

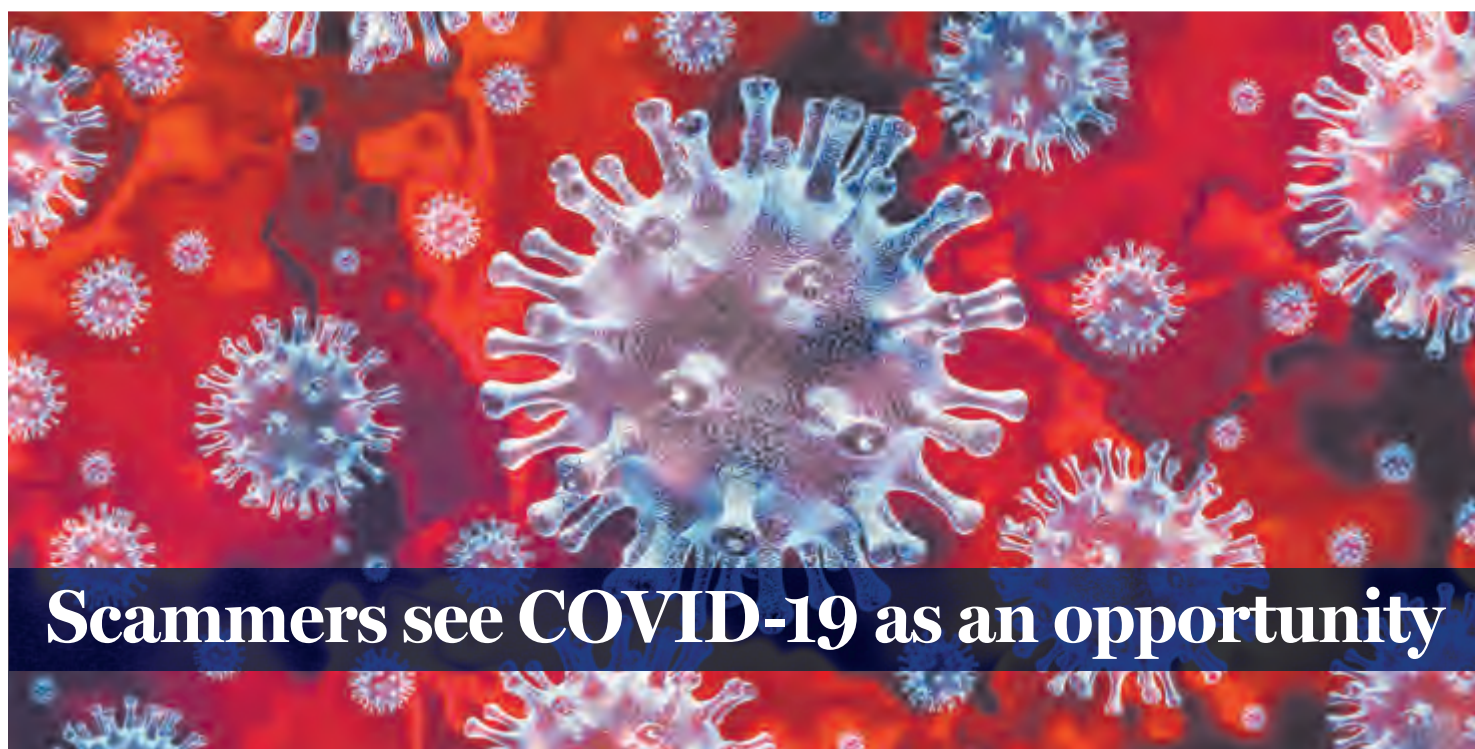
‘It’s not my day of independence,’ perceptions of July 4 changing

By BREANNA COOPER
BreannaC@indyrecorder.com

In a viral post making its rounds on social media, Black people are urged to wear all black on July 4, as opposed to red, white and blue outfits. The post reads, “Independence Day is another BLACK OUT day so they know we’re still in this together. Pass this on so the whole world knows BLACK LIVES MATTER.”

This post is just one example of the changing perceptions surrounding July 4. Farida Falke, who was born in Niger and immigrated to the United States as a toddler, remembers a different upbringing than some children of immigrants. “There are definitely immigrants who are raised to be super patriotic, pro America, fireworks and bald eagles screeching in the background,” Falke said. “I wasn’t raised like that. My parents, to this day, remind me to never forget my heritage, culture and what had to be done just for us to be here. So I still have that instilled in me in conjunction with basically being an American kid for most of my life.” Despite not believing in “blind allegiance and patriotism,” Falke said she didn’t notice

See CHANGES A3 ►



By TYLER FENWICK
tylerf@indyrecorder.com

One of the common ways scammers get people to fall for their tricks is by stirring up emotions — anger, panic, excitement, anything to make unsuspecting victims venture away from rational thought.

What a gift, then, COVID-19 has been to scammers because there are new realities — a global pandemic and resulting financial collapse — to take advantage of. “The fraudsters follow the headlines,” Todd Kossow, director of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Midwest Region, said during a recent virtual conference about scams that target diverse communities. What’s been in the headlines

See SCAMMERS A2 ►

BEWARE OF SCAMMERS

Common COVID-19 scams:

- Marketing unproven treatments for COVID-19
- Sending fake stimulus checks and asking for some money to be returned
- Pretend contact tracers who ask for financial information

If you suspect a scam:

- File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at [FTC.gov/complaint](https://www.ftc.gov/complaint) or with the Better Business Bureau at [bbb.org/scamtracker/reportscam](https://www.bbb.org/scamtracker/reportscam).

Dismantling the pipeline

By BREANNA COOPER
BreannaC@indyrecorder.com

When Mayor Joe Hogsett announced a partnership between the city and New York University to study crime trends in Indianapolis, truancy and graduation rates were cited as metrics for the study.

The link is clear: a 2018 study found 80% of men in state or federal prisons didn’t have a high school diploma.

But, is there something that could be done to prevent this — the school-to-prison pipeline — from happening in the first place?

According to Breanca Merritt, director of the Center for Research on Inclusion and Social Policy at IUPUI, the cycle must be addressed and broken long before children begin



thinking about college. “Decades of research show the earlier you start kids on a particular path, the more likely it is that they go to college,” Merritt said. “We need to have conversations about alternatives, though.”

Merritt said if it is unlikely a student will go to college, there needs to be “realistic discussions” about alternatives, as well as careers and professions which don’t require a college degree. “Our current in-

frastructure doesn’t allow kids on the pipeline to get off that track,” Merritt said. “We need to adequately prepare kids for alternative options.”

The school-to-prison pipeline is a term describing a system that sees students from marginalized groups disproportionately become incarcerated as young adults. Often, the outcome of the pipeline, incarceration, is discussed more than the causes. Current school policies and practices set up children for trouble long before any crimes are committed.

According to a study conducted by the University of California, Berkeley, Black students around the country are four times more likely than their white peers to be suspended. According to the U.S. Department of Education’s

See PIPELINE, A2 ►

HOLCOMB EXTENDS PROHIBITION ON EVICTIONS, BANS HAND-HELD DEVICES WHILE DRIVING

By STAFF

By signing Executive Order 20-33, Gov. Eric Holcomb extended the moratorium on evictions, foreclosures and the disconnection of utility services during the COVID-19 pandemic to July 31. Originally, the moratorium was set to expire June 30.

Under this order, evictions from rental properties and the prohibition of filing foreclosures are both extended through July 31, and renters, homeowners, lending institutions and landlords are “encouraged” to establish payment plans to avoid evictions and foreclosures from happening after July 31. Further, utilities regulated by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, as well as non-regulated utility companies, are required to follow the order, which prohibits service disconnections through Aug. 14.

Beginning at 9 a.m. July 13, Hoosiers struggling to pay rent due to COVID-19 may be eligible for rental assistance through the Indiana COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program. Visit [IndianaHousingNow.org](https://www.IndianaHousingNow.org) for more information or to apply.

In addition to extending the prohibition on evictions, a new state law took effect on July 1. The Hands Free While Driving law — which had bipartisan support from the Indiana General Assembly and was a key piece of Holcomb’s 2020 legislative agenda — prohibits the use of hand-held devices, such as phones and tablets, while driving.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, traffic deaths decreased by 20% in states with hands-free driving laws. In Indiana, drivers are now prohibited from having a mobile device in their hands when their vehicles are moving, unless they are dialing 911 in an emergency. However, the law does permit drivers to use voice-operated or hands-free technology, such as Bluetooth or speakerphone.

Drivers will have a grace period to adjust to the new law, and Indiana State Police will focus on educating drivers on the new law and safety benefits of not using your phone while driving. However, after the initial education campaign, drivers violating the law will be subject to a fine. Beginning in July 2021, drivers will also have points assessed against their driver’s licenses for violating the law.



Volume 125
Number 27
Two Sections

Published weekly by: The George P. Stewart Printing Co., Inc., P.O. Box 18499, 2901 N. Tacoma Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46218. Periodicals postage paid at Indianapolis, IN.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Indianapolis Recorder, P.O. Box 18499, 2901 N. Tacoma Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46218.

INDIANAPOLIS RECORDER USPS (262-660)

Subscription price by mail or carrier: \$39 per year; \$19.50 for 6 mos., 75 cents per copy. National advertising representative: Amalgamated Publishers Inc., 45 W. 45th St., New York, NY 10036. Member: National Newspaper Publishers Association, Central Indiana Publishers Association, Hoosier State Press Association.

SUBSCRIBERS BY MAIL: We are not responsible for replacing issues missed due to change of address or late renewals. Please allow two weeks when placing a new subscription or change of address order. Call (317) 924-5145.

Follow Us!



@indyrecorder



SCAMMERS

► Continued from A1

lately? Skyrocketing unemployment, constant updates about a potential treatment or vaccine for COVID-19, stories of people struggling to make ends meet.

One scam related to COVID-19 is people who pretend to be contact tracers. They ask for money, financial information, a Social Security number and immigration status. They might contact people with fraudulent links or downloads.

A real contact tracer will only ask for your name, address, health information and places you’ve visited recently.



As one of the nation's premier humanitarian organizations, the American Red Cross is dedicated to helping people in need throughout the United States and, in association with other Red Cross networks, throughout the world.

Executive Director –
Muncie/Lafayette, Indiana

This position is responsible for supporting region-led mission capacity building, informing the regional leadership team of community needs and perceptions, and strengthening relationships across all elements of the community by communicating the American Red Cross programs, capabilities and opportunities for community involvement. The successful candidate must be comfortable being the face of the Red Cross in their assigned territory. Requires 5 years of previous experience and experience with fundraising and revenue generation goals, to include ability to develop and implement fundraising strategies.

The American Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that offers employees:

- growth and development
- team spirit
- competitive salary
- comprehensive benefits package

Apply Now:
www.redcross.org/about-us/careers

We are an AAP/EEO Organization

Another scam involves individual people or companies trying to sell treatments for COVID-19 with no proof that they really work. If there is actually a medical breakthrough, it’s very unlikely you will hear about it for the first time from an ad or sales pitch.

Yet another scam involves sending fake stimulus checks to people for more than \$1,200 (the amount determined by Congress) and then ask for money back.

“The impact is huge because most of the time it’s low-income people who are exploited by this,” Rev. David Greene, pastor at Purpose of Life Ministries, said at the conference.

An FTC database has received more than 1,000 reports of scams related to COVID-19 in Indiana, resulting in more than \$100,000 lost, Kossow said.

One way to figure out if you’re dealing with a scammer is to consider how they want to be paid. If they want you to wire money, get a gift card or use a crypto currency such as Bitcoin, it could be because those methods of payment are difficult to track.

Whether you’ve caught on to a scam before it took your money or you’re thousands of dollars in the hole, it’s important to report scams. Not only does it give government agencies and other watchdogs a better idea of what the trends in scamming are, but if there’s ever money to distribute from that case, the FTC will use its database to figure out who gets that money, according to Andrew Johnson, a consumer education specialist with the FTC.

File a complaint to the FTC by visiting ftc.gov/complaint. You can also file a complaint to the Better Business Bureau (BBB) at bbb.org/scamtracker/reportscam.

Data suggest African American and Hispanic communities are underreporting fraud, even though those same communities experience fraud at a higher rate than whites.

A 2016 report from the FTC showed there are fewer complaints per 100,000 people in areas that are predominantly African American, compared to areas that are predominantly white, though the rates are about the same for areas that are almost all African American or white.

The rates are worse in areas that are predominantly or almost all Hispanic.

Part of the reason for low complaint rates could be simple mistrust in government. The FTC and BBB know this (although the BBB is not a government agency) and have tried building relationships with organizations and faith leaders who have more credibility in the community.

The BBB doesn’t take anonymous complaints, but the FTC does.

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

‘Power parade’ at the Urban League

By STAFF

The Indianapolis Ministerium — an organization of pastors working with children and widows — and the AfricaLogical Institute have partnered to host a “Power parade” at the Urban League, 777 Indiana Ave., on July 5.

The parade, led by city-county council President Vop Osili, will begin at 2 p.m. and will make its way past the Statehouse and the City-County Building to protest the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, as well as other Black Americans who have been killed in recent years.

Organizers hope to give young Hoosiers the chance to express themselves in a “safe and powerful way.”

Community partners include the Indianapolis Recorder, Faith in Indiana, The Children’s Policy and Law Initiative and the Indiana Coalition for Youth Justice

Register for the event at listentoourfuture.com

PIPELINE

► Continued from A1

Office for Civil Rights, roughly 7% of Black students dropped out of high school in 2017, as opposed to 4% of white students.

Colleen Curtin, the youth program coordinator for the Domestic Violence Network, said disproportionately punishing students of color perpetuates cycles of disenfranchisement.

“It used to be that when you got in trouble at school, you went to the office or saw the dean,” Curtin said in a previous interview with the Recorder. “Now, students are meeting with disciplinary officers. Those officers often feel compelled to treat these students like they were breaking the law on the street.”

This disparity can ultimately lead to students getting expelled or feeling disconnected from an academic setting. This ultimately leads to not only a lack of education, but idle time for high-risk activities and limited job opportunities, all of which are known causes of crime.

Merritt noted Black students are affected by racism and a lack of opportunity regardless of their socioeconomic status. Further, students are often affected by events out of their control, including school and neighborhood policy decisions.

A lack of cultural understanding and biases held by teachers and school staff also play a large role in disproportionate disciplining and the pipeline, Merritt said.

“There are a lot of cultural disconnects between Black students and white teachers,” Merritt said. “... Black students tend to be a little more expressive, and a white teacher may look at that and say, ‘You’re out of line. You’re not behaving.’ The lack of awareness [among teachers] and a lack of opportunity are the roots of why the pipeline occurs.”

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



If I could do one thing, I’d have
a daycare closer to work.

If you could do one thing for your community, what would it be? More daycare centers? More funding for Head Start? Completing the 2020 Census is a safe and easy way to inform how billions of dollars in funding flow into your community for hundreds of services. **Respond online, by phone, or by mail.**

Complete the census at:
2020CENSUS.GOV
Paid for by U.S. Census Bureau.

Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States®
**Census
2020**

CHANGES

► Continued from A1

a change in her perception of July 4 until recently. “I think my perception of July 4 hadn’t really changed until about a year or so ago,” Falke said. “As a kid and teen, I didn’t think too much about the deeper meaning behind the day. I just always liked it because of the positive associations, like summertime, fireworks ... a good time and celebrating America. It wasn’t until recently that I started feeling less of those overwhelming-mandatory-patriotic-all-American feelings, especially in the wake of the BLM [Black Lives Matter] movement.” Throughout the protests and demonstrations which have been taking place throughout the city for a month, organizers and leaders are calling on those in the crowds to understand the history of the United States and the systemic racism that many say still permeates modern society. At a demonstration at Military Park and IUPUI June 19, Mat Davis, an organizer from the Indiana Racial Justice Alliance, told the crowd about this history of Juneteenth — when individuals enslaved in Texas two years after the signing of

the Emancipation Proclamation learned they had been freed. Davis told the group of roughly 45 people that they were fighting for the same thing as enslaved individuals and those who fought during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s were fighting for: freedom. “So, let’s get free!” he exclaimed at the end of his address. Falke wishes Juneteenth was just as widely known as the Fourth of July. “I think celebrating the nation’s independence is fine and I have no problems with people finding joy or excitement in the Fourth,” Falke said. “It’s an excuse to have fun, get a day off from work and watch fireworks. That being said, I wish we all kept the same energy for Juneteenth. A select few were really free on July 4, so it’s not my day of independence or any other Black person’s, really. The Fourth is fine, but there needs to be more education and visibility for Juneteenth.” NiSean Jones, a local activist and co-founder of the group Black Out for Black Lives, also believes Juneteenth ought to be acknowledged as an important moment in American history.

“I shouldn’t have had to find out about Juneteenth at 18,” Jones said. “We all know about the Fourth of July and its European influence — and by European, of course, I mean white. Juneteenth is an important day, and young Black kids should learn about it in school just like white kids learn about the Fourth of July.”

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



It Seems to Me: The nationwide and local crisis make for serious ‘teaching moments’

By THOMAS L. BROWN

My observances of the various civil unrests all over the world concerning police violence and the branding cadence “Black Lives Matter” that comes out of America has certainly made the way for what Angela Davis stated: “This period of protest makes for the world and America, teachable moments.”

For those who may not know, Ms. Angela Davis was and is a Black female scholar and historical contemporary revolutionary advocate for equality and justice. This is how I describe this sister, who was born in Birmingham, Alabama. Much more could truly describe this dynamic sister.

The “teaching moments” covers many subjects to be addressed. My first subject of the “teaching moment” addresses “Black Power and white Power.”

The protests that emerged gave rise to Black presence of power. That presence of power was manifested in unity. It seemed to have brought many whites of power into the cause to call “Black Lives Matter.”

Now, the question for me is, what is the teachable moment? In the period of the ‘60s, we of SNCC proclaimed “Black Power” as a movement of liberation and equality, Not “civil rights.” Today, it is necessary that meanings and definitions of what power is and how it acts, and for reasons of when and where.

We know, or we should know, that power in America has certainly been white. We also should know that white power has been oppressive and is oppressive now. In this teachable movement, however, we can learn that white power has been due to FEAR! Fear of Black people, maybe, or the possibility of the fear to love.

In a series of my essays, “Fear to Love and Love to Fear,” I have and still define love and fear as the “subjects” of our personal and collective consciousness of “beingness.” In other words, white power as a fear response manifests what I call “white racism and/or white supremacy.”

On the other hand of the equation, Black power has its issues of “fear to love and love to fear” that weakens Black people’s ability to unite and work together for a “common good.” By this, I mean we fear to love one another.

We are afraid to unite for our educational, economical and political good. There are various reasons for this dynamic that will be written in future columns, if allowed.

This teachable moment, however, can be the experience of “truth telling” that is tied into our educational system in schools, universities and various religious institutions, as well as the various protests and demonstrations. I have witnessed “truth actions” of emotion in a “power being-ness”

that has brought all colors together. Consequently, these “truth actions” have to be told and taught in the various educational subjects, particularly in history and social science classes.

I have to admit that in the very early ‘70s, Blacks in Indiana initiated the Indiana Black Expo, which in my opinion was a demonstration of Black power. Its theme was “Working Together Works.” I will not in this writing give individual names, but those persons involved were primarily Black leaders, local grassroots organizers and all sorts of persons of the Black experience.

As of this date, there is no comprehensive “truth telling” written history of those days. There is no description of the how, the why, the what and when of Indiana Black Expo’s emergence of the collective power movement. Certainly, there are many other great Black power initiatives throughout our nation. One very interesting one was Tulsa, Oklahoma, with Black Wall Street.

Certainly, in Indianapolis, many can remember Indiana Avenue and Madam C.J. Walker Enterprises. That was Black power driven by what I would phrase as Black women power. Certainly, we in the “teachable moments” and as politicians say about today’s circumstances, “we must seize the moment.” Why they use that phrase is

interesting, they want to seize our power of a possible “unity” as Black people for their goal of reelection.

This time is to vote as a “teachable moment” in November. Black power and white power can emerge if each can rid themselves of fear and collectively unite out of love. This is the time for “teachable moments,” and it is not going to be easy. Four hundred years of “mis-education” has had its impact upon the psyche of persons in this country. It is based upon the fact that “we love to fear and fear to love.” Our past few weeks of protests did show some “teachable moments” of Black and white power together.

IPS created racial equity policy

By TYLER FENWICK
tylerf@indyrecorder.com

The Indianapolis Public Schools board approved a new policy June 25 to focus on eliminating any existing “policies, practices, attitudes and cultural messages” that perpetuate differential outcomes for students or fail to eliminate them.

The Racial Equity Mindset, Commitment & Action policy is part of the district’s ongoing effort to eliminate racism and biases that impact students, staff and families.

IPS will implement several measures, including:

- Giving staff access to professional learning experiences about racial equity.
- Supporting the district’s most vulnerable communities, especially during an unprecedented crisis such as the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Offering students culturally relevant curriculum and instruction materials.

“IPS has reached a major milestone in the history of our district, and it has been a long time coming. We are now

on a journey toward authentic racial equity,” Dr. Patricia Payne, director of the IPS Racial Equity Office, said in a press release. “This will require major shifts in knowledge, attitudes, mindsets, belief systems and practices. We will know this has been achieved when student outcomes can no longer be predicted by race or ethnicity.”

The school board also approved the Black Lives Matter resolution, which details the city’s, state’s and country’s history of systemic racism and how that history continues to create barriers.

“The commitment of the Board and district leadership to further refine our ability to level the playing field for all students, regardless of race or ethnicity, is profound,” IPS Superintendent Aleesia Johnson said in the release. “All of our 31,000 students deserve the best instructors, classroom environments, curriculum and technology to reach their full potential now and in the future.”

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



WE’RE HIRING **PART-TIME**
SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS
AND MONITORS

Offering \$1,500* Hiring Bonus for Drivers and \$500* Hiring Bonus for Monitors.

*CONDITIONS APPLY. MUST BE FULLY TRAINED BY AUGUST 1, 2020. DRIVER TRAINING CAN TAKE APPROXIMATELY 3-4 WEEKS.

We are proud to offer:
\$21/hr Starting Wages for Drivers
\$14/hr Starting Wages for Monitors
No Nights or Weekends
FREE TRAINING
Apply today!
FirstGroupCareers.com
317-449-0796

We are an equal opportunity employer that values a diverse workforce.

First  **Student**

EDITORIAL

Dismantling systemic racism in education

By OSEYE BOYD



We’re living in a modern-day Civil Rights Movement. I recently read that statement, and it gave me chills. The “movement” happened well before I was born, and I’ve always thought of it in historical terms: It happened long ago, is done and won’t occur again. How wrong I was. Just as those who came before us, we are fighting for a better life — right now and for future generations. While we were added into the system, the gains we made in the 1950s and ‘60s didn’t change the system, which was the desired outcome. Systemic racism still persists as does white hate. Unfortunately, today’s movement is eerily similar to the Civil Rights Movement of the past. Black Lives Matters demonstrators today encounter the same rage and hate as those who marched decades before them. Look at the pictures from now and then. If not for the clothes, you wouldn’t know there’s about a 50-year difference. It’s amazing to me that people haven’t learned from the past and are happy to be on the wrong side of history. Today’s Civil Rights Movement recognizes entire systems must be dismantled and rebuilt in order for real change to occur. That’s a lofty goal, and there’s no easy way to start since we can’t just stop everything and start anew. But there is recognition from leaders in our community that more has to be done to effect real

change. For this reason, it’s heartening to see the 11 superintendents from Marion County join forces to create the Anti-Racism Initiative. The initial efforts include:

- “No Racism Zone” signs at high schools.
- Disseminating information to parents to educate themselves and their children about why racial equality and equity is important.
- Working with the Indiana State Teachers Association to support the efforts of their Minority Affairs Committee.
- Superintendents will make a video emphasizing their commitment to racial equality and equity.
- Superintendents will encourage their boards to adopt policies that address equality and equity.

This is a noble start, and I’m encouraged to see what more will be done in schools, especially since Indianapolis Public Schools’ and many of our township schools’ populations are majority Black and their teaching staff is majority white. Take the Metropolitan School District of Pike Township for example. Black students comprise 60.5% of the population while Black teachers account for 25.3%. White students make up 8% of the population; white teachers are 71.2% of educators in the district. I knew this anecdotally, but to see the numbers makes one realize how important this initiative is and how it must delve deeper than signage and videos. The education system — from teaching colleges to textbooks to hiring to professional development — must ensure schools not only more closely reflect their

student population, but teachers in those systems understand systemic racism and their role in dismantling it. We can’t afford to keep teachers who refuse to teach the truth. What do I mean by that? We need teachers to take their blinders off and have a long look at what they’re teaching students. Are you teaching students a white-washed version of historical events, only looking through the lens of white people, or are you looking at the totality of the event. For instance, do you understand why Nat Turner led a revolt, or do you think he was wrong and side with the slave owners? Do you think of Native Americans as savages because they killed white people, but don’t recognize the savage acts of the colonists toward Native Americans? One of the biggest complaints about our education system is Black people (or any minority group) aren’t taught about their role in American history other than a footnote or a sanitized version of events filtered through a white prism. I can’t count the number of times I’ve heard people say they didn’t know about Juneteenth until recently. Why isn’t that taught? When did you first learn the true story of Abraham Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation? Some still teach Christopher Columbus found America. Yes, it’s uncomfortable. Some teachers will have to come to terms with everything they’ve been taught and everything they are teaching is wrong. But that’s what dismantling a system looks like. No one said this would be easy.

OPINIONS

The cost of being Black

By LARRY SMITH



I’ve been thinking about Pecola Breedlove, the emotionally tormented character from Toni Morrison’s incomparable debut novel, “The Bluest Eye.” Published the year in which I was born, “The Bluest Eye” is notable in part because it is a story of racism that is set in Morrison’s native Ohio — as opposed to some stereotypical Southern state. Pecola is poor. She is Black. She is female. And she is constantly belittled by others — Black and white — for being “ugly.” She tries valiantly to navigate a world that unapologetically tries to negate her very existence. She asks God to give her the quintessential mark of whiteness — blue eyes. Pecola’s ill-fated quest for validation of her humanity is excruciatingly painful (for her and for the reader). That quest is all too familiar for far too many African Americans. Morrison wrote this book during a period of substantial shifts in American society and politics. The Civil Rights Movement was giving way to the Black

Power Movement. Also, the U.S. had recently transitioned from having a president who recognized that racism was a major problem to selecting one who fanned the flames of that very racism for his own political gain. Morrison, who died almost a year ago at age 88, was so deliberate, so exacting, so flawless in her mastery of language. She spoke eloquently about laboring to find precisely the right concoction of words to do justice to the stories that dwelled inside her. In so doing, Morrison deftly elucidates the depths of the psycho-social trauma that attends Blackness in America. For example, she lays out how Pecola’s mere presence is an affront — even an unforgivable offense — to whiteness. This leads to Pecola losing her sanity. While I have never desired to be white, I have long envied the multiplicity of advantages — explicit and implicit — that collectively have come to be known as “white privilege.” (It is fascinating to watch so many whites deny the existence of the last thing that most of them would ever voluntarily forego.) Arguably, the most important aspect of white privilege is not having to endure the longing to be acknowledged as fully human. Ultimately, white privilege is not

about dollars; it is about dignity. Recently I’ve seen an increasing number of stories in the media regarding white people who didn’t “get it” until they became parents of Black children. Yet, even well-meaning white people — whom we call “allies” — cannot fathom the extraordinary energy that it takes to simply exist in the world that Black women, men, girls and boys traverse every single day. As a Black man I have to figure out how not to appear “threatening” to whites (especially women) when I’m shopping. I have to go through a mental checklist of “do’s and don’ts” if I’m pulled over by the police. I have to have “the talk” with my son at least quarterly so that he can avoid being harassed — or even killed — by the police. I have to be prepared for “Karen” to challenge my right to be in a certain neighborhood, restaurant, hotel, or store. This is exceedingly draining. As Fannie Lou Hamer decreed, “We’re sick and tired of being sick and tired.” People long ago discovered that the constant dripping of water onto even the hardest surface would eventually cause an indentation. Though it probably was not invented by the Chinese, “water torture” is infamous as a method

of interrogation. And it is an appropriate analogy for what it is like to be Black in America. We endure the drip-drip-dripping of racial insults (including the repeated denials that we’re actually experiencing them) until many of us eventually “crack.” If Black life had a soundtrack, it would shift back and forth between “Fight the Power” and “The Message.” I know that a growing number of whites argue that their race has become a hindrance in modern America. They display their laments and grievances in everyday conversations and across social media: “Why does ‘white’ automatically mean racist?” “Why don’t we have White History Month?” “I’m not racist, but ...” Those expressions of frustration, while heartfelt, pale in comparison to the effects of 400 years of racial oppression — a reality in which negative consequences have compounded like interest. Similarly, I know that “all people — including white people — have problems.” While there are no actual winners in the “oppression games,” as the title of the late Bebe Moore Campbell’s book testifies, “Your Blues Ain’t Like Mine.”

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

‘Homicides: A product of systemic racism and a public health crisis’

By MARSHAWN WOLLEY



Black people are killing each other due to systemic racism and state government has a responsibility to dismantle these systems they sustain with policy inaction. White people kill white people, Latinx people kill Latinx people — basically a lot of crime occurs intraracially due to proximity. But I love Black people and I’m concerned about the scale of our dying, how it is occurring and the lack of engagement by state leaders. Allow food apartheid to develop through a failure to act. Restrict communities from “banning the box.” Give any community schools that fail to teach children of their greatness and potential. Allow redlining to occur across the state. Maintain lax gun control laws. Allow companies to offer un-livable wages. State violence doesn’t just wear a police uniform. As data is the language of policy, we must define its meaning ourselves so that we can achieve our policy outcomes. We know Black homicide numbers are higher than other groups, but they are second only to the situation

where a Black person is killed, and by the end of the year police don’t have a suspect or assailant. We know the homicide numbers are horrific so I will spare you that. Racists will look at the numbers and make racist conclusions. Racists have had too much influence on how we even talk about this problem so they will get no support here. Loving Black people means you are concerned about our escalating homicides in our community and asking where is our justice given the large number of unknown assailants in our community? Loving Black people may also mean questioning whether or not known “assailants” are rightfully convicted. I get that. I’m there. Loving Black people also means considering what happened. What got the victim killed and what got the assailant to the point where they took someone’s brother, father, uncle and increasingly sister, mother, aunt from our community? Loving Black people can also mean not wanting to talk about this now, even though the city has hit 100 homicides earlier than any other point in its history, and the vast majority of the people dying are Black. This macabre fact is why we must have this difficult conversation — even as we fight on other fronts. Again, racists don’t get to control any aspect of the Black community including why we love Black people by fighting for police reform. Of the 255 non-fatal shooting victims this year, 195 are Black people. There have been 33 Black women and girls who have been shot in this city. That trauma ripples through our community exponentially. Black people care when Black people are shot or killed. Some of us want to say poverty pulled the trigger. Hunger pulled that trigger. I get that. The fact that technically there are more white people living in poverty in Indianapolis than Black people and the Latinx poverty rate is higher than ours (32% compared to 26%), won’t seem like a challenge to the view that poverty induced violence is driving this slow-moving genocide in our community. Afterall, whiteness is its own form of currency. Black poverty is also different with legacies going back to slavery and Jim Crow.

Some might say anger at an oppressive system that trains Black people to hate Black people pulled the trigger that ended the life of another Black person. Mental health is implicated in trying to fight all of the systems arrayed against Black folks. I’m sympathetic to these positions — to a point. Systemic racism produces Black poverty and white supremacy, and the latter is a form of terrorism that is genocidal and can’t just be treated like crime. Even as we know personal accountability has to be somewhere in the decision to kill — put white people in the same position as Black people have been in for 400 years and see if there are any differences in underlying health conditions, economic realities, homicide rates, etc. Indiana has been in the Top 10 for Black people dying for nearly a decade because systems were designed to produce this outcome. It’s past time Gov. Holcomb declare homicides in Indianapolis a product of systemic racism and a public health crisis. The legislature hasn’t passed laws to address food deserts and they created an inequitable school funding formula. State government shut down our mental health hospitals. State government is on the hook for criminal justice and police reform. Indiana state government constantly meddles in Indianapolis affairs and is just as responsible as local government for the development of systemic racism in Indianapolis over time and so must be held accountable for dismantling these life robbing systems. What I’m hearing ... Has the IMPD Accident Review Board regularly convened in the last four or five years? This board assesses whether an officer or a citizen is at fault in a traffic incident. By not convening this board the city may be picking up the tab for reckless driving of IMPD officers. And finally an interesting development — multiple elected officials have expressed interest in the idea of having citizens on IMPD’s general orders committee.

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

INDIANAPOLIS RECORDER

NEWSPAPER

George P. Stewart

Founder-Editor-Publisher

1895-1924

Marcus C. Stewart Sr.

Editor-Publisher

1925-1988

Eunice Trotter

Editor-in-Chief

1988-1990

William G. Mays

Owner/Publisher

1990-present

President/Chief Operating Officer.....Robert Shegog

ADVERTISING/MARKETING

Senior Strategic Media Consultant.....Rita J. Wise

Sales Representative.....Michael Falker

EDITORIAL

Editor.....Oseye Boyd

Staff Writers.....Breanna Cooper

.....Tyler Fenwick

TECHNOLOGY

Technology Editor.....Rupal Thanawala

BUSINESS

Business Office Coordinator.....TaLette Jones

Business Office/Legals.....Crystal Dalton

PRODUCTION

Production Manager.....Jeffery Sellers

Art Director.....John L. Hurst Jr.

Designer.....Jeana M. L. Ouattara

Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper encourages short, concise letters to the editor and opinion articles from the public. Letters and opinion articles will be used at the editor's discretion and are subject to editing. We will not guarantee publication of material received. We cannot guarantee dates of publication. Letters containing libelous or untrue statements will not be published. All letters and opinion articles must include a verifiable full name, address and telephone number. This information will not be published at the request of the writer. Letters and articles should be typed but will be accepted if handwriting is legible.

(317) 924-5143

P.O. Box 18499, Indianapolis, IN 46218-0499

newsroom@indyrecorder.com



On June 19, Warren Central High School turned on the stadium lights for 8 minutes and 46 seconds in honor of George Floyd. (Photo/Oseye Boyd)

Marion County superintendents band together against racism in schools

By MIKAILI AZZIZ

Long before the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, racial equity procedures were in place in schools across Indianapolis. Interdepartmental attempts to address discrimination in schools have gone by many labels over the years: diversity and inclusion, racial equity and so on.

But with tensions high across the country and throughout the city — Marion County’s 11 superintendents felt acknowledgement of recent events wasn’t sufficient.

The Anti-Racism Initiative, a collective effort between every public school district in the county, launched in mid-June to actively combat racism in Marion County public schools.

“We saw what was happening in the larger community, and came to the conclusion that there was a lot of power in coming together collectively and naming our efforts and commitment as being anti-racist,” said Aleesia Johnson, Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) superintendent.

On June 19, each of the Marion County public school districts turned on the lights at a stadium in their district for 8 minutes and 46 seconds — the amount of time officer Derek Chauvin kneeled on George Floyd’s neck.

Each superintendent also participated in a video intended to reinforce their respective commitments to racial equality and equity.

For some of the district’s leaders, dealing with racism in everyday life is an all-too-real phenomenon.

“I’m no different than any other African American male — I’ve been pulled over and I’ve been questioned,” said Dr. Shawn Smith, Metropolitan School District of Lawrence Township superintendent. “It doesn’t matter if I’m a superintendent or have doctor in front of my name. I’ve been mistreated.”

Jeff Butts, superintendent of Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township, noted his own experiences as a white male reflect the mistreatment of African Americans like Smith.

“I was profiled early on in my childhood because of some friends I had,

and the area I was in,” he said. “I certainly have not experienced profiling to the level that many of my colleagues have, but I have a very small taste of it.”

According to Butts, the Anti-Racism Initiative’s purpose isn’t just to address issues on a surface level.

“The goal is to dig a lot deeper into systemic racism, privilege and equity work,” Butts said. “If this isn’t important enough for superintendents to acknowledge, then everything eventually falls on deaf ears and doesn’t remain at the forefront.”

One component of the initiative is “No Racism Zone” signage, which will be publicly displayed on each district’s high school campus before school starts to further highlight a commitment to combating racism.

Schools with large minority populations aren’t the only districts participating in this initiative. Other districts with significantly smaller minority populations also see the value in ensuring students learn the importance of being anti-racist.

“Since we’re not a majority-minority township, it’s even more important for us to see through that equity lens,” said Bruce Hibbard, Franklin Township Community School Corp. superintendent. Franklin Township schools is more than 70% white.

The minority population in Beech Grove City Schools is also on the low end, at 10% to 13%.

“We’re constantly trying to hire staff members that look like our students,” said Paul Kaiser, Beech Grove’s superintendent.

Each district will work with the Indiana State Teachers Association to support the efforts of their Minority Affairs Committee, in addition to disseminating a guide for parents to educate themselves and their children about the need for racial equality and equity. “It can’t be the government. It can’t be politicians. It’s gotta be the schools. We’ve gotta make the difference,” Kaiser said.

Contact newsroom intern Mikaili Azziz at 317-924-5143. Follow her on Twitter @mikailiazziz.

Addition and subtraction

By SEAN L. HUDDLESTON



The events that have surrounded and engulfed our nation over that past months have had a significant impact — and made an indelible mark — on the state of higher education and what it means to students and families. In early March, the public health pandemic caused by the novel coronavirus and COVID-19 began to essentially rewrite the playbook for colleges and universities across the nation on how they would and would not recruit, engage and teach their students. Faculty, students and administrators began to feel the loss of connection to each other, with their interactions being quickly assigned to a virtual world. The class of 2020 found itself devoid of the opportunity to participate in the ceremonies that celebrate one of the biggest milestone accomplishments in one’s life due to social distancing restrictions. Just a few months later, the horrible murder of George Floyd at the hands of four Minneapolis police officers helped to finally wake up our nation and bring global attention to the violence and atrocities Black people in America continue to endure. Protests called out racism and racial injustice to affirm that both Black lives and Black livelihoods do matter.

In general, it is easy to focus on what was lost to us through each crisis. The health pandemic brought the uncertainty to newly minted high school graduates on if they would be able to keep their plans for college and for institutions, if and when they would be able to open their campuses to students again. The protests in cities throughout the United States that

devolved into violent confrontations reminded colleges and universities that their responsibility for encouraging, promoting and protecting civil discourse and constructive activism may have gotten lost. However, this focus distracts from some of the educational accomplishments achieved by African Americans during this time. Nicholas Johnson became the first Black valedictorian of Princeton University in the school’s 274-year-old history. High schools in Texas, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina and Virginia named their first Black valedictorians as well. The oldest law school in the United States, the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William & Mary, named A. Benjamin Spencer as its first African American dean. And finally, our first African American president and first lady helped lead the nation’s first national high school and HBCU graduation celebrations. We cannot allow these accomplishments to be overshadowed by the things that crises can take away from us.

As students and families begin to pivot towards the upcoming academic year, I pray that we are reminded of what has been added to the many educational accomplishments that continue to help write Black history in America. Crises will always illuminate what has been subtracted from our lives, well-being and culture. Our resilience reminds us of our power to change the narrative and add more to our progress than we have lost. Through education, we must continue to focus our efforts on addition and not subtraction.

Dr. Sean Huddleston is president of Martin University, Indiana’s only predominately Black institution (PBI) of higher education.

Your Health and Safety is our Top Priority at Eskenazi Health

By Dr. Broderick Rhyant, Chief Physician Executive, Eskenazi Health Center Forest Manor



Since the beginning of the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, many individuals have rigidly adhered to the quarantine and social distancing guidelines that have been established, which includes avoiding regularly scheduled appointments with health care providers. In an effort to avoid contracting COVID-19 in recent months, some individuals have avoided going to health care facilities when circumstances dictate that maybe they should go and be checked out by a provider. Eskenazi Health encourages everyone to remain vigilant in having regular check-ups and staying current with vaccines and medications. To that end, the following measures are being taken at all Eskenazi Health facilities to protect you and our staff during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Many appointments with Eskenazi Health providers of late have been taking place via telephone or through telehealth visits. This will continue, but we are also carefully resuming some in-person appointments and procedures.

- We are keeping the number of visits and procedures that we do each day much lower than usual to decrease the number of people in our buildings.

- Everyone in Eskenazi Health buildings is required to wear a face mask. This includes all patients, visitors and staff members. We will provide masks for those who need them. Masks reduce the spread of the virus especially from people just coming down with

the infection who may not know they are getting sick. We wear masks to protect others, not just ourselves.

- We are screening people entering our buildings for illness. We do not allow our staff to come to work if they feel sick.

- We have placed hand sanitizers at all entrances and where patients and staff travel in our buildings. Please use them when you are here.

- We are cleaning all surfaces that people touch, such as door handles, table tops, and the arms of chairs, frequently. The procedures we use to clean all of our patient care rooms are proven to kill the virus.

- We have arranged waiting areas to keep people well separated from each other.

- We are limiting visitors to one adult visitor for patients undergoing procedures to reduce the number of people in our buildings.

People who believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19 should contact their health care provider immediately. If you are ill with flu-like symptoms such as fever, cough or shortness of breath, please call your health center or clinic before coming to your appointment. At Eskenazi Health, please call 317.880.7666 before coming to your appointment. Health care professionals are available 24/7 to answer questions on symptoms and direct you to the most appropriate care. It is important to first call before arriving at Eskenazi Health. You can also connect with your primary care provider’s office through your Eskenazi Health MyChart account online at EskenaziHealth.edu.



Analysis: Masks may have prevented virus spread in protests

By KEVIN MCGILL
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Underpinning protests against racial injustice in New Orleans earlier this month was a fear that the demonstrations, however necessary to raise public consciousness, would endanger public health in a city and state that had been hot spots for the new coronavirus.

Cases of COVID-19 have been on the rise in Louisiana and other states as restrictions on public gatherings and businesses have eased. But fears that the New Orleans protests — launched after the police custody death of George Floyd in Minneapolis — would contribute significantly to major coronavirus clusters have proven unfounded so far.

Dr. Joseph Kanter, director of the state health department region that includes New Orleans, said June 25 that of the recent positive cases in the area, only a few were among people who attended the protests.

“We’re now a couple of weeks out,” Kanter said of protests that began in late May and extended into early June. “We have not seen a spike in cases for New Orleans ... We’ve not yet seen any indication that the protests have contributed significantly to COVID cases.”

There are some caveats here. Testing continues, as does daily analysis of data. The picture may change.

Still, for now, it is a bit of good news — first touted by New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell and city health director Dr. Jennifer Avegno — as cases rise and hospitalizations, once on a steady downward trend, appeared to be ticking up again.

If the numbers hold up under further analyses, the New Orleans protests will be cited as examples of what



health officials in Louisiana and nationwide have been saying: Outdoor gatherings are safer than indoor gatherings, and wearing masks — face coverings were in full evidence during the demonstrations — helps prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

“Any crowd is a risk. There is no question about that,” Kanter said. “But you’re safer when you’re outdoors, and you’re safer when you wear a mask.”

If protesters in New Orleans in early June were being mindful of masking, it also appears that many young people with less weighty matters on their minds have not been. Roughly 100 cases have recently been traced to colleges in Baton Rouge, and roughly 25 to 30

cases, Kanter said, have been traced to graduation parties in the New Orleans area.

“There seems to be either a lack of understanding or a lack of responsibility among many of our young people and in some cases their parents who are aware of their actions,” Avegno said June 24.

Gov. John Bel Edwards noted at a news conference in Baton Rouge that significant percentages of young people are among the more than 53,000 confirmed cases recorded since March. State health department figures show there have been more than 2,500 confirmed cases in Louisiana in people under 18; more than 9,500 among those 18-29 and more than 8,600 in the 30-39 age range. Those between

from 40 to 49 accounted for more than 8,400; 50-59, more than 8,600; 60-69, more than 7,100; 70 and older, more than 8,100.

The vast majority of people who get infected with the new coronavirus recover. For most people, it causes mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough that clear up in two to three weeks. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia and death.

It has been a factor in more than 3,000 deaths in Louisiana since March, according to the state health department.

That the vast majority of deaths have been among those over 70, with very few among

those under 30, may contribute to young people being less heedful of social distancing and mask-wearing advice.

Still, as Edwards said June 24, while young people appear to be least vulnerable to the disease, they aren’t invincible. Some, especially those with unknown underlying health conditions, could suffer.

First, as Edwards said June 24, while young people appear to be least vulnerable to the disease, they aren’t invincible. Some, especially those with unknown underlying health conditions, could suffer.

Second, as Dr. Jimmy Guidry, the state health officer, said, “It’s going to start in young people and it’s going to get over to the vulnerable population.”

Staying Cool in Hot Summer Weather

As temperatures rise this summer, the Marion County Public Health Department offers a reminder that the heat can cause illness for anyone. During extreme heat, the body’s ability to cool itself during is affected primarily by:

- High humidity. When the humidity is high, sweat won’t evaporate as quickly, which keeps your body from releasing heat as fast as it may need to.
- Personal factors. Age, obesity, fever, dehydration, heart disease, mental illness, poor circulation, sunburn, and prescription drug and alcohol use can play a role in whether or not a person can cool off enough in very hot weather.

Those at highest risk include people age 65 and older, children younger than age two, and people with chronic diseases or mental illness. These vulnerable populations should be closely monitored, especially those who are dependent on someone else for their care.

Other important ways to prevent illness or death from the heat:

- Drink plenty of water. In fact, drink more water than usual.
- Stay in air-conditioned buildings as much as possible. People can reduce the risk for heat-related illness by spending time in homes or public facilities that are air-conditioned and using air conditioning in vehicles when possible.

Do not rely on a fan as a primary cooling device during an extreme heat event.

Even young and healthy people can get sick from the heat if they participate in strenuous physical activities during hot weather. They should limit outdoor activity, especially in the middle of the day when the sun is hottest. Wearing sunscreen and reapplying it as indicated on the label is important, too.

Any physical activity should start slow with the pace increasing gradually. Muscle cramping may be an early sign of heat-related illness.

Wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing.

When playing a sport that practices during hot weather, protect yourself and look out for teammates. Monitor a teammate’s condition and have someone do the same for you. Seek medical care immediately if you or someone else has symptoms of heat-related illness.

Resources on staying health and safe in the hot weather are available at CDC.gov.

Indianapolis EMS Welcomes New EMTs and Paramedics

Indianapolis EMS (IEMS) announces 23 emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedic graduates of its most recent training academy.

The four-week academy is required for all new IEMS recruits to become familiar with the procedures and working environments of Marion County public safety.

This latest group of graduates joins more than 300 current IEMS providers working every day to care for the residents and visitors of Marion County.

“We are excited to welcome this new group of team members who are joining us while the COVID-19 pandemic continues and our overall run volumes are at an all-time high,” said Dr. Dan O’Donnell, chief of IEMS. “This group of people applied and stepped up to serve during the height of COVID-19, when it would have been easy to seek less stressful employment. That is to be commended.”

Indianapolis EMS is the largest provider of emergency pre-hospital medical care in the state. The agency is a partnership between the City of Indianapolis, Indiana University School of Medicine, and Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County, with Eskenazi Health as the supervising health system

Healthcare Coverage For All

covering
kids & Families
of Health & Hospital Corporation

Do You Need Health Coverage?

Contact CKF to schedule an appointment at
317-221-2464 or
www.ckfindiana.org

After Floyd, raw talk, racial reckoning among US Muslims

By MARIAM FAM
Associated Press

As a young student, Hind Makki recalls, she would call out others at the Islamic school she attended when some casually used an Arabic word meaning “slaves” to refer to Black people.

“Maybe 85% of the time, the response that I would get from people ... is ‘Oh, we don’t mean you, we mean the Americans,’” Makki said during a virtual panel discussion on race, one of many organized in the wake of George Floyd’s death.

“That’s a whole other situation about anti-Blackness, particularly against African Americans,” said Makki, who identifies as a Black Arab Muslim.

In recent weeks, many Muslims in the U.S. have joined racial justice rallies across the country and denounced racism in sermons, statements and webinars. American Muslims, Black and non-Black are also having raw conversations like Makki’s as they grapple with questions of racial equity, tensions and representation in their own faith communities.

“Everyone is talking about this, like from the uncle who’s been here since the early ‘70s, was a retired doctor somewhere, a retired board member of a mosque to ... a high school student in the suburbs,” Makki, an anti-racism and interfaith educator, said in an interview. “The question needs to be pushed further than what words, what slurs you’re using, which you shouldn’t be using. How can we reach equity ... in the spaces that we actually can change?”

Muslims in America are diverse. No racial or ethnic group makes up a majority of Muslim American adults, and 20% are Black, according to a 2017 survey by Pew Research Center.

Margari Hill, executive director of the Muslim Anti-Racism Collaborative, says she has seen a surge of interest, questions and demand from Muslim communities for her expertise: Can she look at a statement or provide topics for a program? Are there resources in Arabic or Bengali? Is it more appropriate to say Black or African American? Can she talk about anti-Blackness?



Hind Makki, poses for a portrait at the The Prayer Center of Orland Park in Orland Park, Ill., on June 22, 2020. Charles Rex Arbogast / AP

“There’s been a lot of calling out and calling in and deep reflection,” she said. “We’re asking people to be committed to, like, unlearning, you know, and building authentic relationships” that last beyond the current moment.

Questions about how much change the flurry of discussions can spark echo those about a larger, national reckoning.

“The openness of all different corners of the Muslim community to have this conversation in a really robust way is unprecedented and it is commendable,” said Imam Dawud Walid, the executive director of the Michigan chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations.

“The challenge is when the protests eventually fizzle and the next calamity hits our country, will the conversation continue within the Muslim community?”

For this not to be a fleeting moment, Walid said, the makeup of leadership at national Islamic organizations must be more representative. He and others have called for more Black Muslim speakers and not just to talk about race or only during Black History Month.

At the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA), where the current elected board of 10 directors has no African

Americans, executive director Basharat Saleem said the organization has been working to boost diversity but acknowledged that more must be done.

African American Muslims have been well represented as speakers at ISNA events, he said, but attendance from people in that community at annual conventions has been low.

“We have to do more work to basically reach out to the community,” Saleem said. “Also, (the) same thing has to happen from that community.”

Through the likes of art and social media hashtags, many Black Muslims have worked in recent years to amplify their stories and highlight a narrative that many of them say have been overshadowed by that of other Muslims. Some reflect on what it’s like to be Black and Muslim.

Some experiences feel “exhausting,” Hill said. She remembers being referred to as a “slave” in Arabic at a Muslim store. One time, she was asked if she could “really read” a copy of the Quran she wanted to buy. “No one wants to, you know, feel like they have to justify their humanity or their faith.”

Ubaydullah Evans, resident scholar for the American Learning Institute for Muslims, said he’s experienced “interpersonal racism” from some

Muslims. Still, other non-Black Muslims “have always sought to build community,” and work with African Americans, he said.

Walid, like many others, says Islam sends a clear message of egalitarianism.

Over the years, there have been efforts to build bridges. More recently, some have taken an oath against using the Arabic word for “slaves.”

Others focused discussions on how to improve relations between Arab and Muslim store owners and the Black communities they serve. Dozens of American Muslim organizations came together “to demand police reform and pledged to support Black-led groups.”

Evans credits younger Muslims with a lot of work challenging racial inequality. He hopes “we get the maximum mileage out of this moment,” but says some Black American Muslims “have been hurt so badly that it’s hard for them to summon that trust.”

Sylvia Chan-Malik, who teaches about race and about Islam in America at Rutgers University, said some of the tensions stem from divergent views of America. Many African American Muslims have, historically, engaged Islam as a repudiation of anti-Black racism and “have long viewed the police as a threat to Black

communities,” she said. Meanwhile, some immigrants “really want to believe in the promise of America” and have faith in the system, she added.

And because Islam’s history in the U.S. is “marginalized,” Chan-Malik argued, misconceptions by some about African American Muslims may include thinking that they are all converts or practice an inauthentic form of Islam.

“Islam entered this country as a religious presence through the bodies, the culture, the voices and perspectives of enslaved Africans,” she said. “You cannot divorce Islam in America from the African American experience.”

On a recent virtual panel to bring attention to the history of Black American Muslims and address racism, Imam Jihad Saafir said he was “hopeful and happy” about Muslims’ response.

Some imams, he said, have been telling him they want to learn more and better understand racism. He shared plans to send African American imams to different California mosques for a day.

“No co-opting our issues on that day,” he told participants. “The pleasure of Allah lies in us building community with one another.”

Baylor to review statues, buildings over links to slavery



Associated Press

WACO, Texas (AP) — Baylor University regents are creating a panel to consider whether any statues, buildings or other tangible tributes on the Waco campus reflect a racist past.

The regents adopted a resolution June 25 that recognizes that most of the university’s founding fathers were slaveholders, racists and white supremacists when the school was founded in 1845. Those persons included Judge R.E.B. Baylor himself, as well as the Rev. James Huckins, the Rev. William M. Tryon, most members of its initial board of trustees, and several early leaders of the institution.

“During Baylor’s infancy, a number of University leaders and prominent individuals connected to the institution supported Confederate causes and engaged in the fight to preserve the institution of slavery

both during and following the Civil War, including some serving as members of the Confederacy’s armed forces,” the resolution states.

The regents created “a Commission on Historic Campus Representations” to review the historical context of “all statues, monuments, buildings and other aspects of the campus in reference to their physical location, placement and naming.” The committee would then make recommendations to Baylor administrators and regents for possible action.

Baylor was recently the target of a lawsuit that accused the university of scapegoating Black athletes for a scandal over its handling of sexual assaults against students. It also has been associated with the Southern Baptist Convention, an organization created in a split with northern Baptists over slavery. The convention in recent years has apologized for slavery.

SPIRITUAL OUTLOOK

'The Micah Mandate'

By PRESTON T. ADAMS III

“He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?” – Micah 6:8 (KJV)



The title of this article is borrowed from a book by George Grant. Micah is the prophet who boldly proclaimed the mandate. Micah lived from about 735 B.C. to 690 B.C. He prophesied primarily to the southern kingdom. Moresheh, his hometown, was about 20 miles southwest of Jerusalem near the Philistine city of Gath.

Scholars note that Micah’s identification by his town rather than his father’s name may be an indication of his humble beginnings. He was a prophet who spoke for the exploited poor. Micah lived in a time when wealth and power were concentrated in the hands of the few. Greed and corruption were rampant and false prophets flourished. Sound familiar?

Like Isaiah, Hosea and Amos, Micah insists that genuine faith produces social justice and practical holiness. From Micah’s perspective one cannot claim to be a person of faith and not engage in social activism. You cannot have one without the other. We who profess faith in God must put feet to our faith and we must live a life exemplary of God’s nature and character, which is holiness.

In this sixth chapter, Micah speaks as if he is attending a court case. God is the plaintiff, the prosecutor and the judge. Israel is the defendant. The ancient hills and mountains are called to serve as witnesses. God files a case against Israel. The charge: the people promised to obey God’s law but have repeatedly broken their promise.

God was outraged because the people had forgotten him and broken their covenant. But God’s rage does not end God’s love. The people recognize that God is displeased but claim they do not know what God really wants from them. They believe they can make up for their sins with sacrifices. But Micah points out that there is no need for sacrifices.

Micah frames God’s mandate by charging the people to repent of their unbelief and injustice and obey God’s covenant laws. And then, Micah poses a question: “What does the Lord require?”

The answer: do justly, love mercy and walk humbly



with our God. Justice is just treatment or behavior. It is a concept that means people behave in a way that is fair, equal and balanced for everyone. It means “to make right.”

Justice must be coupled with mercy. Mercy is compassion for the least of these in our society. Mercy displayed practically means there are “no haves and have nots.” The 1% do not control 99% of the wealth and resources. Equal distribution assures that everyone has their basic needs met with some measure of comfort associated as well.

How do we accomplish Micah’s mandate? We walk humbly with our God and love our neighbor as we love ourselves. We are called to do justice and live in love. God is a just and loving God. As God’s children, we must strive daily to emulate God’s character.

The Prophet Micah issued a mandate in the sixth century that is still relevant today. Micah’s call for justice, mercy, and humility are essential to returning our homes, communities and nation back toward God. When we follow Micah’s mandate peace on Earth will reign and goodwill toward all mankind will prevail.

Dr. Preston T. Adams III is senior pastor at Amazing Grace Christian Church in Indianapolis. Contact Pastor Adams via email at seniorpastor@agccindy.org or via Twitter @DrPrestonTAdams. For more information, visit agccindy.org.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

- 1 Is the book of Exodus in the Old or New Testament or neither?
- 2 From Esther 7, who met his death on gallows that he built for another man? Herod, Haman, Jehu, Ezekiel
- 3 In Matthew 14, who tried to walk on water but began to sink? Thomas, Paul, Peter, John
- 4 Which of these cities was destroyed by fire and brimstone? Jericho, Haran, Paphos, Sodom
- 5 What charioteer rode to Jezreel to find King Joram? Jehu, Omri, Naboth, Jethro
- 6 Where did Hagar meet an angel? Prison, River, Wilderness spring, Temple door

ANSWERS:
1) Old; 2) Haman; 3) Peter; 4) Sodom; 5) Jehu; 6) Wilderness spring

Comments? More Trivia? Gift ideas? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com

(c) 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.



Sodom

ORDER OF SERVICE

Deliverance Temple
Church of God in Christ
God specializes in Salvation and Deliverance!!

In the name of Jesus You can be healed, delivered and set free!
God Loves You and So do we!

Pastor Fred E. Phinisee

Sunday School 10:00 am	8600 Meadowlark Dr. Indianapolis IN, 46226 317-895-9787 Come Join Us!	Bible Study Wed. 7:30 pm Pastor Teaching Friday 7:30 pm
---------------------------	--	--

Temple of Believers
Deliverance Center
5230 E. 38th Street
317-377-1834

Bishop James Humbert
Pastor

Sunday School
10:00 AM
Morning Worship
11:30 AM
Tuesday Bible Study
7:30 PM

First Free Will Baptist Church
"Do You Love Jesus?, We Do"
2433 Barnes Avenue
Indpls, IN 46208 • (317) 923-6667

Pastor Chas A. Sheppard
Lady Edna M. Sheppard

Schedule of Services:

Early Morning	8:00am
Sunday School	10:00am
Morning Worship	11:00am
Sunday Evening Service	6:30pm
Wednesday Bible Study/Prayers	7:00pm/8:00pm
Friday Bible Study	11:00am

Remember Your Loved Ones Call The Indianapolis Recorder 924.5143

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
1302 North Goodlet
Indianapolis, Indiana 46222

Pastor, Rev. Ronald Covington Sr.
Sunday Morning Service
Fulfillment Hour (Sunday School)
9:30a-10:30aare

Morning Worship 10:45

Wednesdays
Morning Prayer Meeting & Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.

Prayer & Praise on Purpose/Bible Study, 6:30p.m.

LIGHT OF THE WORLD
CHRISTIAN CHURCH
BAPTIST DE CHRIST AND LIGHT

WORSHIP WITH US
Worship Service 10:00am
Sunday School 9am-10am
Midweek Wednesdays 7am

4646 N. Michigan Road, Indianapolis, IN 46228
WEDNESDAY 7:00 PM

THE ROCK
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
10302 E 38th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46235
(317) 895-1006

EXCITING, DYNAMIC WORSHIP

Sunday School 9:15 am
Worship 10:45 am

Bible Study Wed 12 pm & 7 pm

"Where GOD is love and Lives are Changed"
www.rockindy.com
Like us on Facebook.com/TheRockMBC
Follow us on Twitter @TheRockMBC

Pleasant Union Missionary Baptist Church
1202 Eugene St.
Indpls, Indiana 46208
phone 925-4382
fax 283-5615

Sunday Worship
10:50 am
Sunday School
9:15 am
Monday Morning Prayer
6:00am

Wed. Bible Study
12:00 noon & 7:00pm
Thurs. Family Living
7:00pm
Fri. Victory Over Addictions
7:00pm

St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church
5325 E. 30th Street
543-9505
www.stlukeindy.org

Sunday School 8:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
Mid-Week Service/ Bible Class Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

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

Senior Pastor Jeffrey A. Johnson, Sr. & Lady Sharon A. Johnson

ONE CHURCH THREE LOCATIONS

Fishers Campus 8850 E. 106th St. Fishers, IN	Cooper Road Campus 5805 Cooper Rd. Indpls, IN
---	--

Main Campus
5750 E. 30th St. Indpls, IN

To give, click the **GIVE** button on our website. Download via Google Play, Windows Phone, and Apple App Store.

TUNE IN Life-changing broadcasts available via:
WTLC-AM 1310/92.7 FM (Radio) Sermons Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday at 9:15 AM

APPLE TV, ROKU, AMAZON
Connect for live stream or on demand

ZION HOPE CHURCH
Sundays
Worship Service & Children's Church - 11 AM
Sunday School - 9:30 AM
Wednesdays
Hump Day Hurdle - 9:30 AM
(Call 712-432-1500, use code 787603#)
Bible Study - 12 PM & 7 PM

Pastor Tony & Lady Kim McGee
5950 E. 46th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46226
(317) 547-4387 | www.zionhopechurch.org

New Beginnings Fellowship Church

EAST LOCATION
2125 N. GERMAN CHURCH ROAD
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46229

SUNDAYS
8:00am | 10:45am | 12:45pm

THURSDAYS
7:00pm

WEST LOCATION
GUION CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
4401 W 52ND ST., INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46254

SUNDAYS
9:30am

www.NEWBINDY.org
P: 317.891.3318 F: 317.891.3320

JOIN US FOR

ROCK CITY MONDAYS
Ages 12-18 | Main Campus
5-8 PM | Registration required

NOONDAY BIBLE STUDY
Main Campus
Wednesdays | Noon

FAMILY WORD NIGHT
Main Campus | Wednesdays
7 PM | Classes for everyone

ROCK FRESH MARKET HOURS:
Monday - Friday 8 AM - 6 PM
Saturday and Sunday 11 AM - 4 PM

CONTACT US:
Monday-Friday 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM
Office: (317) 591-5050 | easternstarchurch.org

How new grads can handle three essential post-college questions

By RYAN LANE
NerdWallet

Life after graduation is always an unknown. But the coronavirus pandemic has added even more uncertainty for the nearly 4 million students expected to receive college degrees in 2020, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

“I feel like when you graduate, you go out into the real world,” said Stephanie Fallon, 23, who graduated in May from Temple University in Philadelphia. But this world “almost doesn’t feel real,” she said.

Even though the real world has changed, the challenges most new graduates face haven’t. Here’s what the class of 2020 can do to answer three essential post-graduation questions during the ongoing pandemic.



CAN YOU GET A JOB?

The job market looked strong for 2020 graduates before the economy took a hit from the coronavirus. A survey in the fall of 2019 by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) projected a 5.8% increase in hiring over the previous year. Of course, much has changed. “What graduates are facing now is just a horrendous market,” said Edwin Koc, director of research, public policy and legislative affairs for NACE. “There really isn’t any other way to put it.” A survey in 2018 from the recruitment agency Randstad found that the average job search lasts five months. Koc says it may take more time — and effort — to land a job in the current market. Here are some ways to improve your situation:

- Be persistent with potential employers but understand if they can’t give you a quick answer.
- Look to your college career center for help, like connecting you with alumni at companies that are hiring.
- Consider transitional work or opportunities outside your desired field.

Fallon, for example, plans to pursue a career in nonprofit work. While she currently has a part-time job with a national nonprofit foundation, she’s also working two nanny jobs.



CAN YOU GET AN APARTMENT?

Many students live at home after graduation: Investment broker TD Ameritrade found in a 2019 survey that roughly half of college students plan to move back in with their parents. You may have already taken this step when your college closed its campus this spring. But that doesn’t mean you’ll want to live at home indefinitely — or be able to. For example, you may need to relocate for a job. Although a June 2020 poll from NACE found that 66% of employers plan to start a new graduate hires remotely, you may need to find a place while still social distancing. “The industry has adapted,” said Mee-na Ziabari, chief operating officer and principal broker for Next Step Realty, a Manhattan-based real estate firm that helps new grads find apartments in New York City. “You should not be afraid of renting virtually.” Choosing an apartment without seeing it in person may be unnerving. What if you arrive to find no hot water, a pest problem or an entire bait-and-switch? “Do you get landlords who are a little funny or shady? Absolutely,” Ziabari says. But she added there are laws in New York City on things like an apartment lacking heat — or a kitchen. “To help avoid undesirable outcomes, consider hiring a real estate broker. You may have to pay a broker’s fees; in New York City, these can cost you as much as 15% of a year’s rent, for example. But their relationships with landlords could make that cost worth it. If you don’t want to pay a broker’s fee or can’t afford to, Ziabari recommends having a trustworthy person who can check out places to live for you in person.



HOW WILL YOU REPAY STUDENT LOANS?

Roughly two-thirds of the class of 2018 graduated with student debt, according to most recent information from the Institute for College Access and Success. Those graduates owed an average of \$29,200. If you have student loans, there’s some breathing room: Most come with a six-month grace period. “Go ahead and take advantage of not having to pay,” said Tara Unverzagt, a certified financial planner and founder of South Bay Financial Partners in Torrance, California. But don’t avoid your student loans altogether — find out how much you owe, then explore repayment options with a tool like the federal government’s loan simulator. Options tied to your income could give you breathing room once repayment starts. Unverzagt says your top financial priority now should be starting an easily accessible emergency fund. And if money is tight, understand your cash flow — and avoid the urge to rely on credit cards. “That is a slippery slope into never-never land of debt,” Unverzagt said. *This article was provided to The Associated Press by the personal finance website NerdWallet. Ryan Lane is a writer at Nerdwallet. Email: rlane@nerdwallet.com. Twitter: @ryanhlane.*

RECEIVE A \$3,000 GRANT

Toward down payment and/or closing costs with purchase of a home.*



UNION SAVINGS BANK (317) 908-6410 | CALL TODAY TO GET PREQUALIFIED



*Available in qualified lending areas only. © 2020 Union Savings Bank. All rights reserved.

We are in need of
COMMUNITY FOOD BOX
DONATIONS

Please help us support the Community Food Box.
Donations are done virtually.
Please send your donation to PayPal.me/jaelskincare
or at <https://www.indychapter.org/donate/>.
Put a note that it is for the food box and we will shop for you. You may also drop off any donations at the Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper office.
2901 N. Tacoma Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46218



INDIANAPOLIS RECORDER
NEWSPAPER



A long-overdue ‘Tip of the Cap’ to baseball’s Black pioneers

By JIM LITKE
Associated Press

Barack Obama tipped his cap. So did three other former U.S. presidents and a host of prominent civil rights leaders, entertainers, and sports greats in a virtual salute to the 100-year anniversary of the founding of baseball’s Negro Leagues.

The campaign launched June 29 with photos and videos from, among others, Hank Aaron, Rachel Robinson, Derek Jeter, Colin Powell, Michael Jordan, Obama and fellow former Presidents George W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter at tippingy-ourcap.com.

On the receiving end of those tributes are many of the Negro Leagues’ greatest alumni: Satchel Paige, Josh Gibson, “Cool Papa” Bell and Jackie Robinson, who began with the Kansas City Monarchs and went on to break the color barrier in the major leagues with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947. Not long after, with many of its best players gradually following Robinson’s path, the Negro Leagues ceased operations.

Singer Tony Bennett, showing his heart, tips a San Francisco Giants cap. Californian Billie Jean King opts for the Los Angeles Dodgers. Clinton said he chose a Chicago Cubs cap in honor of Ernie Banks, the late Hall of Famer who got his start in the Negro Leagues.

But, Clinton added: “This cap is for Hillary, too,

when finally, the Cubs won the championship. Long before that, the Negro Leagues made baseball better and America better.”

The celebration was moved online after a major league-wide tribute to baseball’s Black pioneers scheduled for June 27 was shelved – along with the games – because of the coronavirus pandemic. At first, Negro Leagues Baseball Museum (NLBM) president Bob Kendrick worried that his longstanding plan to honor the men and women who battled long odds for a game of their own would have to be postponed, at best.

“In our game, there’s nothing more honorable than tipping your cap,” Kendrick said. “And once I realized that the national day of recognition was going to fall by the wayside, I thought ‘OK, maybe we can do it next year.’ But that didn’t really do it.

So then I thought, ‘How about a virtual tip of the cap?’” Kendrick paused, then chuckled. “And let me say here and now, there is no way I could have done this myself. I could not be more proud of the response.”

Kendrick got the lift he was looking for from communications specialist Dan McGinn and longtime NLMB supporter Joe Posnanski, a sports writer for The Athletic and author of “The Soul of Baseball,” chronicling his yearlong road trip promoting the Kansas City-based museum and the stories behind

it with legendary Negro League star, the late Buck O’Neil.

O’Neil was the driving force behind the museum for decades. The NLBM has expanded several times since Rube Foster, as skilled an executive as he was a baseball pitcher, founded the first Negro National League at YMCA on the same site in 1920.

Kendrick said his personal favorite tribute came from Jackie Robinson’s family.

“It’s Rachel tipping her cap, but there’s four generations of Robinson women in that video talking about our common cause and it evokes the kind of emotion at a time when our country really needs it,” he said.

“And you know,” he added a moment later, “it’s funny how this whole thing worked out. I always felt if there was going to be conversations about race in sports, the Negro Leagues should be at the center, because that’s the story: They triumphed over adversity.

I got to know so many of them, and not a single guy that I met ever harbored ill will, at least to the point where they let it block their path. Everybody else thought the major leagues were better, but you couldn’t convince them,” he concluded. “They just wanted the chance to prove they could play this game as well as anybody else.”

They did, forging a rich legacy that will echo with a new generation thanks to something as simple as the virtual tip of a cap.



The NBA is coming back, and here’s 10 things to know

By TIM REYNOLDS
Associated Press

The deals are done. The NBA is coming back. The season will resume on July 30 at Disney’s ESPN Wide World of Sports complex in Florida.

Here are 10 things to know about the restarted season:

THE RACE FOR 8

There are six teams in the race for the No. 8 seed in the Western Conference — Memphis, Portland, New Orleans, Sacramento, San Antonio and Phoenix. (Technically, Dallas is also in that race, though the Mavericks need only one win and one Memphis loss to clinch no worse than the No. 7 spot.)

There are seven games where those six teams will go head-to-head, including four featuring the Pelicans — who play Sacramento twice, Memphis once and San Antonio once. The other games: Sacramento vs. San Antonio, Memphis vs. San Antonio and Portland vs. Memphis. Phoenix doesn’t play any of the other five teams in the race for eighth.

The Grizzlies start with a 3 ½-game lead over Portland, New Orleans and Sacramento, along with a four-game edge on San Antonio. Unless the Grizzlies open up space on all four of those clubs, it seems likely that there will be a best-of-two-play-in series for the final spot in the West playoffs and a probably first-round matchup with LeBron James and the Los Angeles Lakers.

The play-in games will take place if the ninth-place team in either conference is within four games of eighth when the seeding round ends. In the East, it’s a bit simpler. No. 7 Brooklyn is six games ahead of Washington and No. 8 Orlando is 5 ½ games clear of the Wizards in the race to clinch a berth and avoid a play-in series. None of those teams can move past the No. 7 spot on the East bracket.

MAGIC NUMBERS

Milwaukee needs a combination of two wins or Toronto losses to clinch the No. 1 seed in the East. The Lakers need a combination of three wins or Los Angeles Clippers losses to clinch the No. 1 spot out West. Denver also has a mathematical chance at the No. 1 seed out West —

but would need to go 8-0 and have the Lakers go 0-8 for that to happen. Most of the races at Disney will be for seeding. Milwaukee cannot finish lower than No. 2 in the East and Toronto needs only one win to be assured of a top-four seed. The West can still see some shakeups, with four games separating second place from sixth place and only 2 ½ games separating fourth place from seventh.

HEAT CHECK

Miami had a league-high eight games remaining against the eight teams that didn’t qualify for the Disney restart.

Now the Heat will have a fight on their hands just to hang onto the No. 4 spot in the East.

Miami plays Boston, Denver, Indiana twice, Milwaukee, Oklahoma City, Toronto and Phoenix in the seeding games. That schedule ranks harder than Indiana’s or Philadelphia’s — the Pacers and 76ers both will head to Disney two games behind the Heat in the East standings.

Orlando and the Lakers both saw seven games against the eight Disney-non-qualifiers canceled, tied for second-most in the league behind Miami. Memphis had the fewest such games lost, with just one — a matchup against New York.

HOME ON THE ROAD

All 22 teams will be staying at the Disney campus for the rest of their seasons. Yes, that includes the Orlando Magic — whose home arena is about 20 miles from Disney World.

The Magic simply see it as doing their part to make the restart happen. “We appreciate the leadership of NBA Commissioner Adam Silver, our longtime partner, Disney, and our local leaders in this unprecedented time,” Orlando Magic CEO Alex Martins said. “We look forward to providing assistance as needed in restarting the NBA season in Orlando, while using our collective platform to drive meaningful social impact.”

SPEAKING OF ROAD

Philadelphia was the NBA’s best home team this season, going 29-2 — on pace to be the second-best home record in a season in franchise history. The 1949-50 Syracuse Nationals were better, going 36-2 at the State Fair Coliseum in the

franchise’s inaugural season.

Problem is, the 76ers won’t be playing in Philly again until next season.

Philadelphia went just 10-24 on the road in the regular season, the second-worst road mark of the 22 teams that will be playing at Disney. Only Washington (8-24) was worse. If the 76ers are going to go deep in these playoffs, they’ll need to figure out how to win without the raucous Wells Fargo Center advantage.

THEY WILL BE MISSED

Milwaukee has the NBA’s best record, and one of the reasons the Bucks hold that mark right now is because of how good they were against the eight teams (Charlotte, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Atlanta, New York, Minnesota and Golden State) that didn’t qualify for the Disney restart.

The Bucks were 22-0 against those eight teams — one of three NBA teams to go unbeaten against that group. Oklahoma City was 15-0 and the Lakers were 12-0. Toronto and Boston were both 19-1 and Utah was 15-1.

Only one remaining team had a losing record against those eight clubs: San Antonio went 7-8.

LAKER BREAK

The schedule means that the Lakers won’t play a back-to-back-to-back after all.

The Lakers would have played home games on April 7, 8 and 9 against Golden State, Chicago and the Clippers — the last of those coming because a game that was scheduled to be played shortly after Kobe Bryant’s death was moved until later in the season.

HELLO, AGAIN

For 26 players on the rosters of the 22 teams, Disney is going to look familiar. They played there in

college.

The Disney campus plays host to the Orlando Invitational over Thanksgiving, and some alumni of that event are headed back there now for NBA contests. Among them: Heat teammates Jimmy Butler (Marquette, 2009) and Kelly Olynyk (Gonzaga, 2012), Portland’s Zach Collins (Gonzaga, 2016), Washington’s Rui Hachimura (Gonzaga, 2016), Milwaukee’s Khris Middleton (Texas A&M, 2010), Indiana’s Edmond Sumner (Xavier, 2015), Phoenix’s Kelly Oubre Jr. (Kansas, 2014) and Boston’s Marcus Smart (Oklahoma State, 2013). And lest we forget, the Lopez brothers — Milwaukee teammates Brook Lopez and Robin Lopez — are huge Disney fans, and have made their affinity for the place very well-known in recent weeks.

NO 3’S RECORD

For the first time in eight seasons, the league record for total 3-pointers made won’t get broken.

It was on pace to be smashed. NBA teams have combined for 23,560 3-pointers made so far this season, which is already the fourth-most of any season in league history. The league was on pace for 29,844 3-pointers, which is 1,889 more than the record of 27,955 set last season.

STATE OF BASKETBALL

Florida — the Sunshine State — will be the epicenter of basketball this summer.

While the NBA is headed to Disney, the WNBA season is also scheduled to begin next month and be headquartered in Bradenton, Florida. That’s about 100 miles from where the NBA will be playing.

The WNBA plan is for its players to be housed at the IMG Academy, with games to be played at the nearby Feld Entertainment Center.

