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BARAKA: GOODBYE COLUMBUS, HELLO TUBMAN



By Walter Elliott

NEWARK - Imagine going to what is left of the Christopher Columbus monument here at Washington Park by this time next year and finding a Harriet Tubman statue in its place.

And the downtown park you're in? It is now Harriet Tubman Park, no longer Washington Park.

That is what Mayor Ras Baraka has proposed towards the end of his virtual "State of the City Address" here at NJPAC Oct. 7. His proposal came about 85 percent into his 17-page address as given to observing media that Wednesday night.

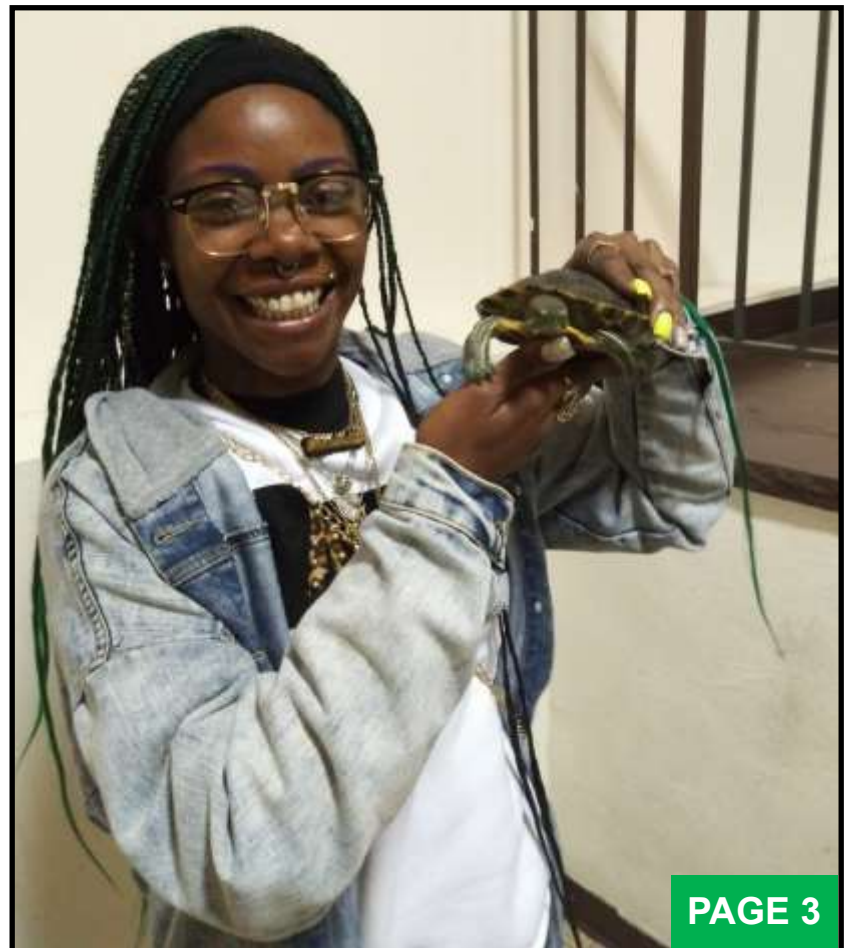
What the mayor has announced, pending an approval process involving at least the Municipal Council, would complete the dismantling of the 93-year-old "Christopher Columbus: Immortal Genoese" monument that was formally begun on June 25.

Some may remember the video recording made of that Thursday night, where Newark DPW workers, under Baraka's orders, removed the Giuseppe Ciocchita-sculpted statue. Around 50 witnesses, some playing djembe drums and/or cheering, saw that and one of the pedestal's four bronze bas reliefs as presumable a

(Continued on page 15)

THE GOOD SIDE OF HUMAN NATURE

*Woman Saves Turtle
in its Time of Need*



PAGE 3



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For Your Comfort in Mind

Turn to
PAGE 9



Editorial
 Dhiren Shah
 Editor-In-Chief

Hello Readers,

Election season is in full form. No one knows who will be our next president. However, Joe Biden is leading in the polls by more than 9 points over Trump. Also, the senate race is critical for the Democratic Party. The Democratic Party must win four seats to be in control of the senate. The election will be on November 3, 2020. Chances are the results will not be declared on Election Day, as like all other elections. Due to mail-in-ballots, they will have to wait from two days to one week depending upon the state. They will start counting the ballots right after November 3, but it will be a while before a

winner is declared.

The way the parties are divided, it seems like neither party will accept the election results, if it is against one candidate. So, chances are there will be riots in our county, unless one candidate wins by a landslide.

Trump is just recovering from COVID-19. As a regular citizen, if it happened to one of us, we would not get out like him. It can be a credit to him or discredit him, because people follow the actions of the president and they might not have the same spirit, and they might get sick. As shown on TV, thousands of people in Florida were without social distancing and majority of them without masks. That is dangerous in this pandemic. Trump claimed that he is free of COVID-19 and he is immune to it now. However, there is no backing about his claim. Also, he expects the same kind of gathering when he visits plac-

es like Iowa and Pennsylvania. He will have multiple state visits until November 3, as he is behind in the polls big time.

According to the New York Post; "Hunter Biden introduced his father, then-Vice President Joe Biden, to a top executive at a Ukrainian energy firm less than a year before the elder Biden pressured government officials in Ukraine into firing a prosecutor who was investigating the company, according to emails obtained by The Post. The never-before-revealed meeting is mentioned in a message of appreciation that Vadym Pozharskyi, an adviser to the board of Burisma, allegedly sent Hunter Biden on April 17, 2015, about a year after Hunter joined the Burisma board at a reported salary of up to \$50,000 a month. "Dear Hunter, thank you for inviting me to DC and giving an opportunity to meet your father and spent [sic] some time together. It's really

[sic] an honor and pleasure," the email reads. An earlier email from May 2014 also shows Pozharskyi, reportedly Burisma's No. 3 exec, asking Hunter for "advice on how you could use your influence" on the company's behalf."

Biden has denied it, saying, "I did not know about that he is on the board... My children will not in foreign affairs." This was stated by Biden in the interview with Judy Woodruff, PBS Newshour.

In New Jersey, Coty Booker should win easily against Rik Mehta. Booker is leading by about 25 points against Mehta. Booker is smart, charismatic and organized person and he thinks about people.

*Have a wonderful week.
 I'll talk to you next week.*

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WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>
Sunny	Rain	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Clouds & Sun Mix
HI 76 LO 57	HI 60 LO 45	HI 61 LO 44	HI 63 LO 48	HI 67 LO 52	HI 65 LO 55	HI 70 LO 56

Ballot Position
1-1

RE-ELECT

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2016-2020 - Fighting for Education at City Hall



2018 - 1st Ever Elected School Board Member



2020 - Chosen As School Board President





- Essex County Democratic District Leader (2016-2021)
- Founder of Committee for an Elected Orange School Board
- Former City Council Education Committee Chairman
- Identified Hundreds of Thousands of Dollars in Board Liability & Lost Revenue
- Informed Orange Parents of Misleading Student Achievement Reporting
- Husband to Germaine Tarver
- Proud Parents of Two STEM Academy Students

My Mission Still Remains The Same!



Student Achievement



Community Involvement



School Board Transparency



Board Member Accountability

5 Years
8 Elections Won

Children First
...Always!!



November 3, 2020

A Humanitarian Work

ALL INNOCENT LIVES MATTER - EVEN ANIMALS

By Michele Lowe

Approx. 12:53 140 S. Grove Street, Bloomfield NJ. I just got off the Bus # 90. I crossed the street, directly on the corner side-walk. I noticed that there was a turtle laying down, flipped over. It was unbelievable, very hurtful looking and just sad. There had been bruising, bleeding and open wounds. There were people I saw approaching in distance. I managed to get their attention. Only 2 persons stood, with caring love for the turtle I explained to the other folks.

This is illegal in the state of

New Jersey. So I called Bloomfield Police. While on the phone with the operator, they asked me for a location and other information, and said there would be a police car on its way. As for the turtle, I kept trying to see if it was still alive. Still no signs yet. From what I know about turtles, they heal and live a long-time.

The Police finally arrived on the scene. When they got there, everyone started to leave because help saved the day. I was so happy and relieved. The Police asked me some brief questions. They were very understanding officers. I explained from the beginning to end. We all knew from the look of the turtle it was most likely abused. While standing with both offic-

"NINJA TURTLE" FINDS A HOME

ers. Officer 1 put his gloves on and picked up the turtle. Checking every little detail of it, he said it's a boy. He placed it back down on the ground. We all are keeping high hopes for the turtle. Officer 2 called Bloomfield Animal Control Department.

While waiting for the Animal Control Department, the turtle started moving and slowly walked to the officer that picked him up. I told the officer, "I think he wants to be with you."

We all left when animal control finally arrived, and he said, "Okay little buddy, we are going to get you together." He called in to report the turtle to headquarters. He remained on the phone giving all the information, and told us that was wrong with the

turtle.

I asked him why he doesn't just take the turtle home. The turtle as we all have seen is attached to him. Then I said that I can keep the turtle. He said he must check with the department for testing and to make sure it was safe to release him. The officer obtained my information.

I stuck around the whole day. Officer 3 said to me that it was a great news; I could have the turtle. I was on my way to my home. I was joyful and made my home as the turtle's home.

I would like to thank the Bloomfield Police Department and Bloomfield Animal Control Department.

Advertorial



UNITED STATES

COVID-19 Vaccine Setbacks

As the world speeds ahead with the quest for a COVID-19 vaccine, two drug makers have suffered a setback.

Johnson and Johnson, which has headquarters in NJ, had to stop its vaccine trials due to an unexplained sickness in one of the test subjects. AstraZeneca has halted its program due to one test subject having a neurological condition.

Eli Lilly, based out of IN, also shut down Phase 3 vaccine production. There are conflicting reports as to whether or not their program was similar to what President Trump took during his COVID-19 diagnosis.

In all three cases, the subjects will be checked to see if they were given placebos, which are harmless, or the real thing. If they were on the placebo program, then the vaccine work should resume quickly. If not, then safety precautions will take precedent.

These potential vaccines are just three out of nearly 50 that are being worked on throughout the world. It is important that any vaccine not have any complications, as it is possible the "cure" could be worse than the disease.

EUROPE

Ceasefire in Conflict Zone

UN Secretary-General António Guterres has welcomed agreement on a ceasefire in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone following talks held in Russia on Oct. 9.

The conflict in the border region, located in the South Caucasus, has persisted for more

than three decades, with the latest round of hostilities between Armenia and Azerbaijan erupting over the past two weeks.

"The Secretary-General welcomes the agreement on a humanitarian ceasefire announced yesterday in Moscow by the Foreign Ministers of the Russian Federation, Azerbaijan and Armenia. He commends the Russian Federation for its mediation efforts," according to a statement issued by his Spokesperson.

Mr. Guterres called for the ceasefire to be respected, and for swift agreement on its specific parameters.

The Secretary-General also welcomed the commitment by Armenia and Azerbaijan to begin substantive negotiations under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), through its Minsk Group.

France, Russia and the United States chair the OSCE's Minsk Process, which promotes peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

The UN chief further appealed to the international community to support the ceasefire agreement. He also urged countries to continue to encourage the sides to resolve their differences through peaceful means.

AFRICA

Mali Appoints New Prime Minister

Mali's transitional President has appointed a new Prime Minister, the UN's top official in the West African country told the UN Security Council on Oct. 8, detailing the significant events which has ushered in a new political era, since the Aug. 18 coup d'état.

Updating the Council during its first meeting in the historic Council chamber since COVID-19 restrictions were put in place in March, Mahamat Saleh Annadif, Special Representative and Head of the UN Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), said former Minister of Foreign Affairs Moctar Ouane, was ap-

pointed by Transition President Ba N'DAW, on Sept. 27.

Mr. N'DAW, a retired Colonel Major and former Minister of Defense, was sworn in as President of the Transition on Aug. 25, before the Supreme Court, along with Colonel Assimi Goïta, head of the junta, as Vice-President of the Transition in charge of Defense and Security.

The Council briefing comes on the heels of news reports that a dozen political and military figures arrested during the coup - including former Prime Minister Boubou Cissé - were released. An official statement said the former detainees would remain at the disposition of the courts if needed.

On Oct. 12 the transitional Government also announced a new cabinet in which members of the junta were handed several key posts including defense, security, territorial administration and national reconciliation.

In addition, reports state that the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has lifted sanctions on Mali, acknowledging what it called "notable advances towards constitutional normalization."

ASIA

Children Used As Shields

UN agencies in Myanmar have expressed 'sadness' and 'shock' over the killing of two boys, allegedly used as human shields by security forces in the country's northern Rakhine province, earlier this month.

The two boys were killed in a crossfire between Myanmar's military, known as the Tatmadaw, and the separatist Arakan Army. The incident occurred on Oct. 5 in Buthidaung township - a hotspot for army abuses against children for non-combat purposes, since mid-2019, the UN agencies said in a statement, on Oct. 14.

The children were part of a group of around 15 local farmers, all of whom were allegedly forced to walk in front of a Tatmadaw unit to ensure the

path towards a military camp was clear of landmines, and to protect the soldiers from potential enemy fire.

On the way, fighting broke out between the Tatmadaw and the Arakan Army, after which the two boys were found dead with gunshot wounds.

The incident occurred within the 12 months of the delisting of the Tatmadaw for underage recruitment in the UN Secretary-General's Annual Report on Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) of 2020, agencies noted.

In the statement, the UN agencies - co-chairs of the UN Country Taskforce on Monitoring and Reporting on Grave Violations against Children in Myanmar (CTFMR) - called for a "full, transparent, and expedited investigation of the incident" and for anyone responsible for the use and for the killing of the children to be held accountable.

"This egregious incident serves as a stark reminder that children are put at risk of being killed or injured whenever they are associated with armed forces and groups in any capacity or function, regardless of the duration of their association," the agencies said.

The UN agencies also voiced "deep alarm" over an alarming increase of reports of killings and injuries of children in Myanmar.

More than 100 children were killed or maimed in conflict during the first three months of 2020, amounting to more than half of the total number in 2019, and significantly surpassing the total number of child casualties in 2018.

"As Myanmar tackles the resurgence of COVID-19, we urge all parties to the conflict to intensify efforts to ensure children are protected from all grave violations, to ensure access to humanitarian assistance and services, and to exercise maximum restraint in the use of force where civilians are present," they urged.

MEDICAL DEVICE MAKER TO PAY \$18 MILLION TO SETTLE ALLEGATIONS OF IMPROPER PAYMENTS TO PHYSICIANS

NEWARK - A medical device maker has agreed to pay \$18 million to resolve allegations that the company caused the submission of false claims to the Medicare, Medicaid, and TRICARE programs by paying kickbacks to physicians and hospitals to induce the use of its products, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey and the Department of Justice announced Oct. 14.

The settlement resolves allegations that, for over six years, Merit Medical Systems Inc. (MMSI), of South Jordan, Utah, engaged in a kickback scheme to pay physicians, medical practices, and hospitals to induce their use of MMSI products in medical procedures performed on Medicare, Medicaid, and TRICARE beneficiaries. The federal Anti Kickback Statute prohibits offering or paying anything of value to induce the referral of items or services covered by Medicare, Medicaid, TRICARE, and other federal healthcare programs. The statute is intended to ensure that medical providers' judgments are not compromised by improper financial incentives.

"Merit Medical provided millions of dollars of advertising and other marketing support to healthcare providers to induce sales of its products," Attorney for the United States Rachael A. Honig said. "Unlawful kickbacks like these distort the market for medical devices upon which our healthcare system depends. For years, Merit Medical ignored internal warnings and refused to abide by the rules that apply to

every other medical device company. With today's settlement, they are paying the price for that refusal."

"Paying kickbacks to doctors in exchange for referrals undermines the integrity of federal healthcare programs," Acting Assistant Attorney General Jeffrey Bossert Clark of the Department of Justice's Civil Division said. "When medical devices are used in surgical procedures, patients deserve to know that their device was selected based on quality of care considerations and not because of improper payments from manufacturers."

Under the guise of an internal program known as the Local Advertising Program, MMSI allegedly provided remuneration to healthcare providers in the form of millions of dollars in free advertising assistance, practice development, practice support, and purported unrestricted "educational" grants to induce the healthcare providers to purchase and use a wide variety of MMSI products. These products included MMSI's EmboSphere devices, which generally were used for uterine fibroid embolization procedures, and its QuadraSphere devices, which generally were used for other types of embolization procedures.

Despite publicly claiming that its financial assistance was designed to "increase th[e] awareness" of medical treatments, MMSI allegedly provided it only to select healthcare providers to reward past sales, induce future sales, and steer business to MMSI and away from MMSI's competitors. The



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government alleged that MMSI disregarded numerous warnings that its conduct may violate the Anti-Kickback Statute, including warnings from MMSI's own Chief Compliance Officer, during the course of the alleged kickback scheme.

Of the \$18 million to be paid by MMSI, \$15.21 million will be returned to the federal government, and a total of \$2.79 million will be returned to individual states, which jointly funded claims involving MMSI devices that were submitted to state Medicaid programs.

Along with the civil settlement, MMSI entered into a five-year Corporate Integrity Agreement (CIA) with the Department of Health and Human Services-Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG). The CIA requires MMSI to hire a compliance expert and an independent review organization to analyze its systems and transactions.

"No health care company's compliance program can be effective without commitment and support from the company's leaders," HHS-OIG Chief Counsel Gregory Demske said. "As happened here, ignoring your compliance officer's concerns about payments to referral sources is a great way to become a defendant in a kickback case."

The allegations were originally made in a lawsuit filed under the whistleblower provisions of the False Claims Act by Charles

J. Wolf M.D., the former chief compliance officer of MMSI. The act permits private parties to sue for false claims on behalf of the United States and to share in any recovery. Wolf will receive \$2.65 million from the federal share of the settlement.

The government's pursuit of this lawsuit illustrates its efforts to combat healthcare fraud. One of the most powerful tools in this effort is the False Claims Act. Tips and complaints from all sources about potential fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement can be reported to the Department of Health and Human Services, at 800 HHS TIPS (800-447-8477).

A settlement with Merit Medical was the result of a coordinated effort by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey and the Commercial Litigation Branch of the Justice Department's Civil Division, with investigative support from the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General and the FBI.

The government is represented in the District of New Jersey by Assistant U.S. Attorney Andrew Caffrey of the U.S. Attorney's Office's Healthcare Fraud Unit.

The lawsuit is captioned United States ex rel. Wolf v. Merit Medical Systems, Inc. The claims resolved by the settlement are allegations only and there has been no determination of liability.

TOWN WATCH

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 - Prospective N.J. Motor Vehicle Commission customers are to check the agency's website now through Oct. 16 while its Regional/Licensing Center here at 228 Frelinghuysen Ave. remain closed due to a COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus positive case among its employees.

MVC Spokesman William Connolly said that the regional center had closed since Oct. 2 while NJ Department of Health contact tracers interviewed the employee's colleagues. The employee, who tested positive Oct. 1, was last at work here that day. It is believed that he had contracted the virus away from the center.

Closing the Newark Regional Center came just when the anticipated heavy volume of customers were arriving at the start of this month. The MVC had also closed an agency in North Bergen Oct. 5 when an employee tested positive there - plus offices in Paterson and Eatontown since Oct. 9 and Springfield and Delanco since Oct. 13. (The Wayne Regional Center has also been closed while under construction.)

The statewide MVC system has been trying to cut into a four month backlog of orders since July 7, when it reopened from its COVID-induced hibernation.

A reporter's check of the MVC website Oct. 5 found 11 of its other agencies had reached capacity by 11:35 a.m. New customers were being turned away.

Customers are to consult nj.gov/mvc to see whether their transaction can be done on-line

instead of in-person. One may also want to check on which other agency offices can perform what transactions and whether an agency has reached capacity.

IRVINGTON - The township's police department reopened the full length of Bilal D. Beasley Civic Square, once the "Black Lives Matter" street mural was completed, early Oct. 8.

The elaborate mural - after three weeks' work by municipal employees, public officials and volunteers - was more than painting the now familiar Black Lives Matter yellow block letters in front of the Irvington Municipal Building.

"BLM" was flanked by 32 painted names, from Sandra Bland to Christian Whitfield, from just south of the square's Clinton Avenue T-intersection to the front of the Irvington Public Safety Building. "COVID-19" and an outline of hands folded in prayer completed the mural's southward progress to Springfield and Lincoln avenues.

The township had prepared for the mural by closing most traffic for street milling, repaving and restriping. That foundational work included adding two asphalt speed humps and color-coded parking stall lines.

Traffic was limited to postal vehicles entering and leaving the USPS Irvington Branch office, township vehicles and vendors who set up tents for the mural's official Oct. 4 dedication. Direct access to the public pay meter and Police Parking Lot No. 1 was allowed Oct. 6-7.

Mayor Anthony "Tony" Vauss, before a constellation of area municipal and Essex County officials plus dignitaries including National Action Network founder Rev. Al Sharpton and Cong. Donald M. Payne, Jr. (D-Newark), unveiled a "Black Lives Matter Tribute" sign by the Municipal Building steps Noon that Sunday.

The sign lists 100 names - from Matthew Ajibada to Alteria Woods - who have died while being approached by law enforcement or who have otherwise been in police custody.

EAST ORANGE - The husband

-and-wife owners of a city-based school bus company have been accused by the Office of the Attorney General here Oct. 8 for covering up unsafe bus conditions and using unqualified and unchecked drivers for at least the last two years.

Ahmed Mahgoub, 62, and Faiza Ibrahim, 47, said AG Gurbir S. Grewal that Thursday morning, have each been charged with second-degree false representation for a government contract, misconduct by a corporate official, theft by deception and conspiracy. The East Hanover couple are also charged with a third-degree count of tampering with public records or information.

The co-owners of F&A Transportation are accused of hiring drivers who did not have CDLs or other qualifying certifications, having criminal records and/or are using narcotics. They are also accused of falsifying inspection forms to show that their vehicles had passed MVC inspection.

The AG's charges came after its detectives found only nine of 51 drivers and vehicle files being complete. F&A is based out of 134 Evergreen Plaza with its Unity Transportation limousine service out of 626 Central Ave.

F&A, which has been in the student and patient carrying business since 2010, has contracts with boards of education and other clients in Essex, Passaic, Morris and Union counties worth an overall \$3.5 million. The company, however, had been receiving complaints since 2017.

The Newark Public Schools took over F&A's transportation of special needs students after a bus aide allegedly passed out while she was driving 12 special needs children and a second aide and crashed at 14th Avenue and Jones Street Feb. 22, 2019.

Linda Gray, 57, was accused of self-injecting heroin before noticing that her driver had not shown up. Newark police officers, who said they used Narcan to revive Gray, said they found drug paraphernalia on board. Gray's attorney said she had a diabetic shock reaction.

ORANGE - The Scriptural passage, "one knows not the hour or the day" may have sadly applied to Rev. John Wesley Rice, Jr. Sept. 15.

Rice, 61, Senior Pastor of Love Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church here in the Orange Valley, suddenly died while visiting his mother, Henrietta, in Maplewood.

Rice, who was born in Newark June 10, 1959, had been senior pastor at 580 Christopher St. since at least 2008. He had started the Horizons Community Development rehabilitation clinic here and welcomed Iglesia de Dios Oasis de Amor for their worship services.

The Essex Catholic Boys High School-East Orange Class of 1977 graduate had also graduated from then-William Paterson College in 1981 with a business degree. He later attained his pastor's degree from the Beebe, Ark.-based Lighthouse Christian Academy. Rice had also studied in between at Drew University.

It is believed that his widow, Elder Karon E. Rice, will continue leading the church and its clinic. Son and William Paterson graduate Wesley III, brother David and sister Maria Rice Bellamy are also among his survivors. Father and Elder John Wesley Rice, Sr. died in 2010.

Rice's viewing and funeral were held Sept. 22 at West Orange's Life Christian Church.

WEST ORANGE - A United States Postal Service letter carrier from Kearny, accused of dumping Vote By Mail Ballots and other mail by a North Arlington dumpster Oct. 2. may have either posted bail or remains in federal detention when you read this.

Nicholas Beauchene, 26, said U.S. Attorney Craig Carpenito that Friday afternoon, was arrested and charged that morning with one count of obstructing mail and a count of delay, secretion or detention of mail.

Beauchene, who has been a USPS employee since July, is accused of dumping about 1,875 pieces of mail behind a strip mall at 19 Schuyler Ave. Oct. 2. Two passers-by alerted North Arling-

(Continued on page 7)

SPORTS WRAP



By William Hathaway

It was a busy week in the sports world. First, in new jersey high school football, West Side High beat up on Orange 40-14, East Orange blanked Montclair 13-0, and West Orange destroyed Bloomfield 62-0. In other games, Belleville beat East Side 32-14, while Columbia upset Shabazz 28-13.

There is some good news for NJ's indoor sports teams, as Governor Murphy has allowed them to resume activities immediately, with safety protocols required.

In pro football, the NY Giants lost on the road to the Dallas Cowboys 37-34. The win was costly for Dallas, as QB Dak Prescott left with a gruesome ankle injury. Meanwhile, the Jets put up no resistance to the Arizona Cardinals, losing 30-10. Not long after, the team released RB Le'Veon Bell.

The NBA "Bubble" was a success, with the Los Angeles capturing their 17th championship in franchise history, tying the Boston Celtics for the most in NBA history. A 106-93 victory in Game 6 of the NBA Finals gave LA a 4-2 series win over the Miami Heat. LeBron James captured his fourth NBA Finals MVP award as well as his fourth title with three different teams.

In college football, COVID-19 has forced some changes to the schedule. A Vanderbilt vs. Missouri has been postponed until December 19th, while an LSU vs. Florida is up in the air due to some positive tests.

Finally, Major League Baseball lost two legends this past week. First, Yankees legend Edward Charles "Whitey" Ford died at the age of 91. Then, former Cincinnati Reds star Joe Morgan passed away at age 77.

TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 6)

ton police, who, in turn, called in USPS Police and postal inspectors that day.

Beauchene, who had been working out of the Orange Post Office, is accused of dumping the said mail sometime between Sept. 28 and Oct. 2. The mail was to have been delivered to recipients in Orange and West Orange Sept. 28 and Oct. 1-2. (West Orange's mail is served out of Orange.)

The mail dropped and discovered included 99 VBMBs and 276 pieces of campaign literature for candidates running for places for West Orange's Township Council and Board of Education.

Obstruction of mail carries a maximum six month jail time and \$5,000 fine. Delay of mail carries a five month maximum sentence and a \$250,000 fine.

SOUTH ORANGE / MAPLEWOOD - South Orange-Maplewood School District Su-

perintendent Dr. Ronald G. Taylor unveiled a pilot "de-tracking" program within Columbia High School while addressing equity issues before the South Orange Board of Trustees at their Sept. 30 meeting.

By de-tracking, explained Taylor, CHS students will be allowed to move between levels within the same classroom after the first marking period. Teachers will have a rubric to grade and differentiate students within that same class.

Another district goal, said the two-down district superintendent, is to change the psychology of some students' reasoning for taking fewer Advanced Placement classes than what they are qualified for.

"One of the reasons some of these students aren't enrolled in some of these classes is because none of their friends are enrolled in these classes," said Taylor at the trustees meeting in SOPAC. "Intentional integration initiatives (aren't) a feel-good story; it's a way for us to impact deep

(Continued on page 10)

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From The Pastor's Heart

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY

The Handwriting On The Wall

When our sons were very young, we gave them sketch pads and pencils to do their creative work. However, there were times we discovered marks on the family room walls or other parts of our house.

Such discoveries emitted varying emotions and left us unsure of how to handle them. Should we be angry, laugh, cry about what our sons did on the walls, instead of using their scratchpads? We tried wiping off the walls, but eventually had to repaint them. After we whipped and repainted, we explained to our sons why they should not mark on the walls and hoped that they understood.

It is interesting to note that while they did not mark the walls that could be readily seen on entering our home, they marked up the walls in their bedrooms. Perhaps in their minds, it was more fun marking on bigger spaces. As parents, we learned to keep our calm as we asked our sons what they were trying to draw. They gave all kinds of fascinating interpretations. At other times, they denied making the marks and even started to cry because they thought they might receive some form of discipline.

This story about our sons

reminds me of the famous words in four-lines the poem, *The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyám*, that we often recited in our elementary school.

*"The Moving Finger writes;
and, having writ,*

*Moves on: nor all thy Piety
nor Wit*

*Shall lure it back to cancel
half a Line,*

*Nor all thy Tears wash out a
Word of it."*

Yes, our sons' marks on the walls, and the words of Omar Khayyám, connect with the story recorded in Daniel chapter 5, which tells of the night when the Persian king, Cyrus, marched into Babylon. The Great king Cyrus and his army rerouted a tributary from the Tigris that surrounded the palace wall. They took the kingdom at the moment when King Belshazzar and his guests were having a drunken feast. At the end of seven days, they became so intoxicated that the king took the vessels that his grandfather, King Nebuchadnezzar, had brought to Babylon from the temple in Jerusalem.

King Belshazzar defiled the sacred vessels by using them in his drunken orgies. In the middle of their last evening of feasting (for so it would be with the entry of Cyrus and his army), a mysterious hand appeared and wrote upon the plaster of the palace wall. The words were in Aramaic, the language spoken in Persia at the time, but evidently unknown to most Babylonians. The frightened king was instructed by his grandmother to send for Daniel, who had interpreted King Nebuchadnezzar's dreams.

When Daniel appeared, king Belshazzar promised him gifts and promotion in his kingdom, if he could interpret the writing. But Daniel told Belshazzar that he did not need his gifts, but that he would interpret the handwriting on the wall. Daniel read the words; **MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN**, and then gave the interpretation - numbered, numbered, weighed, divided.

That interpretation predicted the fall of Babylon. By the end of the interpretation, Cyrus and his army entered the palace, slew the king and many of his attendants, and took the city. Daniel was spared and later became the most prominent governor in the Persian Empire.

Yes, "the handwriting on the wall" has been used as a phrase to remind people that often enough, the providential hand is writing messages across the pages of history to remind, rebuke, warn, caution, or correct our behavior, before a night of destruction come upon us. Sometimes the hand writes upon a plastered wall or other material things in the world, such as in the stock market; at other times, it is in hurricanes, the fires, the earthquakes, or the multiple other signs of climate change and environmental degradation.

Of course, maybe the handwriting is in the pandemic at this time. And make no mistake, God is telling us something. Maybe he has held back his hand from a miracle cure until we recognize that our lives of drunkenness, dishonesty, immorality, political corruption, racism, and religious prostitution need to cease.

People who lack divine wis-

dom, discernment, humility, and repentant hearts might be pretending that the writing on the wall is mere gibberish and not a message from God. Some persons might be despising the true-hearted scientists and historians' interpretations and even despising the faithful interpreters of God's word. But to such, I need to say, if anyone is living in ignorance or in a drunken stupor, take a pause and read the Bible where you will find more than in any other place, words written by the hand of God. Pray for wisdom that you might be able to interpret them. Ask the Lord to help you understand what is happening or about to happen to us.

Friends, if I am not sure of anything else, I am sure that I can confidently say that if we keep on living with recklessness during this pandemic, we will undoubtedly self-destruct. And what is true for the United States of America is also true for other lands. In effect, we need to take precautions; we need to stop trivializing the hand that writes or about to write.

It is the hand of God that writes. It is not like our little sons who used their pencils to draw lines on our walls. The hand of God is apparent in the message it writes. Its message might seem mysterious at first, but it is clear and can be interpreted. Be careful to warn that disaster stands before us if we are unwilling to take cautions. On the contrary, salvation stands before us if we are willing to receive the message and, in contrition, repent, and reform.

May God help us to read the writing on the wall.

TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 7)

outcomes as well, in a generational way."

By "generational," Taylor added that elementary schools must better reflect their neighborhoods' demographics. It would be a way to turn around a two-year decline within SOMSD of African American students not taking AP chemistry and physics classes.

"We're far from where we want to be but we're keeping our

eyes on the prize," said Taylor. "We always remind ourselves that there are no magic bullets, no magic beans."

Taylor made his presentation on equity at the request of Village Trustee Donna Coallier.

MONTCLAIR - The owner of Cuban Pete's Restaurant- six days after receiving his third COVID-19-related executive order violation in three months Oct. 3 - came within 30 minutes of having his 16-year eatery closed by the New Jersey De-

partment of Health and Human Services Oct. 9.

Restaino, of Montville, said that state and Montclair Health Department officers, shutdown order in hand, came around 10 a.m. that Friday. He said there only four tables were occupied and no diners were inside at that time.

"For the first time in my life I felt like an alien - like I wasn't an American," recalled Restaino Oct. 10. "I told them that I was complying (to the 25 percent indoor dining limit and social

distancing). They left, saying they'll rescind the order."

Restaino added that he would comply with Gov. Phil Murphy's executive orders on socially distant interior dining. He was hit by Montclair health and police officers Oct. 3 for having more than the 25 percent limit - which was preceded by having diners indoors Aug. 7 and 25.

Although Murphy has since issued Executive Order 185, allowing up to interior dining to
(Continued on page 13)

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The Doctor Is In



Dr. Adil Manzoor OP/ED

The Difference Between MDs And DOs

Trump has, or had apparently, the coronavirus, did you know that? Who am I kidding? You definitely knew that. However, did you know that the doctor of the president, Sean Conley, came under criticism in recent days for not being a real doctor? Yes, many people don't actually believe Sean Conley is a real doctor because he is a DO and not an MD. Well, that is absolutely ridiculous because a DO is a real doctor, and it's not up for debate.

Such allegations have persisted for a while now, quite shockingly, I must say, when you consider the work DOs put into becoming doctors. So, I'm saying this right at the beginning. It is unforgivable to say DOs aren't real doctors. Don't even think about it. However, many people don't know the difference between DOs and MDs, if any difference exists at all, that is. This is forgivable. And this article will attend to that.

Straight to business then. There aren't major differences between MDs and DOs when you consider that they are both licensed medical practitioners who can practice medicine and prescribe drugs in all fifty states in the United States. Another similarity between them is that they pretty much receive the same training. They both attend four years of medical school,

and they both take a residency program that typically lasts between one and seven years.

The main, and perhaps, most significant difference between DOs and MDs is their philosophies on practicing medicine. DOs and MDs attend different medical schools, and it is the medical schools they attend that determine whether they become a DO or an MD. There are two primary philosophies in medicine, which are osteopathy and allopathy.

Allopathy is the more common of the two and is usually considered as traditional medicine or modern medicine. It focuses on treating specific medical conditions, typically diagnosed by medical tests, using medications. Osteopathy, on the other hand, takes a more holistic approach when treating people. They regard the body as a whole and treat it as such rather than just treating specific symptoms. Are you bored yet? Please, don't be. I can't exactly make medicine any more fun than this.

Upon graduating from an allopathic medical school, the doctor takes on the MD title, which stands for a medical doctor or Doctor of Medicine. Meanwhile, doctors from osteopathic medical schools take on the DO title, which stands for Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. Did I already mention that they are both licensed medical practitioners? You know what, I'll just do it again. They are both licensed across all fifty states to practice medicine. This totally squashes allegations or stories about whether DOs are real doctors or not.

In fact, I find it quite insulting that some people think DOs, like Sean Conley and I, aren't real doctors. Yes, I am also a DO, and yes, I am also a real doctor. It is one thing to not like a person; it is another thing entirely to rubbish and discredit the effort they put in their profession. That's a digression, but one I needed to make. Let's get back on track. What were we discussing? Oh, yes. The difference between osteopathy and allopathy.

Another difference between osteopathic and allopathic medi-

cal schools is that DOs, that is, doctors that graduate from osteopathic schools, have to complete an extra 200 hours of coursework. These additional hours focus on the musculoskeletal system and the holistic view of medicine. The holistic view of medicine is one that treats medicine wholly, serving not only the body but also the mind and spirit. The training on the musculoskeletal system is called osteopathic manipulation medicine training or OMM training, for short.

The result of these extra 200 hours is a greater understanding by DOs of the range of motion of muscles and bones by merely touching and feeling them. This is probably why some people call DOs chiropractors, which is not true. DOs are licensed medical practitioners, like MDs, with the main difference in their medicine philosophies. I can't over-emphasize that. I'm still going to try, though.

But even with the extra hours of OMM training, many DOs rarely use that aspect of their training. According to a 2003 study in Ohio, most DOs don't use OMM techniques, and by the majority, I mean close to 75% of the DOs in that study.

There's another difference, or should I say kind of a difference. DOs are known for practicing preventive medicine. This does not mean MDs don't also practice preventive medicine, but DOs just practice it more. And this also does not mean some MDs don't practice preventive medicine more than some DOs. You can see why I said earlier that there aren't any major differences because, many times, both DOs and MDs use the same techniques.

So, you may be thinking about which doctor or philosophy is okay for you. Well, the answer is both are fine. DOs and MDs are qualified to practice medicine and prescribe drugs, and they receive the same training. However, many DOs are primary care doctors. More than half of DOs go into the primary care field, with that figure standing at about a quarter for MDs. The implication of this is that if

you need a primary care doctor, you may want to consider a DO. But if you have a particular ailment and want a specialist in that field, you can choose an MD or a DO.

A quick recap of all we've discussed, then. One, DOs are real doctors. Two, the difference between DOs and MDs is merely philosophical. Three, both are qualified and licensed to treat you, so you have nothing to fear. I didn't miss anything, did I? This was fun, kind of. Allopathy or osteopathy, medicine is fun.

This article was written by Dr. Adil Manzoor DO, a Board Certified Internist & Board Eligible Pediatrician, who 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 and acute urgent care services for the homeless. He is also the co-founder of his own unique medical practice Mobile Medicine NJ.

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ESSEX COUNTY COVID-19 CASE TALLY

Weekly Statistics from Oct. 7 - Oct. 14, 2020

Municipality	10-7-2020	Deaths	10-14-2020	Deaths
Belleville	1174	66	1211	67
Bloomfield	1259	69	1285	69
Caldwell	140	11	141	11
Cedar Grove	505	113	506	113
East Orange	2127	231	2158	231
Essex Fells	34	2	36	2
Fairfield	173	17	192	17
Glen Ridge	54	9	54	9
Irvington	1607	162	1628	163
Livingston	570	70	583	70
Maplewood	373	27	379	27
Millburn	183	6	188	6
Montclair	534	52	546	52
Newark	8811	668	9110	670
North Caldwell	64	4	73	4
Nutley	590	36	609	36
Orange	1124	92	1128	92
Roseland	102	14	107	14
South Orange	132	5	141	5
Verona	168	14	175	14
West Caldwell	304	48	318	48
West Orange	1399	186	1432	186
Total	21427	1902	22000	1906

OTHER COVID-19 TALLIES (As of 10-14-2020)

NJ: 216,023 cases / 14,402 deaths (Plus 1,789 probable)

United States (approx.): 7.91 Million / 216,500 deaths

Worldwide (approx.): 38.36 Million / 1.09 Million deaths

In New Jersey, MVC Centers in Newark, Eatontown, Paterson, North Bergen, Springfield, Runnemede, and Delanco were all shut down due to COVID-19 concerns

TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 10)

25 percent, Restaino has appeared in Montclair Municipal Court to answer the August charges in September hearings.

Restaino, as late as Oct. 6, had said he was prepared to continue defying Murphy's orders and go to jail to keep Cuban Pete's open and his full 48-member staff employed.

"I'll do whatever I can to keep the restaurant open," now said Restaino Oct. 10. "I may not like the orders but that's what I have to do. What I've learned is that no one is above the law."

BLOOMFIELD - Township Public Safety Director Samuel DeMaio, during his virtual Community Meeting on Policing here

Oct. 13, is calling in an independent third party to settle a Bloomfield Avenue patrolling dispute with the Bloomfield Information Group.

DeMaio, after going over the latest Bloomfield Police Department crime statistics Tuesday night, announced that he has invited the Rutgers-Newark Center on Policing to review the squad's intake and interpretation of policing data. The COP, since 2001, has collaborated with the Safe Surrender fugitive program and currently with the U.S. Department of Justice-Newark Police Department Consent Decree.

"Bloomfield's Top Cop," made the announcement at the first community meeting held since the Bloomfield Information Group published a Sept. 30 report on minority drivers being

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stopped by township police.

BIG, using the department's own 2016-20 traffic stop statistics along Bloomfield Avenue, said that "Black drivers, making up less than one-fifth of the township's population, made up more than one-third of the traffic stops."

The group said that 13 of the 127 BPD officers who conducted traffic stops were 2.3 to 2.5 times on average more likely to stop African American or Latino motorists than Caucasian drivers in those four years. Two of "Bloomfield's finest" were 2.9 times more likely and one topped the list at 3.4 times.

BIG particularly cited the police stops along Bloomfield Avenue, which make up 88 percent of township-wide stops, are "where more of the township's Black and Latino residents reside. The area also borders the predominantly Black communities of East Orange and Newark."

While BIG's findings align themselves with a similar 2016 Seton Law School study, DeMaio, who was hired as director in 2014, has maintained: "It's crime-driven profiling, not racially-driven profiling. The makeup of the community the officers are patrolling in is certainly going to have an impact on who it is that they're having interactions with."

GLEN RIDGE - Around 40 registered voters here walked a mile from the borough's South End en masse to drop off their Vote By Mail Ballots before the Municipal Building here Oct. 5.

The estimated group, some

of whom were carrying babies with them, gathered about a mile south of Bloomfield Avenue that Monday afternoon and began to walk north along Ridgewood Avenue. When they turned west onto Bloomfield Avenue, the mask-wearing walkers began to spread out for social distancing before depositing their ballots one at a time into the Essex County-supplied box at 825 Bloomfield Ave.

Resident-voter Brian Sargent told a reporter that he began organizing the meet-up and drop off Sunday morning on social media. Sargent said he wanted to hold a walk to have "some kind of good feeling out of voting."

There was no political discussion, on one hand, throughout the walk. The walk, on the other coincided with President Donald J. Trump's leaving Walter Reed Hospital, where he was treated for COVID-19, to The White House.

BELLEVILLE - A township man who was originally arrested Aug. 5 on fentanyl manufacturing and distribution charges has recently had money laundering charges.

The Bergen County Prosecutor's Office said they had re-arrested Raymond G. Ulloa, 31, Aug. 10 and arraigned him in Hackensack's Central Judicial Processing Center. Ulloa had been released Aug. 7 on his own recognizance.

The use of Ulloa's car by Tatiana DeLaCruz, 21, of North Bergen, near the alleged East Rutherford fentanyl mill was

(Continued on page 15)

NJ ATTORNEY GENERAL KICKS OFF CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

TRENTON - As October's National Cybersecurity Awareness Month ("NCSAM") gets underway, Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal announced Oct. 9 that data breaches, internet fraud, and threats from online child predators are on the rise in the state, making it especially important for New Jerseyans to take action to protect themselves and their children from cyber criminals.

With residents in the state facing a rise in cybercrime during the COVID-19 public health emergency, NCSAM's annual month-long campaign to raise awareness of internet safety takes on a new sense of urgency this year.

"The pandemic has made us all more dependent on the internet. We are using it to conduct business, connect with friends, do our shopping, entertain our families, consult with our doctors, and even send our children back to school, creating fertile hunting ground for hackers, financial scammers, and other cyber predators," said Attorney General Grewal. "Cybersecurity Awareness Month serves as an opportunity to remind everyone that we're all connected on the internet and we share the responsibility for keeping it safe and secure. Working together toward this common goal has never been more important, as cyber criminals look to profit from the COVID-19 emergency."

Nationwide, consumers have lost more than \$156 million to COVID-related fraud

this year, nearly a third of that over the internet, according to the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC").

From websites hawking cures and soliciting donations for phony charities, to phishing emails promising unemployment and debt relief, cyber-thieves have been adapting and changing their tactics to exploit the latest news and public concerns related to the coronavirus.

New Jersey consumers alone have lost a reported \$4.45 million to COVID fraud, and during the first three full months of the public health emergency (April through June), complaints of identity theft in the state are up by 66 percent compared to the same period in 2019, FTC data shows.

Public data breaches too, are on the rise in the state. Since March, the New Jersey Cybersecurity Communications and Integration Cell ("NJCCIC") has seen a 33 percent uptick in reports of hackings and online security breaches, compared to the same period last year. The data breaches - which have affected financial, medical, and retail industries, among others - exposed proprietary data belonging to the companies themselves as well as personal data belonging to their clients, patients, and customers.

In July, a surge in cyber threats against the remote workforce prompted the NJCCIC to issue a warning about malware attacks specifically aimed at breaching the networks

employees are using use to access their business emails, documents, and files from home.

Children too are facing increased risks from cyber predators during the pandemic. With homebound youngsters spending long hours online doing schoolwork, playing video games, and socializing with friends, reports of child luring, sextortion and other types of child exploitation are also on the rise in New Jersey.

Since March, tips to the New Jersey State Police's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) - including tips from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children - have increased up to 50 percent compared to the same period last year.

Annual data reports issued by the State Police in conjunction with Cybersecurity Awareness Month show that even before the pandemic, cyber breaches and online threats to children were on the rise in New Jersey.

Last year, 1.8 million accounts held by New Jersey residents were compromised by data breaches - five times more than the number affected the year before.

Data breaches (991) and reports of online threats to children (4158) both reflected nearly ten percent increases from 2018 to 2019.

ESSEX COUNTY MAN INDICTED FOR ARMED ROBBERY OF THREE PHARMACIES

NEWARK - A federal grand jury indicted an Essex County man Oct. 14 for his role in three armed robberies of pharmacies in West Orange, Belleville and East Orange, New Jersey, U.S. Attorney Craig Carpenito announced.

Malik Conley, 27, of Newark, is charged with three counts of Hobbs Act robbery, three counts of brandishing firearms in furtherance of the robberies and one count of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. He will be arraigned on a date to be determined.

According to documents filed in this case and statements made in court: On Oct. 21, 2019, Conley and a conspirator entered a pharmacy in East West Orange, New Jersey, while wearing face masks. One of the men entered the pharmacy holding a silver handgun pointed at employees. The men demanded

cash from the register as well as prescription medication. Conley and his conspirator fled the pharmacy with stolen medication and cash.

On Dec. 3, 2019, Conley entered a pharmacy in Belleville, New Jersey, while wearing a face covering and pointing a silver gun at employees. He demanded cash from the register as well as prescription medication, and ultimately fled the pharmacy with stolen medication and cash. Law enforcement recovered the firearm believed to be used in this robbery later that day in Conley's girlfriend's car.

On Jan. 13, 2020, Conley and a conspirator entered a pharmacy in East Orange, New Jersey, while both wearing face masks. One of the men entered the pharmacy holding a gun pointed at employees. Both men demanded cash and prescription medication, and ultimately fled

the pharmacy with stolen medication and cash. Conley was arrested later that evening with the car keys to the vehicle believed to be used in the East Orange robbery in his pocket. Law enforcement searched the vehicle and recovered prescription medication traceable to the East Orange Pharmacy.

Each count of Hobbs Act robbery carries a maximum potential penalty of 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine, or twice the gross gain or loss from the offense. The count of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon charge carries a maximum potential penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine, or twice the gross gain or loss from the offense. Each count of brandishing a firearm in furtherance of a bank robbery carries a mandatory minimum of seven years in prison and a \$250,000 fine, or twice the gross gain or loss from

the offense.

U.S. Attorney Carpenito credited special agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Charlie Patterson in Newark; the West Orange Police Department, under the direction of Chief James P. Abbott; the Belleville Police Department, under the direction of Chief Mark Minichini; and the East Orange Police Department, under the direction Chief William C. Robinson, with the investigation leading to today's indictment.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Emma Spiro of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Newark.

The charges and allegations in the indictment are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

BARAKA (Continued from page 1)

precaution.

Baraka, at that time, said the statue's removal was to prevent anyone from attempting to vandalize and/or topple it. Columbus was second to statuary of Confederate statesman and generals in being felled or destroyed by vandals on the fringes of this summer's "Black Lives Matter" demonstrations.

The 1927 Columbus statue was given to the city by a coalition of Italian-American associations and built with \$27,000 in donations here and from Italy. It was dedicated Oct. 12 before an audience of around 35,000 people.

That monument is among nine sited in the city park that dates back to Newark's 1666 founding.

The North Common or Upper Green plus Military Park were first drawn by Robert Treat and the Milford, Conn. derived Caucasian settlers after buying the land from the local Lennai Lenape. It was dedicated for sheep grazing and as a farmers market place.

The Newark government renamed the place as Washington Park, prior to the end of George Washington's Presidency, in 1795.

It is in the pre-Civil War decades where Tubman clandestinely enters national and Newark history.

Tubman was a "conductor" on the Underground Railroad, smuggling escaping slaves from the South to, first, north of the Mason-Dixon Line and, in the 1850s, into Canada for freedom. (There was a smaller-scaled railroad helping slaves escape into Mexico in that decade.)

Tubman, said local historians James Ameson and Jimmy Richardson in 2019, had gone through Newark at least once. She had stayed in the nearby First Presbyterian (or "Old Pres") Church. Church members and abolitionists also gave her food and supplies there.

It was Tubman's connections to Newark that Baraka cited in wanting the park changes Wednesday night.

This' not just window dressing," said the mayor. "Newark played an important and integral role in the Underground Railroad and Harriet Tubman's journeys to freedom led her to our city many times in that very area."

Baraka also noted that New Jersey was the last Northern state to abolish slavery although it had joined the Union side in the 1861-65 Civil War. That legacy is one indication of what the late Rutgers history professor Dr. Clement A. Price had called New Jersey's "complicated" relationship with abolition.

The leader of one Italian-American service organization, on Oct. 8, questioned the need to extol Tubman at Columbus' expense.

"I thought the mayor took down the Columbus statue to protect it from vandalism?" asked UNICO Executive Director Salvatore Benvenuti. "The Italian-American community agrees with honoring Harriet Tubman - but the mayor doesn't have to do that at the disrespect of the Italian community. By doing so, he creates more divisiveness and promoting racism."

There is no word about the Columbus Square marker set by a group Oct. 12, 1960, at the park's apex.

Three students had tested positive for COVID-19 earlier that week, prompting the four-town high school to go all-remote learning Oct. 12-18. All of its extra-curricular activities, including preparing for the Nutley game, was called off through Oct. 18. (Another eight high schoolers have since tested positive as of Oct. 13.)

While the contact is believed to have been made off school property, a WERHS spokesman said that several "students, parents and staff had quarantined themselves as a precaution."

Contact tracing may be a challenge, given that WERHS's student body comes from Roseland, North Caldwell, Fairfield and Essex Fells.

The Raiders-Knights game would have been a clash of the 1-0 undefeated teams. NHS got its win over the West Side High School Roughriders, 31-18, on Newark's Untermann Field Oct. 3.

TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 13)

what led BCPO and borough police detectives to serve a search warrant on the said vehicle. That was where law enforcers said they found \$75,000 cash. (DeLaCruz's name is also listed as Ulloa's co-resident in real estate documents.)

Ulloa, Donald Wallace, 25, of Newark plus two other men from Mahwah and Elizabeth were originally arrested Aug. for making \$1 million worth of fentanyl, disguised as oxycontin and Percocet pills, from East Rutherford and Mahwah.

NUTLEY - The Nutley High School Maroon Raiders football team, through no fault of their own, will have to wait until hosting the Orange Tornadoes as their home opener here at Oval Park Oct. 17.

The Nutley Board of Education received word from their West Essex Regional High School colleagues Oct. 8 that they had to, for now, cancel their match that was set for Oct. 10.

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