

ARREST MADE IN MURDER OF LOCAL ACTIVIST JOHNNIE LATTNER

Joshua Wise, 28, was arrested and charged



NEWARK POLICE CHIEF DARNELL HENRY SET TO RETIRE

NPD Officer served on the force for 26 years and as Police Chief since 2016

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Editorial & Weather 02
Town Watch 04
World News 06
From The Pastor's Heart 10
The Doctor Is In 11
Sports Wrap 12
E-Cigarette Use in Decline 14

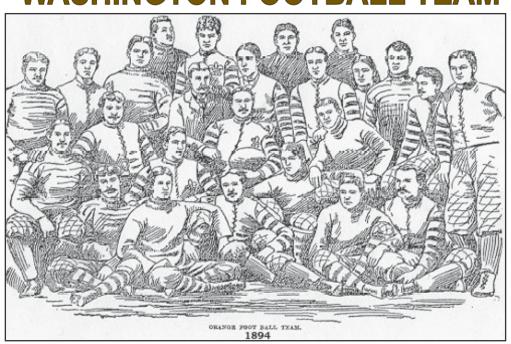
INTERVIEW WITH NEW ECC HOW ORANGE & NEWARK'S PRESIDENT AUGUSTINE BOAKYE NFL TEAM BECAME THAT "WASHINGTON FOOTBALL TEAM"



Dhiren Shah: Please tell our readers a little about yourself.

Augustine Boakye: Thank you. My name is Augustine Boakye, I was born and educated in Ghana and continued my masters and PhD education in Great Britain. I have been a member of the Essex County College (ECC) family

(Continued on page 15)



A portrait of the Orange Athletic Club featured in the Brooklyn Daily Eagle in 1894.

By Walter Elliott

ORANGE / NEWARK - The National Football League's 101st season, including the renamed

"Washington Football Team," is to kickoff 8 p.m. Sept. 10 - which leaves some football fans and historians asking themselves these "What if" questions:

"What if Washington's franchise stayed in Boston and not started using 'R-----s' as its name?"

(Continued on page 3)



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Dhiren Shah Editor-In-Chief

Hello Readers,

I am glad to see that Joe Biden has come out in the public and is speaking. A few days ago, after a long time, he held a press conference. In about half an hour, he answered 15 questions. However, it was specially picked reporters and soft picked questions. So, Biden still has not answered any tough questions. I am still waiting to know about Biden himself as a leader and if he can face tough questions and has the capabilities to lead the country.

A Company CEO must make decisions. If they hire a manager, the day to day work may be handled by a manager, but the final critical decisions must be made

by the CEO. In the same way, Kamala Harris, a powerful personality, will be vice president if elected. Biden must prove himself as a leader with decisionmaking capabilities. He must face Donald Trump in the debate, with no short cuts.

The first debate will be on September 29, 2020 at Western Reserve University in Cleveland and the moderator will be Chris Wallace, the anchor for the "Fox News Sunday." Wallace is known for his tough neutral questioning and was praised in the debates between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump in 2016.

The second debate will be at Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts in Miami on October 15, 2020. Residents who are uncommitted voters will be allowed to ask questions to either candidate. Steve Scully, a senior executive producer at C-SPAN, will be the moderator. It will be a town hall style event.

The Third Debate will be on October 22, 2020 in Nashville Tennessee. Kristen Welker, a White House correspondent for NBC News, will moderate the third and final debate between President Donald Trump and former Vice President Joseph Biden.

In this election, the vice presidential debate will be especially important, because if Trump wins, this is his last term. However, if Biden wins, due to his age he will likely be president for one term. So, both vice president candidates have a chance to show themselves as presidential nominees in the 2024 election.

The vice presidential debate, between Mike Pence and Kamala Harris, will be on October 7, 2020 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Susan Page, the Washington Bureau Chief of USA Today, will be the moderator.

The Coronavirus is wreaking havoc on everyone. In New Jersey and Essex County, the spread is very well controlled as far as the coronavirus is concerned. However, the highest spreading of the virus is in India. On Sept. 8 it jumped over 200,000 cases in just 3 days. However, India has a good recovery rate. Still, it has the second most cases in the world after the USA.

So far, the US has already started the third phase for a vaccine. India will allow Russia, participation in the third phase of a COVID-19 vaccine. The US has done 88 million tests with a population of 331 million people against India, which has over 51 million tests with a population of 1.380 billion people.

Have a wonderful week.

I'll talk to you next week.

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS FOR **LOCAL TALK** WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Publisher & Editor-in-chief : Dhiren Shah

Editors : Kristopher Seals / Anuj Shah

Journalists / Writers : Kristopher Seals | Walter Elliott | Bro. Thomas Ellis | Dhiren Shah | William Hathaway Jr.

Dr. Daniel Louis | Ahmed Screven, Esq. | Anuj Shah | Lev Zilbermints | Kinjal Shah | Asha Shah |

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"WASHINGTON FOOTBALL TEAM"

HOW ORANGE & NEWARK'S NFL TEAM BECAME THAT

(Continued from page 1)

"What if the franchise got successful in Cleveland instead?"

"What if the Orange/Newark Tornadoes had not turned in their franchise to the NFL to begin with?"

Yes, the Tornadoes professional football team was an NFL franchise while it played in Orange's now-Bell Stadium in 1929 and in Newark's original Schools Stadium and the Vailsburg Velodrome infield in 1930.

This pro squad had played as the Orange A.C. Golden Tornadoes 1919-28 on three home gridirons: Orange's then-Knights of Columbus Stadium and the Grove Street Grounds/Oval Park and "East Orange Stadium" (now Paul Robeson Stadium) in East Orange.

The Golden Tornadoes had a tradition of what boxers would call "punching above their weight," a practice going back to their 1887 founding as the Orange Athletic Club semi-pro team. That scheduling helped the O. A. C. squad to win the 1893 American Football Union championship with an 8-2 record.

They played against Seton Hall and Rutgers colleges and various other pro ball teams - including at least two NFL teams in the late 1920s. The Golden Tornadoes held the 1926 NFL champion Frankford (Pa.) Yellow Jackets to a 12-0 score and the reigning 1927 New York Giants to 7-0 in September 1928.

Although the Golden Tornadoes were blanked by NFL titlists, their effort got the attention of the league's administrators at their Columbus, Ohio, headquarters.

The NFL, which started with 14 teams among four Great Lakes states, offered franchises to businessmen who wanted to start a team or to existing teams who wanted to move up. NFL's leaders, by 1928, were looking to expand into the Northeast and beyond.

When Orange meat wholesaler and OAC president Edwin "Piggy" Simandl called about buying a franchise in early 1929, the NFL offered one that the owner of the Duluth (Minn.) Eskimos had sold back to them after the 1927 season. The contemporary cost of an NFL franchise was \$100.

Formed for NFL play in 1923, the Duluth Kelleys became the Eskimos in 1926 when the Kelley Department Store dropped its title sponsorship. The Eskimos became one of the NFL's four traveling teams until



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its franchise was returned.

The Eskimos, 1921 Cincinnati Celts, 1922-23 Oorang (Ohio) Indians and 1923 Cleveland Indians were the rare teams in 1920s NFL whose names and logos referred to racial or ethnic groups. Most others were names after various animals, colors and/or their home cities' legends or patrons.

The Oorang Indians were a traveling team made up of indigenous players and were coached by the legendary Jim Thorpe.

African American players were gone before Simandl bought Duluth's franchise. NFL team owners had entered a gentleman's agreement, similar to the one that prevailed in Major League Baseball, which barred black players 1927-46.

Simandl, the Orange Tornadoes and Head Coach Jack Depler had an encouraging 1929 season. They had a 3-4-4 win-loss-tie season, placing them fourth to NFL champions Green Bay Packers.

Depler and New York bootlegger Bill Dwyer, however, bought the Dayton Triangles and brought them to Brooklyn in the 1929-30 off season. Depler quit the Tornadoes and took most of the players with him to the Brooklyn Dodgers.

The now-Newark Tornadoes, in retrospect, were struggling throughout 1930.

This version of the team started out at Schools Stadium but finished at the Vailsburg Velodrome. They went through three coaches. Simandl himself became a fill-in player and called several plays.

The Newark Tornadoes, at 1-10-1, finished 11th - and last - to Green Bay. Simandl,

who kept the professional Orange/Newark Tornadoes name and ran the now-minor league team into 1969, sold the franchise back to the NFL.

The NFL, after offering the retread franchise in vain, used it to own and operate the 1931 Cleveland Indians. The league played in the new 83,000-seat Cleveland Municipal Lakefront Stadium - as a tenant to the MLB Indians.

Those NFL 1931 Indians finished eighth to Green Bay, 2-8-0. The league also folded the team after drawing an average 5,000 fans.

The NFL put up the Duluth/Orange/ Newark/Cleveland franchise for sale in the 1931/32 off season - and found buyers in a group of businessmen headed by Washington, D.C. laundromats owner George Preston Marshall.

Marshall and his partners used the franchise to start the Boston Braves for the 1932 season. The Braves name was chosen because they were tenants in the MLB Braves Field.

The 1932 Boston Braves, on one hand, played to a 4-4-2 record and was ranked fourth to the Chicago Bears. The team lost \$43,000 in Great Depression era money, on the other hand, prompting Marshall's partners to sell their shares to him.

Marshall, now in complete control, moved the Braves across town to the MLB moved to Red Sox's Fenway Park - and changed its name to the R-----s.

Although the team won the 1936 Eastern Division, Marshall cited the lack of fan sup-(Continued on page 5)



DISCLAIMER: The following items are primarily drawn from first responders. Responders' accounts may not be their full activity range. Grand juries hand down indictments when evidence presented them warrant a trial. Named suspects/defendants are innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

NEWARK - Newark Police Chief Darnell Henry, after 26 years with the police division, is calling time on his career.

A Sept. 3 Newark Public Safety Department release said that Henry will be retiring on or by Sept. 30. He has since told a reporter that he wants to spend more time with his family.

Henry was appointed as Newark's top uniform cop by Mayor Ras Baraka in 2016. It was under his watch that several divisional reforms were implemented, including the creation of the Civilian Complaint Review Board.

Henry has been promoted through the ranks, from patrolman and detective to head of the Executive Security Detail - the latter serving as the mayor's top bodyguard.

"When I appointed Henry, I was confident I had hired a man of great integrity," said Baraka, "and a man who understood and loved the City of Newark, to help lead us through the most transformative years the Police Division will ever undergo."

Public Safety Director and former Newark Police Director Anthony Ambrose will also be interim police chief Sept. 30 while the city conducts an internal search for a full-time successor.

Officers Remanded for Pursuit Violations

Newark Public Safety Director Anthony F. Ambrose has announced that two police officers have been remanded to adminis-

trative duties in connection with a motor vehicle pursuit that the officers failed to report, including shutting off the vehicle dash camera.

"I have zero-tolerance for this type of questionable behavior," Director Ambrose said. "Every member of the Newark Police Division knows how hard we have worked to build the public's trust. Policy violations like this erode that trust, and these officers - and any others who think they can bend the rules - will be thoroughly investigated."

The officers' actions have been referred to the Essex County Prosecutor's Office for review.

The violations to be reviewed were discovered as part of an investigation by the Transparency and Risk Analysis Team, a sub-unit of the Newark Police Division's Office of Professional Standards. It is alleged that the officers, who both have two years' tenure, not only attempted to cover up the motor vehicle pursuit by not reporting it but also shut off the police vehicle dash camera, disabling it, to further conceal their policy violations.

An update regarding the outcome of the Prosecutor's review will be announced. No further information is available.

IRVINGTON - Those who remember Fabiana Pierre-Louis and her five siblings growing up here are basking in the collective glow of her new job as a Supreme Court of New Jersey Justice.

Pierre-Louis, 40, was sworn in by Justice Jaynee LaVecchia Sept. 1 - the day after Justice Walter Timpone, 70, had retired. She becomes the third African American to sit on the state's high court - and the first African American woman to do so.

Pierre-Louis was born in Brooklyn but moved to Irvington with her family. The secondgeneration Haitian-American, who speaks fluent French Creole, is also Scotch Plains' Union Catholic Regional High School Class of 1998 graduate.

The married mother of two

studied law at Rutgers University, where she also received her juris doctorate. She was a clerk in the office of the last African-American state justice, John E. Wallace, Jr., and was U.S. Assistant Attorney for 10 years in the federal department of justice-New Jersey district in Newark.

The Mt. Laurel resident was practicing at Montgomery McCracken LLC when Gov. Phil Murphy nominated her June 5 to succeed Tempone. Upon recommendation from the New Jersey Bar Association's Justice and Prosecutorial Committee, she received unanimous approval from the State Senate Judiciary Committee Aug. 24 and the full senate Aug. 28.

"I could never imagine that I'd be nominated to sit in the very same seat where Justice John Wallace sat," said Pierre-Louis. "My entire legal career has been in New Jersey. It's extremely humbling to be nominated and extremely enthusiastic to continue the (State) Supreme Court's commitment to justice, equality and fairness."

EAST ORANGE - Details for a celebration of the life of city church music director Tiffani Rae Greene may have been announced when you read this.

Greene, 46, who has been Messiah Baptist Church's Music Director since 2010, had died from health issues Sept. 6.

Greene was born into a family of ministry service. Her mother, Rev. Robin Greene Webb, took her and the family on the short walk to the neighborhood Calvary Baptist Church. Greene Webb is that church's associate pastor.

The East Orange Campus High School graduate and sociology student at Bloomfield College began singing at CBC. She was eventually promoted to direct its music ministry.

ORANGE - A city man has been suspended from his N.J. Department of Corrections officer job since Aug. 13 for not disclosing his membership in two "outlaw motorcycle gangs."

State Attorney General Gubrir S. Grewal said that Ru-

ben Morales, 41 was suspended from his senior corrections officer job at Northern State Prison.

Morales has been charged with third-degree public records or information tampering and fourth-degree records tampering or falsifying. He is accused of not mentioning his memberships while renewing his three-year identification card in 2019.

Morales is allegedly a member of the "Thug Riders" and "Thunderguards."

WEST ORANGE - Township firefighters, with mutual aid from four neighboring towns, quenched a house fire here in the Watching Heights section Sept. 5

The first WOFD crew, who responded to a call from a Waddington Avenue house about 7:30 a.m. Saturday, found the split-level single-family house with "heavy smoke coming out the front and a heavy fire from the rear exterior."

Firefighters evacuated the house's occupants, including a pet, while the incident commander pulled a second and third alarm. Hose lines were run to the back of the house and Ladder One's crew ventilated the roof.

The Orange Fire Department brought its intervention unit to the scene. East Orange, Maplewood and Bloomfield units provided station coverage.

Although there were no injuries reported, the American Red Cross chapter was called to help with the displaced residents' temporary lodging. WOFD and county arson investigators are conducting a standard operating procedure search for the blaze's cause, which extensively damaged the building.

SOUTH ORANGE / MAPLE-WOOD - Both towns are mourning the loss of Danny Ives, whose Maplewood Bike Shed had developed a following in the last six months.

Ives, 27, who held a grand opening with Maplewood Mayor McGehee March 7, was found by responding South Orange po-

(Continued on page 7)

NEWARK BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER NAMED AS A HIGH PERFORMING HOSPITAL BY "U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT"

Newark, NJ (September 4, 2020) - Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, an RWJBarnabas Health facility, has been recognized as a High Performing Hospital for 2020-2021 by U.S. News & World Report for Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

The "High Performing" ratings signify that the care patients receive at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center for CHF and COPD is significantly better than the national average, as measured by factors such as patient outcomes. "High Performing" is the highest rating U.S. News awards for cardiac and pulmonology care.

"At Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, we are passionate about delivering world class care and superior service to the communities we serve. This recognition from U.S. News & World Report is a testament to our focus on safety and quality and the exceptional work being done by our staff," said Darrell K. Terry, Sr., MHA, MPH, FACHE, President and Chief Executive Officer of Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and Children's Hospital of New Jer-

The annual Procedures & Conditions ratings, now in their 6th year, are designed to assist patients and their doctors in making informed decisions about where to receive care for common conditions and elective procedures. These ratings extend U.S. News' mission to provide a decision tool that helps the public identify hospitals that

best meet their needs for relatively routine inpatient care compared to its Best Hospital rankings, which are geared toward complex specialty care.

For the 2020-2021 ratings, U.S. News evaluated more than 4,500 medical centers nationwide in 10 procedures and conditions and fewer than a third of all hospitals received any highperforming rating.

"For more than 30 years, U.S. News & World Report has been helping patients, along with the help of their physicians, identify the Best Hospitals in an array of specialties, procedures and conditions,' said Ben Harder, managing editor and chief of health analysis at U.S. News. "The hospitals that rise to the top of our rankings and ratings have deep medical expertise, and each has built a track record of delivering good outcomes for patients."

The U.S. News Procedures & Conditions methodology is based entirely on objective measures of quality such as risk -adjusted outcome rates, volume, quality of nursing and other care-related indicators. The Procedures & Conditions ratings were produced by U.S. News analysts.

For more information about the 2020-2021 rankings and ratings, please visit the FAQ. The rankings will be published in the "Best Hospitals 2021" guidebook, available in stores October 6. For more information about Newark Beth Israel or to make an appointment, please visit rwjbh.org/ newarkbeth.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

Orange Board of Education Public School District

The Orange Board of Education will in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 and 10:4-13, has scheduled to conduct a Superintendent contract hearing during its scheduled Virtual Public Meeting on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. the hearing is for purpose of renegotiating, amending or otherwise altering the terms of the employment contract with the Superintendent of Schools.

At this hearing, members of the public are invited to submit public comments regarding this topic. The Board, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), the "Open Public Meetings Act," shall not publicly discuss personnel matters and shall not respond to comments made by members of the public. The Board will give all comments appropriate consideration.

Please be aware that the subject of this hearing retains the right of privacy and shall retain all rights regarding defamation and slander according to the laws of New Jersey. The Board shall not be held liable for comments made by members of the public.

HOW ORANGE & NEWARK'S NFL TEAM BECAME THAT "WASHINGTON FOOTBALL

TEAM" (Continued from page 3)

port for his signing a 30-year lease with D.C. Stadium and moving it to Washington in 1937.

Marshall, who died in 1969, was once called "One of the league's innovators - and its leading racist."

His football team was the last to integrate, doing so in 1962 under federal threat of canceling the lease with the municipal stadium. He originally ordered his charitable foundation not to fund organizations that support integration - a clause overturned in court.

The team became the lightning rod in the decades-long call to have sports teams remove

names, logos and mascots that are ethnically or racially demeaning. Montclair State University and New York's St. John's University, for example, respectively replaced "Indians" and "Redmen" with "Red Hawks" and "Red Storm" in the 1990s.

Marshall and successive owners, until this Black Lives Matter season, have resisted removing "R----s" before switching to the interim "Washington Football Team" this summer. The removal was made after FedEx threatened to withdraw its \$15 million title sponsorship of FedEx Field.

Marshall's stadium statue and ring of honor nameplate have been removed. His name and references have been removed from the WFT's media guide and other published material.



UNITED STATES Nasty Nature

This is like a broken record, but in a year that absolutely refuses to give anyone a break, Mother Nature is ravaging the Western portion of the US in extreme ways.

First, a fancy gender reveal is the likely source of the El Dorado fire in California. A pyrotechnic effect went awry, resulting in the nearby countryside catching fire, which spread quickly in the arid and windy conditions. As of this posting, over 10,000 acres have burned, and evacuation orders were issued for Oak Glen, Yucaipa Ridge, Mountain Home Village and Forest Falls. The people responsible will face extreme charges - and be forwarded a bill for the entire mess.

Meanwhile, Jenna Karvunidis, a blogger credited with starting the gender-reveal fad, commented that has is sick of the practice.

"Stop having these stupid parties. For the love of God, stop burning things down to tell everyone about your kid's penis," Karvunidis wrote on Facebook.

Then, picture this: one day at 100 degrees, the next at 99, and the next: 35 degrees? That happened in the Denver metropolitan area. Although Labor Day is considered the end of summer, that is one ceremonial, not meteorological. The true end of the season will occur on September 22, meaning that it has officially snowed in the summer.

Half a foot of snow fell in Mile High city, while other parts of the region got up to two feet.

RUSSIA Chemical Poisoning Draws Concern

The allegation that Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny was poisoned by a Cold

War-era nerve agent is "a matter of grave concern", the head of the UN-backed Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) said on Sept. 3.

Mr. Navalny, a prominent anti-corruption activist, remains in a coma two weeks after falling violently ill during a flight from the town of Tomsk, in Siberia, to Moscow. He was later airlifted to Berlin for treatment, after Russian authorities allowed him to be moved.

The German government reported on Sept. 2 that toxicology tests conducted by a special military laboratory revealed he had been poisoned with a Novichok nerve agent.

"Under the Chemical Weapons Convention, any poisoning of an individual through the use of a nerve agent is considered a use of chemical weapons. Such an allegation is a matter of grave concern," said OPCW chief Fernando Arias in a statement responding to the announcement.

"States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention deem the use of chemical weapons by anyone under any circumstances as reprehensible and wholly contrary to the legal norms established by the international community."

UN Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric was also asked about the German report during his regular press briefing on Wednesday, replying, "we've said and previously mentioned that, if warranted, the issue should be investigated by relevant authorities."

Novichok is the name of a group of seven toxic chemical agents developed by the former Soviet Union in the 1970s and 1980s.

Two years ago, former Russian intelligence officer Sergei Skripal and his daughter, Yulia, were victims of a chemical agent attack in Salisbury, England.

The United Kingdom alleged that Novichok was used in that incident. An OPCW investigating team later confirmed the UK's findings, though the organization did not specifically name the substance used.

Fraud Runners Extradited

Two members of a criminal network engaged in telephone and email fraud have been extradited from China to South Korea, as part of an ongoing operation coordinated by INTERPOL.

Operation First Light, first held in 2014, targets telecom fraud and other types of social engineering scams, as well as money laundering of the illicit proceeds. Launched in September 2019, some 37 countries and territories are participating in the latest edition to identify and locate illicit call centers engaged in the fraud scams.

Under the auspices of the operation, INTERPOL facilitated a bilateral meeting between its National Central Bureaus (NCBs) in China and South Korea in November 2019 where the countries shared intelligence on transnational telecom fraud.

Following the meeting, police in Suzhou, China dismantled a criminal network engaged in telephone scams targeting victims in South Korea and arrested seven South Korean nationals, three of whom were the subjects of INTERPOL Red Notices. Two were extradited back to South Korea in July following extensive coordination between the two NCBs, with the remaining extraditions impending.

"The current wave of Operation First Light has faced unexpected challenges due to the pandemic, but we were still able to achieve a successful outcome thanks to close cooperation between the NCBs in Beijing and Seoul and the use of Red Notices alerting to the wanted individuals," said Duan Daqi, Head of NCB Beijing.

"This success demonstrates once again the strong determination of police in China and across the region to jointly fight against transnational crime, including telecom fraud," added Mr Duan.

Organized by INTERPOL's Financial Crime unit with support from regional policing bodies Europol and ASEANAPOL, the current wave of Operation First Light began in September 2019 and has been extended

through March 2021 due to the COVID-19 crisis, to allow the participating countries sufficient time to exchange information, follow up on new intelligence and identify suspects.

In one such case, INTER-POL, Europol and the NCB in Budapest identified money transfers from a Hungarian-based company to three bank accounts in Hong Kong totaling some USD 8.6 million that were made as a result of BEC fraud. With the assistance of the INTERPOL Sub-Bureau in Hong Kong, the transfers were halted and the funds returned the same day.

More than EUR 4.2 million sent by a German-based company to a Hong Kong bank account as a result of another BEC scam was successfully recovered.

EUROPE High Standard on Vaccines

On Set. 7, the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety debated the EU vaccines strategy, including the state of play on the Vaccines Advance Purchase Agreements, with Sandra Gallina, Deputy Director-General of the Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety.

The Chair underlined the need for transparency to achieve trust in future COVID-19 vaccines and regretted that more information on the Commission's work related to the purchase agreements for COVID-19 vaccines had not been shared proactively by the Commission.

Gallina highlighted that a good vaccine must be efficient, safe, affordable, developed quickly and able to achieve EU market authorization. She particularly underlined that the EU is fully committed to a global approach where vaccines must be available to all including in low-income countries as we will not be safe until everybody is safe.

Several MEPs wanted to know from Gallina when vaccines will be available as well as who will be vaccinated first. Gallina said that the first vaccinations should start already towards the end of this year and

ARREST MADE IN MURDER OF LOCAL ACTIVIST JOHNNIE LATTNER

NEWARK - Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore N. Stephens, II, and Newark Public Safety Director Anthony F. Ambrose announced Sept. 3 that Joshua Wise, 28, of Newark has been arrested and charged with the murder of Johnnie Lattner, 55, also of Newark.

On Monday, Aug. 17, the victim was discovered unresponsive at his home on Mt. Pleasant Avenue in Newark. The death was initially considered suspicious but was later ruled a homicide following the autopsy.

The suspect, who knew the victim, has been charged with murder, unlawful possession of a weapon and possession of a weapon for an unlawful pur-

On Sept. 2, Wise was arrested. He is being held at the Essex County Correctional Facility in

Lattner, a Mt. Olive, N.C. native, may be best known through the Parents Unified for School Education Local (PULSE) he co-founded with Sharon Smith.

PULSE organized a boycott of the Newark Public Schools in 2014. The New Jersey Department of Education's Office of Rights found Civil PULSE's 2012 and 2014 complaints that NPS' "One Newark" plan of school consolidation and closings had particularly discriminated against African American and special needs stu-

Lattner was a frequent education panelist, public speaker at NPS Board of Education meetings, Rutgers Abbott Leadership Institute class attendee and demonstrator. The 2018 NBOE independent candidate learned his activism skills at San Francisco's Midwest Academy in 2005.

The Essex County Prosecutor's Office Homicide/Major Crimes Task Force, which includes detectives from the Newark Police Department, is handling the active and ongoing investigation.

These are accusations. All defendants are presumed innocent unless and until they enter a guilty plea or are found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Essex County Prosecutor's Office tips line at 1-877-TIPS-4EC or 1-877-847-7432.

TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 4)

lice officers "unresponsive" on South Orange Avenue's eastbound lanes near Elm Court, near Seton Hall University's former main entrance, at about 11:30 p.m. Aug. 4. His 2005 Ducati motorcycle was nearby.

Ives, whose passion for two -wheelers started while salvaging bicycles from Maplewood's bulk trash days as a 10-yearold, was rushed to University Hospital - where he was declared dead at 12:15 a.m. Sept.

Ives kept 1673 Springfield Ave. opened throughout the pandemic, opening it for sales and service appointments for casual and avid customers alike.

He had stressed bicycling as a means of essential commuting and socially distant recreation.

"Danny channeled his energy," observed McGehee, "to create a community within a community."

Ives' wake has been set at South Orange's Preston Funeral Home Sept. 11 4-8 p.m. His Funeral Mass will be held at the nearby Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Sept. 12 at 10 a.m. A GoFundMe page has been established to raise funds towards a memorial foundation featuring bicycle riding and safety.

MONTCLAIR - A video shown during a middle school staff and teacher convocation here Sept 2 has since caused its principal to get suspended - and

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the comedian in the video speaking out.

Montclair Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jonathan Ponds announced at that Wednesday night's board of education meeting that he had relieved Renaissance at Rand Middle School Principal Joseph Putrino, who will be subject to an internal discipline process.

Buzz Aldrin Middle School Vice Principal Major Jennings is acting Renaissance principal.

Hillside School Principal Samantha Anglin is acting president of the Montclair Principals Associa-

Dr. Ponds apologized for Putrino showing on Zoom "a completely unacceptable video (that was) against the district's values of diversity and equity."

Witnesses said that the three minute, 20 second "Appreciate Educators a Father's Apology," is of Naples, Fla. comedian Josh (Continued on page 10)



DEPRESSION SCREENING DAY

East Orange General Hospital is offering confidential, no cost, telephonic Depression Screenings to members of the community on Wednesday September 23, 2020 from 9 am to 6 pm

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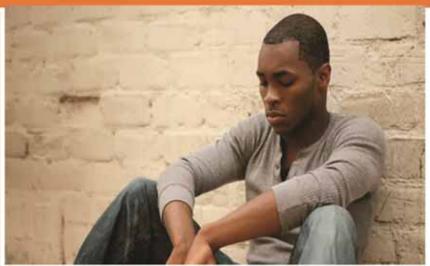
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From The Pastor's Heart

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY The Display Of Demonism

For all the political instability that we are facing today, for all of the turmoil that we see in the streets, and for all the spread of the pandemic that we seem unable to control, we might conclude that something is extraordinarily out of kilter in the land.

If my grandmother were around, she would analyze it and conclude simply that the demons have taken over our whole culture. Pharaoh's magicians would say, "This is the finger of God." (Exodus 8:19).

William Butler Yeats' poem, The Second Coming, filled with violent and mysterious symbolism, describes civilization's collapse, ultimately leading to the rise of a new "rough beast." Yeats said that this creature is "the Sphinx," that would get angry about "the babe in the rocking cradle" that came to Bethlehem. The spiritual interpreter Ellen White came to the same conclusion over a century ago.

In reflecting on conditions before the first coming of Christ, she said the following:

"The fullness of the time" had come. Humanity, degraded through ages of sin, called for the coming of the Redeemer. Satan had been working to make the gulf between earth and heaven deep and impassable. He had made people bold in sin. He intended to wear out the patience of God so that He would abandon the world to Satan's control.

Satan's battle for supremacy seemed almost entirely successful. . . The dark shadow Satan cast over the world grew deeper and deeper.

All the agencies for corrupting human hearts had been put in operation. The Son of God looked on the world with compassion and saw how men and women had become victims of satanic cruelty. Bewildered and deceived, they were moving on in a gloomy march toward death in which there is no hope of life, toward night after which comes no morning.

The bodies of human beings had become the habitat of demons. Supernatural beings worked people's senses, nerves, passions, and organs in indulging the most shameful lust. The stamp of demons was imprinted on human faces. What a spectacle for the world's Redeemer to behold!

Sin had become a science, and vice a part of religion. Rebellion and hostility were violent against heaven. The unfallen worlds had expected to see God sweep away the inhabitants of earth. And if He had done this, Satan was ready to carry out his plan to gain the allegiance of heavenly beings. He had claimed that the principles of God's government make forgiveness impossible. If the world had been destroyed, he would have blamed God and spread his rebellion to the worlds above. (Taken from Desire of Ages and put into Modern English in a book called Humble Hero, pp. 114-115).

Do I need to quote more contemporary observations to provide statistics to ask for your agreement that the forces behind our present conditions are demonic? Two of the above thoughts have kept me in deep contemplation, and I must repeat:

"All the agencies for corrupting human hearts had been put in operation."

"The bodies of human beings had become the habitat of demons. Supernatural beings worked people's senses, nerves, passions, and organs in indulging the most shameful lust. The stamp of demons was imprinted on human faces."

Do I need to set forth a quiz by asking you to say True or False? When I taught college and university, I did not always admit what I am admitting now as I reflected on the conditions of the 60s and 70s. I talked about the raw emotions of the civil rights marches. I spoke of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Kennedy brothers. I allowed my students to listen to Martin and Malcolm's speeches and talked about how the one saw America as a land of dreams. In contrast, the other saw America as a nightmare. My reflections were deep, but as I see today's occurrences, I have to use the line of James Weldon Johnson "Blacker than a hundred midnights," reworked by Suzan Straight in her Novel, "Blacker Than a Thousand Midnights."

Do not think that I am "a prophet of gloom and doom," but I think we are unwilling to face the reality of the present world of demons as they are being manifested all around us. In our digito-technical culture, we have become so sophisticated that we fail to recognize the demonic presence and the mysterious powers bringing so much

havoc in the land. If at all, we fail to admit the realities of the demons among ordinary people, we need to look at the socio-political administrations of our world.

- Why is there so much oppression?
- Why so many wars?
- Why so much money is being spent on ammunition when children are being left to die from starvation?
- Why so much conflict between people under the guise of race?
- Why so much fake reports and falsehood in the news?
- Why so much injustice in the court systems?
- Why is it that evil people are getting away with so much corruption?

Based on what has been laid out, shouldn't we conclude that there are entities possessing people and tormenting them today? When Jesus was here on earth, he cast such entities - "evil spirits" out of many people. And I am concluding that we need such a Jesus intervention now. National Guards into our streets will not do it. Providing more guns is not the answer; such will only give greater force to demonic manifestations. Our political leaders have no power to cast out such demons. This is why we need to call upon those who understand the tragic darkness in which we are being caught to come together, ask God to let us seek his grace and pray for leadership that will not give way to the demonic. Pray that the God of heaven will take control of the present situation and that the demons might be destroyed forever. .

TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 7)

Pray loudly expressing his thankfulness for what teachers do since the Coronavirus pandemic's onset.

The NAACP-Montclair Branch then supported Dr. Ponds' move, saying that Putrino was the subject of a lawsuit by six African American teachers who said they were denied promotions while all were at the Glenfield Middle School.

Pray, in a Sept. 5 video, said that while Putrino's lawyers told him of what happened but has not yet been approached by anyone from Montclair Public Schools. He instead found Ponds, Jennings and the BOE "have made assertions that cover a wide range of uninformed and reproachful personal opinions."

BLOOMFIELD - Relatives and friends of a 34-year-old township man, whose body was found at the base of the Palisades Aug. 13, may well have held a memorial service for him by now.

Palisades Interstate Parkway Police, said Sgt. Raymond E. Walter, rushed to the State Line Lookout in Alpine that Thursday morning by a 911 call of the deceased's friend. The caller pointed to the person's Facebook page where he said that he had alluded to committing suicide there.

A witness told arriving police that a man had just put down his cigarette and climbed over the safety fence. They looked down the 450-foot drop - and found the body by the Hudson River shoreline.

The PIPPD Marine Services Unit, Ft. Lee Police Drone Unit, (Continued on page 12)

The Doctor Is In



Dr. Adil Manzoor OP/ED

Is It Finally Time To Say Goodbye To The Fee For Service Payment Model In Healthcare?

I hate to be that guy, but we are going to be starting this article off with saddening news. The United States of America has the highest percentage of GDP spent on healthcare among developed countries, standing at almost 18%. But that's not the saddening part. Despite spending more on healthcare, the US lags behind other developed countries in virtually every aspect of healthcare. What this means in very simple terms is that we spend far more for far less. Now, that's sad.

One problem we have never really figured out how to solve is how to reduce the cost of healthcare. Well, that's what I used to think. The truth, however, is that we have figured out a way to solve this problem; we are just not implementing it. What way am I talking about? Ridding the fee for service payment model for good.

The fee for service (FFS) model is the most widely used payment method of healthcare in the US. It is simply paying healthcare providers based on the number of services they render. No bundle payments in this model. Each test, procedure, or any other form of treatment is charged individually. Nothing seems sketchy about this on first

viewing, but you just wait till we take a second look at it. This model of payment rewards healthcare providers based on the number of services they render, irrespective of the outcome. Reread this and think of what the problem may be. Anything?

Okay, let me just spell it out. This model pays based on the number of services rendered, regardless of the impact on the patient's health. Imagine it this way. A patient goes to a physician with a medical ailment that requires a simple non-surgical procedure. But there is another way of treating the medical ailment - a surgical procedure and several other tests. The simple non-surgical procedure costs less than the surgical procedure and the tests but gives the same effect. Let me then ask you a question, which do you think many physicians will prefer?

You may be seeing my problem with the fee for service model now. With this model, many physicians take the way that will give them more money. This model of payment allows doctors to take unnecessary tests and measures in a bid to increase their profits. The tests and procedures are most likely not harming the patients in any way whatsoever, but they are simply useless. The patients don't need them, but doctors take these tests because they can get more money this way.

Let me pitch a genius suggestion to you. What do you think of a system where doctors are paid based on the value of the service they render and not the quantity? You are thinking 'there's nothing genius about this, it seems basic,' and you are absolutely correct - it is basic! The Affordable Care Act signed into law years ago supports this. That Act was targeted towards doctors focusing on increasing value rather than just the volume of healthcare services, but what has changed? Nothing. It's been ten years, and not a single thing has changed. And this right here is what is wrong with the healthcare system.

The reason our healthcare is in a mess as a country is that the providers of that healthcare care more about money than actually providing healthcare. There is no other explanation, because how else can you explain choosing a long way over a shorter and equally effective one simply because you want to make more profits? And I'm not just making things up.

A study conducted in 2010 showed that non-surgical treatments are not only as effective, but also less risky than surgical procedures for patients with a herniated disc (provided there is no nerve compression, sensory impairment, or loss of motor skills). In spite of this, the frequency of surgical interventions has not reduced.

Let me interpret it for you this way - doctors are willing to take on a riskier procedure as long as it means they can get more money from it. And we wonder where the problem lies in our healthcare system. Not only that. Several studies have also shown that physicians frequently perform knee arthroscopies when physical therapy alone will suffice. You know the reason why? Because they'll get more money from it. This is sick.

This model of payment is obviously not working. We spend much more on healthcare than other developed countries because things like this exist in our healthcare system. The fee for service model is only causing uneven care, price inflation, and excessive services. You and I are probably thinking the same thing - if it's not working, then why do we still have it? The answer will shock you.

Although alternatives have begun to spring up across the nation, like the Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs), Clinically Integrated Networks (CINs), and the Patient-Centered Medical Homes (PCMHs), health practitioners don't want to hop off this model because of the 'fear of the unknown.' Many of them believe that although the FFS model is failing, we should stick to it because we are familiar with it.

My theory about healthcare

providers caring more about profits is not looking too crazy now, is it? If we leave it to these guys to keep making financial decisions for us, our healthcare is only going to get worse. And with the state it is in right now, I can't even begin to imagine what worse will look like.

It just occurred to me that I haven't given the most definitive answer to the topic question, so I'll say this now - it is time to finally say goodbye to the fee for service payment model in healthcare. We have coped with this long enough, but it's time for it to leave, especially now that the economic effects of this pandemic are starting to tell off on many.

It's time to start paying for performance and not just volume. Do you know what Direct Primary Care is? It is the system that I believe will change primary care medicine and reduce cost. This, we will talk about in our next week's article.

Dr. Adil Manzoor DO is Board Certified Internist & Board Eligible Pediatrician, whom works as a Hospitalist, and Emergency Room Physician. He is also the current President of Garden State Street Medicine, a non-profit organization whose sole purpose is to provide free preventive & acute urgent care services for the homeless. He's also the co-founder of his own unique medical practice Mobile Medicine NJ.

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SPORTS WRAP



By William Hathaway

The National Football League will kick off its regular season this week, but with an unusual look. Most of the league's stadiums with be without fans due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, some teams will have fans in attendance, but not at full capacity.

The World Champion Kansas City Chiefs will host the Houston Texans with 22 percent of seats at Arrowhead Stadium filled. Meanwhile, the Cleveland Browns and Cincinnati Bengals will have 6,000 fans in their stadiums, by order of the Governor of Ohio. Right now, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy will not allow fans to attend New York Giants and Jets home games this season. This was announced back in July by both teams.

As for the local pro teams, the Jets will open on the road against the Buffalo Bills (no fans). Gang Green is looking to jump above its 7-9 mark form last season and make the playoffs, in a division without Tom Brady, who left for Tampa

Bay. It will not be easy, as the team traded safety Jamal Adams to the Seahawks in the off-season.

Meanwhile, the Giants will play their home opener against the Pittsburgh Steelers on Monday Night Football. This will mark the debut of new Giants head coach Joe Judge, who is looking to improve on the team's 5-11 season from last year.

In college football, while Rutgers University football is currently on hiatus due to the Big Ten football conference cancelling its season, there has been pressure to change the decision, so stay tuned. As for teams who are playing, Marshall University beat Eastern Kentucky 59-0 at home in Conference USA, while Texas State took a tough loss to SMU 31-24.

As the action in the NBA bubble heats up, the Nets made a stunning move off the court, as they hired Steve Nash as the team's new head coach. The former two-time NBA MVP has no prior coaching experience.

.....

TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 10)

Englewood Hospital paramedics and the East Bergen Rappel Team helped recover the body for the Bergen County Medical Examiner's autopsy.

BELLEVILLE / NUTLEY -

The Nutley-Belleville Columbus Day and Italian Heritage Month Parade Committee described, on Sept. 2, how different their Oct. 11, 2020 edition will be.

The Sunday before the federal Columbus Day holiday will start with a 10 a.m. raising of the Italian national flag before the Belleville Township Hall. There will also be the annual ceremony at the Christopher Columbus monument by the Nutley Municipal Building at Noon.

The two-town committee is replacing what would have been its 38th annual parade with what it calls "a caravan of cars decorated to celebrate Italian heritage." The caravan is to roll off from Belleville High School at 1:30 p.m. and onto Nutley's stretch of Franklin Avenue.

Making the parade more about Italian heritage than Columbus' arrival on San Salvador Island Oct. 12, 1492 is the nearest indication of the committee lowering the profile of "The Discoverer of the Americas."

Nutley's Columbus monument had been the site of a June 24 confrontation between rival demonstrators and of dueling petitions to remove or retain it. The removal petition had also called the committee to change its name.

ESSEX COUNTY COVID-19 CASE TALLY

Statistics available as of September 9, 2020

	<u> </u>	zepremeer >	
Municipality	9-8-2020	9-9-2020	Deaths
Belleville	1,032	1,022	62
Bloomfield	1,184	1,205	66
Caldwell	131	130	11
Cedar Grove	518	509	110
East Orange	2,067	2,064	231
Essex Fells	35	35	2
Fairfield	157	154	16
Glen Ridge	50	50	8
Irvington	1,501	1,488	161
Livingston	563	553	69
Maplewood	351	351	27
Millburn	176	174	6
Montclair	519	527	51
Newark	8,424	8,449	646
North Caldwell	47	52	4
Nutley	546	552	35
Orange	1,036	1,051	89
Roseland	85	85	13
South Orange	129	127	6
Verona	150	155	14
West Caldwell	306	305	44
West Orange	1,332	1,333	187
Total	20,339	20,371	1,858
Negative tests	149,183	149,363	

OTHER COVID-!9 TALLIES (As of 9-9-2020)

New Jersey: 194,990 cases / 14,220 deaths (Plus 1,789 probable)
United States (approx.): 6.325 Million / 190,000 deaths
Worldwide (approx.): 27.63 Million / 900,000 deaths

In NY state, shopping malls and indoor casinos have reopened, while indoor dining will resume on September 30.

Strict social distancing rules and capacity limits apply.

WORLD NEWS FLASH

(Continued from page 6)

a significant number of vaccines should become available in the first part of 2021. Vaccines would be distributed to member states based on population size.

The combined portfolio of the different vaccines will be enough to vaccinate all citizens that need or want to be vaccinated. However, she said it would be up to member states to decide who will receive the vaccination first which she admitted could lead to disparities across borders. She said prices for the vaccinations would be between 5-15 EUR per dose in order to assure affordability for all member states.

Some MEPs asked for confirmation that results of clinical trials would be made public.

Gallina answered that the European Medicines Agency (EMA) would provide overall data of the clinical trials - albeit not all raw data. As a general point on this, she said that access to clinical trial data would improve once the clinical trial regulation enters into force late 2021.

Many MEPs raised the issue of liability for medical companies producing vaccines and underlined that there should be no exceptions from current rules.

Gallina stressed negotiations with companies had been difficult but underlined that those companies developing and manufacturing COVID-19 vaccines would indeed be liable according to current laws and if something goes wrong they could be taken to court. This also goes for compensation for hidden defects.

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NATIONAL SURVEY SHOWS ENCOURAGING DECLINE IN OVERALL YOUTH E-CIGARETTE

Concern Grows with Uptick in Use of Disposable Products

WASHINGTON - On Sept. 9, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, released new data from the 2020 National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS), which show 1.8 million fewer U.S. youth are currently using ecigarettes compared to 2019.

The FDA issued the following report: "After two years of disturbing increases in youth ecigarette use, we are encouraged by the overall significant decline reported in 2020. This is good news; however, the FDA remains very concerned about the 3.6 million U.S. youth who currently use e-cigarettes and we acknowledge there is work that still needs to be done to curb youth use. Youth use of ecigarettes remains a public health crisis that is affecting children, families, schools and communities, and we will do everything possible to stop it including new actions we are taking today.

The findings come as we mark today's premarket review submission deadline, a milestone for ensuring new tobacco products, including many already on the market, undergo a robust scientific evaluation by the FDA. Scientific review of new products is a critical part of how we carry out our mission to protect the public - especially kids from the harms associated with tobacco use.

Companies must demonstrate that each product meets the applicable statutory criteria for receiving marketing authorization, such as whether marketing the product is appropriate for the protection of the public health. In such cases, the FDA may assess, among other things, how particular e-cigarettes or other electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) could help addicted adult smokers seeking to transition away from cigarettes, while also weighing the concerning popularity of these products with young people. The FDA has been working tirelessly to ensure that we are as prepared as



possible to receive, process, and review the applications in a timely manner.

In addition to the critical premarket scientific review of tobacco products, taking enforcement actions against those who violate the law remains a vital way we protect public health. Following today's deadline, the FDA will be prioritizing enforcement against any ENDS product that continues to be sold and for which the agency has not received a product application. Additionally, based on several factors - including the likelihood of youth use or initiation - the FDA will make the best use of agency resources to enforce against any other deemed new tobacco product that does not have the required premarket authorization, though as the result of a court decision, the FDA will not be enforcing this requirement for "premium" cigars.

In line with its enforcement priorities, today the FDA issued warning letters notifying three companies who sell or distribute unauthorized ENDS products to remove those products from the market. The FDA issued a warning letter to XL Vape LLC (doing business as Stig Inc.), a popular disposable e-cigarette brand among youth, warning the company to remove their disposable e-cigarettes from the market because they do not have the required premarket authorization.

Additional warning letters were issued today to Flavour Warehouse LTD (doing business as Vampire Vape) and Pretty Women UK LTD (T/A Coil2oil and Mad Kingdom Liquids) for illegally marketing unauthorized menthol-flavored e-liquids. The labeling and/or advertising of these products also features cartoon images, such as vampires and kings, that are commonly marketed and/or appeal to youth.

These actions come as the 2020 NYTS data shows an alarming uptick in use of disposable e-cigarettes by youth. Specifically, in 2020, disposable ecigarettes are being used by 26.5% of high school e-cigarette users (up from 2.4% in 2019) and 15.2% of middle school ecigarette users (up from 3% in 2019). Furthermore, more than 8 out of 10 youth e-cigarette users report use of flavored products, with fruit, mint, candy, and menthol among the most commonly used. This is the first year in which the NYTS distinguished between mint and menthol products; in previous years' surveys, youth were asked questions in which products were identified as "mint/menthol" and not further delineated.

The warning letters issued today underscore our concern with the rise in youth use of disposable e-cigarettes and the notable use of menthol-flavored ecigarettes. As we have said many times, the FDA will take action against any ENDS product - regardless of whether it is cartridge-based, disposable, flavored, or otherwise - if it is targeted to kids, if its marketing is

likely to promote use by minors, or if the manufacturer fails to take adequate measures to prevent youth access. The agency's actions demonstrate that the FDA will continue to aggressively respond to this public health crisis based on evolving data. This new data will inform the FDA's enforcement and other actions, and flavored disposable ENDS will be an enforcement priority for the agency.

SEPTEMBER 10, 2020 - SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

Our message to companies that sell youth-appealing products without marketing authorization is that they risk action by the FDA. And we are prepared to take additional actions in the future to hold companies accountable for marketing any ecigarette products that are appealing to youth.

These warning letters are just the latest in the series of actions the FDA has taken in the past weeks and months to help ensure that youth do not begin using any tobacco product. In late July, the agency issued warning letters to 10 companies, including Puff Bar, warning the companies to remove their flavored disposable e-cigarettes youth-appealing e-liquid products from the market because they lack the required premarket authorization. The agency is working to ensure these illegally marketed products are no longer sold, and that the products will not be reintroduced on the market until the companies have applied for and if they receive marketing authorization from the

We are committed to addressing the public health crisis of youth e-cigarette use by, among other things, focusing product review and enforcement on youth-appealing products and investing in campaigns to educate youth about the dangers of e -cigarette use. We will remain vigilant in monitoring the marketplace, expanding our public education efforts and using our regulatory authority - changing course as necessary - to further ensure all tobacco products, and e-cigarettes in particular, are not marketed to, sold to, or used by kids. If we see a product that is targeted to kids, we will not hesitate to target that product."

INTERVIEW WITH NEW ECC PRESIDENT AUGUSTINE BOAKYE

(Continued from page 1)

for more than a decade. I joined the College as an instructor of Economics and have served as Chair of the Business Division, Acting Dean for Liberal Arts & Business and now as Acting/Interim Pres-

I have taught many students and courses, and worked collegially with our faculty and staff. They are all wonderful people at a place I call home. In my new assignment, I am here to move Essex County College forward.

DS: What measures are begin taken by the College to combat the COVID-19 pandemic?

AB: The COVID-19 pandemic has been very tough on the College community students, faculty, staff and associated families. People are struggling; they have lost jobs, family members and friends to COVID-19. This is a time to sympathize with everyone who has lost loved ones. As an academic institution, we must not lose sight of how best to come together as a family and promote the academic priorities and education for which we stand.

COVID-19 is a serious pandemic and should not be underestimated in any way. We have put in place solid measures to ensure the safety of everyone. These measures include but are not limited to: the requirement to wear face masks at all times; to encourage frequent handwashing, the use of hand sanitizers; and strict adherence to Social Distancing. We are providing free PPE for staff and packaging PPE kits for students. Additionally, we have installed protective barriers, posted instructional and directional signage and implemented stringent schedules for cleaning and disinfecting throughout the

Upon entering our buildings, everyone is subjected to temperature checks. Some areas are blocked off to prevent gatherings. We are ready for class!

We are addressing the mental and physical needs of our students through our Wellness Center, a resource to help students experiencing emotional stress, and through our Food Pantry which provides nutrition to students facing the dilemma of food insecurity.

DS: What are the biggest challenges facing the College?

AB: We have multiple students who, for whatever reason, lack basic resources such as Internet access and computers.

They need a comfortable space to do their academic work. We are converting existing facilities to provide these necessary resources. Our gymnasium has been converted into an Internet Café where students can borrow laptops and study. Computer labs and classrooms, following CDC guidelines, are all available for our stu-

Like many other colleges, Essex County College is experiencing lower enrollment numbers due to the pandemic. We are therefore improving customer service and presenting programs in a way people will see the value in them. We must constantly repackage our programs, adding new ones and revamping current

We have underway a massive outreach initiative to help students overcome obstacles impeding their educational goals. Our new Fast Track WELCOME CENTER is one such way. The Center is a one-stop location where students can quickly receive information about programs, registration and financial aid, for example.

Another challenge that has been expressed to me, from faculty and students, is fear of the COVID-19 virus causing paralysis. Remote teaching and learning has also shown itself to be one of our biggest obstacles.

DS: What new programs are you developing for the College?

AB: We know how important the health careers are. We need to expand our nursing and allied health programs. We are in the process of packaging our short term certificates in Supply Chain Management, Business Career and other programs in innovative and creative ways. We continually look for ways to do things better.

DS: When the pandemic is over, what would you like to see?

AB: We must all come together in unity to accomplish our goals and mission. I've been meeting with faculty, staff and the bargaining units to share ideas. I will be hosting a College Town Hall meeting where we can come together as family to acknowledge the impact of these stressful time and to celebrate our successes and affirm our commitment to put Students

Overall, my family and I are in good health. I thank God for protecting us, family, friends and the Essex County College community. We anxiously wait for the end of this pandemic and the day when we can once again enjoy the essential human interactions which contribute to our wholeness and wellbeing.

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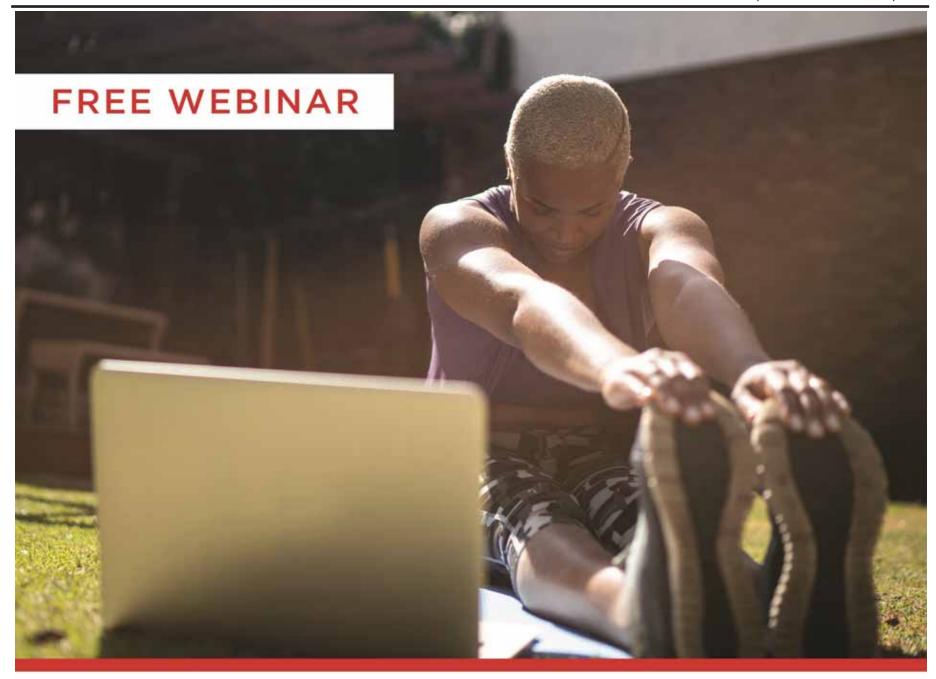
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Alma Beatty Virtual HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR

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