



PRESIDENT TRUMP IMPEACHED ... AGAIN

WASHINGTON, D.C. - On Jan. 13, 2021, President Donald J. Trump was impeached by the House of Representatives in a 232-197 vote - becoming the first Commander-in-Chief to be impeached twice.

On Dec. 18, 2019, the House passed two articles of impeachment: abuse of power and obstruction of congress. However, weeks later, a trial in the Senate did not yield the necessary 67 votes in favor of impeachment conviction to remove him from office.

This time, the charge is incitement of insurrection, and was virtually guaranteed to go through, as the Democrats who filed the charge hold a majority in that chamber. However, unlike the previous impeachment, this time the Democrats got 10 votes on the Republican side in favor of Trump's removal. Despite the outrage over last week's insurrection at the Capitol, some Republicans did speak against the impeachment.

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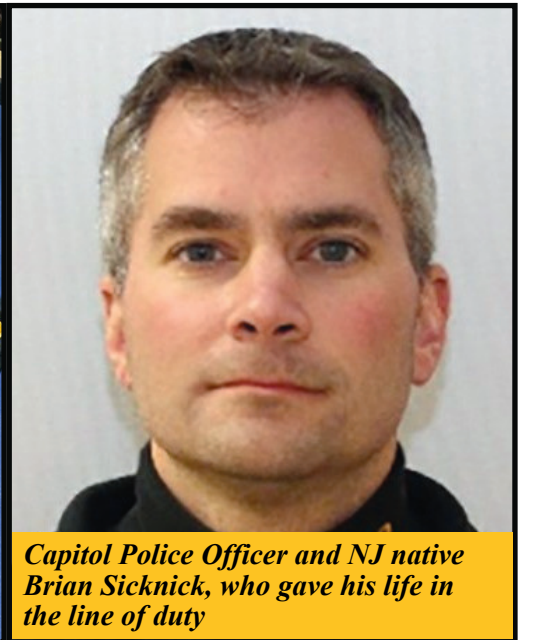
"THERE'S BLOOD ALL OVER THE CAPITOL"



A damaged window inside the Capitol building



Cases of certificates of the electoral college votes confirming the results of the 2020 US Presidential election



Capitol Police Officer and NJ native Brian Sicknick, who gave his life in the line of duty

WASHINGTON, D.C. - That the smooth and peaceful transfer of power from President Donald J. Trump's Administration to Joseph Biden's has been anything but, as of press time, is one of the few certainties in the post-Jan. 6 storming of the U.S. Capitol here.

Upon his most recent impeachment, we will see whether Mr. Trump has done the unlikely in less than seven days to his term: resignation, take early leave and/or issue more executive orders that the Biden Administration and the 117th Congress will be left to undo.

We will meanwhile learn of more stories of heroism, horror and/or collapse by an under-supported U.S. Capitol Police force against some 1,000 individuals who fought and called them "traitors" and "cowards."

We will learn more of the identities of those who rushed

past the police barricades, entered the halls and, while seeking for officials' heads from Vice President Mike Pence on down, desecrated the Capitol.

We will know how tightly secured Washington and 50 state capitals - including Trenton - by

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Editorial

Dhiren Shah
Editor-In-Chief

Hello Readers,

There is less than one week left before Joseph Biden and Kamala Harris are sworn-in as President and Vice President of the United States of America. His first 100 days pledge is to get 100 million people vaccinated and promote unity between the parties. However, unity is required for the people of the United States of America, not just the political parties.

Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer pushed hard on impeaching President Donald Trump for a second time. If impeached he cannot run again in 2024. However, pushing to the extreme will make unity exceedingly difficult. Within the families, if you criticize one family

member and then ask him/her to talk about family unity, it does not work. If you want to unite, someone must talk nicely and then point out their negative points, but do not start attacking and then asking them to unite.

So far in the world, just under two million people have lost their lives due to COVID-19. Nearly 400,000 people have lost their lives in the United States. India has about 25% more cases than Brazil and about 25% less deaths than Brazil. The United States is leading in the world in coronavirus cases (around 23 million) and deaths (well over 380,000). India is getting it under control, as daily cases last month were about 90,000; now, it is about 15,000.

The reason I am talking about India is that they are more organized than the US. In India, the government representative comes to your house and registers everyone for vaccination. They have three priority groups like ours, healthcare and front-line workers, persons over 50

years old and the last is all others. They publicize what precautions are required at the time of vaccination...30 minute rest at the site after vaccination, and if there is a problem, inform the nearest health authorities. People can register online or at government centers.

Once registered, they will inform you for the date, time and place of vaccination. They give the second dose after 28 days and they make sure that the person gets it without a problem. As stated, getting the second dose in time will increase your immunity. It is especially important that no one can get a vaccination without registration.

America is not professionally managed, and we have to register, which everyone has to find out how and find the portal for registration (there is also a portal for pre-registration) and then do not know when and how they will be vaccinated. I heard that some of the influential people are jumping the line and getting vaccinated ahead of others.

In America, California received 3,435,650 doses, but only 891,489 (26%) have been vaccinated. New York received 1,796,850 doses and 632,473 (35%) got vaccinated while in New Jersey, 654,900 received doses and 262,982 (40%) are vaccinated. New Jersey is doing good so far, but West Virginia is doing the best job, with 69% of their doses resulting in vaccination. North Dakota, South Dakota, Rhode Island and Connecticut have gotten their vaccination doses above 50%. California is still leading in the nation for new cases and new deaths. Texas is leading in the recovery section, followed by California.

There are a few deaths after vaccination; one was a doctor, and one was a healthy person in India. However, the problems are very few in those who took the vaccines. So, it is better to get vaccinated and live your life worry free.

*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>
Cloudy - Then Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	AM Rain	Sun & Clouds	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
HI 46 LO 34	HI 46 LO 42	HI 45 LO 34	HI 44 LO 30	HI 40 LO 26	HI 41 LO 29	HI 39 LO 29

SPORTS WRAP



By William Hathaway

The National Football League held its First Round Wild Card games this past weekend. As expected, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers defeated the Washington Football Team, 31-23. Leading Tampa Bay was QB Tom Brady, who threw for 2 TDs and 381 yards, the most ever for a quarterback his age. Also, the Buffalo Bills won their first playoff game since the 1990s, with their 27-24 win over the Indianapolis Colts. In a tight battle, the New Orleans Saints beat the Chicago Bears.

While those favorites won, there were some upsets. One saw the Los Angeles Rams go on the road and stun Seattle 30-20. Another upset saw the Baltimore Ravens win on the road at the Tennessee Titans 20-13. Finally, the most shocking upset

saw the Cleveland Browns cross the border into Pennsylvania and defeat the Pittsburgh Steelers 48-37. Cleveland jumped out to a 28-0 lead early, thanks to multiple Pittsburgh turnovers.

In College Football, the person with the best week had to be WR DeVonta Smith, who not only won the Heisman Trophy, but joined the rest of his Alabama teammates in winning the National Championship. The Crimson Tide rolled over the Ohio State Buckeyes 52-24. It marked the seventh time that head coach Nick Saban has won a National Title, and the sixth time with Alabama, passing the legendary Paul "Bear" Bryant for the most all-time.

In college basketball, the Seton Hall men's basketball team has won 8 out of last 10, with one such win being a 76-68 road win over DePaul.

THE CAPITOL

(Continued from page 1)

law enforcement against real or rumored similar stormings Jan. 17-20.

And we will see New Jersey and "Local Talk" area connections among the above developments.

There are 90 members of the New Jersey Army National Guard, for example, left their West Orange Armory for the District of Columbia Jan. 9-10. The Troop B 102nd Cavalry members are among a contingent of 500 troops from the Blackwood, Egg Harbor, Mount Holly and Teaneck armories who were called to help the Capitol and Washington, D.C. police security needs.

It is not known if 102nd Cavalry Troop B are deployed within the Capitol, helping to retrieve evidence and removing

debris, or at Washington intersections, directing traffic or something in between.

The first National Guard troops had arrived at the Washington Mall after sunset Jan. 6 - hours after Washington Mayor Muriel Bowser's call for them to Pence.

The West Orange National Guard left before Gov. Phil Murphy (D-Rumson) ordered all U.S. and New Jersey flags be lowered to half-staff Jan. 11. Murphy was paying tribute to South River native and Capitol Police Sgt. Brian Sicknick, who had died Jan. 7 from injuries suffered while "physically engaging" with the insurrectionists.

Sicknick, 42, who moved to Springfield, Va. when he joined the Capitol police in 2008, had toured Saudi Arabia in 1999 and Kyrgyzstan in 2003 as part of the Air National Guard out of Fort Dix-Ft. McGuire Joint

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Capitol steps footage shows Sicknick being struck in the head after a rioter had thrown a fire extinguisher at him and several officers. Sicknick later complained of pain while back at a USCPD office that night and was taken to a local hospital.

Central New Jersey Congress members have asked that Sicknick be buried in Arlington National Cemetery. A GoFundMe.com page has been established so his family can pay for funeral expenses.

The Capitol's U.S. flag, which was briefly replaced by a Trump 2020 banner Jan. 6, was lowered to half-staff Jan. 6 in tribute to Sicknick. The White House's flag was so lowered Jan. 10.

Sicknick and a second USCPD officer, who reportedly committed suicide, are among six who have so far died from

the Capitol storming. Another 55 Capitol officers from a force of 2,000, including 10 still hospitalized, were injured. (Insurrectionist and civilian injury counts were not immediately available.)

The FBI, on Jan. 11, has released a "before" video of "Extinguisher Man:" The bearded man holding the fire bottle is distinguished by a grey backpack and a "CFD" woolen cap.

"Extinguisher Man" is not the only one of the trespassers, vandals, thieves, assaulters and murderers found and sought for among the insurrectionists. The suspects range from social media celebrities to state legislators, veterans, public safety officers, an Olympic swimmer, a son of a judge - and a South Jersey man.

A Leonard Guthrie, of Lower Township, was among the 68

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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 - Zip Code 07114 as of Jan. 4, has joined 07105 and parts of 07104 and 07107 as a city COVID-19 "hot spot" through Feb. 1.

07114 runs from the East Ward's "South Ironbound" neighborhood northern border to largely west along Elizabeth Avenue to the Elizabeth border and the Newark Bay waterfront and back to South Ironbound via New Jersey Turnpike's Exit 13 A Interchange.

That area includes all of Newark Liberty International Airport, Port Newark, the Dayton neighborhood and Weequahic Park. It adjoins 07105, "North Ironbound" a zip code that extends north along Route 21/McCarter Highway to the Passaic River.

Mayor Ras Baraka, in his Jan. 4 Executive Order extension, cited rising COVID infection and death rates to add a fourth zip code.

"The need to extend the curfew is essential," said Baraka. "Although vaccines have been and are being developed at a pace never experienced in this nation's history, and are being administered to essential workers, we can't become complacent or lax in our fight against the virus. We must continue to be vigilant in wearing our masks, practicing social distancing, washing our hands frequently and getting tested frequently."

People in 07114 are to also be off the streets 9 p.m. - 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 p.m. - 5 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Exceptions will be made for those commuting to and from work or

in emergencies. All "non-essential" businesses are to close 8 p.m. - 5 a.m. daily.

IRVINGTON - At least six weapons possession counts apparently made the difference between one Tremont Terrace resident being out on monitoring conditions for part of the year-end holidays - and the other remaining held in Newark's Essex County Corrections Center.

The New Jersey State Police Crime Suppression North Unit had arrested Kevin C. Brown, 48, and Tyesha St.-Louis, 42, while executing a search warrant on St.-Louis' address there Dec. 22.

Their search also yielded a handgun, two assault rifles, about 6.5 grams of cocaine and 83 grams of heroin plus about 136 oxycodone pills. The NJSP unit, after a month's investigation, was assisted by the State Police's K-9 and TEAMS North units.

Both Brown and St. Louis were each charged with possession of a controlled dangerous substance, possession thereof within 1,000 feet of a school, possession with intent to distribute, possession of CDS paraphernalia, money laundering and possession of a weapon during a CDS offence. The address was near the Berkeley, Grove Street and University Irvington Public Schools.

St. Louis, according to the NJSP Jan. 8 release, was freed on pretrial monitoring. Details, like whether she is wearing an ankle bracelet, were not disclosed.

Brown, however, is being held on six more charges: two counts of unlawful rifle possession plus a count each of unlawful handgun possession, possession of a high-capacity magazine, possession of a defaced firearm and weapon possession while a convicted felon.

EAST ORANGE - A city woman faces assault charges after going on a car window smashing, kicking and spitting spree against a relative and Montclair police Jan. 8.

The first MPD unit, said township police Sgt. Terence Turner, arrived at Mission Street 1:24 a.m. on a report of two women fighting on that street.

They were met by the caller, who said she saw the other woman smash the front and rear windshields of her cousin's curbside parked car with a metal pipe while screaming profanity. When she confronted the smasher, the suspect then beat her with the pipe.

When the officers questioned and then arrested the other woman - identified as Jannah Asante, 24, she allegedly spat in one officer's face and kicked the other while they were putting her in her car. Her victim was meanwhile taken to Mountainside Hospital for treatment of facial injuries.

"Local Talk" readers may recall that Asante had been charged by Hoboken police March 31, 2019 with third and fourth degree aggravated assault of a police officer, aggravated assault of an EMT, simple assault and resisting arrest. She was accused at that time of punching a pedestrian, spitting into a medic's face and grabbing an HPD officer's neck.

Asante has been charged Jan. 8 with aggravated assault, aggravated assault of a police officer, unlawful possession of a weapon and possession thereof for an unlawful purpose.

ORANGE - Local Lyft driver Bazoo Aibangbee perhaps got the surprise of his life Jan. 5 when he and his passenger turned west from Cleveland Street onto Alden Street - and were pulled over by multiple Orange police cars and officers.

Aibangbee told OPD and at a Jan. 6 press conference that he had picked up his ride, identified as Malik G. Tory, along Montclair's part of Bloomfield Avenue and was directed into Orange's North Ward. Aibangbee had just turned his white 2019 Kia Forte off Washington Street when Tory told him to stop in front of 387 Cleveland St. and left to meet another man there.

Members of OPD's Street Crimes, Gang and Narcotic Task Force said they were on a stake-out the last month on drug trafficking complaints by neighbors when they saw the Kia with its lighted Lyft sign stop there.

Tory and the other man briefly talked before OPD said Tork handed the latter cash in

exchange for "an unknown item" Tory then "stuffed the item in the crotch of his pants and re-boarded the northbound Kia.

Officers who stopped the Kia at 373 Alden St. said they saw Tory "trying to conceal something" when they ordered him out. Tory then dropped what was identified as a 9 mm. Ruger LCP handgun while leaving the car.

"The next thing I knew they tackled him down because he had tried to run," said Aibangbee. "That's when I tried to record it on the phone. Somehow a car slowed down by the cops and he tried to run away (but) the cops caught him real quick."

Tory, who has been charged with narcotics and weapons possession, is in local custody. Aibangbee's cell phone video was first aired on News12NJ early Jan. 6 after Orange Police Director Todd Warren and Commanding Officer Vincent Vitiello's early Wednesday conference.

WEST ORANGE - Checking whether the township's public schools are on track for a Jan. 19 reopening for in-person learning is a priority for the newly-reorganized West Orange Board of Education.

WOBOE's latest member, Melinda Huerta, was sworn-in at their annual reorganization meeting Jan. 7. Huerta, who a majority of participating registered Nov. 3 voters elected over then-Board President Ken Alper, thanked her supporters in English and Spanish.

The new panel then elected Terry Trigg-Scales to succeed Alper as president. Trigg-Scales had most recently been an interim Montclair High School principal. Jennifer Tunnicliffe was picked as vice president.

WOPS Superintendent of Schools Dr. Scott Cascone will have the opportunity to brief the new board at their Jan. 13 meeting on whether the district will return to hybrid remote/in-person learning on Jan. 19.

Cascone, citing concerns of a COVID infection spike Nov. 2, had postponed a Nov. 9 reopening. A change.org petition has meanwhile been attracting signatures to urge for a Jan. 19 reopening.

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THE CAPITOL

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people Capitol Police had arrested by Jan. 7. The Guthrie under arrest (there are two Cape May County residents listed with the same name) was charged with unlawful entry.

Guthrie told Philadelphia's WCAU NBC News 10 Jan. 8 that he had crossed a police line at the rally "as civil disobedience," but did not enter the Capitol.

"Trump told everybody, 'Go over to the Capitol, let them hear your voice,' " said Guthrie, while wearing a "We the People - Have Had Enough" baseball cap. "This was about revival - not kicking doors."

What some of the pro-Trump protesters-turned-criminals had sought to disrupt was the joint Congressional counting of Electoral College votes. New Jersey's Congressional Delegation - 11 House Representatives and both Senators - were present when shots were being fired and rioters were at their chambers' doors.

Capitol officers halted the vote count at about 2:30 p.m. and sequestered legislators into secured areas for the next four hours. Their staff and aides also took shelter after one chief of staff discovered that her office's "panic button" was "torn out" ahead of time.

Members the likes of Cory Booker (D-Newark) and Mikie Sherrill (D-Montclair) were among those who traded Tweets with the outside world while sequestered. Several colleagues were also watching the mayhem unfold and dissipate on televisions.

"I was in the (House) Chamber as people attempted to breach it," said Sherrill. "The Capitol police barricaded the doors and we sheltered in place.

Once we had a secure exit, we left the Capitol and I'm now in a secure place."

"I just spoke on the Senate floor," said Sen. Booker. "Grateful to the Capitol Police for keeping us safe. We must complete our Constitutional duty and start to repair our democracy."

Cong. Donald M. Payne, Jr. (D-Newark) was back home that Wednesday - but made his observations known.

"I'm home safe and away from this chaos but this' a sad day for America," Tweeted Payne. "Every American who loves this country should be horrified and ashamed about what's happening right now."

Payne later posted a photo of National Guard soldiers standing rank and file on Washington federal steps last summer.

"The picture is actually the Lincoln Memorial but the point's valid," added Payne. "I want to find out why the responses to the BLM protests and today's riot at the U.S. Capitol building were treated so differently."

Congress was given the "all clear" and completed the Electoral College vote count by 4 a.m. Jan. 7. Biden was certified as "POTUS 46" with 306 electoral votes. (At least 270 votes were needed.)

Not all Congress members who left the Capitol early Jan. 7 returned Jan. 11-13 for the impeachment votes. Cong. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-Ewing) was back home with mild symptoms of the COVID-19 Coronavirus after testing positive Jan. 11.

"I was sheltering with several colleagues who refused to wear masks," said Coleman, 75, and a lung cancer survivor.

"I'm thinking of you," re-

(Continued on page 13)

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FIRST ROUND OF FEDERAL CHARGES IN CAPITOL RIOT

WASHINGTON - Thirteen individuals have been charged so far in federal court in the District of Columbia related to crimes committed at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C, on Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021. In addition to those who have been charged, additional complaints have been submitted and investigations are ongoing.

"The lawless destruction of the U.S. Capitol building was an attack against one of our Nation's greatest institutions," said Acting U.S. Attorney Michael Sherwin. "My Office, along with our law enforcement partners at all levels, have been expeditiously working and leveraging every resource to identify, arrest, and begin prosecuting these individuals who took part in the brazen criminal acts at the U.S. Capitol. We are resolute in our commitment to holding accountable anyone responsible for these disgraceful criminal acts, and to anyone who might be considering engaging in or inciting violence in the coming weeks - know this: you will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law."

"ATF is committed to the rule of law and the protection of all citizens' Constitutional rights," said Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Deputy Director Regina Lombardo. "We continue to support our law enforcement

partners to ensure those who violated the law during the events at the Capitol this week are brought to justice. ATF has dedicated all appropriate resources to complete these investigations as soon as possible."

"Today's charges are just the beginning of the FBI's ongoing efforts to hold those responsible for the criminal acts of violence and destruction that unfolded during the U.S. Capitol building breach on January 6th," said FBI Director Christopher Wray. "To be clear, what took place that day was not First Amendment-protected activity, but rather an affront on our democracy. The FBI, along with our local, state and federal partners, is committed to ensuring that justice is served. We will continue to aggressively investigate each and every individual who chose to ignore the law and instead incite violence, destroy property, and injure others."

"Deputy U.S. Marshals responded to support U.S. Capitol Police after the incursion into the Capitol building. Our deputies helped to clear the building and escorted members of Congress back to the main chamber for official business," said U.S. Marshals Service Director Donald Washington. "US Marshals will now bring to bear our fugitive investigations expertise to ensure that individuals charged in feder-

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UNITED STATES

Banned

In the aftermath of one of the worst insurrections in American history, several outlets have taken a stand.

Since Jan. 6, Facebook and Instagram have banned President Trump from posting on its platforms until after Inauguration Day. Also, YouTube decided to bar Trump from posting videos for a week's time. Most notably, Twitter permanently banned Trump from its service, denying him communication with over 89 million followers.

This was not the end of the Trump "banned" tour, as the PGA announced that it would move the scheduled 2022 PGA Championship event at Trump's golf course in New Jersey to another location. Also, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that the city would terminate its agreement with two skating rinks, a carousel, and a golf course run by the Trump Organization.

Trump has even been "banned" by someone he considers a close friend, as New England Patriots head coach Bill Belichick declined Trump's offer of a Presidential Medal of Freedom.

In addition to no communication with Trump, many of his supporters were also dealt a blow to communicate with each other, as Apple and Amazon pulled conservative-leaning Parler platform from their sites.

Of course, these developments could very well be the beginning and not end for more actions where Trump and his supporters get "banned."

EUROPE

More COVID-19 Relief Support

As the United Kingdom continues its national lockdown to contain the coronavirus, efforts are being made to put more boots on the ground.

A record 5,300 personnel committed to winter and COVID-19 operations are supporting 56 different tasks in the UK and abroad - including vaccine rollout, NHS support and community testing across the length and breadth of the UK. This is the largest peacetime resilience operation ever undertaken by the UK Armed Forces and is drawing on every corner of expertise of the military.

Personnel are also working inside NHS hospitals, with around 50 medics now committed to hospitals in Kent and Essex to ensure there is workforce resilience to cope with increasing demand. In Essex, Combat Medic Technicians (CMTs) are supporting a 'step-down' facility for those recovering from COVID-19.

A further 1,600 military medical professionals work in the NHS every day, from intensive care nurses to specialist surgeons, providing their skills on a permanent basis to support our health service. This means that very few defense medics are not currently deployed or working in the NHS.

In Manchester, 800 personnel are deploying from nine regiments across the British Army at the request of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) to support targeted asymptomatic testing of specific populations that may be at a higher risk of infection including social care staff, key workers, public facing occupations such as bus drivers, and those in high risk environments such care homes and shared accommodation for the homeless.

Over 2,155 personnel are deployed on community testing tasks, including in Lancashire, Derbyshire, Yorkshire and Kent. Local authorities are still able to apply for support from the Armed Forces to establish community testing programs if required.

The armed forces are also helping with ongoing testing to ensure the smooth movement of people and goods across our borders, with 515 operating over 30 testing sites across the country. Since Dec. 23, over 45,000 tests have been conducted, keeping millions of tons of freight moving between the UK and Europe.

AFRICA

Ebola Vaccine Breakthrough

In a major milestone in the fight against deadly diseases, United Nations agencies and humanitarian partners announced on Jan. 12, the establishment of a global Ebola vaccine stockpile, to help control future epidemics by ensuring timely access to vaccines for populations at risk, during outbreaks.

Ebola virus disease is a severe and often fatal illness, with fatality rates varying from 25 percent to 90 percent. Thousands of people have lost their lives to the disease, since the virus was first discovered in 1976.

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the UN World Health Organization (WHO), underscored the importance of the vaccines to save lives from deadly viruses.

"Ebola vaccines have made one of the most feared diseases on earth preventable. This new stockpile is an excellent example of solidarity, science and cooperation between international organizations and the private sector to save lives."

The International Coordinating Group on Vaccine Provision (ICG), which includes WHO,

UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), led efforts to establish the stockpile, with financial support from Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

The stockpile is stored in Switzerland, and vaccines are ready to be shipped to countries for emergency response.

Henrietta Fore, Executive Director of UNICEF, said that when it comes to combatting disease outbreaks, "preparedness is key."

"This Ebola vaccine stockpile is a remarkable achievement - one that will allow us to deliver vaccines to those who need them the most as quickly as possible," she added.

UNICEF, on behalf of ICG will manage the stockpile, and as with stockpiles of cholera, meningitis and yellow fever vaccines, will be the decision-making body for its allocation and release.

As Ebola outbreaks are relatively rare and unpredictable, there is no natural market for the vaccine, and doses are only secured through the establishment of stockpiles and are available in limited quantities.

According to the UN agencies, an initial 6,890 doses are available for outbreak response and quantities will be added over the coming months to take the emergency stockpile to 500,000 doses, the amount recommended by health experts.

CARIBBEAN

Man Charged with Cocaine Smuggling

A Jamaican man made his initial appearance Jan. 11 on charges that he smuggled approximately one kilogram of cocaine into the United States, Acting U.S. Attorney Rachael A. Honig announced.

(Continued on page 12)

GOVERNOR MURPHY DELIVERS STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS

Here now are excerpts from New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy's 2021 State of the State Address:

"My fellow New Jerseyans. I don't need to tell you these are different times. So, this is a different kind of speech. Instead of delivering this address in a crowded state house, I'm standing in an empty theater.

"Yet for all the changes, the most important things remain constant. Our values. Our priorities. Our vision. And that we are all New Jerseyans.

"The stories we just heard have echoed across our state for the better part of the past year. They are stories that show our grit and reveal our heart. They echo the pain of 2020 and they preview the hope of 2021.

"They are tied with a common thread - that we are all in this together. Most of all, these New Jerseyans reflect the state of our state. Although wounded deeply, we enter 2021 tougher than ever, wiser than before, and ready to move forward together.

"We have lived this truth together - that New Jersey was one of the first and hardest-hit states. That our communities of color have been disproportionately impacted. And that we are currently battling a second wave which is just as brutal as the first.

"Every single day, as we have for nearly a year, we face this challenge head-on. Every single day we wrestle with the tough, yet necessary, decisions, and we know there are more to come - the right decisions for the long-term public health and vitality of our families.

"We weigh every pro and con to ensure that every decision is not only effective, but equitable.

"And in typical Jersey style, we are leveling with each other and making sure that no one is left behind. We are facing this pandemic not with a dismissive wave or partisan pandering, but with a full-scale counterattack.

"We are making the fight against COVID-19 one that engages every New Jerseyan...

"...Long before I became

Governor, I called for sweeping and fundamental reforms to our incentives system. The old ways worked for too few and left too many behind.

"So we set out to create a new system that is transparent and fair, which focuses not on huge corporations, but on job-creating small businesses and innovative startups.

"A system that, most of all, promotes good-paying, future-focused jobs. A system that has sensible caps in spending and an inspector general to safeguard every penny of taxpayer money.

"We set out to lift up the New Jersey-based innovative companies of tomorrow through a venture fund encouraging public-private investments. There is no other fund like this in America. We set out to turn brown-fields and other long-neglected areas into new, walkable, and inviting communities.

"We set out to ensure workforce and affordable housing options, and to eliminate food deserts. We set out to create the state's first historic preservation tax credit, so our future can be built by repurposing the buildings that made us an economic power in the first place.

"And we set out to ensure our incentives come with strong protections for our union workers.

"Everything I just mentioned - everything we initially set out to do - is now reflected in our groundbreaking new incentives program.

"This is what change looks like. This is what putting people ahead of the powerful looks like. This is what focusing on Main Street looks like. This is what protecting today and planning for tomorrow looks like...

"...And, as New Jersey starts getting back to work, commuters will find that NJ Transit is safer and more accountable.

"We proved the naysayers wrong by beating the deadline for federally mandated train-safety technology - completing eleven years' worth of work in less than three.

(Continued on page 13)

BANKRUPTCY

CHAPTER 7 BANKRUPTCY

CHAPTER 13 BANKRUPTCY

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TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 4)

SOUTH ORANGE - Villagers Elissa Maplespina and Courtney Winkfield, Maplewoodians Susan Bergin and Kamal Zubieta, the other five South Orange-Maplewood School District Board of Education Schools Superintendent Dr. Ronald Taylor may be responding to planned Noon Jan. 13 teacher walkouts and rallies when you read this.

Winkfield, Bergin, Malespina and Zubieta, who was elected to the board Nov. 3 were first sworn-in. Jan. 6. The new board then selected Thair Johnson as their president and, for 2021, Shannon Cuttle and Erin Siders as respective first and second vice presidents.

They later listened to Dr. Taylor's reading an appeal letter from the South Orange-Maplewood Education Association. SOMEA officials, citing their having to wait their Tier 1B turn for COVID vaccinations, asked the district to postpone implementing the virtual/in-

person hybrid learning model. The district's "Phase 4" model was to launch Jan. 19.

Taylor, however, sent a late Jan. 12 community-wide e-mail saying he is going to partially start Phase 4. All English language learners, special education, Pre-Kindergarten-Second Grade and 6-9 Grade students are to either report to their designated laptops or classrooms Jan. 19.

The superintendent, however, has put off bringing the rest of the student body into school buildings from Jan. 25 into sometime next month. Taylor said he was partially postponing on "local COVID transmission rates and the county's (orange) Regional Risk Level."

Taylor may also be responding to Jan. 12 social media reports that SOMEA members will walk out of their scheduled Phase 4 preparations in their schools Noon Jan. 13. They are to then join supportive parents in protest rallies in front of their schools.

(Continued on page 15)



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Starts January 25

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New Students- Please visit our Welcome Center located on the Second Floor near the Main Entrance, or email welcomecenter@essex.edu, or call 973-877-4477, 973-877-3389.

CAPITOL RIOT CHARGES

(Continued from page 5)

al warrants are brought to face justice. Respect for the rule of law is a foundational principle for our democracy and the freedoms that it provides. Unlawful acts will not go unpunished.”

“The events that happened at and around the United States Capitol were unconscionable, and those responsible will be held accountable for their attempts to thwart Democracy,” said Metropolitan Police Department Chief of Police Robert J. Contee III. “While these charges represent a positive step, there is still work to be done. Our collective intentions are to work diligently to identify all of the persons responsible for the insurrection at our U.S. Capitol.”

Thirteen individuals have been charged with federal crimes. The defendants and charges are outlined below:

- Cleveland Meredith was

charged on Jan. 7, 2021, with making interstate threats to Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

- Richard Barnett, of Arkansas, was charged on Jan. 7, 2021, with knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful entry; violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds; and theft of public money, property, or records. Barnett allegedly entered a restricted area of the Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi.
- Lonnie Coffman, of Alabama, was charged on Jan. 7, 2021, with possession of an unregistered firearm (destructive device) and carrying a pistol without a license. It is alleged that Coffman’s vehicle contained 11 explosive devices known as Molotov cocktails and firearms. It is further alleged he was in possession of two firearms. Coffman was arrested and is currently being

held. His detention hearing is scheduled for Jan. 12, 2021.

- Mark Leffingwell, was charged on Jan. 7, 2021, with knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority; assault on a federal law enforcement officer; and violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds. Leffingwell allegedly entered the Senate side of the Capitol and when stopped by law enforcement, struck an officer in the helmet and chest. Leffingwell is currently being held and has a detention hearing in district court today.
- Christopher Alberts, of Maryland, was charged on Jan. 7, 2021, with carrying or having readily accessible, on the grounds of the United States Capitol Building, a firearm and ammunition. Specifically a Taurus G2C, 9mm handgun and 9mm caliber ammunition. The defendant ap-

peared in district court and was released. He has a preliminary hearing scheduled for Jan. 28, 2021.

- Joshua Pruitt, was charged on Jan. 7, 2021, with knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority. The defendant appeared in district court and was released. He has a preliminary hearing scheduled for Jan. 28, 2021.
- Matthew Council, of Florida, was charged on Jan. 7, 2021, with knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority and violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds. Council allegedly unlawfully entered the Capitol building, and when stopped by law enforcement, he pushed the officer.
- Cindy Fitchett, of Virginia, was charged on Jan. 7, 2021,

(Continued on page 11)

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The Doctor Is In



Dr. Adil Manzoor OP/ED

Contact Tracing In New Jersey And Other States

The United States of America is one of the countries to have suffered the most from the coronavirus, with more than 18.5 million cases and about 330,000 deaths. Similarly, New Jersey has been one of the most affected states with the coronavirus in the United States, with close to 500,000 cases. That's a lot of zeros. A lot of terrible zeros.

Unsurprisingly, several steps have been taken to try to limit the cases and deaths in the state and country in general. One of these steps is contact tracing.

Contact tracing is a technique used by health officials to limit the spread of an infectious disease. You must know by now that the coronavirus is a pretty infectious disease. As such, contact tracing is one of the ways to combat it.

As the name suggests, contact tracing involves tracing the people an infected person has been in contact with. This is one of the most important steps to controlling infectious diseases. With poor contact tracing, high-risk people will go about and keep infecting others, and before you know it, we have hundreds

of thousands of cases. Hundreds of thousands of cases? Sounds familiar? Of course! This is the mess we find ourselves in many states in the US, including New Jersey.

Considering all of these, can we attribute the huge number of cases to poor contact tracing in NJ? I'll answer this in a moment. In New Jersey, about 78% of people reached out to by contact tracers don't cooperate. There's your answer!

It isn't that the officials are poorly trained; they are. The people just don't cooperate. There is a general skepticism that comes with giving out information to the government, I know. However, in the middle of a pandemic that has seen about 330,000 people dead, now is not the time to be uncooperative.

Some people are uncomfortable talking with government officials; this, I understand. What I don't get is infected people not wanting to give out the details of those they have been around. This is literally to help those people. And the officials even promise to keep all the information they get confidential. So, what is the problem, New Jersey?!

Aside from being uncomfortable talking with government officials, some people are ashamed of having the coronavirus. This may be because of the stigma many have attached to it. Therefore, these people hang up on contact tracers when it comes to giving information about the people they have been in contact with. Also, many aren't properly educated on the role of contact tracers and may think they are scammers.

If you feel disappointed by the lack of cooperation, wait until you find out how the government and health officials that have invested tons of money,

effort, and time into fighting the virus feel. Officials are willing to help, but the people don't seem to be. I mean the very people the officials are trying to protect. This isn't the trend in many other states. States like New York and Massachusetts have had a better time in their contact tracing.

It's not all down to the public, though. There are also flaws with the contact tracing system that could be affecting the success of the contact tracing. One of these flaws is the low number of in-person tracers. States that record successes on the contact tracing front usually have a relatively high number of in-person contact tracers. Some people are more comfortable conversing with someone they can see and recognize to be with the CDC than officials over a phone. And some people don't even have phones at all. This is not to say in-person contact tracers don't get the door slammed in their faces, but having more of them increases the chances of finding more people willing to cooperate. This is one of the areas where NJ falters.

Another area where the NJ contact tracing system could be better is the diversity of their contact tracers. New York has about 4,000 contact tracers. This isn't too much higher than New Jersey's, which is around 3,500. However, what makes New York's contact tracers special is their diversity. Forty languages are represented among New York's contact tracers, including Yiddish and Russian. America has many minority groups and immigrants. Reaching out to all of these groups will be difficult if there are communication barriers.

Many states in the country have made significant changes to their contact tracing strategy.

States are coming up with new and modified versions of their contact tracing system to increase cooperation. One of such strategies involves contacting only vulnerable individuals. Another is to prioritize people in regions where there are outbreaks.

What we need to understand as a country is that this battle against COVID-19 is not an individual one. We cannot afford to be selfish. That you can beat the coronavirus or are low-risk doesn't mean you shouldn't cooperate with contact tracers. Some more vulnerable people don't have the same luxury. And the more cases, the higher the risk to these people's health. Stay safe.

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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- <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/new-york-contact-tracer-shares-2020-christmas-wish-i-want-to-be-fired-11607979410>
- <https://amp.northjersey.com/amp/3115762001>

CAPITOL RIOT CHARGES

(Continued from page 8)

with knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority; or knowingly, with intent to impede government business or official functions, engaging in disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds; and violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.

- Michael Curzio, of Florida, was charged on Jan. 7, 2021, with knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority; or knowingly, with intent to impede government business or official functions, engaging in disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds; and violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.
Douglas Sweet, of Florida, was charged on Jan. 7, 2021, with knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority; or knowingly, with intent to impede government business or official functions, engaging in disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds; and violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.
Bradley Ruskelas, of Illinois, was charged on Jan. 7, 2021, with knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority; or knowingly, with intent to impede government business or official functions, engaging in disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds; and violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.
Terry Brown, of Pennsylvania, was charged on Jan. 7, 2021, with knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority; or knowingly, with intent to impede government business or official functions, engaging in disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds; and violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.
Thomas Gallagher was charged on Jan. 7, 2021, with knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority; or knowingly, with intent to impede government business or official functions, engaging in disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds; and violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.

In addition, approximately 40 individuals have been arrested and charged in Superior Court with offenses including, but not limited to, unlawful entry, curfew violations, and firearms-related crimes.

The cases are being prosecuted by the U.S Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia and are being investigated jointly by



i; a man; Steven Michael Hyatt: Living Beneficiary for STEVEN MICHAEL HYATT Estate; general post office; judicial district

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i; verify all herein be true; i; affirm my word is my bond; i; am at peace with all mankind; i; claim: sole beneficiary: STEVEN MICHAEL HYATT ESTATE; i; accept your oath of office, title, and bond as a firm binding contract; evidence fiduciary obligation to i; i; give notice: All unconscionable contracts are subject to rescission and void from the beginning, under law; for Peculiar good and proper cause; Where there is no meeting of minds there is no contract; i; am giving my timely notice and praeipce in regards to the matter of the Marriage License Application signed by i; on December Eleventh (11th) Two Thousand Twenty (2020) in the county of Essex, New Jersey and filed by Deputy or Clerk of Court Christopher J. Durkin, which joined in marriage STEVEN MICHAEL HYATT ESTATE and SHANAKAY LABRENA BIGNOTT ESTATE; i; recently discovered there is no law compelling i; a man to accept as a privilege, the union of marriage; Therefore, any and all Marriage License Applications and Certificates bearing the name STEVEN MICHAEL HYATT or any derivatives thereof are null and void, from the beginning, through various elements of concealment and failure to make the proper disclosures; i; hereby revoke, repudiate and rescind all signature(s) expressed, implied and otherwise, for peculiar and good proper cause on all forms, the Original Marriage Application and Original Marriage Certificate hereby revoking the Power of Attorney held by the New Jersey over my person and/or property; said release is absolute from the beginning; Notice is given to all above named parties, successors, assigns, and associates that any and all power of attorney, presumed or otherwise, to make any legal determination past, present, and future for STEVEN MICHAEL HYATT and all derivatives thereof is revoked ab initio and is of no legal effect whatsoever, an absolute nullity; i; further waive and reject any and all benefits and/or privileges expressed, implied or otherwise arising from any such signatures, all resulting contracts, agreements or trust resulting from force, under threat of being denied access to one's own credit among others, involuntary servitude and peonage by adhesion contract, committed against me; Further, these adhesion contracts and any and all powers of attorney whether expressed, implied or otherwise are hereby revoked, terminated, cancelled ab initio; Therefore, it is my wish and pleasure that you remove the name STEVEN MICHAEL HYATT from any and all form(s), application(s), database(s), record(s), and in all other things, for the New Jersey posthaste, as well as notify any and all interested parties of this change; Acknowledgement and compliance with i; a man's Notice and Praeipce shall be returned to i; In the event you are unable or unwilling to comply with this instruction, i shall alternatively require of you evidence of your Oath of Fidelity as well as the policy number and name and address of the underwriter of your Bond; This Notice and Praeipce was prepared by: i; with the copy-claim; By my free will, act, and deed, my hand and seal, do hereby establish the facts with good faith and clean hands this 11th day of December, two thousand 20.

By: Hyatt, Steven-Michael

Seal:

We, the undersigned, did witness the living man, known to us as Steven Michael Hyatt, place their thumb print hereon in agreement with the facts stated herein; We have seen no evidence to dispute that said thumb print represents the living man known to us as Steven Michael Hyatt, and believe that none exists; We, the undersigned, do hereby affirm the foregoing to be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth as we know it to be; By our own free will, act, and deed; our hand and seal do hereby establish the facts,

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the FBI; U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; United States Marshals Service; U.S. Capitol Police Department; and the Metropolitan Police Department.

The ATF and FBI continue to urge the public to report suspected use of explosive devices, or violent, destructive acts associated with the recent unrest. Anyone with information can call 1-888-ATF-TIPS (1-888-283-8477), email ATFTips@atf.gov or submit information anonymously via ReportIt.com.

The FBI is looking for individuals who may have incited or promoted violence of any kind. Anyone with digital material or tips can call 1-800-CALL-FBI (800-225-5324) or submit images or videos at fbi.gov/USCapitol.

The details contained in the charging documents are allegations. Defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.



*From
The
Pastor's
Heart*

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY

Pardon - Forgiving Others

As he is coming to the end of his term, the current president of the United States is handing out pardons like Santa Claus gives away candies at Christmas time.

According to the authority accorded him, it is his privilege to pardon anyone who has committed a crime against the United States of America. A presidential pardon ultimately sets aside punishment for a federal crime. The authority to pardon is granted to the president by Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

As explained, the pardon is one form of the president's clemency power, the others being commutation sentences, remission of fine or restitution, and reprieve. All requests for executive clemency for federal offenses usually are directed to the Office of the Pardon Attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice for investigation and review, but the president is free to bypass that office.

As the president comes to the end of his term, the report is that the process of review is not being followed. The president has been bypassing the review process and is handing out pardons to his friends and family members, particularly those who have collaborated with him or given him cover in some of the most egregious actions he has done in

election campaigns.

At the moment, it is being reported that the president is even floating the idea of pardoning more members of his family, other friends and himself, before leaving office. Legal scholars are, thus, revisiting the limits of the presidential pardon. How far can it be stretched? Does the president need an opinion from the courts anymore before he can pardon? Does the president have the right to grant pardons as often as he wishes? Does the president have to regard the law in granting pardons? Does the president need to follow the protocols of having the person that needs a pardon to make a request and wait for the case to be reviewed?

Many persons have been watching the performance of the president and are profoundly conflicted as to what presidential pardons now mean. But for those who can appreciate the divine system of justice, it is clear that it is a good thing that God did not give his authority to forgive sins into the hands of presidents and political leaders, or even religious leaders, as many individuals often claim.

Truly, forgiveness is an act of the divine. He is the one who says that he will forgive our sins and pardon our iniquities (cf. Hebrews 8:12; 10:17; Jeremiah 31:34; Micah 7:18). Even the Pharisees had the right insight when they asked the question, "Who can forgive sins but God alone?" (cf. Luke 5:21). But they missed a few significant facts:

1. Firstly, Jesus was God manifest in the flesh and had the absolute power to forgive sins. In response to the Pharisees' inquiry, Jesus said, "the Son of Man has authori-

ty on earth to forgive sins." (Luke 5:24) Thus, Jesus could say, "Your sins are forgiven you."

2. Secondly, Jesus has given authority to his church to forgive sins. In a discussion on church authority with his disciples, Jesus said: "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." (Matthew 16:19) "If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld." (John 29:23) I do not want to stretch this second fact too far, lest anyone might misappropriate it. The most straightforward understanding is that the privilege of forgiveness has been given to the church. It is called "the gospel keys" given to declare God's will of forgiveness. Anyone who will receive the forgiveness is worthy of being a part of the fellowship in the church, whereas anyone who refuses it is neither bound to the church or bound in heaven.

3. Thirdly, we are called to forgive one another. Jesus taught this, "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins." (Matthew 6:14, 15)

I wish I could give extensive comment on the three points I have made above, but let me state in the brevity of this reflection that God does not give any institution or persons absolute

power to forgive, lest it is abused. This is why Jesus stated that only as we forgive that we are or will be forgiven. That means if forgiveness were left up to us as the final arbiters, we would likely forgive our friends and never forgive our enemies. Jesus reminds us to forgive those who hurt us, hate us, spitefully use us, abuse us and persecute us. (Matthew 5:43-47)

Wow! Forgiveness is not as easy as handing out presidential pardons. It is easy to get mad at the president who breaks the law in handing out pardons. Many will say he should be considered a criminal and arrested. And this is why I want to emphasize that forgiveness is a gift from God. Only God can help any person overcome any anger, resentment, hurt, pain, or vengefulness that might destroy them.

I mean that, if we are to forgive the president and all his supporters, we must hand over our feelings to God. Our job is to ensure that we are not destroying ourselves, our relationship, our society, and our spiritual life with a lack of forgiveness. Forgiveness is not easy. C.S. Lewis is correct that it is easy to speak about forgiveness until we have to forgive someone.

But here is the bottom line, without forgiveness, we cannot live. Without forgiveness, we are not free, personally or societally. Without forgiveness, we are to live in constant conflict. Without forgiveness, we will be bottling up all our hurts, pain, anger, and all of the dirt that sin has brought into our systems. So, let us remind ourselves that we need to ask the Lord for his help to forgive ourselves. Let us not live by just saying in trivial ways "Pardon" because it is within our language.

WORLD NEWS FLASH

(Continued from page 6)

Perez Omar Gibbs, 37, of Jamaica, was arrested on Jan. 9, 2021, and is charged by complaint with one count of importation of controlled substances. He appeared by videoconference before U.S. Magistrate Judge Cathy L. Waldor and was remanded without bail.

According to documents

filed in this case and statements made in court: Gibbs arrived at Newark Liberty International Airport aboard a flight from Montego Bay, Jamaica. Law enforcement officers discovered that Gibbs possessed approximately one kilogram of cocaine concealed inside two bags of coffee and four picture frames.

The count with which Gibbs is charged carries a mandatory minimum penalty of five years

in prison, a potential maximum penalty of 40 years in prison, and a \$5 million fine.

Acting U.S. Attorney Honig credited special agents of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Homeland Security Investigations, New Jersey Division, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Jason J. Molina; and officers of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, under the direction of Troy Mil-

ler, director of Field Operations, New York Field Office, with the investigation leading to the charges.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jonathan Fayer of the Economic Crimes Unit in Newark.

The charge and allegations contained in the complaint are merely accusations, and the defendants is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

GOVERNOR MURPHY DELIVERS STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS

(Continued from page 7)

“As a new portal bridge rises along the Northeast Corridor, they’ll see our efforts to eliminate one of its most-frustrating choke points. This new commuter-rail bridge will not only improve the commutes for hundreds of thousands of New Jerseyans, but it will also stimulate local economies and provide thousands of new union jobs.

“Commuters will also see our efforts in the hiring and training of multiple classes of the new rail engineers we need to ensure on-time operations. We inherited a system with depleted ranks and, to date, we have added 94 new engineers with another 82 in training.

“And, when President-elect Joe Biden takes office next week, we’re going to begin working alongside him and his team to see the full gateway program fulfilled - including the new tunnels under the Hudson River...

“...Last year, I was proud to propose the first comprehensive set of ethics reforms in a decade, with bipartisan support, and I remain committed to them. New Jerseyans need to know - not just believe - that their government has their backs.

“With all the turmoil in Washington, let’s set New Jersey as an example for moving forward.

“This is how our future will be powered - by bold ideas, real oversight, and a commitment to the task ahead.

“It will also be powered by clean energy, using our natural resources and talent pool to reach our goal of a 100 percent clean energy economy by 2050...

“...And a stronger New Jersey is one that ensures and protects justice for all. A fairer New Jersey recognizes the powerful

truth of the words Black Lives Matter. We are attacking and ripping up the root causes of centuries of systemic racism.

“Given the national moment, we can - and must - choose to make our state a model for moving forward. There is no more important step than reforming the way our communities and law enforcement work together. That is why we are implementing the first broad-scale reforms to our state’s use-of-force policy in a generation.

“We’re making our justice system more transparent and fair not just for our sake, but to make New Jersey a national model for positive transformation in policing and ending racial inequities...

“...A year ago, we had no idea of what 2020 would throw at us. As the poet Langston Hughes wrote - and I quote - ‘a dream deferred is a dream denied.’ And for so many, 2020 was a year of deferred dreams.

“But we stuck together, even in the darkest of days, as the New Jersey family we are. Out of shared pain we forged shared purpose. Because of all we did together, here in New Jersey, 2021 can be the year where dreams are once again possible, and the wind is at our back.

“So, when we emerge from the darkness of the pandemic, together, we will be stronger, fairer, and more resilient than before, and we will be prepared to move forward as one state and one family.

“After all, this is New Jersey. No state has our character. Our backbone. Our attitude. Our fight.

“We’ve always fought because we’ve always been the underdog. We’ve been counted out over and over again. But we’ve never been bowed, and we’ve never, ever failed.

“May God bless you and your family with a healthy new year.”

ESSEX COUNTY COVID-19 CASE TALLY

Weekly Statistics from January 6 - 13, 2021

Municipality	1-6-2021	Deaths	1-13-2021	Deaths
Belleville	3265	83	3445	86
Bloomfield	3107	90	3326	92
Caldwell	328	12	338	12
Cedar Grove	942	121	1004	119
East Orange	3986	247	4230	254
Essex Fells	122	2	126	2
Fairfield	514	23	537	25
Glen Ridge	182	9	202	10
Irvington	2722	175	2870	179
Livingston	1095	77	1158	79
Maplewood	698	29	736	31
Millburn	449	7	496	8
Montclair	1239	56	1321	60
Newark	22236	761	23769	787
North Caldwell	232	6	268	6
Nutley	1568	43	1683	48
Orange	2029	104	2138	108
Roseland	273	15	297	15
South Orange	410	8	445	10
Verona	510	15	556	15
West Caldwell	601	50	642	50
West Orange	2777	203	2934	206
Total	49285	2136	52521	2202

OTHER COVID-19 TALLIES (As of Jan. 13, 2021)

NJ: 543,974 cases / 18,070 deaths (Plus 2,091 probable)

United States (approx.): 22.9 Million / 382,100 deaths

Worldwide (approx.): 92 Million / 1.97 Million deaths

NJ Gov. Murphy has announced that Graduation Assessment test requirements are being waived for students who meet other graduation requirements.

PRESIDENT TRUMP

IMPEACHED ... AGAIN

(Continued from page 1)

As with the previous impeachment, a trial will be held in the Senate, and 67 votes are still needed for an impeachment conviction. Current Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) has said that he would not reconvene the Senate in any rush to start the process before Inauguration Day. Once the new Senate is installed,

McConnell would likely no longer be Majority Leader, as the GOP would not have a majority.

While the situation would be different - as Trump could not be removed from office, being that he would no longer be President - there are still consequences if he is convicted. Trump could lose his pension and secret service protection, but most of all, he could be barred from ever seeking public office again.

THE CAPITOL

(Continued from page 5)

sponded Sherrill. "I was in the crowded secure location with you as they were walking around without masks after the attack on the Capitol. The selfishness of

our colleagues has got to end now."

Congress members and staffers returned Monday morning to find a temporary nine-foot-tall perimeter fence surrounding the Capitol. They were also greeted by metal detectors at the cham-

bers' entrances. Several Republican legislators, some of whom were not wearing masks, either walked around the detectors or rushed through them as a group.

One Congressman, while waiting his turn though the detector, noticed red spots on the

floor among the hallway debris.

"Is that blood on the floor?" the legislator asked an attending Capitol Police officer.

"Yes, that's blood," said the officer. "There's blood all over the Capitol."

Legally Speaking



Cassandra Savoy, Esq.
OP/ED

Divorce Do's And Don'ts

If you are about to go through a divorce, know that getting a divorce is incredibly stressful at the beginning and could get worse if you do the wrong thing! There are things you should and should not do to reduce the stress not only for yourself, but for your children, and to make the process proceed more calmly.

Do make sure you ACTUALLY want a divorce!

The decision to get a divorce is an emotional one and should not be made lightly or while you are in the throes of extreme emotion. Before you file...

- *Do* make sure that you have completely ruled out reconciling with your spouse.
- *Do* make sure you have spoken with your spiritual advisor(s).
- *Do* make sure you have met with a marriage counselor.

Remember what filing for divorce will do and will not do. Filing for divorce will not "straighten him out!" Filing for divorce will not make her behave differently; nor will filing for divorce compel him to focus on your marriage and his children. Once you file the divorce and your spouse is served, taking it back may be difficult. You may change your mind, but he may not change his!

Don't take it out on your children!

Regardless of the hurt and anxiety that you feel, your children need to know that you love them. Children often feel like the divorce is their fault so you will not want them to carry this guilt, and you will want them to have a warm, supportive environment.

- *Don't* discuss your marital problems with the children. They should *not* become your sounding board.
- *Don't* use parenting time or child support as bargaining chips in the negotiations. Your children still have to eat, and they remain your responsibility. They still want and need your love.
- *Don't* disparage the other parent or the other parent's new relationships. Use the time you have with the children to learn about what is going on in their lives and to get to know them.
- *Do* refocus your energy on helping with homework, attend their school and after-school events, make sure you remain an active part in their lives.
- *Do* relax and enjoy them so they can relax and enjoy you. They will feel less stress and realize how much they love you.

Do gather financial documents.

Divorces deal with two things, what will happen to the children, and how will we equitably divide marital assets and liabilities. You will need financial records.

- *Do* make copies of all your financial records before you file: phone records, mortgages, car notes, credit card and investment statements, wills, trusts, deeds, insurance policies, pension statements, and tax returns for the past three years.
- *Do* obtain records of accounts you share with your spouse.
- *Do* go online and download or print records for at least the two prior years.
- *Don't* assume that your spouse will produce all of the

records you need

Some spouses do not respond well to being served with a divorce complaint, and it can be a real headache getting documents and information after you file.

Don't take divorce advice from family and friends.

Friends and family want to be supportive and comforting during this stressful time; they want to share their experiences and give you an idea of what to expect. The outcome of the divorce is based on the facts and circumstances of each case. What was relevant in your friend's case may not be relevant in your case. The law may have changed. More importantly...

- *Do* let your friends and relatives provide emotional support for you.
- *Don't* let them provide legal or financial advice regarding your divorce.
- *Do* get outside, objective opinions on how you handle the legal and emotional aspects of your divorce. Get a good lawyer to help you handle the legal aspects of the divorce.
- *Do* see a good therapist or counselor to help you handle the emotional issues. And, once you do, listen to the advice.
- *Don't* disregard them just because what they say is not what you want to hear.

Do take a look at social media.

There is Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat and a dozen other platforms where people expose their innermost thoughts and feelings. You will want to use all social media sparingly.

- *Do* delete any photo, negative post and online arguments that might prove embarrassing in the future.
- *Do* review your "friends" lists and remove anyone you think might either spy for your spouse or add drama to your divorce.

- *Do* make your account private and change your passwords.
- *Don't* use social media to brag about a "win" or to bash your spouse on your Facebook wall. To boast or to bash can only increase the tensions between you, family and friends.
- *Don't* boast about how great your life is now that your spouse is out of your life. Remember, social media is essentially open to the public. The last thing that you want is for your children or a potential employer to become a party to your divorce.
- *Do* think before you post. If you want to tell someone about the divorce proceedings, telephone them, don't use social media.
- Try to get your spouse to agree to use these platforms with discretion.

Mediation Do's and Don'ts

Mediation is the best way to reduce the stress of the divorce process. It works best when both parties think about their interests rather than their positions, and the parties understand that to mediate is to find the "Art of the Deal."

- *Do* offer something in return for something else. When parties negotiate, they trade. You trade something a value to you for something of value to the other party.
- *Do* make an effort to meet your spouse half-way. The Art of the Deal is really another way of saying "Compromise."
- *Don't* focus on the areas of disagreement. Shift your focus to the areas where you agree first. Don't make absolute statements like, "It's either my way or no way!"

Don't trigger your spouse's emotions by bringing past arguments to the mediation. At some point, you will have to let "yesterday" go in order to start building tomorrow.

TOWN WATCH (Continued from page 7)

MAPLEWOOD - Authorities are still sorting out the circumstances surrounding the Jan. 4 death of The Top resident Gwen Avrut here while her family has posted her obituary in Jan. 11's "New York Times."

Livingston's Bernheim-Apter-Kreitzman Suburban Funeral Chapel, acting on the family's behalf, submitted a simple death notice in Sunday's "Times." It stated that Gwen Ruth Avrut, who was born Dec. 29, 1950, was survived by daughter Melany Avrut-Orgera, grandson Jagger and brother Dr. Keith Gurland, among others. Her Facebook page lists the Bayonne High School graduate studied at the University of Maryland-College Park.

No public services were announced. A private funeral, depending on the Avrut's level of observance, may have already been held at BAK Chapel.

The ECPO Homicide Task Force is meanwhile talking with the third person who was with son Benjamin Avrut and the late Gwen Avrut 12:50 - 1:20 p.m. in the latter's apartment Jan. 4.

Daughter Melany told MPD officers that Benjamin, 35, told her that their mother "was sleeping" and put a second man, who she does not know, on the phone. The Top's surveillance footage found the driver of a Dodge Charger arriving there at 9:20 a.m. and was let in by B. Avrut. The driver left after 1:20p.m. in the Charger; B. Avrut in his mother's car.

The Charger, its driver and B. Avrut were found later that Monday at the Newark-Irvington border. B. Avrut was found with G. Avrut's cell phone, bruised hands and blood on his socks. The son, who has been charged with murder, was not mentioned in his mother's obituary.

G. Avrut's memorial donations may be made to the releaserecoveryfoundation.org. She had asked on her Dec.29 birthday FB posting that donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

MONTCLAIR - The township and Montclair Parking Utility have "indefinitely" postponed what would have been their Jan. 4 closing of the 83-space Midtown Parking Lot along Glenridge Avenue and North Willow Street.

By "indefinitely," township elders and the MPU are postponing closing the lot until the two Seymour Street parking garages south and across the street from the Wellmont Theater are open. One of those garages was to be open as early as Jan. 6.

Once Iron State/Little Man Parking open their ostensibly private garages' 434 overall spaces, Midtown's 129 permit and 56 meter parkers will be advised to leave and make alternate plans. The lot is to be replaced by a \$10 million, four-story, 314

space parking garage to be open in early 2022.

The to-be-built garage, approved by the Montclair Planning Board in 2018, is considered part of the Seymour Street Arts Center project. Many merchants along Bloomfield Avenue's north side between Glenridge Avenue and North Willow Street, however, only learned of the Midtown lot behind them Jan. 4's closure when signs were posted Dec. 30.

Those concerned merchants launched a Change.org petition Jan. 5 to keep the Midtown lot open until the other garages go online plus keeping alleyway and back dumpster areas accessible. That petition drew 1,218 signatures as of 4:30 p.m. Jan. 12.

The Midtown lot used to include a standalone Pit Stop Garage in the 1970s-80s. One "Local Talk" reporter used to buy weekly editions of "Autoweek" there in 1973. Pit Stop moved to 621 Bloomfield Ave., Bloomfield before its two-story brick garage was demolished.

BLOOMFIELD - The township's public school district has postponed its hybrid learning launch, again, to at least after Feb. 23.

Bloomfield Superintendent of Schools Salvatore Goncalves, on Jan. 11, announced that he has waived off the intended Jan. 25 BPS hybrid launch and has been postponed indefinitely.

Goncalves, after constant discussion with local, county and state officials on the rise of COVID-19 infections, recently talked with the Bloomfield Board of Education before deciding to scratch Jan. 25.

This is the second time Bloomfield's school super has put off mixed electronic/in-person instruction for the 2020-21 school year. Nov. 9 was the first launch date scrubbed.

"This' a work in progress," said Goncalves. "Although I'm unable to provide a revised reopening date at this time, I'll be providing an update to the community at the Feb. board meeting.

GLEN RIDGE - Incumbent Tracey St. Auburn and newcomers Jocelyn Gottlieb and Duval Graham were sworn into the Glen Ridge Board of Education here Jan. 6.

St Auburn was appointed by her peers to head up the GRBOE Personnel and Policy Committee. Gottlieb was placed onto the Negotiations Committee and Graham the Finance and Facilities Committee.

The newly constituted board re-elected Elisabeth Ginsburg as its president and Michael De Leeuw and David Campbell first and second vice presidents.

BELLEVILLE - Family and friends of Domenico F. Chiarella, 85, paid their last

respects to the longtime resident and tailor Jan. 10-11 in Bloomfield.

Chiarella died here at RWJBaranabasHealth Clara Maass Hospital Jan. 5. He was best known for Domenick's Tailoring at Montclair's 3 Park St. 1994-2017.

Chiarella, who was born July 1, 1935 in Lamezia Terme, Italy, is survived by wife Gloria, sons Alexander, Angel and Carlos, daughters Giovanna and Janine and 10 grandchildren, among others. He was buried Jan. 11 in Glendale Cemetery after a Jan. 10 funeral at the Zuasola Funeral Home.


Housing for 530 By Wawa?

The Township Council has withdrawn consideration of drawing in a mixed use residential zone on the currently known "Wawa property" from their Jan. 12 meeting agenda.

Belleville's elders have apparently deferred such consideration until the Belleville Planning Board weighs in on CME Associates' proposed revision to the 2013 Roche Diagnostic Redevelopment Plan Jan. 14. CME, of Howell, submitted their proposed revision to the BPB Jan. 3, where 8.83 acres of the 18.33-acre lot would be designated for up to seven mixed-use residential buildings for 280 to 530 overall dwelling units.

11 Franklin St. was zoned for mixed commercial use crowned by a hotel. While the board had approved a Wawa, an Extra Space Storage and, on Nov. 18, a drive-through Starbucks coffee shop, the hotel concept has apparently lost favor.

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