards that makes sure

all of the research is ethical, and patients have to give consent before any treatment. These were put into place to make sure Tuskegee never happened again.”

Caine used her time to explain what the COVID-19 vaccination is and to reiterate that patients do not get a live virus when they are vaccinated. Instead, the two-dose vaccine is messenger RNA that sparks an immune response.

According to Caine, side effects from either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine include pain at the injection site, fatigue, chills, fever and headaches. A small number of people have experienced Bell’s Palsy and anaphylactic shock.

Of the 30,000 people tested in clinical trials, Caine said only three developed Bell’s Palsy, which is a similar ratio of a normal population with or without a vaccine. As for anaphylactic shock, those with a history of allergic reactions are told to consult with their primary care physician before getting vaccinated. The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System is used to track side effects from vaccines.

Weaver’s presentation focused on Indiana’s rollout plan for the vaccine once more doses become available. Currently, only frontline health care workers, along with nursing home staff and patients, are eligible to be vaccinated. Weaver said the next two groups to be eligible will be people older than 75 — to decrease the state’s mortality rate — and essential workers to decrease harm to the local economy.

Currently, only those 18 and older are eligible for the Pfizer vaccine, and the Moderna vaccine is available for those 12 and older. Trials with younger children are in the beginning stages, and COVID-19 vaccines are not currently recommended for chil-

dren.

United States Surgeon General Jerome Adams, who previously served as Indiana State Commissioner of Health, addressed the webinar from St. Anthony Hospital in Chicago, where the intensive care unit is full. Every patient and worker in intensive care, Adams said, are people of color.

“It’s important for me to be in a place like this,” Adams said. “Way back in February, I was talking to folks at the NAACP and raising alarms about the potential this virus had to wreak havoc on minority communities. I knew diseases that impact all Americans almost always disproportionately affect people of color.”

Adams, who has worked with Dr. Anthony Fauci on the national COVID-19 task force and was vaccinated alongside Vice President Mike Pence on Dec. 18, said he’s worked to address “preexisting social conditions,” such as housing, access to health care and jobs and transportation, while on the task force. He said addressing these issues can mitigate health issues such as hypertension and diabetes, which disproportionately affect African Americans. Both of these illnesses increase the chance of death from COVID-19.

“The finish line is just around the corner,” Adams said. “But we can’t stop running. ... I got my vaccine to protect myself as a health care worker, and as a husband of a wife who is battling cancer. If you don’t get vaccinated for yourself, realize you’re doing it for those around you.”

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



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Families spent 2020 navigating abrupt changes in education

By TYLER FENWICK
tylerf@indyrecorder.com

Many of the families whose children attend K-12 schools in Marion County had only a little more than 12 hours of formal notice that schools would begin closing because of COVID-19.

Mayor Joe Hogsett announced March 12 all public schools would be closed the next day. That included all 11 school districts — which serve about 140,000 students — and public charter schools. The county asked all other schools to be closed by the next Monday.

It was the kind of sudden and abra-sive change that become common in March and April. It wasn't until the next day, March 13, that the state health department confirmed a second COVID-19 case in Marion County.

Students and families scrambled to figure out plans while school districts turned their focus to e-learning.

“Our balance is a little askew at this point,” Shani Warren, whose son was in sixth grade, told the Recorder a few days after the announcement. Warren was also taking care of her nephew during the day while his mother was at work. “Now we’re having to make sure that we are adjusting the sched-ule so that our son can do his e-learn-ing as well as being able to kind of bal-ance the children. This is a challenge.”

Colleges and universities closed residential housing to most students and were in the process of figuring out plans for commencement ceremonies. There were many unknowns for stu-dents, except that, in most cases, they couldn't be on campus.

“I don't know what's gonna hap-pen now,” Butler University student Chinyelu Mwaafrika told the Recorder. “I don't know what comes next in terms of me and my education.”

One of the most immediate concerns was how students would handle a shift to e-learning, especially considering how many students didn't have reli-



Staff at J.W. Riley School 43 prepare laptops for students to use for home learning. (Photo/J.W. Riley School 43 Twitter)

able internet access or a device they could use for virtual learning.

School employees gathered the technology they had available — most-ly Chromebooks and iPads — and districts ordered Wi-Fi hotspots for families.

Indianapolis Public Schools, for example, only had one Chromebook for every three students when schools went virtual. Resources such as the IPS Education Equity Fund and e-learning sites have helped fill the gaps, and IPS has since gotten to a one-to-one ratio for devices and students.

“A number of our students will expe-rience the brunt of this crisis because of the ZIP code they happen to live in,” IPS Superintendent Aleesia Johnson said in April, “because they happen to live in a food desert, because they happen to live in a place where there is inequitable access to the internet, because they happen to live in a place where there is housing instability or a lack of quick and easy access to health care.”

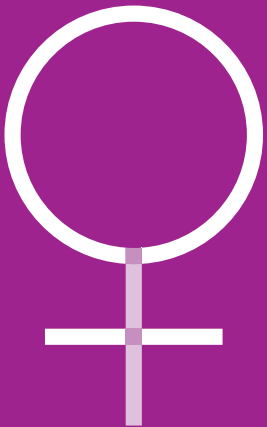
When schools returned to in-person learning in October, parents had the option to keep student home for e-learning, and the transition was slow and limited. Even then, it seemed

likely there would be another return to virtual learning, which is what hap-pened in mid-November.

Marion County students are now in a similar place as they were when this started in March. The county health department has said students can start returning to in-person learning as early as Jan. 4, but district officials are hesitant to go back that soon.

Families are back in the familiar spot of waiting for answers.

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



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Ascension
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DOCTOR

► Continued from A1

Less than three weeks later, she died from the virus.

Moore, a Black physician based in an Indianapolis suburb, says she was denied some Remdesivir — an antiviral drug used to treat COVID-19 — and pain medication by a doctor at IU Health North. And she says the white, male doctor tried to send her home prematurely.

“I was crushed,” Moore says in the nearly eight-minute video, “[the doctor] made me feel like I was a drug addict, and he knew I was a physician.”

She goes on to say, “I put forth and I maintain, if I was white I wouldn’t have to go through that.”

That video — with its allegations of racial insensitivity — have sparked an outcry on social media. Some commenters — including doctors — say the allegations reflect long-standing structural racism within the medical profession.

IU Health said in a statement that due to privacy concerns, it cannot “comment on a specific patient, their medical history or conditions. As an organization committed to equity and reducing racial disparities in healthcare, we take accusations of discrimination very seriously and investigate every allegation.

“Treatment options are often agreed upon and reviewed by medical experts from a variety of specialties, and we stand by the commitment and expertise of our caregivers and the quality of care delivered to our patients every day.”

Moore’s Facebook posts say that eventually, more scans were ordered, and they showed a progression of the virus. They also say she contacted a patient advocate and the IU Health’s chief medical officer to complain about her treatment.

The posts say she improved at IU Health North and returned home for a short time. But her symptoms worsened and she went to a different hospital. Her last update said she was being transferred to the ICU.

Tony Gillespie of the Indiana Minority Health Coalition says watching Moore’s video reminded him of what people of color face in America’s medical system.

“Health disparities and institutional racism is not new,” he says. “And my heart goes out to Dr. Moore’s family. But what I just found just incredibly compelling and incredibly sad is that

she still had the state of mind to do a video documentation of what her experiences were. And as I listen to her, I know what has happened to countless men and women of color across this country.”

Research shows that Black Americans are disproportionately affected by COVID-19. They are more likely to experience severe complications and die from the disease — partly because they are overrepresented in frontline jobs.

Gillespie says systemic racism in the medical community has led to misinformation and myths — for example, that Black people can withstand high amounts of pain. As a result, he says patients often have to over-advocate for themselves in the exam room.

“As minorities, people of color, we know that when we walk in the door, we have to be prepared to explain ourselves,” he says. “We have to be prepared to say to the clinician, ‘These are my symptoms, I’ve done my own research, this is what I’d like to happen,’ or ‘I like these medications.’”

Many health systems across the U.S. have been wrestling with the issue of racism.

In October, IU Health joined two other Central Indiana health systems in pledging to do more to end health disparities and inequity. Among their goals was reducing discrimination among staff and patients, and improving “the equity of care by regularly measuring, monitoring and improving the care provided to underserved populations.”

One IU Health physician says Moore’s video did not come as a surprise, and her organization is not immune to issues of discrimination.

“I do know that there are issues at IU Health, and within the city in general, where Black and brown patients have expressed to me personally, their frustration at how they feel that their voices are not being heard,” says the doctor, who did not want to be identified because she is concerned about retribution at work. “I would say that I’ve definitely witnessed firsthand my patients and their families experiencing bias.”

She was not involved in Moore’s case, so she has no insight into the details of her medical history or care. “Whether treatment protocols were not followed,

I can’t say, because I don’t know all of the data, all the things that happened. I think the step that was missed here that is most glaring is compassionate care.”

She says IU Health has taken steps in recent years to address racism, but there’s a lot of room to grow.

Dr. Linda Burke, a board-certified OB-GYN from Orlando, knew Moore through a social media group of Black female doctors. They also belonged to the same sorority, Delta Sigma Theta.

Burke took to Twitter to express concern after seeing her “soror,” or sorority sister, in pain.

“My poor soror,” she said later in a phone interview. “This is where Black people get harmed.”

Burke says she has witnessed “racist” interactions between patients and health care workers throughout her career, such as when she became the first Black female physician at the health department in Osceola County, Florida. She says structural racism in medicine is so pervasive, she won’t mince words on the subject.

“White male physicians get away with murder, because the good ole’ boy system still exists in medicine,” Burke says.

She says the pandemic has compounded the problem of calling out racism in medicine. Social distancing measures have restricted visits from family members who can serve as watchdogs and advocates.

Dr. Burke recommends that patients never enter a hospital setting alone, and ask immediately about their options for a patient advocate or the hierarchy of accountability.

“As a patient who does not have an MD behind his or her name, I would strongly recommend going to the nursing director,” she says. “If you don’t get satisfaction from the nursing director, then the next step would be the chief medical officer.

“And if you don’t receive adequate satisfaction from the chief medical officer, then you attempt to talk to the CEO, but you do exactly what Dr. Moore did. You record it. She left us a very powerful message. And that was, ‘This is why Black people get killed.’”

This story was produced by Side Effects Public Media, a news collaborative covering public health.

IU

► Continued from A1

“Like many others, I have watched the video of Dr. Susan Moore that she posted from her bed at our hospital,” Murphy wrote in a statement Dec. 24. “I am deeply saddened by her death. ... I am even more saddened by the experience she described in the video. It hurt me personally to see a patient reach out via social media because they felt their care was inadequate and their personal needs were not being heard.”

Murphy said the review will be conducted by a diverse panel of health care and diversity experts to understand “not only the technical aspects of care, but also the more humanistic elements of the patient experience.”

There is no timeline for the review.

“We know the work before us and will continue to seek regular improvements to what has been a long-standing societal issue,” Murphy said. “We will focus on enhancing a culture of inclusion that seeks, welcomes and values all people.”

Moore, a physician, was at IU Health North because of complications from COVID-19 in early December. She posted a video to her Facebook page Dec. 4 alleging she was treated “like a drug addict” by a white doctor when she asked for pain medication. Moore said she was told to go home when she asked to be transferred to another hospital.

She eventually went to another hospital when her fever and heart rate spiked. Moore, 52, died Dec. 20 at Ascension St. Vincent Hospital in Carmel.

“I put forth and I maintain if I was white, I wouldn’t have to go through that,” Moore said of her treatment at IU Health North.

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God, grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change
and courage to change the things I can.

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Indiana Black Expo and Indianapolis Recorder Media Group escalate partnership to advance community building in 2021

Two of the most formidable African-American cornerstones in the nation — The Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper and Indiana Black Expo, Inc. — are teaming to drive a strategic coalition of key stakeholders for social and economic change.

Heightened focus on justice and equity issues reached unprecedented levels of global consciousness in 2020 but, in fact, has been woven into the fabric of The Recorder and IBE since their inception — 125 and 50 years ago, respectively.

Commitment to uplift and sustain first-class citizenship and quality of life for people of color constitutes the foundation on which one of the nation’s oldest Black newspapers and one of the most successful Black organizations were founded.

IBE President & CEO Tanya Mckinzie said the two entities collaborated during this pandemic year to provide tools and resources to help 1,200 Indiana small businesses stay afloat during the most challenging economic climate in decades.

Pointing to the effective collaboration in 2020, Mckinzie noted, “Unimaginable adversity intensified the need to help put the Black economic sector in the best possible position to prepare for and deal with unforeseen situations.

“IBE and the Indianapolis Recorder enjoy a rich tradition of teaming together for a common cause. Our goal moving forward is to combine efforts of like-minded organizations in becoming more strategic in such planning and implementations.”

Indiana Recorder Media Group President & CEO Robert Shegog says elevation of the longstanding partnership with IBE is both critical and timely. Evolving challenges require fresh, effective and sustainable community empowerment strategies.

“Discrimination and racism affect all parts of Black lives, personally and collectively, including where people live, education, types of jobs, access to health care, insurance coverage, and a host of other factors,” Shegog remarks.

“Public health crises like the

COVID-19 pandemic magnify this impact and highlight disproportionately negative effects on Black communities. The Indianapolis’ Black community has been resilient and persevered through a tough 2020.”

Shegog added, “It is imperative that local Black Legacy Organizations like Indianapolis Recorder and IBE set the tone for our community on the importance of collaboration and unity as we embark on the journey ahead to develop the infrastructure and systems needed to ensure that the Black Community in Indianapolis never goes through another year like 2020.”

Meaningful innovations evolved in the midst of COVID. While businesses lamented disappointing profits in the throes of the pandemic, IBE launched the IBX Series designed to support millennial-led enterprises in the Indianapolis Metropolitan Area.

The culminating IBX Power Pitch Competition teamed IBE with The Recorder, and InnoPower to enable 15 entrepreneurs to vie for \$9,000 in cash prizes. The Indianapolis Recorder Facebook live-streamed the contest.

This is an example of creative thinking needed for evolving challenges, say Mckinzie and Shegog who hope their organizations will facilitate community dialogue to strengthen foundations, expand opportunity and develop sustainable strategies for continuous growth.

Both are convinced that a broad base of focused leadership in Indianapolis will ensure impactful and pervasive solutions across the community.

Mckinzie concluded, “In 2021, IBE and the Recorder Media Group will create broader platforms for the collaboration of non-profit groups, corporations, media, faith-based entities, and educators as well as civic and social groups, to work toward the elimination of barriers to optimum learning, work, health, safety, and economics.”

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 " — Lang Syne"
- 5 Steed stopper
- 9 Plead
- 12 Dandling site
- 13 Reactions to pyrotechnics
- 14 Preceding
- 15 Mid-month date
- 16 Automaker Ransom Eli —
- 17 Have a bug
- 18 Small winning margin
- 19 Go blue?
- 20 Air for a pair
- 21 "How I Met Your Mother" net
- 23 Census stat
- 25 Off-course
- 28 Auction, often
- 32 Use crib notes
- 33 Rechargeable battery
- 34 Grow canines
- 36 Tourist attractions

- 37 Moray or conger
- 38 Coop occupant
- 39 Witty one
- 42 Clay, now
- 44 "Super-food" berry
- 48 Tramcar contents
- 49 Teeny bit
- 50 So
- 51 Meadow
- 52 Expression
- 53 Deserve
- 54 Spigot
- 55 Whirlpool
- 56 "Phooey!"

DOWN

- 1 Related
- 2 Loosen
- 3 Dregs
- 4 Treated with irreverence
- 5 "Give a hoot, don't pollute" owl
- 6 Sacred
- 7 "Heavens to Murgatroyd!"

- 8 Donkey
- 9 Suitor
- 10 One of HOMES
- 11 Money
- 20 Like some drivers or hitters
- 22 Wash
- 24 Aladdin's ally
- 25 Performance
- 26 The girl
- 27 Shirt shape
- 29 Interlaken interjection
- 30 Long. crosser
- 31 Mag. staffers
- 35 Very happy
- 36 Vibrate abnormally
- 39 Filly's brother
- 40 Vicinity
- 41 Harvest
- 43 Byron or Tennyson
- 45 Burn somewhat
- 46 Atmosphere
- 47 " — It Romantic?"
- 49 Chowd down

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Overcoming the mask

Tips for communicating through COVID-19

Family Features

It can be challenging to communicate through masks, 6 feet of social distance, physical barriers and other factors due to COVID-19 that have changed daily life.

For people with hearing loss, this is an especially challenging time. In a telling sign of increased hearing difficulty, usage of online hearing tests increased 500% since the pandemic began.

“With COVID-19 and masks, everyday tasks are a source of frustration, such as asking a question at the grocery store deli or talking to someone from behind a customer service desk,” said Bill Schiffmiller, a lifelong hearing aid user and founder and CEO of Akoio, a hearing wellness company. “It’s a triple threat because masks reduce the loudness of the voice, muffle pronunciation and eliminate visuals like facial expressions and lip reading.”

Data shows people who can’t hear others begin to stay away from other people, and social isolation can lead to anxiety and depression. People who have trouble hearing also tend to have higher hospitalization rates and longer hospital stays, according to research published in JAMA Otolaryngology.

Among those 55 and older who have hearing loss, 58% don’t use hearing aids. In the past, statistics have shown people waiting up to

seven years before getting a hearing aid from the time of diagnosis. However, the communication challenges posed during COVID-19 are driving some to address their hearing sooner than they may have otherwise.

Help Someone Hear You Better

- Consider the mask you’re wearing. Clear masks provide a visual difference, helping with lip reading and facial expressions. The plastic in clear masks, however, can muffle sound too much for some. According to audiologist Dr. Shivan Patel, high-frequency hearing loss is common, making female voices difficult to hear. In this situation, research has found standard medical masks tend to transfer sound best. Try different masks to see what works for you.
- Minimize background noise. Music, construction, other conversations, heaters and fans can make it challenging to communicate when wearing a mask.
- Avoid “cavernous” rooms. An environment with mostly hard surfaces, such as a large meeting room or gymnasium, offers minimal sound dampening and can make hearing comprehension more difficult.
- Maintain eye contact. Look directly at the person you’re speaking to and speak clearly, helping him or her read some of your facial expressions. When using video conference services, look directly into the camera in a well-lit room

and ensure you have clear picture quality to help with lip reading.

- Be patient. Remember the increased challenges people with hearing loss are facing now. If communication becomes too challenging through a mask, have a backup plan such as pen and paper or a smartphone note-taking app.

When You’re Having Trouble Hearing

- Talk to your friends and family. Tell them what you’re experiencing and be clear and direct in expressing your thoughts and feelings. Ask whether they have noticed your hearing troubles and listen to their feedback.
- Describe specific instances and circumstances when your hearing is affected most. Armed with this knowledge, friends and family can help you manage various situations.
- Determine a plan of action. Set an appointment to have your hearing checked by an audiologist. If you wear a hearing aid, be sure to carry extra batteries. Notice ways to adjust your environment to reduce background noise.
- Make hearing wellness a priority. Data shows hearing is important to a person’s mental and physical wellness, and untreated hearing loss can have multiple health consequences.

Find more hearing resources, downloadable guides and an audiologist finder at akoio.com.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

King Crossword

OPINIONS

Senate control crucial for the nation

By RAY CURRY



These days, like the old Ray Charles song says, I’ve got Georgia on my mind. We should all be thinking of Georgia because come Jan. 5, the state is positioned to make a tremendous change for the better — a change that will give President-elect Joe Biden the opportunity for real legislation and real reform; for lasting and potent legislative buy-in to make laws once again in service to the people. Laws that address issues important to the working men and women of this nation: health care, the economy, health and safety, equal justice for all, the environment and the right to organize. And a real plan to take COVID-19 head on with a coordinated nationwide policy to address the ill effects, including relief for both businesses and the millions of sidelined workers who are just trying to hang on.

Come Jan. 20, we will have a new president of the United States in Joseph Biden and the first female African American vice president, Kamala Harris. This election was a hard-fought, intense race full of division and emotion. But in the end, as a record number of voters turned out (in person and via mail), it was a fair and legal vote that now gives us a leader who has been a long-time friend of labor and an individual who represents much needed progress for this country.

Now, however, we must collectively stand and fight with him. Simply put, there is still much to do to ensure that the president-elect has the ability to accomplish his restorative plan. Biden’s plan includes working together during this pandemic to find solutions, battling the current devastating economic and health care challenges, and continuing our fight for workplace rights and safety.

Accomplishing this critical work must include control of the Senate — which has been held by Republicans since 2015, and has in that time often served as a barrier to progress rather than a forward-thinking channel for progress. And it is down in blue Georgia (never thought I would be saying that, but Sister Stacey Abrams knew) that we have the opportunity

to remove that roadblock.

What’s a runoff?

On Election Day, neither of Georgia’s Republican senators drew a majority vote. This moves both of their races to special rematches taking place in January. The outcome will determine control of the Senate and if we have a legislature that works together for working people — and with our president. Or it will determine that the political stalemate we have now continues; that Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell will keep things in the same go-nowhere circle we have had for years.

A runoff election is required under Georgia law if candidates do not receive a majority (50% or more) of the vote. The results — depending on who wins — will swing the Senate majority to Democrats or leave McConnell and the Republicans in charge.

It’s the difference between do something or do nothing.

What’s at stake?

Georgia Senate Democratic candidates, Rev. Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff, will go head-to-head with Republican incumbents Kelly Loeffler and David Perdue in two separate runoffs. Warnock and Ossoff have been endorsed by the UAW because they are the best choice for UAW members, retirees and their families. They are the best choice for America and the best choice for labor.

Both candidates understand that two essential things that must happen, and must happen quickly to address the economic and health care crisis in this country:

From the very beginning, Ossoff and Warnock have taken the pandemic very seriously. Together — working with the new president and fellow congressional members — they will work to get the COVID-19 pandemic under control to save lives and get people fully back to work.

Warnock and Ossoff also understand that the economy isn’t working for working people. They will work to repeal tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations. They will encourage bringing back our jobs from overseas. Additionally, they will protect the Social Security and Medicare benefits we earned, defend our pensions and 401(k)s, and make it easier for workers to organize and form a union.

On the flip side, their opponents — Loeffler and Perdue — both support more than \$24 billion cuts to Social Security and \$500 billion cuts to Medicare. More importantly, they have both used the dire circumstances of a global pandemic to their benefit as both were caught red-handed making insider stock deals based on information about the severity of the pandemic that they kept from the public. Not exactly a move that gives you faith in their ability to serve on the behalf of the citizens they represent.

So, the good trouble that we must make this time around is going back home to the place where good fighting got it its name. This is a historic moment in our history and Georgia holds the key. If Democrats gain both Georgia seats, the 50-50 tie in the Senate will mean that Vice President-elect Harris will cast tie-breaking votes, carrying out a pro-labor agenda.

Given the rise in COVID-19 cases, President-elect Biden must be able to make immediate decisions and pass legislation that address the challenges we all face and make tough decisions to protect all working Americans.

So, please, if you live in Georgia, participate in this election. If you do not live in Georgia, consider finding a way to make your own good trouble: Assist through phone banking or offer assistance to organizations supporting the Warnock and Ossoff campaigns.

On Jan. 5, the entire country is looking to Georgia to make an essential difference in the future of our nation. We are looking to voters to elect candidates that will protect retirement security, rebuild our economy and implement a national plan to respond to the pandemic. The outcome of this election will affect every single person in this nation for decades to come.

Let us send our hearts and minds south this January. Let us get back to work for working men and women. Let us take an old sweet song and make it America’s. Georgia On My Mind.

Ray Curry is secretary-treasurer of the International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America.

The importance of Kwanzaa

By LARRY SMITH



During this time of year, most Americans are hurriedly buying or making gifts for family and friends, waiting impatiently to give and receive them — and anticipating returning or exchanging them in the days following Christmas. I won’t claim that I am somehow above such madness. However, as a devout Christian, I am focused on the true “reason for the (Christmas) season.”

Further, as a proud African American, I also recognize another celebration that occurs during this time. That celebration is Kwanzaa. It is likely that most African Americans have at least heard of Kwanzaa. However, it’s safe to say that few of us know its history or the specific traditions and values that it espouses. Sadly, our educational system continues to fail in its responsibility to teach the contributions, history and culture of people of color — beyond a few token examples (e.g., Dr. King’s birthday and Black History Month).

Even worse, Black people are complicit in this failure. Given that we have access to more information than at any point in world history, there is no excuse for us to be accomplices in said failure.

Dr. Maulana Ndabezitha Karenga has always sought to change that narrative. (Karenga was born Ronald McKinley Everett; he previously went by the name Ron Karenga.) The nearly 80-year-old scholar and activist became a towering figure in the Black Power movement of the late 1960s and early 1970s. Karenga created Kwanzaa in 1966 in the wake of the Watts Riots and has spent decades teaching African and African American history and culture. In 1965, he co-founded US Organization with Hakim Jamal. (Jamal is a cousin of Malcolm X.) US Organization is dedicated to embracing Pan-African and African American culture and history.

In the 1960s, Karenga began promoting what he referred to as “the seven principles of African heritage.” Those principles are: Unity (Umoja), Self-Determination (Kujichagulia), Collective Work and Responsibility (Ujima), Cooperative Economics (Ujamaa), Pur-

pose (Nia), Creativity (Kuumba) and Faith (Imani). Karenga refers to these principles as a “communitarian philosophy.” Today, these principles — known as the Nguzo Saba — are the basis for Kwanzaa’s seven-day celebration.

Kwanzaa is the first holiday that was created specifically to celebrate African American culture, heritage, history and traditions. The holiday is designed to bridge Christmas and New Year’s Day, as it is celebrated from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1 each year. Karenga intended Kwanzaa to be a part of a larger cultural revolution that he believed would instill pride and self-determination among Black people in America. Notably, Kwanzaa has spread beyond the United States, which is rare for American-born celebrations.

Karenga derived the spelling of Kwanzaa from the Swahili phrase “matunda ya kwanza,” which is translated “first fruits.” He decided to add an additional “a” so that the holiday would have a symbolic seven letters. First fruits festivals have long existed in Southern Africa and are celebrated in December and January. (Karenga was partly inspired to create Kwanzaa after reading about a Zulu festival.)

I would be intellectually dishonest if I failed to share that Dr. Karenga initially intended Kwanzaa to rival Christmas. Indeed, Karenga was openly hostile to Christianity, which he (erroneously) believed to be a “white” religion. However, for nearly 25 years he has strongly supported the celebration of Kwanzaa alongside Christmas. This is in large measure due to the fact that African Americans overwhelmingly identify as Christian and do not feel the need to shun one celebration in favor of the other.

As Black people continue to navigate the turbulent racial currents in America, we constantly strive to find islands of self-love and affirmation. Kwanzaa is a result of that ongoing search. We are ever aware of what W.E.B. DuBois referred to as our “double consciousness” or “twoness” (i.e., being both Black and American concurrently). Kwanzaa offers an opportunity simply to reflect on and to celebrate a people who have long been degraded, disrespected and dismissed. Habari Gani!

Larry Smith is a community leader. Contact him at larry@leaf-llc.com.

GOP policies don’t mesh with diversity push

By MARSHAWN WOLLEY



The Indiana Republican Party launched a diversity leadership series, which could be a good first step if executed properly. Touted as an effort to build long-term relationships statewide with diverse communities, the program covers civic engagement, campaign management and communications at all levels of government.

I’m told that the sessions are supposed to be a conversation with give and take. The program participants are supposed to learn from elected officials who will attend the sessions, but the program participants are also being challenged to share what it is like to be a person of color or member of the LGBTQ

community while holding onto Republican ideals.

The leadership group that created this is comprised of a diverse set of Black Republicans who came together during the protests of the summer to make the case for changes within the Indiana GOP.

Whitley Yates, the first director of diversity for the Indiana GOP, also had a hand in developing this initiative.

Over the last 16 years the Republicans have had a lock on state government, and they’ve even had a couple Black statewide elected officials and some top-ranking Black appointed officials. To be fair, former Gov. Mitch Daniels and current Gov. Eric Holcomb received considerable support from Black voters in each of their respective elections.

Nevertheless, this hasn’t resulted in the kind of policies the Black community would like to see.

There is no racial equity policy at the Indiana Department of Education despite years of racial achievement gaps.

It was Republicans who passed a law preventing local communities from banning the box (preventing employers from asking about criminal backgrounds on job applications). Republicans passed a law restricting local communities from raising the minimum wage. Republicans fought against LGBT rights only to relent after national pressure.

The Indiana General Assembly under Republican leadership has been slow or even indifferent to our issues, ranging from food deserts to anti-gentrification measures to compliance on minority- and women-owned business enterprise (MWBE) programs. Our issues have not really been a priority.

Prominent Republican operatives still believe society should be colorblind. Consider the backlash Gov. Holcomb received for just uttering “Black lives matter.” The Indiana GOP hasn’t been a welcoming organization for people of color or other diverse

communities despite representational diversity in some statewide offices. The challenge is inclusivity.

The Indiana GOP needs this program — and the party needs it to be successful. Success should not only look like more diverse candidates in the future but also more consideration on issues that impact communities of color.

Efforts like this are important and should be given a chance to be successful. I’ll be watching to see what comes of this program and its inaugural class, as well as the impact on the Indiana GOP. I commend the Black Republicans for their leadership and for State Chairman Kyle Hupfer for making this happen. This was a good idea whose time had come.

What I am hearing...

Attorney General Curtis Hill is not exactly a sympathetic character. Once the top vote getter in an Indiana election, he has experienced an ignominious fall.

He has also taken positions that just seem odd, including lending his voice to a Texas lawsuit that sought to overturn the elections in Pennsylvania, Georgia, Michigan and Wisconsin — part of Trump’s last efforts to undermine democracy.

Nevertheless, right is right, and it seems odd that at a moment when the Indiana GOP launches a diversity series, a perusal of its website has the duly elected attorney general of Indiana missing.

There is no photograph of the only current Black statewide elected official on the Indiana GOP’s website. Yes, you read that correctly. The party that backed Trump and his antics and at times dangerous behavior enthusiastically chose to remove a picture of a Black statewide elected official on its website.

Marshawn Wolley is a lecturer, commentator, business owner and civic entrepreneur. Contact him at marshawnwolley@gmail.com.

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ELECTION

► Continued from A1

Marion County residents broke voter turnout records set in 2016. Throughout the first nine days of early voting, which started Oct. 6, 13,206 county residents cast a ballot, according to the Marion County Clerk’s Office. That was nearly 10,000 more votes than in the same period in 2008 and 5,000 more than in 2016. Marion County had a 58% voter turnout in 2020, up 5 percentage points from 2016.

“This vote is not only gonna affect myself personally, but it’s gonna affect everyone else,” Anthony McCloud told the Recorder as he waited in a long line for early voting at the City-County Building.

Russell Hollis, deputy director for the Marion County Clerk’s Office, cited excitement from voters for the increase in turnout and the fact that many voters didn’t want to wait to cast their ballot during an unpredictable pandemic.

Others weathered the cold because they wanted to be a part of change.

“I think some people are just tired,” Samantha Asberry said as she stood in an early voting line with her daughter. “They want some leadership.”

Despite frustrations from some voters, the state did not allow no-excuse absentee voting for the general election. Marion County mailed absentee ballot applications to all registered voters

ahead of the June primary, but delays and limited resources meant many voters didn’t get to return their ballots to the clerk’s office in time to be counted, and some who applied never received a ballot. The clerk’s office said 1,781 absentee ballots went uncounted.

Marion County Clerk Myla Eldridge expressed her concerns in a letter to Indiana Secretary of State Connie Lawson eight days before Election Day, but Lawson said the county didn’t adequately prepare for the election.

Nationally, absentee and early voting numbers were at an all-time high, which delayed the vote count in the presidential election between incumbent President Donald Trump and former Vice President Joe Biden. Despite claims of election fraud from the Trump camp, Biden and running mate Sen. Kamala Harris made history by receiving more votes than any other ticket in history on their way to an Electoral College victory. Harris made history by being elected the first female vice president and the first Black vice president-elect.

Despite Indiana’s high early voting turnout, election results in the state were available well before the weekend.

By 7:30 p.m. Nov. 3, the Associated Press projected incumbent Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb as the winner of

the Indiana gubernatorial race, beating Democratic challenger Dr. Woody Myers by roughly 27 percentage points. Libertarian candidate Donald Rainwater garnered 12% of the vote, making him one of the most successful third-party candidates to ever run for governor in Indiana.

“Ain’t it great to be a Hoosier,” Holcomb said following his victory. “... We have so much work to do, and I am flat-out eager to continue to get it done with you over the next four like we’ve done the last four.”

Following the election, Myers — the only African American in the country to run for governor in 2020 — told the Recorder he was happy with his campaign and how they were able to address issues such as COVID-19.

“I’m very proud of the team we put together and the way we addressed the important issues,” Myers said. “I’m proud of the policies we put out for the people of the state. I’m proud of how we stood up for individuals at the bottom of the economic ladder, and I’m proud of what we did to engage the current administration for their failed coronavirus response.”

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

RACISM

► Continued from A1

clare racism as a public health issue. Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin have declared it a public health issue at the state level.

The special resolution came following weeks of protests in Indianapolis after the police shooting death of Dreaseon Reed and the death of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police. Reed, 21, was killed by Indianapolis Metropolitan Police (IMPD) Officer De Jour Mercer on May 6 following a high-speed car chase. Over the weeks that followed, thousands of Hoosiers marched downtown and met at the Statehouse lawn to protest systemic racism.

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

4 tips for a productive 2021

Family Features

This year has taught many workers a thing or two about being productive when offices and homes blend into one.

As the calendar turns to 2021, consider these key products and processes to stay productive next year.

FIND A SYSTEM (AND STICK TO IT):

Creating an organizing system is an easy way to ensure your at-home workspace is ready for optimal productivity. Designate space to house all your work items — a drawer, cabinet or box — and keep work items organized by type (pens, papers, computer gear, etc.) At the

end of each day, transitioning to “offline hours” can be easier when you have a place to stow your work items.

START YOUR DAY CLEAN:

Studies have shown cleanliness has a direct impact on productivity. Yet, many people struggle to find the time and energy to clean, especially at the end of a busy day at home. An option like The DEEBOT T8 from Ecovacs provides a hands-free cleaning experience, complete with the time-saving benefits of an all-in-one robot vacuum and floor mop, along with TrueDetect technology to avoid tangling in small objects. Easily controlled via an

app, just set it to clean before bed and wake up to a tidy workspace.

BREAK UP YOUR DAY:

With so many hours at home in front of a computer, workdays can get a little monotonous. Break up the day to make working from home feel as “normal” as possible — shower in the morning, take a walk or drive to coffee then make time for at least two breaks throughout the day. Some people have found success with the Pomodoro Technique, which is breaking your day up into 25-minute chunks of work, with 5-minute rest periods. If you continue to work until you feel like taking a break, odds are you’ll overwork yourself until it’s too late to take the “big break” you had in

mind.

BOOKEND YOUR DAYS WITH MINDFULNESS:

At the beginning and end of each workday, do a three- to five-minute mindfulness meditation. Before signing on to work for the day, allow your mind to fully focus on the day’s tasks. Sign off by doing another meditation to end the day and let go of any worries or stresses you might have. Incorporating this tactic into your daily routine can help create a natural boundary from work and home while also restoring peace of mind.

Find more solutions to help maintain productivity at Ecovacs.com.

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COVID-19 reinforced geography’s influence on health

By HILARY POWELL

Marion County Public Health Department Director Dr. Virginia Caine says this year she learned how fragile it can feel to not have comprehensive, affordable health care.

When she forgot her insurance card on a trip to the pharmacy earlier this year, the out-of-pocket price of her prescription — \$230 — gave Caine sticker shock.

It’s the same sort of alarm her uninsured patients often experience, she told the Recorder in September. And that sort of financial pressure has been magnified during the COVID-19 crisis.

“If I had to decide between ‘Am I going to keep my lights on’ or ‘I got to pay my rent,’ medical care may be the least of my priorities related to those former two issues,” she said.

Over the past nine months, Caine has worked to help Hoosiers understand how the coronavirus pandemic exists as a secondary pandemic alongside the social plague of racism. She says poverty and other living conditions affect health. These factors — known as social determinants of health — can explain why Black residents of Marion County have tested positive for COVID-19 at a rate nearly twice that of white residents, according to SAVI.org.

Experts say the pandemic has laid bare long-standing socioeconomic disparities for communities of color.

“People that are poorly compensated, even in the best of times, but I think the COVID pandemic ... got us particularly interested in knowing who was going to be most at risk, who was in these frontline or essential jobs where the economy can’t run without them,” Shawn Fremstad, a senior research fellow with the Center for Economic and Policy Research, told the Recorder in December.

His recent report shows workers in frontline industries are disproportionately women and Black or Latino.

By summer, health experts with the Indiana Region of the American Red Cross asked volunteers to make face coverings to help level the unequal



A face mask lay on the ground in an old Value City parking lot at the corner of 38th Street and Arlington Avenue, where city officials and community leaders asked residents in May to not participate in large gatherings. (Recorder file photo)

playing field on the front lines of the pandemic.

“Black and Latinx people in all communities, including Indiana, are bearing an outsized burden of COVID-19,” Chad Priest, Indiana regional chief executive officer for the Red Cross, told the Recorder in October. “It is almost designed to exploit the fault lines in society.”

The Red Cross encourages people to wear cloth face coverings in public spaces because it’s an evidence-based public health measure, Priest said.

Black Hoosiers also are more likely to live with relatives in densely populated, impoverished areas, Caine said. She said a lack of reliable transportation, affordable housing and fresh food can plague these areas.

One Indiana senior is planting hope and healthy food options in her Hillside neighborhood on Indianapolis’ near north side — a sign of communities working to bring down barriers to equitable health during the pandemic.

This fall, at the spry age of 82, Shirley Webster donated a patch of her land to expand her garden to have a bigger impact on her mostly Black neighbors.

The American Heart Association is partnering with Webster and construction companies to expand the garden and give more people access to fruits and vegetables in an area designated as a food desert.

Though slowed down a bit by the coronavirus pandemic, the land was

recently tilled and staked, and the permit process for drainage and further construction is in process. Over the next few months, sponsors will put in electrical wiring and plumbing and the finished garden will be more than 10,000 square feet.

“I’m grateful to be able to host this community garden as a way to improve the lives of my neighbors,” Webster told the Recorder in November. “I want my community to really understand how blessed we are.”

This story was reported as part of a partnership between WFYI, Side Effects Public Media and the Indianapolis Recorder. Contact Hilary Powell at hpowell@wfyi.org. Follow her on Twitter @mshilary.

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Radon is a Danger in the Home

The Marion County Public Health Department urges residents learn about radon and the health risks associated with it during Radon Action Month in January. More than one-third of Marion County homes are estimated to have elevated levels of the naturally-occurring gas.

Radon is a colorless, tasteless and odorless gas that comes from the decay of uranium found in nearly all soils. It is found all over the United States, but levels of radon vary in different parts of the country.

Radon usually moves from the ground up and migrates into homes and buildings through cracks and holes in foundations. The buildings trap radon inside where it accumulates and may become a health hazard.

When air containing large amounts of radon is breathed in, the radiation can damage the lungs and eventually cause lung cancer. The Surgeon General warns that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer, second only to smoking. Testing is the only way to know if a home is safe from radon.

The Marion County Public Health Department recommends that all homes be tested. Free radon testing is available by contacting the health department’s Indoor Air Program at 317-221-2266. These services are currently limited due to COVID-19 precautions.

“Do-it-yourself” radon test kits are also available at hardware stores and other retail outlets. Always choose a test kit that meets Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state guidelines.

A Healthy Resolution for 2021: Quit Tobacco

Smoking, along with other tobacco use, is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States. Ninety-percent of lung cancer deaths among men and 80 percent of lung cancer deaths among women are due to smoking.

In addition to causing lung cancer, tobacco use can cause many other types of cancer, including cancer of the throat, mouth, nasal cavity, esophagus, stomach, pancreas, kidney, bladder and cervix. Tobacco use can also cause leukemia.

Smoking is the main cause of emphysema and chronic bronchitis which often leads to the use of oxygen tanks in order to breathe.

The most encouraging statistic is the fact that these diseases can be prevented by not using tobacco.

Those who quit will experience some immediate benefits. After 20 minutes of quitting tobacco, the heart rate and blood pressure drop. After 12 hours of not smoking, carbon monoxide levels in the body drop to normal.

Other benefits take a while longer. The sense of taste and smell return within two weeks of quitting. Within 1-9 months, coughing and shortness of breath decreases. By staying tobacco free for one year, the risk of coronary heart disease is cut in half. After five years, the risk of many cancers is reduced to that of a non-smoker.

Depending on the years of smoking, the risk of lung cancer can be cut in half.

Anyone 13 years of age and older can call the Indiana Tobacco Quitline 1-800-QuitNow to stop smoking or using other forms of tobacco and nicotine. The Quitline is answered in English and Spanish, and can access 170 other languages.

Online resources are also available at [QuitNowIndiana.com](https://www.QuitNowIndiana.com). Quit coaches work with each caller to develop an individualized quit plan with specific strategies to overcome urges and stress. There is a special program, too, for pregnant women who use tobacco.

Churches adapted to curb spread of COVID-19

By BREANNA COOPER
BreannaC@indyrecorder.com

Churches had to get creative when the COVID-19 pandemic made its way to Indiana earlier in the year. When it became clear it was no longer safe to have large congregations meeting in churches, Indianapolis pastors and church leaders took to the internet.

Pastor Ruben McKenzie of New Mission Church has been utilizing Facebook Live to stream services since March. While it can't compare to the feeling of people gathering in the church, it has given the church an opportunity to expand its reach within the community.

"The services give people access to the word of God, and from the comfortability of their homes," McKenzie told the Recorder in March. "A lot of people who didn't go to church before the virus started now have a lot of questions about why and want to learn more about God. With online services, it's a little easier, I think."

Throughout the pandemic, churches have faced fewer restrictions than other places such as bars and gyms. Churches were initially closed for about two months and received permission in May to hold services with up to 25 people.

Currently, indoor services are allowed at 75% capacity, and there is no limit to outdoor services. Many churches have remained virtual.

Along with streaming services, some churches, such as Christ Missionary Baptist Church, took to parking lots for Easter service. John Girton, who retired from Christ Missionary in late 2019, helped organize the drive-in communion at Pike High School.

"It's a day that represents hope for so many," Girton said. "Right now, based on what we're dealing with as a nation and global society, hope is something that we need."

While COVID-19 changed the way people worship, it also changed how people give to their church. Many local churches found people were using technology to not only pray together, but to give back.

"We've been blessed that people have continued to give to our church," pastor Reginald Fletcher of Liv-



Josiah McCruitson (far right) performs during a virtual service at Witherspoon Presbyterian Church. (Photo provided)

ing Word Baptist Church told the Recorder in April. "We've employed our electronic giving, and they've been sending offerings online."

Donations continue to be important to many churches, as church staff give back to communities in a time of great need through food pantries and counseling.

Pastor Keith McQueen, who leads Powerhouse Church of Deliverance, started a mobile food service where church staff delivered food to members' houses by van. While McQueen said Powerhouse saw an increase in donations early on in the pandemic, he said giving financially to the church may not be the most important thing someone can do for their pastor.

"Pastors are really struggling mentally, emotionally and financially," McQueen said in April. "No pastors today have had to pastor during a pandemic. We haven't seen anything like this since 1918, and most of us weren't pastoring back then," he added with a laugh. "Be sensitive to your shepherd's time. They're pastoring an entire group of people and trying to create a blueprint to keep the church sound during this."

While the pandemic forced church leaders to reevaluate how they reach their congregation, it also gave them time to reflect on why they do what they do. For Fletcher, virtual church services and social distancing helped him find the silver lining in a year with so much darkness.

"The biggest thing is to not forget [churches] financially, but also, stay connected with one another, encourage one another with prayer," he said. "I believe this pandemic is giving us an out-of-the-box opportunity to think differently in terms of not just the way we worship, but why we worship. It's not enough just to come together for the sake of coming together. Now, there's a sense of appreciation and a sense of curiosity for those who have not had a relationship with God. They ask, 'Who is this God that you are serving in spite of what we're going through?' ... There's a lot of questions being raised, and it's an opportunity to share our faith and be a vehicle to let people know you can see God in different ways."

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

Walking is so much more than just exercise

By JAMES A. WASHINGTON JR.
NNPA Newswire Contributor

If I haven't before, let me ask you now. Can somebody explain a "faith walk" to me? I frequently refer to my own spiritual transformation that way and I've had others describe this "thing" that I'm on ... "as you go down this road" ... "as you complete this walk." I've even used the faith walk phrase when trying to explain a new and different view of the world as now seen by someone who believes being saved is more than just some trite saying.

This, whatever it is, is serious and, I have to admit, very tangible. I really can feel it.

I was just curious about the walk reference. I suppose when you think about it, many in the Bible had truth revealed to them on a walk, on a journey, while going from one place to another at God's direction and even during the subconscious traveling in a dream. It's a simple analogy and if you think about it, what is more meaningful than a walk with someone you respect, admire, love and can learn from?

One of the most memorable experiences I've ever had was to walk with my children when they were toddlers. There was something about them exploring and discovering the world around them without fear because they knew Daddy was right there.

Have you ever witnessed this? Have you ever been a part of the experience of walking and talking with someone you were totally in sync with? That must be one of the reasons people refer to discovering God as faith walking.

The effort to get closer to God requires movement. I believe the walk reference is probably an attempt (an excellent one) to describe the experience of following, or trying to follow, the path laid down by Jesus Christ.

The best example we have is Enoch.

"Enoch walked with God: then he was no more, because God took him away." Genesis 5:24. The Bible talks about walking humbly, walking in the light, walking with the wise, walking together and, yes, walking on water. The point seems to be that life is a journey and if the truth be told, the journey is infinitely better if God goes along for the ride.

We want and at times need to talk to God along the way. Maybe, if we're truly blessed, he'll talk back. Searching for him here on Earth is fundamentally a spiritual experience. To walk with the Lord can only be described as "stepping out on faith." Once taken, life changes. You change. You have to. I know I did.

So, I guess I've kind of cleared up my own dilemma. This faith walk is merely an acknowledgement that you are letting God order your steps, lead you through, guide you in this world. When you do this, God will direct you straight to him.

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever

follows me will never walk in darkness; but will have the light of life." John 8:12. So this walk thing suggests by doing so, you can directly connect with God. You can do what Enoch did. You can hope and pray like Enoch that God will take you to him also. That's the point, isn't it?

So, when you get up tomorrow, think about this and let God order your steps consciously for one day. Make a concerted effort to listen and hopefully hear what he is telling you on that day. The Bible says faith comes by hearing. What better way to hear than by taking a deliberate stroll with the Lord? Try it. You might find God showing up in the strangest places and in the strangest faces. But you've got to look.

I guarantee, if you go deliberately looking for God just one day, you won't be alone for long. You see, he has this marvelous way of showing up right on time when he knows somebody is indeed seeking him out. Remember, however, the first step is up to you. May God bless and keep you always.





SPIRITUAL OUTLOOK

Let go

By RAE KARIM



My goodness! 2020 was quite a year.

The key word in that sentence: was! That means it has happened and what has happened cannot happen again (read that again as needed). There will be no repeating. Well, that’s objectively speaking. But as far as I’m concerned, and hopefully you too, nothing that happened in 2020 will meet and greet us in this new year.

You may be saying to yourself, but what about the good things that happened in 2020? As good as they were, they can’t come with you into the new year. It’s OK. Go ahead and pout for a second. Then straighten up and finish reading this article.

The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 5:17 that old things have passed away and all things are made new. Not sure why, but I used to think old things represented “bad” things and the things being

made new represented “good” things. However, old things are old things: good, bad or indifferent. Why hold onto the old things when new and better things await us?

There are a couple of underlying answers to that question, including uncertainty about what comes next and comfort with one’s current position. Yet the overarching answer is fear!

As unbefitting as some of those old things were, some people would rather remain in such a place because of fear.

Fear is restrictive and at times flat-out dangerous. It can keep you comfortable and lead you to a complacent place. Fear can cause you to be both stubborn and prideful. None of the aforementioned adjectives do anyone any good, especially you. How will you ever move into the new year with the new things if you’re holding onto that of which you are afraid? (Read that again too.) Notice I didn’t say anything about fear holding onto you. To tell what the Lord loves, which is the truth, we hold onto fear. We hold on because of the two answers I mentioned before: uncertainty and comfort. We hold onto fear because we actually don’t believe like we say we do. Jeremiah

29:11 says God’s plans are not to harm us but to prosper us, give us hope and an expected end. We hold onto fear because we actually don’t believe like we say we do. Romans 8:28 says all thing works together for our good. We hold on to fear because we actually don’t believe like we say we do. Isaiah 54:17 tells us the weapons form but they cannot prosper.

So how about this — how about we take into consideration the first two words of this ancient proverb that says “let go or be dragged.” Let go because if you’re honest, you’re tired of being dragged and holding on. Let go because there’s nothing to lose. Let go because old things have passed away and aren’t coming back anyway. Let go because you can’t receive anything good for you if your hands are full of what’s not. Let go because new things in the new year await you.

Let go, not only to stop being dragged, but so you can live fully into this new year.

Rae Karim, formerly chapel director at Christian Theological Seminary, is now pastor at First Christian Church of Honolulu. She can be reached at pastoraefcc@gmail.com.

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Rev. Curtis L. Vance, Pastor, and Sis. Charlye Jean Vance

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Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.

Mid-Week Service/ Bible Class Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

Eastern Star Church
100 YEARS OF HIS GLORY

Fishers Campus:9:15 AM

Cooper Road Campus:10:45 AM

Main Campus:12:15 PM

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THURSDAYS
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SUNDAYS
9:30am

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PUBLIC NOTICE

AutoReturn will be having an abandoned vehicle auction 01/07/21 at 10:00 AM. The auction will be held online due to COVID-19. Register on the Joyride website (https://joyrides.com) to receive updates and to preview vehicle auction inventory. All vehicle release prices as of 12/24/20. The following vehicles will be sold:

Year	Make	Model	VIN	Body	Amount
2004	ACURA	RSX	JH4DC548948012291	HATCH BACK	\$ 960.00
2006	BUICK	RENDEZVOUS	3GSDA03L485255429	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 855.00
1999	BUICK	CENTURY	2G4W5S2M5X1635484	4 DOOR	\$ 940.00
2004	BUICK	VERANO	2G4W5S2M5X1635484	4 DOOR	\$ 940.00
2004	BUICK	CENTURY	2G4W5S2M5X1635484	4 DOOR	\$ 940.00
2010	BUICK	LACROSSE CX	1G4GC5GG9AF266035	4 DOOR	\$ 995.00
2002	BUICK	CENTURY	2G4W5S2JX21137053	4 DOOR	\$ 855.00
2003	CADILLAC	SEVILLE	1G6K5S4Y93U239076	4 DOOR	\$ 810.00
2004	CADILLAC	SEVILLE	1G6K5S4Y93U239076	4 DOOR	\$ 805.00
2004	CADILLAC	OTHER	1G6AG5G1F5D158293	4 DOOR	\$ 760.00
2005	CHEVROLET	EQUINOX	2CNDL13FX56035105	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 805.00
2014	CHEVROLET	CRUZE	1G1P75S2Z4E7145102	4 DOOR	\$ 880.00
2014	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	1G1W05S3E8E1158279	4 DOOR	\$1,605.00
2000	CHEVROLET	MALIBU	1G1NE52J7Y6163885	4 DOOR	\$ 805.00
2009	CHEVROLET	AVEO	KL1D56E79B9247937	4 DOOR	\$ 780.00
2009	CHEVROLET	COBALT	1G1ATS5H97E28573	4 DOOR	\$ 880.00
2007	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	2G1W5S5SR4J19415604	4 DOOR	\$1,580.00
2008	CHEVROLET	HHR	3GND453P485613240	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 905.00
2014	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	2G111S16E9281362	4 DOOR	\$1,035.00
2011	CHEVROLET	MALIBU	1G1ZC5E16BF133643	4 DOOR	\$1,185.00
2009	CHEVROLET	COBALT	2G1W1K2K5492132843	2 DOOR	\$ 820.00
2006	CHEVROLET	COBALT	2G1W1K2K5492132843	2 DOOR	\$ 820.00
2008	CHEVROLET	AVEO	KL1TD66S6B5118682	4 DOOR	\$ 955.00
2002	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	2G1W1H5K5029121624	4 DOOR	\$ 930.00
2007	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	2G1W1B5K9K079360790	4 DOOR	\$ 830.00
1998	CHEVROLET	CAVALIER	1G1JCS249W7307717	4 DOOR	\$ 830.00
1999	CHEVROLET	CAVALIER	1G1JCS249W7307717	4 DOOR	\$ 830.00
2010	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	1G1W1K2K5492132843	2 DOOR	\$ 820.00
2014	CHEVROLET	CRUZE	1G1P55SBE67133347	4 DOOR	\$1,105.00
2004	CHEVROLET	CAVALIER	1G1JH12F042747092	2 DOOR	\$ 987.50
2003	CHEVROLET	MALIBU	1G1ND52JX3M633835	4 DOOR	\$ 930.00
1998	CHEVROLET	C-1500	2GCEC19R0W1193736	PICK UP	\$ 805.00
1999	CHEVROLET	SUBURBAN	1G1W1K2K5492132843	PICK UP UTILITY	\$ 820.00
1999	CHEVROLET	SILVERADO	1GCEC14W4XK140972	PICK UP	\$ 846.25
2001	CHEVROLET	SILVERADO	2GCEC19V411314855	PICK UP	\$ 780.00
2002	CHEVROLET	TAHOE	1GNEC13Z525159632	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 930.00
2002	CHEVROLET	SILVERADO	2GCEC19T121150299	PICK UP	\$ 805.00
2005	CHEVROLET	ASTRO VAN	1G1GDM19X65B114091	VAN	\$ 885.00
2003	CHEVROLET	MALIBU	1G1W1K2K5492132843	2 DOOR	\$ 820.00
2008	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	2G1W1T5K83X123696	OTHER	\$1,135.00
2013	CHEVROLET	CRUZE	1G1P55SBE67133347	4 DOOR	\$1,105.00
2016	CHEVROLET	CRUZE	1G1PE5SBE6G7130709	4 DOOR	\$1,730.00
2005	CHEVROLET	MALIBU	1G1Z5S2F5F57125797	4 DOOR	\$1,105.00
2012	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	2G1WGS5E30C1160631	4 DOOR	\$1,005.00
2012	CHEVROLET	EQUINOX	1G1W1K2K5492132843	SPORTS UTILITY	\$1,121.25
2018	CHEVROLET	CRUZE	1G1BE5SM1J7196729	4 DOOR	\$1,585.00
1999	CHEVROLET	EXPRESS	1GBFG15R5X1028677	VAN	\$ 915.00
2001	CHEVROLET	EXPRESS	1GCEG15W511138133	VAN	\$ 955.00
2002	CHEVROLET	SILVERADO	2GCEC19T621407294	PICK UP	\$ 780.00
2004	CHEVROLET	TAHOE	1GNEX13284J32114091	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 835.00
2003	CHEVROLET	SILVERADO	2G1W1K2K5492132843	2 DOOR	\$ 820.00
2006	CHEVROLET	MALIBU	1G1ZT51F26F206208	4 DOOR	\$1,730.00
2009	CHEVROLET	MALIBU	1G1ZJ57B89F207053	4 DOOR	\$ 855.00
2003	CHEVROLET	SILVERADO	2GCEC13T7X61136321	PICK UP	\$ 930.00
2006	CHEVROLET	TRAIL BLAZER	1GNDT13S03238501	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 805.00
2008	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	2G1W1T5K83X123696	4 DOOR	\$ 860.00
2012	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	2G1W1T5K83X123696	4 DOOR	\$ 860.00
2012	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	2G1W1T5K83X123696	4 DOOR	\$ 810.00
2002	CHRYSLER	PT CRUISER	3C4FY48B627381651	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 830.00
2008	CHRYSLER	PT CRUISER	3A8FY48B18T140372	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 905.00
2011	CHRYSLER	200	1C3B0CF6Z2B567050	4 DOOR	\$1,085.00
2000	CHRYSLER	CIRRUS	1C3EJ56H6Y1117680	4 DOOR	\$ 990.00
2002	CHRYSLER	PT CRUISER	1C3B0CF6Z2B567050	4 DOOR	\$ 990.00
2002	DODGE	DURANGO	1B4HR38N12F106616	SPORTS UTILITY	\$1,605.00
2006	DODGE	STRATUS	1B3EL56M14613636	4 DOOR	\$ 780.00
2006	DODGE	MAGNUM	2D4G247V16H361726	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 855.00
2006	DODGE	MAGNUM	2D4G4V729B81335196	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 905.00
2011	DODGE	CHARGER	2B3CL1C7B9H579263	4 DOOR	\$ 880.00
2008	DODGE	AVENGER	1B3L05K18N1451751	4 DOOR	\$ 830.00
1999	DODGE	AVENGER	483AUJ25N5X130822	2 DOOR	\$ 835.00
1997	DODGE	GRAND CARA	2B4G2439VR150175	VAN	\$ 905.00
1999	DODGE	DAKOTA	1B7GL22Y6S221363	PICK UP	\$ 905.00
2011	DODGE	CHARGER	2B3CL1C7B9H589010	4 DOOR	\$ 930.00
1996	DODGE	RAM	1B7HC16Y8T1198837	PICK UP	\$ 805.00
2001	DODGE	RAM	1B7HC16Y8T1198837	PICK UP	\$ 805.00
2002	DODGE	RAM	3D7HU18N42G146130	PICK UP	\$1,715.00
2018	DODGE	JOURNEY	3C4PDCG53M7156093	SPORTS UTILITY	\$1,025.00
2008	DODGE	OTHER	3D6WD68A58G213168	PICK UP	\$1,105.00
2003	DODGE	NEON	1B3ES26C13D153756	4 DOOR	\$ 880.00
2007	DODGE	CHARGER	2B3KA43R07H484016	4 DOOR	\$ 930.00
2002	DODGE	CHALLENGER	1H4G2Y6G3X0241984	PICK UP	\$ 940.00
2007	DODGE	NITRO	1D8GU28K37W720549	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 810.00
2002	FORD	EXPEDITION	1FMPU16L12LUA00998	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 880.00
2005	FORD	EXPLORER	1FMZU73K15UA09465	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 930.00
2003	FORD	TAURUS	1FAPF5U53A269534	4 DOOR	\$ 835.00
2015	FORD	FUSION	3FA6P0H79FR147939	4 DOOR	\$1,585.00
2015	FORD	CHOCOLATE	1FAFP6L1XK1614700	4 DOOR	\$ 915.00
2001	FORD	TAURUS	1FAPF5U3U91M14700	4 DOOR	\$ 910.00
2001	FORD	FIESTA	3FADP4B3J8FM143837	4 DOOR	\$1,065.00
2011	FORD	FIESTA	3FADP4B3J8FM143837	4 DOOR	\$1,165.00
1997	FORD	F250	3FTHF25H7VM408029	PICK UP	\$ 830.00
1998	FORD	FTHER	1FBSS31L8WH462015	VAN	\$ 855.00
2012	FORD	FIESTA	1H4G2Y6G3X0241984	PICK UP	\$ 940.00
2003	FORD	ESCAPE	1FMCU94183KCS52902	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 940.00
1994	FORD	ECONOLINE	1FDEE14HXRH622386	VAN	\$ 915.00
2000	FORD	F150	2FTZX1727YCA33498	PICK UP	\$ 801.25
2006	FORD	F150	1FTPX14V46F55968	PICK UP	\$1,030.00
1995	FORD	F150	1FTFE14VXNSA66769	PICK UP	\$ 855.00
1998	FORD	F150	1FTFE14VXNSA66769	PICK UP	\$ 855.00
1991	FORD	EXPLORER	1FMDU32X0MUAE62154	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 780.00
2007	FORD	CROWN VICT	2FAHP718W7J128711	4 DOOR	\$ 946.25
2011	FORD	F350	1FTWW33P7EA88400	PICK UP	\$1,480.00
2007	FORD	FUSION	3FAHP0JA1BR281398	4 DOOR	\$ 830.00
2007	FORD	FUSION	3FAHP01J1D7R24127	4 DOOR	\$ 880.00
1998	FORD	TAURUS	1FAFP5U3U91M14700	4 DOOR	\$ 910.00
1998	FORD	RANGER	1FTYR10C0WUJB87041	PICK UP	\$ 805.00
2008	FORD	EDGE	2FMFK49C08BA60379	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 930.00
1998	FORD	TAURUS	1FAFP5U3U91M14700	4 DOOR	\$ 880.00
2013	FORD	TAURUS	1FAHP2F28D3K138447	4 DOOR	\$1,020.00
2005	FORD	TAURUS	1FAHP5U3U91M14700	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 830.00
2002	GMC	TERRAIN	2G2ALMEK3D642058	SPORTS UTILITY	\$1,130.00
1992	GMC	SIERRA	2GTCE19K1N1539505	PICK UP	\$ 805.00
1997	GMC	SAVANNA	1GDFG15M6V1081994	VAN	\$ 780.00
2009	GMC	SIERRA	1GTEC290X9E148121	PICK UP	\$1,455.00
1994	GMC	SIERRA	2GTKE19K6F1536385	PICK UP	\$2,065.00
2006	GMC	YUKON	1GKEK63U6G171659	SPORTS UTILITY	\$2,005.00
2000	GMC	YUKON	1GKEK63U6G171659	SPORTS UTILITY	\$2,005.00
1995	GMC	SIERRA	1GTEC14K1S2503324	PICK UP	\$ 830.00
2006	HONDA	ACCORD	1HCGM82266A001933	2 DOOR	\$ 880.00
2006	HONDA	PILOT	2HKYF18546H540776	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 905.00
2003	HONDA	ACCORD	1HCGM72643A002622	2 DOOR	\$ 905.00
2003	HONDA	ACCORD	SHS8D764X3U160822	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 930.00
1999	HONDA	ACCORD	1HCGM82266A001933	2 DOOR	\$ 880.00
2010	HONDA	CIVIC	2HGFB2F57DH571524	4 DOOR	\$ 905.00
2010	HONDA	CIVIC	1HMF3A32XAS001873	4 DOOR	\$ 965.00
2003	HONDA	CIVIC	1HGM22513L000138	2 DOOR	\$ 855.00
1999	HONDA	ACCORD	1HCGC58652XA098401	4 DOOR	\$ 830.00
2001	HONDA	CIVIC	1HGM22513L000138	2 DOOR	\$ 855.00
2004	HONDA	ODYSSEY	5FNRL18034B055333	VAN	\$ 830.00
2000	HONDA	CRV	JHLRD186YK0546605	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 930.00
2004	HONDA	ACCORD	1HCGM56644A025804	4 DOOR	\$ 985.00
2001	HONDA	ACCORD	1HCGG564K1A141302	4 DOOR	\$1,790.00
2003	HONDA	PILOT	2HKYF18463H934213	PICK UP	\$1,031.25
2003	HONDA	ACCORD	1HCGM82266A001933	2 DOOR	\$ 880.00
2006	HONDA	CIVIC	2HGFG1268H5H30378	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 980.00
2013	HONDA	SONATA	5NPEB84AC4DH689226	4 DOOR	\$1,975.00
2004	HYUNDAI	ELANTRA	KMHND445D62U322168	4 DOOR	\$ 830.00
2012	HYUNDAI	VELOSTER	KMHCT6AD0C0U037163	COUPE	\$ 880.00
2010	HYUNDAI	ELANTRA	KMH4DU4A00A0886924	4 DOOR	\$ 885.00
2003	HYUNDAI	ELANTRA	5NPEB84AC4DH689226	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 980.00
2011	HYUNDAI	SONATA	5NPEB84AC4DH689226	4 DOOR	\$ 880.00
2014	HYUNDAI	OTHER	5XYZUDL1B5EG176334	SPORTS UTILITY	\$1,035.00
2017	HYUNDAI	ACCENT	KMHCT4AEHXU315197	4 DOOR	\$1,735.00
2005	JEEP	WRANGLER	1C4BJWEGXFL626192	4 DOOR	\$1,780.00
2009	JEEP	GRAND CHER	1J8GR48K9XC532930	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 805.00
1996	JEEP	GRAND CHER	1J4E278Y5T0316290	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 805.00
2009	KIA	OPTIMA	KNAGE21N744170572	4 DOOR	\$ 915.00
2015	KIA	OTHER	KNALN4D70F5172597	4 DOOR	\$1,110.00
2010	KIA	SOUL	KNDJT2A26A7124502	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 805.00
2017	KIA	FORTE	3CKPFL4A7XH6126552	4 DOOR	\$1,605.00
2011	KIA	FORTE	KNAFU4A25B5390928	4 DOOR	\$ 780.00
2007	KIA	MORTGAGE	KNDP3KAC3U1732056	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 930.00
2005	LEXUS	ES 300	JTHBA30GX55121826	4 DOOR	\$1,020.00
2006	LEXUS	GS 300	JTHBH96S265028603	4 DOOR	\$ 890.00
2010	LINCOLN	MKZ	3LNHL2G2C2AR752964	4 DOOR	\$ 835.00
2004	LINCOLN	TOWN CAR	1LNLM83WR46Y602489	4 DOOR	\$ 855.00
2007	MAZDA	3	JM1BK3F28171658837	4 DOOR	\$ 805.00
2003	MAZDA	M-CLASS	1M1K12F241180703	4 DOOR	\$ 805.00
2003	MERCEDES	MOUNTAINEER	4GAB857E13A406456	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 830.00
2001	MERCURY	MOUNTAINEER	4M2ZU6P3U1U007172	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 780.00
2005	MERCURY	MOUNTAINEER	4M2DU6W35M9U17663	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 905.00
2004	NISSAN	ALTIMA	1N4BL11D2C4141007	4 DOOR	\$ 855.00
2018	NISSAN	SENTRA	3N1BA7AP5J1Y118017	4 DOOR	\$1,930.00
2001	NISSAN	PATHFINDER	5N1BA05YXW3290209	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 830.00
2013	NISSAN	MAXIMA	1N4AA5AP8BD838751	4 DOOR	\$1,012.50
2020	NISSAN	ALTIMA	1N4BL4B9VL5153095	4 DOOR	\$2,030.00
2000	NISSAN	SENTRA	3N1CB51D8YL343393	4 DOOR	\$ 960.00
2008	NISSAN	ROGUE	JN8AS58V48W102939	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 930.00
2000	NISSAN	XTRERR	1GDN2819Y3C552473	SPORTS UTILITY	\$ 780.00
2001	NISSAN	SENTRA	3N1AB51D26L1492851	4 DOOR	\$ 805.00
1999	OLDSMOBILE	CUTLASS	1G3NB52M1X6314812	4 DOOR	\$ 940.00
2004	OLDSMOBILE	ALERIO	1G3NL52F14K149582	4 DOOR	\$ 805.00
-	OTHER NOT IN LIST		1PA100G19L1059462	CAMPER	\$2,005.00
2007	PONTIAC	G6	1G2ZG58N8K74261496	4 DOOR	\$ 880.00
2005	PONTIAC	BONNEVILLE	1G2H254Y25U105424		



Some Colts players kneeled in the endzone before a recent game. (Photo/David Dixon)

Sports took a back seat as athletes advocated for racial justice

By TYLER FENWICK
tylerf@indyrecorder.com

Sports felt secondary for much of 2020 during a global health crisis, economic fallout and racial justice protests, but athletes still took center stage in another familiar way.

They wore racial justice slogans on their jerseys and shoes, kneeled during the national anthem, participated in demonstrations. The Milwaukee Bucks went on strike before their first-round play-off game against the Orlando Magic in the NBA bubble in August, prompting the league to postpone all other games that day. WNBA games were also pushed back.

“It’s amazing to me why we keep loving this country and this country does not love us back,” Los Angeles Clippers coach Doc Rivers said in a press conference after he saw the video of police in Kenosha, Wisconsin, shoot Jacob Blake in his back as Blake leaned into his car.

NBA players were given a list of slogans to choose from upon the league’s return to play in Orlando. Options included “Black Lives Matter,” “Say Their Names” and “I Can’t Breathe.” LeBron James chose to not wear a slogan on his jersey, in part because he felt left out of the process.

“I would have loved to have a say so on what would have went on the back of my jersey,” he told media in July. “I had a couple things in mind, but I wasn’t part of that process and that’s OK.”

Along with strikes and protests, many teams across sports took up voter registration initiatives ahead of the general election. Twenty of the NBA’s 30 teams ended up with 100% voter registration, and 96% of players league-wide were registered to vote by mid-October.

Baseball, a sport not typically associated with anywhere near the level of activism found in the NBA or NFL, was the first major sport to return to play amid the COVID-19 pandemic. MLB featured “BLM” logos on pitchers mounds after ESPN reported the league and players had discussions about how to address social justice during the shortened 60-game season.

Chicago White Sox star Tim Anderson, one of about 80 Black players on opening day rosters across the league, joined some teammates and coaches in kneeling during the anthem before the club’s season opener against the Minnesota Twins.

“I am the only Black guy (on the team),” Anderson told media, “so it was only right that I had to show my love.”

College football players spent most of the spring and summer not knowing if there would be a season. Unlike professional athletes who are paid and represented by unions, college athletes were left sifting through various messages from the NCAA, conferences and their individual schools.

Alabama head coach Nick Saban led dozens of his players in a march on campus in August. Alabama represents the pinnacle of college football, a multibillion-dollar industry in which about half of the players are Black.

“For certain, we can’t let this momentum die,” running back Najee Harris said. “This has to be an ongoing movement until change happens. We must do more as a team and as individuals to keep this movement going.”

Former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick is credited with the most recent wave of activism when he began sitting — and then kneeling — for the national anthem during NFL preseason games in 2016. Others soon followed.

Athletes have used their voice for social and racial justice for decades. A big difference is now it isn’t only individuals who stand out — like Jackie Robinson in baseball, or Tommie Smith and John Carlos at the 1968 Olympics, or Muhammad Ali in boxing. It’s whole teams and whole leagues.

“We’re here to say we’re hurt,” Colts backup quarterback Jacoby Brissett said in August when the team canceled practice to outline future initiatives such as voter registration. “We’re hurt because we feel the pain not only of our Black teammates but our Black community. We understand that we have to use our platform, not only individually, but collectively as an organization.”

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

Pacers trounce Knicks in opener



Victor Oladipo finished the Pacers’ season-opening win against the Knicks with 22 points, four rebounds and four assists. The Pacers won, 121-107, on Dec. 23. (Photos/Walt Thomas)



Malcolm Brogdon nearly secured a triple-double with 21 points, eight assists and seven rebounds.



Domantas Sabonis led both teams with 32 points and also added 13 rebounds.



Myles Turner blocked eight shots against the Knicks to go along with his 10 points.

Pacers get narrow win vs. Celtics



Celtics guard Jeff Teague, who went to Pike High School, scored nine points in Boston’s 108-107 loss to the Pacers on Dec. 27. (Photos/David Dixon)



Malcolm Brogdon scored a team-high 25 points and also had two steals.

Colts blow 17-point lead vs. Steelers



Colts running back Jonathan Taylor (28) scores one of his two touchdowns in the Colts’ 28-24 loss to the Steelers on Dec. 27. Indianapolis had a 17-point lead in the second half but was out-scored 14-0 in the fourth quarter. The Colts still have a good chance to make the playoffs if they beat the Jaguars on Jan. 3. (Photos/Jeff Brown)