

Special Edition • Fall 2011

*Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper  
Digital Collection*

University Library

106 Years of  
Black History  
Online



University Library Gateway Newsletter

## From the Dean



IUPUI  
University Library Gateway

Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

### *Inform. Connect. Transform.*

The University Library is pleased to be launching our most recent digital collection this month. The *Indianapolis Recorder* provides a unique view of Indianapolis for the better part of the twentieth century – a comprehensive online archive of the nationally recognized Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper. The Recorder was known for its local coverage of news that was important to the Indianapolis African American community. This is the first thing that makes it important. The second important part of this collection is that it is available from its beginning through 2005. It is rare for newspapers to make their in-copyright backfiles available and in most cases newspapers published after 1923 are not available on the Web. Because of the nature of the reporting done by the *Recorder* and their willingness to make the full backfile publicly available, this is a special resource, especially for Indianapolis, but well beyond. The digitized version is a full-text searchable archive which will significantly increase its usefulness. Stories that were hard to find can now be more easily located. It will be used by genealogists, students, and researchers who are looking to learn more about their families, their neighborhoods, and Indianapolis.

A short [video](#) that tells the story of this collection is available on our Web site.

The University Library was granted copyright permission to create the Recorder collection from Indianapolis Recorder Publisher Emeritus Carolene Mays. We are grateful for the collaboration with the Mays family and the Indianapolis Recorder in creating this valuable community resource.

#### **David Lewis**

Dean, IUPUI University Library

*Cover page: left: Jack Johnson; top: Louis Armstrong; center: Madam J.C. Walker; bottom: Malcolm X*



## The Indianapolis Recorder Digital Collection

A digitization project of the University Library at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis in collaboration with the nationally recognized Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper makes 106 years of Black history available at your finger tips. View [video](#) about the project.

Indianapolis Recorder Publisher Emeritus Carolene Mays granted IUPUI University Library copyright permission to create a comprehensive online archive of the Recorder. The full-text searchable archive of the Indianapolis African American newspaper is available at <http://www.ulib.iupui.edu/digitalscholarship/collections/Irecorder>.

“IUPUI University Library has provided a great opportunity for availability and access of the Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper. I am forever grateful to IUPUI for preserving the voice and legacy of rich African American history,” says the Honorable Carolene Mays, Commissioner of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission. “By creating the archives online, it is an efficient and effective means of communicating this important history beyond our community, to the world”. Commissioner Mays was the Publisher and President of The Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper from 1997 to 2010.

This free and open access resource makes well over 5,000 issues of the community newspaper - dated from 1899 to 2005 and captured from the microfilm version of the weekly broadsheet - available through the World Wide Web.

“The Indianapolis Recorder is the single most important tool for researching the history of African Americans in Indianapolis during the twentieth century,” says Wilma Moore, senior archivist of African-American History, Indiana Historical Society Library & Archives.

The digital product also provides a new opportunity for the Indianapolis community to help fill in long lost issues of the paper. Missing from the historic record are the Recorder issues published from 1917-1925, and January-April of 1932. Individuals with copies of or clips from these missing issues should contact Jennifer Johnson at 317-278-6709, for additional information.

To celebrate the launch of the Recorder digital archive, IUPUI University Library will host a public reception and panel discussion from 3:30- 5:30 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 25, 2011, at the Indiana Landmarks Center, located at 1201 Central Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46202.

IUPUI University Library is a leader in facilitating the advancement of free and open access and fair use of historical and scholarly content in the public arena in an effort to progress teaching, learning, and research. The library manages its digital collections using CONTENTdm, a digital content management and delivery software that makes it possible to access unique and often fragile historic collections online. The software and advanced search features allow researchers to conduct a full-text search, including searches for personal names, events, dates, and more.



*Photo from the Recorder Newspaper circa 1915: Frances Spencer receives harp thanks to the generosity of Madame J.C. Walker.*

# Upcoming Event

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE

## ECHOES OF TRADITION

IN A NEW CENTURY  
*An online digital collection of 108 years of  
The Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper*

**MARTIN L. KING FREED ON BAIL**

**Indianapolis Recorder**  
INDIANA'S GREATEST WEEKLY  
FOUNDED 1882

65th Year Indianapolis, Indiana, Oct. 29, 1960 Number 44

**Jackie Robinson to Stump State in Support of Nixon**  
Rites Will Be Held Saturday For The 'Grand Old Man' of Recorder  
Former Baseball Great to Address Throng at Old Mt. Zion Sunday

Judge Sets Noted Rights Leader's Bond at \$2,000

**Sunday, September 25, 2011  
3:30 – 5:30 p.m.**

Reception & Presentation

Cook Theater -Indiana Landmarks Center  
1201 Central Avenue - Indianapolis, IN 46202

**This event is free and open to the public.**

## Indianapolis Recorder Digital Collection Reception & Discussion

Sunday, September 25, 2011

Reception - 3:30 p.m.

Presentation - 4:30 p.m.



This community event will bring the wider Indianapolis community together to commemorate the rich history of the Recorder.

*Founded at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, The Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper has been published for longer than any other African-American paper in Indiana and is the nation's fourth oldest-surviving African-American newspaper.*



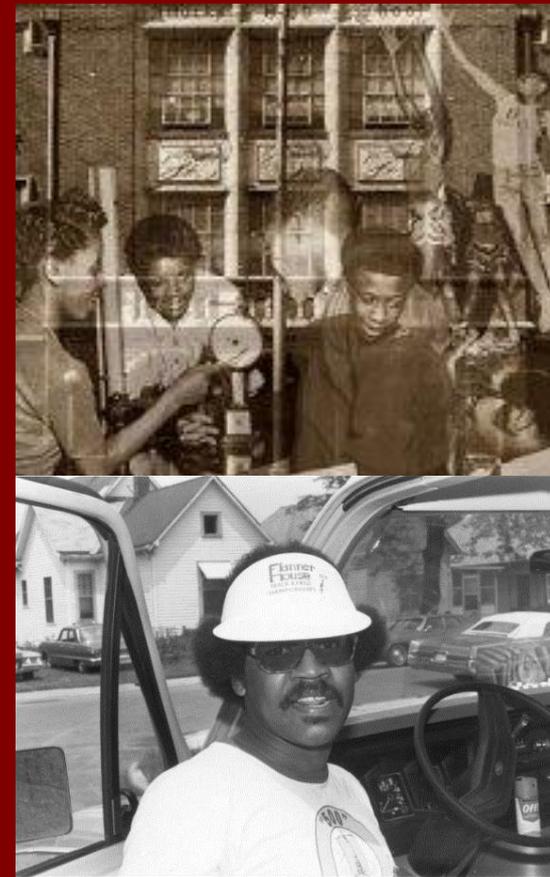
# More African American Digital Collections

Over the past 10 years, IUPUI University Library has partnered with Indianapolis organizations to produce more than 60 unique digital collections. Other collections which include Indianapolis African American history are: **The Indianapolis Public School Crispus Attucks Museum Collection (1928-1986)** and **The Flanner House Records Collection (1936-1992)**.

Indianapolis Public School Crispus Attucks High School originally opened in 1927 as the first segregated all-black high school in Indianapolis and was desegregated in 1967. The school was named after Crispus Attucks, the first black American to die in the Boston Massacre in 1770. In 2006, Crispus Attucks was reconstituted as the Crispus Attucks Medical Magnet High School that prepares students interested in the medical and science professions for college.

Flanner House has provided social services to African Americans in Indianapolis since it was established in 1898 as a settlement house for the city's rural migrant population that began arriving from the South at the end of the nineteenth century.

To explore and learn more about the IUPUI University Library's digital collections, Google: [IUPUI Digital Scholarship](#). Once at the site, browse the subject African American.



*Top to bottom: Images from the Crispus Attucks Collection and Flanner House Collection.*

## Navigation



**Contents** Click on the page icon to view a pop-up menu which lists the articles in the publication, then click on your selection.

**Back** Click on the arrow to go to the previous page.

**Next** Click on the arrow to advance to the previous page.

**Print** Click on the page icon to print document.

**Exit** Click on the page icon to exit document and program.

**Help** Click on the page to answer questions about usability.

## FAQs

### 1. How do I get the latest versions of Apple QuickTime or Adobe Reader?

QuickTime is a free download from [www.apple.com/quicktime/download](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download).  
Adobe Reader is a free download from [www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html](http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html).

### 2. How do I get out of Full Screen mode?

This PDF is designed to open automatically in Full Screen mode. To escape from [or return to] Full Screen mode, use the Full Screen keyboard shortcut, Command-L (Mac) or Control-L (Windows).

### 3. Why does the file open in Preview on my Mac?

As a default you may have PDF downloads set to open in Preview. In order for this document to be successful, you must view it in Adobe Reader.

### 4. Why doesn't my streaming video play smoothly?

All videos in this PDF are large files which have been compressed at a high quality resolution. Video is streamed from the gX server directly into the PDF, and performance is dependent on your connection speed and the processing speed of your computer. If video does not run smoothly on your system, try switching to the other connection speed, if available (500Kb or 1Mb), or view it on a faster computer.

### 5. How do I stop a video?

To stop a video, simply click on the video window or select the stop button.

