



PHOTO BY BILL HOWARD

Dwayne Sanders's wife and kids on the dais as the banner is dropped revealing the dedication sign on the gym. Sanders was a long-time coach and mentor for Fellowship of Christian Athletes, which joined forces with Emerald Youth Foundation.

Dwayne Sanders – Christian, coach, mentor – honored with gym dedication

By Bill Howard

If you didn't know Dwayne Sanders, there are at least two things about him you can be sure of. The first is that he died way too young: he was 52 when he died of cancer in April of 2018. The second? He touched many lives, and a whole lot of people thought a whole lot of him.

On Tuesday, Oct. 20, the memory of Sanders – a longtime basketball coach and mentor to inner-city youth – was honored when the gymnasium at the Emerald Youth Foundation on Broadway Avenue was named for him. Some 125 people



Dwayne Sanders's wife Lisa poses with Cumecus Cates after the Oct. 20 ceremony at the Emerald Youth Foundation. The gym was named

people like Dwayne Sanders and many other coaches who are God-fearing men. I give Dwayne a lot of credit for where I am today."

In 1992, Sanders went to work for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes in Knoxville. In 2012, he approached his friend and former Maryville College roommate, Steve Diggs – founder of EYF – with the idea of the two organizations joining forces. Sanders thought the combined effort would result in a broader outreach that could help more kids and do more for the community. Diggs was on board.

accept such a move. "We don't like it from an unelected board," Hill told the many anti-board speakers. "I'm listening to you and 90 percent agree." But she went on to mention that many elderly people are afraid of the virus pandemic.

"We're sick of it too," she said of the mandates and COVID-19 and added, "When this settles I promise you I will lead the charge but I'm not prepared at this time (to demolish the Board of Health)."

Two motions from Commissioner Kyle Ward will go on to the commission's regular meeting tonight. One of the motions would form a separate health and economic advisory body that could take over when and if the Board of Health is abolished and the other would require the Board

Continued on page 2

Mini-Ribbon Cutting held in Powell