Two boys drowned in pools

Seven-year-old and toddler die in separate accidents on Sunday night

BY MIKE WRIGHT / jmorehead@chronicle-tribune.com

Seven-year-old and toddler die in separate accidents on Sunday night.

Two Marion boys died Sunday night after their families found them at the bottoms of two pools in a separate family residence.

Marion County Coroner Stephen Downey said 7-year-old Arinna J. Smith was pronounced dead at 6 a.m. Monday and 11-month-old Jordan D. Nelson, 11 months, was pronounced dead at 3:10 p.m. Both died at Marion General Hospital.

The cases are unrelated, though Downey said the two boys are distant cousins.

Jordan was at a family function at 2105 S. Gallatin St. and was found in a few feet above-ground pool.

The 13-month-old boy’s great-grandparents, who owned the pool, the boy drowned in, left the pool gates open after they attended a family function at 2105 S. Gallatin St. and were found in a few feet above-ground pool.

The toddler’s great-grandparents, who owned the pool, the boy drowned in, left the pool gates open after they attended a family function at 2105 S. Gallatin St. and were found in a few feet above-ground pool.

Two boys are dead.

The toddler lived with them at the Gallatin Street address.

“Two tragic accidents, it looks like right now,” said Marion Police Detective Capt. Jay Kay.

Detective Kay said the older boy drowned in an in-ground pool at 8:43 a.m. and the pool’s depth ranged from 4 to 5 feet.

Marion Police identified the boy as Arinna J. Smith.

The boy was declared dead at 6 a.m. at Marion General Hospital.

His family said he was a seven-year-old boy.

The boy had been with his family at his family’s home in the 2000 block of South Meridian Street.

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A Marion County Sheriff’s Office warrant was issued for the pool’s owner.

The pool’s owner, who has yet to be identified, was served with a warrant at his home in the 2000 block of South Meridian Street.

The pool’s owner, who has yet to be identified, was served with a warrant at his home in the 2000 block of South Meridian Street.

Bank burglary reported:

Marion Police are investigating a burglary that occurred about 9:40 p.m. Sunday at Region’s, 402 S. Washington St.

Nothing was taken during the break-in.

Detective Capt. Jay Kay said unknown suspects entered the building adjacent to the bank through the roof and then broke through drywall, attempting to get into the bank.

A motion sensor alarm was activated, but police weren’t notified until Monday morning.

Detective Brian Sharp said the suspects entered a vacant part of the building through the roof. When they went through the drywall, they were in an office area of the bank that also is unused.

Anyone with information should call police at 663-0838.

Road closure in Marion:

Aller Avenue will be closed from Ind. 18 to North Street from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. today through Thursday. The closure is due to work on Marion Utility’s storm sewer separation project.

———

Weather:

Today: Sunny

Mid-80s

Mid-60s

Precipitation:

Low 44, 1937

High: 71

Low: 61

Weather, A2

Viewpoints, A7

Obituaries, A6

Comics, B4

Crossword, B5

Classifieds, B3

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FIREWORKS

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Indiana requests new No Child Left Behind waiver

BY TOM LOBIANCO

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Democratic State Superintendent Glenda Ritz submitted Indiana’s request for a new waiver from the No Child Left Behind requirements on Monday in the hopes that the state can avoid facing some of its federal education money being cut.

The filing beat a deadline set by U.S. Department of Education officials for the state to submit a new waiver or that addresses concerns raised by federal reviews. At stake is control over a portion of the more than $200 million in federal “Title I” education funding that Indiana receives each year.

Staff from the Ritz administration, Gov. Mike Pence’s education and jobs agency, the General Assembly and the U.S. Department of Education worked intensely over the past two months to craft the new application. “Because of their work, I believe that Indiana schools will have much needed flexibility over how they use some of their federal funding. Most importantly, this flexibility will improve education for our students,” Ritz said in a statement.

Federal officials told Ritz in April that problems with the state’s monitoring of low-performing schools had placed the state’s waiver in jeopardy. They also expressed concern about the state’s teacher and principal evaluation system, which yielded surprisingly few poor reviews earlier this year and raised doubts among conservative education advocates who sought the changes.

Ritz staff members said they were promised a response by the end of July, but did not say if that is a hard and fast deadline. The federal review of the state was completed last August and Ritz’s staff said they were promised a response in the fall, but did not recover the state’s waiver until many months later.

The decision came shortly after Indiana became the first state to exit the national Common Core education standards, but federal officials said they were fine with the alternative education standards the state developed.

Cyclist: Lee worked as journalist, authored book before going into biking

Lee admires Taylor for a personality Lee likened to that of Jackie Robinson, baseball hero Jackie Robinson.

“Because of Lee’s efforts to raise awareness of Taylor’s story, their work, I believe, will do a lot of things that African-Americans faced in Taylor’s era,” Lee said. “I’d like to add a little more history to tell people who didn’t know about him.”

Lee left work early so he and his wife, Matthews Clerk-Treasurer Sandy Loer, could meet Lee at his destination.

Lee has always had a fondness for East Central Indiana and is familiar with Grant County, he said, having attended Ball State and lived in Matthews while on the university’s racing team. He also used to work in Madison County.

He path Monday started on Indianapolis’ Cultural Trail and took him past Noblesville in Hamilton County and through the towns of Cicero and Franklin in Madison County. He headed east from there and entered Grant County via County Road 900, which runs into Matthews’ Madison County Road 900.

Lee and his bike returned to Carmel via car after his family met up with him in Matthews. He said it’s unknown how Taylor returned from Matthews.

Lee worked as a journalist and authored a book, “The Belgian Hammer: Paving Young Americans into Professional Cyclists,” before going into the biking industry. He works for SRAM Corporation, which manufactures bicycle parts.

Cycling into Matthews — Dan Lee, Carmel, cycles into Matthews at the end of a ride from Indianapolis on Monday. Lee cycled 75 miles as part of Taylor’s 119th anniversary of Taylor’s victory in a 75-mile race with the same start and finish points in 1895. Make this image yours. Go to www.chronicle-tribune.com.

Cycling Legend — “Major” Taylor won an 1895 race from Indianapolis to Matthews on the 119th anniversary of Taylor’s victory in a 75-mile race with the same start and finish points in 1895.

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