

**FRANKFORT PLANT BOARD ON STANDBY TO SEND CREW TO FLORIDA**

State Journal staff report and Associated Press

The Frankfort Plant Board is on standby to send a crew to Florida to assist with the aftermath of Hurricane Dorian. Frankfort Plant Board Public Information Coordinator Cathy Lindsey said the City of Bartow in Florida has requested assistance after the hurricane hits.

"They want us post-storm so they can

complete their assessments and know exactly what they have," Lindsey said. "We have a crew of seven on standby."

Lindsey said the crew is now anticipating a Tuesday departure.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami said Friday night that Dorian had become an "extremely dangerous" Category 4 hurricane with maximum sustained winds near 130 mph.

**ORDINANCE: Seven other cities have passed similar laws**

Continued from page A1

codex, the ordinance is officially Chapter 96: Fair Housing, Public Accommodations and Employment.

Since Frankfort's passage, seven other cities in the commonwealth have passed similar fairness ordinances, according to the Fairness Campaign's website. The group is a Kentucky LGBTQ advocacy organization founded in 1991 and aims to encourage cities to have comprehensive civil rights legislation that protects citizens from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity and dismantles systemic racism.

In the months leading up to the 2013 vote, Frankfort was caught up in a heated public debate about the need for such an ordinance. The city held three "first" readings of an ordinance draft. The State Journal reported that one city commission meeting had a public comment period lasting over two hours with 175 citizens in the room. Some supporters donned blue "Another Kentuckian for Fairness" T-shirts at city meetings, while opponents attended and argued that the ordinance would discriminate against Christians who disagree with people being gay.

Mayor Bill May, who cast the tiebreaking vote in favor of the ordinance, said a group of residents approached him about the idea of creating a fairness ordinance in 2012, but with an election cycle in the near future, he didn't want it to turn into a campaign issue for any candidate, or have the ordinance pass or fail and a new commission reverse the choice a few months later.

Current City Commissioner John Sower opposed the establishment of a fairness ordinance at the time because he didn't think it was necessary for the community. He had concerns that a business could be potentially singled out and labeled "discriminatory," then lawsuits would follow.

"I think we are a very tolerant community," Sower said.

As for whether the ordinance could be repealed in the future, Sower said that's unlikely to happen. Both May and Sower said the ordinance could be an issue in future local elections, if the public asks the question.

The ordinance established the Frankfort Human Rights Commission to review complaints and, if necessary, hold hearings between parties. It also says that the mayor is the city's "fairness officer," unless the mayor designates an appointee.

The current fairness officer is Dan Egbers, former general counsel of the Kentucky Personnel Cabinet when Gov. Paul Patton was in office. Egbers was appointed as the fairness officer in 2017. May said that since he had supported passage of the ordinance, he wanted to appoint someone else to oversee the process according to the rule of law and be fair to both sides.

To Egbers' knowledge, only four cases have gotten to the point where a hearing was needed.

Two of the cases were related to race,

and the other two were based on disability. Most complaints that go to the city's HRC are resolved before reaching that point, or are referred to another agency, like the Kentucky Human Rights Commission if it involves state employees. A majority of complaints are related to disability, Egbers said.

"When they were talking about passing this ordinance, a lot of people were against it because they didn't think it was necessary, and you could make the case. You know, in six years, we've had four cases, so maybe that's some evidence that those people were correct, but without that structure there, there would be no place for those people to go," Egbers said.

Egbers said someone who wants to make a complaint to the commission fills out an official form that describes the incident and he reviews it. Once a party offers enough evidence to justify a possible ruling in its favor, the case is in the jurisdiction of the city's HRC, Egbers gives a notice to the respondent and asks them for their side of the story. Based on that, Egbers schedules a meeting between the parties, explains the law and hears them out to find a solution. If they can't come to an agreement, both parties have time to produce records or evidence that both sides might want or ask questions of the other side. Egbers may ask additional questions to either side during this time, too. He will then set a trial date to move things forward and a time for mediation if parties want to compromise.

Resolutions that people seek can range from an apology to monetary damages. Without the process in place, Egbers said that the city doesn't have a way to solve these problems, and they could be sent to the state's HRC. With the caseload that Kentucky's HRC sees, complaints could take years to resolve. A local HRC provides an outlet for a local person of authority to listen to residents.

May said he still supports the fairness ordinance six years later. For the most part, people in Frankfort are accepting of others' differences, but "I have seen situations where people have been disparaging and made unkind remarks about people." The ordinance provides a way to educate all about having compassion for one another, he said.

After the ordinance became law, May spoke with various cities about the debate around the law and gave advice about pursuing similar ordinances. He said it was important for all sides to be heard and express their thoughts.

"I just hope that people on both sides of the issue can respect one another and not let this be a divisive issue, but it's not something that needs to be taken lightly," May said. "People, no matter what their beliefs, need to be respected for who they are and people need to understand that we have to love one another and treat each other with compassion, and there's no room for hate in this world. There's way too much of that and I've seen it increase and it bothers me."

**DURRUM: Wife charged for role in unrelated murder**

Continued from page A1

Wingate heard brief comments from prosecutors before reducing the jury's recommended sentence by 10 years.

"I do believe under (state law) the maximum sentence is 70 years," Commonwealth's Attorney Larry Cleveland told the court, "so we would ask that he be sentenced in accordance with the law."

"All right. Do you have anything to state before the court imposes a sentence?" Wingate then asked Durrum.

Durrum responded that he did not.

"You are sentenced to 70 years in the state penitentiary at this time," Wingate told him. "Good luck."

The hearing lasted one minute and 37 seconds.

A similarly brief order of events concluded Durrum's trial at the end of June.

After about 20 minutes of deliberation at the end of his one-day trial, jurors convicted Durrum of first-degree rape and two counts of first-degree sodomy, both Class B felonies, and first-degree criminal abuse of a child younger than 12 and first-degree sexual abuse of a victim younger than 12, both Class C felonies. Then jury then went back to deliberation and returned after about 20 more minutes with a recommendation that he spend 80 years in prison.

Following his conviction, Durrum attempted to nullify the recommendation and receive a new trial by arguing that the prosecution's closing arguments bolstered the credibility of the child victim and unduly influenced the jury's decision.

Wingate denied the request, saying that Cleveland did not improperly bolster the testimony of the child but rather was responding to "continued attacks of the child victim's testimony and credibility," he wrote in the order.

Durrum can appeal the outcome or serve 85 percent of the sentence before being considered for parole.

Durrum's wife was also charged in connection with the case, but charges of physical abuse by Juanita Durrum, 26, were dismissed amid a plea agreement on a role she played in an unrelated murder case.

According to official reports, the child was in foster care before being housed with the Durrums. She was placed in the care of Juanita Durrum because relatives receive preference in foster child cases. While living with the Durrums from Oct. 1, 2016, to Nov. 13, 2017, the juvenile endured sexual and physical abuse on multiple occasions over the course of more than a year, court records stated.

Juanita Durrum was arrested along with four other people in June 2018 after gunfire erupted inside the home at 302 Alexander St. and left targets of an alleged robbery, 22-year-old Jared Miles Moore and 24-year-old Dustin Wayne Johnson, dead. She faces up to 35 years in prison on reduced charges in that case if she testifies truthfully in the prosecution of her co-defendants.

While in custody for the shooting, Juanita was indicted along with Travis Durrum for their roles in the abuse of the 7-year-old.

**SUMMIT: Event includes two days of workshops**

Continued from page A1

Healing HeArts), which is coordinating the event along with the Franklin County Health Department and the Franklin County Agency for Substance Abuse Policy (ASAP).

The summit will include two days of workshops with topics such as "Yes to the Arts to Prevent Substance Use and Engage Struggling Youth" and "Yes to School- and Home-Based Strategies to Prevent Substance Use."

"We are thrilled to be part of this partnership and to bring attention to the great potential in Frankfort for linking programs for youth so that drugs are not the easy choice," said ASAP board coordinator Charles Kendall. "The drug issue touches us all in many ways and it will take us all to solve it."

On Thursday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m., a public event will be held at the Grand Theatre featuring performances by local youth, including The Kings Center's HeartBEATS hip-hop and beat-making program, Kentucky Dance Academy's youth dancers and others.

Psychologist Harvey Milkman will give a keynote address on the "Youth in Iceland" program, a community initiative that has resulted in dramatic reductions in substance use among Icelandic teens. Berry learned about Milkman's work in 2016, so she contacted him.

"We were interested in Iceland and the outcomes they had," Berry said. "They were beyond anything we'd seen anywhere, in terms of prevention."

She hopes to emulate such results in Franklin County with events like the upcoming summit. She acknowledges that Iceland is a different situation, but she believes a similar collaborative approach to the substance abuse prob-

lem can be effective here.

"That's one of the things that makes this summit special," Berry said. "That's what made Iceland so successful. It was very much an all-hands-on-deck approach. They involved parents, schools, sports and arts. It is going to take everyone to end this opioid epidemic."

The summit is sponsored by WestBanco and supported through grants from the Kentucky Social Welfare Foundation, the Kentucky Department for Public Health and LexArts.

"These upstream prevention efforts are what public health is really about," said Judy Mattingly, director of the Franklin County Health Department. "We are also grateful to our fiscal court, city commission, Chamber of Commerce, Franklin County Schools, Frankfort Independent Schools, South Frankfort Presbyterian and every other individual who has supported this effort."

Among them are Frankfort residents Ed and Corey Council. Ed's grandson, Corey's son, died of an overdose in 2017. Frankfort artist Doris Thurber, whose daughter, Maya, died of an overdose in 2015, also came onboard with the initiative.

"After Maya's death, Doris really used the arts in her own healing and grieving process," Berry said. At the summit, Thurber will read her poem "Maya Died" as a means to inspire hope and a call to action.

All events are free, but registration is required. To see a full event listing and to register, visit [www.yesarts.org](http://www.yesarts.org). For more information, contact Berry at [info@yesarts.org](mailto:info@yesarts.org) or (502) 395-2711.

**Offering Professional Real Estate & Auction Services in Lawrenceburg, KY and surrounding counties.**  
The only name you need to know is:

**Birdwhistell**  
Realty & Auction Co.

**We make it easy to buy or sell property of any kind.**

*Experience*  
Glenn Birdwhistell has over 60 years experience helping customers

*Expertise*  
We can help you with your needs.

Contact us today!  
**502-839-3456**  
154 South Main Street, Lawrenceburg, KY  
[www.birdwhistellsells.com](http://www.birdwhistellsells.com)

**Estate TREE SERVICE**  
— Since 1957 —

**PREVENT HAZARDS and protect Your Long-Term Investment!**

Are you concerned about liabilities & damage that unhealthy trees on your property may cause?

- Trimming
- Pruning
- Dead Wooding
- Cabling
- Tree & Stump Removal
- Free Estimates

**24 Hour Emergency Service, Licensed & Insured**  
502-229-5258 • [estatetreeservice.com](http://estatetreeservice.com)

**Smile, it is the key that fits the lock of everybody's heart.**  
*Anthony J. D'Angelo*

**We Do Smiles.**

**Clark D Cash**  
DMD, MSD Orthodontic Specialist  
*we live to make you smile*

**635 Comanche Trail • 502-227-1931 • [cdortho.com](http://cdortho.com)**